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# **Pilot Trainings in Green Public Procurement**

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## **Evaluation report**

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## **Introduction**

Public administrations all over Europe spend more than 1.5 trillion Euros on goods and services each year, which is about 16% of Europe's GDP. If all of these products were energy efficient this would not only contribute immensely to energy saving and climate protection due to reductions in Greenhouse-gas emissions, but also to boosting energy efficient technologies and supporting the market penetration of energy efficient products.

Unfortunately, a majority of public administrations did not consider energy efficiency criteria in their procurement policies in the past. In the last few years some progress towards a greener procurement has been made, but many public administrations and municipalities still do not know about the level of energy consumption associated with the products they are buying. One reason for this is that the main purpose for selecting a product is due to its price. Although energy efficient products help saving running costs, they are actually more expensive in terms of acquisition costs, a fact that often makes them a less than ideal option.

A more sensible way of choosing a product is the so called "Total Cost of Ownership (TOC)" approach. The TCO includes all running costs like energy consumption, repair and disposal costs over the lifetime of the product. Another hurdle for buying energy efficient products can be the products' tendering. In many cases tenders do not include energy efficient criteria, a fact that often leads to less energy efficient purchasing decisions.

In order to enhance the competence and knowledge among municipalities and cities in terms of sustainable procurement, pro-EE-partners organised trainings on sustainable public procurement for procurement staff of municipalities and cities in all participating countries. Climate Alliance Austria organised additional trainings for public authorities from the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary. During these trainings, participants learned about all relevant facts and tools for green public procurement, such as energy efficient labels, latest innovative products, joint green public procurement, legal frameworks, sustainable tendering and best practice examples from other municipalities and cities.

## **Trainings standards**

As the pilot trainings took place in 8 countries (Austria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain) standards were elaborated for the trainings:

- **Duration:** two days
- **Price:** free of charge
- **Target group:** procurement staff of public authorities
- **Main Content:** Update on innovative and energy efficient products  
GPP strategies  
Legal framework for sustainable procurement  
Sustainable tendering  
Best practise examples

<b>Country</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>Perugia</b>	<b>February, 24th</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>Lisbon</b>	<b>February, 18th/25th March, 4th, 25th</b>
<b>Slovakia/Czech Republic</b>	<b>Hostetin</b>	<b>March, 8th/9th</b>
<b>Greece</b>	<b>Athens</b>	<b>March, 10th</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>Mainz</b>	<b>March, 16th/17th</b>
<b>Austria</b>	<b>Vienna</b>	<b>April, 8th/9th</b>
<b>Spain</b>	<b>Murcia</b>	<b>April, 27th/28th</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	<b>Györ</b>	<b>May, 18th/19th</b>



## **Pilot training in Green Public Procurement**

### **Italy**

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<b>Organization:</b>	Climate Alliance Italy
<b>Location:</b>	Perugia
<b>Date:</b>	February, 24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Target group:</b>	Purchasers from municipalities and cities
<b>Participants:</b>	55

#### **Action Research for preparing the Training**

The PRO EE Training of Climate Alliance Italy was subdivided in two phases. Phase one consisted in an action research where in face-to-face meetings and telephone sessions seventeen public servants responsible for Public Procurement in their administration were questioned on their practice in GPP in general and specifically in energy efficiency followed by an on-site counselling on possible ways of improving the ecological quality and in particular the energy efficiency of their procurement. Despite the wide range of administrations - provinces, small towns, big cities - the answers were surprisingly uniform and the conclusions apply to more than 80% of the responses.

The public servants showed a high level of information on Green Public Procurement and also on energy efficiency in GPP particularly in fields like office equipment and public lighting. The situation changes drastically when it comes to what they succeed to apply in their daily work. “We are pretty much behind”, “practically we pay next to no attention to these criteria” where frequent statements. The problem does not seem how to formulate the call for tender, here in Italy the fortunate situation is that the ministry of finance has created CONSIP, a 100% public company that provides public administrations with all necessary indications for buying energy efficient ecological products.

The obstacles resulting from the field research that have to be removed for increasing energy efficient public procurement are two and they are closely connected: apart from the daily consumables (paper, toner, etc.) which are purchased centrally, the bigger items (vehicles, computers, furniture) in most administrations are acquired by each department separately. This means that it is not enough to inform and sensitize the staff in public procurement but virtually all leading personnel as to ecological purchasing and energy efficiency. Secondly: training and sensitization have to be complemented repeatedly with a strong political position-taking within the administration. It is not a question of passing once a general declaration in the council in favour of GPP, what is needed is a periodic and explicit stance in favour of ecological purchasing in order to strengthen the decision makers within the administration acting in this sense and rendering the purchase of “prestigious” un-ecological goods and services - glossy paper, big vehicles, flashy lightning - less acceptable.

