

Green public procurement
for resource efficient regional growth

A 2.1 Synthesis Report

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable
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1 Executive summary

The document “General guidelines for all stakeholder group meetings” provided guidelines and input documentation (e.g. topics and policies to be discussed, purpose statements, agendas) to harmonise and assist partners in organising the meetings with key stakeholders within the context of GPP4Growth. All partners followed these guidelines to organise stakeholders’ meetings in their own region and delivered summary reports on the experience gathered and conclusions reached. Finally, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development, Regional Government of Andalusia (ANDALUSIA hereafter) has used the document to deliver this synthesis report of the results of the meetings.

Chapter 3 provides an outline of the GPP4Growth project, its objectives, activities and expected results. The “Green public procurement for resource efficient regional growth - GPP4Growth” project aims to improve the policies on resource efficiency, incorporating green public procurement in order to support public administrations and businesses to adopt lifecycle cost approaches and improve the overall management of resources and waste.

Chapter 4 provides the key conclusions and recommendations obtained during the 54 meetings held by the partners during Phase I of the project. During the meetings, partners have had the opportunity to identify issues to be addressed during the implementation action plans in Phase II, as well as to ensure the involvement of specific stakeholders' organisations in the preparation of the action plans.

Chapter 5 presents the results of the evaluation forms and a final online survey to measure the level of satisfaction of the stakeholders. To assess the effectiveness of meetings with key stakeholders, partners who organised them were requested to allocate enough time in the agenda for participants to fill-in an evaluation form. By answering the questions therein, participants can provide a short assessment of the meeting. The questions focused on process, outcome and context related criteria that determine the quality of public consultation that took place during the meeting.

Finally, Annex I provides a list of key regional stakeholders for each partner, which should ideally be extended in order to form a repository of stakeholders involved during and after the completion of the project.

2 Introduction

This document, titled 'Synthesis Report', pertains to GPP4Growth activity A2.1, i.e. meetings with key stakeholders, and it constitutes the last stage of the activity. In this report the results from all regional stakeholder group meetings (based on the summary reports in EN) are compiled to identify common issues as regards stakeholder groups involvement in action plans' implementation.

In the first semester of the project, ANDALUSIA, as a partner in charge of this activity, prepared the general guidelines and supporting documentation for the organization of the meetings. At the end of the sixth semester, ANDALUSIA has prepared this Synthesis report based on the 54 summary reports delivered by the partners during phase I of the project (1 per partner per semester).

Activity A2.1 is the only policy dialogue activity in GPP4Growth. Meetings with key stakeholders aim to ensure the cooperation of specific key stakeholders related to GPP4Growth aims and results, considered to be very significant for the successful development and implementation of GPP4Growth action plans. This is the reason why regional stakeholders meetings were organised once every semester during semesters 1-6 of the GPP4Growth project, since frequent interaction is a prerequisite for successful cooperation with stakeholders.

The participatory process that took place during the meetings has been the basis to discuss various issues with stakeholders, crucial for the development of GPP4Growth action plans (activity A5.1), such as the overall evaluation of GPP4Growth A1 activities, and specific issues including the following:

- Factors and practices that affect businesses' involvement in green tenders
- Implemented green contracts
- Acquisition of ecolabels
- Evaluation areas of the lifecycle cost of products and services
- Indicators that promote green products and services
- Monitoring and assessment procedures for green contracts

- Policy measures for the promotion of GPP to be included in action plans.

The conclusions of meetings with key stakeholders complement the conclusions of activities A1.1, A1.2, A1.3 and A1.4, in order to provide more comprehensive policy recommendations for the action plans (activity A5.1), and to establish stakeholders' consensus for their subsequent implementation.

The following figure summarises the main outputs of GPP4Growth activity A2.1

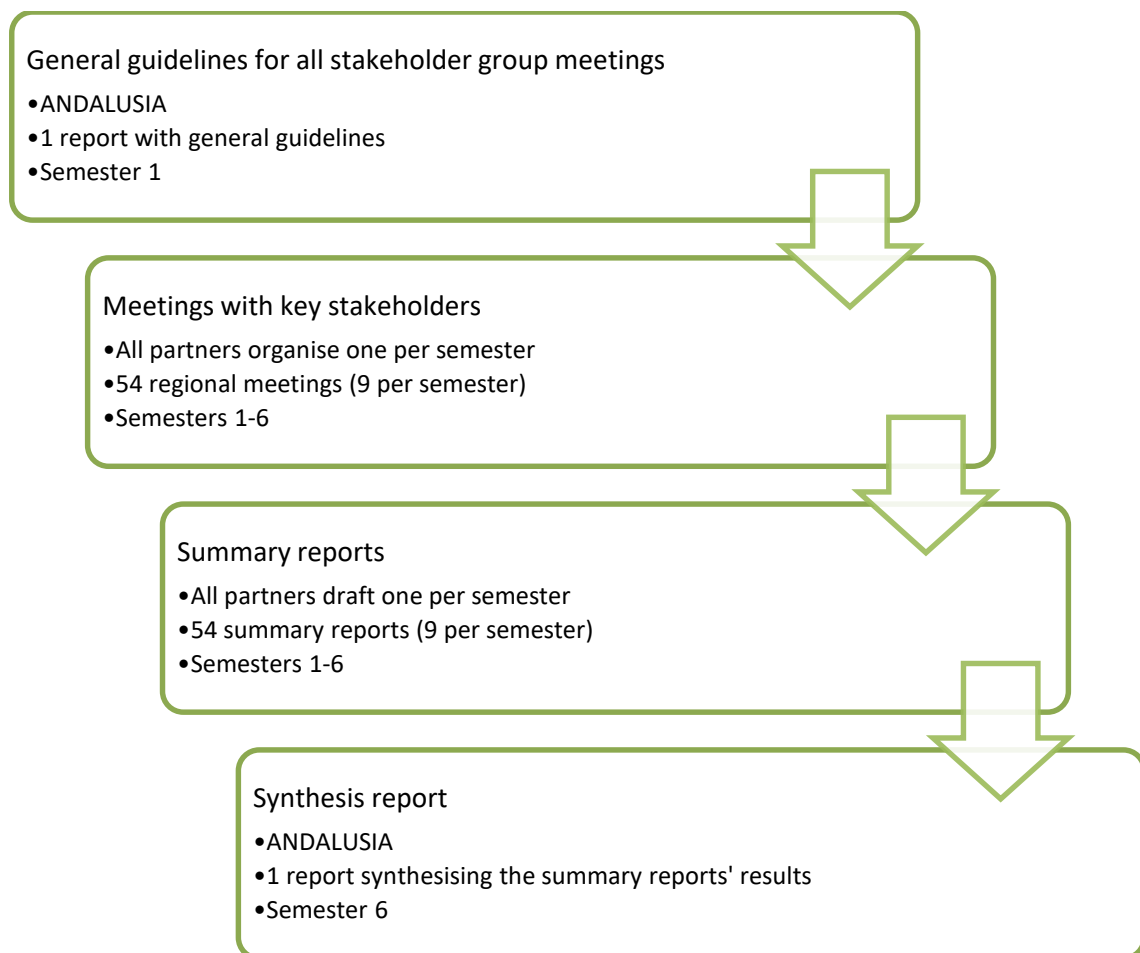


Figure 1: GPP4Growth activity A2.1 outputs



3 Outline of GPP4Growth

The new EU public procurement system (2016) creates new opportunities for public authorities to stimulate eco-innovation, resource efficiency and green growth, by using new award criteria in calls and tenders that pay particular attention on environmental considerations. Specifically, the new rules enable public authorities to setup, publish and manage calls and contracts that require businesses / bidders to: a) comply with environmental obligations, b) integrate environmental costs in their offers based on a lifecycle cost approach, and c) deliver goods fulfilling the requirements of environmental labels, reducing at the same time administrative burden. This is particularly important for the local /regional public authorities to achieve regional green growth and respond to current and future environmental and economic challenges, through the adoption of – what is called Green Public Procurement (GPP). Spending 2 trillion Euros each year (19 % of the EU's GDP) on goods, supplies, services and works, Europe's public authorities can use their purchasing power to choose environmentally friendly goods and services, including efficient electronic & electrical equipment, electricity from renewable energy resources, sustainable construction works, low emission public transport vehicles, etc. promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns in their territories.

The “Green public procurement for resource efficient regional growth - GPP4Growth” project aims to improve the addressed policies on resource efficiency, incorporating green public procurement to support public administrations and businesses to adopt lifecycle cost approaches and improve the overall management of resources and waste.

3.1 The GPP4Growth consortium

GPP4Growth brings together 9 partners from 9 countries, involving the managing authorities & regional bodies influencing regional and national policy instruments, to stimulate eco-innovation, resource efficiency and green growth by promoting Green Public Procurement (GPP). The GPP4Growth partnership consists of the following organisations:

Country	Partner
	University of Patras (UPAT)
	Lombardy Region (LOMBARDIA)
	Lodzkie Region (LODZKIE)
	Province of Antwerp (ANTWERP)
	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development of the Regional Government of Andalusia, (ANDALUSIA)
	Zemgale Planning Region (ZPR)
	Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (SZREDA)
	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCA)
	Malta Regional Development and Dialogue Foundation (MRDDF)

3.2 GPP4Growth activities

To support public administrations and businesses to adopt lifecycle cost approaches and improve the overall management of resources & waste, the project includes a wide range of activities, focusing on promoting the interregional learning process and the exchange of experience among regional authorities. Project activities include:

- Analysing the needs of GPP4Growth regions in Green Public Procurement.
- Identification of successful green public procurement cases.
- Evaluation and analysis of existing policies, plans, and criteria for GPP in the key GPP4Growth sectors.
- Analysis of the factors (barriers and enablers) that influence businesses in key GPP4Growth sectors to get involved in green tenders and contracts.

