



Welcome to the 2nd edition of Newsletter series of the GPP4Growth project!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dear reader,

Welcome to the second edition of the Newsletter series of the GPP4Growth project!

GPP4Growth is a European project funded by the INTERREG Europe Programme that aims to create opportunities for public authorities to stimulate eco-innovation, resource efficiency & green growth through Green Public Procurement (GPP).

Over the last few months, the project partners have advanced significantly with the project implementation, focusing on activities to promote the exchange of experiences between regions and the organisation of meetings at a national level with key stakeholders, who have shown great interest in the project and its objectives. In the following pages, you will find information on the GPP4Growth latest developments and upcoming activities.

Through our GPP4Growth project website and this periodic newsletter, that will be published every six months, we will keep you informed about our progress and key outcomes.

The GPP4Growth project team

- Identifying successful GPP cases
- Exchange of experience activities
- Regional stakeholders meetings
- GPP4Growth promoted by Interreg Europe
- Interregional Workshop in Lodz
- Next Workshop in Stara Zagora
- Contact details

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

GPP4Growth brings together nine partners from nine countries, to exchange experiences & practices and improve their capacity on implementing resource efficiency policies that promote eco-innovation and green growth through Green Public Procurement



Environment &
resource
efficiency



1.43 M
ERDF



Jan 2017
Dec 2021



Identifying successful GPP cases

GPP4Growth project partners have gathered and analysed a number of **examples of 'best practice' in relation to Green Public Procurement** that have contributed to the implementation of green contracts in particular sectors of interest in the GPP4Growth countries, based on a survey methodology developed by Zemgale Planning Region (ZPR).

ZPR has recently concluded the cases evaluation and quantitative analysis and provided a report, which addresses the following issues:

1. What have been the most successful GPP approaches in stimulating eco-innovation, resource efficiency and green growth?
2. What are the main drivers and limitations when formulating green criteria in public procurement processes?
3. What are the major results from the integration of green award criteria in calls and tenders?

4. What lessons can be learned from adopting green practices in public procurement?
5. How transferable are these GPP approaches in other EU regions?

Thus, the strategic purpose of this guide is to inform policy makers about possible ways to support green contracts in their regions and promote improvement of own policy instruments' implementation, through the adoption of environmental criteria in public procurement practices.

Among the **main lessons learned** and the practical guidelines for procurers, the following key points were identified:

- Successful implementation of green procurement practices requires **top**

management support and high political commitment in the government.

- A key barrier to GPP implementation is the presumed higher cost of green products and local authorities' limited financial resources. However, investment in green products provides benefits in the long run and public authorities should take into account the **entire products' life cycle** when creating green contracts.
- Public authorities can also rely on EU regulations to apply environmental requirements for procuring products and services, given that the **EU has developed environmental procurement criteria** for 20 product/service categories, which can be directly inserted into tender documents.



Exchange of experience activities in progress

Several exchange of experience activities are being implemented in the context of GPP4Growth and are expected to lead to final results in the coming months:

1. Lombardy Region has developed a methodology to gather data on the needs of GPP4Growth regions in green public procurement and all partners have promoted the relevant survey. The final report, that will be available soon, will provide a scientific analysis of the benefits, opportunities and possible obstacles in implementing GPP in the partner regions. The final goal is to provide a **tool for policy-makers that highlights enabling elements and the**

administrative and technical barriers, as well as the benefits of environmental sustainability and the economic potential deriving from the GPP implementation in their public procurement management.

2. University of Patras has provided a methodological framework to gather and analyse data on policies that will support GPP and that promote green growth in key sectors. The comparative analysis of the partners input offers an overview of the policy frameworks analysed, of the GPP criteria in use, the monitoring procedures and the bodies involved, so as to enable partners

understand the dynamics and impact of existing GPP measures in their regions.

3. During the same period, Malta Regional Development and Dialogue Foundation has setup a survey methodology to enable partners to identify the **influential factors for businesses' involvement in tenders with environmental criteria and investments in green products and works**. Until January 2018 all partners will promote the survey to gather data from stakeholders.



Regional stakeholders meetings

Over the past few months all partners have organised successful **stakeholders meetings** in their regions, taking into account the general guidelines provided by the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of the Regional Government of Andalusia.

This first series of stakeholder meetings had an introductory purpose and was focused on building connections with and between the stakeholders, discussing the projects purpose and activities, as well as outlining the current situation on GPP at national and EU level.

Key players that influence policy issues in the GPP4Growth regions, including **representatives of public administrations and procurement specialists**, as well as **representatives of the industry and the academia**, provided their input for proposed public procurement policy measures. They were informed on the important role that they have to play during the two phases of the project and expressed their increased interest and desire to participate in the project.



The GPP4Growth project promoted by Interreg Europe

The Policy Learning Platform is an important action of the Interreg Europe programme, established to boost EU-wide policy learning and capitalisation on practices from regional development policies.

The relevant news section of the **Interreg Europe website** promotes our **GPP4Growth project**, suggesting that Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a possible tool to increase the recycling rate of Construction and Demolition Waste (CDW). As part of GPP, a selection criteria can be introduced for recycling quotas in materials used for construction and sorting requirement for CDW.

Follow the link to read the full article [here](#).



Interregional Workshop on GPP approaches in Lodz, Poland

Lodzkie Region organised the **interregional workshop on different GPP approaches** that took place in its premises on November 14th and 15th 2017, with the participation of all GPP4Growth project partners and some of their stakeholder group members.

During the workshop that was coordinated by the Center for Public Procurement and Public-Private Partnership (Faculty of Law and Administration) of the University of Lodz, participants discussed the **application of green public procurement environmental criteria**, analysed the possibilities of using

e.g. **eco-labels**, joint procurement, energy performance contracting and **Life Cycle Costing (LCC)** for procurement purposes, referred to relevant examples and exchanged experiences and insights.

Lodzkie Region will develop a summary report on the main conclusions that will be available soon and partners are expected to organise debriefing meetings to diffuse lessons learnt in their organisations during the following months.



For additional information on the workshop and its results please contact Ms. Monika Zielińska at the Lodzkie Region (e-mail: monika.zielinska@lodzkie.pl).

Next Workshop in May 2018, in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

The next GPP4Growth interregional **workshop on eco-labels and non-exclusive GPP practices** will be organised by Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (SZREDA) and is planned to take place in **May 2018, in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria**.

A relevant **input study**, tackling issues such as the application of environmental criteria in public procurement without leading to any unfair advantage / disadvantage and the correct timing to require an ecolabel, will be the primary source of knowledge for the capacity building processes of the workshop. The objective is to define the most relevant issues to be discussed and addressed by regional authorities, to elaborate on needs and challenges and to provide relevant guidelines and directions.

All project partners, relevant stakeholders and external experts are invited to participate to the event and SZREDA will follow-up the event organisation with a summary report presenting the main conclusions.



Thematic focus	Workshop on eco-labels and non-exclusive GPP practices
Type of participants	Regional authorities' officials, stakeholders, external experts
Host organisation	Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency
Date	May 2018
Location	Stara Zagora, Bulgaria
Contact details	M. Venelin Dobrev office@szeda.eu

PARTNERSHIP



University of Patras (GR)



Lombardy Region (IT)



Lodzkie Region (PL)



Province of Antwerp (BE)



Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Regional Government of Andalucía (ES)



Zemgale Planning Region (LV)



Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (BG)



Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (IE)



Malta Regional Development and Dialogue Foundation (MT)

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ON GPP4Growth?

Subscribe to our newsletter through the website

www.interregeurope.eu/gpp4growth.

FIND US ON



EDITORIAL

For every info or update about the newsletter please contact:

Ms. Liesbeth Taverniers

liesbeth.taverniers@provincieantwerpen.be



Provincie Antwerpen

GPP4Growth
Interreg Europe

