|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grant Agreement nº:** | LIFE14 ENV/ES/000703 |
| **Project acronym:** | LIFE FUTURE |
| **Project title:** | Sustainable Urban FUrniTURE: Tool design to perform environmental assessments in the green procurement framework |
|  |  |
| **Funding scheme:** | LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency (2014) |
| **Start date of project:** | 01/10/2015 |
| **Duration of project:** | 30 months |
|  |  |
| **Project coordinator:** | AIMPLAS – Plastics Technology Centre  |
| **Associated beneficiaries:** | ACR+ – Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and sustainable Resource managementAIJU – Toy Research InstituteValencia InnDEA FoundationCity of KoprivnicaUJI – Universitat Jaume I |
|  |  |
| **Project website:** | <http://www.life-future-project.eu> |
| **Contact email:** | life-future-project@aimplas.es |

#

# Project Summary

In the last few years European cities and regions have oriented their purchasing processes in order to foster the utilization of greener supplies as a key factor for urban sustainability. Green Public Procurement (GPP) is critical in this sense, but a great gap is detected when comparing its implementation in different product groups: while in some groups GPP has reached a significant level (for instance, those products for which eco-labels are widely used), in other groups there is still a long way to go. The main problem that avoids its extension to supplies such as urban furniture, which presents a low level of environmental standardization, is the difficulty for personnel in charge of public procurement procedures to include environmentally oriented clauses in terms of reference, due to their little product knowledge and the lack of objective criteria available.

The LIFE FUTURE project focuses on solving this problem. A sector of critical application, where there is high potential and variety of materials, is the urban furniture sector. The main goal of the project is to provide the Local/Regional Administrations with a user-friendly tool that helps them to establish objective criteria, implement environmental clauses, and evaluate and compare the environmental performance of different urban furniture supplies.

The Project would consist of the following stages, always in relation to urban furniture:

1. Identification and environmental characterization of the different elements of urban furniture.

2. Design and development of an online tool (GUF Tool) that guide staff responsible for public purchasing of urban furniture during the whole tender process, from the generation of environmental requirements to be included in their demands to the comparative environmental assessment of the different products offered by suppliers.

3. Development of guidelines and support materials to be used by Public Administrations for the inclusion of environmental clauses in their public purchasing procedures.

4. Pilot implementation and practical demonstration through real-life public procurements of urban furniture using the GUF Tool, which will be performed by project partners being public bodies (Valencia InnDEA Foundation and City of Koprivnika).

5. Dissemination of the results, including training seminars aimed at public bodies and urban furniture manufacturers and suppliers. Furniture manufacturers and suppliers will be also encouraged to use project outcomes in order to improve the environmental performance of their products.

# Letter of Support

**LIFE FUTURE - Sustainable Urban FUrniTURE: Tool design to perform environmental assessments in the green procurement framework**

**LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency (2014)**

I, the undersigned, herewith confirm the interest of our organization, XXXXXXXXXXX, in the follow-up of the activities foreseen in the context of the LIFE FUTURE project, as proposed by the Plastics Technology Centre (AIMPLAS) and the rest of associated beneficiaries.

The main objective of LIFE FUTURE project is to foster Green Public Procurement for urban furniture supplies, tackling the main barriers that hinder its generalization in this product group: the difficulty for personnel in charge of public procurement procedures to include environmentally oriented clauses in terms of reference, due to their little product knowledge and objective criteria available.

The Project focuses on solving this problem by providing Public Administrations with a user- friendly tool (GUF Tool) and the skills and knowledge to manage it, in order to establish objective criteria, implement environmental clauses, and evaluate and compare the environmental performance of different urban furniture supplies.

The outcomes of the project (GUF Tool, capacity building products and seminars, results of demonstration tests, and guidelines for implementation) are of the highest interest to us and therefore we commit to follow the project developments and to cooperate with the LIFE FUTURE Partnership, providing inputs and support in the activities of mutual interest.

Signature: Date: XXXXXXXXXXX, 2016

Name:

Position: