Public Procurement, Innovation and Sustainability

WHAT ABOUT?

'Public procurement refers to the process by which public authorities, such as government departments or local authorities, purchase work, goods or services from companies'. (https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/public-procurement_en)

Innovation is the process of renewing and updating a domain, a product, or a service by introducing new techniques or generating effective concepts to produce new value. The creation of value is a defining feature of innovation.

'The European Commission aims to improve public procurement practices, promote the demand of innovative goods, services and works in Europe, and foster the uptake of innovation in the EU. This will allow the integration of public demand into the innovation ecosystem and foster economic recovery.

Innovation procurement includes: the development of innovative solutions through the procurement of research and development services, the procurement of innovative solutions that are not yet available or do not exist on the market, the procurement of innovative solutions that do exist, but are not yet widely available on the market'.

(https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/public-procurement/strategic-procurement/innovation-procurement_en)

Sustainability means fulfilling the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations, while maintaining a balance of economic growth, environmental care, and social well-being.

'Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) is a process by which public authorities seek to achieve the appropriate balance between the three pillars of sustainable development - economic, social and environmental - when procuring goods, services or works at all stages of the project'. (https://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/versus_en.htm)

Given today's fast-changing environment, the European Commission considered rethinking the approach to purchasing, professionalizing public buyers, cutting red tape, and capitalizing on the benefits of the digital revolution to create a more efficient, effective, citizen-oriented, and business-friendly economy. This comprises measures aiming at making the economy more creative, environmentally friendly, and socially inclusive.

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is defined in the Communication (COM (2008) 400) "Public procurement for a better environment" as "a process whereby public authorities seek to procure goods, services and works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle when compared to goods, services and works with the same primary function that would otherwise be procured."(<u>https://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/what_en.htm</u>)

In the EU, there are over 250 000 public authorities that annually spend over 14% of the GDP, or about €2 trillion, on goods, services, and projects. Public bodies are the main purchasers in several

industries, including energy, transportation, waste management, social protection, and the delivery of health or educational services.

The public sector may utilize procurement to foster economic development, increase employment, encourage investment, and foster a more creative, energy-efficient, and socially inclusive economy. Modern, effective, and well-managed procurement is essential to providing high-quality public services.

An efficiency increase of even 1% might result in annual savings of €20 billion through improved public procurement.

(https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/public-procurement_en)

Regulatory framework

- Directive 2014/23/EU on the award of concession contracts 2014_European Parliament and the Council_Directive 2014.23.EU on the award of concession contracts https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014L0023&rid=2
- Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement 2014_European Parliament and the Council_Directive 2014.24.EU on public procurement <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02014L0024-</u> 20180101&from=EN

Directive 2014/25/EU on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors
 2014_European Parliament and the Council_Directive 2014.25.EU on procurement by entities operating in the water-energy-transport and postal services sectors
 <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02014L0025-20180101&from=EN</u>

• GPP Good Practice https://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/case_group_en.htm

Since January 2010, the European Commission has been promoting good practice experiences on GPP to illustrate how public authorities in Europe have successfully 'greened' a public tender or procurement process. These include the use of life-cycle costing (LCC), circular economy principles, approaches fostering sustainable innovation, among others.

In terms of GPP, the following sections of the directives are worth drawing attention to:

- 1. Defining the requirements of a contract: *Article 42* of **Directive 2014/24/EU**; and *Article 60* of **Directive 2014/25/EU**.
- 2. Use of labels: Article 43 of Directive 2014/24/EU and Article 61 of Directive 2014/25/EU.
- 3. Lowest price award and life-cycle costing (LCC): *Article* 67 of **Directive 2014/24/EU** *and Article* 82 of **Directive 2014/25/EU**.
- 4. Innovation partnerships: Article 31 of Directive 2014/24/EU.
- 5. Consulting the market: *Article 40* of **Directive 2014/24/EU**.
- **Sustainable Development Goals**: Sustainable development is a core principle of the Treaty on European Union and a priority objective for the Eu's internal and external policies. The United Nations 2030 Agenda includes *17 Sustainable Development Goals* (*SDGs*). The SDG Policy Mapping tool shows how EU policies address the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs). The mapping helps better understand how EU policies relate to the SDG framework, by mapping policy documents with the SDGs and targets through specific keywords. It can thereby strengthen EU capacity to design, implement and monitor coherent and integrated policies for sustainable development.

