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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Policy recommendations to modernize public procurement issued by the BUILD Project

*23. September 2024, Rotterdam (ND), Tartu (EE), Turku (FI), Martin (SK) - The BUILD project has published a policy booklet for policymakers to enhance and facilitate the adoption of innovation procurement across Europe. It is based on the collection of the 2-year project experience and its synergies with other EU initiatives, especially the Innovation Procurement Task Force (IPTF). The recommendations highlight the most critical topics to be addressed with targeted policies. With the goal to modernize public procurement, foster sustainable growth, and support the EU's digital and green transitions.*

#### Top recommendations considering different aspects of public procurement of innovation:

1. **Guiding principles:** Align innovation procurement with sustainability, economic growth, and efficiency goals, ensuring a need-driven, bottom-up approach.
2. **Market consultation promotion:** Encourage early engagement with suppliers to align procurement with market capabilities, fostering better solutions.
3. **Pre-commercial procurement (PCP):** Support pilot projects and risk-sharing frameworks for co-developing innovative technologies.
4. **Innovation partnerships:** Build long-term collaborations between public and private sectors to address complex challenges.
5. **Target risk aversion and improve capacity building:** Improve training access, creating a supportive regulatory environment with incentives to innovate. Invest in specialized training, national competence centres. Enforce international networks of synergies.
6. **Capacity building:** Invest in specialized training, national competence centres. Enforce international networks of synergies.
7. **Legislation and regulation:** Elevate innovation procurement on the political agenda. Prioritize with adequate staffing and resources, and a strategic policy framework. Harmonize national laws with EU public procurement directives and simplify compliance for procurement officials.

The BUILD project calls for ambitious investments in innovation procurement, aiming for 20 % of public procurement or 3.6 % of GDP. This approach will help Europe lead in the global digital and green transitions, accelerating public sector growth, enhancing industrial competitiveness, and fostering economic growth.

For more information and access to the full policy recommendations booklet, please visit the project's Educational Library, in this section [\[here\]](#).

### **About the BUILD initiative**

BUILD is a 2-year long EU funded project focusing on boosting the demand for innovative products and services in Europe. Thus, increasing capacities of cities in innovation procurement. During its implementation, several empowering activities took place:

- organising free trainings and creating educational resources for procurement stakeholders,
- exploring innovation procurement challenges and solutions in close contact with procurers,
- leveraging existing initiatives with intensive communication and synergies building.

The initiative comprises of 6 partners from Slovakia, Estonia, Finland and the Netherlands. The project is coordinated by PEDAL Consulting.

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