- Promoting public dialogue and consultation process to build consensus and ensure the successful implementation of regional action plans, through the support and participation of key regional stakeholders.
- Fostering interregional learning and capacity building through workshops, study visits, and policy learning events.
- Development of transferable tools & resources to promote benchmarking and policy learning, and transfer knowledge and lessons learnt beyond the partnership.
- Joint development of action plans to promote the improvement of the policy instruments addressed by the project.
- Increasing awareness, promoting and disseminating the project results and knowledge beyond the partnership.

3.3 GPP4Growth expected results

GPP4Growth will improve 9 policy instruments, relevant to the abovementioned policy areas, targeting to achieve:

- Over 7% increase in the number of businesses in partners' regions, integrating environmental factors and costs when producing goods and/or providing supplies, services and works.
- Increased capacity of 200 staff of public administrations to effectively implement resource efficiency policies, applying GPP.
- 10 million of Euros investments unlocked to promote new green products and services development.
- Increased knowledge awareness of over 1000 stakeholders on the influence of GPP on the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns by businesses.

4 Key conclusions and recommendations of the meetings

In the following subsections there is a brief summary of the meetings of each semester with the feedback of the stakeholders, as well as the ideas and policies recommendations, action plans and good practices, seeing the similarities achieved by the partners in each topic.

During the first semester ANDALUSIA formed joint guidelines (e.g. topics & policies to be discussed, purpose statements) for all stakeholder group meetings to harmonise and assist partners in organising the intraregional meetings.

To ensure that all regional stakeholder meetings are effective in addressing the main areas of concern, each semester's meeting was assigned a theme at the start of the programme.

The six themes are as follows:

1. Introductory stakeholder meeting to set the ground for collaboration during and after the project.
2. Factors that affect businesses' involvement in green tenders and businesses' views on implemented green contracts and on cases of GPP implementation by regional public authorities.
3. Eco-labels defined as a method of environmental performance certification.
4. Suggestions on areas to evaluate the lifecycle cost of products and services.
5. Monitoring and assessment procedures for green contracts.
6. GPP4Growth action plan implementation

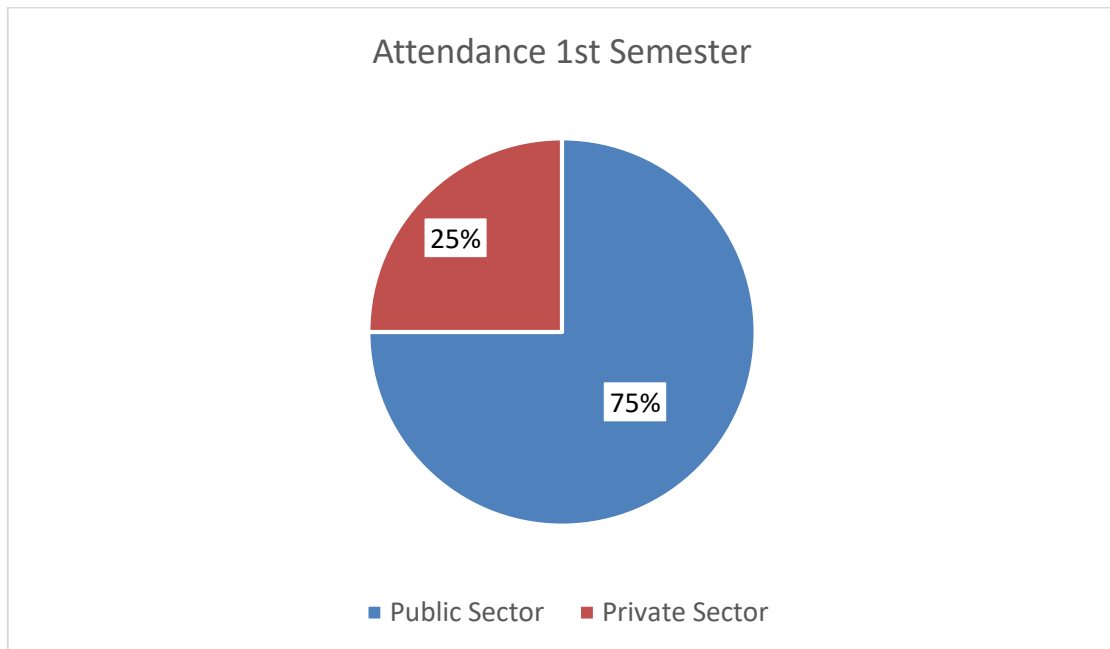
4.1 SEMESTER 1 (01.01.2017 – 30.06.2017)

Semester 1 meetings with key stakeholders had an introductory role. Their main purpose was to bring together public and private organisations that could play a key role in developing synergetic actions that could develop into initiatives for the reform of public procurement processes and to set the ground for collaboration during and after the project. Hence, semester 1 meetings with key stakeholders aimed to initialise the *development of social learning*, and in the case of Interreg Europe projects, *stakeholder learning*. Furthermore, partners exchanged views with the stakeholder groups on the issues to be tackled by the project during the 1st semester, thus aiming to secure theirs and their contacts' involvement in all activities planned.

The meetings addressed how to overcome barriers to business involvement such as the following:

- Public authorities making small orders or orders of products that are not available locally
- Defining the spectrum, size and scope of green criteria
- Level of corporate commitment to green procurement contracts
- Businesses' insufficient knowledge about green procurement
- Businesses' insufficient availability
- Lack of acceptable alternatives to non-green products.
- Overcoming the 'We've always done it this way' mentality.

Semester One Theme: Introductory stakeholder meeting to set the ground for collaboration during and after the project.	
Total number of attendees	236
Attendees from public sector organisations	75 %
Attendees from private sector companies	25 %



Some examples of the key conclusions and policy recommendations that were raised in the open discussions were:

- The participants agreed on the need for more support regarding the application of new rules on Green Public Procurement (GPP).
- There is a need to implement training courses.
- Creation of a database of the enterprises participating in procurements to avoid bureaucracy.
- Pilot projects would be a useful way to make progress and spread the message.
- Greater access to the good practices identified during the project.
- New public procurement law and new regulation and guidelines on GPP as well as existing regulation of GPP in the transport sector and catering would help to implement GPP on the local level (in Latvia).
- More product groups that are important in the local context should be included in GPP e.g. in tenders for the procurement of water for street cleaning purposes.
- The number and diversification of stakeholders needs to be increased to enhance active participation.

Below you can find some pictures of the meetings held by the partners during the first semester:



Picture 1. Meeting held in Jelgava (Latvia) during the first semester of the project



Picture 2. Meeting held in Milano (Italy) during the first semester of the project



Picture 3. Meeting held in Dublin (Ireland) during the first semester of the project

4.2 SEMESTER 2 (01.07.2017 – 31.12.2017)

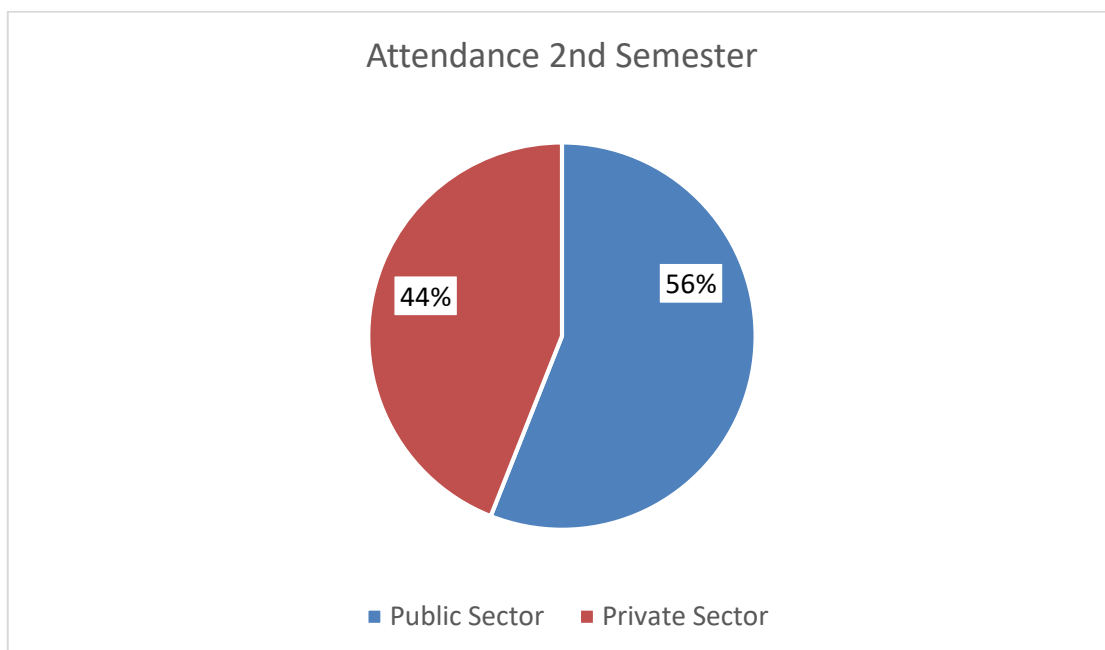
Semester 2 meetings with key stakeholders focused on investigating the factors that affect businesses involvement in green tenders, businesses' views on implemented green contracts, and on cases of GPP implementation by regional public authorities. More precisely, the meetings addressed the following issues:

- Public authorities making small orders of products that are not available locally
- Defining the spectrum, size and scope of green criteria applied in public tenders
- Level of corporate commitment to green procurement contracts
- Businesses' insufficient knowledge about green procurement
- Businesses' insufficient availability, because local distributors do not stock green products, or stock only small quantities.
- Lack of acceptable alternatives to non-green products.
- Overcoming the 'We've always done it this way' mentality.