### **The training**

On the basis of the action research the training aimed at being as practical and pragmatic as possible pointing more at solutions than at general debates on legal and technical questions, also in view of the fact that the participants showed a high level of knowledge in the field. Nearly all of them are responsible for the procurement in a local, provincial or regional government with the tasks of drawing up the tenders and carrying through the process of procurement.

The morning started with a presentation of the Regional Law 18/08 that responds to the pertinent national and European legislation and requires all public entities to arrive at a minimum of 30% of Green Procurement. Next the representative of CONSIP presented the internet platform that this public agency provides to all Italian public entities that simplifies tenders and makes it easier to insert energy standards. An example of the practical application of the services of CONSIP by one of the most advanced GPP cities in Italy, Ferrara followed. The Agenda 21 office of the city presented to the audience its practical experience in preparing and awarding the pro-EE tender for Information Technology (IT) products via the paper-free Electronic Market for Public Administration.

In particular, Participation A21 Bureau described the methodology and approach used, in cooperation with the *Municipal Informative Systems Department*, in the drawing up of the tender in order to specify the criteria of energy efficiency, basic and additional, and to attribute them a specific value that could affect the final awarding.

In addition to those criteria, Participation A21 Bureau, together with the Municipal Informative Systems Department, paid special attention to the best cost-benefit relationship trying to calculate the best price of the products in order to reduce possible extra expenses. Local A21 stressed the winning decision to start by testing energy-efficient purchases at a local level with the aim of influencing in the future a wider range of Italian municipalities and provinces in joining future tenders.

The second part of the training seminar pointed towards practical aspects of application and good practice with contributions from the Province of Perugia and the European project “COMPRO – COMmon PROcurement” that is trying to put into practice Joint public procurement of means of public transport with clean innovative technologies and a low environmental impact. The day ended with a training session by „Ecosistemi“ which coordinates GPP for the Agende 21 Locali in Italy.

### **Evaluation**

Twenty two out of 55 participants answered the questionnaire. With a high level of overall appreciation of the event they overwhelmingly voted for the applied part of our lectures and teachings and signalled much less interest in the “theoretical” part, because – one might conclude – the question is not what has to be done and not even so much how to do it but how to put those who want to act in a position to be able to act.



## **Pilot training in Green Public Procurement Portugal**

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<b>Organization:</b>	LNEG (National Laboratory of Energy and Geology)
<b>Location:</b>	LNEG facilities at Paço do Lumiar, Lisboa, Portugal
<b>Date:</b>	February 18 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> ; final conference on March 25 <sup>th</sup> 2010
<b>Target group:</b>	Purchasers from ministries, municipalities, municipal agencies, public procurement agencies and private enterprises
<b>Participants:</b>	Training sessions 33; Final conference 80

### **Introduction**

In Portugal the training for project PRO-EE was done in two different actions:

- 1) a training course on Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP), with particular emphasis on the practical development of purchasing processes and aimed at technicians directly or indirectly involved in procurement. This training lasted for two days with both theoretical and practical parts.
- 2) A conference on Sustainable Public Procurement addressed to top managers of public administration and the central and local technicians directly or indirectly involved in the procurement process. This conference gave particular emphasis on sustainable procurement strategies and their implementation in central and local government organizations and strategies for market involvement.

The training sessions in SPP in Portugal were promoted directly through the contacts of the LNEG's UPCS (Sustainable Consumption and Production Unit) which included numerous municipalities and cities as well as several Private Enterprises and the Ministries. For this last group, the contacts were made with the mediation of the ANCP (National Agency for Public Procurement), which also collaborated in the event. Finally, 33 participants took part in the training sessions (13 ministries, 11 municipalities, 2 private companies and 1 public



procurement agency were represented); the practical part consisted of small groups of up to 4 people developing case studies and elaborating a poster out from them.

The conference on Sustainable Public Procurement was held following the training topics; the conference was attended by 80 people mainly from municipalities -apart from the participants who had already assisted to the training sessions. The case studies/posters developed in the training sessions were exposed so the attendants could see the work that had been done during the training.