'These new rules simplify public procurement procedures and make them more flexible. This will benefit public purchasers and businesses, particularly SMEs'. https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/public-procurement/digitalprocurement/european-single-procurement-document-and-ecertis_en

Background documents on the 2014 public procurement reform

https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/public-procurement/legalrules-and-implementation_en

- Press materials
 - 1. <u>https://ec.europa.eu/growth/news/new-eu-public-procurement-rules-less-bureaucracy-higher-efficiency-2015-11-19_en</u>
 - 2. <u>http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/intm/140975.</u> <u>pdf</u>
 - 3. <u>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-</u> room/content/20140110IPR32386/html/New-EU-procurement-rules-to-ensurebetter-quality-and-value-for-money
 - 4. <u>http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-18_en.htm?locale=en</u>
 - 5. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-20_en.htm?locale=en
 - 6. <u>http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-14-19_en.htm?locale=en</u>
- Legislative acts
 - 1. <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> <u>content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32014L0024&locale=en</u>
 - 2. <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> <u>content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32014L0025&locale=en</u>
 - 3. <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> <u>content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32014L0023&locale=en</u>
 - 4. <u>https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/public-procurement/legal-rules-and-implementation/concession-contracts_en</u>
 - 5. <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> <u>content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52011SC1585&locale=en</u>
- 2014 Factsheets on the review of public procurement:
 - 1. Innovation
 - https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/15527/attachments/1/translations/
 - 2. Environmental aspects
 - https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/15509/attachments/1/translations/
 - 3. Social aspects of the new rules

 $\underline{https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/14559/attachments/1/translations}$

4. Computerisation of public procurement

https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/14484/attachments/1/translations

- 2023_The Commission_Recommendation on National Support Programmes for Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32023H0550</u>
- 2021_European Parliament and The Council_Decision on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of EIT 2021-2027 <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021D0820&qid=1679053730573
- 2021_European Parliament and The Council_Regulation on the EIT <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> content/AUTO/?uri=CELEX:32021R0819&qid=1679053730573&rid=4
- 2021_European Parliament and The Council_Regulation on the establishment of a framework to faciitate sustainable investment
 <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/AUTO/?uri=CELEX:32020R0852&qid=1679062207000&rid=2</u>

 <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52021AE1986</u>
- 2021_European Commission_Guidance on Innovation Procurement https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/45975
- 2019_The Commission_The European Green Deal <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:b828d165-1c22-11ea-8c1f-01aa75ed71a1.0002.02/DOC_1&format=PDF</u>
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- 2017_European Parliament and The Council_Decision of the European Parliament and The Council on the participation of EU in PRIMA <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-</u> <u>content/AUTO/?uri=CELEX:32017D1324&qid=1679053730573&rid=6</u>
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- 2016_European Commission_EU Public Procurement reform Less bureaucracy, higher efficiency https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/16412/attachments/1/translations
- 2011_European Commission_Buying social-A guide to taking into account of social considerations in public procurement
 https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/cb70c481-0e29-4040-9be2
 - <u>c408cddf081f</u>

The Italian Public Procurement Code

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- DECRETO LEGISLATIVO 31 marzo 2023, n. 36 https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2023/04/13/87/so/14/sg/pdf

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- 2020 Dr Sanchez-Graells Albert EU Public Procurement Policy and the Fourth Indistrial Revolution-Pushing and Pulling as One https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3440554
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https://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/case_group_en.htm

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- 2016_Federal Procurement Agency_Procurement of wastewater recycling system for the Austrian Mint
- 2015_Okokauf Wien_Vienna's Sustainable Procurement Programme

-Belgium

- 2022_European Commission_Promoting sustainable development while purchasing office chairs
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- 2019_Ottignies_Preparation and delivery of healthy and sustainable school meals

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-Denmark

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- 2018_Municipality of Aalborg_Circular procurement for a sustainable learning environment
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- 2013_State of Brandenburg_Procurement of 100% green electricity in Brandenburg

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- 2014_Consip_ICT equipment and management services