During this semester, LODZKIE organised a workshop on different GPP approaches (e.g life cycle costing, joint procurement, energy performance contracting).

Semester Two Theme: Factors that affect businesses' involvement in green tenders and businesses' views on implemented green contracts and on cases of GPP implementation by regional public authorities.

Total number of attendees	236
Attendees from public sector organisations	56 %
Attendees from private sector companies	44 %



Some examples of the key conclusions and policy recommendations that were raised in the open discussions were:

- The possibilities of procurement based on functional needs and specifications instead of product specifications, and the need to define those functional needs including the minimal use of resources and environmental friendliness.
- The starting point should always be quality and considering user needs instead of a 'one-fits-all' maximum performance approach.
- There is a clear need to reduce the multiple sources of 'fear' of implementing GPP within organisations through the promotion of case studies and the organisation of

more activities which help take the mystery out of GPP and build confidence amongst practitioners.

- There is a strong need to organise more regional meetings for stakeholders so they can exchange their 'green activities' and their knowledge about the issues.
- Regional authorities can help their stakeholders by providing them with examples of the most popular tender descriptions, so they can use it easily in their procurements.
- Include GPP in operational programs.
- Make it mandatory for municipalities to have a GPP strategy.
- A clear regulatory framework regarding GPP should be put in place.
- The state must provide incentives to the (regional) authorities for the use of green criteria especially when these lead to increased cost. When the long-term cost is smaller, the state should facilitate the increased cost in the short-term.
- The state should provide support regarding the increase in capacity in public authority staff (required by the implementation of GPP).
- A common approach to common needs provided through a central system is required so best practices can be easily transferred.
- It is necessary to develop a clearer definition of GPP in order to clarify which are green contracts and which are not.
- More attention should be focused on developing and using meaningful GPP criteria and not only to fulfil legal obligations. When certain GPP criteria are easily met by all tenderers, demonstrate that not all the GPP criteria have the same weight in the tender evaluation process. GPP criteria should be verifiable and be utilised to control the implementation.
- Discuss with the central financing and contracting agency (responsible for the EU funding) to come up with a common understanding regarding GPP and its application for the product groups not covered by (existing) Cabinet regulation.
- Procurers should discuss their needs with the producers and distributors before opening the call for a tender. It is important to check if such a product exists on the market.

- Procurers should register all the cases when companies are not fulfilling their contractual obligation. These acts can be used to break the contract and exclude them from the future tenders.
- For control and supervision mechanisms, procurers could use regulations that specify information on the bill of lading.
- Institutions should develop internal GPP instructions which could be then used to justify the use of GPP criteria.
- Italy is one of the first country to have adopted a mandatory law related to GPP, launching an innovative phase in which the green component will be an integral part of public procedures. It is important to spread the awareness of the importance of a full and correct application of the new rules, for the wealth of the territory and all public administrations must be aware of the legal consequences of neglecting the law.
- Enhance the mainstreaming of GPP functions in all government departments.
- Finalise national GPP action plans where applicable.
- Focus on circular procurement and post procurement auditing.

Below you can find some pictures of the meetings held by the partners during the second semester:



Picture 4. Meeting held in Antwerp during the second semester of the project



Picture 5. Meeting held in Jelgava (Latvia) during the second semester of the project



Picture 6. Meeting held in Stara Zagora (Bulgaria) during the second semester of the project

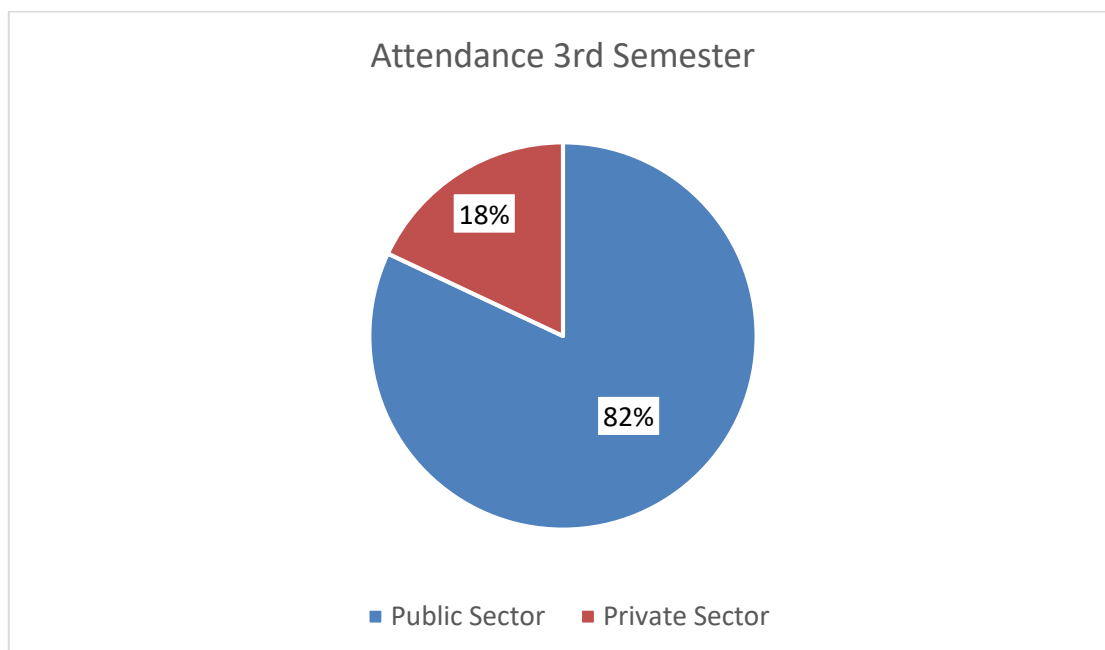
4.3 SEMESTER 3 (01.01.2018 – 30.06.2018)

The purpose of Semester 3 meetings with key stakeholders was to enable regional stakeholders to deliver feedback on the successful implementation of eco-labels.

"Ecolabelling" is defined as a method of environmental performance certification and labelling that identifies products or services proven environmentally preferable overall, within a specific product or service category. The most reliable labels are certified by an impartial third party for specific products or services that have been independently determined to meet transparent environmental leadership criteria, based on life-cycle considerations. The European Union, as an impartial third party, has not only selected and awarded criteria, but also compiled specifications and contract performance clauses, which can help the preparation of green contracts. Identifying sources of GPP criteria is an important step in GPP implementation. The EU has developed GPP criteria for a number of product and service groups, which are regularly reviewed and updated. The criteria are designed to be inserted directly into tender documents and include information on verification methods.

During this semester, SZREDA organised and hosted a two-day workshop in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria for regional authorities on how to use eco-labels to apply environmental criteria and verify compliance with technical specifications in public procurement, and when to require an environmental label (eco-label) without leading to any unfair advantage or disadvantage for potential bidders.

Semester Three Theme: Eco-labels defined as a method of environmental performance certification.	
Total number of attendees	242
Attendees from public sector organisations	82 %
Attendees from private sector companies	18 %



Some examples of the key conclusions and policy recommendations that were raised in the open discussions were:

- The need for establishing a clear legislation framework on GPP and on procurement in general, that will allow procurement and monitoring officers to apply easily and without fear the “green adjustments” to the contracts/tenders.
- The use of templates during these procedures, would be a solution for both issues above. It helps officers in applying green conditions in the tenders and removes the fear regarding the legality of the applied criteria.
- Procurement should cover most important impacts through the product lifecycle. Eco-labels can help to identify them.
- There is a good potential of the State Environmental Bureau to consult the municipalities on use of eco-labelling criteria in GPP, but limited capacity of the Bureau makes it complicated to do (Latvia).
- Participants supported the idea to develop regional GPP consultation centres to support the implementation of GPP.

- The government wants to increase development of production in Latvia. This should be harmonized with the GPP.
- The government should increase control over greenwashing.
- It would be useful to define the main lifecycle environmental impacts of different products.
- More attention should be paid to explain consumers/purchasers the difference between regular and green products.
- The government should support the capacity of the State Environmental Bureau to consult the procurement specialists on use of eco-labelling environmental criteria in GPP (Latvia).
- GPP is possible and financially interesting, but even so politics can disregard evidence based recommendations. High level support is key.
- It is sometimes hard for procurers to find objective, reliable and comparable knowledge about everything, certainly more complex products. Sharing knowledge through exemplary specification documents, joint procurement, the creation of networks bringing together procurers and experts/suppliers, legal support are desirable approaches.
- Include the new rules in every procurement procedure that aim at facilitating a better integration of environmental considerations.
- Promote a life-cycle costing approach which includes internal costs as well as costs related to environmental factors in the majority of procurement processes.
- While ecolabels can play a part in GPP, there is more work to be done in raising awareness and ensuring that all public bodies are considering environmental sustainability in their purchasing decisions going forward.
- A question shared with the sectors consulted for the preparation of the specific recommendations (paper supplies for copies and graphic paper; imaging equipment; cleaning services and products) is related to the cost of some environmental

requirements. The Administration must be aware that this cost must be included in the bid price.

