



Strategic use of public procurement

DG REGIO E1 – Ieva Cerniute

Strategic use of public procurement

- What is it?
 - The significant economic role of public procurement (14 % of the EU GDP) provides the public sector with notable **market power** that can **strategically be used for economic** as well as wider **social and policy purposes** and support the achievement of **key policy objectives**
 - **Procurement** is a **powerful tool** and should be used strategically
- What do we have in mind?
 - Any type of public procurement that serves the purpose – e.g. *innovative procurement and procurement of innovations, green, sustainable and circular procurement, socially responsible procurement, gender responsive procurement, etc.*

Rationale – why should we?

- Commission priorities - **maximize the impact**
- **Better value for money** for Cohesion Policy investments
- Strategic use of market power to **support policy objectives**
- **Level playing field** and fair competition for EU companies
- Response to PP issues noted in **Country reports, CSRs and Annex D**

What do we want to achieve (in practice)?

One step forward to more strategic approach in the Member States:

- Consider quality and shift away from “lowest price”
- Consider social, innovative and environmental aspects to support Cohesion policy goals
- Strengthen professionalization and administrative capacity

Line to take

To incorporate in the text of the Programme in part “1. 2 Joint programme strategy (...)”:

“During the implementation of the Programme the Managing Authority will promote the strategic use of public procurement to support Policy Objectives (including professionalization efforts to address capacity gaps). Beneficiaries should be encouraged to use more quality-related and lifecycle cost criteria. When feasible, environmental (e.g. green public procurement criteria) and social considerations as well as innovation incentives should be incorporated into public procurement procedures.”

We need managing authorities on board

Examples of MA's actions to promote strategic use of procurement:

- Capacity building events & methodological support to Beneficiaries
- Good practice show case/sharing
- Clear intention/message in:
 - call for proposal documents
 - evaluation grid
 - grant contract conditions
- Follow up throughout project implementation & monitoring
- Dialogue with policy makers & control institutions (AA)



Thank you

Useful link on InfoREGIO

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