

PRESS INFORMATION

SMART SPP website now online

Freiburg, 3 March 2009 - Public purchasers and suppliers of innovative and sustainable solutions in the field of lighting systems, electric vehicle fleets and heating and cooling systems for buildings will find this new website on sustainable procurement and innovation a valuable source of information (www.smart-spp.eu). The European SMART SPP project will promote the introduction of new, innovative low carbon emission technologies and integrated solutions onto the European market.

Public bodies can meet their procurement needs in innovative ways by taking a flexible outcome-based approach and accessing the innovating potential of the market. For instance, a city may need to purchase a new lighting system for its office buildings which consume significantly less energy, due to political targets forming part of its climate protection strategies and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

The SMART SPP project – innovation through sustainable procurement – will promote the introduction onto the market of innovative highly energy efficient products and services that are in the last stages of development (that is, emerging technologies). This will be done through encouraging early market engagement between public authority purchasers and suppliers in four European countries (Denmark, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom) through the pre-procurement phase.

The emerging technologies that will form the central focus of the project are lighting systems (e.g. (organic) light emitting diodes), highly energy efficient (electric) vehicles, and construction services (such as, heating or cooling systems using renewable energy sources).

SMART SPP will develop a standard approach to pre-procurement of emerging technologies. The approach will include managing the risks in pre-procurement, assessing the financial benefits (life-cycle costing), and calculating and communicating the CO₂ savings.

Practical tools, tender documents including sustainability criteria, further guidance and training sessions will also be developed to build the capacity of public authorities who wish to use pre-procurement to purchase emerging technologies. All of these, together with the outcomes of the project, will be available on the project website: www.smart-spp.eu

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Supported by:   Europe

Further Information:

The SMART SPP project is supported by the Intelligent Energy Europe funding programme of the European Commission. It is a multi-partner initiative* which involves experts from organisations across Europe.

*ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, Ecoinstitut Barcelona, Barcelona City Council, ESPO-Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (United Kingdom), German Federal Association of Eco-Counselling, Global to Local (United Kingdom), Local Energy Agency Cascais (Portugal), Municipality of Kolding (Denmark), INETI-National Institute of Engineering, Technology and Innovation (Portugal), Oeko-Institut – Institute for Applied Ecology (Germany), London Borough of Bromley (United Kingdom).

Attached: SMART SPP logo [JPG, 86 kb]

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