- In Andalusia, after the approval of the new national law on public procurement, although it is said that the inclusion of environmental criteria is mandatory in the contracts, there are still gaps regarding its application

Below you can find some pictures of the meetings held by the partners during the third semester:



Picture 7. Meeting held in Jelgava (Latvia) during the third semester of the project



Picture 8. Meeting held in Dublin (Ireland) during the third semester of the project



Picture 9. Meeting held in Seville (Spain) during the third semester of the project

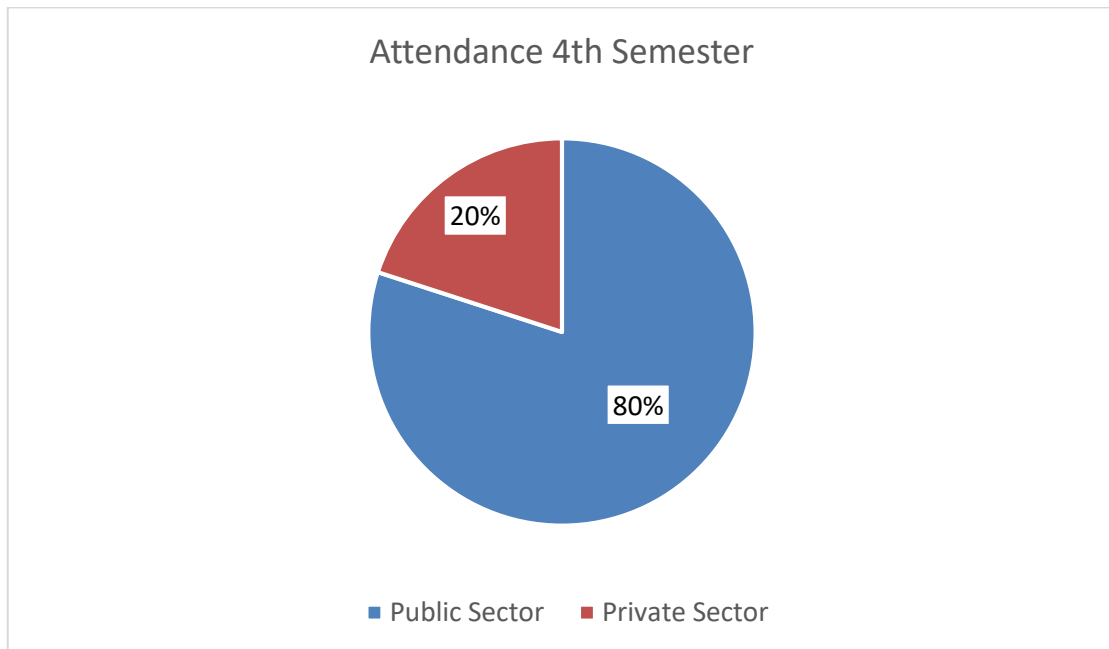
4.4 SEMESTER 4 (01.07.2018 – 31.12.2018)

The purpose of Semester 4 meetings with key stakeholders was to enable stakeholders to provide suggestions on areas to evaluate the lifecycle cost of products and services based on the stakeholders' experiences with existing preliminary Life Cycle Costing methods and indicators that promote green products and services.

During this semester, DCCAE organised a 2 days "existing experiences visit" to share existing GPP procedures, measures & criteria (e.g. investments in hybrid or low-emission public transport vehicles, electricity from renewable energy sources, sustainable construction works, low energy buildings, etc.).

In addition, UPAT developed indicators and defined evaluation areas to allow public authorities & stakeholders better understand the life-cycle costing approach and benefits, and provided them with resources to apply harmonised Life-cycle costing (LCC) methods in their regions.

Semester Four Theme: Suggestions on areas to evaluate the lifecycle cost of products and services.	
Total number of attendees	116
Attendees from public sector organisations	80 %
Attendees from private sector companies	20 %



Some examples of the key conclusions and policy recommendations that were raised in the open discussions were:

- The policy recommendations (PR) should be focused in 4 specific areas: PR that will lead to mandatory changes in legislation; PR that will target the need for more information regarding green public procurement both for the public administration and the business; PR that will be voluntary for the administration; PR that address the issue with the administrative capacity both in business and public administration that affects the participation in green tenders.
- The need for clarifications in several aspects of public procurement law regarding GPP.
- The need for changing several aspects in public procurement law regarding the authority of the state to check technical specifications of the tenders.
- The need for the technical services departments in organizations to collaborate more efficiently with the procurement departments and incorporate LCC approaches in their studies.
- LCC calculators are a good tool to support the implementation of Green Public Procurement.

- LCC calculators are cannot be used to predict future costs of the product use (costs are also dependent on user behaviour), but are more useful for the evaluation of alternatives.
- Procurement should look not only at the initial costs but the whole lifecycle costs of the product, service or works.
- LCC are influenced not only by the energy efficiency of the product but also its longevity. Therefore criteria ensuring the extension of the product life and important for long-term cost saving.
- Verification in the GPP guidelines should be explained in easier to understand language.
- More support should be given to moving from the procurement of products to services. This would make easier to account for the lifecycle costs of the products/services.
- LCC calculator for the vehicle should be adopted as it is not possible to compare the costs for the electric vehicles, heavy-duty vehicles and busses.
- Training and informational meetings on GPP should be directed not only towards sustainability civil servants, but also towards procurers, financial managers, supporting and policy services (eg. ICT), ... and also towards elected representatives (not just those responsible for environment).
- The different framework contracts with certain authorities open to other authorities should be announced and promoted more widely.
- While LCC methods and indicators can play a part in GPP, there is more work to be done in raising awareness and ensuring that all public bodies are considering environmental sustainability in their purchasing decisions going forward.
- Stakeholders reported the lack of knowledge in the field of LCC as the effective tool for the offers' assessment. This was not surprising, due to the fact that in 2017 there were only 17 cases of using LCC to calculate the cost in the whole country (Poland)
- Disseminate information on GPP to the citizenship, to increase the demand for sustainable products and services.
- In relation to the LCC methodology, the lack of material with practical information and directly applicable to contracts is detected.

Below you can find some pictures of the meetings held by the partners during the fourth semester:



Picture 10. Meeting held in Patras (Greece) during the fourth semester of the project



Picture 11. Meeting held in Lodz (Poland) during the fourth semester of the project



Picture 12. Meeting held in Stara Zagora (Bulgaria) during the fourth semester of the project

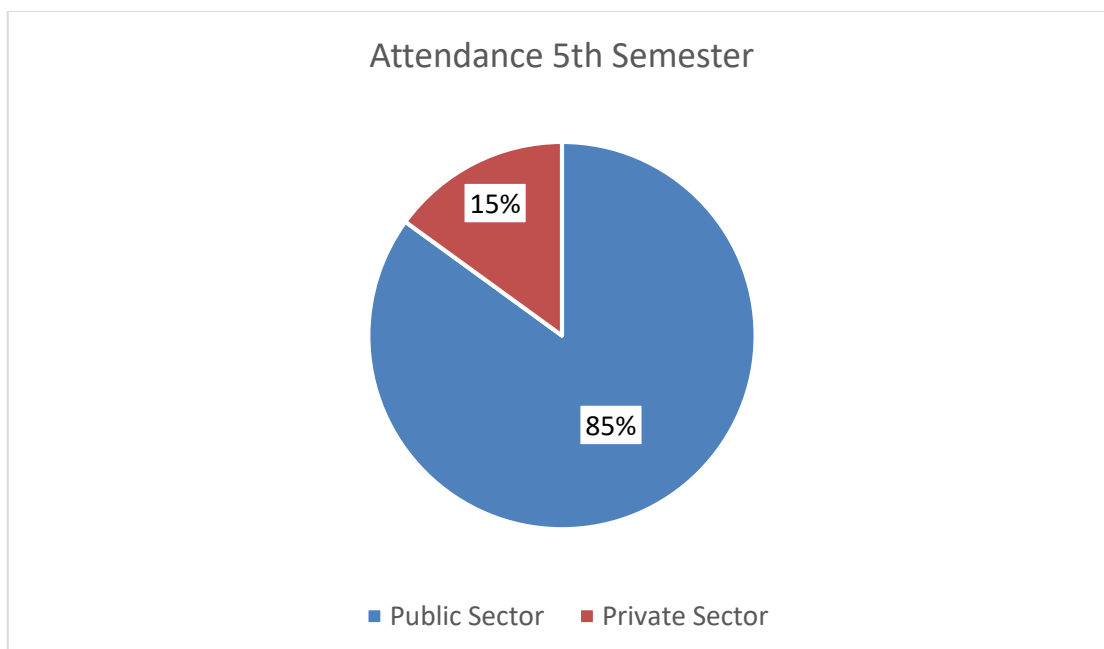
4.5 SEMESTER 5 (01.01.2019 – 30.06.2019)

The purpose of Semester 5 meetings with key stakeholders was to gather feedback from stakeholders on the monitoring and assessment procedures for green contracts. The partners also consulted stakeholders on policy measures to be included in action plans. More precisely, to gather feedback on monitoring and assessment procedures, stakeholders commented on methods to review on an annual basis the green criteria and indicators used in green tenders, conducting internal reviews, looking specifically at whether the planned measures and procedures had been implemented across the authority, what had been achieved, any barriers encountered, risks identified and proposed solutions.

