The EU green public procurement policy

European Commission
Environment Directorate-General
Sustainable production, products and consumption

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18 May 2021 – Circular procurement as a way to address pollution: experiences from ProCirc
Priorities of the European Commission 2019-2024

- A European Green Deal
- An economy that works for people
- A Europe fit for the digital age
- Protecting our European way of life
- A stronger Europe in the world
- A new push for European democracy
European Green Deal and GPP


2.1.3. Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy

Public authorities, including the EU institutions, should lead by example and ensure that their procurement is green.

The Commission will propose further legislation and guidance on green public purchasing.
2020 Circular Economy Action Plan and GPP

COM (2020) 98 final of 11.03.2020

2. A SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.2 Empowering consumers and public buyers

the Commission will propose minimum mandatory green public procurement (GPP) criteria and targets in sectoral legislation and phase in compulsory reporting to monitor the uptake of Green Public Procurement (GPP) without creating unjustified administrative burden for public buyers.

Furthermore, the Commission will continue to support capacity building with guidance, training and dissemination of good practices and encouraging public buyers to take part in a “Public Buyers for Climate and Environment” initiative, which will facilitate exchanges among buyers committed to GPP implementation.
2020 Circular economy action plan

Designing sustainable products

- Sustainable products initiative: revision of the Ecodesign Directive to go beyond energy-related products (public consultation currently open until 9.06.21 → https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12567-Sustainable-Products-Initiative)

Empowering consumers and public buyers

- Revision of the consumer law: consumers to receive trustworthy and relevant information on products at the point of sale
- Establishing a new “Right to repair”
- Legislative proposal to ensure companies substantiate their green claims using Product and Organisation Environmental Footprint methods (expected Q2 2021)
Batteries – modernising EU rules

EU law aims to minimise batteries’ harmful effects on the environment. The rules cover their full life cycle, from design & production to reuse & recycling.

In line with the Green Deal and other sustainability-related policies, this initiative would update EU rules to ensure:

- all batteries are **produced sustainably** (i.e. with low resource consumption and little waste generated) and **can be easily recycled**
- any batteries used in the growing market for **electric vehicles are sustainable**

Commission proposal for a regulation **published on 10 December 2020**

Art.70 of the proposed regulation concerns mandatory green public procurement criteria
EU energy efficiency directive – evaluation and review

Under the European Green Deal, the Commission has committed to stronger action on climate change. It aims to assess how the EU’s greenhouse gas emissions could responsibly be reduced by at least 50% to 55% by 2030.

As the efficient use of energy is key to achieving such a target, the review aims to provide insights into how the EED could be revised to:

• achieve a higher level of greenhouse gas reduction by 2030
• contribute to other European Green Deal initiatives

Planned for second quarter 2021

According to the current energy efficiency directive (2012/27/EU, amended in 2018 by Directive 2018/2002) the public sector must lead by example by renovating 3% of buildings owned and occupied by the central governments starting from 01 January 2014 and by including energy efficiency considerations in public procurement.
Big Buyers for Climate and Environment

- **Objective**: promoting collaboration between big public buyers in implementing strategic public procurement for sustainable solutions
- **Focus**: unmeet needs => development of innovative solutions
- Aggregated demand used to pull the market and generate impact
- Topics identified bottom up by buyers
- **Pilot**: very successful
  - Zero emissions: spill over to Oslo, Helsinki, Copenhague, Brussels, Budapest, etc.
- **Duration**: 2ys (budget 500k)
Big Buyers for Climate and Environment

4 Working groups, typically with green dimension:

- Electric heavy-duty vehicles for waste collection, street cleaning and maintenance
  eg. Buyers: Rotterdam (lead), Amsterdam, Oslo, Cologne, Helsinki, Gothenburg, LIPASAM (Sevilla), Lisbon

- Zero emission construction sites leader: Oslo

- Circular construction - roads, infrastructure, public space leaders: Haarlem and Vienna

- Digital healthcare
GPP support tools

GPP website of the European Commission:
- Full sets of EU GPP criteria and background reports in 20+ languages
- Buying Green Handbook
- Updated GPP Training Toolkit
- Circular Procurement brochure
- More than 180 GPP Examples
- News and upcoming events

General GPP Help desk: gpp-helpdesk@iclei.org

GPP Newsletter (please sign up!)

Exchange Platform - https://procurement-forum.eu/
EU GPP Criteria

- Copying and graphic paper
- Computer, monitors, tablets
  And smartphones
- Road transport
- Electricity
- Textiles

- Cleaning products and services
- Office Buildings
- Furniture
- Food & Catering services
- Public space maintenance
EU GPP Criteria

- Road lighting and traffic signals
- Waste water infrastructures
- Flushing Toilets & Urinals
- Imaging Equipment
- Road design, construction and maintenance
- Data centres
- Sanitary tapware
- EEE Health care sector
- Paints and Varnishes
- Water based heaters
EU GPP Criteria
Current/upcoming revisions

Road transport – to be published soon

Buildings - revision just started
To register as interested stakeholder:
→ JRC-B5-BUILDINGS@ec.europa.eu
→ Registration for Product Groups | Product Bureau (europa.eu)
Thank you!

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