

Sustainable Procurement

Edition 45 | March 2010

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to send you the quarterly Update on Procura⁺, the European Sustainable Procurement Campaign, and ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement activities in Europe.

You can also read more about Procura⁺ Campaign developments by visiting the Campaign website www.procuraplus.org. You can find more information about ICLEI's projects on Sustainable Procurement at www.iclei-europe.org/procurement

ICLEI welcomes your contributions. Just send your news to procurement@iclei.org. News from Procura⁺ Campaign Participants and ICLEI members enjoys publishing priority!

If this newsletter does not display properly, please click here to view it online:
www.iclei-europe.org/index.php?id=7720

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1. Addressing the challenge of energy efficiency through smart technologies - Call for good practice!

Following the European Commission's recent Communication on mobilising Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to facilitate the transition to an energy efficient, low-carbon economy,



the Commission has embarked on a European research and dissemination project to inform and provide guidance on the relevance of ICT to achieving energy efficiency and sustainability objectives at regional and local government levels.



The project has been commissioned by the Commission's DG Information Society and Media (INFOS) in collaboration with the EU's Committee of the Regions, and focuses on local and regional initiatives for promoting energy efficiency through the direct and enabling roles of ICT. Areas of interest include:

- ICT infrastructure and equipment/devices (e.g. purchasing energy efficient desktop computers, data centres)
- ICT enabled buildings/construction (e.g. planning and design applications, smart office lighting, smart metres)
- ICT enabled transport (e.g. road user charging, logistics systems, electric vehicles), and
- ICT enabled monitoring, measuring and reporting systems (e.g. carbon management systems, wireless sensor networks)

The project involves a review of examples of initiatives from across the European Member States. A toolkit will be prepared for local and regional authorities including guidance and a series of case studies. A wiki style website resource will also be set up to provide increased access to the results of the project. The project is being undertaken by an international team led by SQW Energy in partnership with ICLEI, the Regional Environment Centre (REC) and Intellect (the UK's national industry trade association for technology including ICT).

If you have a good practice experience which yielded high energy savings that you would like promoted internationally please share it by email to amalia.ochoa@iclei.org

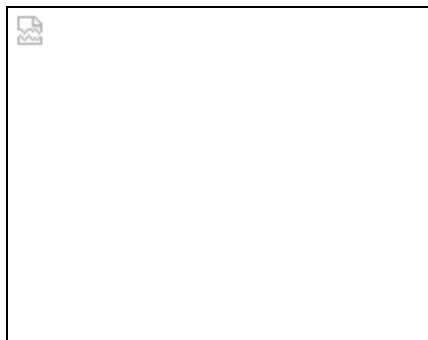
2. Project News

Update on SMART sustainable public procurement

Encouraging innovation through procurement – SMART SPP Guide and Tools available in English, Portuguese, Spanish and Danish

Public purchasers aiming to be a step ahead of their energy and climate change targets can consider using their procurement procedures to further support the development of sustainable innovative technologies, and at the same time, keep financial costs at a minimum. The two principal outcomes from the SMART SPP project, in terms of supportive guidance, have been developed with this intention in mind, and are both now available online for use by procurement practitioners.

The project outcomes consist of a Guide, which presents a standard procedure designed to encourage innovative energy efficient solutions. It has a strong focus on the ins and outs as well as on the benefits of procurers actively engaging with the market (that is, suppliers and producers) before tendering takes place. Innovative, energy efficient solutions are technologies which meet the needs of the purchasing authority and are highly energy efficient.



The Guide is accompanied by a Tool (in Excel format, supported by a User Guide) that is designed for procurement decision makers to calculate the life cycle costs (LCC) and CO₂ emissions of different products and services.

All materials are all available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Danish and can be downloaded at www.smart-spp.eu/guidance. Both the Guide and the Tool are beta versions, which are to be finalised in early 2011 following their use by the SMART SPP public authority partners in their innovation focused public procurement actions.

For more information, please visit www.smart-spp.eu or contact Philipp Tepper

Latest news on Innovation focused SPP in Europe online now

In addition to the news about the new tools (see above) the start of new SMART SPP activities in Austria, the Czech Republic and Hungary are some of the news featured in the latest March edition of the SMART SPP Update, available in English and Spanish.

Encouraging greater early market engagement between public procurers and suppliers in the pre-procurement phase is essential to benefiting from what the market has to offer. That is why countries such as Spain, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Denmark (and soon Austria) are now using pre-procurement methods to purchase local police (electric) vehicles to LED vending machines.