During this semester, ANTWERP organised a 2 days “existing experiences visit” where the partners took part in two days of activities. The first day practical demonstrations of GPP projects of the Province of Antwerp as well as the City of Antwerp were presented, complemented with site visits. This was followed on day two by presentations on other local and national level case studies and site visits and a workshop session, also facilitating the sharing of experiences, best practices and knowledge between the partners.

In addition, ZPR organised and hosted a two-day workshop in Jelgava (Latvia) to exchange experiences on the use of contract clauses that support monitoring, e.g. KPIs for green products, penalties for non-compliance, bonuses for good performance, clear indication of responsibility for reporting, etc.

Semester Five Theme: Monitoring and assessment procedures for green contracts	
Total number of attendees	267
Attendees from public sector organisations	85 %
Attendees from private sector companies	15 %



Some examples of the key conclusions and policy recommendations that were raised in the open discussions were:

- Savings made by a contracting authority by awarding GPP contracts could be left in the budget of the institution and used in the direction of other green solutions.
- The existing initiatives to promote and facilitate GPP in our region, should be continued and consolidated, but action is also necessary to make sure the initiatives reach those local procurers that are not involved yet (Belgium).

- The introduction of new incentives for local authorities, like in the ‘cooperation agreement’ of the Flemish Government for local authorities that have proven effective for the implementation of GPP in several municipalities is a relatively uncontroversial controversial action to facilitate top management support and high level political commitment.
- Joint procurement and opening framework contracts to other public authorities and institutions should be announced more widely and encouraged.
- A user friendly system for sharing green tender documents, would be a valuable instrument.
- Development of monitoring systems is deemed indispensable for GPP promotion, to encourage local authorities to apply GPP through measurement and comparison.
- While monitoring and measurement of GPP will be vital, there is more work to be done in raising awareness and ensuring that all public bodies are considering environmental sustainability in their purchasing decisions going forward.
- The Meeting showed a great interest and great potential to develop green public procurement system in the region (Poland).
- Apart from legal changes, promotional and informative activities, it is very important to start changes from the attitude and behavior on a daily basis, showing a good example instead of just talking about it. Also, there are some areas, like the waste management, that could be improved, to meet the new technological possibilities.
- The use of Green Public Procurements is due to the public law, but still is voluntary, not obligatory (Poland).
- Dissemination of good GPP examples in the form of ready-to-use proceedings may be a good incentive for the ordering parties.
- The adoption of minimum environmental criteria for the different types of products and services, gives the possibility to Public Administrations to launch a homogeneous and coordinated GPP policy at national level (Italy).
- The need for the market to be actively involved in the green criteria selection
- The need for a gradual incorporation of any green criteria.
- The need for the green criteria to provide incentives to local and national industries and not cause increase in importing goods.

- The need for a electronic platform where green services would be available.
- The need to reduce heavy bureacratic burden in the procurement process.
- Strict contract performance control should be done on the implementation of the award criteria.
- More state control institutions should be involved in the contract performance control.
- Modify procurement reporting form to be in line with the GPP regulation: change the name of the section to “GPP requirements” and classification.
- It is important to ensure the performance control of fulfilment of award criteria because points gained in these criteria could have lead to winning of the contract. Therefore there should a significant penalty for bridging these criteria.
- The range of controlling institutions should be expanded.
- Municipalities and institutions have to develop internal GPP instruction specifying the process of contract performance control mechanisms.
- Requirements and criteria included in the tender should be included also in the contract to ensure the contract performance control.
- For the bigger contracts, randomized lab tests could be included in the contract and funded by the supplier or contractor.
- For the product groups not covered by the government regulation in many cases (e.g. in the procurement by the State Forests) GPP is mentioned, but it is not clear which green criteria are used.

Below you can find some pictures of the meetings held by the partners during the fifth semester:



Picture 13. Meeting held in Lodz (Poland) during the fifth semester of the project



Picture 14. Meeting held in Patras (Greece) during the fifth semester of the project



Picture 15. Meeting held in Seville (Spain) during the fifth semester of the project

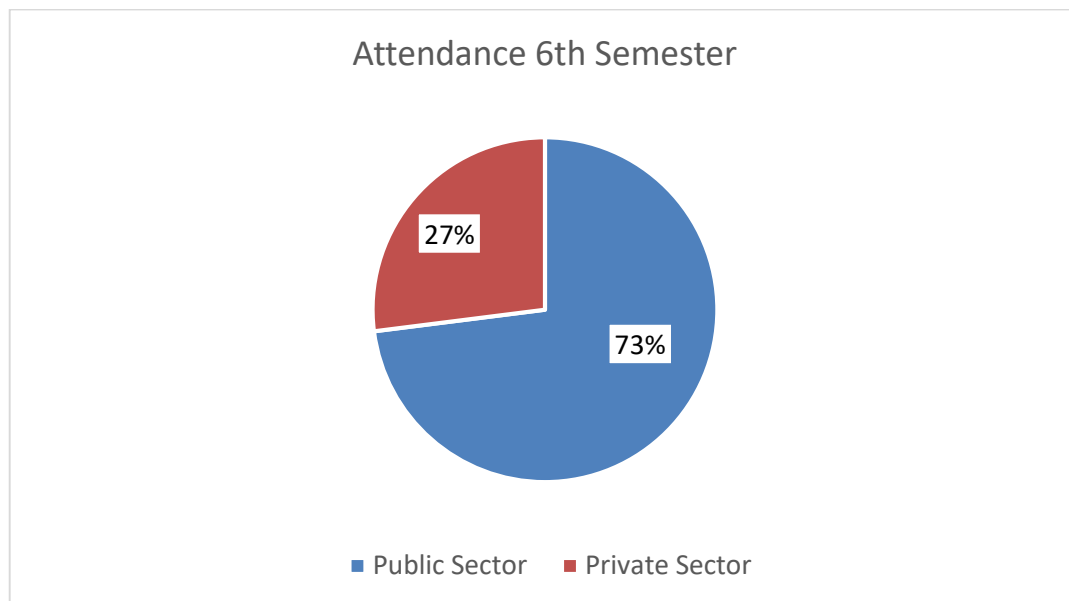
4.6 SEMESTER 6 (01.07.2019 – 31.12.2019)

The purpose of Semester 6 meetings with key stakeholders was to enable regional stakeholders to provide feedback on the design and development of the GPP4Growth action plans. Attendees received detailed information on the following:

- Methods to integrate feedback from A1 and A2 GPP4Growth activities to the development of action plans.
- Outline of the aims and key components of action plans.
- Description of the methods to implement the action plans.

Regional stakeholders were kindly asked to review this information and provide specific suggestions for their improvement, so as to ensure the desired level of cooperation in the participatory process to unfold during semesters 7-10.

Semester Six Theme: GPP4Growth action plan implementation	
Total number of attendees	142
Attendees from public sector organisations	73 %
Attendees from private sector companies	27 %



Stakeholders provided suggestions for action plans, consulting on the effective implementation of the measures included and ensure their consensus and participation during implementation. The 9 regional action plans to improve the policy instruments addressed will be uploaded to the project website.

Below you can find some pictures of the meetings held by the partners during the sixth semester:



Picture 16. Meeting held in Seville (Spain) during the sixth semester of the project

