

# Sustainable Procurement Update

February - March 2007 Edition



*The Sustainable Procurement Update is a bimonthly newsletter providing information on the ongoing activities of the Sustainable Procurement team at ICLEI's European Secretariat.*

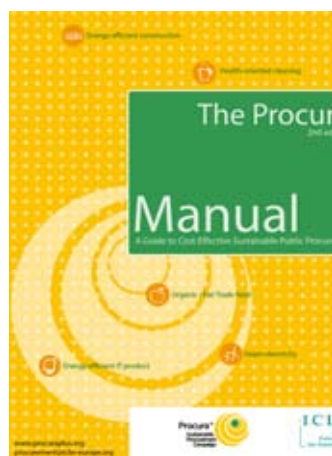
## The Procura<sup>+</sup> Manual – A Guide to Cost-effective Sustainable Public Procurement – New Edition launched

Danielle Poliautre, Deputy Mayor of the City of Lille, launched ICLEI's new Procura<sup>+</sup> manual at the Fifth European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns in Seville, Spain 22 March 2007. 40 Mayors from across Europe attended the launch with a message that sustainable procurement is about spending public money responsibly. The manual has been prepared by people with experience in working in public sector procurement. It provides clear and simple advice on how public authorities, such as local governments, universities, schools, and hospitals, can implement sustainable procurement - no matter what their size or level of experience – including:

- Actual purchasing criteria for six high-priority product groups - construction, IT equipment, cleaning products, food, buses and electricity
- A model for systematically implementing sustainable procurement
- Practical advice on integrating sustainability into procurement
- Information on the cost of sustainable procurement
- A simple approach to monitoring performance

An attached CD-ROM, providing a set of good practice examples, more detailed information on the product groups covered, and a variety of further implementation tools. The manual will also be available in German, Italian, French, Greek and Catalan in the next two months.

Commenting on the manual Per Bodker Andersen, the Mayor of Kolding, Denmark and Procura<sup>+</sup> participant said, “a number of benefits can be gained from using the manual and being part of ICLEI's Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign. These include achieving financial savings, access to best practices, meeting your local environmental, social and health goals and contributing to global sustainability.”



Danielle Poliautre, Deputy Mayor, City of Lille, France and Procura<sup>+</sup> Chair said “Huge amounts of work can be saved by public authorities across Europe sharing their experiences and finding common solutions on sustainable procurement. We welcome the Procura<sup>+</sup> approach”.

The manual has been produced as part of the DEEP project (Dissemination of Energy Efficiency Measures in the Public Building Sector), supported by the “Intelligent Energy – Europe” Programme of the European Commission.

*To download the manual and for more information on ICLEI's sustainable procurement Campaign*

*Procura<sup>+</sup> visit [www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org) or contact Mark Hidson, Director of Sustainable Procurement and Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign Manager, email: [mark.hidson@iclei-europe.org](mailto:mark.hidson@iclei-europe.org). Hard copies can also be obtained by contacting ICLEI. More information on the DEEP project can be found at [www.iclei-europe.org/deep](http://www.iclei-europe.org/deep).*



*(From left to right) Gino van Begin (Regional Director, ICLEI European Secretariat), Per Bødker Andersen (Mayor, City of Kolding, ex-Chair of Procura<sup>+</sup>), Danielle Poliautre (Deputy Mayor, City of Lille, new Chair of Procura<sup>+</sup>), Mark Hidson, Director for Sustainable Procurement, ICLEI)*

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### RESPIRO project meeting, 21 March, Bruxelles



From left to right: ICLEI-Amalia Ochoa and Peter Defranceschi, EUROCITIES - Francesca Crippa and Silke Moschitz.

The first project meeting for the European RESPIRO project – RESponsibility In PROcurement (co-funded by the EC-DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities) was held in Brussels on the 21 March. RESPIRO aims to increase the inclusion of social and ethical requirements in public and private sector purchasing through encouraging an exchange between public and private sector purchasers and suppliers – focusing on the construction and textiles sectors.

The main project partners - ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team (coordinating the project) and EUROCITIES – met to discuss the work programme for the project.

