

# **ACTION PLAN**

Lazio Region

**Policy instrument:**

**Rural Development Plan of Lazio Region**

**2014-2020**



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LIST OF ACRONYMS:

GPP-STREAM:	Project “Green Public Procurement and Sustainability Tools for Resource Efficiency Mainstreaming”
GPP	Green public procurement
RES	Renewable energy sources
EE	Energy efficiency
RDP	Rural Development Plan of Lazio Region 2014-2020
LAG	Local Action Groups
LDP	Local development Plan
LCC	Life-cycle costs
LCCA	Life-cycle costs analysis
PA	Public authority

## Chapter 1 General information

Project: Green Public Procurement and Sustainability Tools for Resource Efficiency  
Mainstreaming - GPP-STREAM / Index: PGI05251

Partner organisation(s) concerned: Lazio region

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## Chapter 2 Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact: Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument(s) addressed: Rural Development Plan of Lazio Region 2014-2020

Policy context and the way the action plan should contribute to improve the policy instrument:

### 2.1. GPP-STREAM project overview



European regions play multiple roles in the adoption of green public procurement policies. In particular, they can:

- elaborate and adopt GPP plans;
- purchase eco-innovative and resource efficient goods and services;
- strengthen the offer of green products and services to answer the demand of all types of public actors in a territory;
- mainstream GPP within all policy instruments that they manage, including structural funds.

Main challenges can be found in the harmonization of tools and policies that Public Authorities can adopt and, in the way, that GPP objectives and achievements are adapted, shared and communicated along the policy cycle (from the design phase to the implementation and evaluation) and for various types of policies. GPP-STREAM builds on the idea that interregional cooperation can help addressing those challenges, enhance the mainstreaming of GPP policies within the administrations involved and ensure that resource efficiency measures are spread and benefits acknowledged. While other projects focus on cooperation for the development and adoption of GPP tenders and support tools, GPPSTREAM has a specific focus on how synergies can be created between policy instruments and between actors and on how a comprehensive monitoring system can be put in place.

The project aims to improve the management, implementation, and monitoring of policy instruments that integrate GPP approaches so as to ensure that resource efficiency gains can be maximized and resource efficiency objectives are institutionalized through GPP.

GPP-STREAM is the first project to focus on how the governance and implementation of GPP can be improved by encouraging the interaction of different policy instruments within one administration and across different government levels.

GPP-STREAM proposes monitoring measures that can guarantee that the effects of the inclusion of GPP into policy instruments can be measured as part of the overall GPP strategy of an administration. GPP-STREAM involves 5 European regions with different development levels that can engage in GPP mainstreaming by adapting management and policy approaches to the different situations and stakeholders. This project approach aims to reduce the gaps among the regions by the cooperation and it is more suitable to be adapted to different market structures.

The partnership is represented by 8 Bulgarian, Spanish, French, Italian and Romanian bodies that have complementary environmental and GPP expertise. The expected results and outcomes are: 5 transnational learning events, at least 300 stakeholders involved, 13 GPP webinars, 5 GPP toolkits and one online platform, 8 policy instruments from 5 EU countries will integrate GPP approaches, 40 EU policy instrument managing authorities apply GPP-STREAM toolkits.

The current Action Plan, elaborated within the frame of Phase 1 of the GPP-STREAM project, has to be implemented during Phase 2, in the period of 01.06.2020 – 31.05.2022. It was defined on the outcomes of stakeholder meetings, best practices exchange, transnational learning events experience and highlights the needs and expectations for improvement of local policy instruments.

The Action Plan is focused on activities that aim to assist regional public and private beneficiaries of rural development plan for greening purchases of goods and services and to equip them with knowledge and experience necessary for implementing the GPP concept into local/regional tenders, development plans and strategies.

The objective of the Action Plan, coincides with the aims of the project:

- improving the governance of the RDP by integrating the RDP with the objectives of the GPP regional action plan, including by introducing a set of common criteria to support the GPP and the greening of agricultural enterprises;
- providing tailor made guidance and tools to funded beneficiaries to practice GPP and monitor it;

- developing a regional monitoring system for GPP to analyse its contribution to national and resource efficiency objectives;
- engaging the stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand.

## 2.2. Current situation related to GPP in Italy

On 1996, with the Green Book "Public procurement in the European Union", the European Commission gradually showed greater attention to the tool of Green Public Procurement - GPP.

The GPP was born as a voluntary environmental policy tool aimed at encouraging the development of a market of products and services with a reduced environmental impact through the lever of public demand. The "environmentally preferable" products are, for example, the less energy-intensive ones, made up of recycled material and / or free of harmful substances, easy to recycle and with a longer life, or are the result of less impactful production processes.