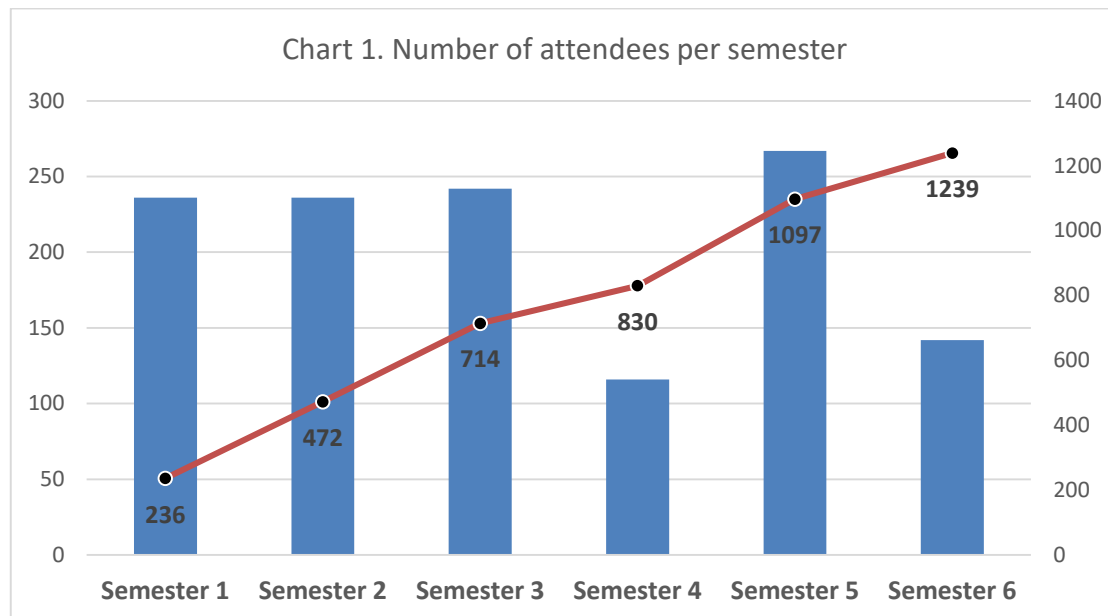


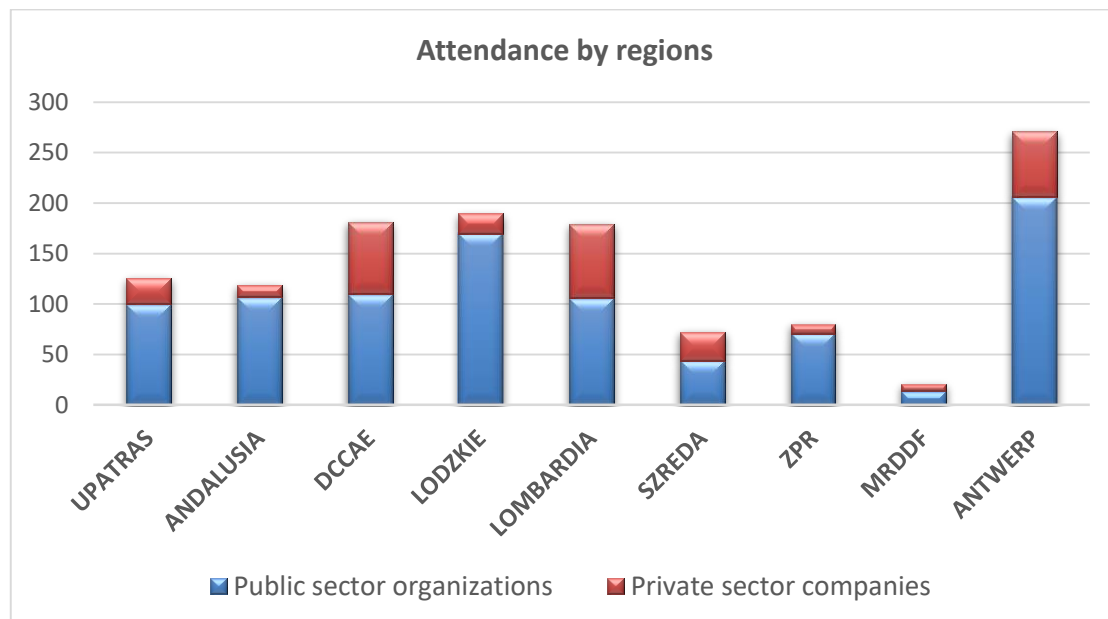
Picture 17. Meeting held in Patras (Greece) during the sixth semester of the project

5 Evaluation of the meetings

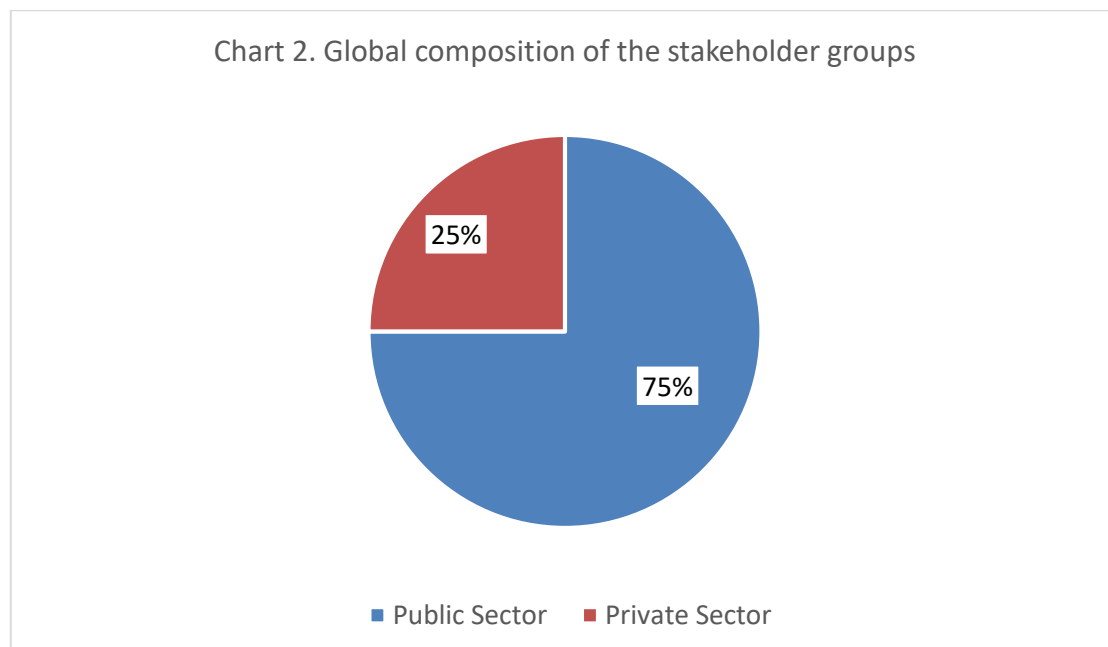
The evaluation of meetings with key stakeholders is a necessary part of the public participation process because it a) allows for a final evaluation, analysis and documentation of stakeholders' views as they were presented during the meetings, b) provides information to improve future similar meetings, and c) supports the development of a better understanding of the effects of meetings on stakeholders.

The following charts show the evolution per semesters of the number of attendees at meetings with stakeholders held by partners and the attendance by regions during phase I of the project.





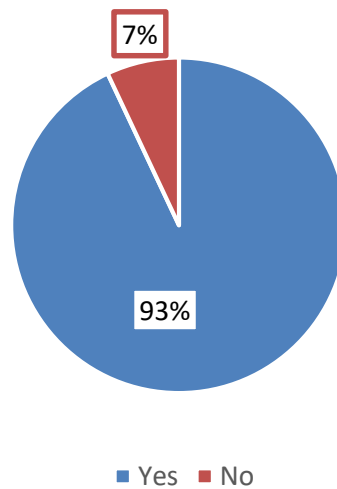
In relation to the composition of the stakeholder group, among the more than 1000 attendees, almost 75% came from public administrations and the rest from private companies.



Below are the results obtained through an online survey aimed at members of the Stakeholder Group of the GPP4Growth project to measure their level of satisfaction.

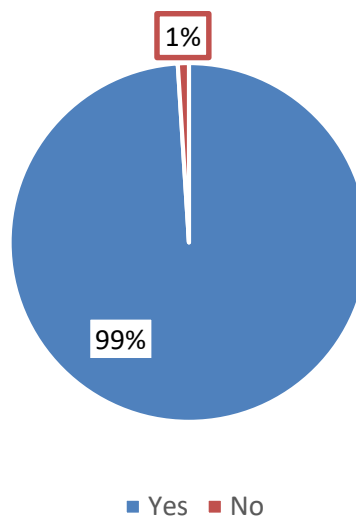
Almost 95% declared that, during the meetings, their problems were treated and / or their doubts resolved (see chart 3).

Chart 3. "During your participation in the meetings, have your problems been treated and / or your doubts resolved?"



More than 95% think that the meetings were participatory enough (see chart 4).

Chart 4. "Do you think the meetings have been participatory enough?"



A similar result is obtained when the stakeholders are asked if they made useful professional contacts for their daily work (see chart 5) and if the acquired knowledge have application in your daily work (see chart 6).

Chart 5. "Have you made useful professional contacts for your daily work?"

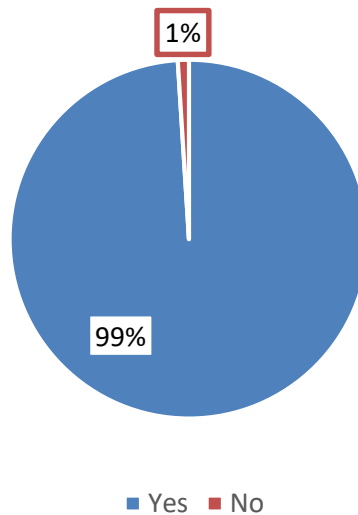
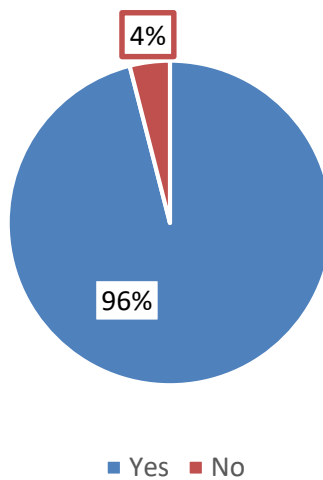
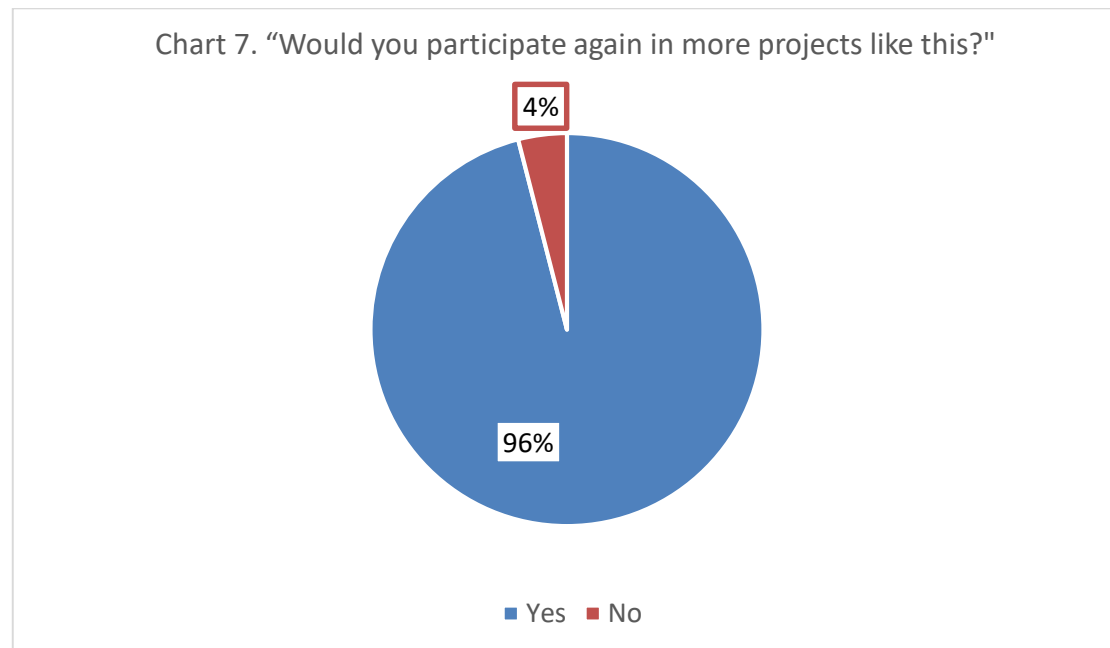


