Welcome to the workshop

CIRCULAR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

European Economic and Social Committee, JDE60
7 March 2019, 11:00 – 12:20

Objective

- Provide guidelines and examples for the implementation of Circular Public Procurement
- Showcase innovative ‘Green Deals’ as a replicable framework for circular procurement

Leader

Philippe MicheauxNaudet
ACR+ @ACRplus

Schedule

Welcome and introduction to Circular Public Procurement (CPP)

Implementing CPP in Scotland
Claire Guerin
Zero Waste Scotland @ZeroWasteScot

Green public procurement criteria: the NGO perspective
Jean-Pierre Schweitzer
European Environmental Bureau @Green_Europe

Panel discussion on Green Deals
Joan Prummel @JoanPrummel
Rijkswaterstaat [Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management] @Rijkswaterstaat
Veerle Labeeuw
CirculFlanders @CirculFlanders
Marline Weber @Eco_Circulaire
Teresa Jorge
CCDRC [Centro Regional Coordination and Development Commission]

Open floor discussion on lessons learnt in CPP

Summary and conclusions by the leader

Questions for discussion

- What is Circular Public Procurement (CPP) and how can you implement it? What selection and award criteria render a purchase circular? Who defines these?
- Why launch a Green Deal process and where to start? How should public authorities engage with private companies in ‘meeting the market?’ What tools exist to develop indicators and how can authorities use these to monitor progress?
- How can the urgency of delivering Agenda 2030 drive circular procurement? Can binding targets linked to Sustainable Development Goals 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 12 (sustainable consumption and production) and 17 (partnership for the goals) increase sustainable public consumption?
Setting the scene

Circular Public Procurement (CPP) is ‘the process by which public authorities purchase works, goods or services that seek to contribute to closed energy and material loops within supply chains, whilst minimising, and in the best case avoiding, negative environmental impacts and waste creation across their whole life-cycle’ (European Commission 2016, Public Procurement for a Circular Economy). By using methodologies such as life-cycle costing, reverse logistics and total cost of ownership to include the externalities that arise at end of life, procurers can structure a specification that considers a product’s material impact from design to disposal.

CPP is perceived as a deepening of Sustainable Public Procurement or Green Public Procurement, and seeks to change the way public authorities’ needs are analysed and formulated within the tendering process, focusing more on functions than products and therefore giving more consideration to product service system models, e.g. National Union of Students renting light from Philips instead of buying bulbs.

The drivers for circular procurement are manifold, from economic drivers such as reduced total cost of ownership and purchase frequency due to longer product lifetimes; to societal opportunities range such as increased supply chain transparency. There are also barriers, for example, the lack of clear data on life-cycle analysis and costing.

To overcome these barriers, this workshop will build on current practice in Europe such as the REBUS project, the roadmap on circular procurement published on the Circular Europe Network, by highlighting concrete cases such as the experience of Rijkswaterstaat and Circular Flanders as success stories and showcasing their national or regional frameworks for CPP through "Green Deals". By focusing on the key steps of the contracting process and linking the strategic purpose of CPP to the practical, this workshop can inspire those looking to procure for a circular economy, and inform market players who wish to be able to respond to public authorities moving to this mode.

Coming up

- A report summarising the CPP guidelines presented in this workshop, illustrated by successful case studies in circular procurement, with a particular focus on the Green Deals being piloted in Europe, will be published on the ECESP website and sent to all conference participants
- Presentations will be published on the conference webpage upon authors’ consent
- ACR+ plans to mainstream the Circular Europe Network roadmap on public procurement, an ECESP workplan activity, to further build the capacity of local and regional authorities
- Through Circular Procurement: accelerating circular economy through procurement power, alliance- and capacity building ACR+ will develop a Procurer-to-Procurer Learning and Action Programme, CPP expert task forces and transnationally & cross-industry communities of practice
- The Procura+ Awards give visibility to the most dynamic and innovative public authorities by highlighting initiatives that deliver sustainable procurements and tenders. Applications for 2019 are open until March 31st.

About the lead

Philippe Micheaux-Naudet is Deputy Secretary General of ACR+, in charge of daily supervision of team activities, projects and proposals, interaction with ACR+ members, PR and participation in strategic processes (European Circular Economy Stakeholders Platform, Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy, etc.). Philippe is also a Senior Project Manager at ACR+, specialised in circular economy, waste prevention and recycling.

ACR+ is an international network of members, mainly local and regional authorities, who share the common aim of promoting the sustainable management of material resources through prevention at source, reuse and recycling. ACR+ is engaged in several projects aiming at increasing the capacity-building and knowledge of its members either by the collection and analysis of existing data or by the research and presentation of innovative views and solutions.

Want to keep the conversation going? Contribute your good practice on circulareconomy.europa.eu, join the online forum or drop us a line: CEStakeholderEU@esc.europa.eu