INVITATION TO THE BRINC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES INTERESTED IN PPI

Financed by the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA), the BRINC project will develop methodologies and build capacity for cross-border innovation brokers. It will unlock the potential of cross-border public procurement of innovation (PPI) by establishing a European hub for PPI in the circular economy. This hub will create a focal point for engagement between a) public authorities interested in leveraging collaborative cross-border PPI to accelerate the circular economy on the one hand and b) Europe’s leading cleantech clusters, their SME members and broader innovation ecosystems on the other.

The project aims to facilitate the identification of public innovation needs, conduct market consultations to identify market capabilities and potential solutions, and help public buyers tap into the innovative capacity of SMEs. The project will enhance the capacity of Public Authorities to engage in cross-border PPI for circular solutions and establish a focal point for engagement between Europe’s leading innovation ecosystems and ambitious public authorities interested in leveraging cross-border PPI to accelerate the circular economy.

You are invited to become a member of the Professional Network of 30+ public authorities interested in engaging in and learning more about PPI.

The aim of the Professional Network of Public Authorities interested in PPI is to promote the adoption of PPI by helping public authorities to develop their competences through capacity-building and knowledge-sharing activities, as well as to foster a culture of innovation. By becoming a member of the Professional Network, you will strengthen your capacity in public procurement of innovation, have the option to participate in cross-border joint public procurement of innovation or piggy-back on tender documentation developed by other public buyers and connect with intermediaries to facilitate public procurement of innovation and innovative SMEs.
Become a member of the Professional Network to benefit from the following opportunities:

**PROFESSIONAL NETWORK**
12 knowledge-sharing sessions; lead buyers share experiences with other participants in professional network.

**VIRTUAL COLLABORATION SPACE**
Dedicated virtual collaboration space allowing members of professional network to interact freely. Learning materials will be hosted here.

**TARGETED TRAINING**
5 training modules on topics including: Functional specification; IPR & Contract Management; Risk Assessment & Management; Dynamic Purchasing Systems & digitalisation; Legal context.

**LEGAL HELPDESK**
A legal helpdesk will be established to provide public authorities with ad-hoc expert advice to support them in a) the procurement procedure and b) developing tenders.

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3 ways to engage in the Professional Network

1. **Lead Buyer**: ready to embark on cross-border PPI processes
2. **Follower Buyer**: interested in pursuing cross-border PPI in the near future and perhaps piggy-backing on the Lead Buyers
3. **Learning Buyer**: need additional capacity building and are simply interested in learning from the experiences of others

Depending on their role, the members of the Professional Network will have a chance to participate in the following activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Lead Buyers</th>
<th>Follower Buyers</th>
<th>Learning Buyers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participate in full procurement process 2022-24</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Participate in Market consultation</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option to piggy-back tender documentation</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in professional network &amp; capacity-building activities</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Over a three-year period, the members of the Professional Network will be expected to take part in the following activities:

- Quarterly virtual knowledge sharing sessions
- 3 physical meetings
- Ongoing dialogue in virtual collaboration space

As a member you can get EUR 400 reimbursed for travel costs related to each physical meeting of the Network.
How to become a member of the Professional Network of Public Authorities?

If you are interested in joining the BRINC Professional Network of Public Authorities as a Lead Buyer, Follower Buyer, or a Learning Buyer, please fill in the form available [HERE].

If you have any questions regarding the Network and/or the project, please do not hesitate to reach out at [contact@brinc-project.eu].

You can also contact us directly:

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Become a Lead Buyer

If you will be undertaking a public procurement within the next two years you have the possibility of joining the network as a Lead Buyer.

Lead Buyers will receive assistance with:

- Need Identification & functional specification
- Matchmaking with Public authorities with similar needs
- Drafting of tender documentation

Requirements for Lead Buyers:

- Be willing and able to engage in joint public procurement of innovation within the next 2 years
- Share experience for the network to learn from
- Consider the option of allowing other public authorities to piggy-back on the tender

We are especially interested in hearing from regions/municipalities, hospitals and publicly-owned waste management utilities.

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