



GLOBAL LEAD CITY NETWORK
ON SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

August 2016

PROCURING SUSTAINABLY, LEADING GLOBALLY



“We, the cities participating in the Network, try to protect the Earth through sustainable public procurement. Our desire and efforts will help protect the Earth and our citizens. If we walk together, it will become a road for us. If we dream together, it will become a reality. Let us write history together that provides a sustainable future for both the humankind and the environment.”

Mayor Park Won-soon,
Chair of the Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement; Mayor, Seoul Metropolitan Government; ICLEI President

About the network

The Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement is a group of cities committed to drive a transition to sustainable consumption and production by implementing sustainable and innovation procurement.

All participating cities are acting as ambassadors of sustainable procurement to lead to a resource efficient, low carbon and socially responsible society. We have all committed to:

- Set ambitious, quantified targets on SPP
- Report on our achievements
- Act as global and regional champions of SPP

Overview – our first year

The Network was established by Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability in 2015. SMG Mayor Park Won-soon is the current Chair of the Network.

Highlights of the first year of the Network:

- 14 global cities recruited to the network, covering all continents, and including 6 capital cities
- 1st Annual Network Summit and practitioners’ meeting held in Paris in December 2015 within COP 21
- Sustainable Procurement Profiles produced for six cities, giving detailed information on current and planned implementation of sustainable procurement
- Network website launched: www.glcn-on-sp.org

Network participants

Seoul Metropolitan Government (Network chair), South Korea – SMG has engaged in sustainable procurement considering economic, social and environmental values. In 2007 the city made it mandatory to purchase green products, and promoted the public procurement to consider economic and social values. As a result, the purchase of sustainable products exceeded 50% in 2015. » [Seoul web profile](#)



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Auckland, New Zealand – The City of Auckland has been active in sustainable procurement for several years. The five principles in its Procurement Policy and Strategy outline an approach to being sustainable, collaborative, fair, fiscally responsible, effective and committed to delivering Maori outcomes. Latest achievements include the replacement of 44,000 streetlights to LEDs. » [Auckland web profile](#)



Budapest, Hungary – The City of Budapest is currently working on a sustainable procurement appendix to the city-wide General Rules on Public Procurement, which is designed to stimulate an increased focus on SPP in the city administration. Sustainability considerations are being comprehensively introduced into procurement projects in the areas of construction, transportation and waste management. » [Budapest Sustainable Procurement Profile](#)



• **Buenos Aires, Argentina** – The City of Buenos Aires has been committed to sustainable procurement for many years. Sustainability criteria for a number of product and service categories were developed already in 2008, a manual was produced, and a citywide training programme for procurers was established. 2010 saw a commitment to the procurement of certified timber products. Recent focal points have included energy efficiency, packaging and paper. The city has leadership in the region in the operational implementation of sustainable practices in public procurement.



• **Cape Town, South Africa** – Sustainable procurement is integrated into the City of Cape Town's Supply Chain Management Policy. A set of Green Procurement Guidelines has also been developed for the City of Cape Town, which provides staff with guidance on implementing sustainable procurement. Achievements include the retrofitting of street and traffic lights with LEDs, and energy efficient building renovation. » [Cape Town Sustainable Procurement Profile](#)



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• **Denver, U.S.** – Denver has been active with sustainable procurement since 1996. The existing citywide sustainability policy is currently under revision with the aim of expanding the concept of environmentally preferable purchasing into a more full-bodied policy on sustainable procurement. Recent activities have focused on clean vehicles, solar energy and local food procurement » [Denver Sustainable Procurement Profile](#)



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• **Ghent, Belgium** – Ghent introduced its Masterproject Sustainable Procurement in 2008. This emphasizes the strategic importance of procurement in achieving policy goals. Ghent has a procurement strategy with seven sustainability goals, together with key performance indicators and a series of support tools for procurers. Recent activities include the transition of the public fleet towards electric and CNG vehicles, and the first city to use Cradle-to-Cradle Certified cleaning products for all of its buildings. » [Ghent Sustainable Procurement Profile](#)



