

Environmental Sustainable Hierarchies (o499R2 FRESH)

INVITATION TO TENDER
(open call)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Madam / Sir,

1. Kainuun Etu Oy, on behalf of the FRESH project partners invites tenders for a service contract regarding the following subject: Formulation of policy audit tools addressing eco innovation, regional Sustainable Value Creation development, both based on the synthetic approach of the the revised (2006) Sustainable Development Strategy. This invitation to tender follows the publication of the contract notice on the FRESH project web site (<https://freshproject.eu>).
2. Tenderers can be an individual, an enterprise, a public institution or a consortium, and must be established & registered within the EU.
3. If you are interested in this contract, please submit a tender by e-mail (with request for reception attached) or registered mail, in English, by 14.11.2011, to the following address:

by e mail

To	ninetta.chaniotou@kainuunetu.fi
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OR

by registered mail

To	Kainuun Etu Oy Ninetta Chaniotou, FRESH project Lönnotinkatu 1, Kajaani 87100, Finland
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4. Tenders must include a technical and a financial offer, each one clearly marked accordingly. Tenders must be signed by the tenderer or his duly authorised representative and perfectly legible so that there can be no doubt as to words and figures.
5. Validity period of the tender: two months as from the final date for submission of tenders mentioned under point 2 above.
6. The procurement follows the Finnish public procurement law 348/2007.
7. The financial offer cannot be higher than 21 000€.
8. The contract is multi party, involving organisations from Finland (FI), Ireland (IE) and Romania (RO). The essential procurement rules applied comply with the European & national public procurement rules and, moreover, the strictest public procurement rules are complied with, Table 1 and Annex 1 for summary of public procurement approaches per contracting region:

Table 1 Public procurement legislation and thresholds in the FRESH regions

Partners	Region	Law	Thresholds
PP1, PP2, PP3	FI	348/2007	30 000€ (period:1.6.2010 – 31.12.2011)
PP5, PP6	IE	S.I. No. 329 of 2006 European Communities (Award of Public Authorities' Contracts) Regulations 2006	25 000€ (Period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011)
PP12	RO	Government Emergency Ordinance nr. 34/19.04.2006 & Governmental Decision nr. 925/19.07.2006	15 000€ (Period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011)

The tender follows the open call procedure since its costs is higher than the lowest national threshold (RO, 15 000€) and in order to comply with the principle of the strictest national procedure.

9. Double offers / conditional offers are not acceptable; such offers imply the exclusion of the tenderer.
10. The specification, listing all the documents that must be produced in order to tender, including supporting evidence of economic, financial, technical and professional capacity and the draft contract in annex. Submission of a tender implies acceptance of all the terms and conditions set out in this invitation to tender, in the specification, in the draft contract and, where applicable, waiver of the tenderer's own general or specific terms and conditions. The terms and conditions are binding on the tenderer to whom the contract is awarded during the performance of the contract.
11. Contacts between the FRESH project and tenderers are prohibited throughout the evaluation procedure except under the following conditions only:
 - Before the closing date for submission of tenders: At the request of the tenderer, the FRESH project may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the contract.
 - Requests for additional information must be sent in writing, fax (+358 8 6178120) and /or e-mail (nietta.chaniotou@kainuunetu.fi) not later than 10 calendar days before the closing date for submission of tenders, point 2 of the present. The additional information shall be provided to the tenderers which have requested of the additional information not later than 6 calendar days before the due date for the submission of tenders.
 - The FRESH project, on its own initiative, inform interested parties of any error, inaccuracy, omission or any other material shortcoming in the text of the tender documents.
 - Further information will be sent simultaneously to all tenderers who have requested the specification in writing, where this is appropriate.
12. Subcontracting: subcontracting is not encouraged. If the tenderer wishes to subcontract part of the tasks, it needs to be clarified and agreed with the FRESH proe
13. After the opening of tenders
 - If a tender requires clarification, or if there is a need to correct material errors which have occurred in the drafting of the tender, the FRESH project through the Lead Partner may take the initiative and contact the tenderer(s). Such contact shall not lead to the conditions of the tender being altered in any way.

