2019 OECD Public Procurement Forum

Mainstreaming effective responses to complex challenges

Who’s Who

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OECD Conference Centre
Paris, France

A joint initiative by:
Directorate for Public Governance
Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities
Moderator

**János Bertók |** Acting Deputy Director, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

János Bertók leads OECD activities for promoting integrity, strategic public procurement, control and audit in the public sector. The OECD helps policy makers and practitioners build a comprehensive and coherent integrity system, cultivate a culture of integrity and strengthen accountability, through risk-based internal control and effective oversight. The OECD comparative analysis supports evidence-based policy debate and standard setting, including emerging and high-risk areas to integrity, such as lobbying and political financing. The OECD is in the forefront of providing comparative data, mapping out good practices and developing principles, policy guidelines and practical tools for policy makers and managers. The ground-breaking work of the OECD involves international instruments such as the 2017 Recommendations on Public Integrity; the 2015 Recommendation on Public Procurement; the 2010 Recommendation on Transparency and Integrity in Lobbying, and the 2003 Recommendation on Managing Conflict of Interest in the Public Service. The OECD also supports the G20 efforts in advancing transparency, accountability and integrity, as well as to strengthen anti-corruption standards, in particular with good practice reports and developing G20 Principles on managing conflict of interest, customs integrity, protecting whistleblowers, asset disclosures, public procurement, among others.

Speakers

**Carolyne Blain |** Director General, Strategic Policy Sector, Public Services and Procurement Canada

Carolyne Blain is the Director General of the Strategic Policy Sector of Acquisitions Program for Public Services and Procurement Canada. Her Sector provides the policy direction for both the commercial, defence and marine procurement programs of the Department. Carolyne joined the department in March 2016. Prior to her arrival, Carolyne spent 13 years at Environment and Climate Change Canada leading various environmental regulatory programs. Before joining ECCC, she worked with the Treasury Board Secretariat and with the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Carolyne has been with the federal public service for close to 30 years. She has a Bachelor in Science Biology degree and a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Ottawa.
**John Ivil | General Manager, New Zealand Government Procurement & Property Branch**

John is the General Manager, New Zealand Government Procurement and Property at the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) and is responsible for developing and implementing New Zealand government procurement and property functional leadership.

The role is responsible for New Zealand Government procurement policy, capability and capacity development and collaborative procurement (including all-of-government contracts). John has also established a commercial pool of procurement resources to assist government agencies with high risk/high value commercial initiatives.

John holds a Master’s Degree in Management Studies from the University of NSW, majoring in Project Management.

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**Javier Dávila | Fiduciary Lead Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank**

Javier Davila is in charge to promote the adoption of best practices in procurement across the 26 LAC countries members of the Bank as well as the acceptance of the use of national procurement systems in Bank financed operations. Mr. Davila was founder of the Federal Public Procurement Unit in Mexico, where he acted as its first Head from 2008 until 2013. As the Head of Procurement of his country, Mr. Davila was responsible for developing and implementing procurement policies supporting over US$100 billion in federal spending annually. Prior to the creation of the Procurement Unit, he spent fifteen years at the Ministry of Energy, as Director for Oil and Gas Resources; at the Federal Consumer Protection Agency and the Ministry of Education.

Mr. Davila has combined his professional practice with the academic activity. He served as a member of the faculty at the Tec de Monterrey in Mexico and other Universities in LAC. He has been lecturer in several international fora and is the author of several articles on Public Procurement, Econometrics, Finance and Risk Administration.

Mr. Davila holds a PhD in Financial Sciences, and Master’s degrees in Economics and finance.
11:45-12:45  Session 2: Leaving no one behind: when cities and regions are taking the lead for more inclusive public procurement

Moderator

Anja Katalin De Cunto | Funding and Financing Coordinator, Eurocities

Anja is responsible for the funding and financing service of EUROCITIES, the network of major European cities. She regularly provides information to EUROCITIES members on funding and financing opportunities of relevance for local authorities. She also supports capacity building on funding and project proposal development, innovative finance and innovative and strategic procurement.