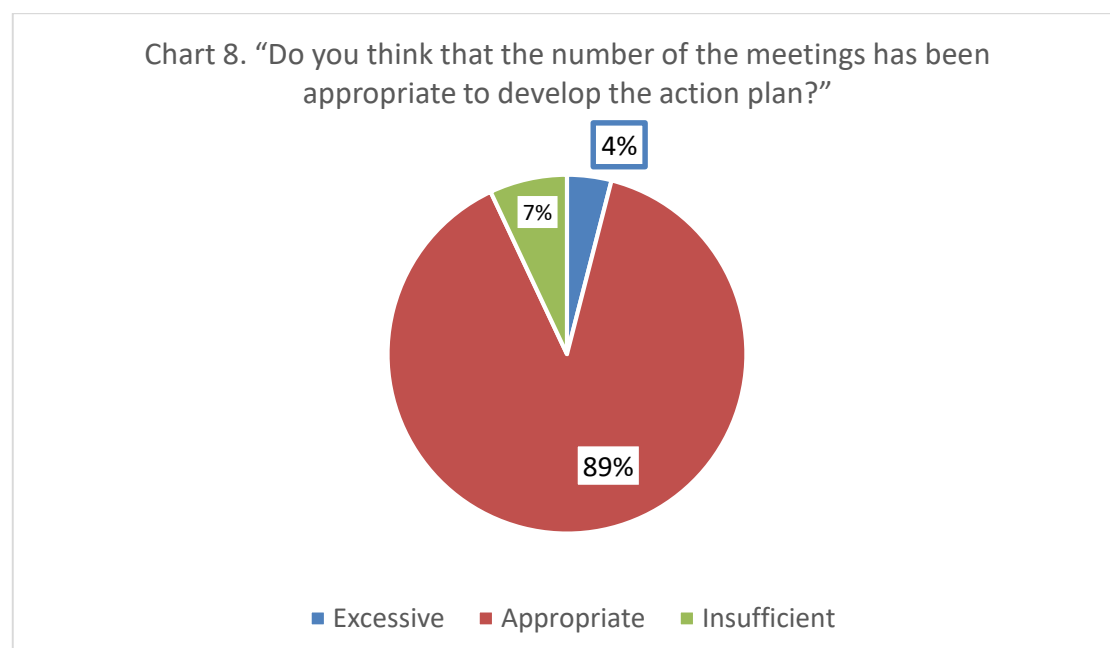
Chart 6. "Does the acquired knowledge have application in your daily work?"



As a consequence of the high level of satisfaction the result obtained in the following question was that more than 95% of the stakeholders state that would participate again in more projects like this (see chart 7).

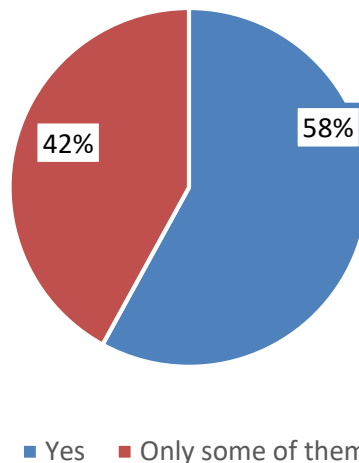


Almost 90% of respondents think that the number of the meetings was appropriate to develop the action plan (see chart 8).



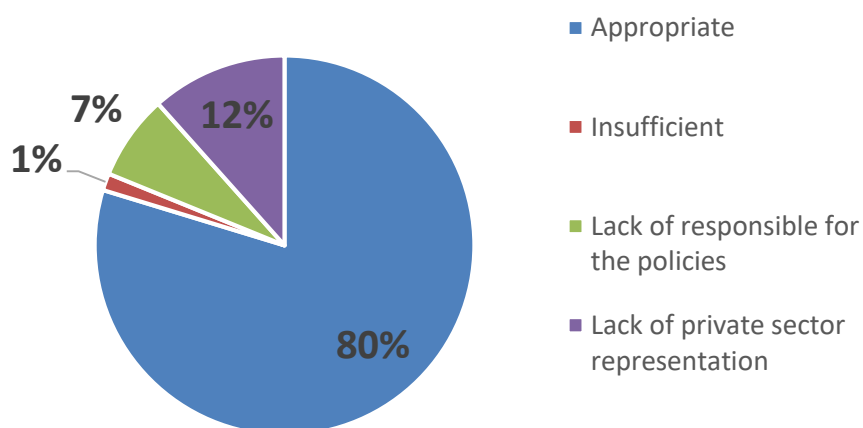
All respondents believe that the action plan will be fully or partially implemented successfully during phase II of the project (see chart 9).

Chart 9. "Do you think that finally the actions of the Action Plan will be implemented successfully?"

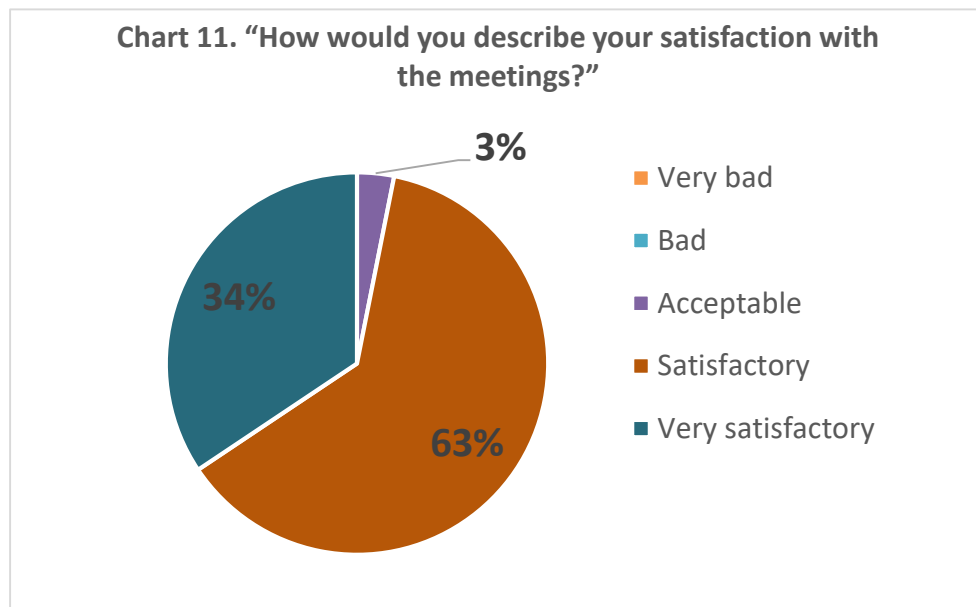


Regarding the composition of the stakeholder group, the 80% of the stakeholders think that it has been adequate (see chart 10).

Chart 10 "Has the composition of the stakeholder group been adequate?"



For the above, the most of the respondents declare that they are “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the organization of the meetings (see chart 11).



Annexe I: List of key stakeholders

The following table provides a list of key regional stakeholders for each partner, which should ideally be extended in order to form a repository of stakeholders involved during and after the completion of the project.

Table: Target Groups

Partner	Key Stakeholders
<p>University of Patras (UPAT)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of the Economy and Development • Region of Western Greece • Decentralized Administration of Peloponnese, Western Greece & Ionian Islands • Regional Development Fund of Western Greece Region • Municipality of Patras • Municipality of Agrinio • Municipality of Messolonghi • Municipality of Pyrgos • Municipality of Aigialeia • Municipality of Kalavryta • Municipality of Ilida • Municipality of Naupaktos • Municipality of Aktio Vonitsa • Municipality of Dytiki Axaia • Municipality of Amfiloxia • Municipality of Erymanthia • Development Agency of Achaia S.A. • Development Agency of Olympia S.A. • Development Agency of Aitoliki S.A. • Chamber of Achaia • Chamber of Aitolokarnania • Chamber of Ileia • Geotechnical Chamber of Greece • Economic Chamber of Greece • Technical Chamber of Greece • Hellenic Chamber of Hotels • Hellenic Open University • Computer Technology Institute and Press "Diophantus" • General University Hospital of Patras • General Hospital of Aigio

- General Hospital of Pyrgos "Andreas Papandreou"
- General Hospital of Agrinio
- Municipal Library of Patras
- Municipal Public Benefit Company "Patras Carnival"
- Patras Port Authority SA
- Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Aigio
- Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Naupaktos
- Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Patras
- Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Pyrgos
- Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Agrinio
- Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Messolonghi
- Association of Technological Enterprises of Western Greece (STEDE)
- Federation of Enterprises & Industries of the Peloponnese and Western Greece
- Patras Commercial Association
- Patras Scientific Park SA
- Association of Installed Enterprises in Patras Industrial Zone
- Workforce Employment Agency

