

New Developments on PUBLIC PROCUREMENT & INNOVATION

European Commission -- DG ENTERPRISE & INDUSTRY

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1. POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Continuous Implementation of "Innovation Union" published on 6 October 2010, (http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm) that includes initiatives to support Public Procurement of Innovation notably through action n°17

European Commission DG Research and Innovation published the result of its consultation on: "A Common Strategic Framework for future EU Research and Innovation Funding"

http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/index_en.cfm

Public procurement of innovation and pre-commercial procurement are mentioned by industry representatives as an untapped potential that call for more support for such demand driven approaches.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/pdf/consultation-conference/summary_analysis.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none

European Commission DG for the Internal Market and Services published a Green Paper on "The modernisation of EU public procurement policy towards a more efficient European Procurement Market", within the framework of the 2004 Directive assessment.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/consultations/2011/public_procurement_en.htm

On conference will be hold in Brussels on 30 June to present the results of the consultation

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/modernising_rules/conferences/index_en.htm

European Parliament, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, report (2010/2245(INI)) on Innovation Union "Transforming Europe for a Post-Crisis World", made by the rapporteur: Judith A. Merkies, has been published:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=REPORT&reference=A7-2011-0162&language=EN>

Amongst other recommendations it: "urges the Member States to strategically use public procurement addressing the societal challenges, to stimulate innovation and direct their public procurement budget towards innovative, sustainable and eco-efficient products, processes and services, taking into account that the cheapest offer may not always be economically the most viable one; calls, therefore, on the Commission:

- to facilitate, in its legislative proposals, public procurement which enables innovation, including a review of pre-commercial procurement opportunities;
- to provide possibilities for using EU co-funding through the Structural Funds as an incentive for regional and local public sector bodies,
- to issue best-practice guidelines and training programmes for public procurers at Member state-level, aiming at developing skills in complex pre-commercial and innovative procurement".

2. NEW CALLS PUBLISHED!

DG ENTR

Publication of the new 15M EURO call for proposals on Public Procurement of Innovation, PPI: "**Supporting Public Procurement of Innovative Solutions: Networking and Financing Procurement**"

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/newsbytheme.cfm?lang=en&displayType=fo&tpa_id=135

This call for proposals aims at supporting public procurers in purchasing new and improved solutions, products and services in areas of grand societal challenges as defined by Innovation Union communication.

Aim of the call: This objective is to be realised through establishing trans-national networks to enable Contracting Authorities (as defined by Directives 2004/18/EC and 2004/17/EC) and organizations supporting innovation procurement: to offset the additional risks and costs; to collaborate to create a critical mass; to test the feasibility and implementation modalities of a future EU support scheme.

The deadline for the submission of proposals to strand 1 and strand 2 is 27/09/2011.

AN "INFO DAY" will be organized on 27 June during Turin Conference
<http://www.comune.torino.it/relint/PPI/>
You will be able to follow in live the conference on the web: web-stream: www.wipietv.eu

A Linked in group "Supporting public procurement of innovation" has been created to help potential bidders to the call for proposals in the partner finding process: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Supporting-public-procurement-innovation-3971446?trk=myg_ugrp_ovr

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DG INFSO

New call for proposals on Pre-Commercial Procurement, PCP

With regards to pre-commercial procurement, the following Commission support is planned in Call 8 of the **FP7 work programme 2011 for ICT**. In addition to the possibility to submit proposals for networking on PCP, consortia of public authorities from around Europe can now also apply for EC funding for undertaking a pre-commercial procurement jointly. Call 8 foresees:

- One targeted call for joint cross-border PCPs in the area of 'Photonic technologies'
 - § Indicative Budget: 3 M EURO
 - § More info on call incl. eligibility criteria: Objective 3.5(d) of the Work Programme
 - § Scope: Innovative photonics solutions improving quality and / or efficiency of public sector challenges
- One open call for networking/experience sharing on PCP and joint cross-border PCPs:
 - § Indicative Budget: 5 M EURO.
 - § More info on call incl. eligibility criteria: Objective 11.1 of the Work Programme
 - § Scope for CSAs: networking and coordination activities for public bodies in Europe to cooperate in the innovation of public services through a strategy that includes PCP
 - § Scope for CP-CSAs: joint cross-border PCP addressing ICT solutions for improving the quality and/or efficiency of public sector challenges in any area of public interest such as e-gov, transport, energy, environment, health, ageing, security etc.