Considering the significant weight of public purchases in terms of the entire economic system of European countries, the effectiveness of GPP in favouring the conditions for the spread of a sustainable production and consumption model is evident. In fact, according to the estimates of the European Commission, public spending in member countries for the purchase of goods, services and works amounts to approximately 19% of the relative gross domestic product (GDP).

For this reason, since 2003, the GPP was recognized by the European Commission as a cornerstone of the Integrated Product Policy, as part of its Communication COM 2003/302. In this communication, Member States were invited to adopt national action plans on GPP, to ensure their maximum dissemination.

In 2004, the two European directives on public procurement (Directive 2004/17 / EC and Directive 2004/18 / EC), in following up also some judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Communities, including the sentence of 17 September 2002 (case C 513/99 of Concordia Bus Filanda OY Ab vs Finland City Council), gave significant legal support to the GPP.

Also, worth mentioning are the following European directives on public procurement, published on February 26, 2014 and implemented in Italian law by Legislative Decree no. 50/2016:

- Directive 2014/24 / EU on procurement, which repealed Directive 2004/18 / EC;
- Directive 2014/23 / EU on the award of concession contracts;
- Directive 2014/25 / EU on the procurement procedures of utility companies in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors, which repealed Directive 2004/17 / EC.

With the Interministerial Decree of 11 April 2008, approving the national action plan on GPP, issued following the delegation conferred on the Government by art. 1, paragraph 1126 of Law 296/2006 (financial law for the year 2007), an overall reference framework was also outlined at national level to facilitate the adoption and implementation of GPP practices, both from the point of technical and methodological view.

The purpose of the National Action Plan is to promote the dissemination of the GPP to public bodies and facilitate the necessary conditions so that the GPP can achieve its full potential as an instrument for improving the environment. Consistent with the guidance provided by the Commission, the Italian Action Plan aims to disseminate the GPP by means of the following actions:

- involvement of GPP stakeholders at national level;
- dissemination of knowledge of the GPP in Government Authorities and other public bodies through the provision of information and training;
- definition, for products, services and works identified as priorities having regard to their environmental impact and volume of spending, of methodological guidance on setting up “sustainable” procurement processes and environmental criteria to be included in tender specifications;
- definition of national targets to be attained and redefined every three years;
- periodical monitoring of dissemination of the GPP and analysis of the environmental benefits obtained.

The measures adopted under the National Action Plan, particularly based on the minimum environmental criteria, guide public bodies on the application of the GPP and supply the instruments



to find out about and support GPP strategies, included through the dissemination of instruments for the wider promotion of greener goods, services and contracts of works.

In summary, the national action plan of the GPP provides a general framework on Green Public Procurement that defines national objectives, identifies the categories of goods, services and priority intervention works for environmental impacts and the volumes of expenditure on which to define the Minimum Environmental Criteria.

It also lays down specific requirements for public bodies, which are called upon to:

- carrying out an analysis of their needs with the aim of rationalizing consumption and favouring decoupling (the dissociation between economic development and environmental degradation);
- identifying the competent functions for the implementation of the GPP involved in the purchasing process;
- drawing up a specific internal program to implement GPP actions.

In particular, it invites Regions, Provinces and Municipalities to promote energy efficiency measures in the school buildings within their own responsibility.

Finally, the National Action Plan of GPP provides for annual monitoring to verify its application, with relative analysis of the environmental benefits obtained and the training and dissemination actions to be carried out on the national territory.

An important national action to favour the “transition” towards a more sustainable economy was adopted with the Legislative Decree 18 April 2016, n. 50 "Code of public tenders" that implements the European Directives in some steps, even using more vigorous inputs than those at European level, aimed at achieving in our country, the turning point towards a greener economy. In fact, Italy was the first country to impose the obligation to apply the GPP for contracting authorities.

At regional level, the policy for Green Public Procurement (GPP) started already in 2006 with the Regional Decision n. 321, which promotes green purchases in regional bodies operating for the protection of the environment. In 2009 the Regional Decision n. 658 approved the guidelines for the application of the GPP in the regional system; with the subsequent Regional Decision n. 222/2013,

which launches a regional action plan for the environmental sustainability of consumption in Lazio and for the application of the GPP, approved subsequently in 2017, the Lazio Region has formalized its orientation on "green purchases" [http://www.regione.lazio.it/prl\\_ambiente/?vw=documentazioneDettaglio&id=41714](http://www.regione.lazio.it/prl_ambiente/?vw=documentazioneDettaglio&id=41714).

