



## Local Action Plans to promote Energy Efficient Products

**The pro-EE project aims at implementing energy efficient Green Public Procurement procedures in local administrations, but also at developing strategies to extend the acquisition of energy efficient products to other buyers. For this purpose, five pilot cities are setting up integrated energy efficiency action plans which include the involvement of stakeholders and awareness raising actions for citizens.**

"Leading by example" is the approach followed by five pilot cities: **Amarroussion** (Greece), **Cascais** and **Torres Vedras** (Portugal) as well as **Murcia** and **San Sebastian** (Spain). After having implemented the Green Public Procurement procedures developed in the framework of the pro-EE project, these are to be integrated into an overall strategy for energy efficiency. Part of the strategy is a set of additional measures and activities to promote "buying energy efficient" among other buyers, such as municipally owned companies, other public authorities and businesses. Additional awareness raising actions for citizens on energy efficient appliances and housing complete the integrated strategy.

For this purpose, the pilot cities will elaborate **local energy efficiency plans**, based on existing energy plans and emphasising sustainable procurement as well as promotion of energy efficient products. Development of these plans is to be considered a process under the leadership of the local authority, by involving as many departments as possible within the city's administration first and local stakeholders later in order to tap full potentials for energy efficiency.

As guidance for the development of local energy efficiency plans, Climate Alliance offered its **CLIMATE COMPASS methodology**, providing a five step approach, backed by various aids and tools, detailed descriptions of selected measures, case studies from all over Europe and additional resources.

In a first step the pilot cities passed through a so-called **Energy Efficiency Scan**, which corresponds to a state-of-the-art evaluation of activities already being carried out. In each pilot city staff from all relevant departments gathered in one or more meetings to compile the activities already being implemented or planned and to identify potential additional measures in the whole field of energy efficiency, with a special emphasis on the pro-EE subjects. As a tool, a matrix of measures covering four fields of activity (including the field of action Green Public Procurement, newly developed within pro-EE) has been used. All five pilot cities completed the Energy Efficiency Scan, providing thus a basis for the next step by not only taking stock of what exists and what is in the pipe-line but also by creating a common awareness within the local administrations of energy efficient procurement in general and participation in pro-EE in particular.



**One example for such new measures is the elaboration of a bylaw in order to increase energy efficiency in public lighting in Cascais. The bylaw classifies municipality territory into sectors where the level of illumination may vary according to the function of the territory. The bylaw will also fix the technical criteria to ensure energy efficiency of the technology installed. It will imply the participation of different departments of the City Council such as juridical, urbanism and environmental departments through the execution of various meetings. After that it will be open to the public for allegations.**



Public Procurement boosts Energy Efficiency

All pilot cities will then move on **involving external stakeholders and citizens**. The aim is to identify actions and measures for individual actors (companies, housing associations, private house owners, etc.) and to provide information on how the local authority could support or promote such actions. For this purpose, all five cities will organise meetings with local stakeholders and plan public meetings for citizens to inform about their own activities and aims, possibilities and benefits of energy efficiency for the various stakeholders, presenting energy efficient appliances, etc.

For awareness raising campaigns comprising specific incentives for each user group, Climate Alliance is providing ideas and suggestions with its **'Climate City Toolbox'**, a set of tailor made and ready-to-apply awareness raising activities for selected target groups in all fields relevant for climate protection, and in this context specifically for energy efficiency and consumption.

At the end of the pilot phase, the five cities will have developed their own energy efficiency plans in sufficient detail, comprising targets for individual sectors and fields, a list of activities and measures for immediate implementation (which may already have started at that time) as well as a medium- and long-term strategy. The final step will be to bring the plan up for decision in the local council by the end of the project, securing thus a wide political support to its goals as an important signal and support for experts and administrators in the staff and for the wider public.

Ulrike Janssen

pro » EE and the Covenant of Mayors

The Covenant of Mayors is a new initiative by the European Commission in which signatory cities and municipalities commit themselves to go beyond the "3x20" EU energy targets through enhanced energy efficiency and cleaner energy production and use. The pro-EE pilot cities **Cascais, Murcia and San Sebastian** belong to the first signatories of the Covenant of Mayors.





## Green Public Purchasing Activities in the Basque Country

Through its Public Agency for Environmental Agency (IHOBE), the Basque government has developed and is implementing a Green Public Procurement Regional Action Plan (GPP RAP).

