

To be released immediately

03 May 2016

Public procurers met suppliers to find innovative ways to address waste management in Europe

In the framework of the EU-funded [PPI4Waste](#) project several “Meet-the-Market” events took place across Europe, inviting procurers and suppliers to discuss their mutual needs and the solutions to overcome the barriers to public procurement of innovation in the waste sector.

Bilbao, Spain – On 26 April 2016 an international event gathered public authorities and the PPI4Waste partners for a [one-day workshop](#) where they could exchange on their expertise and issues. This event aimed at fostering communication on purchasers’ needs, financing opportunities, disseminating the emerging national research, facilitating discussions of customer and overcoming the barriers to innovation in the field of municipal waste management. The workshop in Bilbao also drew the conclusions of the round of national Meet-the-Market events organised in [Spain](#), [Croatia](#) and in [the Netherlands](#) in the previous weeks.

The first Meet-the-Market event held on 30 March 2016 in Zaragoza (ES) presented the PPI framework in Spain and the strategic framework for the circular economy in municipal waste management, with a focus on PPI for packaging and bio-waste. The second event of the series, taking place on 31 March 2016 in Utrecht (NL), focused on the challenges for municipalities to think about the value of household waste and the possibilities for resource management. It aimed at giving the opportunity to Dutch public procurers and suppliers in the field of waste management to discuss the possibilities for the transition from waste to resource management. After introducing the European and Croatian regulatory framework and circular economy, the third event organised on 5 April 2016 in Zagreb dealt with green public procurement (the technology of collection and treatment of municipal solid waste) and the establishment of resource efficiency and circular economy (promotion of innovation in waste management of municipal companies).

The last event of the series will be organised by ACR+ on 12 May 2016 in Brussels. It will gather Belgian public purchasers and suppliers in the field of plastic waste management and will focus on innovative solutions for the collection and separation of plastics in Belgium.

More information about the project and the different workshops (including presentations) are available on www.ppi4waste.eu

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The **PPI4Waste project** is a 30-month project conducted by: the Andalusian Institute of Technology, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Zagreb City Holding, the University of Zaragoza, ACR+, Mancomunidad del Sur, SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden and the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment.

The project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 642451.