She is currently responsible for the work on “capacity building on funding and finance” under the Covenant of Mayors initiative and the European funded project Big Buyers initiative, supporting the development of joint procurement criteria for innovative products among European entities.

Anja also supports the coordination of the EUROCITIES leadership of the European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities action clusters on business models, finance and procurement.

Speakers

Simon Hall | Councillor, Croydon Council, United Kingdom

Simon Hall is the councillor with executive responsibility for finance and resources in the London Borough of Croydon, a local authority with a population of 380,000. The Council provides over 100 different services, including social care, housing, refuse collection, highways, regeneration, education and youth services, leisure and culture, economic development, regulation. Over the five years he has held this role, he has transformed many aspects of the council.

Simon’s background is as a Chartered Accountant. Before being a fulltime politician, he specialised in change management, business recovery and business transformation in a number of countries and different industries.
Lars Ohse

Lars Ohse is the Business Area Manager Procurement at Gebäudemanagement Schleswig-Holstein (GMSH) which is a non-profit-company owned by the German State of Schleswig-Holstein to provide all kind of public procurement, facility management and to be the highest public building authority in Schleswig-Holstein. After Lars Ohse studied business administration, he used to work for two international companies in the business areas of project-management and procurement. Since 1999, Lars Ohse and his team built up and developed further the first fully it-supported public procurement system in Germany. The GMSH is not only in charge for procurement in the name of the State of Schleswig-Holstein but also for other administrative hierarchies in the north of Germany like villages, cities and districts. This leads to a number of synergy effects like falling purchase prices and process cost savings. Furthermore, the attempt of centralized public procurement leads to a large number of projects in the fields of logistics, sustainability and human production conditions. In 2015, the GMSH played a major role in Schleswig-Holstein when 50 thousands refugees had to be supported. Lars Ohse is responsible for a yearly purchasing volume of 350 – 400 million Euros.

Ms. Aziza Akhmouch

Aziza Akhmouch is the Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development division within the Centre for entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities of the OECD. She oversees a team of 30+ experts providing governments with new data, evidence, analysis and guidance in a wide range of urban policies to foster smart, inclusive, competitive and sustainable cities. Amongst others, she oversees the OECD metropolitan and National Urban Policy Reviews, and a broad range of thematic work related to housing, transport, cities and inclusive growth, cities and environment, metropolitan productivity and governance, and localising the Sustainable Development Goals. Aziza Akhmouch spearheaded the OECD Principles on Urban Policy and the OECD Water Governance Initiative. She also manages the OECD Champion Mayors Initiative for Inclusive Growth, the OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers, and the OECD-UN Habitat-Cities Alliance National Urban Policy Platform. She holds a PhD and Ms Degree in Geography, specialised in Geopolitics from the University of Paris 8-Vincennes, and a Master’s degree in international relations.
Ser Huei Chia | Executive Director, Resource Management Directorate, Ministry of Finance, Singapore

Ser Huei is Director of the Resource Management Directorate of the Ministry of Finance, which is responsible for developing and overseeing policies on government procurement, public infrastructure/IT expenditure and public service internal controls. He is concurrently the Executive Director of the Centre for Public Project Management, which works with public agencies to ensure that major public infrastructure projects are efficiently designed and value-for-money.

Prior to joining the Ministry of Finance, Ser Huei served the Homefront Security Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs, dealing with counter-terrorism, contingency planning and crisis response portfolios. Ser Huei started his career as an Aerospace Engineer in the Defence Science and Technology Agency in Singapore.

Ser Huei graduated from the University of Michigan with Master’s and Bachelor’s degrees in Aerospace Engineering. He also has a Master’s degree in Management, Organisations and Governance from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Bruno Hervet | Executive Vice President Smart & Resourceful Cities – SUEZ Group

As from September 2014, Bruno Hervet is the Executive Vice President in charge of the Smart & Resourceful Cities of SUEZ Group.

