European Commission

#HorizonEU

HORIZON EUROPE

**THE EU
RESEARCH & INNOVATION
PROGRAMME**

2021 – 2027

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Horizon Europe info day on open PCP topic:
HORIZON-CL4-2022-RESILIENCE-02-01-PCP

16 December 2021

Research and Innovation

HORIZON-CL4-2022-RESILIENCE-02-01-PCP

Boosting green economic recovery and open strategic autonomy in Strategic Digital Technologies through pre-commercial procurement (PCP action)

Indicative budget: 9 Mio EURO

Expected project size: 9 Mio EURO

Submission deadline: 30 March 2022

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Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP)

- **When**
  - R&D procurement needed to get new solutions developed, to de-risk tech
  - Pros / cons of # solution approaches not compared / validated yet
  - Still too risky to commit to go for large scale deployment, not possible yet to define final budget and/or final requirements
  - Still too risky to tie your hands to specific solutions / suppliers
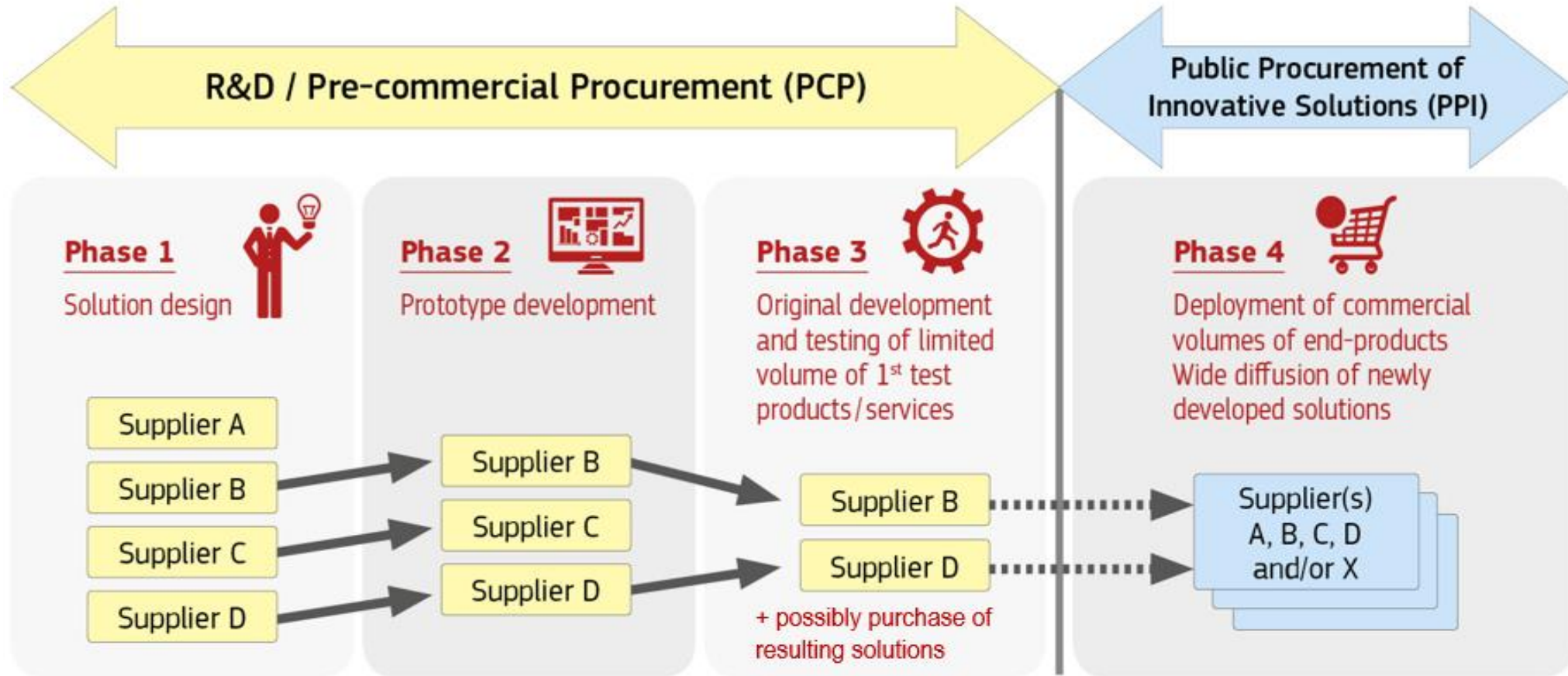 - Need to attract new players to tackle supplier lock-in issues