### **2.3. Policy Instrument Addressed**

The Rural Development Program, or RDP, is the main programming and financing tool for interventions in the agricultural, forestry and rural sectors on the regional territory. Through the managing authority of Regions, in fact, the RDP allows each member state of the European Union to use the economic resources that the Union itself makes available in agriculture and rural areas.

For the period 2014-2020 the national strategy for Rural development is included in the Partnership Agreement for all ESI (European structural investment) Funds. These priorities based on the Community Strategic derive from the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which is the basis of the European agricultural model of multifunctionality. That is, an agricultural world able to provide for the protection of the culture, heritage and environment of rural areas, as well as, of course, the production of food.

Each Managing authority, after elaborating the SWOT analysis, works out its own needs and consequently sets the intervention strategy according to EU priorities provided in Regulations. The RDP is therefore the translation into concrete activities of this strategy declined according to the needs of a specific regional territory.

Specifically, the Rural Development Policy Programming at European level has been included in the implementation of the so-called "Europe 2020 Strategy" to which each RDP must contribute to promote intelligent, sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the European Union and founded on the achievement of five improvement goals: employment, education, poverty reduction, the fight against climate change and energy.

Three strategic objectives have therefore been established for the 2014-2020 period (Art. 4 of Reg. 1305/2013):

1. Improving the competitiveness of agriculture;
2. Sustainable management of natural resources and climate action;
3. Balanced territorial development for rural areas.

For rural development, these three objectives have been translated into six priorities (art. 5 of Reg. 1305/2013):

1. Promoting knowledge transfer in agriculture and forestry and in rural areas;
2. Enhance the competitiveness of agriculture in all its forms and the profitability of farms;
3. Encourage the organization of the agri-food chain and risk management in the agricultural sector;
4. Preserve, restore and enhance ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry;
5. **Encourage the efficient use of resources and the transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy in the agri-food and forestry sectors;**
6. **Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas.**

Each priority is also split up in 2 or 3 Focus areas at whose level Programme targets are defined.

In order to ensure greater integration possibilities and policy integration, in 2014-2020 all European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds), including the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), focus their support on achieving the main objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy and are coordinated within a Common Strategic Framework (CSF) and, at national level, by the Partnership Agreement, as above mentioned.

CSF represents the national reference framework that all regional RDPs must respect to ensure the consistency of their specific programming and coordination and integration with the actions of all ESI Funds.

On 17 November 2015, the European Commission approved the Lazio RDP 2014-2020.

Based on the last version [http://lazioeuropa.it/psr\\_fear-17/il\\_programma\\_psr\\_2014\\_2020-80/documenti\\_ue-17/](http://lazioeuropa.it/psr_fear-17/il_programma_psr_2014_2020-80/documenti_ue-17/), Lazio RDP is composed by 18 funding measures and 68 sub-measures. <sup>1</sup>

Within the Lazio RDP, the funding measure n. 19 supports the LEADER approach, i.e. a bottom-up programming method for the local rural development. The Local Action Groups (LAGs) are the beneficiaries of this funding measure. They are public and private partnerships on a local level, set up in associations with recognized legal personality (articles 14 - 35 of the Civil Code). The LAGs adopt the local development strategies provided by measure 19 of the Lazio RDP by drawing up and implementing Local Development Plans (LDP).

Within Lazio RDP, 14 Lags, with related LDPs, are funded [http://www.lazioeuropa.it/psr\\_fear-17/approccio\\_leader-105/gal\\_gruppi\\_di\\_azione\\_locale-12/](http://www.lazioeuropa.it/psr_fear-17/approccio_leader-105/gal_gruppi_di_azione_locale-12/).

Below, the list of funding measures, and related sub-measures, activated within the Lazio RDP of interest for GPP stream project. **The sub-measures of specific interest for the priority 5 and for this Action Plan are marked in green. Among the measures of interest for this Action Plan, there are also the measures linked to the priority 6 (marked in blue), addressed to public authorities and chosen by different LAGs in their LDP. In light green one sub-measure (4.2.2), associated to priority 5, not present in anyone LPD.**

MEASURES	SUB-MEASURES	FOCUS AREAS ASSOCIATED TO THE SUB MEASURES	DESCRIPTION	BENEFICIARIES TIPOLOGY
4 MATERIAL INVESTMENTS	4.1.1	2A	INVESTMENTS IN INDIVIDUAL FARMS AIMED AT IMPROVING PERFORMANCE	farms
	4.1.3	5B	INVESTMENTS IN INDIVIDUAL FARMS TO IMPROVE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF PRODUCTION PROCESSES	farms
	4.1.4	5C	INVESTMENTS IN FARMS TO FACILITATE THE SUPPLY AND USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES, BY-PRODUCTS, WASTE MATERIALS, RESIDUES AND OTHER NO-FOOD RAW MATERIALS	farms
	4.2.1	3A	INVESTMENTS IN AGRI-FOOD ENTERPRISES (SINGLE, SYSTEM AND INNOVATION APPROACH OF IEP)	farms

<sup>1</sup> Lazio RDP was lately reapproved by the EU Commission for a further modification, in august 13th, 2020.

