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ENSEMBLE, VERS L'ÉCONOMIE DE DEMAIN  
SAMEN OP WEG NAAR DE ECONOMIE VAN MORGEN

# Sustainable public procurement strategy within Shifting Economy – Brussels Region

19/03/2024



# SHIFTING ECONOMY

19/03/2024

# Shifting Economy : an economic policy for all economic actors



- **Target audience = « Economic actors» in the broad sense, meaning any entity, regardless of its legal form, engaging in economic activity » (définition EXPA)**
  - **Ambitions (4) :**
    1. **Align economic policies** with the climate, social, and environmental objectives of the Brussels Region
    2. Develop a **supportive and progressive framework** for Brussels-based economic actors to excel in social and environmental responsibility
    3. Contribute to creating **quality employment** in Brussels
    4. **Present an action plan** to achieve these ambitions

# Shifting Economy : toward carbon neutrality in 2050

At the heart of the strategy: progressiveness and inclusivity

2024

**Extra financial assistance**  
for companies undergoing  
a transition process

2030

Exclusif access to public  
financial aid for **Exemplary  
businesses**

2050

**Carbon neutrality has  
been achieved.** The  
economy is decarbonized,  
regenerative, circular, social,  
democratic, and digital.



# A transition strategy serving all businesses

An offer of public support that is clear and accessible to all businesses, regardless of their level of maturity in terms of transition



# Shifting Economy - Sustainable and innovative public procurement strategy (SIPP)

19/03/2024

# Shifting Economy – SIPP

## Sustainable public procurement as a lever for transition

### Public procurement represents a significant economic opportunity in Belgium

The Brussels public sector represents approximately 14% of the GDP of the Brussels-Capital Region (BCR).

➔ It plays an extremely important role as a strategic tool of public policy to achieve societal, economic, and environmental transition objectives.

### To make public procurement more sustainable, it is necessary to simultaneously:

- ❖ Assist public administrations in drafting sustainable specifications that are tailored to real-world conditions.
- ❖ Support businesses in their efforts to meet the demand.

# Shifting Economy – SIPP

## Key challenges – Contracting Authorities

- **Lack of knowledge of sustainable criteria, circular economy in general, and local circular actors in particular.** The risk ranges from non-integration of criteria to too strict integration that does not take into account the market's ability to respond.
- The apprehension of **additional costs** induced by sustainability criteria (or by innovation) ;
- **The role, capacities, and posture of the buyer** are also determining factors;
- **The complexity and legal admissibility of sustainable and/or pro-SME clauses in PP** represent a notorious obstacle that requires technical, legal, and economic assistance and the establishment of purchasing centers.



# Shifting Economy – SIPP

## Key challenges – Tendering companies

- **Lack of knowledge of available offers and rules/procedures to follow.**
- **Apprehension of administrative burdens associated with PP, which covers several aspects:**
  - Fear of the time required for administrative tasks;
  - Fear of possible fines;
  - Uncertainty about the starting and completion schedule;
- **Cash flow risks (in case of payments at 60 or 90 days).**
- **For Brussels SMEs active in sustainability:**
  - Requirement of significant turnover
  - Poor integration of sustainability criteria into specifications; little weight given to the recognition of environmental approach in contract award. Price remains the primary element.
  - Non-consultation of regional local service providers.

# Shifting Economy – SIPP

## Priority measures of the SIPP strategy

- ❖ The implementation of a **sustainable public procurement monitoring system** in Brussels (MPDI3);
- ❖ The provision of a **sustainable public procurement facilitator** to support public buyers and more broadly regional and local public bodies in Brussels (MPDI4);
- ❖ The **development of clauses** and control tools to be included in the specifications (MPDI7);
- ❖ **Promotion of the accessibility of public procurement** for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Brussels (MPDI12).
- ❖ The overall coordination of the strategy: **governance carried out through the coordination cell**, and the translation of the objectives of regional environmental plans into actions (MPDI1).

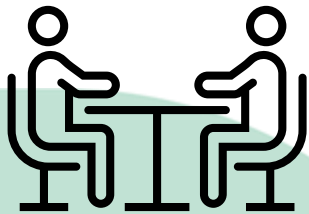
# Supporting program for sustainable public procurement – Brussels Environnement

19/03/2024

# Program for supporting sustainable public procurement

## SPP Facilitator services

- ❖ Helpdesk « [greenprocurement](#) »: Free advice on call or through e-mail;
- ❖ 10 free training sessions/year on the topic of sustainable public procurement;
- ❖ 2 meet your buyer events / year



## More tools

- ❖ Quarterly Newsletter : [Subscribe](#) !
- ❖ Provision of:
  - Training materials;
  - Standard tender documents;
  - Best practice guides

Website [Brussels Environnement](#)

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