

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
Using less, living better

EU industry's views on the future of Green Public Procurement

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 **GREEN WEEK**

Brussels, 24-27 May 2011



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Environmental challenges and EU policy

- Increasing resource efficiency, an overarching objective for the EU
- Comprehensive environmental *acquis* in the EU
 - Number of EU laws: 307 in 1990 / 1,953 in 2009
- Principles for smart EU environmental policy-making
- Most effective combination of instruments to bring about the desired changes
 - What role for Green Public Procurement?

Review of EU public procurement rules

- No pressing need to revise the 2004 legal framework, provides sufficient legal certainty
- Efforts should concentrate on more uniform enforcement of the existing rules
- Core principles to be safeguarded:
 - ‘best value’
 - fairness and transparency
 - competition
 - link to the subject-matter of the contract

Green Public Procurement – state of play

- ‘Green’ considerations can be performed in a very wide range in *existing* EU procurement law
 - Technical specifications / performance requirements
 - Selection and award criteria (lifecycle costs)
 - Verification criteria (be careful with use of labels)
- Requirements exist in sector-specific EU laws
- While progress is still needed, a range of national initiatives are being developed.

Green Public Procurement – the way forward

→ *Towards more uniform application of GPP rules*

- Make voluntary criteria the backbone of GPP
- Proper identification and definition of products / services / works coverage:
 - criteria must be objective, science-based, verifiable and not too prescriptive
 - need for an economic rationale with lifecycle thinking
 - considerations to national and sectoral specificities
 - sound technical feasibility check
- Ensure strong involvement of industry
- Reinforce awareness, training, benchmarking

More information

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