	4.2.2	5B	INVESTMENTS AIMED AT FUNCTIONAL AGRI-FOOD COMPANIES TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY	farms
	4.2.3	5C	INVESTMENTS IN AGRI-FOOD COMPANIES FOR THE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY OF ENERGY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES	farms
	4.3.1.1	2A	INFRASTRUCTURE RELATED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF RURAL ROADS	Public authorities
	4.3.1.2	2A	INFRASTRUCTURE RELATED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF FOREST ROADS OUTSIDE THE COMPANY	Public authorities
	4.3.1.3	2A	LIVESTOCK DRINKING POINTS	Public authorities
	4.4.1	4C	SUPPORT FOR NO-PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENTS FOR ACHIEVING AGRO-CLIMATE-ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES	farms
6. DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	6.1.1	2B	START-UP AID FOR YOUNG FARMERS' BUSINESS	farms
	6.2.1	6A	START-UP AID FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN RURAL AREAS	farms
	6.4.1	2A	DIVERSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES	farms
	6.4.2	5C	PRODUCTION OF ENERGY FROM ALTERNATIVE SOURCES	farms
7. BASIC SERVICES AND RENEWAL OF VILLAGES IN RURAL AREAS	7.1.1	4A	SUPPORT FOR THE INTEGRATED PLANNING OF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS (INTEGRATED PUBLIC PROJECTS)	Public authorities
	7.2.1	6B	CREATION, IMPROVEMENT AND / OR EXPANSION OF SMALL-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE	Public authorities
	7.2.2	5C	INVESTMENTS TO FAVOR THE SUPPLY AND USE OF ENERGY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES FOR SELF-CONSUMPTION	Public authorities
	7.3.1	6C	BROADBAND INVESTMENT SUPPORT	Public authorities
	7.4.1	6B	INVESTMENT SUPPORT IN THE CREATION, IMPROVEMENT OR EXPANSION OF LOCAL BASIC SERVICES FOR THE RURAL POPULATION	Public authorities

	7.5.1	6B	INVESTMENT SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC USE IN RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE, TOURIST INFORMATION AND SMALL-SCALE TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE	Public authorities
	7.6.1	6B	SUPPORT TO STUDIES AIMED AT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY	Public authorities
	7.7.1	6B	SUPPORT FOR INVESTMENTS AIMED TO TRANSFER ACTIVITIES AND CONVERSION OF BUILDINGS OR OTHER STRUCTURES SITUATED INSIDE OR NEAR RURAL SETTLEMENTS, IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OR INCREASE THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF THE SETTLEMENTS	Public authorities

The management and monitoring of the approved Lazio RDP are entrusted to a Regional Authority with the support of a Monitoring committee, composed by different stakeholders [http://www.lazioeuropa.it/files/151230/2\\_dgr\\_n\\_656\\_del\\_25\\_11\\_2015\\_istituzione\\_del\\_cds.pdf](http://www.lazioeuropa.it/files/151230/2_dgr_n_656_del_25_11_2015_istituzione_del_cds.pdf).

The Monitoring Committee ensures the performance and effective implementation of the Program. In particular the monitoring Committee:

- is consulted and shall issue an opinion, before publication of the relevant call for proposals, on the selection criteria for financed operations, which shall be revised according to programming needs;
- examines the activities and outputs related to the progress in the implementation of the Program evaluation plan;
- examines the actions of the Program relating to the fulfilment of the ex-ante conditionalities within the responsibilities of the Managing Authority and receives information on the actions relating to the fulfilment of other ex-ante conditionalities;
- participates in the National Rural Network to exchange information on the implementation of the Program;
- examines and approves the annual reports on the implementation of the Program before they are sent to the Commission.

The Managing Authority and the Monitoring Committee monitor the RDP by means of financial output and result indicators. The Managing Authority sends to the European Commission an annual report about the state of implementation of the plan for the previous calendar year. Annual reports include a table illustrating the financial implementation of the program, providing for each measure a declaration of the funds paid to the beneficiaries during the calendar year (based on the financial data generated by DG AGRI) and monitoring tables that include quantitative information based on common output and result indicators.

