

Procuring Heavy Duty Electric Vehicles

Cities' current and future procurement plans

Big Buyers Initiative Working Group

More than 70% of worldwide CO₂ emissions stem from large cities and their metropolitan areas. The transport sector alone was responsible for approximately 23 % of total energy-related CO₂ emissions. Electric mobility in cities is one of the key solutions in the fight against climate change and emissions of greenhouse gases and pollutants, especially in countries where the electricity generation is already quasi-entirely carbon-free.

Cities, which are confronted with the negative externalities caused by traffic (pollution, congestion, noise, etc.), can be frontrunners in the promotion of electric mobility, with which they can reach their ambitious goals in terms of reducing carbon emissions and exhaust gases. Local governments are perfectly positioned to effect change by purchasing EVs for their own fleet but are also facing high upfront costs that electric vehicles require.

The purchasing power of the public sector is considerable (14% of EU GDP), it represents an important economic driver and applied in a strategic way, it will work as a catalyst for innovation. Procurement of innovation will devote a part of this budget to develop and purchase innovative products and services in the field of e-mobility. The entities supporting this Joint Statement of Demand intend to put sustainable procurement into practice in their purchases of heavy-duty electric vehicles.

In recognizing the crucial role cities play in solving the climate crisis, the signing parties of this Statement of Demand commit to take strong actions to reduce GHGs in operating their vehicles fleet (with a focus on waste collection and street cleaning vehicles) and to gradually shift to an electrified fleet. The signing cities will reduce GHGs from heavy duty vehicles they own and operate, in an effort to solve the climate crisis and improve public health. This implies the procurement and running of heavy-duty electric vehicles and in particular electric waste trucks and street cleaning equipment.

The engagement stands in line with the overall climate goals set by the signatories. The target for most of the signatories is to have a 100% zero emission fleet by 2030. The rest of the signatories have similar ambitious goals.

The core signatories of this Statement of Demand are members of the [Big Buyers Initiative](#). The Big Buyers Initiative is a European Commission platform for promoting collaboration between big public buyers in implementing strategic public procurement. By working together cities and other public buyers can maximise their market power and impact, promoting the creation of new solutions more targeted to their needs.

ICLEI and EUROCITIES are currently running the initiative on behalf of the [European Commission, DG Internal Market, Industry Entrepreneurship and SMEs \(DG GROW\)](#).

Upcoming tender plans

The signing cities are planning to purchase heavy-duty electric vehicles and passenger cars. The table below shows the aggregated demand of the members of the BBI Electric Vehicles working group for the time period 2020- 2023.

Aggregated Procurement Plans				
Type of vehicle	2020	2021	2022	2023
(electric) bicycles	30	849	67	109
(electric) scooters	44	19	40	2
Passenger cars and vans	91	470	406	462
Light commercial vehicles <2,5	58	54	59	40
Heavy commercial vehicles >2,5	17	49	41	34
Light and heavy sweepers	17	8	6	16
Sweeping waste collection	25	20	33	129
Trucks	11	6	0	1

The current covid-19 pandemic is putting cities' budgets under pressure and there is increasing uncertainty about the planned purchase of electric vehicles in the short and medium term. Planned investments might therefore be delayed.

We face the following challenges in order to achieve a carbon friendly transition

Common challenges identified by the signatories of the Statement of Demand encompass:

- High upfront investment that electric vehicles require
- Roll out of appropriate charging infrastructure
- Cost-efficient and innovative solutions to maximise charging capacity
- Limited batteries on the market and safety issues with the battery
- Load balancing
- Centralized monitoring capabilities
- TCO optimization
- Maintenance preferably by a nearby servicepoint
- Specifications of the vehicles (range and carrying capacity)
- Lack of sufficient green energy production
- Lack of innovative financing solutions and differences in the taxation system which allow the deployment of such a solution
- Not the same availability of products in some of Europe peripheral regions
- Uncertainty about future technological development and political priorities

To overcome the challenges identified, we welcome the cooperation with partners from different fields of work, e.g. industry, SMEs, research, academia. In case you can provide a solution to these challenges, we would like to hear from you. Please get in contact with the BBI secretariat (simon.clement@iclei.org or AnjaDeCunto@eurocities.eu)

We welcome other cities to join the movement!

To support the current momentum, local authorities will have to continue and intensify current efforts and push for ambitious policy goals to increase the share of electric mobility. This commitment must come with the gradual decarbonisation of electricity production, without which the benefits of electric mobility will inevitably remain limited.

This Joint Statement of Demand is open to other cities or other public entities who would like to make considerable efforts to reduce their carbon emission in the transport sector. The signing entities do not need to be a member of the Big Buyers Initiative. More public contracting authorities are welcome to join the movement. The more entities sign this Joint Statement of Demand the bigger the impact on the market!

If you wish to obtain further information on how to join the movement and sign the Joint Statement of Demand, please contact the BBI secretariat.

Annex:

In case a signing city wants to preserve a special condition for their commitment to reduce carbon emissions in the transport sector this can be stated here.