

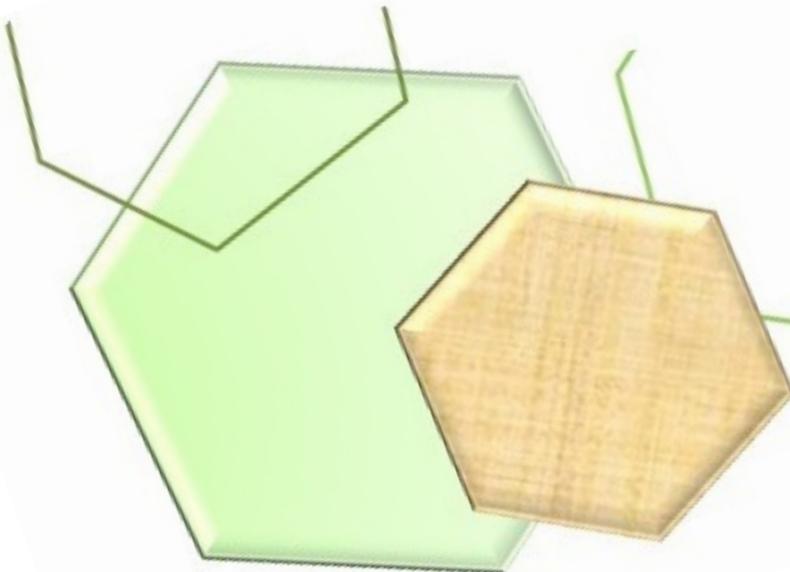


GPP-STREAM Newsletter № 7

April 2020

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GPP-STREAM
Interreg Europe



Project at a glance

Dear reader,

As we are approaching the end of Phase 1 (MAY 2020), we would like to kindly inform you that this is the last edition of our newsletter. From now on, you can continue to follow us on our webpage, social channels and forthcoming webinars. What lies ahead of all partners is the implementation of the activities, put forward in our Action Plans.

Thank you for being with us during the first 2 years of the 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.

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

The GPP-STREAM project team.

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



European Union
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SHARING SOLUTIONS FOR BETTER REGIONAL POLICIES



NEWS FROM BULGARIA

4th Roundtable on GPP of Gabrovo Municipality

Fourth GPP Roundtable on Potential for Improvement of the Collaboration of the Municipality with Businesses for GPP. Discussion of the Draft of the GPP Action Plan of Gabrovo Municipality



Date: 19 February 2020
Location: Gabrovo Chamber of Commerce

The 4th Round Table was the last of a series of planned events, organized to provide a forum for discussion and input by project stakeholders on the components and actions in the draft Action Plan for GPP of Gabrovo Municipality Development Plan. The roundtable was kindly hosted by the Gabrovo Chamber of Commerce. 20 participants from various stakeholders joined. They represented businesses (local or national ones), operating in the field of catering, office supplies and equipment, furniture, and municipal departments, secondary budget administrators, regional government office, local hospital, NGO.

The focus of the roundtable was on areas of work towards integration of good GPP practices, motivating and engaging business actors for GPP, as well as on a debate of the draft Action Plan of Gabrovo Municipality.



The first module of the roundtable opened up with a number of presentations to inspire and inform the participants on good GPP examples and methods of engaging the business space. It then flowed into a world cafe format discussion of the major impediments to the business to participate in GPP procedures. The conclusions pointed to the need to reduce administrative burden and paperwork for the business actors in the process of public procurement bids; to having public institutions consider bids with greater flexibility and freedom in parameters of goods/services, as a means to stimulate supply of varied environment-friendly products and services; to planning and organizing regular fora or working meetings of institutional representatives (e.g. of Gabrovo municipality and/or its institutional partners) with the business as a means of improving communication, enabling better planning and more involved participation of the business in public bids. All these were identified as important trust-building elements and activities.



The recommendations and outlined needs in both directions were agreed on and taken note of by all participants, thus the roundtable achieved a very positive outcome of bridging the gap in the dialogue and setting relevant and practical ideas for future actions.

The second part of the Roundtable was dedicated to presentation and discussion of the activities in the draft Action Plan for GPP Promotion of Gabrovo Municipality.



The Plan offers 5 main action modules, which aim to contribute to improving and/or building institutional mechanisms for better integration and promotion of green criteria in public procurement during the implementation of the Municipal Development Plan, while at the same time raising the institutional and public awareness, acceptance and support for GPP, and also creating space for more active collaboration of the business with municipality and other local institutional actors.

The roundtable concluded with concrete decisions as to furthering the promotion of the GPP Action Plan before a wider stakeholder audience. An Open Day was planned, to target more specifically educational institutions in Gabrovo, which also represent one of the target

audiences and beneficiaries within the GPP Action Plan.

A Stakeholder meeting on the 27th of February 2020, held in Pazardzhik



Venue: Pazardzhik Municipality building

Organizer: Association CSEG

A stakeholder meeting was held in the building of Pazardzhik municipality on the 27th of February 2020. Mr. Simeonov presented the current state of the project, its achievements mainly related to the identified best GPP practices from project partners and GPP toolkits which are being developed within the project. Mrs. Tatyana Kurtakova, an expert in Association CSEG, made a presentation of the measures which could be integrated into the Regional Action Plan in order to foster the larger deployment of green purchases among public authorities. 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.

This time, the focus of the event was to initiate a discussion with regional stakeholders on



potential activities which could be of added value to the region by “greening” the public purchases of goods and services. During the discussion session, some interesting statements and feedback was collected by participants – they highlighted the need of communication campaign which aim to



increase awareness and capacity on this specific topic, as well as the need to develop detailed and customized local bylaws which will integrate the concept of GPP and by this way contribute to the strategic environmental objectives set at the national level.

NEWS FROM SPAIN



Location: ALZIRA (VALENCIA) SPAIN
Date: 27 February 2020

MANRA organizes a Stakeholder meeting

Politicians and Technicians of the local and regional administration and representatives of Ribera Alta have participated in the meeting organized by the Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta to agree on the lines of action of the Action Plan to be implemented in phase 2.



The tender documents for the selective collection of solid urban waste have been presented to the political representatives. They contain the door-to-door collection method, as well as environmental criteria and requirements for the participation of the bidders who must prove their professional solvency by providing the corresponding environmental labels.



Likewise, a regulation has been presented that regulates the relationship of citizens with the



service to be provided, which will be approved at the next plenary session of the Mancomunitat, in which citizens are told how to carry out recycling tasks in their homes when depositing their waste. With regard to the content of the Action Plan, the representatives highlighted the technical difficulties faced by professionals from public bodies when drawing up specifications with environmental criteria.

NEWS FROM ROMANIA

A stakeholders meeting of the working group for the implementation of the GPP-STREAM project.



Date: 20 February 2020; **Organizer:** Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests of Romania

The stakeholders meeting of the working group for the implementation of the GPP-STREAM project took place in Bucharest, at the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests on 20th of February 2020.

The event created the opportunity to integrate environmental policies into sectoral policies at the central level in order to link public actors within central authorities in the field wishing to

integrate sustainable development into their markets.



Attended to the event the representatives at the decisions and technical level of the ministries with responsibilities in public procurement domain, National Agency for Public Procurement of Romania, National Authority for Digitalization in Romania, subordinated and coordinated institutions of the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests.



The issue of the discussions was the following:

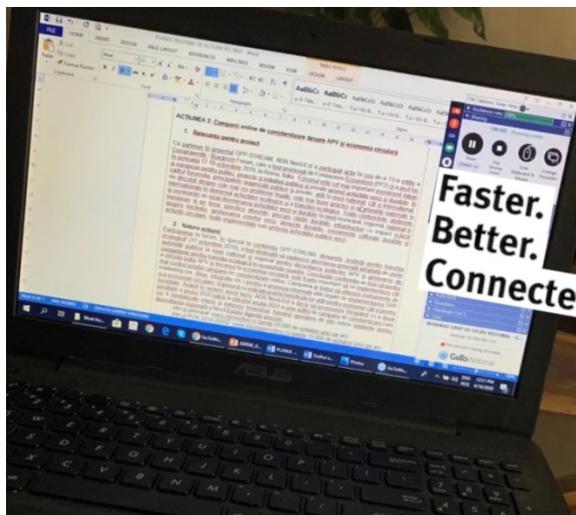
- The second draft of National Action Plan on GPP in the context of the review process of the national law on green public procurement
- Discussions regarding targeted actors of the National Action Plan on GPP



