

Webinar – Sustainable procurement of food and catering services

Purpose & framework

The catering sector is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Conventional food production, processing, delivery and preparation processes are linked to heavy consumption of fossil fuels as well as significant soil and water pollution, proliferation of plastic and other organic and non-organic waste, and local air pollution caused by transportation within cities.

Local authorities trying to implement sustainable procurement practices for food and/or catering services face a number of practical and perceived barriers. When it comes to food, key problems include a perception of (higher) cost implications, legal uncertainties and a limited knowledge of improved solutions available.

To support public authorities overcoming these barriers, the existing EU GPP Criteria for Food and Catering Services are currently being revised by the Joint Research Centre's Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (JRC-IPTS) with the technical support of Oadkene Hollins.

In March 2015, a survey was conducted among relevant stakeholders and it served as basis for the groundwork analysis and the preliminary report. In March 2016, an Ad-Hoc Working Group meeting for the revision of the criteria took place in Seville, where stakeholders from the private and public sector were invited to discuss the first round of proposals for the upcoming criteria.

Given the broad scope of the sector, this webinar will serve to give an overview of the general direction of the upcoming GPP criteria and provide detail of how the biggest sustainability hotspots will be addressed through procurement. A selection of good practice from the public sector will serve as further food for thought.

This is the first of two GPP Webinars being organised during 2016. The Webinars form part of the service provided through the European Commission's [Helpdesk on GPP](#). They provide a forum to inform stakeholders working in the field of public sector procurement about important new developments in the resources available and legislative context for GPP, and provide a forum for discussion.

Date & time

Tuesday 23 June 2016, 14:30 - 16:00 (CET, Brussels time)

Language

English

Organisers ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, on behalf of the European Commission (DG Environment)

Topics & format The Webinar will feature three to four presentations from experts working on green (or sustainable) procurement of food and/or catering services. These will address the following:

- Status of the revision of the new European GPP criteria for food and catering services; including insights about upcoming changes and the first reaction of relevant stakeholders, provided by the European Commission (JRC);
- Provide practical insights by public purchasers on how to overcome some of the biggest challenges of implementing sustainable procurement policies for public kitchens in schools and public buildings;
- Experts in the field will talk about their opinion regarding the revised criteria and what the next steps are for this sector.

Opportunities for questions and comments from those taking part in the online event will be also provided.

-
- Featured speakers**
- *Introduction*, Enrico Degiorgis, European Commission, Directorate General for Environment
 - *Latest proposals and updates from the European Commission for GPP of food and catering services*, Belmira Neto, European Commission, Joint Research Centre
 - *From the criteria to the market. How to involve suppliers through market engagement to deliver organic and seasonal food*, Betina Bergmann Madsen, Municipality of Copenhagen(Denmark)
 - *Implementing sustainable catering services in public schools; an experience of Torino*, Elena Deambrogio, City of Turin (Italy)

Target audience

- Public procurement authorities, public purchasers and policy-makers from public and semi-public entities,
- Private sector representatives including SMEs, manufacturers and suppliers
- European policy-makers
- Multipliers (e.g. NGOs, environment agencies, scientific institutions, international organisations)

Registration

Participation is free of charge. Prior registration is essential, however. Register at this link: <http://bit.ly/1srBhHr>

You will be sent more information upon registering.
