

Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)
Actions by Latvia

Country: Latvia, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Title:

Inclusion of the principles of green public procurement in public procurement procedures

Focus area 4: Shift consumer behaviours towards sustainable consumption patterns

Description of the action:

- Development of mandatory green public procurement for specific product groups – copying and graphic paper, office IT equipment, office furniture, food and catering services, cleaning products and services, indoor lighting, street lighting and traffic signals, as well as several voluntary product groups.
- Develop the ‘calculator’ of life-cycle costs for energy consuming product groups;
- Develop implementation guidelines of green procurement and green public procurement for certain products and service groups, including core criteria in the procurement tenders;
- Prepare and submit to the Cabinet of Ministers annual reports on the implementation of green public procurement;
- Organise regular methodological workshops and training for operators and state and local government institutions on green procurement and its application in purchases;
- Implement awareness raising activities for stakeholders on green procurement and green public procurement.

Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate: Development of legal framework by the end of 2016. According to the Green Procurement Support Plan for 2015-2017 the target for green public procurement is 20% of total public procurement in financial terms in 2016 and 30% in 2017.

Type of action: Legal, regulatory and policy instruments / information, education-based, capacity-building and voluntary instruments

Economic sectors: Economy-wide

Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:

- European Union Green public procurement policy – Public Procurement for a Better Environment;
- Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy for 2030;
- Latvian National Development Plan 2014-2020 envisaging "Wider provision of energy-efficient and ecological products and services ("green public procurement") in public procurement";
- Environment Policy Guidelines 2014-2020, one of the tasks for the achievement of the environment policy targets is promotion of green public procurement;
- Green Procurement Support Plan for 2015-2017.

Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome: Reduced pressure on environment. More efficient use of resources. Incentives for sustainable production and consumption. Transition towards sustainable production and consumption. Changing entrepreneur and consumer behaviour. Supporting innovations. Health benefits through less pollution and better environment. Sustainable “green” employment providing career opportunities for new specialists and entrepreneurs.

SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement: 9 and 12

Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) recommendations, as appropriate: —

Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate: In 2015 the total amount of green public procurement in financial terms reached 19% from all public procurements. The statistics about green public procurement is annually collected by the Procurement Monitoring Bureau.

Partners: Ministry of Finance, Procurement Monitoring Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economics, State Regional Development Agency

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