



What is changing in public contracting?

Integrity Pact Stakeholder Event

Bucharest, 14 December 2017

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DG Regional and Urban Policy

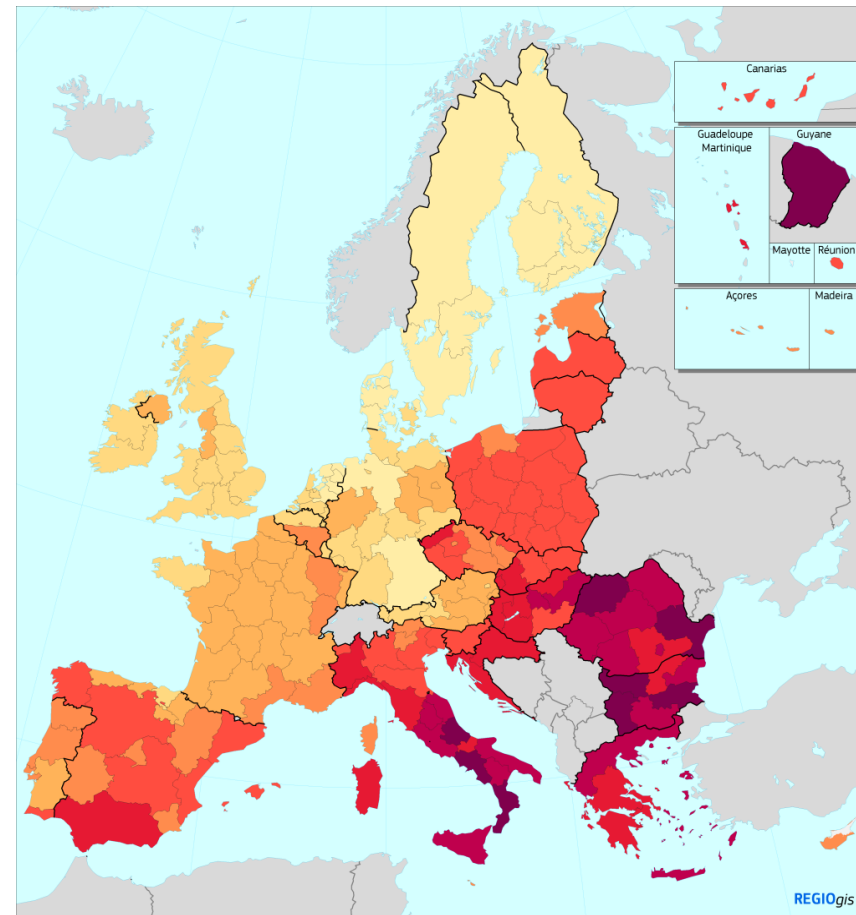
Head of Unit "Competence Centre for Administrative Capacity Building; Solidarity Fund"

Quality of government in EU regions, 2017

- ✓ The quality and impartiality of public services is uneven
- ✓ Ease of doing business can be improved
- ✓ E-Government can help

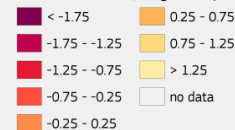
Source: **7th Cohesion Report** "My Region, My Europe, Our Future"

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/cohesion-report/



European quality of government, 2017

Standard deviation, range from poor quality (negative) to high quality (positive)



EU = 0
Source: World Bank data and a regional quality of government survey.

0 500 km

3 October 2017 - adoption of Public Procurement Package

- 1. Communication on Public Procurement - Commission's strategy for improving PP;**
- 2. Communication on a voluntary ex-ante mechanism for large infrastructure projects**
- 3. Recommendation on professionalisation of public procurement to Member States;**
- 4. Draft guidance document on procurement of innovation – launch of targeted consultation.**

Key political messages

- ***PP is a strategic area for policy makers.***
Not just an administrative process, but an opportunity to deliver value for public money (14% of GDP!).
- ***A partnership to improve the PP in practice.***
Beyond 2014 legal reform, improvement needs smart implementation of the new rules.
- ***The Commission is ready to play its part.***
We will develop a range of support tools, (guidelines, best practices) for authorities.
- ***6 priority areas for improving PP in practice.***

6 priority areas for improving PP

1. Wider uptake of strategic procurement

2. Professionalising public buyers

3. Increase access to procurement markets

6 priority areas for improving PP

4. Improving transparency, integrity, data

5. Boosting the digital transformation of PP

6. Cooperating to procure together



Public Procurement Action Plan

elaborated by the ESIF DGs and DG GROW, together with the EIB - current plan contains **18 actions** (14 + 4 *follow-up actions*)

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/action_plan_pp.pdf

The intervention strands:

- Compliance with legislative rules set up through the Directives;
- Stimulating efficiency and transparency;
- Strategic outlook.