The monitoring system, whose common indicators are established by European Commission for RDPs of all Member States, measures the Programme advancement towards the performance framework and the focus areas' targets, through financial and physical indicators that however don't include specific indicators for GPP.

## Chapter 3

### Details of the actions envisaged

This Action Plan is a document providing details on how the lessons learnt from the GPP-STREAM project cooperation will be exploited in order to improve the policy instrument tackled within our region. It specifies the nature of the actions to be implemented, their time frame, the players involved, the costs (if any) and funding sources (if any).

Considering the current health emergency, in order to reduce the risks of spreading the COVID-19 contagion, the activities of this action plan will be mainly carried out in the online mode.

**The LAGs will host at its headquarter the municipalities, farmers and technicians of professional bodies who are not adequately equipped to follow online the initiatives of this action plan.**

The action Plan includes two specific actions explained as follows.

OBJECTIVES OF GPP STREAM PROJECT		ACTION	NATURE OF ACTION	ACTIVITIES	STAKEHOLDER INVOLVED			
1	Improving the governance of the RDP by integrating the RDP with the objectives of the GPP regional action plan, including by introducing a set of common criteria to support the GPP and the greening of agricultural enterprises;	1	Coaching on the job	1	Set up of training activities (workshops, coaching, webinars) addressed to both LAGs and representatives of public EU funds beneficiaries of LDP to teach them how to practically include GPP criteria in their purchasing processes.	1.1	involving LAGs in the training process on GPP by webinars on this Action plan	Lags
2	Engaging the stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand.					1.2	adopting a training plan on GPP by synergy with the LAGs to engage stakeholders of agricultural sector at local level to provide them a toolkit on GPP	public authorities, farms and professional associations of agricultural sector interested to funding measures' 4,6 and 7 of LAGs involved
3	Providing tailor made guidance and tools to funded beneficiaries to practice GPP and monitor it;							
4	Developing a regional monitoring system for GPP to analyse its contribution to national and resource efficiency objectives.	2	GPP monitoring methodology	2	Implementation of the monitoring methodology defined within GPP-STREAM	2.1	adopting a monitoring system on the use of GPP in local financing measures by the approval of a check list on green procurement that LAGs involved have to use in funding measures' monitoring (eligibility and/or payment) addressed to public authorities subjected to obligation in GPP use	at least three Lags



## Relevance to the project

**The transnational learning events and stakeholder group meetings within the project inspired the actions of this plan.**

The exchange of experiences with the project partners during the transnational events highlighted the common weaknesses and how the different Countries are trying to address them through their national legal and regulatory systems. The interventions of local stakeholders (public and private subjects) during the transnational learning events were very useful, specifically, the capacity building sessions on GPP organized among all project partners by Livia Mazzà (Fondazione Ecosistemi) and Giuseppe Cane (Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia) during the Kick-off meeting, 29 November 2018 (Activity A6 -Organization of the first Transnational Learning Event).

Other opportunities for sharing experiences and learning good practices were:

- the European GPP-STREAM conference “Institutions for the ecological transition” (Compraverde Forum), organized on 17 October 2019 in Rome, Italy (Activity B9 - Organization of an EU Project Conference hosted by the 12th edition of the international event dedicated to GPP Forum CompraVerde – BuyGreen). During this event, particularly interesting was the conference by Oscar Martínez, Provincia de Alicante (Spain), Manager CREA (regional waste management consortium) focused on the role of public administrations, as promotor to circular economy and example for the private sector and some examples of GPP in local administrations and waste reduction (compulsory plans, local adaptation) but also the difficulties in private sector and GPP monitoring;
- the second EU-wide webinar carried out by Fondazione Ecosistemi on GPP role for EU funds beneficiaries and for urban and rural development plans. The webinar focus will be on the following themes:
  - the integration of GPP into EU funded programmes for changing the actual ways of producing goods and services;
  - GPP and rural development plans: potential procedures for the elaboration of specific environmental criteria;
  - GPP and urban development plans: potential procedures for the elaboration of specific environmental criteria.

