

# Sustainable Procurement

## Issue 51 | December 2011

Dear Reader,

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

You can also read more about Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign developments by visiting the Campaign website [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org). You can find more information about ICLEI's projects on Sustainable Procurement at [www.iclei-europe.org/topics/sustainable-procurement](http://www.iclei-europe.org/topics/sustainable-procurement)

ICLEI welcomes your contributions. Just send your news to [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org). News from Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign Participants and ICLEI members enjoys publishing priority!

If this newsletter does not display properly, please click here to view it online:  
<http://update.sustainable-procurement.org/index.php?id=8443>

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## **1. Successful sustainable procurement? ICLEI's trio of tools shows how**

Bringing together 15 years of experience, ICLEI Europe now offers three unique tools to show public authorities how to embark upon successful sustainable procurement – the Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre, the Procurement Forum and the relaunch of the Procura<sup>+</sup> Sustainable Procurement Campaign website.

“Procurement today has the potential to improve efficiency and cost



effectiveness of public services whilst meeting environmental, social and economic goals. ICLEI provides clear and simple guidance on how



to achieve this," says Pekka Sauri, Deputy Mayor of Helsinki (Finland) and Procura+ Campaign Chair.

### Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre

Gathering the latest and most relevant information in one place, the Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre is a one-stop access point for procurers, policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders. The Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre contains key knowledge on how to effectively undertake sustainable procurement, saving public authorities money and driving the market towards sustainable solutions.

With all information available free of charge, visit [www.sustainable-procurement.org](http://www.sustainable-procurement.org) and get the latest news and events on sustainable procurement. Take advantage of networking opportunities, discover ongoing initiatives that you can participate in and tap into an extensive searchable database. Examples of what you will find include:

- Procurement criteria, policies and strategies
- Tools and guidance
- Good practice cases, studies and reports

### The Procurement Forum

Bringing the human dimension back into knowledge sharing, public authorities are invited to delve deeper into specific aspects of sustainable procurement in the Procurement Forum, a tailor-made online network for procurement professionals. In this social space, users have the opportunity to exchange and collaborate in focused groups. Access it at [www.procurement-forum.eu](http://www.procurement-forum.eu).



### All-new Procura+ Website

For public authorities that wish to take a lead in advancing sustainable procurement, the relaunched Procura+ Campaign website should be the first stop. Meet the 30 cities, regions and organisations that are among the most active in the field. Take advantage of the support offered by the campaign and use it as a means to promote your activities. Join the movement at [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org).

With public authorities in Europe spending over €2.1 trillion a year on goods and services, procuring more sustainably has to be a priority if we are to truly create a more sustainable economy.

*For more information, please contact: [mark.hidson@iclei.org](mailto:mark.hidson@iclei.org) or visit any of the newly launched websites: [www.sustainable-procurement.org](http://www.sustainable-procurement.org), [www.procurement-forum.eu](http://www.procurement-forum.eu), [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org).*

## 2. Launch of Buying Green Handbook - second edition



ICLEI, in cooperation with the European Commission has produced a new edition of the Buying Green! Handbook, published on 25 October 2011. The Handbook offers step-by-step guidance to public authorities to help reduce the environmental impact of purchases. This new edition is an update of the first, which was published in 2004 to reflect new developments in the legal and policy framework for GPP at EU level and to offer more comprehensive guidance.

In addition to explaining how GPP can be implemented under the EU procurement rules, the Handbook includes examples of green contracts from across the EU-27. The authorities featured range from the small municipality of Beckerich (Luxembourg), which has switched to more than 90 percent renewable sources for its electricity, to the Central Procurement Directorate of Hungary, which was awarded green contracts worth over €335 million last year.

*A shorter summary document aimed at policy makers has also been prepared by ICLEI. Both documents are available [here](#).*

## 3. Project news

### Sustainable Timber Action and LANDMARK websites launched

The websites for two of ICLEI's European projects addressing social issues in procurement were launched this month:

- [www.sustainable-timber-action.org](http://www.sustainable-timber-action.org) – Sustainable Timber Action is aimed at assisting public procurers in purchasing both sustainably harvested and fairly traded timber. It will develop a purchasing model that combines both sustainable forestry and fair trade criteria. For more information write to [simon.clement@iclei.org](mailto:simon.clement@iclei.org).
- [www.landmark-project.eu](http://www.landmark-project.eu) – The LANDMARK project aims to enable European local authorities to act as drivers for the promotion of fair working conditions in global supply chains for key products purchased by the European public sector. It will develop legal guidance on verification schemes, contract notices, training programmes and a manifold of engaging events such as multimedia shows in town halls across Europe. Get involved and contact [philipp.tepper@iclei.org](mailto:philipp.tepper@iclei.org) for further information.

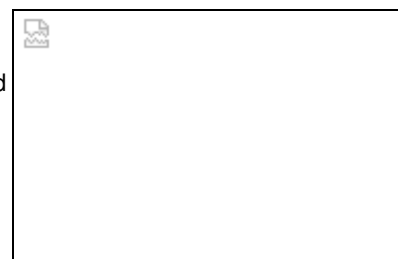


### Energy efficient server rooms and data centres

The PrimeEnergyIT project ([www.efficient-datacenter.eu](http://www.efficient-datacenter.eu)) has produced a set of draft procurement recommendations for central IT equipment (servers, storage devices, network equipment, cooling systems and monitoring devices).

The consultation period for this draft is now underway and will run until mid-January 2012. A workshop will also take place on 24 January to present the guidance.

*Those interested in providing comments on the draft, or that have sustainable procurement experience in this area to share, are invited to get in touch with [philipp.tepper@iclei.org](mailto:philipp.tepper@iclei.org).*



### Anchoring green public procurement in German educational institutions



Participants at a recent workshop in the frame of the "Landmarken setzen" project were treated to the presentation of a range of good practice examples from Germany. One such example was the comprehensive sustainability strategy of the federal state of Hesse, where furniture used in the administration covers the three areas of sustainability. It is produced in prisons, where inmates learn new skills and the wood used comes from sustainable forestry. In addition, buying from within the organisation is also economically advantageous.

The next steps in the project include conducting one-day train-the-trainer seminars for institutions (universities, academies, in-house learning centres) in order to educate public purchasers. There are still some opportunities available to have a seminar in your city, so get in touch to secure a place! The training sessions are tailored to the level of experience of the trainers and students. Existing curricula are analysed to identify where green public procurement fits in.

*The presentations from the event are available here: [www.iclei-europe.org/events/?cmd=view&uid=fa68a978](http://www.iclei-europe.org/events/?cmd=view&uid=fa68a978)*

*For questions about the trainings or to book one, contact [franziska.singer@iclei.org](mailto:franziska.singer@iclei.org).*

### Recommendations for procuring sustainable construction

Many public authorities are investing in buildings, whether this is the renovation of existing stock or new building projects. Reducing energy consumption and improving the overall sustainability of public sector construction is vital, but the procurement processes to get there are not always straightforward. This is why the SCI-Network ([www.sci-network.eu](http://www.sci-network.eu)) has brought together public authorities and experts in the field of sustainable and innovative construction to identify good procurement practices.

At a meeting in Freiburg, Germany, in late October 2011, discussions focused on the draft recommendations developed by the SCI-Network Working Groups. The recommendations draw on the research carried out in 2011, and are aimed at public sector procurers and project managers. The topics covered range from when and how to consult users, to identifying specific building technologies and applying



whole-life costing tools. Sources of finance and approaches to energy performance contracting are also covered.

The recommendations will form the basis for guidance to be issued by the network in 2012. Further input is still being sought from public authorities and experts active in this field - especially those with specific experiences to share in procuring sustainable and innovative construction.

*To see the draft recommendations and contribute, contact [sci-network@iclei.org](mailto:sci-network@iclei.org)*

#### 4. Procura+ Campaign News



##### **The Procura+ Campaign joins forces with networks in Portugal and Greece**

Networks for exchange, training and sharing good practice are at the core of the activities of the Procura+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign that has been supporting the implementation of socially responsible and green public procurement since 2004. Now, two regional networks in Portugal and Greece that form part of the European Building SPP project have been established.

Procura+ Portugal and Procura+ Greece allow public central or local organisations to exchange best practices, training and information on sustainable public procurement. The activities encompass a communication platform for sharing and providing information, regular regional exchange meetings, thematic workshops and training activities – both in Portuguese and Greek.

*More information is available at [www.building-spp.eu](http://www.building-spp.eu) and [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org).*

##### **Procura+ Campaign gains four new members**

The City of Koprivnica (Croatia), the Ihobe Environmental Agency (Spain), the City of Regensburg (Germany) and the Province of Rome (Italy) are the latest additions to the Procura+ campaign, joining cities from across Europe and beyond in the drive towards sustainable public procurement.

Koprivnica is constantly moving forward in the field of sustainability, and through public construction projects has produced a market for energy efficient products and skills in the city. Ihobe, the environment agency of the Basque government acts as a resource centre in the region, developing GPP criteria and guidelines, conducting training and promoting good practice. The Province of Rome is active in several areas, particularly those related to organic food for schools and other public catering and mobility. The latest participant to join from Germany is Regensburg, where internal training, health of employees, social and environmental criteria play a role when purchasing.

*For more information, please go to [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org) or contact [franziska.singer@iclei.org](mailto:franziska.singer@iclei.org).*

#### 5.Upcoming Event

##### **EcoProcura 2012, 19-21 September 2012, Malmö, Sweden**

Please save the date for the EcoProcura 2012, which will discuss and present:

- The importance of sustainable public procurement in the green economy debate
- The proposed new EU Directive on Public Procurement
- The potential of public procurement of innovation
- The opportunities for addressing social and ethical issues in procurement
- Achieving sustainability in the public construction sector

EcoProcura 2012 will also offer good practice exchange, dialogues between business and the public sector and short training sessions on various topics, such as Life Cycling Costing.

For more information please contact us at: [events.europe@iclei.org](mailto:events.europe@iclei.org) or visit the conference website ([www.ecoprocura.eu/malmo2012](http://www.ecoprocura.eu/malmo2012)) for continuous updates.

For information on Malmö as a sustainable city: [www.malmo.se/sustainablecity](http://www.malmo.se/sustainablecity).

## 6. Other News

### New project assistant joins ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team

Danijel Skrelja joined ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team in Freiburg, Germany, in autumn 2011. Before ICLEI, Danijel worked for communication services of the National Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech) in Munich, Germany. More recently he worked as a project and research assistant for INWISO, a Munich-based private research institute and consultancy which specialises in health care services. Danijel has a Master's degree in Political Science, Sociology and Law and studied Urban and Environmental Governance in Germany and France.

You can contact Danijel by writing to [danijel.skrelja@iclei.org](mailto:danijel.skrelja@iclei.org).

Subscribe? Feedback? Questions? Please let us know!

If you would like to subscribe to the Sustainable Procurement Update, please send an email stating so to [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org) including in it your contact details.

If you 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 also contact us at [procurement@iclei.org](mailto:procurement@iclei.org)

The Sustainable Procurement Update is produced by the European Secretariat of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. Editor: Franziska Singer (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 1,200 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+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign.

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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