### **Training programme**

The first part had to be necessarily an introduction to the main concepts and principles of SPP, as many attendants were not really familiarized with them; in fact for many it was their first approach. In this part, the PRO-EE project was introduced as well as the standard procedures to create and implement a SPP strategy. During the second day, both managers of the ANCP (National Agency for Public Procurement) and CCE-AML (Electronic Purchasing Platform for the Lisboa Metropolitan Area) -which also cooperated in the event- were invited to explain their strategies and their ability to incorporate environmental criteria in their framework contracts. This was followed by a debate involving all the assistants where advantages and disadvantages –either in terms of environmental and economical issues- were discussed.

The practical work developed during the training sessions consisted basically, as said in the previous section, on a poster elaborated by groups of 4 people who proposed products or services for which a tendering process had to be made. Therefore, environmental and technical criteria were built along with contract execution clauses and criteria for supplier selection for each tender on:

- Public works
- Fuel
- Plastic bags for selective solid waste collection
- Cleaning products
- Toilet paper, hand cleaning gel, hygiene products
- Electricity and energy efficiency studies .

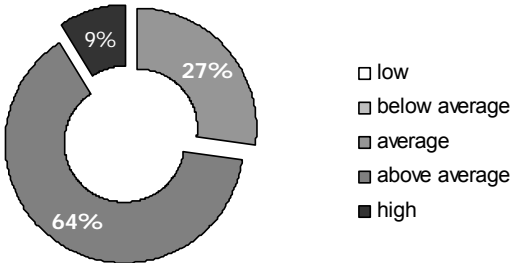
**Conference programme**

During the conference, once again explanations of the basics of SPP were made as many assistants were not aware of them; as well as several statements dealing with other topics already seen during the training sessions. Apart from those, European politics related to Public Procurement and sustainable consumption was discussed. As the main objective of the conference was to raise awareness and knowledge on public procurement strategies, two presentations were delivered on this topic. A practical exercise on the strategic profile of the organisations was performed. Besides this, a debate was organised with representatives from several public organizations, who explain their organisation strategies concerning public procurement and the way they improved their environmental performance through concrete actions by implementing a SPP strategy. The intervenients were 2 municipalities, 2 public procurement agencies, 1 municipal energy agency and 1 waste management agency.

**Evaluation**

The general impressions taken from the training sessions are really positive as most of the attendants gave a very good feedback. The participants had to fill in a questionnaire where they were inquired about:

- **Global appreciation:** the participants found their expectations fulfilled and thought that their final knowledge level about SPP was reasonably high even though they had little notion before the training. They found it useful basically for including environmental criteria in their tendering processes, for raising awareness in their organizations as well as for having knowledge of where to extract the information from.



**Global appreciation**

- **Topics raised and their usefulness and applicability:** in terms of concepts related to SPP, working on practical cases and awareness raising on eco-labels, participants found the training very helpful. When it came to learning about the strategy of the ANCP and CCE-AML, they seemed to be not that satisfied.
- **Appreciation of the detail:** the impression was good in terms of didactical methodologies, the technical-scientific level of the explanations given, the support documentation and the practical exercises.
- **Appreciation of the installations:** participants valued the LNEG facilities reasonably well.

For future events, the network through which invitations are sent should be better established and should be much more effective as some complaints were received from public authorities in which the invitation to the training sessions had not been remitted to the addressees, that is to say to the purchasing departments of the public authorities.

#### **Current situation of SPP in Portugal:**

Since 2007 there is a legal framework for SPP in Portugal, consisting on the National Ecologic Procurement Strategy 2008-2010. This strategy defines goals and targets for the inclusion of environmental criteria in tendering procedures and defines priority products and services. The strategy implementation and monitoring is carried out by ANCP together with APA (National Environmental Agency). For this reason ANCP has a very important role, as it is responsible for preparing framework contracts, which are of compulsory application for ministries and other bound entities.

After this experience we can say that, as a matter of fact, sustainable tendering in Portugal is a growing phenomenon that causes interest to an incrementing number of public organisations for its ability to reach the national goals, at the same time that improves their environmental performance and contributes to financial savings. In addition, they start to recognize their greening process as a way to improve their image towards the citizens, which can have good consequences at a political level. Therefore, not only technicians, but also decision makers are more and more in favour of joining initiatives of this kind.

In the near future, more trainings will be held within other projects framework. This way, the awareness raising activities will have continuity until a higher level of consciousness towards sustainability in the public sphere is achieved.