- This invitation to tender is in no way binding on the FRESH project. A commitment will come about only when a contract with the successful tenderer has been signed. **Page 3 sur 13**
 - Until a contract is signed, the FRESH project may decide to not award a contract or to cancel the tendering procedure, without the candidates or tenderers being entitled to claim any compensation. Where appropriate, the decision will be substantiated and brought to the attention of the tenderers.
 - Tenderers will be informed of whether their tenders have been accepted or rejected.
 - The follow-up of your response to the invitation to tender will require the recording and further processing of personal data (i.e. name, address, CV, etc.). This data will not be shared or transferred to third parties.
14. The costs of dispatching the documents and participating in this call for tender shall be borne by the tenderer.
15. The invitation for tender has been published on www.hankintailmoitukset.fi (HILMA) on 24th October 2011.
16. Indicative timetable

Activity	Time	Payment
Tender announcement to the Finnish e-procurement site www.hankintailmoitukset.fi	October 25th 2011	
Tender distributed to the partners and uploaded on the FRESH project http://freshproject.eu and the partners' web sites www.kainuunetu.fi ; www.kainuu.fi ; www.paijat-hame.fi , www.swra.ie ; www.mwra.ie ; www.adrvest.ro	October 25th 2011	
Deadline for the submission of the proposals	14.11.2011	
Clarifications & questions period	25.10.2011 - 3.11.2011	
Deadline for providing clarifications and answering questions	8.11.2011	
Deadline for announcement of winning candidate	31.12.2011	
Deadline for succesful candidate to present final methodology to the FRESH partners/Formulation of the audit tools checklists – acceptance of relevance by partners	15.2.2012	30 %
Implementation of the task	16.2.2012 - 15.5.2012	
Presentation of the draft result of the policy audit tools; acceptance of the work by the FRESH Interregional Steering Committee (ISC)	May 2012, Venice (IT) 6th ISC	50 %
Deadline for the finaliation of the work and final delivery	31.7.2012	
Deadline for solving any issues & closing the contract	30.9.2012	20 %

I. SPECIFICATIONS

1.1. *Nature of the contract*

The contract to be concluded is a service contract (hereinafter referred to as "the contract") between one (1) economic operator and six (6) FRESH project partners (PP1 Kainuun Etu Oy (FI); PP2 Joint Authority of Kainuu Region (FI); PP3 Regional Council of Päijät Häme (FI), PP5 MidWest Regional Authority (IE), PP6 South West Regional Authority (IE), PP12 West RDA (RO)), while the lead partner (Kainuun Etu Oy) represents two more of the FRESH partners (PP8 Veneto Region (IT), PP13 Lubelskie Voivodeship (PL)).

In submitting a tender, the tenderer accepts all terms and conditions specified in the draft framework contract.

The contract

- will be managed by the FRESH project partners : PP1 Kainuun Etu Oy ; PP2 Joint Authority of Kainuu Region; PP3 Regional Council of Päijät Häme, PP5 MidWest Regional Authority, PP6 South West Regional Authority, PP8 Veneto Region, PP12 West RDA, PP13 Lubelskie Voivodeship
- will be coordinated by PP1 Kainuun Etu Oy.

1.2. Purpose of the contract

The purpose of the contract is to provide the FRESH project partners -especially the regional policy makers, *with audit policy tools supporting eco innovation performance & competence in the regions based on and leading to smart specialisation growth, by building on the EU revised (2006) Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS), sustainable value creation, eco innovation priorities, and the policy impact that has resulted from the good practice transfer realised in the FRESH project.*

1.3 Background

1.3.1 The Interreg IV C programme

The INTERREG IVC Programme is part of the European Territorial Cooperation Objective. It European regions work together to share their knowledge and experience. Interreg IV C was launched in 2007 and will run until 2013.

1.3.2 FRESH project

FRESH project, Forwarding Regional Environmental Sustainable Hierarchies, is an Interreg IV C regional initiative project, 2009-2013.

ETAP, through eco- innovation and eco-design, is a powerful tool for accessing sustainable value creation (SVC). Eco design is important because it deals with both technological and social aspects (functionality and differentiation) of products / services. To strengthen their SVC-based development, regions need to update their sustainable & economic development approaches and enhance their ETAP applications.

Today we are aware that to address sustainable development effectively, we are required, on the one hand to go beyond legal compliance and environmental harm minimisation and, on the other hand, we need to ensure market demand for our products. Sustainable value creation occurs when economic growth is secured through sustainable actions. Sustainable value creation thus reconciles long term with short-term growth. It is therefore the key to sustainable development. In practice, sustainable value creation is linked to resource productivity and societal values relevant to sustainable development. Resource productivity is linked to innovative solutions.

