

Circular Procurement

Accelerate circular economy through procurement power, alliance- and capacity building

Background

Every year, over 250 000 public authorities in the EU spend around 14% of their GDP buying services, works and supplies. Hereof, the NSR economy and population consumes 960 million tonnes of raw materials to produce 360 million tonnes of waste and 21 million tonnes of CO2 emissions. Together, this leads to tremendous environmental damage, high costs of processing waste, and lost value of materials. When leveraging procurement for circularity, these investments could lead to an average of 10-20% direct savings in waste. However, there are several challenges that prevent this from happening like linearly structured procurement workflows, limited market size for suppliers, lack of environments for collaboration, and fragmentation of experience in the NSR.

Aim

The CircPro2 project will harmonise transnational circular procurement in the North Sea Region (NSR) with a collaborative approach to connect procurers investing in areas like construction, buildings and offices. This enables them to scale up and have a greater impact on a circular economy as well as expanding the market for providers. The project will promote the development and adoption of a common circular procurement framework, business models, and roadmap which will accelerate the uptake of more circular procurement of products, services and processes in the NSR.

Approach

CircPro2 brings together partners representing governments, knowledge organisations and business networks spread over the NSR to improve their procurement processes. CircPro2 is unique in grouping partners into Communities of Practice (COPs) to iteratively explore how they can circularise their procurement in an agile way. COPs will connect buyers and innovators working in similar fields (eg: construction) and from different geographical regions to share and learn from each other. CircPro2 will build on existing initiatives such as Life+, REBUS, and the SCALED-UP project, and will provide evidence on successful business cases, circular business models, and will define circular procurement criteria.



N33 road construction by Rijkswaterstaat



Green solutions for artificial turf by DIFI



Glass recycling facility by BITC



Circular office by Kamp C

Results

- 20.000 tonnes waste prevented by mainly reusing and refurbishing products which normally would be wasted
- 800 000 tonnes virgin materials
- 10 000 tonnes CO2 saved
- 50 project pilots, including road construction, office furniture and ICT
- Creation of 130 green jobs in NSR

Impact

CircPro2 will validate circular business models through real pilots and facilitate their wider adoption. The project will reduce the complexity for providers to participate in tenders so they can build business models to scale up across regions, and they will be able to develop a standardised indicator measurement system. CircPro2 will encourage public and private organizations to include more circular practices in their purchases to decrease their environmental impact.



Partners:

Programme Interreg NSR

Duration 3,5 years

Budget 4 million €

Coordinator Rijkswaterstaat



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