

CoP Revaluing public sector food procurement



<p style="text-align: center;">AIMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create a shared interpretation of what sustainable public sector food procurement means • prioritize the most important aspects of sustainable public sector food procurement by considering the current political framing • explore existing research reservoir on public sector food procurement in light of meeting the needs of the ones using the knowledge requested • reflect on the relevance of the learning outcomes (related to the defined questions) for the non-scientific context, and to identify future research needs 	<p style="text-align: center;">SCOPING STAGE Public procurement and food: key issues</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Legislation and public policy</p> <p>Learning and good practice Barriers</p> <p>Values</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENVISIONING STAGE Plan of action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • internal CoP virtual activities (member interviews; webinars); • establishing external facing website on the Knowledge Hub & supporting activity (newsletter); • further CoP meetings and externalising membership through conference, the Foodlinks web platform and RPSFP Group on the Knowledge Hub.
<p>AIMS AND ACTIVITIES</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">The Tirennia Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • statement on ways to promote greater uptake of public procurement of sustainable food; • 3 key themes for the collaborative document: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Why should public procurement change? (ii) What change is happening? (iii) How can public procurement change? • co-produced document through the wiki on the RPSFP Group site on the Knowledge Hub; • major exercise in knowledge brokering by core CoP members, with opportunities for input from other members of Group on the Knowledge Hub. 	<p style="text-align: center;">RPP CoP Conference Public procurement of sustainable food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 people attended a conference that provided opportunities to share learning, experiences and ideas about how to revalue public sector food procurement in both the UK and across Europe; • key step in externalising the CoP to the UK based networks around sustainable food and public procurement; • NGO sector were among the presenters, alongside public procurement officers and policy makers. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Revaluing Public Sector Food Procurement Group on the Knowledge Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoP further externalised using virtual 'Knowledge Hub'; • increase in membership from 12 at the end of March, to 44 members at the end of June 2012; • regular newsletter mailing to alert members to recent posts and blogs by RPSFP members on the Knowledge Hub and to prompt members to visit and engage with the site by adding their own items; • members by type: Scientists 23 (52%); Policy-makers 5 (11%); Practitioners 10 (23%); Civil Society groups 6 (14%).

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- **SIGNIFICANT RESULTS:** progress in knowledge brokering between policy officials, academics and practitioners inside and outside CoP; greater understanding emerging around relationships between face-to-face and virtual forms of engagement, around different degrees of engagement e.g monitoring as well as participation and about role of structures and platforms and events/activities to maintain knowledge exchange activity and learning.
- **WHAT WENT WELL, WHAT DID NOT WORK WELL?**
 - + face-to-face-meetings/interaction;
 - + learning about different perspectives/new connections;
 - + gave inspiration in daily work
 - - virtual engagement fragile, takes time to establish;
 - - enlarging/externalising the CoP is slow;
 - - lack of opportunity for people to share their tacit knowledge and experience;
 - - not much innovation/new thinking – lack of challenge
- **FEEDBACK REQUESTS:**
 - Suggest instruments to help make outcomes tangible;
 - How to enlarge the network and overcome language barriers;
 - Is challenging each others knowledge a good way to broker knowledge? (we always seem to reach consensus).