



Conference Invitation

Green Public Procurement: how to turn policy into practice!

3 - 4 April 2006 in Graz, Austria

The European Commission is pleased to invite purchasers and policy makers from local, regional and national governments, the private sector, consultancy firms and international networks, to a high level event on green public procurement which is hosted by the Austrian presidency.

Green public procurement is more than just purchasing recycled paper for offices. It is about tapping into a huge market where a significant range of environmental impacts related to the production, transportation, use and disposal of goods and related services can be lessened.

Public authorities in Europe have a purchasing power equivalent to 16% of the EU's gross domestic product. By using their market leverage to opt for goods and services that also respect the environment, they can make a very significant contribution towards sustainable development as well as important environmental objectives, such as improved energy efficiency in buildings or the overall reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

The conference in Graz follows up on the UK presidency event held in London in October 2005 where facts and figures on EU wide Green Public Procurement were presented. To encourage action, the upcoming event in Graz will focus on demonstrating good practices and presenting a wide range of concrete examples, which should allow all purchasers in Europe to turn policy into practice.

The event will allow participants to:

- Gain an understanding of green public procurement and its benefits for the environment and for greening the market;
- Gather an understanding of how to effectively implement green public procurement by way of many good practice examples;
- Gain the insight on the relevance of the public market for the private suppliers.

We look forward to welcoming you in Graz!

For more information, please visit
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/gpp/media.htm>
Registration will open in January 2006

In cooperation with ICLEI

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