

PCP related initiatives in Austria

I. Anchoring PCP in the Austrian R&I policy context

In March 2011, simultaneously with the publication of the Austrian Strategy for Research, Technology and Innovation (FTI-Strategie der Bundesregierung), the Austrian concept of "innovation promoting public procurement" (Innovationsförderndes Öffentliches Beschaffungswesen¹ (IÖB)) was presented by the Austrian council of ministers. The Austrian BMVIT (Federal Ministry of Traffic, Innovation und Technology) and BMWFJ (Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth) have taken the lead to work out the Austrian IÖB approach together with the BBG (Bundesbeschaffung)². In cooperation with the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT), Research Promotion Agency (FFG) the IÖB approach is transferred on also to other ministries.

The move towards implementation was prepared through a combination of measures at the strategic, operational, legal, monitoring and benchmarking level. A potential of 2-5% of the procurement volume for IÖB was identified. The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) promotes the PCP approach in Austria through information bulletins³ and events⁴ and supports Austrian public procurers in undertaken their first PCP projects: more info on <https://www.ffg.at/Beschaffung>. BBG operates an IÖB service point⁵, the central Austrian competence center on innovation procurement that provides training and disseminates information about PCP and PPI in Austria.

In 2011-12 the Austrian Procurement Act was also changed, enabling Austrian procurers to buy from foreign central purchasing bodies, and thus paving the way for more cross-border procurements.

The implementation of the Austrian action plan on innovation procurement is moving forward. In 2014 a monitoring system was setup to measure annual expenditure on innovation procurement in Austria. A political commitment to innovation procurement plans, targets and budgets, and a smart procurement policy mix were recommended 2Q 2014 ([see here](#)).

II. PCP projects in Austria

The first Austrian PCP pilot⁶ on Traffic Infrastructure R&D (Verkehrs Infrastruktur Forschung - VIF 2011) was launched in October 2011 and finished mid 2014. In this pilot the BMVIT, ASFINAG (Autobahnen und Schnellstraßen Finanzierungs-Aktiengesellschaft),

¹<http://www.bmfj.gv.at/FORSCHUNGUNDINNOVATION/INNOVATIONSUNDTECHNOLOGIEPOLITIK/Seiten/Beschaffung.aspx>

²http://www.bbg.gv.at/forum/aktuell/details/?user_bbg_pi5%5buid%5d=355&cHash=b2d276729a

³<http://www.ffg.at/bilanz2011>

⁴https://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/austrian_pcp_call_asfinag.pdf
https://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/austrian_pcp_call_oebb.pdf

⁵<http://www.ioeb.at/>

⁶<http://www.ffg.at/vif-2011>

ÖBB Infrastruktur AG and FFG cooperated together to finance, manage and support the VIF 2011 project. The following R&D themes⁷ were part of the pilot:

- Mobile Traffic Management System⁸ to enable a temporary, intensive monitoring of traffic flow for construction sites and major events. ASFINAG and BMVIT were financing this.
- Detection of natural disasters to achieve sufficiently early warning and timely "suppression" of avalanches, debris flows, rock falls, landslides etc. ÖBB and BMVIT were financing this.

The pilot started with 5 competitors working for 8 months in the first phase on their design / feasibility study. The prototyping phase lasted 2 years and awarded contracts to 3 competing solution providers. The pilot finished mid 2014. Deployment of solutions is planned for 2015.

In 2014 another [PCP](#)⁹ to improve the energy efficiency in historic buildings was launched by the Austrian [Burgmannschaft](#). The call for tender is still open for this PCP.

III. PPI projects in Austria

Austrian procurers participate also in the buyers group of the EU funded PPI projects [HAPPI](#) on healthy ageing (BBG) and [INNOBOOSTER](#) on office furniture and lighting (Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance, BBG, Airport Linz).

In the HAPPI project, that implements a joint cross-border PPI procurement, the BBG procures healthcare solutions for Austrian hospitals via a framework contract that is setup by the French procurer in the HAPPI project Resah-Idf.

In the INNOBOOSTER project, Austrian procurers are preparing a joint PPI procurement together with Finnish procurers for purchasing office furniture and lighting solutions.

Austrian procurers participate also in the [P4ITS](#) networking project that is preparing a PPI on intelligent transport systems (ASFINAG, Austriatech) and in the [INSPIRE](#) healthcare procurement networking project (BBG).

IV. Financial incentive scheme for procurers in Austria

Austrian procurers have been given the opportunity to apply for a 80.000 EURO voucher from IÖB to prepare an innovation procurement (deadline for application of [IOB vouchers](#) was 31 October 2014).

Contacts

Support to Austrian procurers for participation in Horizon 2020 funded PCP/PPI projects

Jeanette Klonek: Jeanette.Klonk@ffg.at

Henrike Huegelsberger: henrike.huegelsberger@ffg.at

Central Austrian competence center on innovation procurement
Stefan Wurm

⁷ http://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/03_themen_schiene.pdf

⁸ <http://www.bmvit.gv.at/presse/aktuell/nvm/2012/0306OTS0170.html>

⁹ <https://www.ffg.at/en/node/24911>

Project Manager Innovative Beschaffung, Bundesbeschaffung, BBG

E-mail: Stefan.Wurm@BBG.gv.at

Website: <http://www.ioeb.at/>

Contacts for national strategy and initiatives:

Ms Mariana Karepova

R&D, technology transfer, patents

Cabinet BMVIT ministry

E-mail: mariana.karepova@bmvit.gv.at

Mrs. Eva Buchinger

National action plan innovation procurement Austria

E-mail: eva.buchinger@ait.at

Mr. Wolfgang Knapp

Strategy Integration and Coordination, portfolio development, national positioning, FFG

E-mail: wolfgang.knapp@ffg.at

Mr. Christian Hopp

Head Legal, FFG

E-mail: christian.hopp@ffg.at

Website: <http://www.ffg.at/news/pre-commercial-procurement-ein-neues-instrument-zur-beschaffung-von-innovation>

Contacts for national PCPs projects in transport field:

Wolfgang Zottl

OEBB PCP contact

wolfgang.zottl@oebb.at

Eva Hackl and Rene Moser

ASFINAG PCP contacts

Eva.Hackl@asfinag.at; rene.moser@asfinag.at