

Sustainable Procurement

Issue 54 | October 2012

Dear Reader,

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 <http://www.sustainable-procurement.org/>

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

If this newsletter does not display properly, please click here to view it online: <http://update.sustainable-procurement.org/index.php?id=8608>

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1.The Power of Procurement to Transform the Market

The EcoProcura conference in Malmö demonstrated the growing consensus that public authorities have both the power and responsibility to create a market for sustainable products and services. Spending over €2 trillion (or 19 percent of GDP) each year on goods and services, the public sector is the biggest single buyer on the European market. This represents a tremendous potential to push solutions that favour the environment, society, innovation and the economy.

At the biggest sustainable procurement conference in Europe, the European Commission outlined its aim to

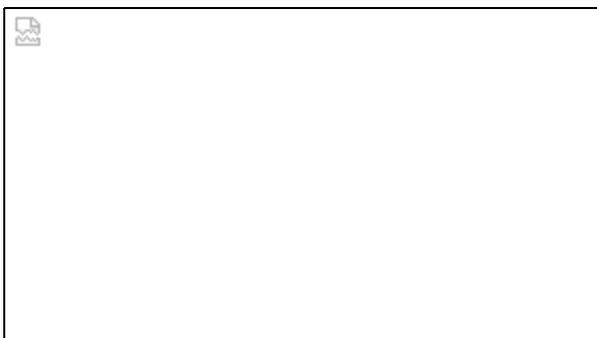


simplify and modernise procurement laws to help local, regional and national governments stimulate innovation and achieve their sustainable development goals. The progressive actions of cities, supported by ICLEI, the largest association of local governments committed to sustainable development, have been key in bringing about these legislative changes.

Antonio Tajani, Vice President of the European Commission responsible for Industry and Entrepreneurship said: "Public procurement of sustainable and innovative goods and services is one of the essential tools for stimulating new technological or service solutions while helping to create jobs and boosting the competitiveness of the European industry and SMEs. It also encourages more efficient public services."

The Commission announced further funding for networks of public authorities to buy innovative solutions. This will complement existing initiatives such as the [SCI-Network](#) on sustainable construction and innovation. A new online platform on the procurement of innovation, being developed by ICLEI, will be launched in early 2013.

Delegates at the conference had the opportunity to outline the areas of support they needed in procuring sustainable and innovative solutions. A list of resources including guidelines, case studies, direct support and other initiatives has been put on the Procurement Forum under "Public Space>EcoProcura 2012 Outcomes". To sign up to the forum please visit www.procurement-forum.eu. The outcomes of the conference will be built upon and will inform policy processes. This will be achieved through the Procura+ Campaign, a movement of public authorities at the forefront of sustainable procurement in Europe.



Deputy Mayor of Helsinki and Chair of the Procura+ Campaign Pekka Sauri said, "Our unsustainable consumption practices are at the heart of the excessive use of natural resources, threats to biodiversity, increasing poverty and climate change. EcoProcura has brought together public authorities from across Europe who are ready to take responsibility and purchase innovative solutions and sustainable products and services. I hope that many more will join this movement through the Procura+ Campaign."

EcoProcura 2012 brought together about 250 purchasers and policy makers from all levels of government, suppliers, representatives from the European Commission and NGOs to explore pathways to achieving real sustainability in public procurement. Along with ideas on innovation, there was a heavy emphasis on the importance of social responsibility throughout the supply chain. The conference saw the inauguration of the LANDMARK project's multimedia exhibition, which demonstrated how verification of labour standards can be achieved by public authorities (please see information below).

The Mayor of host city Malmö, Ilmar Reepalu, spoke for all delegates in announcing, "Our challenge is to make sure that every Euro we spend can maximise social benefits, reduce environmental impact and contribute to sustainable economic development."

Photo: (lower left) Dreamstime, Piotr Wawrzyniuk

2. Project news

Buying Sustainable Timber - A Guide for Public Procurers

The new procurement guidelines published by the Sustainable Timber Action (STA) project provide support for public procurers in Europe who want to source timber sustainably and socially responsibly. The STA guide covers the basic of sustainable timber procurement but also offers help for procurers who want to address social and ethical issues along the supply chain more strongly. The guide contains text and criteria for legally sound tenders for a variety of timber products which can be directly used.

The guide is now available in English and will soon be published in Romanian, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, Estonian and German.

For a comprehensive toolkit on sustainable timber procurement visit the website: www.sustainable-timber-action.org/toolkit/. Here the project additionally provides good practice studies and background information.