- Discussions regarding Monitoring and updating process of the National Action Plan of GPP

- GPP and circular economy awareness online campaigns;
- Adopting green criteria in North-East RDA's public procurement tenders for 4 product categories.

ONLINE stakeholder meeting held by North-East RDA



Date: 16 April 2020

Organizer: North-East RDA

A stakeholder meeting was held online between the North-East RDA, its stakeholders and Amelia from the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forest on 16th of April 2020.

The meeting was divided in 3 parts, as follows:

- Presentation of the Regional Action Plan;
- Future activities (the remaining ones - end of the first phase and the ones in the second phase);
- Presentation of the deliverables developed within the project.

The most important topics that were discussed carefully were related to the 3 actions within the Regional Action Plan:

- Improved green public procurement monitoring system for ERDF projects;

Amelia provided some insights related to the future changes of the national law regarding GPP but also presented the main benefits that the National Action Plan will generate to the Public Administrations.

GPP-STREAM live broadcasting

First GPP-STREAM webinars are already a reality. Spanish, Bulgarian, French, Romania and Italian partners hosted their first national webinars on the subject of GPP and resource efficiency! [#gppstream](#) [#webinars](#)

Now let's follow the live events on the subject of GPP and EU Funds Beneficiaries!

The Second Spanish webinar took place on 25 May – GPP roles for EU funds beneficiaries – Waste management pilot case

Presenter: Andrea Garcia and Víctor Rey, Mancomunitat de la Ribera Alta.

The focus was on the following themes:

- A pilot experience: separated waste Managed in La Ribera Alta. Introduction of GPP Criteria.
- Transferability of GPP criteria to other municipalities, monitoring good practices and potential benefits.

Watch it here:

[Second Spanish Webinar Recording](#)



The **Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia** hosted the **Second Italian Webinar**, with unprecedented interest and huge attendance rate. The subject was **the mean of proof for the GPP!**

- What can the public administration ask for and accept in the bid for the test of the environmental criteria included in the race documentation?
- What checks should be carried out when the contract is carried out?

The Webinar proposes to offer ideas of clarity and deepening, with regulatory references, concrete examples and some examples of relevant jurisprudence.

Watch it here:

[Second Italian Webinar Recording](#)

First National Webinar in Romanian!

Subject: GPP Policies for sustainable development and resource efficiency

Presenter: Amelia TURTUREAN, Romanian Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests.

Green public procurement (GPP) policies and GPP plans can mainstream GPP within all policy instruments regarding resource efficient goods and services, playing also a significant role the promotion of more resource efficient economies. We have to discuss and consult how to integrate GPP approaches in order to ensure resource efficiency use and how can we update the Green Public Procurement Guide which includes the minimum requirements regarding the environmental protection for certain groups of products and services that are required at the level of technical specifications.

Watch it here:

[First Romanian Webinar](#)

Forthcoming webinars!

The Second Webinar in Bulgarian language, targeting local stakeholders covers the topic of GPP in rural and development plans. Nikolay Dimitrov, and Todor Popov from Gabrovo Municipality, as well as Georgi Simeonov from Association CSEG will speak about GPP-STREAM project, give ideas, suggestions and recommendations.

Expect and save your place for our forthcoming EU Webinar!

At the end of phase 1 (May 2020) of the project, **Fondazione Ecosistemi** shall host a webinar covering activities and GPP-STREAM Action plans of project partners.

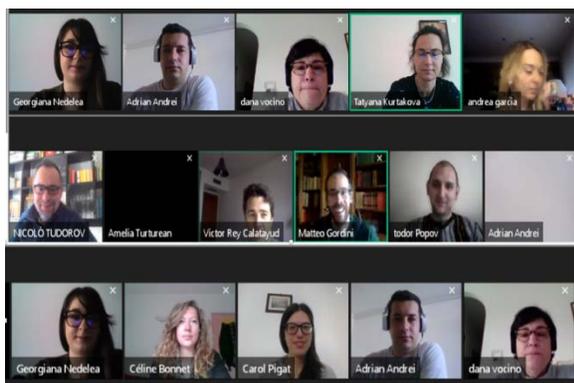
Working language: English

Follow us on our social channels to save your place for both webinars!

Fifth Transnational Learning Event – Bulgaria-ONLINE

The Fifth Transnational Learning Event on the GPP-STREAM project took place online.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the travel restrictions that followed afterwards, GPP-STREAM partners agreed on the ONLINE transfer of the 5th Transnational Learning Event, that otherwise had to be hosted by Gabrovo Municipality.



Date: March 31– April 2, 2020

Partners gathered 3 days in a row in order to discuss Action plans, to get suggestions and recommendations and to talk about all completed and forthcoming activities.

The first two days partners were divided into working groups:

WG1 - CSEG, ADR Nord-Est, FVG and Lazio Region

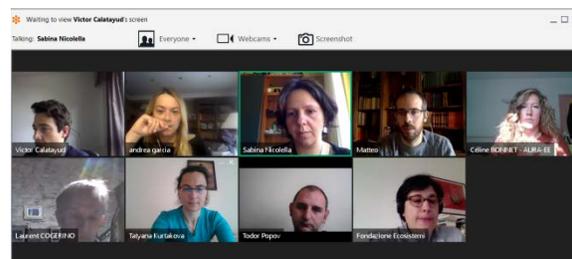
WG2 - Ministry of Environment Romania, AURA-EE, Municipality of Gabrovo and MANRA

During the 2-hour-online community building meeting the four partners presented activities that they intend to develop into the elaboration of the foreseen Action Plans. Each presentation was followed by a Q&A session that aimed at upgrading the target information that must be covered by partners in their action plans. All presenters received guidance and improvement notes by sharing common ideas and experience.

The third day was a plenary session with the kind participation of all partners.

Matteo Gordini (Ecosistemi) made a final wrap up of all recommendations and stressed the most important points that build up a good

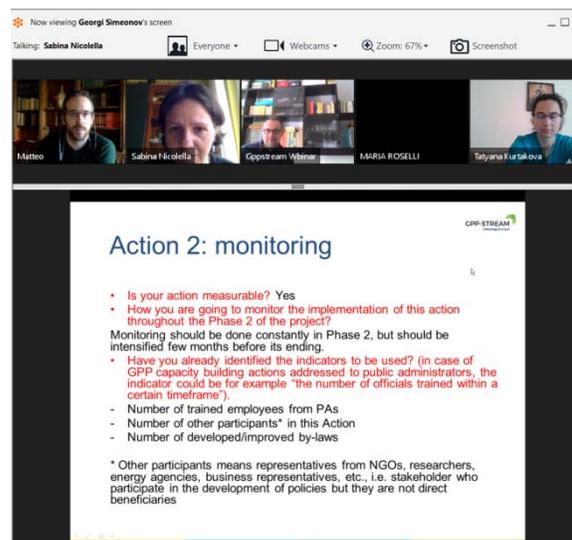
Action plan. He highlighted the importance of the link of each activity to the lessons learnt and to the addressed policy plan, the content, the length of the Action plan, the number of activities that should be included etc.



Afterwards Mr. Florin Lanchantin made an introduction of himself and expressed his readiness to welcome all partners in France for the Final Dissemination Project Event.

At the end, the floor was given to Gabrovo Municipality. Mr. Todor Popov presented the draft version of their Action Plan and foreseen activities.

Thanks all partners for the patience and the smooth organization in these challenging circumstances!





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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