EU Green Public Procurement Policy

GPP Benefits

Environmental
- Decreasing GHG and hazardous substances, increasing resource and energy efficiency...

Social
- Improving health and well-being...

GPP

Political

Economic
- Achieving environmental obligations, showing commitment to environment protection and sustainable consumption and production...
- Increasing uptake of green technologies and products, supporting innovation...

Increasing uptake of green technologies and products, supporting innovation...

Achieving environmental obligations, showing commitment to environment protection and sustainable consumption and production...
Obstacles to GPP

- Lack of political support
- Green products are perceived to cost more
- Lack of knowledge on how to verify green criteria
- Lack of awareness of the benefits of green products
- Lack of professional workforce + time

Commission support
EU Green Public Procurement Policy

Communication (2008)
Public Procurement for a Better Environment

• Political **target**: 50% of tendering procedures to be green by 2010

• Common **EU GPP criteria** for priority products and services

• Legal/operational **Guidance**

• GPP National Action Plans
GPP support tools

**GPP website of the European Commission:**
- Full sets of EU GPP criteria and background reports in 20+ languages
- Buying Green Handbook NEW!
- More than 100 GPP Examples
- News and upcoming events

**HELP DESK:**
In EN, FR, DE  gpp-helpdesk@iclei.org

Newsletter (please sign up!)
Exchange with peers events on GPP

The first ever Nordic Green Procurement Week will take place this November with events scheduled in each of the Nordic countries - Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden - from 2 - 6 November.

The Danish Forum for Sustainable Procurement and its Nordic partners are hosting the event, which is supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. A diverse range of events will provide food for thought on a variety of issues, such as “The Environmental Revolution in Public Procurement” (in Norway), which will address how the new EU public procurement directives will potentially impact GPP, to the presentation of the Green Procurement Award in Denmark, and a discussion on eco-labelling in Iceland. The Swedish game Procura, which involves procurers, technical experts and politicians going through a GPP process together, will also see its premiere.

The Nordic Green Procurement Week is one of a number of events taking place on green purchasing in Europe this year. Other events include a three day workshop on sustainable procurement organised by the United Nations in Copenhagen, Denmark from 19 - 21 October, and the European Procurement Seminar in Barcelona, Spain on 11 November which will see a day of lively interaction on designing procurement for a low carbon future.

Using procurement to improve the sustainability of healthcare

Angela Leitl is the Executive Director of Health Care Without Harm Europe, a non-profit organisation working to transform the healthcare sector worldwide to become more ecologically sustainable.

What initiatives are Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) embarking on when it comes to sustainable procurement?

HCWH Europe has been working on the revision of the European public procurement directives (specifically Directive 2014/24/EU), together with the Network for Sustainable Development in Public Procurement (NetSDP). To influence first the development and then the transposition of the Public Procurement (PPI) Directive, HCWH Europe organised three workshops and produced a guiding document targeting, in particular, the health sector to explain over approximately one year how the Directive should be transposed at the national level to achieve the best outcome in terms of both green and ethical procurement.

Do you feel that action in this area is on the increase?

We do see an increase in green procurement, but it is patchy and by far not ambitious enough to lead to new innovative products saving energy, using less and/or for a highly recyclable material. However, a good example is the one from Sweden, where all Swedish councils have agreed on a code of conduct ensuring green and ethical procurement that suppliers have to sign.

To view the interview in full, click here.

Procurement of energy efficient street lighting in Croatia

In 2014, the City of Dubrovnik (situated on the Mediterranean coast in the south-east of Croatia) acknowledged the need to improve the quality of its street lighting and decided to open an tender requesting the replacement of existing street light fixtures and high pressure mercury lamps, with a new and more sustainable solution.

The Municipality published a tender in May 2014, and has since then calculated the energy and CO₂ emissions saved by the new system using the GPP 2000 methodology with an assumed lifetime of 25 years. This calculation was based on the 566 newly installed LED lamps and showed that in comparison to the old system, which consumed 133,000 kWh and emitted an average of 100 tonnes of CO₂ a year, the new LED lighting solution has reduced the CO₂ emissions from street lighting by 36%, as it consumes only 210,000 kWh per year and will save the equivalent of 900 tonnes of CO₂ over a 25 year period. The procurement was the first of its kind for the Municipality, which proved far from problematic for the market, and thus sets a good precedent for similar future action.