The overall objective of the FRESH project is to strengthen development based on sustainable value creation at regional level and to contribute to the implementation of the Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP-COM 38/2004). FRESH is contributing to the 2nd priority area of ETAP, 'driving demand and improving market conditions'. Strengthening the eco-innovative performance of regions requires, besides corrective measures, (sub) industry-based concentration of resources and specialisation. In this way, FRESH aligns regions' path to smart specialisation growth. *The precondition is that through FRESH, regions (a) focus their efforts beyond « catching up » in their environmental performance, (b) select the industries to excel in competitiveness and sustainability and (c) promote eco innovation in the selected and prioritised industries. The prioritised industries become the focus of the eco innovation component*

which reinforces the innovation strategies of the regions. This process contributes to the foundation of smart specialisation in the partner regions. Partners decided to focus on sustainable construction in the sense of the Lead Market Initiative (LMI). The LMI addresses material, construction, waste, urban, health, and consumer quality-preferences. Page 5 sur 13

Main sub-objectives of the project are:

- to benefit from partners' good practices and jointly formulate a transferable model for sustainable value creation; based on this model, to update the regional framework plans and innovation strategies of the partner-regions
- to embed the components of SVC (eco design and eco-innovation) into the regional innovation system; ensure tailored and comprehensive eco-design and eco-innovation applications of sustainable value creation
- to ensure policy coherence between the different levels of regional governance for sustainable value creation
- to conceptually advance development based on SVC-based development.

The project partnership is based on a pre-existing network of 3 partner regions which expanded to 8 regions and 11 partners from (alphabetically) Finland, Ireland, Italy, Poland, and Romania. The criteria for partners joining the project were (i) existence of good practices in sustainable development and (ii) readiness and competence to improve strategies in the direction of sustainable value creation.

Good practice exchange is the heart of the project. It revolves around eleven (11) policy themes, which deal with eco innovation, ; it concentrates on the regional strategies dealing with sustainable value creation; 11 good practices are discussed.

Key results: strengthened sustainable value creation at regional level; improved regional frameworks for sustainable value creation; improved instruments for eco-design and eco- innovation; enhanced regional implementation of ETAP; conceptual advancement of development based on sustainable value creation.

Main outputs: transferable model of regional SVC-based development integrating the 11 good practices; updated partner regions' framework programming and reinforced RIS; publications.

There are two levels of policy impact in the FRESH project : the regional development plan and the regional innovation strategy. These two policy levels are addressed through eleven policy themes on the basis of which good practices are described, screened, better practices (=significant transferable solutions) are identified, and policy impact happens, as follows :FRESH policy levels and good practice correspondance

Policy theme	Policy level		Good & better practices	
	Regional development plan	Regional innovation strategy	Contributions	To policy impact
Policy theme 1 SVC in the regional development plan objectives	X		4	1
Policy theme 2 SVC indicators at regional (cumulative) level	X		1	1
Policy theme 3 Sector-specific SVC indicators	X	X	1	Not finalised
Policy theme 4 Regional innovation strategy		X	24	2
Policy theme 5 Comprehensive eco design assessment tools		X	6	1
Policy theme 6 Comprehensive eco design planning tools		X	6	On going
Policy theme 7 Eco innovation and knowledge competences in the regions		X	On going	On going

Policy theme 8 SME involvement		X	8	On going
Policy theme 9 Consumers' involvement	X	X	3	On going
Policy theme 10 Open innovation		X	1	1
Policy theme 11 Funding / sustainable procurement	X	X	On going	On going