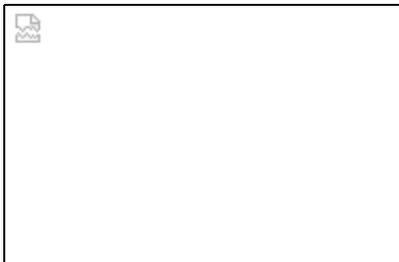
For more information about STA please go to www.sustainable-timber-action.org/ or contact Simon Clement at simon.clement@iclei.org

 Photo: Laughingmango, Istockphoto

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New DVD part of LANDMARK's Touring Multimedia Exhibition

EcoProcura 2012 saw the launch of the multimedia exhibition from the LANDMARK project. The exhibition looks at how social responsibility can be achieved throughout public sector supply chains with a focus on how to verify supplier compliance. A DVD with interviews and animations was shown along with an interactive exhibit that invites visitors to explore issues and solutions surrounding the procurement of various high-risk product groups such as food and textiles. The LANDMARK project aims to enable European local authorities to improve working conditions in supply chains through responsible public procurement.



Click [here](#) to watch the video on how to verify social standards in public procurement or visit the LANDMARK website.

The LANDMARK exhibition will be in Spain in the coming months: Barcelona (November-December), San Boi (January-February) and San Quirze (March). Additional venues in Spain may be requested during this time period, interested parties please contact Martina Hooper from SETEM mhooper@setem.org

The exhibition will then travel across Europe until March 2014 and is available in the following languages: English, Catalan, German, Portuguese and Spanish. If you would like to book the Multimedia Exhibition for your organisation anywhere in Europe, please contact Philipp Tepper at philipp.tepper@iclei.org

Visit the LANDMARK website www.landmark-project.eu to find out more about the project and access the publications.

Guidance on Sustainable Construction and Innovation now available

Procuring innovative and sustainable construction – a guide for European public authorities is one of the major publications of the SCI-Network and the result of more than two years of discussions, research and dialogue. The guide attempts to explore how innovative solutions can best be encouraged within the many different stages and elements of construction procurement. The guide has a user-friendly structure based around different issues in the procurement process:

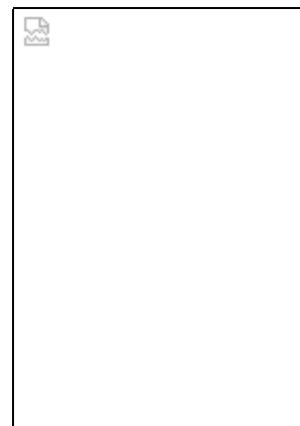
- Being an “intelligent client”
- Setting targets and requirements
- Choosing your procurement model
- Contracting, monitoring and supplier management
- Life Cycle/Whole Life Costing
- Working with the market

Within these fields, specific recommendations accompany the themes, making the complex area of innovative procurement and procurement of innovation in construction accessible from many different angles.

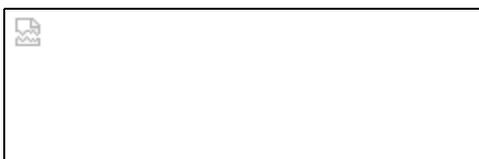
Illustrating the recommendations are real-life examples from across Europe. These are available in an extended version in an accompanying publication of “Snapshots”. More than 40 real-life projects are presented here, following the structure of the guide, and additionally tagged by building type and topic.

You can download both the guide and the snapshot collection at www.sci-network.eu. Editions of the guide in Dutch, German, Finnish, French, Italian, Polish and Spanish will also soon be published on the website and disseminated via the SCI-Network interest group.

To receive a hard copy of the guide, to join the interest group or for more information please contact Simon Clement at simon.clement@iclei.org. A webinar introducing the guide, and further project results will also be held on 4 Dec (see below for more information).



3. Procura+ Campaign News



Procura+ Participants' and National Partners' Meeting

The Procura+ Campaign held its Participants' and National Partners' meeting in September just before the start of the EcoProcura conference in Malmö (Sweden).



Future Campaign activities were outlined, including plans to conduct webinars on specific areas of interest to the group, in addition to the Campaign's seminars on SPP. Fruitful discussions were held between participants from across Europe on topics including innovation, social responsibility and

the changing EU Procurement Directives.

