

The International Working Group on Ethics in Public Procurement of ICT as a means for exchange, stock taking, and identification of actions towards a next-generation ethical procurement in the sector

Throughout 2021, 18 committed public authorities from across Europe worked together on issues of human and labour rights in the public procurement of ICT. This initiative was supported and initiated by the [Belgian Federal Institute of Sustainable Development](#), and facilitated by [ICLEI - Local Government for Sustainability](#). The group included members from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

The initiative aimed at promoting exchange, capturing good procurement examples, outlining challenges, learning from each other's current practices and ambitions, and identifying actions towards ethical procurement of ICT. Over the course of the year the group explored the use and credibility of labels, collaborative market dialogue and how



to follow up on social issues during the contract management phase.

The group produced a [check-list on the follow-up process](#), 10 portraits of Ethical Procurement of ICT and a [full report](#) on the activities, lessons learned and overall recommendations for future work. The Working Group is continuing its activities in 2022.

Interview



How to leverage open data for sustainable public procurement

Karolis Granickas is Head of Europe at the [Open Contracting Partnership](#). He works on strengthening institutions and improving public spending using openness principles, focusing on how open contracting can help power the sustainable transition in Europe. Karolis is a member of the [European Commission's Multi-Stakeholder Expert Group on eProcurement \(EXEP\)](#) and co-leads the [Open Spending EU Coalition](#) - a community of open spending champions in the EU.

What is open contracting and what does the Open Contracting Partnership advocate for in the context of procurement?

Open contracting is about following money across the entire chain of public contracts, from planning to tendering and award, to delivery and implementation. Our Open Contracting Data Standard

joins all this information together with unique identifiers, making the information more sortable and shareable. Simply put, we work to collect and publish better procurement information to produce business intelligence, dashboards, and analysis to engage market participants and inform smarter procurement.

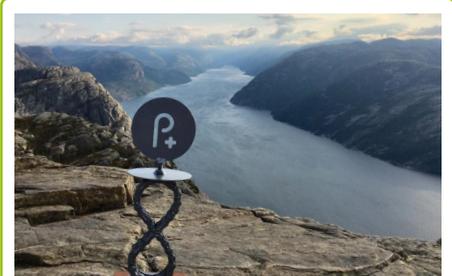
To read the interview in full, click [here](#).



Zoom in on... Join the new Buy Better Food campaign!

The campaign highlights the central role of public food procurement (PFP) in food system transformation in Europe and beyond. By amplifying good practices and challenges in PFP, Buy Better Food will show how PFP could be a main contributor to sustainable, resilient, healthy and fair food systems as advocated by the Farm to Fork Strategy and the UN SDGs.

Read more about it [here](#).



Zoom in on... Applications to the Procura+ Awards 2022 are open until 30 April!

The applications to the Procura+ Awards 2022 are now open! They reward successful, already running public procurements in all four categories: Sustainable Procurement of the Year, Innovation Procurement of the year, Circular Procurement of the Year (new), and Procurement Initiative of the year.

Read how to apply [here](#).

GPP Good Practice

Procuring sustainable computers, printers and related services

Region Tuscany and ARPAT, Italy

This excellent public procurement practice offers an in-depth insight into the purchase of sustainable ICT goods and services in Italy. This tender is the result of the close collaboration between [Region Tuscany](#) (the contracting authority) and [ARPAT](#). The successful example proves that it is crucial to combine environmental, social and technological expertise with procurement skills. Between 2019 and 2020 Region Tuscany and ARPAT worked together to purchase ICT good and services for a value of more than € 40 million. The contracting authority integrated the November 2019 draft version of the revised EU GPP criteria for computers and monitors, with some adaptations. It also demonstrated an ethical procurement approach, by including social responsibility consideration in the supply chain. The tender procedure, which was recently concluded (March 2022), was divided into 3 lots. The first two were awarded based on the best price-quality ratio, while Lot 3 according to the lowest price.

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



Image: Geralt, Pixabay



Image: Maiconfz, Pixabay

Zoom in on... upcoming webinars

The EU GPP Helpdesk Webinar on how to design MEAT-friendly tenders is on 30 March 2022. Reserve your place [here](#).

Save the date for the 4th #WeBuySocialEU lunchtime talk on accessibility in public procurement, taking place on 3 May 2022 at 12:00 CET.

Procuring medical consumables by tackling social consideration along the supply chain

Cities of Stavanger, Sandnes, Sola, and Randaberg, Norway

In 2021, the [City of Stavanger](#) teamed up with three other Norwegian cities and organised the joint procurement for a framework agreement on medical consumables. This good practice is particularly interesting as it focuses on addressing human rights violations across the supply chains of medical. It also considers environmental impacts associated with the delivery of products. The award criteria include social and environmental considerations, that took precedence over price considerations (40% weighting only). Before launching the call for tender, the contracting authorities engaged in preliminary market consultations. Not only that the awarded tenderer was able to trace and document its entire supply chain (from raw materials to assembly) the firm uses an electric truck, charged on solar panel, together with several other zero-emission vehicles for deliveries. The framework agreement was signed in December 2021 and will run until December 2023.

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



Image: Stevepb, Pixabay



Zoom in on... German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act

On 11 June 2021, the German Federal Parliament has published the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (Lieferkettengesetz), which will come into force on 1 January 2023. The Act regulates companies' accountability for human rights violations in their own firms and along their supply chain.

An overview is available in [this paper](#).

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