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- 2020_Municipality of Orkland_Highly energy efficient health centre with swimming and sport facilities
- 2017_Municipality of Sarpsborg_Procuring climate-friendly waste collection and treatment services
- 2016_Municipal Undertaking for Social Service buildings_Reducing emissions produced through construction

-Poland

- 2021_Municipality of Sulejow_Poland's first swimming pool meeting passive energy use standards
- 2020_Ostrow Wielkopolski_Procurement of electric buses and charging system

-Portugal

• 2020_LIPOR_Framework contract for the supply of cleaning products and services in Greater Porto

-Romania

- 2021_City of Oradea_Procurement of hybrid electric buses
- 2018_GNM_Introducing green criteria for contracting cleaning services in Romania

-Slovak Republic

- 2022_Ministry of Health-Slovak Republic_Hospital demolition with 100% recycling of materials
- 2021_Public Procurement Department South Moravian Region_Combining procurement models for green and healthy buildings

-Slovenia

• 2020_Ministry of Public Administration_National framework contract for paper with environmental requirements

-Spain

- 2022_Municipality of Rincon de la Victoria_Reaching social and environmental objectives through maintenance of public green spaces
- 2022_Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa_Process for the systematic incorporation of gender equality clauses in the contracts of the Provincial Council of Gipuskoa
- 2021_Barcelona Metropolitan Area_Procuring solar V2G charging stations for electric vehicles

- 2021_Municipality of Getxo_Incentivising energy use improvements in sport centres
- 2020_Ministry of Finance and Economic Modelling_Using award criteria to purchase ecolabelled cleaning products
- 2020_Barcelona Sports Institute_Winning the race to reduce packaging in Barcelona
- 2019_Consorci de la Ribera_Renovating the facade of an unused warehouse as part of plans for sustainable Youth Centre
- 2019_Mutualia_From the tap-replacing single-use water containers with the glass in the Basque Country
- 2018_Ministry of Territory and Sustainability_Socially responsible cleaning framework using green cleaning products
- 2017_Basque Country_Greening public procurement in the Basque Country
- 2016_Barcelona Council_City of Barcelona and Sustainable City Council Programme
- 2015_Galician Public Healthcare Services_An energy sufficient hospital
- 2015_ICAEN_Energy efficiency through performance contracting
- 2014_SPRILUR SA_Greening the construction, renovation and design of buildings in the Basque Country, Spain

-Sweden

- 2020_City of Helsingborg_Wholesaler of sustainable food for schools and elderly care homes
- 2019_City of Vaxjo_Increasing the share of organic food in public canteens
- 2019_City of Malmo_Furniture framework applying circular economy principles
- 2019_Region Stockholm_Sustainable procurement of desktop and portable computers -Switzerland

• 2019_City of Zurich_A low carbon, circular economy approach to concrete procurement -The Netherlands

- 2022_Municipality of The Hague_Purchasing materials for events in a sustainable way
- 2022_Province of Zeeland_Sustainable Procurement Plan 2021-2024 from the Province of Zeeland-using the SDGs as a compass
- 2018_City of Rotterdam_Sustainable, customer-oriented transport services
- 2018_RWS_Sustainable reconstruction of the A6 motorway in the Netherlands
- 2017_City of Rotterdam_Purchasing energy efficient street lighting
- 2017_Province of North-Brabant_Transitioning towards zero emission public transport K
- -UK
 - 2016_Nittingham Trent University_Building carbon negative student facilities as part of a campus redevelopment
 - 2016_Scottish Government_Purchasing Framework for energy efficient client computer systems

3) National case laws

Italy

- 2023_Lazio Region_Oxygen project-planting 6 million trees, one tree for each inhabitant of Lazio Region
- 2022_Region Tuscany and ARPAT_Procuring sustainable computers, printers and related services
- 2021_University of Cagliari_Vending machines for food and beverages
- 2021_Veneto_Networking for a common goal-a winning strategy to spread the GPP principles and effectively contribute to SD
- 2020_Framework contract for sustainable office materials based on -Cradle to Cradleprinciples
- 2015_Mulas Luisa_Sardinia's Regional Action Plan for GPP
- 2015_Region of Emilia-Romagna_Collection, transportation and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous hospital waste
- 2014_Consip_ICT equipment and management services