**About EcoProcura® China**

EcoProcura® China is the flagship program on Green Public Procurement (GPP) and the first China-focused program organized for local governments by the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat (EAS). The first EcoProcura® China symposium was held in Beijing in 2014.

**Forum at a glance**

About 80 participants including government officials in charge of public procurement, experts, business and NGOs representatives from China, Japan, Korea, Finland and Germany attended the “EcoProcura® China 2015: Green Public Procurement” sub-forum held during the Eco-Forum Global Annual Conference in Guiyang, China on 28 June 2015.

Hosted by Guizhou Province, the forum was jointly organized by EAS and its program partners including China Business Council for Sustainable Development (CBCSD), China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC), Eco-forum Global (EFG), Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP).

Consisting of keynote presentations and panel discussions, the forum provided valuable information, knowledge and experience on:

- China’s legal and policy framework on GPP
- The status and procedures of GPP implementation in China at the national and local levels
- Green procurement by corporate and enterprises
- Good practices and city cases from Shanghai City, Inner Mongolia Municipality, Helsinki City and Korea
- ICLEI’s global program and activities on promoting GPP at the local level
- The 10YFP and other sustainable procurement programs by the UNEP
- Strategies in advancing GPP at the local level

**Outcome: GPP Partnership**

The “Green Public Procurement Partnership” was launched by EAS along with CBCSD, CEC, EFG, The Sustainable Consortium, UNEP and the 10 YFP at the closing session of EcoProcura® China 2015. The partnership aims to provide a platform for Chinese local governments and other related stakeholders to exchange knowledge and experience in implementing GPP.

"The EcoProcura China conference series has built an effective platform for international exchange. It provides participants with the opportunities to share experience and explore solutions to further promote the concept and implementation of GPP. We hope that through our cooperation and joint efforts, we can reach a common consensus and provide the most effective support to the implementation of GPP at the local level."
City of Helsinki, Finland

The capital and the largest city in Finland with a population of 584,420.

Development of GPP: Helsinki started its green procurement policies with the introduction of the Sustainable Development Action Plan in 2002. It has continued to develop GPP by implementing the Climate Mitigation Project (2009-2011) and Environmental Policy 2012.

Procedures: Environmental criteria are typically included in the mandatory requirements of procurement, as laid out in the technical specifications, or in the selection criteria of a tender.

Success stories: One recent case of success is the tender for IT equipment and services contracts which amounts to approximately 50 million EUR. The GPP 2020 carbon savings calculator for office ICT equipment was used as part of the process. With a yearly volume of 7,000 PCs, 2,000 laptops and 2,000 screens, it was estimated that during the whole lifecycle of 5 years, more than 170 tonnes of CO2 emissions would be reduced when compared to the hardware based on previous procurement contract made in 2012. Total lifetime cost savings for electricity are estimated to be 72,000 EUR and the percentage of savings (energy and CO2-emissions in %) is estimated to be 27.4%

Future Goals: Helsinki has set an ambitious target to ensure that by 2020, 100% of all its procurements carried out will include environmental criteria. The long term goal is to have the environmental perspective and sustainability taken into account in all procurements of the city by 2050.

Source: GPP Interview, Issue no.49 March 2015, European Commission; Renewing the IT equipment of the city of Helsinki from GPP 2020, www.gpp2020.eu

Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China

The third largest subdivision of China which covers about 12% of the country’s total land area. It has a population of 25,048,100 in the end of 2014.*

Development of GPP: China implements GPP mainly through environmental labelling. The two major lists of certified products at the national level are: the Environmental Labelling Products List issued jointly by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and the Energy Conservation Products List issued jointly by MoF and the National Development and Reform Commission. The lists are updated and released twice a year by the corresponding ministries.

Procedures: The final purchasing process is carried out by Public Procurement Centers (PPC) at the local level, which are required to give priority to the listed products based on relevant regulations. The PPC also promote the GPP concept in its administration area, and seek to achieve a paper-free purchasing process by purchasing online.

Example: The stepping water boiler introduced into the market in recent years saves a lot of energy compared to the traditional electric kettle, however it is more expensive. To encourage the purchase of it, there are two approaches: one is to specify it as a mandatory choice on the procurement document; second is to accredit more points to products adopting new technologies on the product assessment rules.

Future Goals: 1) To evaluate the effectiveness of current GPP policies and to make improvements accordingly by enhancing data collection and analysis on GPP, such as measuring the energy saved through specific energy-saving and environmental protection projects; 2) To actively explore feasible and effective mechanisms and measures to support selected environmental protection projects which can demonstrate the benefits of GPP. Such measures could be financial support, technical assistance and other incentives.

*Source: The People’s Government of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region: www.nmg.gov.cn

“The government procurement center has three main duties: to implement policies according to the central regulations, to actively promote the concept of green purchasing in our administration area, and to make our purchasing process green by going paper-free.”

Hengbin Liu
Director, Government Procurement Center, People’s Government of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

“Based on the experience from the City of Helsinki, to better implement GPP, the city will need measurable targets and aims on it, good solid policies and strong strategies behind it, as well as knowledge support.”

Perttu Pohjonen
Environmental Expert, Procurement City of Helsinki
“GPP can stimulate the economy and it can create jobs. It is about creating market opportunities by adopting current technologies or developing new energy efficient and low carbon technologies and solutions. GPP is essential if we are to meet the challenges cities face today such as climate change, increasing populations, changing infrastructure, providing better transport systems and energy efficient buildings. It is not about developing a new procurement system. It is about thinking and adapting how we currently spend public money.”

Mark Hidson
Global Director
ICLEI’s Sustainable Procurement Centre

“In China, there are more than 100 companies directly owned by the central government, hundreds of state-owned companies, tens of millions of registered small and medium sized enterprises. Therefore, we need to manage GPP with different strategies, according to sectors, scales and other conditions.”

Qi Zhai
Deputy Secretary General
China Business Council for Sustainable Development

“Sustainable Public Procurement is recognized by the international community as an important area to promote sustainable consumption, sustainable development and green growth.”

Farid Yaker
Sustainable Public Procurement Officer
United Nations Environmental Programme

“I greatly appreciate the relevant government departments and international organizations for their support of China Environment Labeling Government Procurement. Based on the international experience we learned, we will pay more efforts in green supply chain management, low carbon products and authorization service, so as to better serve and implement green public procurement policies set at the national level.”

Xiaodan Zhang
General Manager
China Environmental United Certification Center

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