

GREEN INNOVATIVE PROCUREMENT DECLARATION

Turning Public Spending into Climate Impact

As participants in the European Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, we recognize the key role cities play in achieving the EU goal of climate neutrality by 2050.

Public procurement is a powerful tool to accelerate this transition. By setting ambitious requirements, cities can drive innovation and strengthen the market demand for zero emission solutions. A harmonized approach across European cities will strengthen market signals, reduce costs, and increase the availability of climate friendly technologies.

Cities account for over two-thirds of global greenhouse gas emissions through consumption-based activities (IPCC, 2023). The IPCC highlights that 40-70 percent of necessary emission reductions by 2050 can be achieved through demand driven measures. Public procurement is crucial in achieving this. Together cities have substantial purchasing power: public procurement in the EU accounts for approximately 15 percent of the EU GDP.

This declaration sets forth our shared commitment to using this power strategically to deliver on Europe's climate objectives, while also supporting the implementation of the Clean Industrial Deal, the Affordable Housing Initiative, and the upcoming policy agenda for cities. Our approach offers a concrete way to increase impact and coherence across these key EU strategies.

The declaration allows cities to engage at two levels:

- a- Commitment to action (for ALL cities)
- b- Commitment to leadership (for ADVANCED cities)

A- Commitment to action:

All signatory cities endorse the need to strengthen the role of procurement in achieving climate neutrality. By signing this declaration, we aim to integrate climate objectives into procurement policies, working with the market to scale up zero emission solutions, and collaborating with other cities to share best practices.

B- Commitment to leadership:

As cities ready to take concrete steps further, we commit to the following bold and measurable steps:

- By 2027, require and prioritize zero emission solutions in all procurement involving last mile transportation of persons, goods and services, including transportation to construction sites.
- By 2028, require and prioritize zero emission vehicles in all public transport contracts.
- By 2029, require and prioritize zero emission machinery in all municipal construction projects.
- By 2030, require and prioritize climate considerations in all relevant public procurement processes.

We will communicate this ambition to the market and collaborate to harmonize goals and procurement criteria to increase market impact. We will also invite businesses to participate actively in dialogue to jointly identify practical solutions and overcome barriers.

To support cities in this effort, we urge the European Union to:

- Align and streamline procurement frameworks under the Green Deal Industrial Plan that prioritize zero-emission solutions.
- Continue strengthening *Big Buyers Working Together*, and other initiatives aimed at advancing strategic public procurement in support of zero emissions solutions, in order to amplify demand signals across public buyers.
- Mandate GHG reduction targets in EU-funded public procurement projects, ensuring all investments align with the EUs climate goals.
- Enhance support to city led climate initiatives through Horizon Europe and other funding mechanisms, to expand best practices across Europe.

SIGNATORIES FOR COMMITMENT TO ACTION

Aachen, Germany

Košice, Slovakia

SIGNATORIES FOR COMMITMENT TO LEADERSHIP

Oslo, Norway