The work programme includes the organisation of several meetings which will bring together (multi) stakeholders to discuss recommended guidelines and criteria – to be applied across Europe - for socially responsible public procurement. The first round of meetings will be held in May.



For information on the RESPIRO project, please contact Amalia Ochoa, email: [amalia.ochoa@iclei-europe.org](mailto:amalia.ochoa@iclei-europe.org)

### DEEP energy efficient procurement toolkit now available

The DEEP Toolkit is a package of resources designed to help public authorities who would like to use purchasing power to improve their energy efficiency performance, by:

- Developing an energy efficient procurement policy and implementing this across the organisation
- Establishing life-cycle costing (LCC) and training procurement staff in its application
- Assessing current performance and identifying some basic and low-cost energy efficiency measures.

The Toolkit is available to download on the project website: [www.iclei-europe.org/deep](http://www.iclei-europe.org/deep). We would be happy to send you a hard copy of the Toolkit – contact ICLEI if you would like one.

For information on the DEEP project, please visit: [www.iclei-europe.org/deep](http://www.iclei-europe.org/deep) or contact Simon Clement, email: [simon.clement@iclei-europe.org](mailto:simon.clement@iclei-europe.org)



### European Survey on Biofuels

The European Commission funded project, Biofuel Cities, aims to produce an online platform and resource centre to provide information on biofuels and to develop tools to assist organisations in the implementation of biofuels initiatives.

ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team will develop public procurement guidance for biofuels as part of the procurement and also consider opportunities for developing cross-border joint procurement strategies.



As part of the project ICLEI and SenterNovem are carrying out a European survey (via a questionnaire) to evaluate the needs and expectations of possible users of this Biofuels information platform. The questionnaire has been sent to 3839 European contacts and targets organisations working on biofuels both in a direct and indirect way. It is available in four different languages: English, German, French and Polish and can be completed online by visiting: [www.biofuel-cities.eu/survey](http://www.biofuel-cities.eu/survey). The findings of the survey will contribute to the dissemination of new and existing information on the current status of biofuels development.

The Biofuel Cities European Partnership aims to:

- Gather and disseminate information on biofuels including scientific, policy, and practical developments;
- Encourage networking possibilities to maximise synergies with existing initiatives and to improve co-operation among local, national and international organisations;
- Provide mechanisms to facilitate the establishment of partnerships between different organisations; and
- Provide other useful tools and information, such as publications, details of events and training and more to support work on biofuels.



For more information on the project please visit [www.biofuel-cities.eu](http://www.biofuel-cities.eu) or contact SenterNovem, email [biofuelcities@senternovem.nl](mailto:biofuelcities@senternovem.nl). An interactive e-mailing list has been set up and is open to any interested person wishing to exchange with other European biofuel stakeholders. To subscribe to the e-mail list please contact: [biofuels-net-subscribe@biofuelcities.eu](mailto:biofuels-net-subscribe@biofuelcities.eu)

## 4th Marrakech Task Force meeting on Sustainable Public Procurement, Torino, 26 – 27 March

The 4th Marrakech Task Force meeting on sustainable public procurement (SPP) took place in Torino, Italy, 26 – 27 March. Mark Hidson, from ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team, presented the nearly completed status assessment (SA) tool on SPP, developed for use by public bodies in developing and developed countries. The SA is an online questionnaire to carry out a self-assessment for SPP. The SA will highlight the key stages of SPP implementation and the steps that could be taken by public bodies that are at the initial stages of work and to improve approaches already in use. It has been developed and tested by the Marrakech Task Force on SPP. The Marrakech Task Force on SPP is an informal group of countries and organisations set up to promote and support the implementation of SPP in both developed and developing countries, by developing tools and supporting capacity building.

For more information on ICLEI's work for the SPP Task Force, please contact Mark Hidson, email: [mark.hidson@iclei-europe.org](mailto:mark.hidson@iclei-europe.org)

## Procura+ Campaign News

### New Chair and Vice Chair of the Procura+ Campaign

As of the 1 April 2007 the City of Lille, France, has been elected as the new Chair of the European Campaign. Lille replaces the previous Chair, the City of Kolding in Denmark who chaired the Campaign since it was launched in 2004. The Province of Cremona and the City of Barcelona have been elected to act as Co-Vice chairs for the Campaign. The City of Lille has been committed to the Campaign since March 2004. Their efforts aim at taking into account environmental and social criteria together in their procurement policy while answering the needs of the buyers and the citizens, raising awareness on sustainable consumption and promoting our local economy. They have organised training sessions for buyers and introduced sustainable criteria into:

- food (4 organic meals a year in schools and 20% organic food for the city's receptions)
- green spaces (reduction of the use of pesticides and fertilisers)
- paper and envelopes (50% of the paper used is made from recycled paper)
- public lighting (32% decrease in energy consumption).