Call 8 is expected to open in July 2011 and close in January 2012. More details about Call 8 is available via the PCP website: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/pcp/calls_en.html

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Procurement of Innovation Flanders (Belgium)

Flanders regions (BE) have launched their fourth call within the framework of their "Public Procurement of Innovation scheme", inspired by Pre-commercial Procurement, dedicated to:

- "A school for the future: Looking for a learning environment for competence-based education". The intention is to create a high-performance, sustainable, user-friendly and flexible learning environment for competence-based education. Every single element – building, furniture and ICT – will be included in the project and should be perfectly geared to one another.

More information on the call at: <https://enot.publicprocurement.be/enot-war/preViewNotice.do?noticeId=90747>

Website: <http://www.procurementofinnovation.eu/>

Other recently launched PCP-projects:

- "Visual Flanders: Image archiving and processing chain improves the accessibility of crucial information for public services". Aim is the realization of generic solutions for issues related to the processing of mobile mapping imagery, within the framework of the Image archiving and processing chain SDI (Flemish Spatial Data Infrastructure); website: <http://www.procurementofinnovation.eu/>
- "Towards a more sustainable greenhouse horticulture in Flanders" Realizing a well managed 'primary energy' efficient greenhouse yielding optimum high-quality production. Within the Flemish agriculture and horticulture, the greenhouse horticulture forms an important economic subsector with high growth potential, provided that production costs can be kept within limits; More information : <https://enot.publicprocurement.be/enot-war/preViewNotice.do?noticeId=82705>
Website <http://www.procurementofinnovation.eu/>

Contact: Christophe Veys, Programme co-ordinator: cve@iwt.be; website: www.innovatiefaanbesteden.be

3. STUDIES/ REPORTS

DG ENTR organized a workshop in the framework of the: "**Feasibility study on future EU support to public procurement of innovative solutions**". Results on the consultation of European stakeholders of innovation procurement have been presented: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/lead-market-initiative/pp-conf2_en.htm

Description: The objective of this study is to explore various options for implementing a European innovation procurement support scheme and to clarify various options for pilot projects we intend to launch in 2011.

The discussions will be based on the preliminary findings of a feasibility study carried out by Manchester University Business School (Lead partner), Corvers Procurement Services, ICLEI and Technopolis.

Further information and contact: john.rigby@mbs.ac.uk

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DG INFSO recently published the **outcomes of the survey on the status of implementation of PCP across Europe**: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/pcp/pcp-survey.pdf>

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Ernst & Young and CEPS have just published a report entitled "Next generation innovation policy: The future of EU innovation policy to support market growth":

<http://www.ey.com/GL/en/Industries/Government--Public-Sector/Government-innovation>

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Nantes Métropole together with the Centre Des Jeunes Dirigeants published in May 2011 a report on: "**La performance globale de la commande publique – Propositions pour développer l'achat responsable**":

www.nantes-developpement.com/files/rapport_MarchesPublics.pdf

4. RUNNING PROJECTS

State of play of the 3 Lead Market Initiative-Public Procurement Networks

LCB-HEALTHCARE

LCB-Healthcare stimulates demand for innovative low-carbon solutions for the healthcare sector by providing procurement decision makers with the knowledge and tools to achieve more sustainable buildings within their budget constraints.

After a wide consultation the LCB-HEALTHCARE network is pleased to announce that its State of the Art Report, Low Carbon Buildings in the Healthcare Sector is now available to download: <http://www.lowcarbon-healthcare.eu/cms/resources/uploads/File/State%20of%20the%20Art%20Report.pdf>

Several pilot and case studies are available on <http://www.lowcarbon-healthcare.eu/main/case-studies>

Contact: info@lowcarbon-healthcare.eu or Gaynor Whyles gaynor.whyles@jeraconsulting.com and www.lowcarbon-healthcare.eu

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ENPROTEX

The **Network of Public Procurement Organisations for Protective Textile and PPE**, seeks to: spark innovation through public procurement to meet future needs of fire services; develop cooperation among public procurers; provide an interface to both end-users and manufacturers. The project aims to provide industry with forward commitments for the procurement of protective textiles products.

