

Türkiye, Germany, Ireland, Slovenia, Portugal, Sweden, Finland – Research and experimental development services – CircularPSP: Pre-commercial procurement (PCP) to buy R&D (research and development) services to develop a Public Service Platforms for Circular, Innovative and Resilient Municipalities.

OJ S 181/2025 22/09/2025

Contract or concession award notice – standard regime
Services

1. Buyer

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality

Email: ulku.gul@ibb.gov.tr

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Circular Berlin – Circular City

Email: rianna@circular.berlin

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Sandyford BID CLG

Email: Ger@sandyford.ie

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia

Email: ana.plavcak@skupnostobcin.si

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Municipality of Guimaraes

Email: dalila.sepulveda@cm-guimaraes.pt

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

Email: Karin.peedu@skr.se

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

Activity of the contracting authority: General public services

1.1. Buyer

Official name: Forum Virium Helsinki Oy

Email: pekka.niskasaari@forumvirium.fi

Legal type of the buyer: Body governed by public law

2. Procedure

2.1. Procedure

Title: CircularPSP: Pre-commercial procurement (PCP) to buy R&D (research and development) services to develop a Public Service Platforms for Circular, Innovative and Resilient Municipalities.

Description: This contract award notice informs interested operators about the outcome of a tender. On 26/12/2023, a contract notice was published as part of the EU project CircularPSP to purchase R&D services from a number of R&D providers in parallel (PCP procurement). The procurement is open on equal terms to all types of operators that are established in EU Member States and Horizon Europe associated countries and that fulfil the requirements set out in section 3 of the Call for Tenders which defines the eligibility of tenderers, exclusion and selection criteria. The procurement aims to trigger new solutions to be developed and tested to address the following challenge: accelerating a digital transition towards a Circular Economy (CE). The procurers are willing to invest €5.64 million in Research and Development to address this challenge in their regions. This PCP is a joint procurement by different procurers across Europe that are all facing the same common challenge and are thus looking for similar solutions ('Buyers Group'). The procurement will take the form of a pre-commercial procurement (PCP) under which R&D service contracts will be awarded to a number of R&D providers in parallel in a phased approach. This will make it possible to compare competing alternative solutions. Each selected operator will be awarded a framework agreement that covers 3 R&D phases. Each selected R&D provider will be awarded a framework agreement that covers the following R&D phases and a specific contract per phase. The 3 phases are: solution design (phase 1), prototyping and pilot testing (phase 2), original development, installation, validation and field testing of a limited set of first products or services (phase 3). After each phase, intermediate evaluations will be carried out to progressively select the best of the competing solutions. The contractors with the best-value-for-money solutions will be offered a specific contract for the next phase. A total budget of € 5.640.000,- was earmarked for awarding the contracts to a minimum of: - 5 contractors for phase 1 - 3 contractors for phase 2 and - 2 contractors for phase 3. Testing is expected to take place in Istanbul (TR), Berlin (DE), Dublin (IE), Maribor (SI), Guimarães (PT), Stockholm (SE), London (UK), Helsinki (FIN). This testing may also serve as a first customer test reference for the contractors. The procurement has started in 15/05/2024 and is expected to end in 31/07/2026. The selected operators will retain ownership of the intellectual property rights (IPRs) that they generate during the PCP and will be able to use them to exploit the full market potential of the developed solutions i.e. beyond the procurers.

Procedure identifier: 39223c24-b14d-44ab-8cca-1bee5de12ff2

Previous notice: 786169-2023

Type of procedure: Open

2.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 73100000 Research and experimental development services

2.1.2. Place of performance

Postal address: Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Hacıahmet Mahallesi Muhsin Yazıcıoğlu Cad. No : 1 Kasımpaşa Beyoğlu

Town: Istanbul

Postcode: 34440

Country subdivision (NUTS): İstanbul (TR100)

Country: Türkiye

Additional information: Testing is expected to take place in the following procurers' countries: İstanbul (TR), Berlin (DE), Dublin (IE), Maribor (SI), Guimarães (PT), Stockholm (SE), London (UK), Helsinki (FIN)

2.1.3. Value

Estimated value excluding VAT: 5 640 000,00 EUR

2.1.4. General information

Additional information: Participation in the open market consultation that was held in the period of 9 May - 29 June 2023 as part of the preparation for this procurement is not a prerequisite for submitting a tender. This procurement is exempted from the WTO Government Procurement Agreement (GPA), the EU public procurement directives and the national laws that implement them. This is because it concerns the procurement of R&D services where the benefits do not accrue exclusively to the contracting authority for its use in the conduct of its own affairs.