Read the Update online by visiting www.smart-spp.eu/?id=7705
Interested in subscribing to the Update? Click [here](#)

SCI-Network – Sustainable Construction and Innovation through Procurement

The SCI-Network has been set up to bring together forward-looking public authorities from across Europe to drive sustainable innovation in the procurement of public construction works.

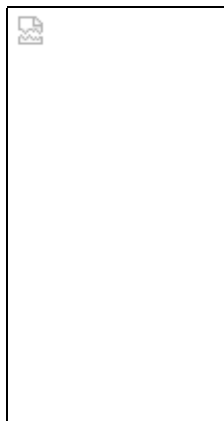
The network will be initially establishing three online working groups to examine good practice and future market developments in specific areas. A shortlist of potential topics has been drawn up with a final decision to be taken within the next few weeks:

- Sustainable renovation of school buildings
- Developing a business case for sustainable construction – life-cycle costing (LCC) or whole life costing (WLC)
- Sustainable renovation of social housing
- Sustainable renovation of office buildings
- Sustainable renovation of historical buildings
- Sustainable insulation materials
- Sustainable road construction materials
- Innovative roofing solutions
- Integrating renewable energy systems into buildings

Additionally, a number of online discussion groups will be set up to look at certain key issues, such as construction procurement methodologies supporting innovation, and financing solutions for energy efficiency improvements.

If you are interested in participating in these online working groups or discussion groups, or would like more information on the network please write to simon.clement@iclei.org

Training for local governments in Germany on SPP - last chance to book your *Schnäppchen!*



Local authorities in Germany still interested in booking a training session on sustainable procurement will be happy to know that there are still a few slots left. The sessions have been carried out by ICLEI, in partnership with the Ökoinstitut, and are generously co-funded by the German national Environment Agency (Umweltbundesamt). To date, training sessions have been organised for local governments in Hannover, Magdeburg, Siegen, Bremen, Kiel and Aschaffenburg.

Training sessions are tailored according to topical needs or issues (e.g. life-cycle costing approaches, procuring Information and Communication Technologies – ICT) and according to the target group in mind – either political decision-makers or procurement practitioners. The sessions have proved to be very popular and are generating a lot of positive feedback.

Interested in finding out more? Contact franziska.singer@iclei.org

Helping public authorities purchase energy -efficient products through Euro-TopTen Plus

The Euro TopTen Plus project draws on the success of the www.topten.info website, which lists the most energy efficient products across Europe. The site allows for easy comparison of the energy efficiency of consumer items such as cars, household appliances, lighting and office equipment.



ICLEI is working to 'translate' the technical criteria used for the selection of TopTen for use by public sector procurers. The result will be reference specifications and award criteria which can be used directly in tender documents. This will extend the reach of the website, which has so far been aimed primarily at private consumers.

ICLEI is currently identifying public authorities interested in using the criteria in their own procurement activities, and preparing case studies based on these experiences.

If you are interested in participating in this process, or would like more information about the project, please contact abby.semple@iclei.org

3. Procura+ Campaign News

World Economy, Ecology and Development (WEED) new Procura+ national partner in Germany

ICLEI's Procura+ Campaign welcomes World Economy, Ecology and Development (WEED) as the new National Partner for Germany.

WEED's mission is to report on the causes behind global poverty and environmental problems and to deliver suitable approaches to tackle these. With the projects "procure IT fair" and "PC global" as well as being involved in the CorA Corporate Accountability Network, WEED already provides public authorities with guidance and tools to achieve social responsibility through public procurement.

WEED's role as the German national partner will be to support public authorities in Germany in implementing socially-responsible and green purchasing practices.

For more information about WEED or to find out more about joining the Campaign activities in Germany please contact Astrid Geiermann from WEED (astrid.geiermann@weed-online.org).

The Province of Turin commits to sustainable public procurement

The Province of Turin in Italy has strengthened its commitment to implement sustainable public procurement (SPP) and sharing experiences at the international level through its renewed participation in the Procura+ Campaign. Italy's fourth largest province is in a process of regularly updating its green purchasing criteria for several product and service groups and also contributes to the implementation of Italy's GPP National Action Plan, available (in English) from www.dsa.minambiente.it/gpp/file/IT%20NAP%20EN.pdf



To get in touch with the Province Turin about their SPP activities, please contact Elenora Vincelli vincelli@provincia.torino.it

4. Upcoming Events

SPP focus session taking place at 6th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns, 19-21 May, Dunkerque, France

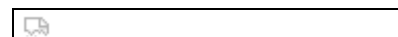
The sixth conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns in Europe will explore how sustainable development can help local governments to face the current economic, social and climate challenges. More than 1,500 local government leaders from across Europe, as well as their representatives from European and national networks of local governments, European institutions and NGOs are expected to take part in the conference in Dunkerque this year.