Danielle Poliautre  
Deputy Mayor  
City of Lille  
Campaign Chair



The Province of Cremona co-ordinates the Italian GPPnet – set up in 2004 following the conclusion of an EU funded LIFE-Environment project managed by Cremona. The network now involves 125 Italian local governments working on improving their GPP strategies and actions. The work carried out by Cremona through the GPPnet has served to drive the issue of GPP in Italy during the last couple of years, both from a political and practical point of view. Currently, the network is working together with the National Environment Ministry to develop the Italian national action plan on GPP, and is organising the GPPnet Forum in Cremona (to be held 10-11 May 2007) - expected to be the largest event on GPP in Italy this year.

The City of Barcelona has been the Vice-Chair of the Campaign since its start. Leading by example and increasing the environmental coherence of the organisation are two of the central premises that the City administration incorporates into their sustainable procurement policy. Since the start of the "Green Office" programme in 2000 – aims to introduce environmental sustainability into workers' behaviour and in municipal purchasing - the City of Barcelona initiated an internal "greening" programme called "City + Sustainability", which forms part of the internal action plan of Agenda 21. One of the priorities of this programme is the incorporation of environmental and social criteria in the public procurement process. Some of the highlights of Barcelona's purchasing actions are: sustainably certified timber for public funeral services, green IT and office equipment, Fair Trade coffee for the City's vending machines and sustainably sourced workwear (including ethical and environmental criteria) for Barcelona's Parks and Gardens employees.

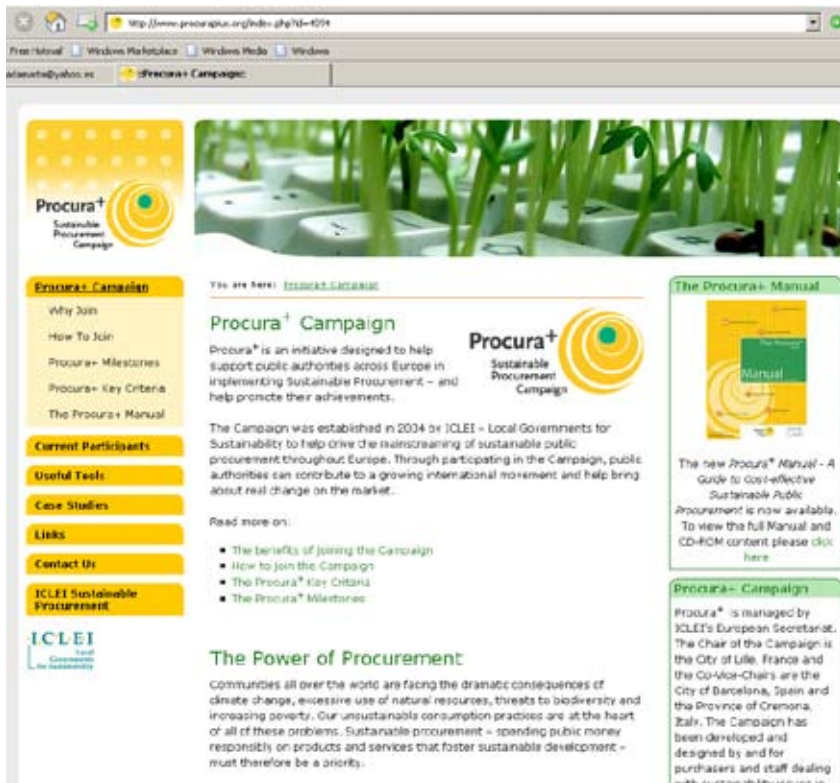


Ajuntament de Barcelona  
esta acreditada per  
Procura+

For more information on the sustainable procurement activities of Lille, Cremona and Barcelona please visit the following websites: City of Lille: [www.mairie-lille.fr](http://www.mairie-lille.fr); Province of Cremona: [www.provincia.cremona.it/settori/ambiente](http://www.provincia.cremona.it/settori/ambiente) and [www.compraverde.it](http://www.compraverde.it); City of Barcelona: [www.bcn.es/agenda21/oficinaverda](http://www.bcn.es/agenda21/oficinaverda)