From 2010 to 2014, Bruno Hervet has been the Executive Vice President of the International Division of the Group and previously, the Deputy Managing Director in charge of finance for Degrémont (from 2003 to 2010).

As part of his duties, he leads the strategy as well as the development and urban innovation activities on behalf of the SUEZ Group in France and abroad. Furthermore, he represents the Group in the national authorities for the export strategy of the French expertise in Resourceful Cities.

He graduated from HEC (1994 class).

Gerrit Thell | Expert in Economic Development, City of Vienna

After a consulting assignment on local economics in the capital of Benin (Africa), Gerrit Thell joined Vienna’s City Administration, working there on local economics and governance regimes of public utilities.

As contributor to Vienna’s R&D strategy “Innovative Vienna 2020” he is fostering innovation capabilities in Vienna’s municipal services agencies, in cooperation with private and academic partners.
Mark Hidson | Deputy Regional Director, ICLEI Europe | Global Director ICLEI’s Sustainable Procurement Centre

Mark joined ICLEI – Local Government for Sustainability in 2003. He is a member of ICLEI Europe’s Board of Directors and responsible for ICLEI’s Sustainable Economy and Procurement work. Mark is the Global Director of ICLEI’s Sustainable Procurement Centre, lead of the United Nations One Planet Network on Sustainable Public Procurement, Vice-Chair of the International Green Procurement Network and a member of the European Commission’s Green Public Procurement Advisory Group. Mark oversees ICLEI’s Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement (http://www.glcn-on-sp.org), the Procura+ European Sustainable Procurement Network (http://www.procuraplus.org/), and ICLEI’s sustainable procurement conference series – EcoProcura (http://www.ecoprocura.eu/).

16:15 - 17:30  Session 4: Embedding procurement into local development strategies

Moderator

Stefan Appel | Head of Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission

Stefan has a long-standing career with the European Commission, where he has held various positions in different departments. He is currently the Head of Unit Administrative Capacity Building and European Solidarity Fund in DG Regional and Urban Policy. Tasked with helping Member States overcome cohesion policy implementation bottlenecks linked to lacking administrative capacity, his unit optimises the use of existing instruments, develops new capacity-building tools and identifies good practices for problem solving in the Member States. Previously, Stefan managed the unit dealing with Financial Instruments and IFI coordination, who supports the development and implementation of financial instruments funded through cohesion policy programmes across all Member States.

Before joining the European Commission, Stefan worked several years in the banking sector and served in the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs, in the unit responsible for economic questions regarding the German re-unification. He holds a degree in economics from the Universities of Hohenheim and Munich.
Speakers

Ana Pires Quintais | Commission for Coordination and Regional Development of the Centro Region, Portugal

Ana Pires Quintais has a PhD in Cultural Studies by the University of Coimbra (PT). She works at Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro (CCDRC) since 2017 in the Division of Cooperation and Promotion – Department of Regional Development Services – supporting and managing regional/national and international projects. Key areas: Circular Economy, Funding issues, Circular and Innovation Procurement. She is member of the CCDRC’s team that works on the development of the action plan for the Regional Agenda for Circular Economy.

Crescenzo Marino | Director of the Section on Research and Innovation, Region of Puglia, Italy

Crescenzo Antonio MARINO graduated at University of Bari and started his career as a chartered accountant. He started working in the local public administration, dealing with budgets, management control, cash management. He worked for six years at University of Foggia, dealing with strategic planning, public works, and services for university students.

Then he moved to Apulia Region and, for seven and a half years, worked in favor of university students in his capacity as General Director of the Regional Agency for the Right to University Study (Adisu Puglia Agenzia regionale per il diritto allo studio universitario). Here too he worked on development plans, acquisition of goods and services on the market, outsourcing of accommodation services and canteens for students, public works.