All exchange experiences highlighted how it is necessary to support the transition process towards eco-sustainable model of economic development by increasing the knowledge and awareness on GPP and facilitating green purchasing procedures at different levels (local, regional and national) and with different stakeholder (private and public). **The mandatory application of GPP, as it is currently in Italy, cannot be the only incentive tool for this transition process.**

The dialogue with the project partners during these events allowed us to organize the discussion with our stakeholders at the local level and focus on the needs that emerged particularly in the following meetings:

- Meetings with responsible of LAG Terre di Pre.Gio on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019: This meeting was the first one with this LAG, chosen as study case in order to detect the needs of local stakeholders about GPP knowledge. The Communication network the LAG would realize within the Local Rural Development Plan was interesting because this had the aim of intercepting all potential stakeholders (local farms and Municipalities adherent to LAG). Within a preliminary analysis on local needs, LAG had revealed on its territory, some problems related to the planning, marketing, and difficulties on production system realized by farms. Therefore, the LAG had planned an information strategy on "green" technologies and solutions. Moreover, the municipalities are not sufficiently aware on GPP approach although it is statutory requirement in national legislation. For this reason, the LAG had oriented its communication plan towards a consolidated cultural change;
- Kick off training cycle addressed to public administrations and private stakeholders of LAG TERRE DI PRE.GIO: On June 12, 2019 LAG Terre di Pre. Gio., with the collaboration of Lazio Region and LaziInnova SpA ("in house" company of Lazio Region), has organized the kick off training cycle addressed to public administrations and private stakeholders of LAG concerning the green solutions for public administration and private stakeholders. Fondazione Ecosistemi and Lazio Region have participated to this event to support the LAG and their stakeholder on GPP matter. <https://www.interregeurope.eu/gpp-stream/news/newsarticle/-5955/lazio-region-meets-a-local-action-group/>. During the final roundtable, Public authorities participating to the event underlined that, despite the regulatory effort put in place by Italy, at local level the specific knowledge on "green" criteria implementation is insufficient;

- Webinar on integration on GPP in RDP: In December 2019 Lazio Region has organized, with the collaboration of Lazio Innova, the first webinar on integration of GPP in RDP. 15 people attended the webinar, in particular regional Staff, employed in planning of Rural Development Plan, and officers from Municipalities and several Lazio LAGs (LAG Terre di PRE.GIO. as co-organizer of event, LAG Salto Cicolano, LAG Etrusco Cimino, LAG Catelli Romani, LAG Ernici Simbruini). The webinar was on GPP national overview and on Minimum Environmental Criteria on Public Building. The event highlighted the attention of stakeholders for this initiative.

## NATURE OF THE ACTION 1

In November 2019, the Commission published the Communication on the European Green Deal. The ambitious goal is to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent, with the goal of EU climate neutrality by 2050.

The Communication urges Member States to encourage all stakeholders to adopt solutions to reduce emissions from all production sectors, extend the emissions trading system, develop cleaner energy sources and green technologies, develop an economy genuinely circulate and protect biodiversity and directs future Community intervention policies to these priorities.

Specific European regulations are being defined which should further clarify the role of the structural funds and the common agricultural policy in terms of objectives to be achieved and financial budget to be allocated.

This action could be a useful experience to prepare our stakeholders to a future structural change in the Rural Development Plan 2021-2027, given that an ambitious challenge for the Green Deal awaits us.

The main barriers that the European Union detects on GPP implementation are five:

1. lack of training of the personnel responsible for PA purchasing processes;
2. insufficient accompaniment to the drafting of notices that fully integrate the Minimum Environmental Criteria;
3. inadequate ability to verify the requirements of Minimum Environmental Criteria in the evaluation phase of the tender;

4. absence of monitoring of the results achieved and of the obstacles to be removed;
5. lack of dialogue and information to companies, trade and professional associations on the Minimum Environmental Criteria.

Lack of knowledge about environmental issues and green criteria has to be overcome and we should improve the organization and implementation of GPP on a local level. We need to provide public authorities, companies, trade and professional associations involved in RDP, and in particular in LDP adopted by LAGS, with advice and information on the straightforward implementation of GPP. With regard to professional associations, they play an important supporting role in defining financing projects intended for private beneficiaries of the RDP and LDP.

Adopting this action plan on GPP, by synergy with the LAGs, Lazio Region will highlight the following key findings from the work-sessions during GPP-STREAM project:

1. improving the governance of the RDP by integrating the RDP with the objectives of the GPP regional action plan, including by introducing a set of common criteria to support the GPP and the greening of agricultural enterprises;
2. engaging the stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand;
3. providing tailor made guidance and tools to funded beneficiaries to practice GPP and monitor it.

**ACTIVITY 1.1:** The project objectives 1 and 2 will be achieved by involving LAGs funded within RDP that are responsible at local level of a specific rural development plan.

We have already involved in the project the LAG Terre di Pre.Gio. It is necessary to extend the involvement to other LAGs. The participation of LAGs to the project must be reflected in the participation of public authorities, farms and professional associations, that support farms in drawing up funding projects (investment plans in order to adhere to the RDP calls), who have interest for the measures of the LDP. In order to stimulate an increasing participation to the activities of this action plan, it will be necessary to schedule meetings (at least three) with the LAGs aimed at illustrating the content and receive the necessary feedback to improve the governance of the RDP and LDP.

