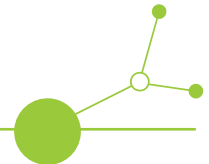


Inspiring C/GPP practices

Factsheets



Version 2
03 2026





GOOD PRACTICES IDENTIFIED

The following good practices were identified by the CE-PRINCE project to inspire actions in the C/GPP piloting fields:

- > City of Lund - CIRCULAR CONSTRUCTION
- > City of Haarlem - FOOD AND CATERING SERVICES
- > City of Malmö - CIRCULAR FURNITURE FLOWS
- > City of Malmö - CIRCULAR TEXTILE
- > City of Barcelona - SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

A. CIRCULAR CONSTRUCTION

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND RENOVATION IN THE CITY OF LUND (SWEDEN)

Summary

In 2020, when a school in Lund was about to be demolished, a few employees decided to do the municipality's first reuse inventory. Although the time frame was tight (two months from start to demolition) the project leader and two environmental strategists decided to try out a reuse inventory.

To spread the knowledge, a group of 20 stakeholders conducted the inventory together. Reusable material and items were identified and listed (first in Excel sheets and later on in an online tool), and after that, an extensive process of finding an offset for each material/item began. The pilot led to the establishment of formal routines for reuse inventories and influenced procurement processes by introducing stronger circular requirements.

Evidence of success / Results

- Introduction of new internal routines for reuse inventories and updated tender criteria promoting circularity and material reuse.
- €30,000-€40,000 saved through the first reuse inventory.
- 1,600 tonnes of bricks reused as ground fill for the new school building.
- Recovered materials: metal fences, shelves, limestone, windowsills, sports hall equipment, ventilation systems, and bricks were successfully salvaged and reused.

Lessons Learnt (including recommendations for replication)

- **Start early:** Reuse inventories should begin at least six months before demolition.
- **Use a digital tool:** Excel is insufficient at scale; a dedicated digital system is essential for tracking materials and responsibilities.



- **Plan for storage:** Permanent storage facilities improve cost-efficiency and enable long-term reuse.
- **Assign clear responsibility:** Appoint a qualified expert to assess salvageable materials and oversee the process.
- **Establish clear logistics:** Define roles for dismantling, storage, and redistribution, and ensure full material traceability.
- **Involve stakeholders:** Engage key actors early and promote seminars and knowledge-sharing to build internal capacity and support organisational change.

The reuse inventory helped embed new organisational routines for conducting reuse inventories and leading to the introduction of a digital tracking tool and a permanent physical storage facility. It also influenced procurement processes by integrating stronger circular requirements into tender criteria, including:

- > **Waste reduction criteria:** maximum allowable construction waste generated per project.
- > **Flexibility requirements:** buildings must be designed for flexible use and easy change of function.
- > **Minimum percentage of reused materials** in new construction projects.
- > **Maximum allowable climate impact** for the building projects.

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B. FOOD AND CATERING SERVICES

FOOD AND CATERING SERVICES IN THE CITY OF HAARLEM (THE NETHERLANDS)

Summary

In early 2020, Haarlem procured sustainable catering for its municipal canteen, guided by its strategic procurement policy. The city aimed to increase the number of certified sustainable products, promote plant-based proteins, reduce food waste and emissions, and ensure Social Return on Investment. Rapid Circular Contracting (RCC) was used to co-create solutions with suppliers based on functional goals rather than detailed specifications. The contract includes a dashboard for monitoring KPIs on health, sustainability, and protein transition, with quarterly reviews for ongoing management. Key lessons highlight the need for market engagement, expert input, clear KPIs, and the maintenance of food quality to balance sustainability with user satisfaction.

Detailed description

In early 2020, the City of Haarlem in the Netherlands procured **sustainable catering services for its municipal canteen**, serving civil servants and official events. The Facility Department led the tender process, with support from an external food procurement expert. The initiative was guided by Haarlem's



strategic procurement policy, which prioritises local, social, and sustainable objectives, as well as its Action Plan for Socially Responsible Commissioning and Procurement.

