

Opportunities and barriers for circular procurement in the built environment

Lunch debate

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Content

- Introduction and study scope
- Impact of the built environment
- Resource efficiency and GPP
- Four barriers
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- Discussion

What? Introduction and study scope

EU Circular Economy Package (Dec 2015)

- Several specific actions for the construction sector
- More opportunities using Green Public Procurement (GPP)

Goal of the study

- Find GPP opportunities to enhance circular built environment by identifying barriers and gaps in current policies / regulation

Approach of the study

- Interviews
- Literature research

Scope of the study

- Construction sector, focus on buildings
- Resource efficiency, GPP



Why? Impact of the built environment

“Circular” facts construction sector

- 50% materials
- 35% waste
- 40% energy
- 30% GHG

Life cycle buildings

- 90% buildings 2050 already there
- Procurement of services and products in every phase
- Many contractors / stakeholders
- Focus on energy performance

THE LCA OF A CONSTRUCTION PRODUCT



Figure: Saint Gobain

How? Resource efficiency through GPP

Circular economy (Commission)

- *In CE the value of products, materials and resources is maintained in the economy for as long as possible and the generation of waste is minimized.*

Resource efficiency (WRAP)

- *Resource efficient construction makes best use of materials, water and energy life cycle of built assets to minimize operational carbon.*

Green Public Procurement

- *Voluntary instrument for public authorities to procure goods, services and works with a better environmental impact throughout their life cycle*

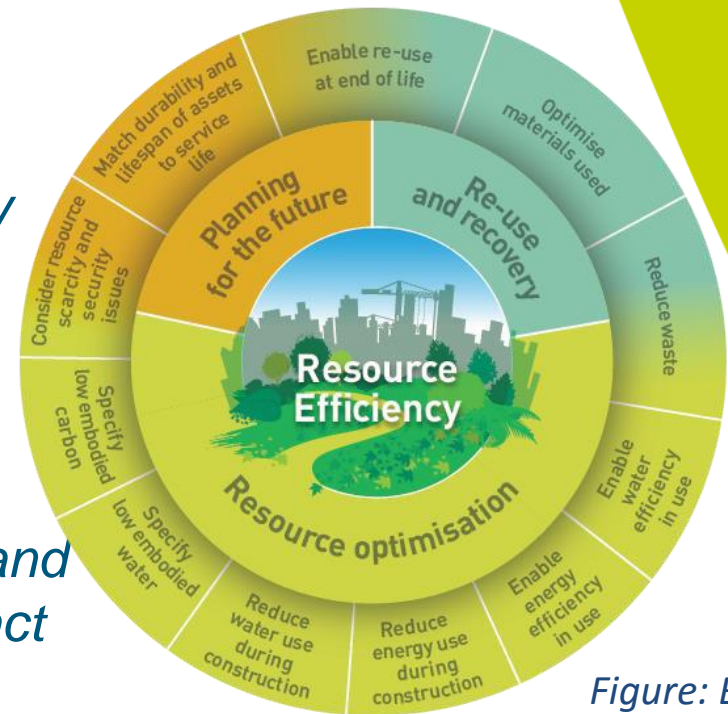
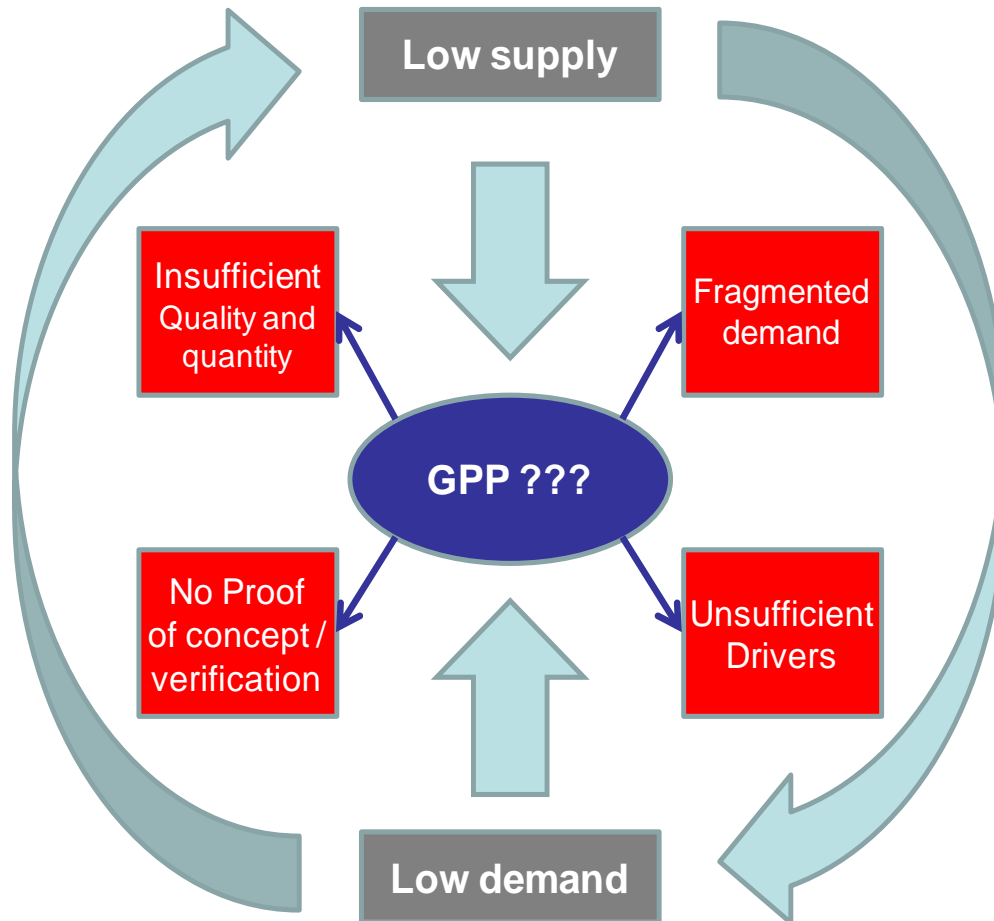


