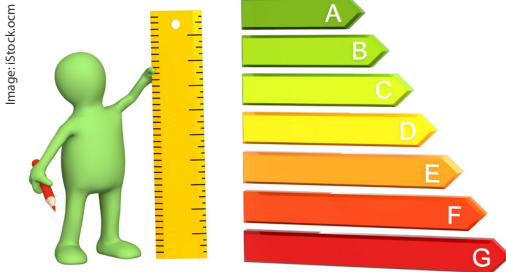


Monitoring and evaluating GPP programmes



The [Super-efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment \(SEAD\) Initiative](#) of the [Clean Energy Ministerial](#) has recently produced the "SEAD Guide for Monitoring and Evaluating (M&E) Green Public Procurement (GPP) Programmes". The guide aims to assist policymakers when developing M&E systems and to emphasise the importance of monitoring and publishing results in order to: improve accountability and transparency; identify areas for improvement; demonstrate public sector commitment; and communicate positive outcomes from GPP policies.

The approach used to monitor and track implementation of GPP programmes can vary considerably depending on the programme's objectives. For example, the objective could be to increase the institutionalisation of GPP or to purchase more green products, or the programme may focus on long-term results such as reducing environmental impacts or accelerating market transformation for sustainable products. The Guide uses examples from around the world to show the advantages, limitations, and possibilities associated with different systems.

The Guide is one of [several resources](#) produced under the SEAD Initiative to support policymakers as they develop and implement procurement programmes that will reduce energy demand and CO₂ emissions. Download the Guide [here](#).

[A webinar on M&E GPP](#) will take place on 25 September 2013. Write to procurement@superefficient.org if you would like to participate.

Zoom in on... EP Committee to approve political procurement reform agreement



Following a political agreement on public procurement struck by the European Parliament (EP) and the Council on [26 June](#), the Parliament's Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) will vote on a [compromise text](#) on 5 September.

Subsequently, the text will have to be approved by the EP's plenary and the Council.

'Business case' critical for taking GPP forward



Vanessa Schmidt has been working for the Berlin Energy Agency since 2007 on GPP related projects. She currently coordinates the European Buy Smart+ project.

which will then be disseminated nationally and internationally.

What are the main hurdles for GPP in the partnering countries? One of the main barriers is that greener products are often expected to entail higher purchase costs (for instance, in construction or in street lighting projects), even though certain costs can be saved over product lifetimes. As investment budgets are limited in most of the MS, green criteria tend to be easily discarded. This issue becomes more significant in a day-to-day situation, where purchasing departments usually don't profit from any cost savings achieved through the use or operation of products bought. Such circumstances don't provide enough economic incentives to spend more in the beginning for acquiring a greener product. Budget rules should better reflect the financial benefits of such investments so that savings are then distributed more adequately.

To view the interview in full, click [here](#).

How will Buy Smart+ contribute to GPP in the EU? Buy Smart+ aims to consolidate and mainstream GPP practices and to transfer know-how from countries that have been involved in the forerunner project Buy Smart (Germany, Latvia, Italy, Sweden, Austria, France, Czech Republic and Slovenia) to new partners in Member States (MS) where GPP is at its early stages: Cyprus, Hungary, Romania, Lithuania, Greece, Croatia, and Bulgaria. GPP national helpdesks have been set up in all of the 15 participating countries. A wider uptake of GPP actions will be achieved through direct consultation and training of purchasers. Assistance will also be provided for piloting activities on GPP so that a critical mass of successful experiences will be achieved

Zoom in on... Procurement for a low carbon economy



The European GPP 2020 project aims to support mainstreaming low-carbon procurement across Europe by encouraging direct action in this area (implementing more than 100 low-carbon tenders) and by enhancing GPP support structures in eight target countries: Austria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.

[More information...](#)

Zoom in on... Public consultation on buildings & food



Two new Communications with relevance for GPP are expected from the European Commission in the coming months, for which stakeholder consultations are currently ongoing (deadline is 1 October 2013).

The first concerns [sustainable food](#), and covers sustainable production and consumption, reducing waste, and improving food policy coherence. The second consultation is on [sustainable buildings](#), where resource use and related environmental impacts all along the life-cycle of buildings are being considered.

Zoom in on... GPP Event at EU Open Days, 8 October 2013



The 11th European Week of Regions and Cities is an event in Brussels where cities and regions showcase their capacity to create growth and jobs, implement EU cohesion policy, and prove the importance of the local and regional level for good European governance.

Good practice on GPP (from Vienna, Ghent and Koprivnica, Croatia) will be showcased and discussed in a workshop on 8 October (14.30 - 17.00) organised by DG Environment.

[More information...](#)

GPP examples

Green stationery supplies for the Brussels-Capital Region (Belgium)



The idea behind this stationery framework contract was to allow all departments and agencies in the Brussels-Capital Region to access what they needed through an in-house store, which includes the supply of green products. The in-house store has 150 items that are kept permanently on stock; other items can be ordered via the framework contract using a catalogue. A 40% discount on the listed price is given to all orders made from organisations participating in the framework contract.

Numerous green criteria were incorporated into the tendering process – this included the subject matter, technical specifications and award criteria (40 percent weighting was given to environmental quality).

Following ten months of operation, the store has 27 associated organisations (including regional and municipal bodies) using it, out of a possible 57 organisations. The store has sold €190,000 worth of stationery until now and 56 percent of the items sold were green.

Download the full case study [here](#).

Low carbon waste collection services in Bristol (UK)



The City of Bristol has recently been awarded the European Green Capital Award 2015 for a number of measures including consistently reducing CO₂e emissions since 2005. In 2011, Bristol let a service contract for the collection of municipal waste and winter road maintenance around the City including the provision of vehicles, staff and depots, road and footpath gritting, snow ploughing and communication with the public.

The market changed considerably throughout the previous ten year contract, so it was considered important to use the tender to drive economic and environmental improvements. Pre-qualified bidders participated in a competitive dialogue procedure to identify the best of a variety of approaches to improving recycling rates and reducing transport related emissions.

One aim of the contract was to reduce emissions by 720 tonnes per annum. The winning bidder offered CO₂e reduction of 32%, exceeding the Council's target of 25%. Best estimates for carbon savings are currently 12% for the first year of the contract. Another objective was to increase recycling rates and the 50% target set by the City has been achieved a year ahead of schedule.

Download the full case study [here](#).

To read more GPP examples, visit the GPP [website](#). Previous News Alerts are available [here](#).