

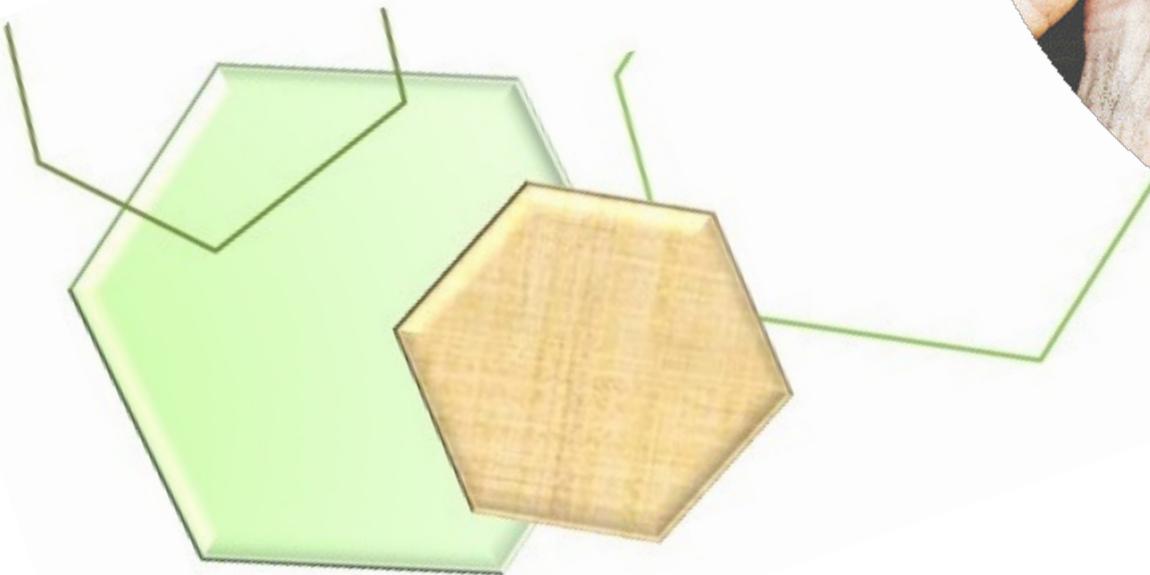


GPP-STREAM Newsletter № 5

November 2019

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GPP-STREAM
Interreg Europe



Welcome Greeting

Dear reader,

Welcome to the fifth edition of Newsletter series of the GPP-STREAM project!

GPP-STREAM is a European project funded by the INTERREG Europe Programme that aims to create opportunities for public authorities to stimulate eco-innovation, resource efficiency & green growth through Green Public Procurement (GPP).

In the following pages, you will find interesting materials describing the overall context and objectives of the project as well as information on the latest developments and current events.

The GPP-STREAM Newsletters will have 7 issues in total for the following 2 years, so please do not hesitate subscribe on our newsletter channel at:

www.interregeurope.eu/gpp-stream .

We shall keep you informed about our progress and key outcomes through the project website, thematic events, and newsletters.

The GPP-STREAM project team

Project at a glance

GPP-STREAM aims to develop tools for management, implementation and monitoring of policy instruments that integrate GPP approaches so as to ensure that resource efficiency gains can be maximized and that resource efficiency objectives are institutionalized through GPP



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SHARING SOLUTIONS FOR BETTER REGIONAL POLICIES



NEWS FROM BULGARIA

Stakeholder meeting in Pazardzhik, Bulgaria



Date: 4 September 2019
Location: Pazardzhik Municipality building

A stakeholder meeting was held in the building of Pazardzhik municipality on the 4th of September. Mrs. Tatyana Kurtakova, an expert in Association CSEG, made a presentation of project GPP-STREAM – its aims, and main outputs which have to be developed. Mr. Simeonov presented the current state of the project, its achievements mainly related to the identified best GPP practices from project partners. The meeting was visited by local and regional stakeholders like: representatives of municipalities, regional environmental directorate, SMEs representatives, and NGOs which operate in the field of environmental initiatives.

The focus of the event was possible ways of “greening” the local public tenders and main challenges that local institutions need to face up in governing local by-laws and

implementation of national acts. In this regard, Mrs. Kurtakova announced that at the moment the consortium is working on the development of a GPP toolkit. Topics such as GPP criteria and how to implement it successfully were further discussed. Some experts from the local administrations expressed their concerns on GPP policy framework at national and local level and initiated a discussion on how these issues could be overcome.



NEWS FROM ROMANIA

Third transnational learning event within the GPP-STREAM project in Sibiu, Romania

Local and international GPP-STREAM stakeholders were invited to attend the conference that took place from 11th to 13th September 2019. They had the opportunity to gather and to discuss ongoing and upcoming activities connected to Green Public Procurement. The conference started with a presentation on the part of the Romanian Environmental Ministry. A representative introduced the state of play in GPP in Romania,



including the Law on GPP, the GPP guide and the National Action Plan.



What followed was a set of Good practices implemented on a local level. Additionally, three municipalities/ Sibiu, Targu-Mures, Brasov/ presented their climate change adaptation strategies.



The project partner “Association of Municipalities of Ribera Alta Region - MANRA” also presented part of the good practices gathered together in a report, developed by all project partners.

During the event, all participants were kindly invited to take part in 3 field visits – a tour in the Environmental protection Agency building and in the ASTRA Museum of Traditional Folk

Civilization as well as a site visit to the underground electrical and communication cables in Sibiu.



All partners, stakeholders and participants enjoyed a fruitful meeting and are planning ahead the forthcoming ones - in France and Bulgaria.



A stakeholder meeting in Piatra Neamt, Romania

The second meeting of the regional working group formed in the context of the implementation of the GPP-STREAM project took place in Piatra Neamt on 15 October 2019. The main topics of the discussions targeted the following:



- Carrying out green public procurement;
- The legislative news learned from the Romanian Ministry of Environment at the third transnational learning event
- Outlining the ideas of the Regional Action Plan
- Establishing the priorities of the stakeholder in the implementation of the project.

As the participants were representatives of the public environment of the North-East Region of Romania, they have made it very clear to us what their needs are in order to establish the actions in the Regional Action Plan and, specifically, what support we can provide.



Thus, it was established that the needs particularly refer to:

- A good regulation of the legislation, so that the quality has priority and not the lowest price;
- Support on several plans for the economic operators because the contracting authorities have expectations from them;

- The tools that are developed within the project or in order to support the green public procurement (toolkits) should be regulated at national level, so that the scope of application to be easy to complied and verified;
- A stock exchange of green public procurement (regulated) and used as a priority regime. It will be a necessary and useful tool to verify the degree pf use and monitoring of green public procurement, but also for supporting economic operators/bidders;
- To have a regional legislation, because there are discrepancies between the regions of the country and each one has specific problems and needs.

Read more on the [GPP-STREAM webpage](#):

STEPS TO THE FUTURE: INTEGRATING GREEN CRITERIA INTO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE FIELD OF GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Given the challenges facing public authorities in the field of public procurement, the North-East Regional Development Agency in Romania has identified an opportunity to support them. Thus, the North-East RDA, in partnership with the Fondazione Ecosistemi from Italy, runs a complex training program in the field of green public procurement, materialized in 4 seminars aimed at training the personnel involved in the elaboration of the public procurement documentation from the contracting authorities in the North-East Region of Romania. The



seminars will be held according to the following calendar:

- October 29, 2019 at Rubik Hub, Piatra Neamț;
- December 10, 2019, Piatra Neamț;
- March 27, 2020, Piatra Neamț;
- June 11, 2020, Piatra Neamț.