Common strategies focus only on public authorities (the demand side) setting targets, developing tools, etc. However to really move the market, it is important to promote environmentally friendlier companies and products as well (the supply side). The innovation of the Basque approach is the combination of both dimensions in the GPP RAP, the coordination between Supply and Demand, using instruments as awareness raising, tools, training and support to public authorities and enterprises.

During the last 10 years IHOBE has been promoting the **dialogue with the market** and the activation of local companies in the fields of cleaner production and practices (Ekoscan) and resource efficiency in their products (Eco-design).

The **promotion of demand** is fixed as a priority in the Basque *Environmental framework programme* (2006-2010) and the *Basque Programme for Environmentally Sustainable Consumption* (2006-2010). Since 2006, IHOBE has been providing various tools and services for public administrations in order to implement GPP:

- ▶ Common criteria for 14 product groups which include more than 20 different products and services
- ▶ Tender greening
- ▶ Dialogue with providers
- ▶ Training courses on GPP for public servants
- ▶ Direct assistance
- ▶ Working groups and interchange of Best Practices

The **Common criteria** are based on the EU GPP Toolkit and adapted to the regional situation (supply side) in order to promote local economy's competitiveness: three levels of criteria – basic, advanced and excellence – allow the adaptation of the market. The interchange of Best Practices between public administrations helps to foster tendering with common criteria.

At the level of the regional government, a government agreement about the inclusion of environmental and social criteria in public tendering fixes minimum standards of environmental performance for the most common product groups, as for example all kinds of vehicles or construction.

In the Basque Country, **climate protection** is one of the priorities to be achieved with public procurement, independent of the product group (paper, IT and telecommunications ITC, vehicles, gardening services, catering and vending services, travel agencies and courier, consultancy etc.). Nevertheless, the development of criteria for energy intensive product groups, as street lighting or energy service contracting, is included in the programme.

The **City of San Sebastian**, partner of the pro-EE project, is also actively engaged in the GPP activities coordinated by IhoBE. In 2009, street lighting and ITC will be priority for San Sebastian.

In 2009, the use of the common criteria for green purchasing also by private companies and the general public are introduced in the programme in order to move the market even more and reduce the impact in the environment.

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## pro ▶ EE in Portugal

### Cascais Council invests in municipal fleet renovation and energy efficient municipal buildings

Initiated by the Local Authority, **Cascais will replace its municipal vehicle fleet** by more efficient vehicles. In total, 105 new cars will be acquired, 32 are equipped with hybrid technology and another 73 with diesel engines certified under EURO IV-standard.

By means of this initiative, the municipality expects to reduce 177 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually as well as to save nearly € 120,000 of annual fuel costs.

In another current project, focusing on awareness raising and social responsibility, "Ponta do Sal" Environmental Centre will be benefited with an **Energy Improvement Project**. As part of the action plan, the refurbishment of the lighting system, indoor and outdoor, is being considered. LED technology will replace current mercury-steam lamps as well as some indoor incandescent bulbs. Aside from that, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system will be improved, single glazing façades replaced by double ones and solar panels installed for water heating purposes.

Rogério Ivan

### Portugal news

In Portugal, **two product groups** were identified as the most interesting ones **for joint procurement activities**: lighting systems and highly energy efficient electric vehicles. Beja, a Portuguese municipality, will actually participate in joint procurement.

In order to realize joint procurement activities, contacts with Energia Viva/Exporlux were made – a company operating as LED lighting producer and offering financial services for initial investment costs and maintenance – and cooperation is envisaged, namely the trial of LED lighting in one selected street each in Cascais, Torres Vedras and Beja.

Furthermore, **two centralized purchasing organizations** were established in Portugal: AML (Área Metropolitana de Lisboa), which is developing framework agreements for the purchase of several products for nine municipalities in the Lisbon metropolitan area, and AMAL (Associação de Municípios do Algarve), which operates for the Algarve region. Recently, INETI (National Institute of Engineering, Technology and Innovation) together with CENDES (Centre for Sustainable Business Development) have initiated cooperation with AML. The cooperation's aim is to support the development of tenders concerning the integration of sustainability criteria.

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### and the cities of:

Cascais (PT), Ferrara (IT), Frankfurt am Main (DE), Mainz (DE), Maroussi (GR), Munich (DE), Murcia (ES), Torres Vedras (PT), San Sebastian (ES)

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