

#EUCircularTalks

Towards a circular European Infrastructure



Integrating circular infrastructure into purchasing strategies

A workshop animated by Julia GOIGOUX and co-animated by Marine Morelli – French Institute for Circular Economy

What about the French Institute for Circular Economy?

- A reference and influencing body founded in 2013 by the French deputy, François Michel Lambert and led by Emmanuelle Ledoux (General Manager)
- Nearly 200 members such as companies, local authorities, associations or universities
- Actions:
 1. Reflexion: workshop animation, management and writing of studies
 2. Promotion: events (webinars)
 3. Implementation: sharing of good practices, specific support for territories and training



François-Michel Lambert,
Founding President of the
French Institute for
Circular Economy



Emmanuelle Ledoux, General
Manager of the French Institute for
Circular Economy

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16 %?

The percentage of European
Union GDP resulting from
public procurement (in 2020)

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Definitions

Public procurement: a process by which public authorities purchase work, goods or services from companies

Circular procurement: a process by which public authorities or private entities contribute by their purchases to the circular economy transition

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Objective: How to integrate circular infrastructure into purchasing strategies in Europe?

Summary: Why integrate circular economy into purchasing strategies? (I)
How to design a European collaborative action to integrate circular infrastructure into purchasing strategies? (II)

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Why integrate circular economy into purchasing strategies?

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Favorable political and legislative context



New obligation for State buyers and local authorities to acquire goods resulting from reemployment, reuse or containing recycled materials (in proportions of 20% to 100% depending on the type of product)



New Action Plan for a Circular Economy, published in 2020: it introduces a minimum of “green” purchases in the total of public purchases

The action-program “Purchasing and circular economy”

- Launched at the end of 2018
 - Together with the Greater Paris Metropolis, Les Canaux and The Responsible Purchasing Observatory
1. Creating and sharing knowledge by promoting exemplary approaches
 2. Having real impacts on the use of resources, the creation of jobs, the development of circular goods and services, the CO2 emissions
 3. Convincing of the economic, social and environmental benefits of integrating circular economy into purchasing



The Construction of a "Solar and Solidarity House"



- Financed by OPAC 36 (social landlord)
- Public building intended to welcome a solidarity grocery store, offices and meeting rooms for individuals and associations
- Most of the materials used are recyclable and can be reused
- The building can be upgraded according to the changing needs of the inhabitants

What kind of benefits?

- **Obvious environmental benefits:** moving to a systemic circular purchasing strategy; going further by developing circular economy directly into production functions
- **Socio-economic benefits:** reduced costs, secure and high-quality supplies; respond to a growing demand for circular supplies and services

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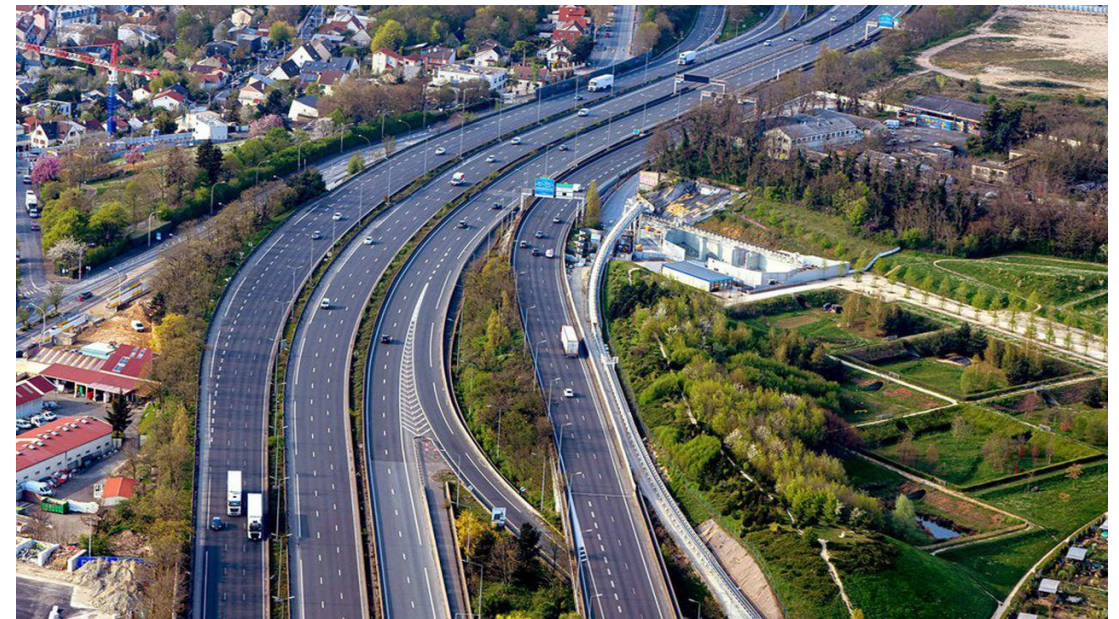
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How to design a European collaborative action to integrate circular infrastructure into purchasing strategies?

Overview: purchasing and infrastructure works in Europe

- Public authorities in the European Union devote around 14% of the GDP to purchases
- A minimum harmonised public procurement rules have been defined
- To support large infrastructure projects, purchasers can use the ex-ante mechanism



What about circular infrastructure in Europe?

- In recent years, awareness about circular infrastructure has considerably increased (tools, criteria are now available in many countries...)
- Example: Design, Build, Maintain and Finance contract for widening a 13km stretch of road (in 2015, Netherlands, Rijkswaterstaat) - MEAT procedure



rijkswaterstaat

The “Purchasing and circular economy” program: an inspirational model?

Why a global and structured action?

1. To highlight best practices (to allow emerging national purchasers networks to organize themselves)
2. To achieve the same level of knowledge/competences (by organizing trainings, webinars with thematic arousing same interests)
3. To permit the development of tools and means that each country can use

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Based on the “Purchasing and circular economy” program, we need to ask further questions:

What kind of actions, functionment?

Which leading organizations?

Technical and financial means?

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In your opinion and in the light of your own experiences, how to design this European collaborative action to make circular economy a major element of purchasing strategy in terms of infrastructure works?

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Thank you for your attention