



Revision of the Green Public Procurement Criteria for Textiles

Stakeholder questionnaire

May 2012

Introduction

This questionnaire is designed to inform the revision of Green Public Procurement (GPP) criteria for textiles. The revision is being carried out in conjunction with the EU Ecolabel revision during 2012 by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre with support from Danish Standards.

The aim of the questionnaire is to obtain feedback on use of the EU GPP criteria and to obtain more information about examples of GPP best practice – which might include specifications not currently within the scope of the current criteria.

Feedback received will be used to inform the drafting of revised GPP criteria, to then be presented at a stakeholders meeting to be held in Brussels at the end of September 2012 (date to be confirmed).

Please return your response by 15th June 2012 to Nicholas Dodd at JRC-IPTS. All information will be treated confidentially. Please contact him directly if you have any queries.

Tel. +34 954 48 84 86

Email. nicholas.dodd@ec.europa.eu

Please, feel free to forward this questionnaire to any person or organisation who may be interested in the revision process.

Background to GPP for textiles

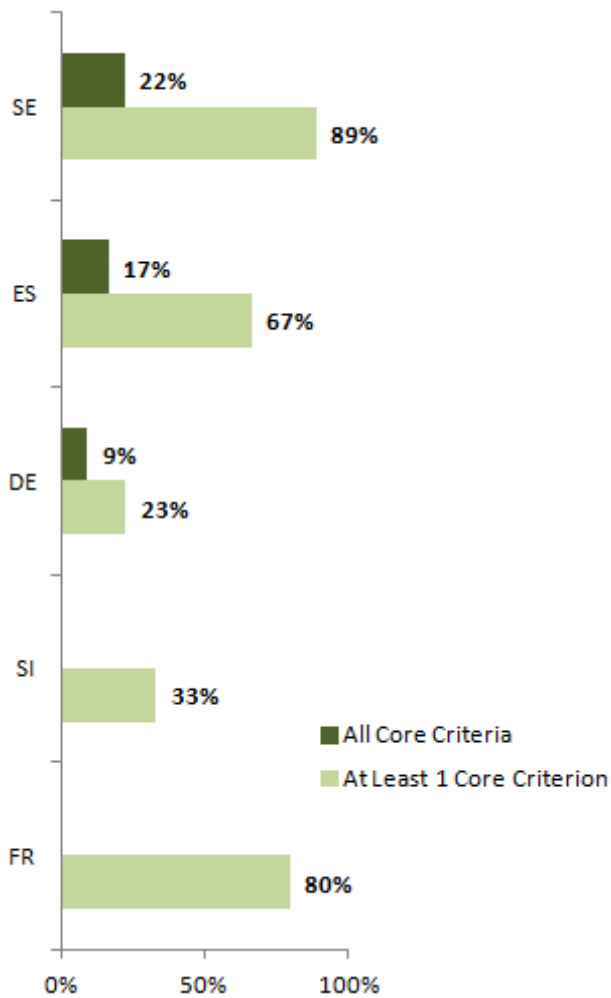
The preliminary report for the EU Ecolabel revision ¹, which is being carried out in parallel with the GPP revision and which will form part of the evidence base, highlighted the significant role of the public sector as purchasers of textiles and clothing, particularly workwear, which could include functional workwear (e.g. for waste collection services), protective workwear (e.g. for firemen) and representative workwear (e.g. police uniforms). The procurement of bed linen and nightwear by health services was also identified as a market segment that may also be of significance.

GPP guidelines for textiles have been available for several years, the latest having been published early this year ². But as can be seen from the figure below not all textile criteria are regularly being included in public contracts. This information is from a study made by the Centre for European Policy Studies and the College of Europe in 2011 based on procurement contracts sent out during 2010/11 ³.

¹ European Commission, *Revision of the European Ecolabel and Green Public Procurement criteria for textile products – Preliminary report (draft) working document*, JRC-IPTS, February 2012

² European Commission (2012) *EU GPP criteria for textile*, <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/pdf/criteria/textiles.pdf>

³ European Commission, *The uptake of Green Public Procurement in the EU 27*, CEPS and College of Europe, 29th February 2012



**Introduction of textile core criteria into contracts by selected Member States
(Source: CEPS and CE 2012)**

There appear to be only limited examples of GPP practices in relation to textiles. To date we have been able to identify examples from Austria (Police uniforms), Denmark (care service uniforms), France (military uniforms) and the UK (health service uniforms). The wide range of environmental specifications now offered by public sector suppliers such as TDV Industries in France suggest that there should be more examples and experience to learn from.

By gathering experience and finding examples of best practices the intention of this GPP revision is to update the GPP criteria in a way that is user friendly, reflects the best specifications available in the market and drives further demand for environmental improvements.

GPP for textiles questionnaire

Contact details

Name:
Job title and area of responsibility:
Organisation:
Your involvement with Public Procurement:
Telephone (landline) :
Telephone (mobile) :
Email :

1: Scope of the current GPP criteria

a. Is the current scope clear and adequate?

Scope of the current GPP:

Textile clothing and accessories: Clothing and accessories (such as handkerchiefs, scarves, bags, shopping bags, rucksacks, belts etc.) consisting of at least 90% by weight of textile fibres;

Interior textiles: Textile products for interior use consisting of at least 90% by weight of textile fibres. Wall and floor coverings are excluded;

Fibres, yarn and fabric: intended for use in textile clothing and accessories or interior textiles.

For 'textile clothing and accessories' and for 'interior textiles': Down, feathers, membranes and coatings need not be taken into account in the calculation of the percentage of textile fibres.

b: In relation to the examples provided, where and how were the criteria applied in the procurement process ?

If possible, please make reference to the procurement requirements listed ⁴.

1. *Selection criteria (including exclusions):*
2. *Technical specifications:*
3. *Award criteria:*
4. *Contract performance clauses:*

c: In relation to the examples provided, what were the challenges faced and lessons learnt from the procurement process?

d: Are you aware of any examples of the use of Life Cycle Costing in the procurement of textile environmental improvements? *If yes, please briefly provide details*

⁴ European Commission, *GPP training toolkit – Module 2: Legal framework for GPP*, http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/pdf/toolkit/module2_legal_framework_for_gpp.ppt

4: New environmental criteria used in contracts

a: Have you or any public procurers you work with introduced environmental criteria other than the ones in the EU GPP guideline?

If yes please briefly describe the additional criteria and if possible why they were chosen.

b: How were the new environmental criteria verified?

Please provide details of related tests or third party certifications

c. If you or any public procurers you work with have introduced other environmental criteria did they work or were there any difficulties? Please briefly describe any relevant experience and examples, good or bad.