For this procurement, the city set clear **sustainability ambitions**:

- > Increasing certified sustainable products,
- > Promoting the protein transition from animal- to plant-based options,
- > Reducing food waste,
- > Lowering greenhouse gas emissions,
- > Ensuring Social Return on Investment.

At the same time, **customer satisfaction** remained a key performance indicator, as employees could easily choose alternative food options in the city centre. Close **cooperation** between the Facility and Sustainability departments was therefore essential.

Haarlem applied **Rapid Circular Contracting (RCC)**, an agile and collaborative procurement approach. Instead of prescribing detailed solutions, the municipality defined **functional ambitions** and worked closely with suppliers to co-create **innovative and sustainable catering solutions**. The process included two formal “handshake” moments: an initial commitment contract and a follow-up agreement after a joint development phase to define detailed KPIs.

Evidence of success / Results

The result was an **innovative catering contract** supported by a comprehensive **dashboard monitoring health indicators, organic certification, greenhouse gas footprint, protein transition, and food waste**. **Quarterly meetings** ensure active contract management and continuous improvement.

Lessons Learnt (including recommendations for replication)

Key lessons include the importance of

- **strong market engagement,**
- **expert involvement,**
- **focused KPIs,**
- **maintaining food quality and taste to successfully balance sustainability ambitions with user satisfaction.**

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C. CIRCULAR FURNITURE FLOWS

CIRCULAR FURNITURE FLOWS IN THE CITY OF MALMÖ (SWEDEN)

Summary

This presentation provides a brief retrospective on how Malmö began to include circular ambitions in furniture tenders. It outlines the steps taken to achieve these goals, provides concrete criteria for different furniture categories (new, reused, and refurbished), and highlights measurable results such as CO₂ savings and increased second-hand purchases. The presentation concludes with practical tips and lessons learnt, including starting small, aligning stakeholders, communicating progress, showcasing good examples, and treating suppliers as collaborative partners.

Detailed description

The City of Malmö aims to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030 and increase resource efficiency. Their circular furniture strategy began with internal sharing of furniture and focused on reducing hazardous chemicals. In recent years, Malmö has actively communicated the benefits of second-hand furniture through fairs and exhibitions, while also developing new procurement processes with higher circular ambitions.

Malmö manages different contracts for new, reused, and refurbished furniture:

- > **Newly produced furniture:** 27 contracts with 10 suppliers (producers, retailers, or both), covering public spaces and schools. Mandatory criteria include a 7-year guarantee, digital traceability, 100% recycled or biobased materials, and environmental labels with circular criteria. Suppliers must provide climate calculations and action plans, while added-value criteria include circular design (repairable, dismantlable, etc.).
- > **Reuse and refurbished furniture:** 6 contracts covering refurbishment, repair, resale, and redistribution. Criteria include fossil-free transport, restrictions on hazardous chemicals, circular action plans, CO₂ savings of over 200 tons/year, and 30% lower costs compared to new furniture.

Monitoring: In 2023, 23% of purchased furniture was second-hand, contributing to significant CO₂ reductions (down from 200 tons/year in 2019).

Lessons Learnt

- **Start small:** begin with pilot projects or small procurements and build on lessons learned.
- **Align stakeholders early** to secure support.
- **Communicate progress:** highlight avoided waste, cost savings, and CO₂ reductions.
- **Showcase good examples** to inspire others and demonstrate feasibility.
- **Treat suppliers as partners:** collaborate to develop circular solutions during the contract period and maintain strong relationships throughout.



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D. CIRCULAR TEXTILE

CIRCULAR TEXTILE IN THE CITY OF MALMÖ (SWEDEN)

Summary

This presentation provides a brief introduction to the City of Malmö's textile tenders and the circular criteria and ambitions included. It highlights circular approaches for working clothes, laundry services, and profile products, including repair, upcycling, sustainable materials, and eco-labelling. The circular route for giving textiles a new life is presented, along with lessons learnt such as supplier collaboration, monitoring outcomes, flexibility in contracts, and clear communication of circular benefits.

