



Incorporating circular public procurement into policy documents in Kymenlaakso

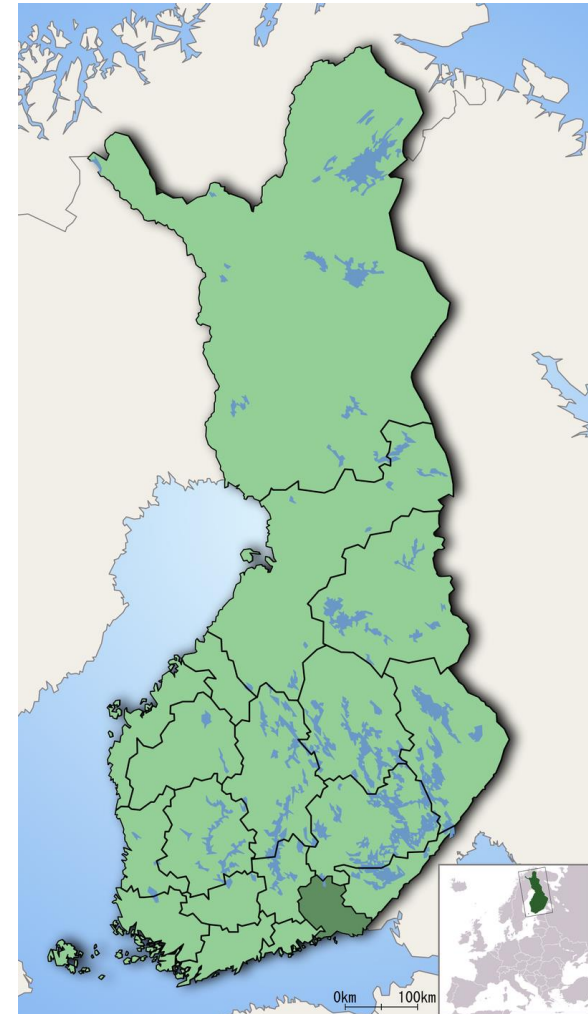
Marina Sorokina
Kouvola Innovation Oy

25 January, 2023, Tallinn
CircPro project final conference:

”Enhancing circular procurement practices on the local level”

Kymenlaakso Region

- Approximately 180 000 inhabitants
- One of the most significant forest industry clusters in Europe
- International hub of logistics and logistics related business & knowhow in the Baltic Sea region
- Finland's largest railway hub in Kouvola
- Finland's biggest universal port, Port of HaminaKotka
- Highway E18



Policy instruments addressed by CircPro

Regional level – Kymenlaakso region

- **Kymenlaakso's Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategy 2021 - 2025 (KymRIS3 2.0)**
- **Carbon Neutral Kymenlaakso Roadmap**

Local level – City of Kouvola

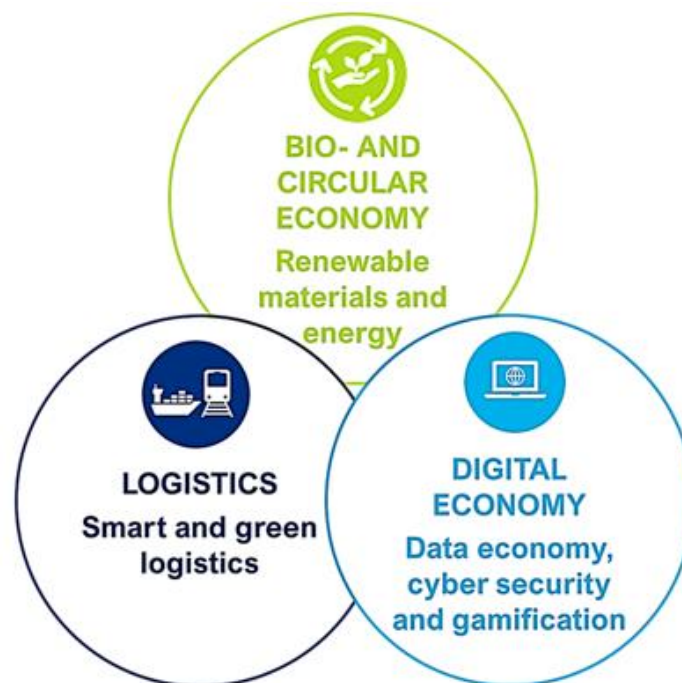
- **Environmental Programme of the City of Kouvola for the period 2020 – 2030**



Policy instrument addressed: **Kymenlaakso's Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategy 2021 - 2025**

Achieved policy changes:

- The bio- and circular economy is included in the new strategy as one of the three smart specialisation priorities, whereas sustainable procurement is mentioned among the tools for enhancing circularity.
- The updated document also emphasises the importance of public procurement for the creation of reference and lead markets and support of new service and product development in the region.



Policy instrument addressed: **Carbon Neutral Kymenlaakso Roadmap**



Achieved policy changes:

The Roadmap states the following about the circular procurement:

- **Action:** Developing public projects, procurement and construction practices toward circular economy
- **Executors:** municipalities, region
- **Implementation period:** immediately – 2035 (2030)
- **Required resources/drivers:** update of the public procurement guides
- **Performance indicators:** % of sustainable procurements and domestic procurements

Innovation and Skills in Finland 2021-2027: EU funding available for sustainable procurement projects

Innovation and Skills in Finland 2021 – 2027 EU regional and structural policy programme identifies the need to encourage actors to use strategic and innovative sustainable public procurements to create forerunner markets.

Innovative Finland (priority area 1), sustainable public procurements:

- innovative solutions
 - business development
 - testing new technology
 - know-how
 - references
 - more effective RDI
- Etc.

Carbon neutral Finland (priority area 2), sustainable public procurements:

- pilots, demonstrations
 - energy saving, energy efficiency
 - wood construction
 - sustainable construction, material and energy efficiency
 - life cycle assessment
 - climate criteria in public procurements
- Etc.

Policy instrument addressed: **Environmental Programme of the City of Kouvola 2020 - 2030**

Achieved policy changes:

The programme sets targets and outlines actions within six different topics. One of the topics is “**Consumption and material cycles**”.

The programme sets the following **targets** for this topic:

- 1) *Smart procurement driven by a life-cycle perspective and circular economy*
- 2) Efficient use of construction and other materials and their maximum circularity at the end-of-life stage.

Actions:

- *Updating and utilising city’s procurement criteria to promote the circular economy, organising training on procurement focusing on environmental and life-cycle issues;*
- *Updating the city’s planning and budgeting procedures to guide resources to sustainable, carbon footprint reducing procurements;*
- Procedures to promote circulation of materials in internal city operations;
- Projects and experiments with the utilisation of recycled materials.



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Thank you!

<http://www.interregeurope.eu/circpro>

***Kouvola
Innovation***

Marina Sorokina
CircPro Project Manager

Kouvola Innovation Oy
+358 20 615 9176
marina.sorokina@kinno.fi