## One stop shop for sustainable procurement - New Procura+ website launched



Screenshot of the new Procura+ website  
[www.procuraplus.org](http://www.procuraplus.org)

ICLEI is pleased to announce the launch of the new Procura+ website. The website is constantly growing to become a major portal for making procurement sustainable in Europe.

In addition to information related to the Campaign, a number of useful tools can be found on this website. These include the recently launched Procura+ manual which provides clear and simple advice on how public authorities can implement sustainable procurement - no matter what their size or level of experience.

The website also contains a series of good practice case studies and useful links (to sources of practical guidance, organisations and different initiatives on sustainable procurement), and a platform for current Procura+ participants to present their achievements, and provide relevant documents for download.

*If you have further questions or if you would like to add some news about what your organisation is doing on sustainable procurement, good practice case studies or events to the website, please send an E-mail to: [procurement@iclei-europe.org](mailto:procurement@iclei-europe.org)*

## Upcoming Events

### Upcoming EcoProcura 2008: call for hosts

The next EcoProcura conference will be held in 2008. The EcoProcura series of conferences provide a platform to promote exchange amongst purchasers from local, regional and national governments and also from the private sector. At the same time, they aim to foster a dialogue amongst suppliers, policy and decision-makers, multipliers, and offer the latest information on practical solutions for implementing sustainable procurement.

ICLEI holds the European EcoProcura conference (every two years) in order to convene practitioners and policy-makers along with members of the business community and other stakeholders to exchange and coordinate actions on environmentally and socially responsible (sustainable) procurement. Previous EcoProcura conferences were held in Barcelona (September 2006), Göteborg, Brussels, Lyon, Bilbao and Hannover.

Cities who are interested in hosting the next conference should contact ICLEI as soon as possible (by end of May). The 2-3 day conference will be held in Autumn 2008 (September or October).

*For expressions of interest and/or to receive more information on hosting requirements, please contact Amalia Ochoa, email: [amalia.ochoa@iclei-europe.org](mailto:amalia.ochoa@iclei-europe.org). To read about the outcomes of the last EcoProcura conference,*

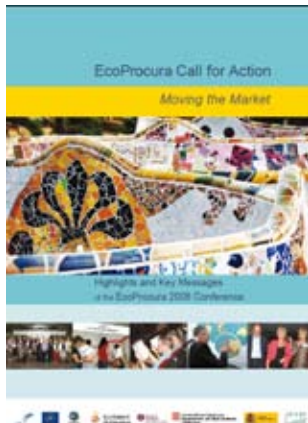


Plenary session at the EcoProcura 2006 conference held in Barcelona and attended by 360 delegates.



## Recent Events

### EcoProcura Call for Action – Moving the Market



The EcoProcura Call for Action – Moving the Market is now available! Highlights and Key Messages of the EcoProcura 2006 Conference. The EcoProcura Call for Action has been included as part of an 8-page report which also presents the highlights and key messages of the EcoProcura 2006 conference – Practical Solutions for Sustainable Procurement conference, held from the 20-22 September in Barcelona Spain.

The EcoProcura Call for Action was launched at the conference in Barcelona and endorsed by conference delegates. It outlines a number of key actions which need to be taken by major stakeholders (local, national and regional governments, for example) to achieve real broad scale implementation of sustainable procurement. In addition to the EcoProcura Call for Action, the report also includes a selection of excellent examples from different sectors of society that can be replicated or can serve to build on actions currently taking place.