Publication of this contract notice in the EU Official Journal is not to be understood as a waiver of this exemption. Publication is made on a voluntary basis and the procurement will not follow the procedures under the EU public procurement directives, but rather the procedure

described in the tender documentation. The open procedure was chosen in Section IV.1.1)

'Procedure' for formal reasons only. This is because it is not possible to publish a contract

notice without selecting one of the listed procedures. Offers shall be submitted in English. All

communication (before, during and after the procurement) can be made in English. More

information See: – the project website (<https://circularpsp.eu>) – the open market consultation

recordings and slide decks (<https://circularpsp.eu/open-market-consultation/>) – FAQs

(<https://circularpsp.eu/faqs/>) – PCPs on the Europa website (<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/innovation-procurement>) or contact: – <https://circularpsp.eu/contact-us/>

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

This PCP is carried out by İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality who was appointed as lead

procurer in the name and on behalf of the Buyers Group listed in I.1. The applicable national

law is Turkish.

Applicable cross-border law: The applicable national law is Turkish

5. Lot

5.1. Lot: LOT-0000

Title: CircularPSP: Pre-commercial procurement (PCP) to buy R&D (research and development) services to develop a Public Service Platforms for Circular, Innovative and Resilient Municipalities.

Description: This PCP procurement is a joint procurement by different procurers across Europe that are all facing the same common challenge and are thus looking for similar solutions (so-called 'Buyers Group'). The common challenge to be solved by suppliers is Suppliers are to design, develop and test an innovative 'circular economy solution' (CE-solution) that enables municipalities and their staff as well as businesses in the local economy to apply circular practice more quickly, frequently, widely and effectively. Individual users at City and Business are empowered through access to information, knowledge, circular wisdom, guidance and training to act more circular more often and increasingly impactful whilst transitioning to a CE mindset. The procurement will take the form of a pre-commercial

procurement (PCP) under which R&D service contracts will be awarded to a number of R&D providers in parallel in a phased approach. This will make it possible to compare competing alternative solutions. Each selected operator will be awarded a framework agreement that covers 3 R&D phases. Each selected R&D provider will be awarded a framework agreement that covers the following R&D phases and a specific contract per phase. The 3 phases are: solution design, prototype development, original development and validation and testing of a limited volume of first products or services. After each phase, intermediate evaluations will be carried out to progressively select the best of the competing solutions. The contractors with the best-value-for-money solutions will be offered a specific contract for the next phase. A total budget of € 5.640.000,- was earmarked for awarding the contracts to a minimum of: - 5 contractors for phase 1 - 3 contractors for phase 2 and - 2 contractors for phase 3. Testing in Phase 3 is expected to take place in Istanbul (Turkey), Berlin (Germany), Dublin (Ireland), Maribor (Slovenia), Guimarães (Portugal), Stockholm (Sweden), Helsinki (Finland) and London (UK). This testing may also serve as a first customer test reference for the contractors. Phase 3 is expected to start June 2025 and end May 2026. The selected operators will retain ownership of the intellectual property rights (IPRs) that they generate during the PCP and will be able to use them to exploit the full market potential of the developed solutions, i.e. beyond the procurement.

5.1.1. Purpose

Main nature of the contract: Services

Main classification (cpv): 73100000 Research and experimental development services

Additional classification (cpv): 30211300 Computer platforms, 72000000

IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support, 72212931

Training software development services, 72230000 Custom software development services, 72243000 Programming services, 72245000

Contract systems analysis and programming services, 72250000 System and support services , 72253000 Helpdesk and support services, 72262000 Software development services, 72266000 Software consultancy services, 72300000 Data services, 72310000

Data-processing services, 72311100 Data conversion services, 72312100

Data preparation services, 72313000 Data capture services, 72314000

Data collection and collation services, 72315200 Data network management services, 72316000 Data analysis services, 72317000 Data storage services, 72319000

Data supply services, 72320000 Database services, 72321000 Added-value database services , 72322000 Data management services, 72330000