Figure: BAM

Four barriers



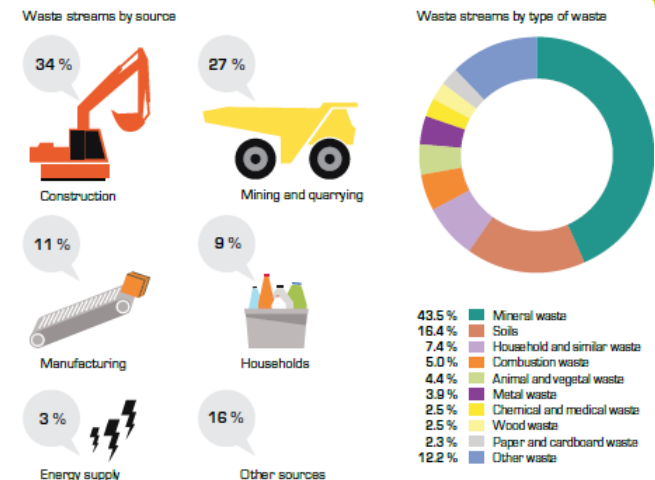
Barrier 1: Insufficient quality and quantity of secondary materials

What is / will be there

- 70% target for recycling CDW (Waste framework directive)
- Voluntary Standards for raw secondary materials (action plan)
- Voluntary Recycling protocol for CDW (action plan)
- Best practises on CDW recycling / policy (member states)

What is missing

- Sufficient attention for CDW other than “heavy minerals”
- Sufficient (financial) incentives
- Easy access to examples / best practises



Barrier 2: Fragmented demand in member states for circular building (materials)

What is / will be there

- Core indicators environmental performance of buildings (JRC project)
- Several (private) schemes for building certification / assessment (e.g. BREAAAM)
- Construction Product Regulation

What is missing

- Common understanding and harmonized objectives for resource efficiency
- Sufficient scale in demand for circular building (materials)



Barrier 3: Lack of proof of circular concepts and verification methods

What is / will be there

- Core indicators environmental performance of buildings (JRC project)
- Several (private) schemes for building certification / assessment (e.g. BREAM)
- Several (EU funded) demonstration projects

What is missing

- Verification methods for assessing performance on resource efficiency
- Easy access to examples / best practises



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Barrier 4: Insufficient drivers and urgency to improve resource efficiency

What is / will be there

- Energy Performance for Buildings Directive (EPBD) and Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)
- New EU GPP criteria document for Office Buildings
- Examples of (successful) GPP policies in member states

What is missing

- Direction (strong vision / targets) for enhancing resource efficiency for the construction sector
- Economies of scale (to reduce costs)
- Life cycle approach and coordination between stakeholders in the value chain (of buildings)
- Easy access to examples / best practises



Two recommendations (1)

Develop an (online) platform for GPP and the built environment

- Central information sharing point (best practises / approaches / lessons learned)
- Contact and meeting point for Industry and public authorities (defragmentation of the value chain)
- Demonstrating proof of concept (matching supply and demand)
- Setting specific goals together for resource efficiency (give direction)



Two recommendations (2)

Investigate opportunities for resource efficiency synergies within current policies

- Measures for enhancing resource efficiency might be easier to implement through synergies with existing policies
- Strong focus on energy performance (EPBD and EED)
- Mandatory renovation of buildings
- Renovation for enhancing energy performance may hinder improving resource efficiency (at deconstruction phase)
- Investigate opportunities for integrating requirements for resource efficiency in EPBD (based on life cycle approach)

Topics for discussion

To discuss:

- Are these recommendations effective and feasible?
 1. *Develop an (online) platform for GPP and the built environment;*
 2. *Investigate opportunities for resource efficiency synergies within current policies.*

- How to sharpen the recommendations (steps to get there)?