*The report is available online at [www.iclei.org/jtc/ecoprocurazoo6](http://www.iclei.org/jtc/ecoprocurazoo6). We invite you to disseminate the report to partners and other interested organisations and to establish a link to the mentioned website link.*

### Sustainable Procurement in Germany



A dissemination seminar on the results of the project on “Sustainable Procurement in Germany” took place on 27 March at the Ernst-Reuter-Haus in Berlin. ICLEI’s role in the project was to assist in the preparation and organisation of the dissemination seminar and in the draft of a new German publication “Benefits convince – Sustainable Procurement in Practice in Municipalities” (“Vorteile überzeugen – Nachhaltige Beschaffung in der kommunalen Praxis”).

The 27-page publication (available from?) is based on the results of a previous roundtable that had taken place in Bonn in October 2006, and includes a series of recent good practice cases on sustainable procurement undertaken in Germany. The procurement criteria are taken from the newly revised Procura+ Manual and aligned with German public procurement legislation. Apart from experts from relevant fields, including the Federal German Environmental Agency (UBA) and the German Energy Agency (DENA), approximately 30 public authorities attended the dissemination seminar. After a short presentation (by Peter Defranceschi) on the new Procura+ Manual, and key outcomes of the German project, two discussion sessions followed regarding procurement criteria for green electricity and sustainable construction. The project, which was funded by UBA and carried out in collaboration with the German organisation agenda transfer, ended on 31 March.

*For more information on the project please contact Peter Defranceschi, email: [peter.defranceschi@iclei-europe.org](mailto:peter.defranceschi@iclei-europe.org). To download the new publication, please visit: <http://www.agendatransfer.net/ats/>*

### German network on “Fair Procurement” launched

On 29 March the Sustainable Procurement team was invited to attend the launch of a Fair Procurement Network in Germany. Approximately 30 people from local governments and organisations from relevant fields attended the event in Dortmund. The seminar was organised by InWEnt, Servicestelle Kommunen in der Einen Welt (SKEW), who also funded the German version of ICLEI’s Buy Fair project on public procurement of Fair Trade products ([www.buyfair.org](http://www.buyfair.org)).

At the centre of the attention was the presentation on the possibilities of including social criteria in public tenders given by Prof. Dr. Jan Ziekow. The discussion that followed showed that there was very strong interest in the issue. It was also interesting to see the difference in the approaches to public procurement by, for instance, German and Italian local governments, the latter being more flexible in balancing procurement legislation requirements and social concerns. However, without clear guidance from the European Commission on how to carry out social public procurement in practice, the issue remains delicate from a legal point of view requiring local governments to be very careful when using social criteria in their public tenders.

The legal advice from Prof. Ziekow was seen as a further step to assist local governments in their decisions. The document will be published by InWEnt by the end of April. Following the explicit interest of the participants, it is planned to hold a network meeting on a yearly basis.



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## The challenge of the climate

ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement team (represented by Peter Defranceschi) was invited to attend a conference on "The challenge of the climate – Energy efficiency in buildings" at the Campidoglio in Rome on 2 April. The event was organised by the British Embassy together with the City of Rome and WWF Italy. ICLEI's role was to speak about the results of the European DEEP project on energy efficiency standards in public buildings.

The event was attended by around 150 people, which offered a programme with a considerable number of high level speakers. The conference was opened by the British Ambassador, Edward Chaplin, who addressed the climate protection challenges, and hence at the common needs and objectives of both Italy and the United Kingdom, believing that there was significant scope for a productive discussion on policies, incentives, market, research and the public awareness of the issue.

The British "One Million Sustainable Homes Campaign", the case of the London Merton District, and the South Tyrolean ClimaHouse Model were among the best practice examples presented at the event. Members of the British Embassy also expressed their interest to participate in the Procura<sup>+</sup> Campaign.

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## Meeting with Nordic Council and European Commission, Oslo, 15-16 March

Simon Clement, Project Coordinator, from ICLEI attended a meeting in Oslo with the Nordic Council and Jill Michielssen of EC-DG Environment. The meeting was organised to discuss co-operation between the two organisations in the development of GPP criteria for a series of high-priority product groups. ICLEI was invited to attend as the contractor working for the Commission on the development of a Training Toolkit to implement GPP, which will include recommendations for purchasing criteria.

*For more information on the European GPP Training Toolkit project, please contact Simon Clement, email: [simon.clementi@iclei-europe.org](mailto:simon.clementi@iclei-europe.org)*



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