Stella Aantonen, who attended the meeting to represent Turku (Finland), presented on the Municipality's progress towards implementing SPP and the internal collaboration needed to facilitate these achievements. The meeting was also attended by brand new Participants from Malmö (Sweden) and Zealand (Denmark).

For those who are interested in joining the Procura+ Campaign as a Participant or National Partner, please contact Campaign Manager Philipp Tepper philipp.tepper@iclei.org

Three new members join the Procura+ Campaign

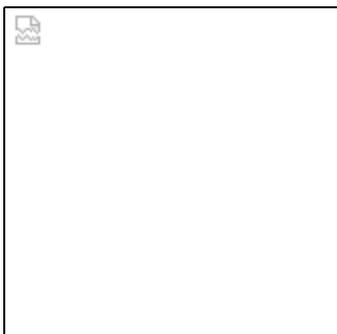
Photo: www.visitroskilde.com

Energy Cluster Zealand (Denmark), the City of Malmö (Sweden) and the City of Munich (Germany) are the latest organisations to join the Procura+ Campaign, fortifying the efforts of current Participants and National Partners from across Europe working towards sustainable public procurement.



Energy Cluster Zealand is a regional cooperation platform working with energy and climate solutions in municipalities, industry and research organisations. Due to the nature of their work, staff members are keen to learn more about sustainable procurement through the Procura+ Campaign, in order to be able to be able to provide appropriate support to Danish public authorities.

Photo: www.muenchen.de



The City of Malmö recently hosted the EcoProcura 2012 conference and has a keen interest in environmental, social and innovative aspects of public procurement. It has a commitment to purchasing organic and locally produced foods, using procurement to phase out hazardous substances, improving recycling methods and stimulating innovation through its Environment Programme. It has also established a Code of Conduct for suppliers in conjunction with other Swedish Municipalities to try and ensure compliance with decent labour standards throughout the supply chain.

The City of Munich has been a key driver of sustainable public procurement in Germany. It was the country's first city to pledge in law not to procure items which may have been produced using child labour. This example has since been followed by over 200 German towns and cities. Munich also shows a strong commitment to the environment, having set a target of halving its CO₂ emissions by 2030 and through its pioneering sustainable procurement policy. The City's public utilities company demonstrates similar ambition, investing heavily in wind and solar energy.

For more information contact procurement@iclei.org

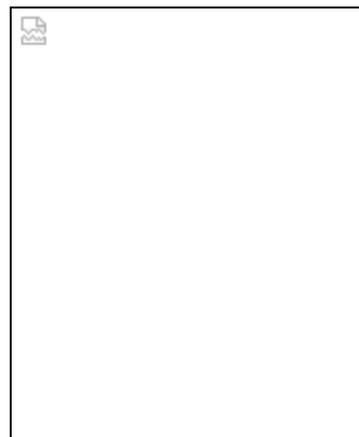
4.Upcoming Events

The Role of Sustainability Standards in Public Procurement: ISEAL Workshops in Sao Paulo and London

Earlier this year the ISEAL Alliance, the global association for sustainability standards, with support from the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), launched a three -year project aimed at helping governments around world increase the scale, scope and effectiveness of their sustainable public procurement efforts through the better use of sustainability standards.

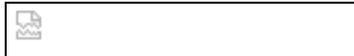
With this as background, ISEAL is hosting two regional, full-day workshops in Sao Paulo, Brazil (23 October) and London, UK (30 October) with the following objectives:

- Presentation of a research report commissioned by ISEAL and



developed in collaboration with ICLEI, to assess the current use of sustainability standards in public procurement globally;

- Presentation of innovative case studies of how sustainability standards are being used in public procurement; and
- Identification of strategies and tools that can support key procurement stakeholders to more readily use credible standards.



For registration and full workshop information please check the following links for [Brazil](#) and [London](#).

Webinar - Procuring innovative and sustainable construction



The SCI-Network will hold a webinar on 4 December to present the new guide on procuring innovative and sustainable construction, produced by the network. The webinar will also present some good practice examples from across Europe.

Participation is open to all. Further information will be presented on the network website nearer the time: www.sci-network.eu. If you would like to register your interest please write to simon.clement@iclei.org

Photo: Kunsthaus Graz

Subscribe? Feedback? Questions? Please let us know!

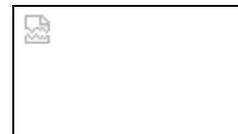
If you would like to subscribe to the Sustainable Procurement Update, please send an email stating so to procurement@iclei.org including in it your contact details.

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

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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www.iclei-europe.org/procurement