• **Helsinki, Finland** – The City of Helsinki's Environmental policy sets the target of 100% of the city's procurement processes to include environmental criteria by 2020. Deputy Mayor Pekka Sauri has been re-elected twice as Chair of Procura+, the European Sustainable Procurement Network, and continues in this role for the period 2015 – 2018. » [Helsinki web profile](#)



• **Montréal, Canada** – Montréal has had an obligation to consider sustainability considerations in procurement since 2006, and has recently included concrete objectives within the 2016-2020 Sustainable Montréal Plan. Major focal sectors include sustainable construction and renovation, electric mobility and the introduction of LED street lighting. » [Montréal web profile](#)



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• **Oslo, Norway** – For the City of Oslo sustainable procurement has been high on the agenda for several years. Responsible public procurement is one of the 6 sub targets of the City’s Procurement Strategy. Recent focal areas include the procurement of zero emission vehicles and deliveries, sustainable construction and renovation, and the procurement of organic food.

» [Oslo Sustainable Procurement Profile](#)



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• **Quezon, Philippines** – Quezon City has had a dedicated Green Public Procurement team since 2012. In addition to promoting the purchase of eco-labelled products, environmental criteria have also been developed for the procurement of eight product categories: bulbs, lighting ballast, steel cabinets, tables, chairs, copiers, personal computers, and janitorial services.

» [Quezon web profile](#)



© Quezon City

• **Rotterdam, Netherlands** – The City of Rotterdam’s 2015 Sustainable Development Strategy explicitly recognises sustainable procurement as a tool for leading by example. In line with national policy Rotterdam is committed to 100% sustainable procurement from 2015 onward. Sustainability has been introduced into a wide range of procurement sectors, including transportation, buildings, catering, workwear and timber.

» [Rotterdam Sustainable Procurement Profile](#)



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• **Tshwane, South Africa** – The City of Tshwane uses sustainable procurement as a tool to mainstream sustainability elements into key city operations and drive local innovations. The city is in an advanced stage of developing a Comprehensive Sustainable Procurement Strategy, and is currently exploring opportunities and challenges in different procurement sectors.

» [Tshwane web profile](#)



© City of Tshwane

• **Warsaw, Poland** – The City of Warsaw has been working on the topic of sustainable procurement since 2010. Focal sectors include construction, wastewater treatment, the use of biogas to meet the city’s energy demand, and the use of social clauses in procurement to tackle exclusion from the labour market of the disabled and long-term unemployed. » [Warsaw web profile](#)



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Key activities

1st Annual Network Summit – The 1st Annual Summit saw mayors and vice-mayors from six of the original launching cities publicly presenting their commitment to sustainable procurement, together with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI). A practitioners’ meeting for staff working on procurement was also held in Paris alongside the Summit.

Documenting best practice – A key role of the cities in the Network is to act as exemplars of good practice in sustainable procurement. The first year saw Sustainable Procurement Profiles published for many of the participants, providing in-depth documentation of their activities. Snapshot good practice case studies are also being collected.

Preparing targets – All participating cities have signed a commitment to develop ambitious, quantified targets on sustainable procurement action. These are currently under development, although some participants already have very strong targets – such as Helsinki’s commitment to 100% sustainable procurement by 2020.

Exchange – To help spread best practice and encourage mutual learning and knowledge transfer between the participants a series of exchange activities, including webinars, meetings and twinning actions, has been launched. This kicked off with a visit from the City of Denver to Rotterdam, and will be further strengthened in the coming year.

What's next?

Late 2016 and 2017 will see the further development of the Network.
The focus will be on:

- Raising the global profile of the Network and the cities' achievements, including the 2nd Annual Network Summit taking place within the Seoul Mayors Forum on Climate Change.
- Demonstrating our commitment through publicly declared, quantified sustainable procurement targets – and monitoring performance.
- Deepening co-operation and exchange amongst participating cities.



Want to find out more?

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