We would like to invite stakeholders to collaborate with this project in order to strengthen the European protective textile Network by completing the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/BLVJGV6

We are particularly interested in finding out what issues procurers are trying to find solutions for which are not catered for by products already on the market (e.g. heat-stroke, comfort, greater dexterity in gloves etc.) and what issues may prevent you from buying innovative solutions (e.g. complicated EU procurement rules, spending cuts etc.)

Website: www.enprotex.eu/index; Contact: joshua.osifeso@firebuy.gov.uk

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SCI-NETWORK

The SCI-NETWORK, **Sustainable Construction and Innovation through Procurement**, connects European public authorities working to find new, innovative and sustainable solutions for their construction projects. It is part of the Lead Market Initiative targeting the sustainable construction sector, and the network also includes experts working in this field.

1. The **SCI-Network** will host two sessions as part of the **High Level Event on Procurement of Innovation** taking place in Turin, Italy on 27-28 June. These will focus on public authorities who have procured sustainable and innovative construction solutions. The first session will present the **state of the art in sustainable building technologies** and the second will focus on the **tools and procedures** which have helped cities and other public authorities to put these into action. Presentations of case studies will be followed by questions and discussion on the ideas presented and how they can be extended to other cities. All participants interested in the application of PPI in the construction field are invited to attend.

The full programme and registration for the event are available at <http://www.comune.torino.it/relint/PPI/>

Public authorities and other attendees with an interest in construction procurement are invited to attend and contribute to these sessions. Further information about the SCI-Network is available at www.sci-network.eu

2. A range of **reports, case studies, tools and innovative technology profiles** are now available from the <http://www.sci-network.eu/resources/> of the SCI-Network. These form the first round of outputs from the working groups set up under the network, which bring together public authorities and experts working on sustainable construction.

Questions, suggestions for further topics to examine and responses to the ideas contained in these outputs are now invited - please contact Abby Semple at sci-network@iclei.org or the individual <http://www.sci-network.eu/working-groups/> coordinators.

3. Public authorities who are interested in becoming involved in the SCI-Network and who have specific **construction procurement projects planned over the next 18 months** are invited to send a description of their interests and any support needs to Abby Semple (sci-network@iclei.org).

In addition, it would be great to include something about the upcoming SMART-SPP event: Registration is now open for the conference **Smart procurement - reducing costs and saving energy** to be held in Brussels on **Wednesday 29th June**. The morning session will see policy experts present the latest European Parliament and Commission perspectives on how public purchasing can be used as an instrument for boosting innovation and sustainability. A networking lunch hosted by TCO Development will be followed by sessions on the **application of life-cycle costing in public procurement** and **how public authorities can encourage sustainable product and service innovation**. The day will be wrapped up with an open informal forum for dialogue and networking among potential project partners.

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3 Enterprise Europe Networks www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm on "SMEs access to public procurement and innovation procurement" have been launched beginning 2011.

1/ PRISME project:

The aim of PRISME is to improve SMEs' access – and more particularly innovative SMEs' access - to public procurement by bridging the gap between them and public buyers. To achieve this goal, the activities carried out by PRISME will target SMEs on one side, public procurers on the other side, and public procurers and SMEs altogether. **Innovation** and **public procurement** will be the cornerstones of the actions implemented throughout the project.