It is expected that at least 3 LAGs, in different areas of regional territory, will be involved in this activity.

**ACTIVITY 1.2:** engaging of stakeholders of the agricultural sector in the GPP-STREAM activities to encourage the creation of networks and contacts along the supply chain that can enable the creation of new ways of aggregating actors along the offer side and respond to green public demand, is an objective to be realized by the involvement of LAGs in this Action Plan. We would reach the stakeholders of agricultural sector who participate as beneficiaries to the funding measure of LDP (farms and public authorities). We would also engage the professional associations that support the beneficiaries in drawing up the funding projects (investment plans in order to adhere to the RDP calls).

By setting up training activities (workshops, coaching, webinars) addressed to representative of LAGs involved and representatives of public EU funds beneficiaries we would train them on how to practically include GPP criteria in their purchasing processes by synergy with the LAGs. The purpose is carried out through training seminars or webinars, useful for potential beneficiaries of funding measures of LDP in particular for measures of interest for GPP STREAM project. The training program aims to increase the awareness on GPP within national context and their benefits and will be addressed to stakeholders of LAGs involved on GPP; it will cover the analysis of Minimum Environmental Criteria within the policy context of LPD in order to calibrate the training to the beneficiaries' typology and to the target of funding sub-measures. The main topics will be:

- Know what GPP's pros and cons are;
- Be aware of the existing national and European GPP framework;
- Be aware of GPP criteria and best practices for selected product groups such as indoor and outdoor lighting, office equipment (PC and printers), vehicles, heating and air conditioning, building;
- Be aware of the parameters for life cycle analysis and life cycle cost of different products;
- GPP and tender model for public authorities;

After every training session, we will be gathering feedback from the participants by means of questionnaires, e-mails, face-to-face communication/meetings. The objective of this phase is: 1) to finetune the training programme; 2) to assess the level of satisfaction among participants in the

training course. Indicator for success: From 0-50 % positive feedback will be assessed as not satisfactory influence of this action and under-achievement, from 50-75 % positive feedback will be assessed as a satisfactory level of the Action achievements and above 75 % positive feedback will be assessed as significant influence from this Action.

It is expected that at least 3 LAGs and related local farms' representatives and professional associations will be trained in Green Criteria and enhance their capacity in relation to the technical aspects about GPP requirements.

**Stakeholders participating in this Action:**

3 LAGs, farms' representatives and professional associations

LaziInnova SpA will support Lazio Region in this activity providing for the experts on GPP. LaziInnova SpA is an in-house company of the Lazio Region, also owned, with a minority share, by the Rome Chamber of Commerce. It works for the benefit of businesses and the local public administration by providing incentives for regional, national and/or European resources, risk capital interventions, services for internationalization, promotion of business networks and regional excellence, services for business creation and development, measures for social inclusion and by supporting credit and issuing guarantees. It also carries out specialist technical assistance functions to the Lazio Region, with particular reference to the implementation of European and national programming.

It is also responsible on behalf of the Region for the implementation of specific development and internationalization projects.

**Timeframe:**

Activity 1.1: at least three months

Activities 1.2: at least six months

**Cost:** No additional cost. The experts of in-house society LaziInnova spa will support this activity

**Funding:** Own resources

**Performance indicators of this Action per activity:**

**Activity 1.1:**

number of LAGs involved in the action Plan (at least three)

**Activity 1.2:**

Number of stakeholders participating in training sessions

% of participants with positive feedback / Satisfaction level assessment

% of participants with increased knowledge on topics related to GPP concept integration and environment initiatives

## NATURE OF ACTION 2

Implementation of the monitoring methodology defined within GPP-STREAM

The monitoring of an action plan is a fundamental phase for analysing its effectiveness and for improving it.

This action was inspired by:

- the meetings with the Terre di Pre.Gio LAG, used as a study case to design the action plan, and the discussions within the Lazio region staff;
- the monitoring report on the state of application of the GPP in Italian public administrations <https://creiamopa.minambiente.it/index.php/documenti/send/23-l1wp1-strumenti/141-2019-l1wp1-toolkit-report-gpp-19>.
- The correct approach defined in the guidelines for the action plan, drawn up by the Ecosystems Foundation within GPP STREAM project (activity A13), which highlights the need to monitor the state of implementation of the plan and its efficiency, in particular the 21 examples of measures, described in the guideline, organised by type, which can be included in the Action Plan among which the ACTION 15: GPP monitoring methodology, i.e Implementation of the monitoring methodology. For our action plan we will provide the

beneficiaries of the LAGS investment measures with a check list that describes the type of investment, the tender amount and in relation to these aspects which minimum environmental criteria have been adopted in the tender procedures carried out in compliance of the legislative decree n.50 / 2016, article 34.

