

AUSTRIA – BBG / PPPI Service Center

Brief description of what the competence centre does and the target group(s).

BBG is the central purchasing body for the Federal Government of Austria. It was established by law in 2001 to provide central procurement services to federal Ministries, in particular to negotiate framework contracts and make them available to the federal state as well as to other public entities. Its primary tasks are to bundle requirements to obtain better prices and terms from suppliers and to standardise public purchasing to reduce processing costs and legal risks.

BBG is fully owned by the Federal Republic of Austria represented by the Ministry of Finance.

In September 2013 a PPPI Service Centre (national competence centre for innovation procurement) has been established within the Federal Procurement Agency (BBG). The PPPI Service Centre is initiated and financed by the Ministry of Digital and Economic Affairs (BMDW) and the Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK). It acts as point of single contact for PPI issues in Austria, initiates and conducts PPPI pilot projects and offers services in the fields of further education & training as well as a PPPI online platform www.ioeb-innovationsplattform.at

The PPPI Service Centre offers the following services:

- We are a one-stop shop for questions concerning innovation procurement
- We offer trainings, exchanges and further education for public procurers
- We engage in Community Building activities (innovation dialogues, innovation labs,...)
- We coordinate a national funding scheme for innovation procurement projects
- We consult public institutions when it comes to the identification of potentials for innovation procurement projects
- We consult public institutions when it comes to the implementation of innovation procurement projects (i.e. innovation partnership, functional description,...)
- We successfully run the platform www.ioeb-innovationsplattform.at. On this platform unmet needs of public procurers are published in the form of Open Innovation Challenges <https://www.ioeb-innovationsplattform.at/challenges/>. Innovative companies can submit their innovative solutions that solve those challenges. The platform also contains an online market place for innovative companies. Public procurers use this market place for market research purposes <https://www.ioeb-innovationsplattform.at/marktplatz-innovation/>.
- We support Austrian ministries when it comes to the implementation of the PPPI guiding concept on a national level



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Trainings offered:

Together with the *Verwaltungsakademie des Bundes*, the PPPI Service Centre offers the following training courses in 2021. The target is to establish a common body of knowledge on public procurement on innovation amongst the public procurers.

The next training dates are (trainings are hold in German):

- IÖB: Start into innovation purchasing: March 9th, 16th, and 23rd, 2021 (webinars from 10:00 - 11:30)
- The levers for innovation purchasing in public procurement law:
 - April 13th, 2021 - Webinar 1: Kick-off:
Introduction to Innovation Procurement (10:00 - 11:00)
 - April 20th, 2021 - Webinar 2: Market exploration, process and partner selection
(incl. interactive exercise) (10:00 - 11:30)
 - April 27th, 2021 - Webinar 3: Service description and surcharge
(including interactive exercise) (10:00 - 11:00)
 - May 4th, 2021 - Webinar 4: Special instrument: Innovation partnership (10:00 - 11:30)
 - May 4th, 2021 - Bonus Webinar: Questions, final discussion and support offers (13:30 - 14.15)
- IÖB: Structures, methods and instruments for innovation purchasing: October 12th, 2021

More information is available here: <https://www.ioeb.at/seminare/>

Funding assistance/opportunities

Aws IÖB-Toolbox:

The IÖB- Toolbox is the first funding programme that the PPPI Service Center in cooperation with the AWS Austria conducts. It is financed by the Österreichfonds.

1. IÖB-Transfer

- Subsidies for innovative procurement projects
- Up to 100.000 EUR or 50 % of product/service costs

2. IÖB-Prepare

- Subsidy of up to 15.000 EUR for public procurers employing third party consultants that utilize the IÖB-Innovationplattform.

Who will be funded?

- Public procurers seated in Austria (Regional level, Municipal level as well as publicly held companies).
- That are not included in the federal public administration.
- Only projects that are procured outside of the sovereign activities can be funded.

Sustainability advice and Circular procurement

In 2019, a new competence centre of sustainable public procurement was established. The target of this new competence centre are:

- Increase the expertise in the sector of SPP
- Update and extension of the National Action Plan regarding SPP
- The cooperation agreement aims to position Austria even better internationally on the subject of sustainable public procurement
- Eliminate duplication and obstacles / use synergies
- Promote Eco-Innovation in public procurement
- Reduce costs by purchasing high-quality, durable and energy-efficient products and generally reduce consumption
- Procurement of environmentally friendly products and services can promote health and livelihood
- Greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced by purchasing energy-efficient, organic and seasonal products
- With sustainable procurement, the public sector acts as a role model
- Information on suitable events / workshops / working groups
- International perspectives and use cases

Support in:

- Creation of sustainability concepts and strategies & creation of a sustainable purchasing strategy
- Introduction of projects on energy efficiency, environmental technologies and circular economy
- Finding solutions to technical or environmental challenges
- In connection with procurement and environmental management systems (especially EMAS) and environmental certificates (especially environmental labels)

Collaboration with the competence centre for public procurement on innovation

- Marketplace Innovation
- Challenges

THE EUROPEAN NETWORK OF COMPETENCE CENTRES FOR INNOVATION PROCUREMENT

Procure2Innovate aims to improve institutional support for public procurers implementing innovation procurement in a range of sectors. It will do this by both establishing new innovation procurement competence centres, and enlarging the scope of support offered by existing competence centres in 10 European countries.

www.procure2innovate.eu



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 780192.

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