Download the full case study here.

Low carbon healthcare catering solution, United Kingdom

As part of the EU-funded ECOUP project, a public procurement process was initiated in 2012 to bring about a step-change in the quality of catering provided to patients, visitors and staff at Rotherham Hospital. The cross-departmental project team set up at the hospital designed an output-based specification to define the care needed and engaged the market in a pre-procurement dialogue. A new contract offering a forward commitment to the catering provider of up to 10 years was awarded earlier this year. Financial savings of just over one million euro (or 800,000 British pounds) in the first five years are expected to be achieved.

In terms of sustainability, the new supply will provide progressive carbon reductions over the life of the contract in both the on-site catering provision and the wider supply chain: a reduction in food plate and food preparation waste; and a step-change in the environmental sustainability of catering services. Luton's approach offers a model, specifications and evaluation criteria to stimulate the supply and wider uptake of innovative and environmentally friendly catering services.

Download the full case study here.

The GPP News Alert is an initiative of the European Commission, Directorate-General Environment.
From a Linear Economy...

NATURAL RESOURCES  TAKE  MAKE  DISPOSE  WASTE

WASTE
WASTE
...to a Circular Economy
Green Public Procurement in CE AP

- Key role for circular economy acknowledged
- Special emphasis on circular economy aspects in criteria-setting
- Support a greater uptake of GPP criteria by public authorities, e.g. by training
- Commission to lead by example - in its own procurement, and by reinforcing the use of GPP in EU funding
EU Green Public Procurement Policy

20+ EU GPP Criteria

- Copying and graphic paper
- Computer and Monitors NEW
- Transport
- Electricity
- Textiles
- Cleaning products and services
- Office Buildings NEW
- Furniture
- Food & Catering services
- Gardening products and services
## EU Green Public Procurement Policy

### 20+ EU GPP Criteria

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EU Green Public Procurement Policy

Criteria under development

- Street lighting
- Food and Catering
- Cleaning Services
- Furniture
- Textiles
- Paints and Varnishes
- Data Centres
Higher purchasing prices are often compensated for by lower operating costs.

Examples:

- **Computers and Monitors:**
  Savings for hardware (indicatively 17-44% of life cycle costs for desktops and notebooks and 87-92% for displays)

- **Health Care EEE**
  CT: Computed Tomography - Annual savings of up to €3700
  Dialysis - 50% less operating costs
  MRI: Magnetic Resonance Imaging - Annual savings of up to €6700 per MRI

- **Heating systems** (cost savings depend on energy prices)
  Energy savings (core criteria) - Boilers: 40% (small) 50% (large)
  Heat pumps: 45% (small) 55% (large)
Reduction of 15,000 t of CO$_2$ per year
• Cost savings of approximately 1.5 million EUR per year due to modern facility management and energy-efficient appliances
• Employee protection and reduction of health impacts through eco-friendly disinfectants and cleaning products - up to 40% less cleaning products used with an equally good result
• Air pollutants and particulate matter reduced through low-emission vehicles and by decreasing the transports on and for construction sites – annual external costs of about 300,000 EUR avoided
GPP 2020 aims to mainstream low-carbon public procurement across Europe.

**Starting point:** Many successful SPP examples, projects, policies, but little quantified information on impact. Policy makers need this data, GPP 2020 provides it.

**GPP 2020 approach:** Big Impact – working with big buyers in 8 EU countries and quantified impact - calculating CO2 savings for each tender

- Over 100 GPP tenders for energy related products and services carried out – all documented in Tender Models (46 as of 20.1.16)
- Estimated savings: 250,000 t CO2e (as of 20.1.16)
- Training series run with over 40 training seminars and 600 people reached (as of 20.1.16)
- Further support activities in each partner country: training, helpdesks, networking events, guidance

www.gpp2020.eu

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GPP webpage: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp