



**Project GPP-STREAM “Green Public Procurement and Sustainability Tools for  
Resource Efficiency Mainstreaming”**

**GPP IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH LOCAL ACTION GROUPS IN  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

**ACTIVITY: POLICY BRIEF**

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## 1. Overview

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

It is the first project to focus on how the governance and implementation of GPP can be improved by encouraging the interaction of different policy instruments within one administration and across different government levels.

GPP-STREAM proposes monitoring measures that can guarantee that the effects of the inclusion of GPP into policy instruments can be measured as part of the overall GPP strategy of an administration. GPP-STREAM involves 5 European regions with different development levels that can engage in GPP mainstreaming by adapting management and policy approaches to the different situations and stakeholders. This project approach aims to reduce the gaps among the regions by the cooperation and it is more suitable to be adapted to different market structures.

## 2. Introduction

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The objective of GPP STREAM project for Lazio Region is to assist regional public and private beneficiaries of rural development plan for greening purchases of goods and services and to equip them with knowledge and experience necessary for implementing the GPP concept into local/regional tenders, development plans and strategies.

In particular, GPP STREAM aims to:

1. Improving the governance of the Rural Development Plan (RDP) by integrating the RDP with the objectives of the GPP regional action plan, including by introducing a set of common criteria to support the GPP and the greening of agricultural enterprises;
2. Providing tailor made guidance and tools to funded beneficiaries to practice GPP and monitor it;
3. Developing a regional monitoring system for GPP to analyse its contribution to national and resource efficiency objectives;
4. Engaging the stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand.



### 3. Policy Context

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The GPP was recognized by the European Commission as a cornerstone of the Integrated Product Policy, as part of its Communication COM 2003/302. In this communication, Member States were invited to adopt national action plans on GPP, to ensure their maximum dissemination.

In 2004, the two European directives on public procurement (Directive 2004/17 / EC and Directive 2004/18 / EC), in following up also some judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Communities, including the sentence of 17 September 2002 (case C 513/99 of Concordia Bus Filanda OY Ab vs Finland City Council), gave significant legal support to the GPP.

At national level, with the Interministerial Decree of 11 April 2008, approving the national action plan on GPP, issued following the delegation conferred on the Government by art. 1, paragraph 1126 of Law 296/2006 (financial law for the year 2007), an overall reference framework was also outlined at national level to facilitate the adoption and implementation of GPP practices, both from the point of technical and methodological view.

The measures adopted under the National Action Plan, particularly based on the minimum environmental criteria, guide public bodies on the application of the GPP and supply the instruments to find out about and support GPP strategies, include through the dissemination of instruments for the wider promotion of greener goods, services and contracts of works.

In summary, the national action plan of the GPP provides a general framework on Green Public Procurement defines national objectives, identifies the categories of goods, services and priority intervention works for environmental impacts and the volumes of expenditure on which to define the Minimum Environmental Criteria.

An important national action to favour the "transition" towards a more sustainable economy was adopted with the Legislative Decree 18 April 2016, n. 50 "Code of public tenders" that implements the European Directives in some steps, even using more vigorous inputs than those at European level, aimed at achieving in our country, the turning point towards a greener economy. In fact, Italy was the first country to impose the obligation to apply the GPP for contracting authorities.

At regional level, the policy for Green Public Procurement (GPP) started already on 2006 with the Regional Decision n. 321, which promotes green purchases in regional bodies operating for the protection of the environment. On 2009 the Regional Decision n. 658 approved the guidelines for the application of the GPP in the regional system; with the subsequent Regional Decision n. 222/2013, which launches a regional action plan for the environmental sustainability of consumption in Lazio and for the application of the GPP, approved subsequently on 2017, the Lazio Region has formalized its orientation on "green purchases"

[http://www.regione.lazio.it/prl\\_ambiente/?vw=documentazioneDettaglio&id=41714](http://www.regione.lazio.it/prl_ambiente/?vw=documentazioneDettaglio&id=41714).

The policy instrument of Lazio region within GPP stream Project, Lazio's Rural Development Plan (RDP), puts particular emphasis on actions related to improving the competitiveness of the farm and forestry sectors, as well as on actions related to restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems and to promoting social inclusion and economic development in rural areas.



This priority is established by European Regulation 1305/2015 and it covers different funding measures within RDP, in particular the measures of interest for GPP STREAM project, i.e. measures 4 (art. 17 EU Regulation 1305/2013), 6 (art. 16 EU Regulation 1305/2013) and 7 (art. 20 EU Regulation 1305/2013).

In each Member State, the Managing Authority and the Monitoring Committee monitor each rural development program (RDP) by means of financial, output and result indicators. Each Managing Authority sends the Commission an annual report by June 30 on the state of implementation of the program for the previous calendar year. Annual reports include a table illustrating the financial implementation of the program, providing for each measure a declaration of the funds paid to the beneficiaries during the calendar year (based on the financial data generated by DG AGRI) and a monitoring table that include quantitative information based on common output and result indicators.

The monitoring system, established by European Commission for RDPs of all Member States, measures the priority and related focus areas performance, only by general economic indicators and they do not take into account specific indicators for GPP.

**The objective of the regional action plan**, within GPP-STREAM project, will be improving the integration of GPP in the RDP funding measure by:

- a specific communication and training strategy on GPP. This objective will be achieved by setting up training activities (workshops, coaching, webinars) addressed to representative of Local Action Groups<sup>1</sup> (LAGs) involved and representatives of public EU funds beneficiaries in order to train them on how to practically include GPP criteria in their purchasing processes by synergy with the LAGs;
- adopting an assessment system on the use of GPP in local groups' financing measures, through a specific check list on green procurement that the (LAGs) involved have to use for monitoring the projects submitted in the scope of the measures and sub-measures of interest for this Action plan (eligibility and/or payment phase of the project) and for public beneficiaries.

