

GreenS Cyprus 1st Steering Committee Meeting

Cleopatra Hotel, Nicosia

30/3/2016

Introduction

Irene Constantinou (Environmental Officer A) welcomed the participants, expressed warm thanks for the response and participation for this opening meeting. She then stated the purpose of this meeting and gave a brief introduction on green public procurement and GreenS work. She stressed the importance of the contribution of all stakeholders in the dissemination efforts and promotion of GPP.

During the conference the following topics were discussed:

2. Presentation of the project GreenS project by Mr Savvas Vlachos

3. Green Public Procurement by Mrs. Natalia Georgiou - Tsiakalou

4. Process Tracking and support pilot projects by Mrs. A. Hadjikyriakou

5. Process for the preparation of standard documents for the GPP tenders by Mr S. Vlachos

6. Discussion-Exchange of views-Clarifications

The views expressed after the completion of the presentations, are presented below:

A. Charalambous (Cyprus Energy Agency)

6.1.1. She mentioned that the pilots that will be carried out should be completed by the end of the year.

6.1.2. Although tenders must be evaluated on the basis of energy efficiency and life cycle of the products, instead the evaluation is done based on the lowest price. The award criteria must be documented in order to prevent this type of tenders.

6.1.3. She said that companies in Cyprus need to prepare themselves for production of materials that meet stringent specifications.

6.1.4. She informed the participants that there is a special budget from GreenS project for training the Officers that will purchase green products.

These trainings will be referred to all the staff of the departments, regardless of specialty, although only engineers who are most relevant to the subject expressed interest.

6.1.5. She mentioned that specific accreditation standards should be established.

6.1.6. She also said that sometimes the budget of the departments to buy green products can be sufficient but right choices are not made.

K. Pantazi (Public Works Department)

6.2.1. She asked whether in the selection of the seven categories of pilot programs, products with fairly high cost need to be selected.

6.2.2. She said that all new public buildings and existing public buildings with a total useful area over 1000sqm that are undergoing major renovation must have Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) which is issued by a qualified expert and registered in the Register of Energy Office.

Regarding the insulation, they should respect the provisions of the relevant decree for maximum heat transfer coefficients (U) for different parts of the building envelope.

6.2.3. We need to purchase products in compliance not only on the basis of the minimum requirements of the legislation, combined with lower costs, but also based on the criteria for buying green products.

6.2.4. She asked if at the GPP trainings, if specific specialties such as accountants and economists will be trained, who have the final say in product / service purchasing decisions.

6.2.5. She suggested a funding scheme for industries / merchants that adopt green products.

Ph. Karantonis (M.G.F.K Energy LTD)

6.3.1. He said that a piece of legislation should be introduced for green public procurement, with provision for penalties on wrongdoers.

6.3.2 He suggested meetings (round tables), in the context of trainings.

G. Luca (Department of Electromechanical Services)

6.4.1. He recommended that the Energy Agency and the Department of Environment should be given the specific tender forms to assess the needs for equipment purchasing.

6.4.2. He said that everything depends on the willingness of the competent authorities to adopt provisions of the action plan for green public procurement and to integrate energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in the tender requirements. Unfortunately, so far offers are evaluated based only on the lowest purchase cost.

6.4.3. He suggested meetings to be organized with all the staff of the Departments / Agencies and organizations that prepare tenders for green products.

6.4.4. He said that the Department of Electromechanical Services had recently proceeded to tender for purchasing of air conditioning systems. The air conditioning systems are presented in the tender submitted by the supplier with higher energy compliance requirements than incorporated in the tender term tender.

K. Challouma Hercules (Government Services Purchasing and Supply)

6.5.1. She said that in the new and renovated army camps, they could request in the tenders to add building materials by applying the criteria of Green Public Procurement.

S. Vlachos (Cyprus Energy Agency)

6.6.1. He said the Contracting Authorities may choose to strengthen the criteria in their tenders than criteria including in GPP NAP.

6.6.2. He informed the attendees accordingly regarding the project meetings and training workshops that are planned.

6.6.3. He asked the Department of Electromechanical Services to send to the Department of Environment and the Cyprus Energy Agency the air condition specifications.

A. Dionysiou (CUT)

6.7.1. He said that the purchase of products based on the provisions of the action plan for green public procurement is a long term plan.

6.7.2. He recommended preparing guidelines for the preparation of green public procurement.

6.7.3. He said that the renovations must comply with the minimum requirements of Directive 2006/32.

E. Anastasiadou (Cyprus Union of Communities)

6.8.1. She suggested adding in the trainings program and the officers of Local Authorities.

K. Kounnamas (Frederic University)

6.9.1. He asked for some clarifications on the excel sample presented by Mr. Vlachos

Conclusions

7.1 Scheduling of meetings and training workshops for the Officers of Public Organizations and Local Authorities about the process of buying green products and services.

7.2. Provide information to companies in Cyprus about GPP, so as to be able to prepare themselves in the production for materials that meet green products specifications.

***Department of Environment
25 April 2016***