Later, for two years he was general manager of the Polytechnic of Bari, a state technical university: he was involved in planning, contract budgets, personnel management, performance and measurement of results. Since April this year he is the Head of Research and Innovation Section of the Department of Economic Development of the Apulia Region. He has gained different experience in the legal control of accounts at private institutions and public administrations.
Meaghan Davis | Manager (Acting), Circular Economy and Innovation, Solid Waste Management Services, City of Toronto

Meaghan Davis is the Acting Manager for the City of Toronto’s Circular Economy and Innovation unit in the Solid Waste Management Services Division. Meaghan is working to advance Toronto’s aspirational goals of zero waste and becoming Ontario’s first municipality with a circular economy.

Her current focus is on ramping up efforts to incorporate circular principles in City procurements, projects, and communications strategies. Meaghan has also been involved in the development of Toronto’s first project to generate renewable natural gas from Green Bin organic waste. The initiative will enable the City of Toronto to create a closed-loop approach where organics collection trucks can be powered by the waste product they collect.

Prior to joining the City of Toronto, Meaghan worked for Urban Strategies, a global planning and urban design firm, and for a range of Toronto-based arts companies, including the international multi-arts festival, Luminato. Meaghan holds a Masters of Urban Planning from Ryerson University and a Bachelor of Arts from McGill University.

Waheeda Giga | Policy and Issues Management Advisor to the City of Toronto’s Chief Purchasing Officer, City of Toronto

Waheeda assumes the main point of liaison for national and international jurisdictions on all matters relating to The City of Toronto’s procurement policies, procedures and best practices ensuring that the City of Toronto conducts local and international business across all sectors with accountability, transparency and fairness. Waheeda also plays a key role in developing and updating internal procurement procedures for the City of Toronto while simultaneously working to address procurement policy related requests from Toronto City Councillors and is responsible for ensuring the City of Toronto’s procurement procedures are in alignment with trade agreements and all other requirements from the Provincial and Federal Governments. Waheeda is Co-leading the City Council Recommendation with the Solid Waste Management Division to make the City of Toronto the first North American City to implement "Circular Procurement" whilst simultaneously ensuring the initiative is closely aligned to the City’s massive transformation to e-procurement processes under the City of Toronto’s supply chain transformation program.
Lamia Kamal-Chaoui | Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

Lamia Kamal-Chaoui is the Director of the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities since 2016. In this capacity, she leads the Organisation’s work in the fields of SME and entrepreneurship policy; regional, urban and rural development; regional and metropolitan area statistics, multi-level governance; and tourism. The Centre manages several programmes and initiatives, such as the Local Employment and Economic Development programme (LEED) and its Trento Centre to support local development capacity, the Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth, the Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers, the Water Governance Initiative, and the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment.

Ms. Kamal-Chaoui has held several senior positions at the OECD since 1993, most notably leading work on inclusive growth and urban development. From 2012 to 2016, she served as Senior Advisor to the OECD Secretary-General. In this role, she oversaw the OECD Inclusive Growth Initiative, the Knowledge-Sharing Alliance programme, development of the Global Deal and implementation of the OECD Strategy on Development. Prior to this, she was Head of the OECD Urban Programme from 2003 to 2012, where she advised national policy makers and city leaders as well as launched the OECD Roundtable for Mayors and Ministers. Earlier in her career at the OECD, she worked in several Directorates (such as Public Governance and Territorial Development; Trade; and Financial and Enterprise Affairs).

Ms. Kamal-Chaoui is a French and Moroccan national. She has been a member of several International Committees and Advisory Boards as well as a Lecturer at Sciences Po Paris. She holds a Master’s Degree in Macroeconomics from the University of Paris Dauphine and a Master’s Degree in Foreign Languages and History from the University of Paris Diderot.
Nikolaos Milapidis | Head of Strategic Planning of the Municipality of Athens

A public policy and business strategist with a strong managerial and legal background. A passionate for innovation executive, dealing with ambiguity and demonstrating a knack for problem solving and communicating across diverse groups of people. Focus on results through talent and change management, showing a high level of creativity, commitment and flexibility. A data-driven analytical mindset with excellent time management and organizational skills. A self-driven leader with a proven track record of managing and working with cross-functional teams.