Partners: Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Lyon (FR), Camera di Commercio, Industria, Artigianato e Agricoltura di Torino (IT), Promofirenze (IT), Auftragsberatungszentrum Bayern e.V. (GE), European Information Service Centre Limited (UK), Business Support Kent (UK), ACC1Ó (SP)

3rd Newsletter available in FR, EN, GE, Catalan, SP: www.prismeprocurement.eu/newsletter/

For more information: Dolores Adamski: dolores.adamski@grex.fr / www.prismeprocurement.eu

Forthcoming events:

The next (and first) B2P (business to procurers) meeting is scheduled within the framework of Municipalia, Lleida, Spain, from Oct. 18th to 21st

2/ T4SME (Tenders for SMEs)

T4SME is an ongoing project concerning **global public tendering and public procurement** with a focus on sustainable construction. The aim is to make SMEs aware of the international tenders **highlighting UN tenders**. T4SME is a Specific Action within the Enterprise Europe Network, and will run until October 2012.

The project will identify some of the concrete problems faced by SMEs and thereby **provide a series of training and information events** to ensure that SMEs can take part more actively and more successfully in tenders.

Furthermore, as part of the project T4SME partners will provide information to public authorities on appropriate and successful methods of ensuring that SMEs are integrated into contracts. The goal is to **make SMEs aware of their possibilities within global tendering** and not miss out on any of the great opportunities.

The T4SME partners are: North Denmark EU Office (DK) (Coordinator), Europa Institutet (SE), ALMI (SE), EISC Ltd (UK), Trade Council Iceland (IS), Internationalisation Centre Styria (AT), Investment & Trade Department Hungary (HU), Malta Enterprise (MT) and Estonian Chamber of Commerce (EE).
For more information: Karen Rubæk Holm: krh@aalborg.dk / <http://www.eu-norddanmark.dk/dk/projekter/projekter/t4sme.htm> (soon available).

3/ PPP-SPS -- procurement of innovation and innovative SMEs access to procurement

Are tenders on your radar? Do you want to source, understand and win public sector?
PPP-SPS is an ongoing EU funded project aiming at improving businesses access and more particularly innovative businesses access to public procurement by bridging the gap between business and public buyers in Ireland and the United Kingdom (UK).

More than 20 training days will be organised across the UK and Ireland so as to compensate for SMEs' lack of technical capacities in this field. The training programme has been established in close cooperation with National Public Authorities (National Public Procurement Policy Unit, etc.) to maximize the benefit of the action. Though these training days the project will identify real and perceived barriers faced by small companies.

National "Procurement days" will also be organised in both countries so as to enable a better information flow between SMEs and Public buyers. These events will be attended by all relevant stakeholders and include a "Meet the Buyers" session.

This project is being delivered by Dublin, Galway, Sligo, Waterford Chambers of Commerce and EISC Ltd Southampton and will run until August 2012. For further information please contact Marion Jammet: marion@dublinchamber.ie and www.een-ireland.ie/tender-success

TRAINING DAYS

2011	24 November Sligo, Irl	National Procurement Event – Ireland
8/9 September Waterford, Irl	6 December Bournemouth, UK	21 March 2012 (TBC)
1 November Bournemouth, UK	2012	National Procurement Event – UK
9 November Galway, Irl	17th January Southampton, UK	
10 November Sligo, Irl	21 February Winchester, UK	
17/18 November Dublin, Irl	NATIONAL PROCUREMENT EVENTS	
23 November Galway, Irl	16 February 2012	

5. COLLECTION OF BEST PRACTICE

Videos on **best practice of innovation procurement** developed within the framework of the Lead Market Public Procurement Networks have been published: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/public-procurement/pp-networks_en.htm

During 10 June conference on the Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfr/index_en.cfm?pg=events, LCB-HEALTHCARE project presented the result of one of their case study following a **Forward Commitment Procurement** methodology, to develop a successful: **"Ultra Efficient Lighting pod' solution at Rotherham Hospital (UK)":**
<http://webcast.ec.europa.eu/eutv/portal/archive.html?viewConference=12187>

Procurement of Innovation: Case studies compilation

In order to progress in the support of innovation through public procurement, we are compiling case studies. We would be grateful if you could send us any case studies or best practice of procurement of innovation in any EU languages, to: bertrand.wert@ec.europa.eu

6. CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS/ SEMINARS (Future or Past)

Future

"Public Procurement of Innovation: Facing societal challenges, delivering better public services & supporting SMEs to innovate"

Type of event: conference

When and where: **27-28 June 2011, Torino, Italy**

Organised by: the city of Torino, the Piemonte Region

Description: This European conference hosted by the city of Torino, the Piemonte Region and under the patronage of the Vice President of the European Commission, Antonio Tajani, intends to cover challenges developed by demand-side innovation policies, particularly innovation procurement stakes, and to make publicity on forthcoming call for proposals to financially support public procurement of innovation.