The training program in the field of Green Public Procurement (GPP) will bring more benefits, through:

- Intensively and extensively integrate the GPP into the investment projects of the North-East Region contracting authorities by addressing the strategic and practical elements in the field of green public procurement and clearly identifying the criteria for selecting and awarding contracts;
- Introduce social and environmental criteria in public procurement by drawing up specifications, developing a strategy and an action plan;
- Analysis of needs in the field of GPP: identification of product and service categories;
- Ensure compliance with the mandatory annual target expected for local public administrations of 5% of the total annual public procurement, as this program can support you in achieving this objective to be regulated at national level.

The GPP training program aims to train the representatives of the contracting authorities in the North-East Region with responsibilities in the elaboration of the public procurement

documentation and which have clearly defined tasks in the job description for this purpose.

The program is conducted in the context of a broader approach, through which the European Commission finances the organization of GPP training sessions in 11 European countries, under the coordination of ICLEI Europe. In Romania, the GPP training program is implemented by the Fondazione Ecosistemi, the Ministry of the Environment and the North-East Regional Development Agency, only in Piatra Neamț (for participants from the North-East Region) and Bucharest.

NEWS FROM ITALY



GPP-STREAM project was presented at the most important Italian and European event for public and private policies, projects and initiatives on green and sustainable procurement namely the *Compraverde Buygreen Forum*, which took place in Rome on 17 and 18 October 2019. Within the frame of the forum, project partners met for an open discussion divided into two main sessions:

- Capacity building of public administrators: the role of European



funding and actions in the diffusion of environmental competences

- Greening national and regional spending to spread the GPP in sectoral policies



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES on the GPP-STREAM project

First and foremost what is just ahead of all partners and their immediate stakeholders is the **fourth transnational learning event on the project**. It will take place from 3rd to 5th of December 2019 in Lyon, France. Local and international GPP-STREAM stakeholders are invited to attend the conference. They will have the opportunity to gather and to discuss ongoing and upcoming activities connected to Green Public Procurement.

Here is the [draft agenda](#) of the forthcoming conference.

Afterwards, we welcome everybody interested, to join our **webinars**. Registration details, dates and participants will be revealed well in advance, in the [“Events”](#) section of our website.

Currently the partnership is in the process of organizing a comfortable schedule that will ensure the smooth completion of this activity. The topic of the first webinar will be:

- The Role of GPP for resource efficiency

Besides, another major output of the project that currently is being developed by project partners is the elaboration of a **toolkit** for GPP compliance for beneficiaries of EU funds, rural and urban development strategies. The toolkit will soon be available and published on the project website in the [“Library”](#) section.

From the GPP-STREAM website you can also [subscribe](#) to our newsletter and receive news on project progress, products and future events.

Last, but not least we are developing a **questionnaire** aiming at our stakeholders. The interviews will analyze the role of GPP toolkits and a short report will be promoted on the project website and social media channels.

To follow all these and many more, subscribe for our newsletter or don't miss the updates of our [website](#).

Thank you for your time!



GPP-STREAM Partnership

The project includes a well-balanced mixture of partners coming from several main sectors: public authorities (local, regional and national), research institutions, NGOs and local energy agencies. Together we represent varied views across a range of stakeholders and interests providing competent knowledge and experience in the field of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, eco-products and policy design. The partnership is characterized by a strong transnational character, covering five nations within the Interreg Europe Program area, thus ensuring a good geographical and cultural coverage and relevant attention to the issues and needs of a wide range of institutional settings and establishments from European Countries.

Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (Lead Partner), Italy		www.regione.fvg.it
Lazio region, Italy		www.regione.lazio.it
Ecosistemi Foundation, Italy		www.fondazioneecosistemi.org
Ministry of Environment, Romania		www.mmediu.ro
North-East Regional Development Agency, Romania		www.adrnordest.ro
Municipality of Gabrovo, Bulgaria		www.gabrovo.bg
Centre for Sustainability and Economic Growth, Bulgaria		www.cseg.eu
Association of Municipalities of Ribera Alta Region, Spain		www.manra.org
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Energy Environment, France		www.auvergnerhonealpes-ee.fr



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EDITORIAL

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