Table 1. The better practices identified to-date and being selected for import

FRESH better practices * 1.6.2011				Importing project partners						
Better practices & exporting partner		Policy themes & good practices correspondance		2	3	5	6	8	12	13
GP 1 Regional Planning Guidelines	PP5	PT 1	Sustainable Value Creation (SVC)-based development at regional development level							X
GP 2 Genuine Progress Indicator	PP3	PT 2	SVC-based development measurements at regional level	X	X			X	X	
GP 3 Sustainable Design & Planning	PP10	PT 3	SVC-based development industry-specific measurements							
GP4 Best passive housing (product innovation)	PP3	PT 4	Regional innovation strategy and eco-innovation in sustainable construction							
GP5 Eco construction building (process innovation)	PP8	PT 4	Regional innovation strategy and eco-innovation in sustainable construction							
GP 6 Code for sustainable homes (system innovation)	PP10	PT 4	Regional innovation strategy and eco-innovation in sustainable construction	X	X	X	X		X	X
GP7 RIS2009 Regional Innovation Strategy	PP3	PT 4	Regional innovation strategy and eco-innovation in sustainable construction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GP8 BREEAM	PP7/10	PT 5	Comprehensive eco-design assessment tools	X	X	X		X	X	X
GP9 Open innovation	PP4	PT 10	Sustainable innovation							

(*): (i) The description of the good practices in detail is freely available in the project web site (<https://freshproject.eu> → Downloads→ Good practices) and copies will be given to the contractor ; (ii) The information contained in the preceding tables is NOT definitive and final since the GP analysis is still on going. The LP will be informing the contractor fo the good practice & policy impact developments. The contractor has the duty of following up the good practice inputs, the selöected better practices and the GP import process.

1.4. Focus, Scope and Outputs of the contract

1.4.1 Focus of contract

The policy audit tools assess the suitability of the regional policies and tools in promoting smart specialisation in the regions through sustainable value creation development, based on Sustainable Construction as part of the Lead market Initiative. It includes audit tools for the effectiveness of the eco innovation strategy in the sense of innovative products and services reflecting sustainable value creation development.

1.4.2 Scope of contract

1) The policy audit tools must support regional policy makers in assessing regions' performance and economic results in the direction of smart specialisation, as per the provisions of Tables 1 ~~Page 7 and 13~~ including all additional information.

2) The policy audit tools must assess the success of the eco innovation component in the sense of eco-innovation performance, exports, and knowledge creation. By matching the tools in action and the progress of the region in the context of the Lead market Initiative and ETAP, they assess the suitability of the co innovation tools and actions.

3) The policy audit tools support the regional policy makers and stakeholders by assessing the effectiveness of concerted action in the region

1.4.3 Outputs of the contract

Final deliverable: one report summarising the proposed policy audit tools with customised chapters for each one of the seven partner regions (Kainuu-FI, Päijät Häme_FI, Mid West Region -IE, South West Region _IE, Veneto Region _IT, West Region-RO, Lubelski-PL).

Intermediate deliverables :

- Inter. deliv. 1 Initial methodological approach
- Inter. deliv. 2 Revised, final methodological approach following comments by FRESH partners
- Inter. deliv. 3 List of stakeholders in each region from who inputs are expected
- Inter. deliv. 4 Checklists- questionnaires with adaptations for each one of the seven regions
- Inter. deliv. 5 Seven in depth interviews with the seven FRESH regional policy makers
- Inter. deliv. 6 Two joint meetings with the FRESH partners : (a) when the contract is awarded to explain the methodology, and (b) when the policy audit tools reports are complete

1.5. Budget, indicative timetable and payments

1.5.1 Budget

Contract cannot be higher than 21 000€.

1.5.2 Indicative timetable and payments

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1.6. Execution

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The Contractor should, in accordance with international good practice identify, analyse, evaluate and record sufficient information to achieve the objectives of the assignment. Assignments should be properly supervised.

The Contractor should record and document relevant information in files and working papers to support the findings, recommendations and conclusions. These documents must be kept for a period of 5 years (= the same period as for the rest of the FRESH project documents) after the final payment of the service rendered.

The FRESH project reserves the right to request, at any moment and stating its reasons, the replacement of one or more experts.

1.7 Reporting and Communication

The Contractor should communicate the results of the assignment to the FRESH project, Point 2 on page 1.

Each report should be submitted in an electronic version. The report should be drawn up in Word for Windows format and all tables should be in Excel for Windows format.

1.8 Duration of the contract

The duration of the contract is 9 months from the date of signature of the Contract. Extension is not foreseen unless force majeure happens.

1.9 Place of performance

The place of performance can be any where in the world –where the office of the Contractor is, However, two meetings between the Contractor and the FRESH project are foreseen, and meetings with individual project partners may be also held in the partner regions.

II. STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE TENDER

This section provides instructions on what each tender must include. Please note that only those tenders which comply with the instructions below will be considered. The technical proposal must not exceed 5 pages (annexes not included). Each tender must contain the three following sections

1. Administrative information (eligibility criterion)
2. Technical proposal (award criteria);
3. Financial proposal (award criteria) ;
4. Annex 1 : CV of the tenderer (award criteria)
5. Annex 2 : Examples of related tasks realised (award criteria)

3.1 Administrative proposal

The first section of each tender must contain the documents relating to the identification of the tenderers and to the exclusion and selection criteria:

Tenderers' identification form

All tenderers must provide proof of registration, as prescribed in their country of establishment, on one of the professional or trade registers or provide a declaration or certificate. If the tenderer is a natural person, he/she must provide a copy of the identity card/passport or driving licence and proof that he/she is covered by a social security scheme as a self-employed person. Page 13

Legal entity form

The legal entity form must be completed, dated and signed (person heading the project in case of groupings) and should be accompanied by a copy of the VAT registration document **or** a copy of some official document (official gazette, company register etc.) showing the name of the legal entity, the address of the head office and the registration number given to it by the national authorities. Such a form –without excluding others, is available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/execution/legal_entities_en.htm.

→FRESH project reserves the right to request additional evidence in relation to the tenders submitted for evaluation or verification purposes within a time-limit stipulated in its request.

3.2 Technical proposal

The second section of the tender must contain the technical proposal. This section is of great importance in the assessment of the tenders, the award of the contract and the future execution of any resulting specific contract.

The technical proposal shall contain the following:

- (1) Proof of understanding of and involvement in: (i) policy making and policy audit; (ii) Smart Growth policies, tools, & actual experiences ; (iii) eco innovation & resource productivity; (iv) the Lead Market Initiative and Sustainable Construction ; (v) regional innovation strategies
- (2) Proof of understanding of the FRESH project.
- (3) Methodology addressing the task of this tender.
- (4) Staff involved in carrying out the task
- (5) The quality plan adopted for the purpose of providing the services covered by the contract.

3.3 Financial proposal

The tenderer must confirm the price per man per day and for any additional costs foreseen for the implementation of the contract.

NOTE : PRICES

- **Prices are fixed amounts** (including all expenses, travel and subsistence) and not subject to revision during the performance of the contract.
- **Prices are quoted in Euros.** For tenderers based in countries which are not in the euro- area, the evolution of the exchange rate will not be a reason to modify the price of the initial tender. Tenderers choose the exchange rate and assume all risks or opportunities relating to the rate fluctuation.
- **Prices are free of all duties, taxes and other charges, i.e. VAT;** the European Union is exempt from such charges⁸. Exemption is granted to the Commission by the governments of the Member States, either through refunds upon presentation of documentary evidence or by direct exemption. For those countries where national legislation provides an exemption by means of a reimbursement, the amount of VAT is to be shown separately. In case of doubt about the applicable VAT system, it is the

responsibility of the tenderer to contact the national authorities to clarify the way in which the European Union is exempt from VAT;

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- **Reimbursable expenses:** in addition to the total amount specified in each specific contract, shipment expenses shall be reimbursed.

3.4 Annexes

- Annex 1 : Detailed CV of the tenderer including the members of the team that will carry out the task (award criteria)
- Annex 2 : Examples of related tasks realised (award criteria)

4.3 Award criteria

The contract will be awarded to the economically most advantageous tender, taking into account that the weight of the technical proposal is 75% and the weight of the financial proposal is 25%, and on the basis of:

4.3.1 Evaluation technical proposal

Only tenders that have reached a **total score of a minimum of 70%** and a **minimum score of 60% for each of the award criteria** will be taken into consideration for the price assessment and for the award of the contract:

(1) Technical quality of the tender and its compliance with the specification in respect of the specified subject matter, the objective to be attained and the aspects to be taken into account (30);

(2) Reliability and efficiency of the tools, procedures and quality plan proposed to ensure and verify the quality and monitoring of the services rendered. It is very important that the candidate has and can prove involvement in: (i) policy making and policy audit, (ii) regional innovation strategies, (iii) eco innovation & resource productivity, (iv) the Lead Market Initiative and especially Sustainable Construction, and (v) Smart Growth policies, tools, & actual experiences (50);

(3) Methodology proposed for the organisation and provision of the services, including the organisation of relations with the competent Commission services (20).

