CASE STUDY: IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACTION PLANS

Cities face many challenges when it comes to implementing Public Procurement Strategies and Action Plans including around: data and evidence; embedding innovation and social and environmental criteria; and decision-making and monitoring. The city of Koprivnica in Croatia produced an Integrated Action Plan (IAP) as part of an URBACT Action Planning Network called Procure[1]. One year on from the completion of the Procure Network, this document explores how this city has overcome the challenges associated with implementing their IAP.

Politics and Governance – The City of Koprivnica, Croatia

Koprivnica is located in the North Western part of Croatia and is one hour away by train from the capital city Zagreb. It is the 18th largest city in Croatia and the capital of the Koprivnica-Krizevci County. Koprivnica has a population of 30,000.

The IAP of Koprivnica (produced as part of the Procure Network) has five overarching objectives:

- Implement new legal requirements;

- Increase of the transparency of public procurement process;

- Increase the innovation of public procurement in Koprivnica;

- Make public procurement more cost effective from the administrative point of view;

- Make an impact on the local economy.

The challenge with all of these objectives was a capacity and skills one. The Municipality of Koprivnica simply did not have the required governance arrangements to deliver against these objectives.

To overcome the challenge associated with procurement implementation around governance and politics, the Municipality of Koprivnica have undertaken a number of activities. First, they have created a new central procurement unit which is responsible for small scale public procurements and which employs two people. Second, they are seeking as a Municipality to work more collaboratively and jointly with other Anchor Institutions around the procurement of common goods and services. Third, they have established an in-house e-procurement system which is designed to make the monitoring of procurement processes more straightforward.

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[1] *https://urbact.eu/procure*