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## Theme 6: ENVIRONMENT (INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE)

ENV.2013.WATER INNO&DEMO-2: Ensuring the integration of water and innovation demonstration projects and support to trans-national networks of procurers:

b) Promotion and development of innovation-oriented public procurements in the domain covered by the proposed European Innovation Partnership on 'Water' [...]



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### D2.3. WIP strategy and operating rules



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# 1. Introduction

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The Water Innovation Procurement (WIP) Group is an activity of the Water Public Innovation Procurement Policies (Water PiPP) project that is being implemented from January 2014 to December 2016. Water PiPP is about exploring public innovation procurement methodologies and testing them in the water sector.

The Water PiPP partnership is composed of a group of innovation procurement and water experts from public authorities, water utilities, networks of cities and regions, and representatives from the research and innovation community in the field of water.

Water PiPP is a collaborative project funded by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.

## 2. The Water Innovation Procurement (WIP) Group

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The Water Innovation Procurement (WIP) Group is a specialized discussion group that has been set up in the Procurement Forum as part of the implementation of the Water PiPP project.

Developed and managed by ICLEI the Procurement Forum is an online information and knowledge exchange platform related to sustainable procurement and public procurement of innovation which enables networking, capacity building, and the dissemination of latest news. The Procurement Forum can be found at <https://procurement-forum.eu>.

The WIP Group is operating as one of the specific thematic groups within the frame of the Procurement Forum and is moderated by ICLEI. The specific page for the WIP Group is <https://procurement-forum.eu/group/77883/discussion-group-water-innovation-procurement-wip>.

Within the broader spectrum of the Procurement Forum, the WIP Group focuses on Innovation Procurement in the water sector.

### 2.1 Overall goal and specific objectives of the WIP Group

The overall goal of the WIP Group is to give public procurers/buyers in the water sector the opportunity to exchange their knowledge, experiences, needs, procedures, solutions etc.

Specific objectives are:

- To distribute latest results from the Water PiPP project
- To announce Water PiPP events such as webinars and promote participation in these events
- To share latest news, trends, research results and tools in relation to innovative procurement policies in the water sector
- To provide a transnational platform for networking in the field of public procurement in the water sector
- To allow a secure environment to exchange and share relevant information

### 2.2 Target audience

The target audience of the WIP Group consists of:

- Representatives of public institutions that intend to embark on Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) and Public Procurement of Innovation (PPI)
- Procurement and water experts from public authorities
- Suppliers of innovative water services and technologies who consider - or work with - public institutions as buyers of their products.

Participants of the WIP Group also include representatives of the Water PiPP partnership and of the selected institutions carrying out the pilots. A separate discussion group serving the communication and capacity building needs of the pilot institutions in a more tailored manner is under consideration.

### 2.3 Launch of the WIP Group

The WIP Group was launched at the Consensus Workshop of the Water PiPP project in Brussels on 25 March 2015. Procurers and others interested in the topic and belonging to the target audience as identified above are invited to join the group and can do so upon request.

### 2.4 Activities of the WIP Group

Moderated by ICLEI, participants in this forum will have the opportunity to learn, connect and exchange with peers and experts from different countries to gain a better understanding of innovation in the water sector and apply it in their own professional context.

The WIP Group allows posting information, questions, topics for discussions etc. to which other participants can respond.

Each Water PiPP partner is responsible for the distribution of relevant information and stirring exchanges and debates on central issues related to innovation procurement in the water sector.

### 2.5 Promotion of WIP Group

The WIP Group will be promoted via the Water PiPP website.

Further channels are, amongst others:

- Procurement Forum - <https://procurement-forum.eu/>
- Public Procurement of Innovation (PPI) Platform - <https://www.innovation-procurement.org/>
- Green Public Procurement (GPP) News alert - [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/alert\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/alert_en.htm)
- Sustainable Procurement Resource Centre (SPRC) - <http://www.sustainable-procurement.org/>
- Twitter (@ICLEI\_Europe, etc.) - <https://twitter.com/iclei>
- Other relevant platforms of Water PiPP partners

In addition, ICLEI will produce a postcard that project partners can use at external events to further encourage the participation of relevant practitioners and experts.

### 2.6 Long-term future of WIP Group

The Water PiPP partners will decide about the future of the WIP Group beyond the end of the project when developing the Sustainability Plan that is to be delivered in month 34, i.e. in October 2016 (see Task 6.4/D6.4). The decision will depend, amongst others, on the level of interest and interaction triggered during the project and the availability of resources for further moderation.

In any case, all participants of the WIP Group will be encouraged to remain in the broader community of the Procurement Forum in which the group is embedded and which will be alive in the long run.

### 3. Operational rules of Procurement Forum and the WIP Group more specifically (including registration)

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In order to become a member of the WIP Group Users have to register on the Procurement Forum website beforehand. The Procurement Forum is managed by the European Secretariat of ICLEI, as part of the Procurement of Innovation Platform project financed by DG Enterprise and Industry - European Commission.

Only Users who have completed the registration form on the Procurement Forum website are considered as registered Users and can access the Procurement Forum.

In order to be member of the WIP Group Users have to request that they would like to participate in this specific group. Once the moderator of the group accepted the request the User can have access to its content.

The instructions for people interested in registering for the WIP Group are therefore as follows:

- a) Register for the Procurement Forum by filling out the registration form: <https://procurement-forum.eu/sign-up>
- b) Log-in to the Procurement Forum
- c) Under 'All groups' search for 'Discussion Group: Water Innovation Procurement (WIP)' and request for participation in the group
- d) Once the Moderator accepted your request the WIP Group will appear in the 'My Groups' section and by clicking the WIP link you will be directed to the specific forum site: <https://procurement-forum.eu/group/77883/discussion-group-water-innovation-procurement-wip>

By registering Users are accepting the term of conditions of the operation of the Procurement Forum.

The general rules of operation, the rules of conduct, the terms and conditions of the Procurement Forum as seen below are all applicable to the operation of the WIP Group as well:

- The legal notice for the Forum can be found under the following link: <https://procurement-forum.eu/legal>
- The privacy notice of the Forum can be found under the following link: <https://procurement-forum.eu/privacy>
- The cookie policy of the Forum can be found under the following link: <https://procurement-forum.eu/cookies>
- The Procurement Forum User Manual and the FAQ section can be found under the following link: <https://procurement-forum.eu/help>