

## Increasing interest in GPP in mainstream media



Traditionally, GPP has been a topic in which a select group of people, primarily policy makers, procurers and those working in environmental departments, are interested. Recently however, there has been a notable increase in the coverage of GPP in mainstream media.

This increased interest is visible within all EU Member States. In an article titled [Harvesting a rich yield from GPP](#) the Malta Independent, a Maltese national newspaper, recently asked why the Maltese government is not

investing more efforts in GPP, claiming that “the country deserves nothing less”. In Ireland an environmental television series, *Ecoeye*, dedicated an [episode](#) to GPP. A [French language video](#) recently released on YouTube uses humour to promote both the financial and environmental benefits of GPP.

European publications such as Spend Matters have also started to take an interest in GPP, highlighting how the [path to a low carbon economy](#) is paved by central purchasing bodies and how public procurers of [vehicles are at the forefront of instigating improvements in urban air quality](#). Globally, CSR Wire outlines how in the past 15 years [good procurement](#) increasingly means sustainable procurement.

This positive media interest is inspiring for green public procurers and policy makers alike as it demonstrates the growing relevancy of GPP in the public arena.



### Zoom in on... OECD report shows green policies do not impact growth

A recent OECD report reveals that economic growth is not hampered by green government policies. The report highlights that when tighter environmental policies come into effect a country's overall growth tends to slow down - this is typically followed by a rebound in productivity however, with no cumulative loss observed. The OECD recommends that governments continue to tackle environmental problems with stringent environmental policies, while devoting resources to designing more effective policies. Such policies could look at making pollution and climate change more costly, and clean and green approaches more attractive to suppliers.

[More information...](#)

## Helsinki strives to achieve 100% SPP by 2020



*Jorma Lamminmäki is Procurement Director of the City of Helsinki's Procurement Centre.*

*The Procurement Centre is the City's joint acquisition unit and specialist organisation responsible for procurement and logistics, as well as the procurement strategy of the City.*

### Does the City of Helsinki currently have an SPP strategy in place?

The City of Helsinki has a number of policies in place which support SPP including a procurement strategy which defines the City's SPP goals. As part of our procurement strategy, the City aims to ensure that by 2020, 100% of all procurement activities will include environmental criteria.

### What have been the most successful SPP tenders carried out by the City of Helsinki in recent years?

Two of our more recent procurements which are worth highlighting include the procurement for trams for the HKL (City's transport department) and the framework agreement for IT equipment and services.

### What are your long term SPP goals in the City of Helsinki?

The aim is that both the material and ecological efficiency of the city's departments will be significantly improved, and that these sustainability factors will be considered in all investments, procurements and notable projects by 2050.

To read the full interview click [here](#).



### Zoom in on... GPP Criteria for Food and Catering Services open for consultation

The Joint Research Centre's Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (JRC-IPTS) is currently revising the GPP Criteria for Food and Catering Services on behalf of the European Commission's DG Environment. The JRC-IPTS sees stakeholder involvement as crucial for the success of the study and invites interested parties to register as a stakeholder in order to keep up-to-date with the latest developments on their [website](#). Those who are interested in registering and taking part in the consultation process can do so by sending an email to: [JRC-CATERING-SERVICES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JRC-CATERING-SERVICES@ec.europa.eu)

[More information...](#)



## GPP examples

### City of Frankfurt tenders for passive school house

Since 2005, the City of Frankfurt has continuously published updated versions of its [Guidelines for economical buildings](#), which outline the energy requirements for all new public buildings in the City. The guidelines include current technical standards, checklists, and procurement criteria, and are based on a Life-Cycle Costing (LCC) approach. The procurement criteria published by the city are based on the German Energy-efficiency in buildings law ([EnEV 2009](#)) and on Guidelines for economical buildings. Based on these requirements, the City of Frankfurt has completed 82 'passive house' projects to date, with 19 more currently being in the planning stages. The Ludwig-Börne secondary school is located in the centre of Frankfurt and has more than 360 pupils. Due to a growing demand the school needed to be renovated and expanded, and therefore a tender was published.



Image: Stadt Frankfurt am Main

The contract was awarded to the bidder offering the lowest total life cycle cost of the construction and operation of the building. This included capital costs, maintenance costs, energy demand, energy consumption, average increase of energy costs per year and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The passive house standard reduces the average CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissions from 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup>a originally to just 16 kg/m<sup>2</sup>a. For this building of 5,277 m<sup>2</sup> the CO<sub>2</sub>-reduction is 58 tons per year or 2,900 tons in the whole life-cycle of 40 years.

Download the full case study [here](#).

### New office helps Cyprus University of Technology to embrace GPP

The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) is based in the City of Limassol (Lemesos). It is CUT's goal to become a centre of excellence in university education and research, while contributing to the economic and technological development of the country.

An integral part of this aim is striving to become a pioneer "green" university in Cyprus. In 2010 CUT established an Environmental Policy Office. This office is now responsible for GPP implementation across the university, and for the GPP Procedure, which is based on the National Green Public Procurement Action Plan (GPP NAP).

The aim of the University's GPP Procedure is to transform procurement and related procedures into more sustainable activities and cultivate increased environmental consciousness amongst the University community, tailoring Cyprus's NAP into a more targeted framework that satisfies the needs of the institution. One of CUT's primary policy goals concerns sustainable development within the city. To date, one tangible outcome in terms of the implementation of the GPP Procedure has been the renovation of old historic buildings in the town centre of Lemesos. A number of buildings have already been restored and the University is currently undertaking two further renovation projects.

Download the full case study [here](#).



Image: Sergey Galvorkin / Foter / CC BY-SA



Image: Patrick Henry / City of Ghent

### Zoom in on... PPI Award 2015 open for applications

The 2nd edition of the Public Procurement of Innovation Award has been launched. The winner of the 1st Award, presented in 2014, was the Dutch hospital Erasmus Medical Centre Rotterdam. The hospital applied with its innovative robotic bed washing facility, which used high precision cleaning robots to disinfect hospital beds in a conveyor belt format. The award is open to applicants from national, regional and local public authorities, while nominees for the 2014 PPI Award can apply again using a new or improved tender. Applicants are required to submit the [application form](#) before 27 March 2015 to [info@innovation-procurement.org](mailto:info@innovation-procurement.org).

[More information...](#)

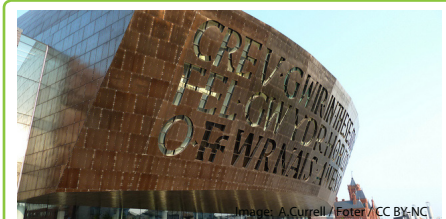


Image: A. Currell / Foter / CC BY-NC

### Zoom in on... Cardiff to host 4th Procurement Week

Now in its fourth year, Procurement Week will take place in Cardiff, Wales from 16-20 March. The third day of the event, March 18, is dedicated to the topic of Smart Cities under the banner of "Smart Cities - Procuring the Cities of Tomorrow, Today!" The day will include presentations from a variety of stakeholders including [OPTICITIES](#) project members Torino, Madrid, Birmingham, Lyon, Gothenburg and Wroclaw. Additionally there will be case studies presented from Amsterdam, Singapore and San Francisco, as well as presentations from industry. The full programme for the 5 day event is available [here](#) and registration is still possible [online](#).

[More information...](#)

GPP News-Alert is an initiative of the European Commission, Directorate-General Environment published on a monthly basis.

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Previous News Alerts are available [here](#).