The figures in brackets indicate the maximum score that can be attributed to each individual criterion.

4.3.2 Quality/price analysis, award of the contract

The price to be considered in this section is the one offered by the tenderer in the financial proposal; double offers are not accepted. The price may not exceed 21 000€.

Tenders for which the total technical quality score is less than 70 points or which do not meet the minimum requirement for one of the qualitative technical award criteria (60%) will not be considered for the quality/price analysis described below.

A ranking of tenders with their relative value for money will be based on the quality/price ratio of each tender, calculated by dividing the total number of points obtained following the technical evaluation by the price component of the bid.

The contract will then be awarded to the one tenderer with the highest score.

Tenderer

- they have given false administrative information (see section 3.1)
- they are bankrupt or are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations
- they have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgement which has the force of res judicata; they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify
- they make double offer in the tender.

Annex 1 Contracting partners, public procurement information

(Source: (1) OECD (2010), "Public Procurement in EU Member States - The Regulation of Contract 2 sur 13 Below the EU Thresholds and in Areas not Covered by the Detailed Rules of the EU Directives", *Sigma Papers*, No. 45, OECD Publishing. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5km91p7s1mxv-en> and (2) FRESH partners inputs).

Member state	Regulatory instrument	Thresholds	Methods	Tender invitation rules	Time limits	Other rules ((criteria, award criteria, technical specifications and complaints)
Finland	Public Procurement Acts (348/2007) for public contracts and (349/2007) for Utilities apply for contracts above and below EU thresholds. However, contract awards in the Utilities are not regulated. A decree specifies the publication requirements in both sectors. Treaty obligations apply.	PPA for public contracts doesn't apply: < EUR 30 000 for goods and services and < EUR 100 000 for works. Negotiated procedure with prior publication can be used <EUR 50 000 for goods and services and EUR 500 000 for works.	The EU procedures are simplified used above the national thresholds. Direct awards can be allowed subject to justifications similar to those in the Directives.	Publication on central web portal (HILMA → www.hankintailmoitukset.fi) plus other media.	No time limits stipulated; should allow for reasonable time for tender submission.	Basically the same rules apply above below the EU thresholds as above. However no standstill period.
Ireland	Regulations 2006 (Statutory Instrument) 329 of 2006, and Department of Finance Circular 10 of 2010.	The threshold for advertising on e-tenders (and thus ensuring transparent public procurement) is €25,000. The EU threshold is 193 000€.	<€5,000 Obtain Verbal Quotes >€5,000 to <€25,000 obtain 3 Written Quotes >€25,000 & <€50,000 Advertise on www.etenders.gov.ie <€50,000 <193 000€ Advertise on www.etenders.gov.ie	Request for offers when the procurement is below the national thresholds Advertise on www.etenders.gov.ie	N/A	N/A

Member state	Regulatory instrument	Thresholds	Methods	Tender invitation rules	Time limits	Other rules ((criteria, award criteria, technical specifications and complaints)
Romania	<p>Public procurement law adopted through GEO 34/2006 and law 337/2006 and secondary legislation by GD 925/2006.</p> <p>The PPL covers contracts in the Classical and Utilities sectors above as well as below the EU thresholds. EU Treaty principles must be observed</p>	<p>< EUR 15 000: direct purchasing</p> <p>< EUR 100 000 for supply and services contracts and EUR 750 000 for works contracts: simplified procedures.</p> <p>Above the thresholds for simplified procedure, the EU procedures apply except for time limits and publication in the Official Journal.</p>	<p>Simplified procedure with request for tenders below the national thresholds.</p> <p>Otherwise basically the procedures of EU Directives.</p>	<p>Publication of contract and award notices on the central web portal (ESPP) in a simplified manner.</p>	<p>The time limit for submission of tenders under the simplified procedure is 10 days which can be reduced to 6 days under electronic submission.</p> <p>Above the national thresholds the time limit under open procedure is 20 days (15 days in electronic form). Under restricted procedure the time limit for application is 10 days and tenders 15 days which could be reduced in case of electronic submission. Competitive dialogue 20 days and negotiated procedure 10 days.</p>	<p>Basically the same rules apply below the EU thresholds as above.</p> <p>Standstill period is 6 days below EU thresholds while 11 days above.</p>