

# METROPOLITAN CITY OF BOLOGNA

## 1 Why did we take part in the Procure Network?

### Key challenges identified:

1. Greater inclusion of green and sustainable criteria into procurement documentation, and in monitoring impact mechanisms/tools;
2. Elimination (or at least mitigation) of barriers faced by local businesses and SMEs in bidding;
3. More in-depth knowledge of local businesses-SMEs' offer of goods and services;
4. Innovative procurement as an opportunity to investigate.



## 2 Our ambition at the start

We identified two main objectives with our ULG: promoting an innovative and sustainable public procurement strategy; and increasing the participation of local businesses and SMEs in the procurement process. In order to achieve these two objectives, we decided to build our strategy on two main action lines, consisting in increasing the adoption of sustainable criteria in tenders; and promoting raising-awareness, information and training activities for both public authorities and local SMEs.

## 3 How have we made a difference?

The Metropolitan City of Bologna (Economic Development Dep.) has further understood the importance to include green and sustainable criteria in its procurement documentation, and to actively involve local businesses and SMEs in public procurement procedures, strengthening the mutual knowledge and collaboration with them. Metropolitan City staff has also improved its knowledge on the legislative framework of public procurement, social procurement and Green Public Procurement or GPP (at both European and national level).



## 4 What's next?


After the end of the project, the Metropolitan City of Bologna will:

- ✓ Try to increase the adoption of green and sustainable criteria in its tenders;
- ✓ Continue the collaboration, at national level, with the Italian Metropolitan Cities Network, for the correct and effective application of GPP;
- ✓ Continue to inform and (when possible) train its staff on public procurement, GPP, social procurement, business procurement, and related opportunities;
- ✓ Continue the dialogue with local businesses and SMEs in order to enhance the collaboration with PAs in the metropolitan area;
- ✓ Work to develop new project proposals promoting social and environmental sustainability, particularly targeted at local businesses, SMEs and future (especially young) entrepreneurs.




BOLOGNA

## CITY'S PROFILE

  
Number of inhabitants  
**1.009.830**

  
**84.777**  
Active businesses

  
Annual spend/budget  
in public procurement  
**56.2 million EUR**

  
**5.4%**  
Unemployment  
rate

  
**98%**  
Small and medium  
sized businesses

Main sectors of spend:  
**ICT  
public health  
furnishings  
chancellery**

## URBACT Local Group:

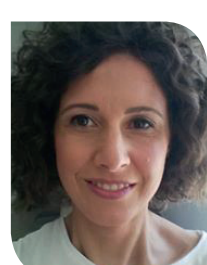
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Trade associations
- A non-profit association
- Professional associations
- Business associations
- Innovation agencies
- Company training schools

### What is the most positive change that happened in our organisation as a result of being part of the Procure network?



"Procure has given a decisive push to the involvement of local companies in public tenders and has increased the public authority's attention towards environmental criteria."

Marino Cavallo, ULG and local project Coordinator (CIMET Bologna)



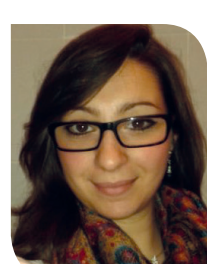
"Comparing internationally with peers and learning from good practices was a great asset and an efficient push for improvement. Compare and discuss with our local stakeholders has been helpful in focusing challenges and identifying effective actions to carry on."

Valeria Stacchini, Communication officer (CIMET Bologna)



"Greater involvement of local SMEs in public procurement and greater knowledge and awareness of the available tools to participate in public tenders."

Daniele Cencioni, Communication officer (CIMET Bologna)



"Increased awareness of internal staff and local stakeholders on both the economic, social and environmental potential impact that can be generated by public procurement cycle, and the importance to more actively involve local SMEs in public procurement procedures."

Elena Guarino, Technical consultant (CIMET Bologna)