

SHORT SUMMARY

Organisation: Municipality of Amersfoort, www.amersfoort.nl | **Contact person:** Wim van Druenen (Senior Procurement Adviser), [LinkedIn](#) | **Product & sector:** renovation of town hall (Construction), construction of western link (Infra), office chairs and furnishing (Office furnishing) | **Country:** The Netherlands



Circular procurement Municipality of Amersfoort



Create awareness among clients; the project managers will then follow.

The renovation of the town hall and the construction of the new Amersfoort ring road. The Municipality of Amersfoort is working with circular procurement in these two large projects.

Project description

The Municipality of Amersfoort is participating in the Green Deal and is aiming for 10% circular procurement by 2020. Two large projects have now started: the renovation of the town hall and the construction of the new Amersfoort ring road (western link). Various initiatives have also started to stimulate circular procurement across the municipality, such as the use of ambassadors and an online knowledge platform.

Approach

The municipality had previously organised pilots, such as the circular economy tender for office chairs and the furnishing of Het Groene Huis. The municipality is aiming to use these two big projects for a significant scale-up. Initiatives have also been devised to stimulate circular

procurement. For instance, circularity must form a standard part of the board proposals for projects, so that ambitions do not get stuck in the board-administrative-client-project leader cycle. The municipality is also stimulating knowledge exchange between project leaders. An online knowledge platform was established for this so that project leaders can share experiences with circular procurement. An [Ambition web](#) is also being developed. This web is used for a list with a hundred frequently occurring projects, such as sewerage system replacement or street and road reconstruction. These kinds of projects lend themselves well to a circular approach, as you can raise your basic level in a structured way. You can also quickly re-apply good results, which means that circularity becomes business as usual.



FACTS & FIGURES

Number of employees:

> 800

Tender volume:

> approx. € 100 million per year, excl. social domain

Volume contract:

> approx. € 140 million (works)

Contract form:

> determined per project/group of projects

Results

The tenders for the renovation of the town hall and the western link are still in the start phase (November 2016). A market consultation was held for the renovation of the town hall. This

“You can use frequently occurring projects to make business as usual from circularity.”

Wim van Druenen, Senior Procurement Adviser
Municipality of Amersfoort

showed that you can achieve a lot with sustainability. However: with every extra euro that you invest, proportionally, you achieve less. Whereas, there are many more profits to be made using the circular economy approach. The first circularity profit has already been achieved in the tender for the western link. An existing multi-storey car park has been taken over from a contractor.

The newly purchased office chairs are 98% circular.

The furnishing of Het Groene Huis (Centrum voor Natuur en Milieu, centre for nature and the environment) consists entirely of materials that have been given a second lease of life. The hooks in the cloakroom are recycled from a hospital, the reception desk is made from potato starch and grass, and the information panels in the exposition area used to be NS timetables.

Lessons learned

- Gauge in advance how far the market is and base your ambitions on this.
- Do not be too modest in your ambitions. You can better aim high than realise afterwards that more was possible.
- Ensure that your ambitions are focused. This helps those involved to stay on track.
- Create awareness particularly among clients. Project managers will then just follow because it is a part of the contract.
- Ensure that there is sufficient support to check the circular pledges.
- Appoint a circularity adviser who can embed circularity in projects and who can improve and accelerate processes.

About REBus and the Green Deal on Circular Procurement

The Green Deal on Circular Procurement (GDGP) is an initiative of MVO Nederland (CSR Netherlands), NEVI, Central government, Duurzame Leverancier, PIANOo, Kirkman Company and Circle Economy. Various pilots originating from GDGP are partly financed by the European REBus project, implemented in the Netherlands by Rijkswaterstaat (Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management). They are working together to support businesses and government organisations in their circular procurement ambitions.

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Partners: Economic Board Utrecht (EBU) | MVO Nederland | PIANOo | ProRail | Province of Utrecht | Municipalities of Utrecht and Woerden | Discover!

Relevant links & documents: [TNO Report Circular potential for Utrecht \(Dutch\)](#) | Tender documents: on request (Dutch)

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