Detailed description

The City of Malmö has set high ambitions for climate and environmental performance, aiming for net-zero emissions by 2030 and increased resource efficiency. Circularity and sustainability are integrated across furniture, textiles, and profile product contracts.

- > **Working clothes:** Contracts focus on longevity, repair, and circular disposal via upcycling. Repair costs are included in the tender for transparency, and a sustainability forum allows continuous development during the contract period.
- > **Laundry service:** Upcycling is encouraged, with automatic repair and KPIs tracking textiles for reuse, upcycling, recycling, or repair (271 items repaired in 2025). Supplier collaboration is supported via the sustainability forum.
- > **Profile products:** Two contracts are in place: one for sustainable profile products (e.g., computer cases made from reused fabrics by social enterprises and locally produced items) and another for event clothing (t-shirts, etc.) that must be eco- or fair-trade certified and contain at least 50% sustainable materials such as linen, bamboo, or hemp. Deviations from the contract are allowed if better circular solutions are identified, such as local relabelling initiatives.

Lessons learnt and tips

- **Engage suppliers continuously** via a sustainability forum to develop circular solutions during the contract.
- **Start monitoring tangible outcomes**, such as repaired items or recycled textiles.
- **Allow flexibility** in contracts to adopt improved circular solutions.
- **Communicate contract goals and benefits** clearly and encourage suppliers to share the circular advantages with end-users.



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E. SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

MERCAT DE MERCATS, BARCELONA MUNICIPALITY (SPAIN)

Summary

The Barcelona Municipal Institute of Markets (IMMB), an autonomous body of Barcelona City Council, manages municipal markets to promote quality products, healthy lifestyles, and local economic activity. Through the Mercat de Mercat fair, IMMB applies sustainable public procurement to lead by example and ensure coherence with its internal sustainability policies. Environmental criteria are integrated into the tender, focusing on waste reduction, efficient resource use, and circular solutions. This approach relies on strong collaboration with stakeholders, including suppliers and market associations, and is driven by a commitment to continuous improvement, with each edition enhancing sustainability performance.

Detailed description

The Barcelona Municipal Institute of Markets (IMMB) is an autonomous body of the Barcelona City Council responsible for the management and administration of the city's municipal markets. Barcelona markets aim to provide citizens with high-quality products, promote a healthy lifestyle, foster social cohesion, and stimulate the local economy and employment within the framework of local commerce. In this context, IMMB organises fairs, activities and events, as well as educational programmes. The Mercat de Mercat fair is the most emblematic event, aiming to promote and highlight the role of food markets as drivers of urban development, spaces for social cohesion, and promoters of local and seasonal products. It also focuses on communicating these values to citizens, raising awareness among the public about sustainable food, and enhancing trust in market products.

Sustainability is a core principle of the fair, reflecting the responsibility of public institutions to lead by example and remain coherent with internal policies. This is implemented through sustainable public procurement with requirements focused on minimisation of resource use and promoting innovation, including:

- - Reduction of single-use plastics
- - Reduction of food waste generation
- - Reduction of water consumption
- - Improvement of energy efficiency
- - Separate waste collection
- - Use of sustainable materials.

In addition, the fair integrates a strong awareness-raising and educational component, making sustainability visible and tangible for citizens through exhibitions and educational activities. The results achieved



demonstrate a clear commitment to sustainability and continuous improvement. There has been a significant reduction in single-use materials, with more than 9,100 cups and 1,380 plates returned and reused.

Several best practices can be highlighted, including strong public-private collaboration between IMMB and market trade associations, as well as a collaborative relationship with suppliers to propose environmental improvements and review event performance. Overall, the Mercat de Mercat fair highlights the importance of leading by example, ensuring alignment with public policies, fostering stakeholder collaboration, and committing to continuous improvement in sustainable event management.

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