## **Pilot training in Green Public Procurement Czech Republic and Slovakia**

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<b>Organization:</b>	CEPA, Climate Alliance Austria
<b>Date:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> /9 <sup>th</sup> of March, 2010
<b>Location:</b>	Hostětín (CZ), Centre Veronica
<b>Target group:</b>	Purchasers from municipalities and cities in Slovakia and the Czech Republic
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	18

### **Introduction**

The pilot training in Green Public Procurement (GPP) for Slovakia and the Czech Republic was targeted to purchasers of municipalities and cities. It was promoted via the network of CEPA (Centre for Environmental Public Advocacy), which is an Slovakian NGO working together with municipalities and cities in the fields of environmental issues, climate protection and sustainable development. The pilot training took place in the Centre Veronica in Hostetin and was combined with an excursion to different sustainable spots in the village of Hostetin, which is in spite of its small number of inhabitants (around 300) famous for its engagement in sustainable development. The workshop was led by Mgr. Kamila Danihelková and Mgr. Ing. Petr Ledvina, who are both working at the Czech Eco-Counselling Network (STEP).

### **Training programme**

The main parts of the training covered the legal framework of sustainable procurement in Slovakia, the Czech Republic and in the EU, information on energy efficient labels, innovative products and sustainable tendering. Moreover best practice examples of sustainable procurement in Austria were presented by Friedrich Hofer from Climate Alliance Austria.

*The complete programme can be found on the website of pro-EE:*

[http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming\\_events.html#c1194](http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming_events.html#c1194)

*and on the website of Climate Alliance Austria:*

<http://www.klimabuendnis.at/start.asp?ID=238958&b=883&b2=650&am=>

*All the presentations of the training can be found on the website of Climate Alliance Austria:*

<http://www.klimabuendnis.at/start.asp?ID=240681>

## **Evaluation**

The training in Hostetin was organized by CEPA together with Climate Alliance Austria. Unfortunately only 18 participants took part in the training, although more than 30 had registered. The problem might have been that the training was free of charge, so that quite a lot of people did not bother to sign off. Nevertheless the training itself was done in a very professional way by the two lectures. The two energy efficiency experts from the Centre Veronica Hostetín, an institute for ecology, trained the participants in green public procurement. The training's participants were very keen on learning how to make procurement more energy efficient and some already promised to implement their newly obtained insights into their everyday work. Green public procurement was previously not widely known in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, but apparently it has become a more relevant issue to municipalities within these countries due to the recent rise in energy prices. It seems that there is great potential for implementing climate protection measures by boosting energy efficient procurement across Europe, but particularly so in Eastern European countries. Although most of the participants said that they were very satisfied with the training, some mentioned that they would have expected more practical work.

## **Current situation of GPP in Slovakia and the Czech Republic:**

Most of the participants at the workshop mentioned that they have not been considering GPP as an effective instrument for reducing energy consumption, Greenhouse-gas-emissions, and especially costs, so far. Therefore a lot of work has to be invested in awareness raising issues, which can best be done by networks like CEPA, in combination with the help and experience from organisations from other countries.

**Czech Republic:** In the Czech Republic no NAP is planned to be elaborated, but Green Public Procurement is to be developed as part of the ETAP (Environmental Technologies

Support Programme) and the SCP (Sustainable Consumption and Production) programme. The two programmes are coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Regional Development.

**Slovakia:** In Slovakia a NAP has been adopted for 2007 – 2010, coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment and the Slovak Environmental Agency. The key target is to achieve 50% GPP by 2010 by Central Government Authorities. In order to achieve this target GPP Guidelines for procurers have been set into place.



**Picture: Pilot training in sustainable procurement in Hostetin in March, 2010**



## **Pilot Training in Green Public Procurement Greece**

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<b>Organization:</b>	CRES (Centre for Renewable Energy Sources)
<b>Date:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> of March, 2010
<b>Place:</b>	Athens, Crowne Plaza Hotel
<b>Target group:</b>	Representatives of procurement and technical departments of municipalities
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	25

### **Introduction:**

The pilot training in Green Public Procurement (GPP) for Greece was targeted to purchasers and staff from the technical departments of Greek municipalities. The first step included the preparation of the training outline and the definition of thematic areas to be addressed. On this context, a preliminary research was conducted on potential speakers coming from the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, legal advisors and representatives of municipalities involved in good practices.

It was decided that the training would be held on a single day instead of two as originally planned. The reason for that is that it would be quite difficult for the municipalities' staff to attain a permit for two days in a row and their participation to the second day could not be ensured. After having contacted and invited the identified speakers, the agenda and the invitation of the training were finalized. The invitation was promoted and disseminated to more than 200 municipalities.

Moreover, it was considered significant to demonstrate a practical tool during the training that would help municipalities to evaluate offers, on the basis of life cycle cost assessment. Therefore an agreement was signed between CRES and ICLEI - Local Governments for

Sustainability on the translation of SMART SPP “LCC-CO2 tool user guide. Visual guide to using the life-cycle costing and CO2 assessment tool (LCC-CO2 tool)”.

