Netherlands*

Strategic framework, action plan and scope for procurement for innovation policy

The Netherlands have a goal to spend 2.5% on innovation.

There is a stand-alone procurement for innovation action plan: the programme “Innovatiegericht Inkopen”, which includes the use of PPI, PCP, SBIR and other instruments that stimulate innovation among contracting authorities prior to the actual procurement. The programme focuses on the stimulation of the dialogue between contracting authorities and businesses prior to the actual procurement, the insight in market challenges and demand articulation. Procurement for innovation aims at providing room for innovation in public procurements and actively challenging businesses to deliver innovation.

Implementation

The Netherlands implemented a number of specific actions. Funding by SBIR is used to compile space data for Dutch contracting authorities; green deals and city deals are used to articulate demand; contracting authorities are supported and the dialogue between businesses and contracting authorities is stimulated. Synergies are actively searched between procurement for innovation and secondary policy goals such as sustainable procurement.

Key lessons learned

Netherlands’s main challenge to procurement for innovation is the willingness of contracting authorities to take and share risks. Contracting authorities with a more positive mind-set to innovation tend to be the first to embrace the concept of procurement for innovation.

Measurement and impact assessment

The Netherlands monitored the above-described 2.5% target. To assess impact, the Netherlands conducts studies of state of play.

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