- **What**
  - Public sector buys R&D to steer development to its needs, to collect info about pros / cons of alternative solutions to make specs for a possible follow-up PPI, to create a future competitive supply base

- **How**
  - Public sector buys R&D from several suppliers in parallel (comparing # solution approaches) and possibly also limited volume of solutions
  - and evaluates progress after critical milestones (design, prototyping, test)
  - and shares risks & benefits of R&D (in particular the IPRs) with suppliers to maximise incentives for wide commercialisation

Complementarity

PCP falls outside WTO GPA and EU public procurement directives (COM(2007)799 & SEC(2007)1668)
More than 600 public buyers around Europe have already successfully implemented PCPs
PPI uses procurement procedures defined in EU public procurement directives and national law

Scope

- Forward looking **public procurement of R&D** to bring to the market **new green, digital solutions**.

- Leverage PCP to encourage development and to **provide a first customer reference** for the piloting, installation and validation of breakthrough innovations.

- Closing the gap between demand and supply side in a way that **reinforces strategic autonomy** through PCP in order to fuel economic recovery in a lasting way

- Topic supports **groups of buyers** (min 2 public buyers) that collectively implement PCPs to drive innovation from the demand side and open up wider commercialisation opportunities for companies in Europe.

- **Open** to proposals from **all domains of public sector activity** (e.g. public procurers from public admin, transport, energy, education domain etc.), requiring new solutions based on **one ICT technology or combinations of different ICT technologies**

- ➢ **Link to full topic description and submission details on funding & tenders portal** <u>here</u>

What is NOT in scope

- Proposals from **suppliers**

  ➢ Not open to suppliers that want to get an R&D grant

  ➢ Not open to suppliers that want to sell solutions

- Proposals from buyers that want to simply buy **existing off-the-shelf solutions**

  ➢ Only open to proposals that look for innovative solutions that require new R&D

- Proposals without a clear scope on **green, digital solutions**

  ➢ Scope of PCP needs to be on 'greening ICTs' or 'ICTs for greening other sectors'

    ✓ **Greening ICTs**: e.g. greener hardware / telecom / IT equipment, greener software, greener cryptography etc.

    ✓ **ICTs for greening other sectors**: e.g. AI solutions to speed up climate neutrality, robotics solutions to reduce waste / improve circularity

✓ **Overview of all previous / current funded PCP projects is** <u>here</u>

Expected outcomes

- Advancing **public sector modernization** by capitalising on the transformational power of digital technologies to bring radical improvements to the quality and efficiency of public services

- Bring to the market **new green, digital solutions** that can increase Europe's resilience and preparedness to tackle the circular economy and climate challenge, whilst strengthening EU open **strategic autonomy** in digital technologies

- Leveraging PCP to drive innovation and increase resilience in the supply chain by opening up opportunities for innovative digitised companies, in particular SMEs and Startups, to **access the public procurement market and scale up their business**

- Increased opportunities for wide market uptake and economies of scale for the supply side through **increased demand for innovative green solutions**, wide publication of results and where relevant contribution to standardisation, regulation or certification

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Background docs

- [General Annex H to the WP](#) (specific conditions for HE funded PCP actions)

- More info ([Video Recording + Slides](#)) on Joinup.

Finding partners

- Your own network of peers in other EU countries

- Buyers in past / ongoing [EU funded PCP projects](#) and [national PCP projects](#)

- [Procure2Innovate](#): EU funded Network of national competence centers on innovation procurement can help find interested buyers/partners in other countries

- [National contact Points](#) for Horizon Europe, [Idealist](#) (NCPs for ICT sector)

Thank you!

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http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe