

Sustainable school food recommendations

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1. City Interest Group on Sustainable School Food Procurement

About the Group..



Members:

City partners from the StratKIT project(4) plus additional recruits. Total of **nine** members



Aims of the group:

- The cities use the Group as a means for sharing know-how and experiences between procurers from different countries with the aim of applying new measures towards sustainability through their own purchases
- Cities should become familiar with StratKIT and provide input into project outputs where possible
- We have had three online meetings this year, and there will be one or two more coming up
- The group will remain active as part of ICLEI's work on sustainable procurement ([Procura+ Network on Sustainable Public Procurement](#), for instance)



Image: Unsplash. Jonathan Borba

Members of the Group

Belgium: City of Ghent

Denmark: City of **Aarhus**, City of Copenhagen

Estonia: City of **Tallinn**

Finland: City of Helsinki

Lithuania: City of Ladzijai

Latvia: City of Riga

Poland: City of **Rybnik**

Russian Federation: **Lyceum No. 126, St. Petersburg**

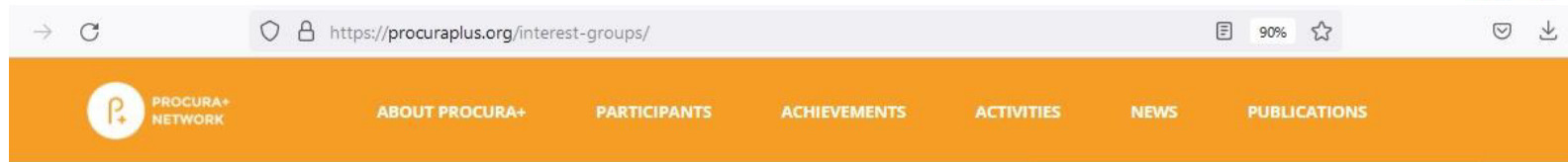


Image: Unsplash. Lucas George Wendt

Discussions so far

- Translating sustainable food and procurement strategies into tenders, i.e. putting policies into practice
- How to decide which sustainability criteria to include in a procurement process
- Experiences in involving parents and suppliers
- How to reduce food waste? More healthy food can result in more waste!
- What could or should be changed to enable greater action on sustainable food procurement for schools...

Getting involved



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

You need to be a Participant or Strategic Partner of the Procura+ Network. Interest Groups can be facilitated by Procura+ Participants, who will receive a 50% discount on their Procura+ participant fee.

If your authority is interested in starting an Interest Group, or would like to join an existing Interest Group, approach ICLEI by [email](#), or complete this [online form](#).

meetings per year

- Updating the Procura+ Network on group exchanges and actions
- A typical period of one to two years, with no more than two days per year required for participation



Procura+ Interest Group on Sustainable School Food Procurement

Why sustainable school food procurement?

Public Procurement is a key tool when it comes to fostering the sustainability of food systems. This Interest Group focuses on school food/meals and how public procurement can act as a mechanism for sustainability. Cities from across Europe are gathering to share their experiences, gain new ideas and improve their food procurement performance. Learn more [here](#).



Procura+ Interest Group on Socially Responsible Public Procurement of ICT






Why socially responsible public procurement of ICT?

This Interest Group aims to support public authorities in procuring information and communication technology (ICT) products in ways that improve the social responsibility of ICT supply chains. Public authorities have the power to use procurement to create better working conditions and protect the rights of workers and communities by purchasing products that have been procured in a socially responsible manner. Learn more [here](#).



2. What's needed to increase action? Our recommendations





Making the business case for sustainable food procurement


-  Should be strategic and support systemic change
-  Can be cost-effective
-  Is working across Europe
-  EU Public Procurement legislation needs to clarify issues of local/regional food procurement
-  Is a low hanging fruit

Cost-effective sustainable procurement



-  *less* (but better) meat
-  *more* plant-rich foods
-  *smart* menu planning
-  child-friendly portions
-  market dialogue
-  division into smaller lots
-  PPP
-  on-site kitchens

-  strategic procurement
- +
-  awareness raising
- +
-  capacity building
- =
-  healthy meals with no additional costs

-  enormous social return on investment (1€-6€)

Recommendations for policy makers

1. Establishing a favourable **policy framework** is fundamental
2. Integrating national **health dietary guidelines**
3. Creating **minimum mandatory** public procurement criteria for food embracing sustainability and health
4. **Restructuring** public procurement to create and maximise synergies
5. Fostering **cooperation** among smaller-scale farmers and social economy enterprises

Recommendations for policy makers



6. Supporting **local and regional development** through sustainable and healthy food procurement

7. Encouraging and enabling **education** about food systems and healthy diets to be included in school curricula

8. **Resources** are needed to help bridge gaps

Thank you for listening!



Contact for questions or more info:
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