

Annex – Call for applications: Country report

In the first phase (month 1-4), researchers will engage in *desk research* (summarise existing research, national policies and important judgements with regard to socially responsible public procurement). This will be supplemented by *5-7 expert interviews* with national level employer associations, trade unions as well as governmental and non-governmental organisations providing guidance and support to public authorities in the implementation of SRPP. The evidence gathered will be used to identify public authorities that have started to assume responsibility for decent work in outsourced cleaning and security services.

In the second phase (month 5-14), for each of the two industries, two public authorities (local authorities, ministries, other public contracting authorities) will be selected for in-depth case studies, resulting in a total of *4 case studies per country*. For each case study, researchers will conduct 4-8 semi-structured interviews

- with the public authority (officials involved in preparing, awarding and managing/controlling the contract). This may also include external agencies involved in controlling the enforcement of labour clauses and other elements of the contract aimed at securing decent working conditions (e.g. labour inspectorates);
- with the management and (wherever possible) staff representatives of a company contracted by the authority;
- with representatives of trade unions and employers' associations involved in collective bargaining for the contracted company or the region under study.

The case studies will particularly focus on three issues:

- if and how procurement procedures and resulting contracts are *targeting decent work* (including wages, skills + training, working time, health and safety issues) and to what extent this has been fostered or is impeded by national legislation and case law transposing the EU public procurement directives;
- if and how public authorities refer to *collective agreements and /or interact with social partners* in designing procedures and provisions aimed at securing decent work;
- if and how public authorities *control and enforce* these provisions, and to what extent they rely on the support of social partners, own staff or external agencies to this aim.

During this second phase, there will be video meetings every six weeks to keep up to date with the latest developments and assist one another in the undertaking of the research.

To further ground their initial findings, UNI Europa and the project consortium will be organising a trilateral stakeholder seminar/national focus group (month 13/14) with participants from trade unions, employers' associations and public administrations as well as other agencies involved in SRPP in the two industries. The goal of this seminar is not restricted to a uni-directional dissemination of the findings, but includes validation of the findings as well as stimulating exchange and networking between the participants. More precisely, the aim is

- to showcase promising practices, thereby also encouraging an exchange of knowledge among procurement practitioners involved in contracting out cleaning and security services and enabling them to learn from the experience of their peers;
- to discuss the prevalence and the viability of the promising practices from the perspectives of all actors involved, in order to identify their prerequisites and success factors as well as potential pitfalls and limitations;

- to discuss impediments with regard to dimensions of decent work that are not addressed by promising practices so far;
- to organise a trilateral exchange between public authorities, employer and worker representatives with a view to enhance a mutual understanding of the expectations, challenges and possible solutions for securing decent work in public supply chains and thereby to foster a partnership approach to future purchasing processes.

In the third phase (month 14-16), researchers will analyse their research findings and write up a country report. The report includes

- a brief overview on recent policy developments and case law relevant for SRPP at national level;
- an analysis of major challenges, drivers and results of SRPP practices based on the case studies, expert interviews and literature, following a common analytical grid;
- a description of a number of promising and problematic practices, based on a common template, that will serve as a basis for WP 4.

First drafts of these reports will be discussed at the Second steering committee (month 16) in Brussels

- The second steering committee will develop the agendas for the cross-sectional conference in coordination with the Scientific Coordinator and the Director of Property Services and UNICARE.
- The country reports will be discussed and used to identify common trends and challenges and map convergent and divergent approaches to SRPP in the six countries.
- The results from this meeting will flow into the themes of the final conference, the final sectoral reports and promising practices report, as well as into the final national reports
- The national reports shall be finalised until May 2022.