The translation of the LCC-CO2 tool user guide in Greek was carried out by CRES. The training was divided into a theoretical and a practical part.

### **Training programme**

The training started with an introduction that consisted of a number of presentations regarding the Pro-EE Project, Legislative framework and fiscal incentives for Green Public Procurement, Green public procurement in the European law and Good practices on a national and European level. Three presentations were held by representatives of Greek municipalities that referred to good practices carried out in public procurement and energy efficiency.

The theoretical part of the project included presentations of the eligible product categories for public procurement of energy efficient products, the EU GPP Toolkit, as well as the guidelines for specifying technical specifications and award criteria. The last part of the theoretical session included the importance of life cycle cost assessment of products, the evaluation of their environmental impact and a presentation of tools for their calculations available online. Moreover the Smart SPP tool was thoroughly demonstrated.

The final part of the training covered two interactive exercises. During the exercises a virtual procurement took place, where the participants were asked to define technical specifications and award criteria for two desired products (lamps for street lighting and PC monitors). Afterwards, they were asked to evaluate virtual offers on the aforementioned products, by using the Smart SPP Tool.

*The complete programme can be found on the website of pro-EE:*

[http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming\\_events.html#c1194](http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming_events.html#c1194)

*All the presentations of training can be found on the website of CRES:*

<http://www.cres.gr/kape/publications/xrisima.htm>

### **Evaluation**

Most of the participants thought that the workshop was interesting and informative and that they would consider energy efficiency during their procurement procedures in the future.



They also showed much interest on the LCC-CO<sub>2</sub> tool and especially the “Tenders evaluation” part, whereas they have also found informative the theoretic part on how to integrate energy criteria into the tenders / how to identify energy efficient products.

However, almost all of them agreed that the inclusion of award criteria in the tenders could not be applied yet in the national tendering procedures for public authorities. The reason for that is that, according to the national procurement regulation for municipalities, the procurement of products or services is based upon the cheapest offer and not the most economical one. At the moment it is not explicitly stated that award criteria can be included in a tender of public authorities, although the European directives regarding public procurement have already been transposed in the national legislative framework. Based on that, the participants expressed the opinion that such a tender would cause probably extra administrative burden, possible objections from the suppliers’ side and they don’t feel that this is an initiative that should be taken by themselves but should be decided more centrally and should come directly as guidance from the mayor’s office.

Moreover, as regards the LCC-CO<sub>2</sub> tool, some of the participants thought that it is quite complicated and that they would prefer a tool that would not require much input information by the user. Nevertheless, the training appeared to be quite informative both for the participants as well as for the lecturers and all of the participants agreed that they would participate again in a similar event.

### **Current situation of GPP in Greece**

The CRES pro-EE team, being in close collaboration with the Ministry of Development on energy policy issues, assisted in the formulation of a new Ministerial Degree, effective as from 17th June 2008. This joint Ministerial Degree (JMD) tackles the issue of energy saving measures at the public sector in relation to the acquisition of energy consuming products and maintenance / management of the building stock. Within the JMD, energy standards for a series of electrical & office equipment are placed, towards the direction of a minimum set of energy requirements aiming in the future to formulate a new procurement law for the public sector that will incorporate energy award criteria.

Most of the public authorities that have been approached by the Greek Pro-EE team have shown interest in implementing the actions proposed by the project, while having been aware

of issues concerning energy efficiency and green public procurement. However, since at the moment the national legislative framework on public procurement does not explicitly foresees the inclusion of award criteria, the public authorities can only consider energy efficiency in the technical specifications of a tender.

Nevertheless, in the framework of the project, effort was laid to inform as many public authorities as possible, while focal point has been informing the relevant authorities, ministries and decision makers for considering energy efficiency criteria in public procurement. Moreover, actions are held towards signing a Memorandum of Understanding between CRES and the Local Union of Municipalities & Communities of Attica for the provision of scientific support to the participating municipalities for the implementation of a GPP regulation.

CRES had also actively participated in the preparatory discussions and meetings for the formulation of a national network among the Greek municipalities that participate at the CoM initiative, stressing once more the issue of GPP and the importance in order to achieve energy savings and reduction of GHG emissions.

Additionally, effort was given towards the central government in order to release specific legislative acts that would foster and highlight the GPP objectives. In this framework, a series of meetings were held mainly with the responsible people at the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, but also with personnel from other Ministries. Those meetings aimed at taking the appropriate actions to include a specific article on GPP in the upcoming law that will fully transpose Directive 2006/32/EC. Moreover, discussion was held to start the process for developing a National Action Plan on GPP. While this process is still ongoing, the importance of such a structure and methodology for GPP is already evident to the central government.

