



Green Public Procurement is much more than just purchasing recycled paper for offices. It is about tapping into a huge market and reducing a whole range of environmental impacts from the production, use and disposal of goods and services of all kinds.

Public authorities in Europe have a purchasing power equivalent to 16% of the EU's gross domestic product. By using their market leverage to opt for goods and services

that also respect the environment, they can have a major influence on suppliers, and stimulate the production of more sustainable goods and services. Examples include more energy-efficient school buildings, energy-saving streetlights, catering services offering organic food, and less polluting public transport. By giving a clear signal to all parties involved in the procurement process, public authorities can pull new environmental technologies into the market. This in turn has the potential to strengthen the competitiveness of European industry.

Green Public Procurement will also help EU Member States meet obligations regarding energy-efficiency in buildings, energy services and reduced CO₂ emissions. The potential of this instrument is enormous and I recommend that public administrations, at all levels, turn policy into practice and demonstrate their willingness to 'green' Europe.

Stavros Dimas, Commissioner

Write us

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Environment DG,
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Call us

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Buying Green!

The Handbook on Green Public Procurement

Available in 20 EU languages, the handbook, produced by the European Commission, explains in concrete and non-legal terms how public purchasers can incorporate environmental considerations into public procurement procedures.



The Handbook can be downloaded from the GPP website. The print version can be ordered from the EU Bookshop.

<http://bookshop.europa.eu>

The GPP Toolkit

A web-based GPP toolkit is under development. Dedicated to GPP trainers, it will provide three modules:

1. **Strategic information** – Why introduce GPP? Which organizational set-up is necessary?
2. **The legal framework** – Including numerous concrete examples.
3. **Examples of environmental specifications** for inclusion in tender documents for the purchase of products and services that are considered most suitable for "greening" in public procurement.

Personal Data Protection Clause

Dear recipient,

You have received this information, because your contact details appear in the Commission's "Green Public Procurement Database". We will use it exclusively for the purpose of disseminating Green Public Procurement information and events. If you are not interested in receiving this kind of information, please ask to be removed from the GPP Database.

DG Environment is bound by Regulation 45/2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by Community institutions and bodies. Should you require further information or wish to exercise your right to check, modify or remove your data from our records, please contact DG ENV.G.2 at: jill.michielsen@ec.europa.eu.

Visit the new and improved web-portal on environmental procurement

GPP

"Green Public Procurement means that public purchasers take account of environmental factors when buying products, services or works"

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp>

A more user-friendly structure and layout
Guidance and practical advice
Regular updates on news and events



European Commission DG Environment

THE GPP WEBSITE IN DETAIL

1 Background

Information on European and international policy, legal issues and related studies.

In practice – guidelines

Legal and practical guidance, best practice examples, tender specifications, links to environmental databases and funding opportunities.

GPP & business

Implications for competitiveness, the use of environmental management schemes and Eco-labels.

Training & networking

Possibilities for training and networking, and information on relevant projects.

Media & Events

Relevant press information and calendar of events.

GPP Glossary

List of terms connected to Green Public Procurement.

The screenshot shows the Green Public Procurement website interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays 'http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp'. The main header features the 'Environment' logo and a navigation menu with 'EUROPA > European Commission > Environment > Green Public Procurement'. A prominent banner asks 'How Green is your Public Procurement?' with a sub-headline: '“Green” public procurement stands for public purchasers who take into account environmental elements when buying products, services or works.'

The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items: Homepage, Background (1), Guidelines, Product & service groups, GPP & business, Training & Projects, Media & Events, GPP Glossary, FAQ, GPP Links, and Sitemap.

The main content area is divided into several sections, each marked with a circled number:

- 1** **Final report on GPP in Europe released**: The final report of the Green Public Procurement in Europe study, based on the international 2005 report, has been finalised by the consortium TAKE-5 and is now available on this website. The report provides conclusions and recommendations for organisations and individuals working on national GPP action plans of Member States, as well as for purchasers and other stakeholders in the operational procurement process. The implementation of these recommendations is designed to enhance the quantity and quality of GPP in Europe.
- 2** **Welcome**: A portrait of Commissioner Stavros Dimas.
- 3** **Events**: **Sevilla 2007 - Fifth European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, 21-24/03/2007**. The Fifth European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns will bring together more than 1000 delegates to advance the Aalborg Process. One of the conference workshops is dedicated to sustainable procurement. www.sevilla2007.org
- 3** **National Action Plans on GPP**: The European Commission strongly recommends Member States to increase the level of green public procurement in their respective countries. National action plans should set targets and outline the concrete measures to implement this policy. For a regular update on the state of play of (draft) national action plans and GPP policies, [click here](#).
- 4** **Welcome words**: Commissioner Stavros Dimas: "The Greening of Public Procurement is a major challenge for Europe's public administrations, but also a major opportunity to boost Europe's competitiveness and stimulate the market for environmental technologies." [More](#)
- 5** **Quick links**:
 - [Handbook on Environmental](#)
 - [Public Procurement](#)
 - [National Action Plans](#)
 - [Templates](#)
 - [GPP in Europe report](#)
 - [GPP guidelines](#)
- 5** **GPP Roundtable in Hamar**: On 8-9 November 2006, the Norwegian city of Hamar hosted the International Roundtable on Developing Public Procurement Policies for Sustainable Development and Innovation. The meeting contributed to the elaboration and implementation of policies for sustainable development that also promote innovation.
- 5** **Training**: **Five workshops on GPP**. ICLEI-Europe organises five workshops on Green Public Procurement with the support of the European Commission. The workshops take place between 25 October 2006 and 26 February 2007 in Lisbon, Dublin, Helsinki, and Vienna.

2 News item

Most relevant news on GPP in a compact headline article.

3 Events

Announcement of important events, seminars or workshops.

4 Welcome words

by EU Commissioner Stavros Dimas

5 Quick links

Most relevant European/ (inter)national/local sources for information and guidance on GPP.