**Lombardy Region
(LOMBARDIA)**



- Municipality of Milan
- FLA Fondazione
- Lombardia per l'Ambiente
- ISPRA- Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
- ARCA – Central Regional Agency for purchasing
- ARPA – Regional Agency for the protection of the Environment
- **University** of Milano
- **University** of Milano Bicocca
- **University** of Pavia
- CRASL-Centro di Ricerca sull'Ambiente, l'energia e lo sviluppo sostenibile
- CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche)
- ARPA (Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente)
- Milan Chamber of Commerce
- Union of the Chambers of Commerce
- National Association of the Italian Municipalities (ANCI)
- Rete Impresa Italia
- Union Trade
- Ministry of Economic Development
- Ministry of the Environment

Lodzkie Region

(LODZKIE)






- Community of Parzęczew
- Community of Brójce
- Community of Rząśnia
- Community of Łubnice
- Community of Zapolice
- Community of Andrespol
- Community of Wartkowice
- Community of Brzeziny
- Community of Białaczów
- Community of Wieruszów
- Community of Bełchatów
- Community of Osjaków
- Community of Poddębice
- Community of Godzianów
- Community of Opoczno
- Community of Rzeczyca
- Community of Rozprza
- Community of Dmosin
- Community of Zduńska Wola
- Community Office in Bedlno
- Community Office in Piątek
- Community Office in Rusiec
- Community Office in Cielądz
- Community Office in Drużbice
- Community Office in Pabianice
- Community and City of Ozorków
- Community and City of Sieradz
- City Office in Łask
- City Office in Zgierz
- City Office in Tomaszów Mazowiecki
- City Office in Wieluń
- Powiat Office in Piotrków Trybunalski
- Powiat Office in Radomsko
- Powiat Office in Kutno
- Powiat Office in Opoczno
- Commune and City Office in Drzewica
- Commune and City Office in Pajęczno
- Commune and City Office in Głowno
- Commune and City Office in Biała Rawska
- The City of Radomsko
- The City of Łowicz
- The City of Łódź

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City Office of Piotrków Trybunalski • Organic Farm Gabrych • Association of Bzura River Poviats and Communes • Agricultural Chamber of the Lodzkie Region • Beekeepers' Union of the Lodzkie Region • University of Lodz – Centre for Public Procurement and Public-Private Partnership
<p>Province of Antwerp (ANTWERP)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flemish Government • Public Waste Agency of Flanders (OVAM) • Circular Flanders • Flanders Environment Agency (VMM) • Flemish Community Commission (VGC) • Flemish Audiovisual Fund (VAF) • Flemish Government Facility Company • Sport Flanders • Flemish Energy Agency (VEA) • Flemish Waterways (De Vlaamse Waterweg nv) • City of Antwerp • City of Beringen • City of Damme • City of Geel • City of Genk • City of Ghent • City of Harelbeke • City of Herentals • City of Kortrijk • City of Leuven • City of Lier • City of Lokeren • City of Mechelen • City of Mortsel • City of Sint-niklaas • City of Sint-truiden • City of Turnhout • Municipality of Aartselaar • Municipality of Balen • Municipality of Benderleeuw • Municipality of Bocholt • Municipality of Boechout • Municipality of Bonheiden • Municipality of Bornem

- Municipality of Brasschaat
- Municipality of Brecht
- Municipality of Diepenbeek
- Municipality of Essen
- Municipality of Geetbets
- Municipality of Heist-op-den-Berg
- Municipality of Holsbeek
- Municipality of Hove
- Municipality of Hulshout
- Municipality of Kapellen
- Municipality of Kasterlee
- Municipality of Kontich
- Municipality of Kortenaken
- Municipality of Laakdal
- Municipality of Lille
- Municipality of Lint
- Municipality of Lubbeek
- Municipality of Malle
- Municipality of Nijlen
- Municipality of Olen
- Municipality of Oud-Turnhout
- Municipality of Pittem
- Municipality of Puurs
- Municipality of Ranst
- Municipality of Schoten
- Municipality of Sint-Gillis-Waas
- Municipality of Sint-Katelijne-Waver
- Municipality of Tervuren
- Municipality of Vorselaar
- Municipality of Vosselaar
- Municipality of Westerlo
- Municipality of Willebroek
- Municipality of Wuustwezel
- Municipality of Zandhoven
- Municipality of Zwijndrecht
- Province of Antwerp
- Province of Limburg
- Province of West Flanders
- Fluvijs
- IGEAN
- IOK
- Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven)

- Flemish institute for technological research (VITO)
- University of Antwerp (UA)
- Ancienne Belgique
- Aerocircular
- ATF
- BASF
- Colruyt group
- Demeeuw
- Ecomat
- Eco-Oh!
- Farys
- Havep
- Ikea Belgium
- Janssen Pharmaceutica
- Krinkels
- Lidl Belgium
- Nnof
- Politeia
- Port of Antwerp
- Proximus
- Shak'eat
- Smart
- Snew
- Spadel
- Suez
- Vayamundo
- Warnez
- Belfius bank
- BNP Paribas Fortis
- Triodos bank
- Accenture
- Agoria
- APeXPRO GCV
- Centexbel
- Commotie
- Do good marketing
- Econocom
- inDUfed
- Inspiring speech
- Invensus
- Strinnlab
- The global picture

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bpost • De Lijn (Flemish Public Transport company) • Aquafin (Regional Wastewater Treatment Flanders) • Digipolis Ghent • Flemish Radio and Television broadcast organisation (VRT): • Creamoda (Belgian Fashion Federation) • Febelauto (end-of-life vehicles and their batteries) • Fedustria (textile-, wood- and furniture industry) • Ivoc (training fund of Belgian fashion and confection industry) • Responsible office (by Bosta (Belgian Office and Stationery Trade Association)) • Association of Flemish cities and Towns (VVSG) • De koer • Dialoog • Gezinsbond • Goodplanet Belgium • Go4circle • King Baudouin Foundation • Klj & groene kring • OVSG (Educational Secretariat of Flemish Cities and Municipalities) • The shift • TPAKT • Union for a Better Environment (BBL) • University Hospital Antwerp (UZA) • Groen
<p>Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development, Regional Government of Andalusia</p> <p>(ANDALUSIA)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Finance, Industry and Energy (Regional Government of Andalusia) • Ministry of Economy, knowledge, Companies and University (Regional Government of Andalusia) • Ministry of Development and Housing (Regional Government of Andalusia) • Ministry of Tourism, Regeneration, Justice and Local Administration (Regional Government of Andalusia) • AGAPA • Andalusian knowledge agency • EPHAG • Housing and Rehabilitation Agency of the Regional Government of Andalusia • International Cooperation For development Agency of the Regional Government of Andalusia • Public Works Agency of the Regional Government of Andalusia • Provincial Energy Agency of Granada • Provincial Energy Agency of Cadiz • Environment and Water Agency of Andalusia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Almería • Instituto García Oviedo – University of Seville • University Pablo de Olavide (Seville) • Joint Research Center, JRC (Seville) • FAMP • Official College of Industrial Engineers of Western Andalusia • ASEIGRAF
Zemgale Planning Region (ZPR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (EPRDM) • Zemgale's 22 local municipalities • Latvia University of Agriculture • Zemgale Regional Energy Agency • Environmental Latvian NGO "Zaļā brīvība"/"Green freedom"
Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (SZREDA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Economy - Economic Promotion Policies Directorate • Stara Zagora Regional Administration Municipality of Stara Zagora • Municipality of Stara Zagora • Municipality of Kazanlak • Municipality of Gurkovo • Municipality of Nikolaevo • Municipality of Gurkovo • Municipality of Opan • Municipality of Radnevo • Municipality of Bratya Daskalovi • Faculty of Economics, Trakia University • Chamber of commerce and industry – Stara Zagora • First Investment Bank United Bulgarian Bank • Somoni Financial Group • Executive Environment Agency (ExEA) • Ministry of Environment and Water
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Government Procurement, Local Government Procurement Service • Waste Management Planning Lead Authorities • Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation • Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland • Environment Protection Agency • Enterprise Ireland • Construction Industry Federation (CIF) • Irish Business and Employers Confederation (Ibec) • Irish Small and Medium Enterprises body • Irish Green Building Council • 3 Counties Energy Agency • An Bord Pleanála • An Post

- Climate Action Regional Offices
- Codema
- Community Resources Network Ireland
- Central Statistics Office
- Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine
- Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation
- Department of Education and Skills
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Department of Agriculture
- Department Of Education & Skills
- Department of Health
- Digital Hub Development Agency
- DLR County Council
- Dublin Bus
- Dublin Chamber
- Dublin City University
- Eco Cert
- Eastern Midlands Waste Region
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Ervia
- Electricity Supply Board
- Fingal County Council
- Gas networks ireland
- HSE
- Integrated Materials Solutions
- Irish Bioeconomy Foundation
- Meath County Council
- National Ambulance Service
- Netherlands Embassy
- PTI- Procurement Transformation Institute
- Roscommon County Council
- South Dublin County Council
- Thinkhouse
- Trinity College Dublin
- TU Dublin
- University College Cork
- University of Limerick
- VOICE
- Wexford County Council

**Malta Regional Development
and Dialogue Foundation**

(MRDDF)



- Ministry for Sustainable Development, Environment, and Climate Change (MSDEC)
- Department for Local Government (DLG)
- Malta Enterprise
- Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry