

II/ D4.5: Joint procurement report (month 18)

IEE/12/708/S12.661214 – PRIMES

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Small and medium sized Municipalities have less opportunity to make large scale investments as the large municipalities or network of municipalities.

One of the tasks of the Primes Project is to put in evidence that Joint public procurement represents an opportunity for small and medium Municipalities in terms of economic and environmental savings as well as faster procedures.

The aim of the project is to train the personal about benefits the individual municipality gets from joint procurement activities.

Partners started with an analysis of the main barriers in their country and the situation in the partners regions is not homogeneous. Generally speaking in Denmark, Italy, Sweden and France GPP is very common: in Denmark, most Municipalities have already JP agreements through FUS and SKI. The potential for more JP in the framework of PRIMES are therefore limited at the moment. In Italy also if there are no administrative/legal limits in the implementation of joint procurement, Municipalities must follow a precise purchasing procedure according to each specific situation (size of Municipality, category of good/service to purchase), as the national government is implementing a strategy of centralization of the public procurement. In France the main barriers are the lack of partnership between public bodies, ignorance about joint procurement, lack of qualified people.

In Latvia the situation is quite different as Municipalities seem not to be ready to work together to prepare joint procurements as they see each other more like competitors than cooperation partners and often the needs don't fit in the same time.

From this first contact with Municipalities, in each partner region, except for Latvia, Municipalities are available to implement Joint Procurement and the categories of goods more interesting to procure through joint procurement are electricity, electric vehicles, RES plants and boilers/heating systems.

Although their disposal, some problems affected JP in Municipalities: in Italy for instance Municipalities have to check this opportunity time by time as procedures for procurement change according to the nature of the tender and the size of the Municipality.

In France, Primes supported the organization of a meeting to discuss the joint procurement of gas attended by nearly 50 participants. The issue of joint procurement is still delicate for them but in any case it allowed some authorities to identify neighbours with whom they are now likely to work, perhaps in a joint procurement framework.

At this stage of the project just France and Croatia published public procurement in the framework of PRIMES project: the network of 15 Municipalities of Bourg en Bresse (France) published a procurement for green gas that allowed cost reduction, increased qualification of the members of the joint procurement, increased environmental requirements. In Croatia the City of Koprivnica has done its first Joint procurement within PRIMES project in 2014: they unify the purchase of electricity with some of the city's institutions that also became consumers of electricity from renewable sources. These are Primary School of brothers Radic, Elementary School Duro Ester, Art school Fortunat Pintarić and Public Open University.

Next steps:

France: A new meeting will be organized with the 15 Municipalities of the network of Bourg en Bresse about green electricity where questions about joint procurement will surely emerge.

Italy: the Task Force will support a group of 6 Municipalities to implement a Joint Procurement for public lighting

Denmark: the Task Force will investigate the potential for JP of green electricity and the demand for JP of electric vehicles

Sweden: the Task Force will try to get several Municipalities to develop joint procurements in vehicles and lightning products,

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