It is more likely than never before that such a legislative act will soon be released targeting at the entire public sector and setting specific targets for energy savings through the supply of products. Lastly, it should be mentioned that during all of the meetings CRES is also promoting the development of energy services in the public sector, through ESCOs and Energy Performance Contracting, and the inclusion of such criteria (LCC, energy savings during lifetime and emission reduction) during Public-private tenders that involve buildings.



**Picture: Training in Green Public Procurement in Athens in March 2010**



Climate Alliance

## **Pilot Trainings in Green Public Procurement Germany**

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<b>Country:</b>	Germany
<b>Organization:</b>	Climate Alliance, City of Mainz
<b>Date:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> March, 2010
<b>Place:</b>	Mainz, town-hall
<b>Target group:</b>	Representatives of procurement and technical departments of municipalities
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	20

### **Introduction**

A two-day seminar and workshop on the purchase of energy-efficient products was held on March 16th and 17th in Mainz. It was organised by the environmental department of the city of Mainz, the Climate Alliance and the organization “Environmental consultation and municipal environmental protection in Hesse and Rhenania-Palatinate” (UHR e.V.). The target group were purchasers and environmental consultants in public institutions and municipalities. The invitation was sent by letter to all municipal administrations in Hesse and Rhenania-Palatinate and by Email to more than 4000 contacts nationwide. The first day a more or less theoretical introduction to the theme was given. The second day the tender procedure for concrete examples was practically tried in smaller groups and discussed in plenum afterwards.

### **The training programme**

At the beginning, the hitherto results of the PRO-EE- project were presented. How Joint Green Public Procurement (jGPP) can be possible was reported by Peter Werle using the

example of the ministry of the interior of Rhenania-Palatinate. The tender of the ministry for computers and monitors is open for municipalities, which can obtain the same conditions.

Vanessa Hübner from the Berlin Energy-Agency presented very descriptive the energy-efficiency-criteria for electrically driven office equipment. Representatives of the EU-project “Buy smart” were there in order to give manifold help. Information about new developments in street lighting and interior lighting completed the informational session. Up to 75 % of the electricity costs can be saved by implementing more energy efficient street lighting. Klaus Fassnacht, city of Mainz, rounded up the session with information about the public procurement law.

Within the workshop the participants tried to implement the new knowledge to tenders in accord with the law. Examples and experiences in different cities were included.

*The complete programme can be found on the website of the city of Mainz:*

<http://www.mainz.de/WGAPublisher/online/html/default/ddug-82kb3x.de.html>

## **Evaluation**

The training fulfilled the expectations of most of the participants. Everybody would recommend the session (11 acknowledgements). The offer of information and the quality of the presentations were commended. The exchange of experiences between the participants was a crucial factor and was widely used. There must be sufficient time for this exchange. It was said to be very helpful, that links to specialised internet-sites were given to support daily work. It was recommended to reduce the spectrum of topics. It was proposed, to give more detailed information and to pay more attention to the precognition of the participants.



**Picture: Training in Green Public Procurement in Mainz in March, 2010**

## **Pilot training in Green Public Procurement Austria**

<b>Organization:</b>	Climate Alliance Austria
<b>Date:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> /9 <sup>th</sup> of April, 2010
<b>Location:</b>	Vienna, Ministry of the environment
<b>Target group:</b>	Purchasers from municipalities and cities
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	26

### **Introduction**

The pilot training in Green Public Procurement (GPP) for Austria was targeted to purchasers of Austrian municipalities and cities. It was promoted via the network of Climate Alliance Austria, which includes more than 850 municipalities. As it should be a very practical event the workshop was limited to 25 participants. Finally 26 participants took part in the event. The training was divided into theoretical and practical parts on both days. For the practical workshops the participants had the chance to choose between different topics, and where then separated into smaller groups.

### **Training programme**

The main parts of the training covered the legal framework of sustainable procurement in Austria and in the EU, information on innovations of the product groups focussed in the project (street lighting, IT, vehicles), information on Joint Green Public Procurement (jGPP) and Best Practise examples in Austria. Moreover the training included a connection with the EU-project “Smart-SPP”: the “LCC & CO2 Assessment Tool” (Life Cycle Costs & CO2 Assessment Tool), elaborated within the EU-project “Smart-SPP”, was presented by Philipp Tepper, Angelika Tisch and Robert Hörmann.

