

2.4 Work package 4: Task Force Interventions

Objectives

Having set up the task force in WP2, WP4 describes the programme for delivery of the task force interventions – i.e hands – on support for public purchasing organizations to enable them to use GPP in the development and award of specific tenders using GPP methodologies.

Major activities and achievements

WP4 major activities and achievements are related to the following 3 topics:

1. Identification of Public authorities to be involved in the project: each partner identified Public Authorities to be involved in the project activities. In total 68 Public Authorities have been involved: the most part are Municipalities but in some cases partners involved also Regions, County Councils, hospitals, social housing organizations, regional networks, chambers of commerce, associations, poles, clusters, energy unions.
2. Task Force interventions: on the basis of the needs of the PAs involved, the members of the Task Force worked with the involved Municipalities staff and decision makers to identify the most interesting sectors for interventions. At project level the members of the consortium developed ~~156~~155 interventions focused on the following sectors:
 - Green gas
 - Green electricity
 - Transport
 - Buildings retrofitting
 - Street lighting
 - Ventilation and cooling systems
 - IT equipment
 - Consumables

~~80-79~~ interventions have been finalized i.e. they produced a tender that has been published and awarded. 76 interventions produced tenders that, by the expiring date of the project, have not been published yet or that have been launched but not awarded or that consist in documents that the Public Authorities could use in the future when there will be economic resources and politic conditions to publish the tender. At the final stage of the project, partners have still some interventions on going, whose results will be ready after the end of the project.
3. Dialogue with suppliers: Primes put in evidence the lack of relationship between demand and offer in the purchases of Public Administrations. This means, from one side that PAs are afraid to choose new paths and from the other side it could be complicated for suppliers to understand the PAs needs. The PRIMES project facilitated this relationship and 24 have been organised by partners. The meeting involved ESCOs, trade associations, single suppliers. In addition to these official meetings many other contact occurred during all the project duration.
4. Joint procurements: Primes involved in general small and medium sized municipalities that by nature have less opportunity for making large-scale investments as the large municipalities, regions, nations transnational networks or network of Municipalities. One of the objective of Primes was to demonstrate, describe and train the personal in what benefit the individual municipalities gets from joint procurement activities. In the framework of PRIMES 13 joint procurements have been established.
5. Case studies: During the project meetings, partners selected the most innovative and interesting interventions. These interventions have been considered case studies, such as specific cases able to provide practical information for public procurers and represents good examples easy for replication and dissemination at local and EU level.

Assessment of the performed work

The activities related to the TF interventions in general took more time than expected. The relationship with the PA involved, the elaboration of the tenders were more complicated and time consuming. This caused a general delay in the WP 4 activities.

Nevertheless, the involved Municipalities were very interesting in Primes project; the approach based on the technical support was very successful because often the staff of the PA, especially for the small and medium sized one, is not sufficiently skilled.

The link with SEAP has been another success factor of our project. In fact, GPP became a way to support Municipalities to realize the actions of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan.

Another success factor has been the introduction of the dialogue with suppliers. In fact, often the supply companies did not have a clear knowledge about what Municipalities need in terms of services and technologies. On the other hand, Public Authorities are not aware about what suppliers can offer them. This is particularly true with ESCOs: Municipalities are not confident with them, they have not clear how ESCOs work and which is the economical contribution that Municipalities have to give to develop a project.

Another very important issue has been the possibility for Municipality to understand, through these dialogues the connection among the different financing possibilities that they have at their disposal.

Unfortunately, in some cases, the lack of political support or the lack of money, make it impossible to launch the tender for the purchase object of the TF interventions. The results of the intervention in these cases have been documents that Municipalities could use in the future when there will be economic resources and politic conditions to publish the tender.