



## Recommendations from expert workshops for upgrading GPP criteria for sustainable buildings in Slovenia

**UMANO TERA**  
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## I. Background and Process

### Government Decree on Green Public Procurement

- Originated from GPP Action Plan (2009)
- Adopted in 2011
- Covering 12 groups of products/services
- Group #7: Buildings/Construction
- Government Decision of August 2012: Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, in cooperation with other ministries, to prepare a proposal for sustainable criteria for design and construction of buildings, to integrate the LCA approach
- Working Group to be set up
- CEC5 project link



## I. Background and Process

### CEC5 stakeholder workshops

#### □ Stakeholder identification

- Ministries (regulators)
- Procurers
- Experts
- Chambers, Associations
- A. Design: Architects, Civil Engineers
- B. Construction: Builders
- C. Materials & Products: Industry

#### □ 3 workshops

- February 4: Design
- February 5: Construction
- February 6: Materials & Products

#### □ Results:

- Over 50 active participants from all sectors in total
- Comprehensive recommendations
- Model of partnership in legislation and policy development











## II. Overall Assessment

### General observations

- Decree is appreciated:
  - promotes awareness about a sustainable approach to construction and renovation
  
- Multiple weaknesses identified
- Urgent need to improve via radical restructuring called for - ASAP, including:
  - Change the attitude that short term best price is dominant factor
  - Positive impact on procurers, consumers and producers in promoting sustainable economy)
  - Integrate LCA approach and long-term thinking
  
- Raise the level of knowledge and competence
- Improve cooperation among stakeholders





## II. Overall Assessment

### Observations of Appendix #7: Buildings

- ❑ Level of detail:
  - too great in some places (i.e. share of wood)
  - Insufficient in others (i.e. there is a need to specify energy consumption kWh/m<sup>2</sup>, water consumption, list of toxic materials)
- ❑ Some requirements are outdated and inadequate
- ❑ Statements are impossible to verify, and no sanctions foreseen







## II. Overall Assessment

### General recommendations for Appendix #7: Buildings

- Remove requirements of specified shares of materials or technologies
- Take into account local specific conditions (environment and architecture very diverse in Slovenia)
- First introduce a clearer and more transparent system of public procurement, and then upgrade with quality categorisation (German model of bronze, silver and gold recognised as useful inspiration)
- Introduce an inspection instrument into all phases of construction to ensure respect of the law
- Involve experts into future redesign of GPP decree





## IV. Systemic Recommendations

### Observations on 3rd day

- ❑ Focus on comprehensive approach to promote sustainable construction in practice
- ❑ How to establish a supportive environment for sustainable construction in Slovenia
- ❑ Observed the lack of a coordinative unit at ministry level to manage implementation, supervision, adaptation and education/training in the field of sustainable construction
- ❑ Drawing from expert knowledge, years of experience and examples of successful established systems internationally, that could be adapted to Slovenian conditions and requirements





## IV. Systemic Recommendations

### Proposal

- ❑ Government to establish a Directorate for Sustainable Construction Directorate to:
  - ❑ Oversee and coordinate the transposition of relevant EU legislation (in the fields of construction, energy efficiency etc.),
  - ❑ Develop and implement a Sustainable Construction strategy in the public sector
  - ❑ Select and appoint an independent expert institution for setting up Sustainable Construction Certification System
  - ❑ Develop and implement for a roadmap for setting up a system of sustainable construction with the following steps:
    - Overview and analysis of existing certification systems
    - Pilot projects for testing systems and criteria
    - Select and adapt the most suitable certification system
    - Develop a legislative frame
    - Implementation: counselling and supervision
    - Permanent adaptation of the system to feedback from practice



## IV. Systemic Recommendations

### Additional Proposals

- Involve municipalities
- Assess and take into account climate change scenarios for Slovenia
- Define the concept of Sustainable Construction and present to (general) public
- Resolve conflict between heritage protection and environmental criteria
- Educate procurers on benefits of sustainable buildings
- Explore possibilities for incentives, benefits of sustainable construction products
- Eco Fund methodology to be transferred to public sector
- Speed up the process of updating the GPP Decree
- Among criteria include transport of materials
- Stimulate formal and informal education about sustainable construction