<sup>1</sup> LAGs are Associations constituted by local public Administrations and local private stakeholders, whose Local Rural Development Plans (LRDP) are funded by RDP within Measure 19 (article 35th EU Regulation 1305/2013).

Each LAG realizes a LRDP and integrates, as established for RDP, the priorities of sustainable growth, defined by European Regulations, activating local public tenders in order to support specific development measures, including the measures of interest for GPP STREAM project, i.e. measures 4 (art. 17th EU Regulation 1305/2013), 6 (art. 16th EU Regulation 1305/2013) and 7 (art. 20th EU Regulation 1305/2013).



## 4. The way forward

Lack of knowledge about environmental issues and green criteria has to be overcome and we should improve the organization and implementation of GPP on a local level. We need to provide public authorities, companies, trade and professional associations involved in RDP, and in particular in LDP adopted by LAGS, with advice and information on the straightforward implementation of GPP. With regard to professional associations, they play an important supporting role in defining financing projects intended for private beneficiaries of the RDP and LDP.

Lazio Region will adopt an action plan on GPP, by synergy with the LAGs, in order to highlight the following key findings from the work-sessions during GPP-STREAM project:

1. improving the governance of the RDP by integrating the RDP with the objectives of the GPP regional action plan, including by introducing a set of common criteria to support the GPP and the greening of agricultural enterprises;
2. engaging the stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand;
3. providing tailor made guidance and tools to funded beneficiaries to practice GPP and monitor it.

In the following table the summary of the action/activity to be developed within the action Plan:

OBJECTIVES OF GPP STREAM PROJECT	ACTION	NATURE OF ACTION	ACTIVITIES	STAKEHOLDER INVOLVED
1 Improving the governance of the RDP by integrating the RDP with the objectives of the GPP regional action plan, including by introducing a set of common criteria to support the GPP and the greening of agricultural enterprises;	1 Coaching on the job	1 Set up of training activities (workshops, coaching, webinars) addressed to both LAGs and representatives of public EU funds beneficiaries of LDP to teach them how to practically include GPP criteria in their purchasing processes.	1.1 involving LAGs in the training process on GPP by webinars on this Action plan	Lags
2 Engaging the stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand.			1.2 adopting a training plan on GPP by synergy with the LAGs to engage stakeholders of agricultural sector at local level to provide them a toolkit on GPP	public authorities, farms and professional associations of agricultural sector interested to funding measures' 4,6 and 7 of LAGs involved
3 Providing tailor made guidance and tools to funded beneficiaries to practice GPP and monitor it;				



4	Developing a regional monitoring system for GPP to analyse its contribution to national and resource efficiency objectives.	2	GPP monitoring methodology	2	Implementation of the monitoring methodology defined within GPP-STREAM	2.1	adopting a monitoring system on the use of GPP in local financing measures by the approval of a check list on green procurement that LAGS involved have to use in funding measures' monitoring (eligibility and/or payment) addressed to public authorities subjected to obligation in GPP use	at least three Lags
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The training program (ACTION1) aims to involve in the action plan at least three regional LAGs in order to increase the awareness on GPP within national context and their benefits and will be addressed to stakeholders of LAGs involved on GPP (public authorities, professional associations and farms); it will cover the analysis of Minimum Environmental Criteria within the policy context of LPD in order to calibrate the training to the beneficiaries' typology and to the target of funding sub-measures.

**The main topics will be:**

- *Know what GPP's pros and cons are;*
- *Be aware of the existing national and European GPP framework;*
- *Be aware of GPP criteria and best practices for selected product groups such as indoor and outdoor lighting, office equipment (PC and printers), vehicles, heating and air conditioning, building;*
- *Be aware of the parameters for life cycle analysis and life cycle cost of different products;*
- *GPP and tender model for public authorities.*

The assessment system on the use of GPP in local groups' financing measures (ACTION 2), by a specific check list on green procurement, will be provided to the LAGs involved in order to monitor the projects submitted in the scope of the measures and sub-measures of interest for this Action plan (eligibility and/or payment phase of the project) and for public beneficiaries.

LaziInnova SpA will support Lazio Region in the training phase of the plan, providing for the experts on GPP. In particular, it will carry out specific training plan addressed to both LAGs and representatives of public EU funds beneficiaries of LDP to teach them how to practically include GPP criteria in their purchasing processes.



LaziolInnova SpA is an in-house company of the Lazio Region, also owned, with a minority share, by the Rome Chamber of Commerce. It works for the benefit of businesses and the local public administration by providing incentives for regional, national and/or European resources, risk capital interventions, services for internationalization, promotion of business networks and regional excellence, services for business creation and development, measures for social inclusion and by supporting credit and issuing guarantees. It also carries out specialist technical assistance functions to the Lazio Region, with particular reference to the implementation of European and national programming.

## 5. Sources of Information

Informational sources are activities from the GPP-STREAM project, and mainly:

- <https://www.interregeurope.eu/gpp-stream/good-practices/>
- [https://www.regione.lazio.it/binary/rl\\_main/tbl\\_documenti/AMB\\_DGR\\_310\\_13\\_06\\_2017\\_Allegato1.pdf](https://www.regione.lazio.it/binary/rl_main/tbl_documenti/AMB_DGR_310_13_06_2017_Allegato1.pdf)
- [www.lazioeuropa.it](http://www.lazioeuropa.it)
- <https://www.galterredipregio.it/tag/gpp-stream/>
- <https://www.galterredipregio.it/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Programma-12.06.2019.pdf>
- [Lazio Region Action Plan](#)

This policy brief is provided by Lazio Region,  
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For more information about GPP-STREAM project visit:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/gpp-stream/>