*The complete programme can be found on the website of pro-EE:*

[http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming\\_events.html#c1194](http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming_events.html#c1194)

*and on the website of Climate Alliance Austria:*

<http://www.klimabuendnis.at/start.asp?ID=238958&b=883&b2=650&am=>

*All the presentations of the training can as well be found on the website of Climate Alliance Austria:*

<http://www.klimabuendnis.at/start.asp?ID=238958&b=883&b2=650&am=>

## **Evaluation**

The training fulfilled the expectations as most of the participants gave very good feedback on the event. Most of the lectures said that it had been a very interesting event for them, too. All participants agreed that it would be great to repeat such training. Concerning possible GPP-trainings in the future in Austria it would be desirable to organise more trainings on the regional level as it is very difficult especially for smaller municipalities to send a participant to a workshop lasting two days.

## **Current situation of Green Public Procurement in Austria**

Most of the municipalities have not considered GPP as an effective instrument for reducing energy consumption and Greenhouse-gas-emissions so far. Therefore a lot of work has to be invested in awareness raising issues. Nevertheless Austria does already have some very innovative good practice examples of GPP like the city of Vienna and the federal states of Upper Austria and Vorarlberg.

On the national level the ministry of the environment is currently elaborating a National Action Plan for Public Procurement, which raises hopes for a further improvement of the situation. Within this Action Plan a handbook for sustainable procurement for municipalities is currently in elaboration, and a specific website called [www.nachhaltigebeschaffung.at](http://www.nachhaltigebeschaffung.at) has already been launched.





**Picture: Pilot training in sustainable procurement in Vienna in April, 2010**



## **Pilot training in Green Public Procurement Spain**

<b>Organization:</b>	Ecoinstitut Barcelona
<b>Date:</b>	27th/28th of April, 2010
<b>Place:</b>	Murcia, City Council
<b>Target group:</b>	Purchasers from municipalities and cities
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	29/23 participants

### **Introduction**

The pilot training in Energy Efficient Public Procurement for Spain focused on purchasers of the greater region of Murcia. It was promoted via the Network of Agenda 21, and the number of participants was limited to 25. Finally, on the first day 29 participants took part on the first day, and 23 on the second day. The first day was more focussed on general items related with Energy Efficient Procurement, as for example the presentation of the European background and experiences of other Spanish public authorities. The second day focused on the legal framework and specific product groups.

### **Training programme**

The first day of the training included the presentation of the experiences with Joint Publica Purchasing carried out at National and Regional level. Representatives from the Basque Country (Ihobe, Basque Environmental Agency), and the Region of Barcelona (Diputació Barcelona) and a representation of the Spanish National Action Plan and the activities of the Murcia City Council were the main focus of the first part of the training, which concluded with a presentation from Ana Pramborg (TCO development, Sweden) regarding ICT criteria. During the second day, the focus was on the legal framework, the evaluation of tenders and the presentation of criteria for 2 additional product groups: maintenance of buildings and

street lighting, with the participation of Sandra Hereter from IBINSER and Francesc Pecanins from SECE.

The complete programme can be found on the website of pro-EE:

[http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming\\_events.html#c1194](http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming_events.html#c1194)

and on the website Ecoinstitut Barcelona:

<http://www.ecoinstitut.es/PROEE/index.html>

All the presentations of training can as well be found on the website of the Murcia City Council:

<http://www.murcia.es/medio-ambiente/medio-ambiente/estado/energia.asp>

## **Evaluation**

In general terms the training fulfilled the expectations as most of the participants (more than 70%) gave a very positive feedback to the event, being satisfied with the general contents and structure of the event, with the quality of the lecturers and with the capacity-building.

As the training included both a general part on energy efficient procurement and a more in depth training on certain product groups, the opinion of participants was divided: some of them valued the general part very good, and gave a more negative evaluation on the specific parts, and others found very interesting the product specific part, evaluating the general part as less interesting. This is due to the broad range of product groups covered – ITC, maintenance of buildings and street lighting.

Nevertheless, a broad majority of participants was satisfied or very satisfied with the results and stated that they would include energy efficiency criteria in their tenders in the future, and the event responded to their expectations, and they would attend future events.

The participating municipalities had none or minor experiences with energy efficient procurement, therefore there is a big need for replicating training sessions at regional level. In general, its not easy for purchasers to get the allowance to attend this kind of training, especially if the training is not carried out by their own city council or if the training is not embedded in an official training programme of their regional Training Institute.