How can local governments make strategic use of their purchasing power to improve urban sustainability? Can sustainable public procurement result in more efficient and cost-effective public services? How can local governments be sure that the products they are purchasing have been produced under legally sound conditions? These and many other questions will be answered by the speakers in the programme's B6 parallel session, scheduled to take place on Thursday 20 May. Currently confirmed session speakers are:

- Pekka Sauri, Deputy Mayor, City of Helsinki, Finland
- Barbara Armanini, Responsible for Local Agenda 21, Province of Cremona, Italy
- Matthew Galvin, Responsible Procurement Manager, Greater London Authority United Kingdom

For more information and to register please visit www.dunkerque2010.org or contact secretariat@dunkerque2010.org



Pro-EE final conference, 7-8 October 2010, Linz, Austria

Some 300 international, national and regional public procurers are expected to take part in the final conference of the Public Procurement boosts Energy Efficiency (pro-EE) European project on how joint sustainable public procurement (SPP) can boost energy efficiency.

The pro-EE project aims to improve energy efficiency through SPP by focusing on innovative products which yield higher economic and technical energy savings. Model SPP procedures and networking approaches, which can be implemented by any public authority in Europe, are also being developed through the project.

For more information, please contact Hannes Pöcklhofer from the Federal State of Upper Austria (tel.:+43-732/77 20-123 16, email: gbm.post@ooe.gv.at).

For more information about pro-EE please visit www.pro-ee.eu

5. Other News



Responsible purchasing in Central America

Comprasresponsables.org strives to create a community of experts in Central America to enable capacity building and exchange of experiences which will in turn be used to encourage public administrations to consume sustainably, and develop tools to assist them in their implementation activities, such as educational materials, training and a 'green' product and service directory. Supported by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the project is run by CEGESTI, a Costa Rican NGO, and currently focuses its efforts in Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Panama.

Since the project began last year, CEGESTI have provided training to more than 200 public officials in the focus countries. They have also provided technical assistance to several public administrations, in order to assist them to define and implement GPP policies. A couple of local governments in Costa Rica can already speak about their success stories; the Municipality of Santa Ana enacted their GPP policy in January this year, which includes eight lines of action to gradually implement GPP (including an information component to the community). Following Santa Ana's example, the Municipality of Tibás began the process of defining its policy and guidelines with the aim to have a council decision on GPP in place in the near future.

Despite not having legislation explicitly stating that the public sector must consider sustainability criteria when purchasing, CEGESTI's experience so far has been that the vast range of environmental legislation in the region is supportive of organisations working in this direction. Convincing (political) leaders that purchasing sustainably is the way forward is therefore instrumental to lock in their support.

To access monthly bulletins, tools and webconferences, or for more information, please visit www.comprasresponsables.org or contact [Sylvia Aguilar](mailto:Sylvia.Aguilar@cegesti.org) from CEGESTI

6. Internal News

New Project Officer in ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team

Abby Semple joined ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team in January this year as a Project Officer. Her previous work in Ireland as a public procurement consultant brought her into contact with a wide range of central and local government authorities. Abby has a law degree from Trinity College Dublin as well as qualifications in public procurement and dispute resolution. At ICLEI she will be contributing to the SCI-Network, Euro TopTen Plus and the Marrakech Task Force work on Sustainable Public Procurement, amongst other projects.

To contact her, please write to abby.semple@iclei.org

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If you would like to Subscribe to the Sustainable Procurement Update, have any further questions, would like to give feedback on ICLEI's work in Sustainable Procurement or would like to be taken off this mailing list, please contact us at: procurement@iclei.org

The Sustainable Procurement Update is produced by the European Secretariat of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. Editors: Amalia Ochoa (responsible).

ICLEI is an international association of local governments and national and regional local government organisations that have made a commitment to sustainable development.



More than 1,000 cities, towns, counties, and their associations worldwide comprise ICLEI's growing membership. ICLEI works with these and hundreds of other local governments through international performance-based, results-oriented campaigns such as the Procura+ Campaign and programmes.

The Procura+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign is an initiative designed to help support public authorities across Europe in implementing Sustainable Procurement and help promote their achievements. The Campaign was established in 2004 to help drive the mainstreaming of sustainable public procurement throughout Europe. Through participating in the Campaign, public authorities can contribute to a growing international movement and help bring about real change on the market.

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