Content or data standardization and classification services, 73000000

Research and development services and related consultancy services, 73100000

Research and experimental development services, 73110000 Research services, 75110000

General public services, 75112100 Administrative development project services, 79300000

Market and economic research; polling and statistics, 79311300 Survey analysis services,

79311400 Economic research services, 79311410 Economic impact assessment, 79314000

Feasibility study, 79315000 Social research services, 79400000

Business and management consultancy and related services, 79410000

Business and management consultancy services, 79411000

General management consultancy services, 79411100

Business development consultancy services, 79415200 Design consultancy services,

79416000 Public relations services, 79416200 Public relations consultancy services, 79418000

Procurement consultancy services, 79419000 Evaluation consultancy services, 79530000 Translation services, 90700000 Environmental services, 90710000 Environmental management, 90711000 Environmental impact assessment other than for construction, 90712000 Environmental planning, 90712100 Urban environmental development planning, 90712200 Forest conservation strategy planning, 90712300 Marine conservation strategy planning, 90712400 Natural resources management or conservation strategy planning services, 90712500 Environmental institution building or planning, 90713000 Environmental issues consultancy services, 90714000 Environmental auditing, 90714100 Environmental information systems, 90714200 Corporate environmental auditing services, 90714300 Sectoral environmental auditing services

5.1.2. Place of performance

Postal address: Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Hacıahmet Mahallesi Muhsin Yazıcıoğlu Cad. No : 1 Kasımpaşa Beyoğlu

Town: Istanbul

Postcode: 34440

Country subdivision (NUTS): İstanbul (TR100)

Country: Türkiye

Additional information: At least 50% of the contracted R&D services must be performed in EU Member States or Horizon Europe associated countries. In addition, the contractors must ensure that none of the contracted services are performed in countries nor by entities that are subject to EU restrictive measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) (sanctions). They must ensure that none of the goods procured or used for the procurement were developed, produced or supplied in countries or by entities that are subject to such restrictive measures. Testing is expected to take place in the following procurers' countries: Istanbul (TR), Berlin (DE), Dublin (IE), Maribor (SI), Guimarães (PT), Stockholm (SE), London (UK), Helsinki (FIN)

5.1.3. Estimated duration

Start date: 15/05/2024

Duration end date: 14/04/2026

5.1.6. General information

Procurement Project fully or partially financed with EU Funds.

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): no Information about previous notices:

Identifier of the previous notice: 00127194-2023

Identifier of the previous notice: 709311-2024

Identifier of the previous notice: 433402-2024

Identifier of the previous notice: 786169-2023

Additional information: This procurement is exempted from the WTO GPA, the EU public procurement directives and the national laws that implement them. This is because it concerns the procurement of R&D services where the benefits do not accrue exclusively to the contracting authority for its use in the conduct of its own affairs. Publication of this notice is not to be understood as a waiver of this exemption. This procurement receives funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme, under grant agreement No 101092208 — CircularPSP (see <https://circularpsp.eu/>). The EU has given a grant for this procurement but is not participating as a contracting authority in the procurement.

5.1.10. Award criteria

Criterion:

Type: Quality

Name: Quality

Description: Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents.

Category of award weight criterion: Weight (percentage, exact)

Award criterion number: 90,00

Criterion:

Type: Price

Name: Price

Description: Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents.

Category of award weight criterion: Weight (percentage, exact)

Award criterion number: 10,00

5.1.15. Techniques

Framework agreement:

Framework agreement, without reopening of competition

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

Electronic auction: no

5.1.16. Further information, mediation and review

Mediation organisation: İstanbul Bölge İdare Mahkemeleri

Review organisation: İstanbul Bölge İdare Mahkemeleri

Information about review deadlines: The procurement is exempted from the EU Public Procurement Directives (including the EU Procurement Remedies Directives 89/665/EEC and 92/13/EEC; see above) and the national laws that implement them. Publication of this notice in the Official Journal is not to be understood as a waiver of this exemption by the contracting authority. The deadlines for the review procedures at the bodies for review and mediation, mentioned in IV.4.1) and IV.4.2) are stated in the tender.

Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure: İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality

Organisation providing offline access to the procurement documents: İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality

Organisation providing more information on the review procedures: İstanbul Bölge İdare Mahkemeleri

Organisation executing the payment: İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality

Organisation signing the contract: İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality

6. Results

Value of all contracts awarded in this notice: 2 538 000,00 EUR

Maximum value of the framework agreements in this notice: 5 640 000,00 EUR

6.1. Result lot identifier: LOT-0000

Winner selection status: At least one winner was chosen.

Framework agreement:

Maximum value of the framework agreement: 5 640 000,00 EUR

6.1.2. Information about winners

Winner:

Official name: VCG.AI GmbH

Tender:

Tender identifier: VCG

Identifier of lot or group of lots: LOT-0000

Value of the tender: 1 269 000,00 EUR

The tender was ranked: yes

Concession value:

Subcontracting: Yes

Subcontracting value is known: no

Subcontracting percentage is known: no

Contract information:

Identifier of the contract: Phase3VCG

Date on which the winner was chosen: 14/08/2025

Date of the conclusion of the contract: 20/08/2025

The contract is awarded within a framework agreement: yes

Notice that created the framework agreement: 433402-2024

Information about European Union funds

Name of EU-financed project or programme: Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021/2027)

Identifier of EU funds: 101092208

Further details of EU funds: CircularPSP Project (see <https://circularpsp.eu/>)

Winner:

Name of the tendering party: CircularAI

Leader of tendering party: SWAPPSI LIMITED

Official name: Innciso Innovation SL, GTE Sustainability Research and Consultancy LTD

Tender:

Tender identifier: CircularAI

Identifier of lot or group of lots: LOT-0000

Value of the tender: 1 269 000,00 EUR

The tender was ranked: yes

Concession value:

Subcontracting: Yes

Subcontracting value is known: no

Subcontracting percentage is known: no

Contract information:

Identifier of the contract: Phase3CircularAI

Date on which the winner was chosen: 14/08/2025

Date of the conclusion of the contract: 20/08/2025

The contract is awarded within a framework agreement: yes

Notice that created the framework agreement: 433402-2024

Information about European Union funds

Name of EU-financed project or programme: Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021/2027)

Identifier of EU funds: 101092208

Further details of EU funds: CircularPSP Project (see <https://circularpsp.eu/>)

Organisation signing the contract: Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality

6.1.4. Statistical information:

Received tenders or requests to participate:
Type of received submissions: Tenders
Number of tenders or requests to participate received: 2
Range of tenders:
Value of the lowest admissible tender: 1 269 000,00 EUR
Value of the highest admissible tender: 1 269 000,00 EUR

8. Organisations

8.1. ORG-0001

Official name: Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality
Registration number: TR4810024824
Postal address: Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Hacıahmet Mahallesi Muhsin Yazıcıoğlu
Cad. No : 1 Kasımpaşa Beyoğlu
Town: Istanbul
Postcode: 34440
Country subdivision (NUTS): İstanbul (TR100)
Country: Türkiye
Contact point: Ülkü Gül Güneş
Email: ulku.gul@ibb.gov.tr
Telephone: +90 2123126200-666044
Internet address: <https://www.ibb.istanbul/en>
Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer
Group leader
Central purchasing body acquiring supplies and/or services intended for other buyers
Organisation providing additional information about the procurement procedure
Organisation providing offline access to the procurement documents
Organisation signing the contract
Organisation executing the payment

8.1. ORG-0002

Official name: Circular Berlin – Circular City
Registration number: VR 37482 B
Postal address: Circular Berlin, Rheinsberger Straße 34, 10435 Berlin, Germany
Town: Berlin
Postcode: 10435
Country subdivision (NUTS): Berlin (DE300)
Country: Germany
Contact point: Arianna Nicoletti
Email: rianna@circular.berlin
Telephone: +49 1743455960
Internet address: <https://circular.berlin/>
Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

8.1. ORG-0003

Official name: Sandyford BID CLG

Registration number: 0000593200

Postal address: Sandyford BID CLG, 10 Leopardstown Office Park, Burton Hall Avenue, Sandyford Business Park, Dublin 18, D18 FK72, Ireland.