## **Current situation of GPP in Spain**

Since 2001, mostly local authorities acted as pioneers in the implementation of GPP strategies in Spain (Barcelona, Badalona, Pamplona, and networks of cities). From 2005 on regional authorities, like the Basque Government, the Catalonian Government or the Region of Aragon started promoting GPP at regional level with the approval of Government agreements, the elaboration of criteria for tender and first training sessions.

The National Action Plan on Green Public Procurement was approved in January 2008, covering 8 priority product groups (construction and maintenance, energy, transport, office equipment, paper and publications, furniture, cleaning products and services, events). For each of these groups both environmental standards and efficiency goals are fixed in the NAP (focused only on the State Government). Since 2008, the Central Purchasing Unit of the State Government is introducing the environmental standards in the framework agreements; regional and local administrations can also use the Central Purchasing Catalogue, therefore the incorporation of environmental and/or energy efficiency criteria is getting easier each time.

Actually the number of trainings on GPP is increasing; this is due to the fact that more and more public authorities have a political commitment to implement GPP, and some of them have also detailed targets for certain priority product groups as the National Action Plan. There is both a raising interest for training and for awareness raising activities in Spain.



## **Pilot Trainings in Green Public Procurement Hungary**

<b>Organization:</b>	REFLEX, Climate Alliance Austria
<b>Date:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> of May, 2010
<b>Place:</b>	Győr
<b>Target group:</b>	Purchasers from municipalities and cities
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	46 on the 1 <sup>st</sup> day, 16 on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> day

### **Introduction**

The pilot training in Green Public Procurement (GPP) in Győr was targeted to purchasers of all Hungarian municipalities and cities. It was promoted via the network of REFLEX, which is an NGO working together with municipalities and cities in the fields of environmental and climate protection. The two-day training was divided into a theoretical part on the first day and an excursion on the second day. The first day was very well visited (46 participants), the second day due to bad weather during the excursion not as good (16 participants) as the day before.

### **Training programme**

The training covered general information on green public procurement, presented by Eri Vilma from the Centre of Environmental Studies in Budapest, information on Best Practice Examples from Hungarian and Austrian municipalities, presented by Farkas Zeno and Cselovszki Zoltan from Győr and Christian Salmhofer and Friedrich Hofer from Austria, and information on innovative technologies on the Hungarian market, also presented by Cselovszki Zoltan from Győr.

*The complete programme of the workshop in Győr can be found on the website of pro-EE:*

[http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming\\_events.html#c1194](http://www.pro-ee.eu/upcoming_events.html#c1194)

*All the presentations of the training in Győr can be found on the website of Climate Alliance Austria:*

<http://www.klimabuendnis.at/start.asp?ID=240682>

## **Evaluation**

The training in Győr was organized together with REFLEX Hungary, which is a NGO working together with municipalities and cities in the fields of environmental and climate protection. Via their network of municipalities more than 40 interested people could be addressed with the training. The participants were very interested in the issue of sustainable public procurement, especially in the Best Practice examples both from Austria and Hungary. As it seemed that sustainable public procurement has not been very well known so far it would be desirable to repeat trainings like this also in other regions of Hungary.

All in all it can be said that municipalities and cities in Hungary seem to have more basic problems still, and that that's the reason why sustainable procurement has not been an important issue so far. Nevertheless I think that the pilot training in Győr showed the participants the advantages of sustainable public procurement: not only that energy and greenhouse gas emissions can be saved by green public procurement, but also money, which is definitely the main basis of decision making in procurement matters in most municipalities and cities. A further exchange of experience between organisations from countries like Austria or Germany and Hungarian organisations regarding GPP is therefore also very important and will hopefully be intensified in the near future.

## **Current situation of GPP in Hungary:**

Most of the municipalities have not been considering GPP as an effective instrument for reducing energy consumption and Greenhouse-gas-emissions so far. Therefore a lot of work has to be invested in awareness raising issues, which can best be done by networks like REFLEX, in combination with the help and experience from organisations from other countries. At the moment a National Action Plan for Sustainable procurement is being worked out by National Task Force lead by the Ministry of the Environment and Water in Hungary. Other organizations involved in the process are the Centre for Environmental Studies, the Hungarian Eco-labelling Organization, the Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement, the Public Procurement Council, the Centralized Purchasing Agency and the municipality of

Budapest. The goals of the National Action Plan are to disseminate GPP in Hungary, which should guarantee that public authorities take environmental criteria into account when procuring, to provide the industry with real incentives for developing green strategies, and to raise awareness as broadly as possible.

At the moment the main focus in the NAP is given to three product groups: Office and IT equipment, copying and graphic paper, and vehicles.



**Picture: Pilot training in sustainable public procurement in Győr in May 2010**