- the lessons learned during the wrap up session of the working group sessions within the 5<sup>th</sup> Transnational Learning Event that included the general observations to the development of the Action Plans, the pointing out the weaknesses and the strengths of the measures presented of among the partners and the recommendations and stressed the most important points that build up a good Action plan;
- the lessons learned analysing these good practices:
  - <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3074/sustainable-public-procurement-spp-monitoring-system/>: the monitoring system based on the completion of an electronic form, included in the entity's general accounting system, which the officials must obligatorily complete in order to have access to the economic resources necessary to make every expenditure of a value higher than 8500 Euros;
  - <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3073/project-monitoring-system-of-the-metropolitan-city-of-turin-and-arpa-piedmont/>: members of the network (Local authorities, Park entities, Turin Chamber of Commerce, schools, consortia and waste management companies, Turin Polytechnic, Turin SMART CITY Foundation, Environment Park, AcomeEnvironment Museum (MACA), Turin International Association, Cinema Environment, University) participate in an annual survey to highlight the importance of the green procurement tool in directing production and consumption towards goods and services with a lower environmental impact.
  - <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3064/green-public-procurement-gpp-monitoring-system-of-the-metropolitan-city-of-rome-capital/>: the data reported on the internal information system (SID) useful to carry out a periodic reporting of GPP implementation and carry out random checks in order to verify that the environmental criteria are used correctly and that the information on the green public procurement is entered correctly.



This action could be a good practice to improve the monitoring system of RDP, in particular at local level, considering that European Commission establishes the indicators for RDPs of all Member States and measure the Programme advancement towards the performance framework and the 'focus areas' targets, by financial and physical indicators but without specific indicators for GPP.

This action will change the current LAGs management rules [http://www.regione.lazio.it/binary/rl\\_main/tbl\\_documenti/AGC\\_DD\\_G07457\\_08\\_06\\_2018\\_Allegato\\_1.pdf](http://www.regione.lazio.it/binary/rl_main/tbl_documenti/AGC_DD_G07457_08_06_2018_Allegato_1.pdf), integrating a specific check list on green procurement in order to monitor the environmental criteria are used correctly.

**ACTIVITY 2.1:** The objective will be achieved by adopting an assessment system on the use of GPP in local groups' financing measures, through a specific check list on green procurement that the LAGS involved have to use for monitoring the projects submitted in the scope of the measures and sub-measures of interest for this Action plan (eligibility and/or payment phase of the project) and for public beneficiaries.

In particular:

**measure 7**, whose beneficiaries are public Authorities, the LAGs should monitor:

- the application of Italian Procurement Code with regard to art. 34 of National Decree n. 50/2016 (obligation of GPP) by public purchasing authorities;
- criticalities found in the application of GPP.

### **Stakeholders participating in this Action:**

Lags involved in the action 1

### **Timeframe:**

**Activity 2.1:** after the Action 1

**Cost:** No additional cost.

**Funding:** Own resources

**Performance indicators of this Action:** % of project adopting GPP

## Monitoring of the Action Plan

This action plan will be monitored by a controlling committee, composed by some representatives of LAGs involved. They will organise several meetings during the year.

This commission will be coordinated by one Lazio region's representative, and will meet every 6 months to evaluate the development of the activities, the improvements needed, goals achieved, measures to be adapted.

### Indicators

Problems, improvements needed, obstacles found.

Consideration by the LAGs involved (satisfaction, improvement, ... according to the survey results).

Number of participants in the activities for capacity raising of the interested parties

**TIME SCHEDULE OD ACTION PLAN**

	MONTHS	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14	M15	M16	M17	M18	M19	M20	M21	M22	M23	M24
<b>ACTIVITY</b>																									
1.1 - involving LAGs in the training process on GPP by webinars on this Action plan	3																								
1.2 - adopting a training plan on GPP by synergy with the LAGs to engage stakeholders of agricultural sector at local level to provide them a toolkit on GPP	6																								
2.1 - adopting a monitoring system on the use of GPP in local financing measures by the approval of a check list on green procurement that LAGS involved have to use in funding measures' monitoring (eligibility and/or payment) addressed to public authorities subjected to obligation in GPP use	18																								

Date: 2020.11.05

Name of the organisation(s):

LAZIO REGION

DIREZIONE AGRICOLTURA, PROMOZIONE DELLA FILIERA E DELLA CULTURA DEL CIBO,  
CACCIA E PESCA

Signatures of the relevant organisation(s): REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
Mr. LASAGNA MAURO