Town: Dublin

Postcode: D18 FK72

Country subdivision (NUTS): Dublin (IE061)

Country: Ireland

Contact point: Ger Corbett

Email: Ger@sandyford.ie

Telephone: +353015441313

Internet address: <https://www.sandyford.ie/>

Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

8.1. **ORG-0004**

Official name: Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia

Registration number: 5828821000

Postal address: Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia, Partizanska 1, 2000 Maribor, Slovenia

Town: Maribor

Postcode: 2000

Country subdivision (NUTS): Podravska (SI032)

Country: Slovenia

Contact point: Ana Plavčak

Email: ana.plavcak@skupnostobcin.si

Telephone: +386 22341506

Internet address: <https://skupnostobcin.si/english/>

Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

8.1. **ORG-0005**

Official name: Municipality of Guimaraes

Registration number: 505948605

Postal address: argo Cónego José Maria Gomes

Town: Guimaraes

Postcode: 4804-534

Country subdivision (NUTS): Ave (PT119)

Country: Portugal

Contact point: Dalila Sepúlveda

Email: dalila.sepulveda@cm-guimaraes.pt

Telephone: +351 967360557

Internet address: <https://www.cm-guimaraes.pt/>

Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

8.1. **ORG-0006**

Official name: Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

Registration number: 222000-0315
Postal address: Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, SE-118 82 Stockholm
Town: Stockholm
Postcode: SE-118 82
Country subdivision (NUTS): Stockholms län (SE110)
Country: Sweden
Contact point: Karin Peedu
Email: Karin.peedu@skr.se
Telephone: +46 722545953
Internet address: <https://skr.se/skr.25.html>
Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

8.1. ORG-0007

Official name: Forum Virium Helsinki Oy
Registration number: (ID) FI21700292
Postal address: Unioninkatu 24, 6th. Floor, 00130 Helsinki, FINLAND
Town: Helsinki
Postcode: 00130
Country subdivision (NUTS): Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI1B1)
Country: Finland
Contact point: Pekka Niskasaari
Email: pekka.niskasaari@forumvirium.fi
Telephone: +358 405859110
Internet address: <https://forumvirium.fi/en/>
Buyer profile: <https://circularpsp.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

8.1. ORG-0011

Official name: VCG.AI GmbH
Size of the economic operator: Micro, small, or medium
Registration number: HRB779809
Town: Stuttgart
Postcode: 70197
Country subdivision (NUTS): Stuttgart, Stadtkreis (DE111)
Country: Germany

Roles of this organisation:

Tenderer

Winner of these lots: LOT-0000

8.1. ORG-0012

Official name: SWAPPSI LIMITED
Size of the economic operator: Micro, small, or medium
Registration number: 478868
Town: Dublin
Postcode: D16F2N4
Country subdivision (NUTS): Dublin (IE061)
Country: Ireland

Roles of this organisation:

Tenderer

Group leader

Winner of these lots: LOT-0000

8.1. ORG-0013

Official name: Innciso Innovation SL

Size of the economic operator: Micro, small, or medium

Registration number: 812112

Town: Madrid

Postcode: 28005

Country subdivision (NUTS): Madrid (ES300)

Country: Spain

Roles of this organisation:

Tenderer

Winner of these lots: LOT-0000

8.1. ORG-0014

Official name: GTE Sustainability Research and Consultancy LTD

Size of the economic operator: Micro, small, or medium

Registration number: 12987467

Town: London

Postcode: E11 2RJ

Country: United Kingdom

Roles of this organisation:

Tenderer

Winner of these lots: LOT-0000

8.1. ORG-0015

Official name: İstanbul Bölge İdare Mahkemeleri

Registration number: 0

Postal address: Mahmutbey Mahallesi 2459. Sokak No: 6, Bağcılar

Town: İstanbul

Postcode: 34218

Country subdivision (NUTS): İstanbul (TR100)

Country: Türkiye

Email: istanbulbim@adalet.gov.tr

Internet address: <https://istanbulbim.adalet.gov.tr/>

Roles of this organisation:

Review organisation

Organisation providing more information on the review procedures

Mediation organisation

8.1. ORG-0000

Official name: Publications Office of the European Union

Registration number: PUBL

Town: Luxembourg

Postcode: 2417

Country subdivision (NUTS): Luxembourg (LU000)

Country: Luxembourg

Email: ted@publications.europa.eu

Telephone: +352 29291

Internet address: <https://op.europa.eu>

Roles of this organisation:

TED eSender

Notice information

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