

CIRCULAR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021/ CIRCULAR PP



CPP NEWSLETTER

Dear readers,

Welcome to the seventh and final issue of the Circular PP project newsletter. This newsletter presents an overview of the most vital activities during the entire project duration. Enjoy!

Over the past three years, public authorities in Denmark, Sweden, and Latvia have been piloting innovative new approaches to buying circular goods and services as part of the [Circular PP](#) project, funded by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme. The project ran between 2017 and 2020.

In this final newsletter, we want to share the project's main results, including lessons learnt from the pilot procurements, the research and resulting recommendations developed during the project, and other activities conducted by the project to support capacity building and communication.

1. Pilot Procurements

During Circular PP, a range of circular procurement activities were piloted in Aalborg (Denmark), Malmö (Sweden), Smiltene and Pļaviņas (Latvia). Several sectors were covered, including furniture, ICT, catering, playgrounds, and waste management. A full overview of pilot activities and lessons learnt can be found [here](#). A [Summary Version](#) is also available.

In addition, a number of case studies and videos have been prepared.



PILOT PROCUREMENTS

Video: Circular Furniture Procurement in Malmö (Plans and Lessons Learnt)	Video: Extending the life-time of ICT in Aalborg (in Danish and English)	Video: Circular procurement pilots in Latvia (short-version and long-version for procurement specialists)
Case study : Furniture framework applying circular economy principles (plus article published by Ellen MacArthur Foundation)	Case study and Guidance : Preparing for a Circular Playground Article : an organisational change perspective of ICT procurement	Case study : Circular catering services for the Plavīnu Gymnasium



2. Research & Recommendations

Circular PP conducted research, including an analysis [Circular Procurement Policy in the Baltic Sea Region](#), an overview of [Alternative Business Models Available for Circular Procurement](#), and a study of the [Institutional Set-Up of Bodies Relevant to Circular Procurement](#). Several scientific papers will now be published. The first is already available - [Exploring Paradoxical Tensions in Circular Business Models – Cases from North Europe](#) (Morales, 2020). A scientific paper from Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences is also available – [Are you ready for a circular economy? Society’s needs and policy development toward a circular economy as a driver for scientific research](#).

In addition, the role of clusters in promoting circular transition among SMEs was explored via two publications:

1. [Clusters in the Circular-Economy – Building partnerships for Sustainable Transition of SMEs](#)
2. [Towards a New Greener Normal - How Clusters are Dealing with Circular Transition in Times of Covid-19](#)

Recommendations were also developed to boost future circular procurement at the local-level, national-level, and European level. [Recommendations for SMEs](#) were also made.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Circular Procurement Recommendations for Organisations.	Recommendations to National Policy-makers on Circular PP	Recommendations on Circular Procurement for the European Commission
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3. Capacity Building and Communication

Circular PP has trained circular procurement champions, organised seminars and market dialogue events, provided lectures on circular procurement at universities, and delivered workshops for companies on product design. Several resources have been developed, which can be used by others interested in building circular procurement capacities. A range of communication products to help spread the word about Circular PP have also been developed.



CAPACITY BUILDING RESOURCES

Circular Procurement in 8 Steps Guidance	Circular Public Procurement Training slidedeck	5-step plan for market dialogue in Circular Public Procurement
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COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

Animated video on circular public procurement	Infographics on circular public procurement, market engagement, the resource loop, circularity strategies, and circular tenders criteria.	Video on Circular PP project results!
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Finally, a key moment for the project was the Baltic Circular Procurement Congress on 2-3 September 2020. This Congress gathered over 300 procurement experts, suppliers, researchers and key opinion leaders from all over Europe online to share their experiences and best practices of using procurement as an effective tool for transition towards the circular economy. An overview of the Congress, including links to presentations, can be found here: [Baltic Circular Procurement Congress - CircularPP](#)

Going forward, the cities involved in Circular PP will also continue to collaborate internationally with other governments via ICLEI's Procura+ Interest Group on Circular Procurement.