DG REGIO is actively contributing to the PP AP with several actions initiated and implemented by us.



Study on PP administrative capacity

Overview of **good practices** and **recommendations** on PP to the EC and MS (2016)

Available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/study/

+ 28 country profiles



Follow up Study: on PP good practice sharing across the EU

**1) E-library of
good practices***

✓ **Completed**

**2) Feasibility
assessment**

✍ **In progress**

**3) Step-by-step
roadmaps**

⚡ **Call for country
adopters**

➤ **To be launched**

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http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/e-library/

Co-operation with OECD

☐ Completed ✓(2016-2017):

- Assistance to **Bulgarian** authorities: development and implementation of a PP training programme;
- Assistance to **Slovak Republic** authorities: development of National e-Procurement strategy, Training action plan and assessment of the effectiveness of ex-ante controls.

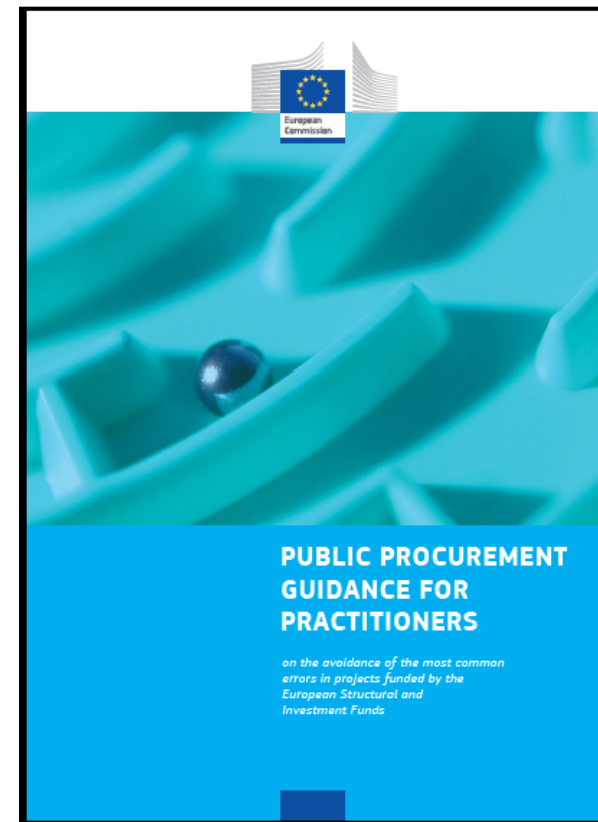
☐ In preparation ✍️ (launch 2018):

REGIO joint project with OECD **on Strategic Procurement:**

- ❖ overall objective of the pilot project is to **encourage the uptake of strategic procurement** in actions under Operational Programmes co-financed by ESIF

Public Procurement Guidance for Practitioners

- **Guidance** structured around the **6 main stages** of a public procurement process based on list of **25 most common errors**
- **Toolkit** of resources addressing specific topics with concrete examples, checklist, links
- **Updated version of the Guidance document in English is READY!**
(includes key changes by new PP Directive and users' feedback)



TAIEX-REGIO PEER 2 PEER

Instrument to facilitate exchange of experience among Member States on ERDF and CF issues

What is an exchange?

Expert
missions



Up to 5 Days

Study visits



Up to 5 Days

Workshops



Up to 2 Days



TAIEX-REGIO PEER 2 PEER

Examples of exchanges on PP

- **Slovakia: Experts from Portugal and Poland on Coordination**
 - Authorities: Central Coordination Body and PP Office
 - Coordination of public procurement
 - Management verifications, conflict of interest, standard documents
- **Bulgaria: Workshop with experts from IT, AT, HR, FI**
 - Authority: Public Procurement Agency
 - Strengthening the administrative capacity of bodies, professionalism
 - Central Purchasing Bodies (CPBs), e-proc, framework agreements
- **Croatia: Workshop and Study Visit to ES and EE**
 - Authority: Ministry for Regional Development
 - PP in MCS: verifications during the project implementation
 - Methodology for sampling for PP control and system level verification



Training for MS experts

a series of training events targeting national and regional authorities responsible for the management of the Structural and Cohesion Funds. **Training Modules 1-5.**

Training Module No 5. Public Procurement – on 18-19 December 2017 in Brussels.

Topics:

- European PP, recent case law in PP;
- Strategic procurement in ESI programmes;
- Innovative and socially responsible procurement;
- Green PP;
- Procurement, innovation and sustainability.

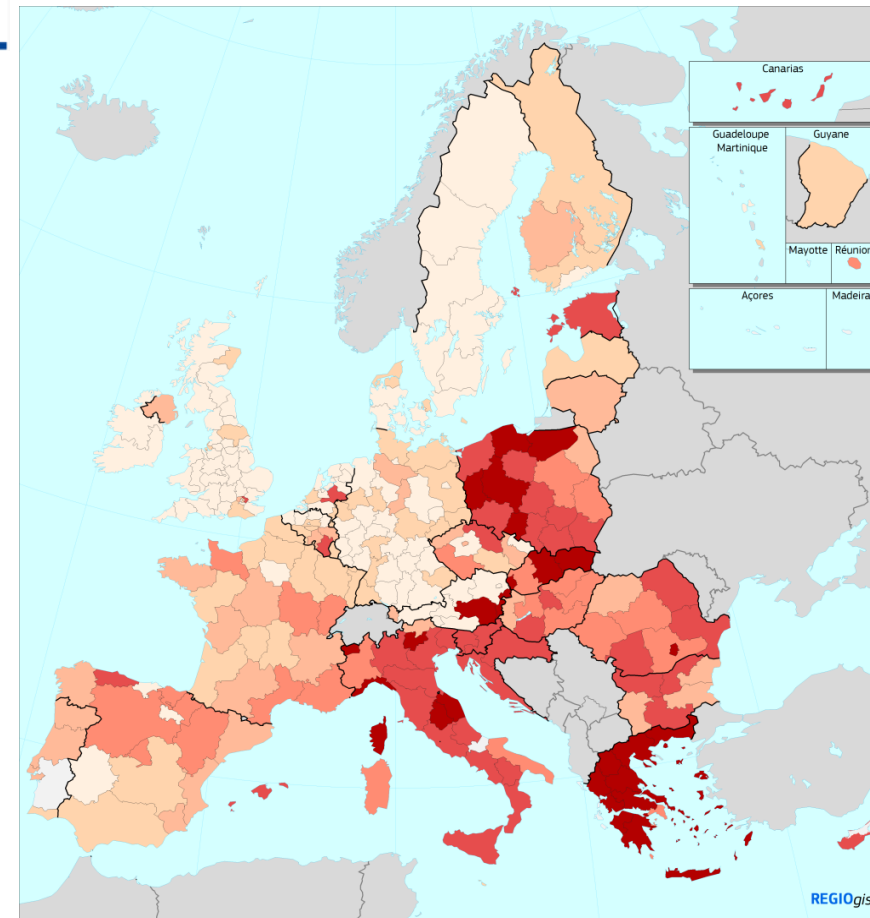
Training material (incl. podcasts) is available on the following website:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index.cfm/en/information/legislation/guidance/training

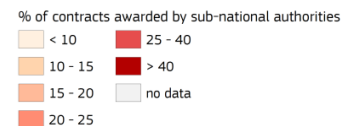
 **More trainings will be organized in 2018.**

Measuring performance of Public Procurement Limited competition

- ✓ Too many contracts for single bidders
- ✓ Not always collusion
- ✓ Low value for money?
- ✓ More e-procurement
- ✓ Better information
- ✓ More offers from outside the country



Public procurement with a single bidder, average 2013-2015



Excludes regions with less than 50 contracts awarded. Includes only contracts above the threshold of the public procurement directive.
In CY, EE, LT, LU, LV, and MT, contracts awarded by national authorities in sectors used by regional and local authorities were included. Source: EU Tenders Electronic Daily and DIGIWH



Thank you!
You can contact us at:

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Public procurement on InfoRegio "Improving investment"
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/public-procurement/

TAIEX REGIO PEER 2 PEER:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/how/improving-investment/taieux-regio-peer-2-peer/

✓ **DG GROW's e-Competence Centre**
https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/public-procurement/support-tools-public-buyers_en