

The Big Buyers Initiative:

How European collaboration is boosting the procurement of innovative solutions to achieve climate neutrality

28 Oct 2020



The Big Buyers Initiative is a European Commission Platform for promoting collaboration between big public buyers in implementing strategic public procurement

What is the Big Buyers Initiative?

Collaboration between **big buyers** in Europe on **strategic public procurement** to help drive the market for **innovative goods and services**

- Three working groups join forces on shared procurement approaches, criteria and messages to the market to drive strategic change
- An initiative of the European Commission, DG Grow
- Managed by ICLEI and EUROCITIES



Zero-emission construction sites

Focus:

- Non-road mobile machinery (construction machines on-site)

Outcomes:

- Published market engagement guidelines, preparing suppliers for new procurement requirements
- Joint statement of demand

The Buyers:

- Oslo, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Amsterdam, Lisbon, Brussels Mobility, Budapest, Trondheim and Vienna



Zero-emission construction sites

Activities:

- Pilot procurements underway in Oslo, Helsinki and Copenhagen - *use of shared criteria*
- Pilot procurements being planned in Brussels, Trondheim and Amsterdam
- Exploring methods of benchmarking and monitoring contract performance
- Aligning ambitions for zero emission construction sites and jointly announcing procurement plans



Circular construction materials

Focus:

- Improving circularity in the construction sector by fomenting procurement of secondary or reusable/ recyclable construction materials

Outcomes:

- Capacity building and experience exchange on procuring circular construction and demolition
- Joint market engagement event with secondary material brokers
- Recommendations for EU policy makers

The Buyers:

- Vienna, Amsterdam, Haarlem, Rotterdam, Paris, Oslo, Stavanger, Helsinki, Vantaa, Lisbon, Porto, Brussels and Budapest



Circular construction materials

Activities:

- Pilots on demolition: Haarlem, Helsinki and Vantaa
- Pilots on including reused/ recycled content in construction: Helsinki, Oslo, Rotterdam and Vienna
- Local market dialogues: Amsterdam, Budapest, Helsinki, Stavanger, Vienna
- Tools and methods being developed: LCA and carbon-footprinting for buildings and building materials, guidelines for pre-demolition audits, tender criteria for inclusion of reused/recycled content



Electric heavy-duty vehicles

Focus

- Electrification of heavy-duty vehicles (waste trucks, street cleaning, heavy delivery)

Outcomes

- Shared specifications and tender criteria unique for the public sector
- Joint market dialogue and engagement
- Joint announcement of procurement plans

Buyers

- Rotterdam, Oslo, Helsinki, Budapest, Lisbon, Belgian post, Malmö, Paris, Porto, Amsterdam, Stavanger



Electric heavy-duty vehicles

Activities

- Collecting list of available vehicles and each city's procurement plans
- Sharing knowledge and best practices on joint platform

Events:

- Online meetings with suppliers on future technology plans
- Market engagement with Daimler, Renault and Volvo



Advantages of joint European collaborations

- Support R&D efforts of companies by providing test grounds for pilots
- Build procurer capacity for market consultations & dialogues at a European level
- Share information on product availability, technical specifications, results and prices across Europe
- Share tools, market engagement techniques and successful procurement criteria (i.e. how to evaluate the environmental ambition of tender offers)
- Aggregated demand means higher purchasing power, which ultimately should lead to joint cross border procurement.

Big Buyers for Climate and Environment

Get ready to contribute!

- How are you using procurement strategically to achieve your city/company strategic goals?
- Are you thinking of also starting -pilot- projects in any of these fields of action? Or have you already started? How are you speaking with suppliers?
- Would you like to contribute to the Big Buyers for Climate and Environment Initiative?

For more information:

sustainable-procurement.org/big-buyers-initiative

Contact:

Rafael Hirt - Rafael.Hirt@iclei.org

Simon Clement - Simon.Clement@iclei.org

Kaitlyn Dietz - Kaitlyn.Dietz@iclei.org

Anja De Cunto - Anja.DeCunto@eurocities.eu



The Big Buyers Initiative is a European Commission Platform for promoting collaboration between big public buyers in implementing strategic public procurement