Further information: www.sci-network.eu; Contact: elena.deambrogio@comune.torino.it

Conference website <http://www.comune.torino.it/relint/PPI/>

Conference live web-stream: www.wipietv.eu

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Smart Procurement – Reducing Costs & Saving Energy

Type of event: 9th "Breakfast at Sustainability's" (B@S)

When and where: **29 June 2011**, in Brussels.

Organised by: ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and the Basque Country EU-Office

The topic of this event is "Smart Procurement - Reducing Costs and Saving Energy".

Sustainable public procurement (SPP) means spending public money in the most sustainable manner possible on goods, products and services. Public authorities are major consumers in Europe, spending over two trillion euro (approx 17% of the EU's gross domestic product). By using their purchasing power to choose goods and services with lower impacts on the environment, they can make an important contribution to sustainable consumption and production.

The 9th edition of the BaS is linked to the EU-funded project <http://www.smart-spp.eu/> on "Innovation through sustainable procurement". The B@S will be followed by a Networking Lunch and three training sessions geared towards practitioners and "getting the know-how".

Please find the programme attached for more details on the http://cms.iclei-europe.org/fileadmin/template/iclei/ICLEI_IS/Breakfast_at_Sustainability_s/BAS9/B_SIX_SMART_SPP_programme_14.6-1.pdf. The entire event (including the training sessions) is free of charge, however prior registration is essential. To register, please complete the <http://www.smart-spp.eu/index.php?id=8141> and email it to Thomas Arbouet at procurement@iclei.org

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"SMEs & Public Procurement"

Type of event: Conference

When and where: 7th & 8th of July, Barcelona

Organised by: Interreg IVC project "EuroPROC", leader: ACC1Ó

Description:

"How to improve SMEs access to Public Procurement" will be the main issue of this Conference organized by ACC1Ó (Catalonia Competitiveness Agency). Additionally, on 8th of July, 4 sub-issues will be discussed in 4 parallel workshops:

- Green PP (GPP)
- Social clauses in PP (SRPP)
- PP of Innovation (PPI)
- Electronic PP (e-PP)

Furthermore, the recently published Guidebook "NAVIGATE CHANGE - How New Approaches to Public Procurement will create New Markets" will be officially presented during this Conference:

<http://tinyurl.com/euroPROC-Navigate-Change>

Further information: www.europroc.eu; Contact: Nicolas Espitalier, nespitalier@acc10.cat

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Past

Pre-commercial procurement conference

On 11-12 April 2011 Hungarian Presidency organized a European conference on: "High-level event on pre-commercial procurement – towards a smarter research and innovation procurement strategy for Europe". All presentations from all sessions can be downloaded at: <http://www.pcp2011.eszakalfold.hu/>

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Save energy conference

Type of event: Project conference- open attendance
Helsinki, 16-17. June 2011

Organised by: the SAVE energy project consortium

The conference will focus on the themes supporting SAVE ENERGY project - *Increasing energy efficiency in public buildings through ICT, Living Lab Methodology in the context of SAVE ENERGY and User behaviour transformation, serious games.*

It will bring together a diverse group of policymakers from the EU and municipality level, researchers, project partners and media. The conference will review the project white paper, discuss current and emerging policy issues, introduce the SAVE ENERGY pilot building applications and provide a comprehensive picture of the project's best practices.

Further information: <http://www.ict4saveenergy.eu/conference>

We are sending trimester e-newsletter to update you on European actions in public procurement & innovation. Do not hesitate to send us announcements on policy initiatives, conferences/ workshops and new projects on that filed at: bertrand.wert@ec.europa.eu