

## Food procurement in public institutions in Slovenia

Slovenia transposed EU legislation on public procurement and utilising an exemption of 20 % in public procurement:

- from each food group up to 80.000 EUR / year of food articles may be excluded,
- food articles excluded from all lots may represent up to 20 % of total value of all food procurement of that procuring entity.

### Added value for EU:

- to support the food self-sufficiency rate to the reasonable extent in EU member states
- investment in human capital in rural areas
- rural development and decreasing inequalities
- maintenance of the arable land – secondary succession on abandoned agricultural lands / grassland
- food sustainability – upcoming issue in public procurement

## SI good practice - Practical flexible Catalog of foods

Public institutions award public procurement in accordance with public procurement legislation. Which means that the responsible persons in public institutions must follow the changes in the legislation and at the same time monitor the state of the offer on the market. Both legislation and the food market are constantly changing. When preparing a public procurement, it is necessary to plan the time required for the preparation of the entire documentation, which is difficult due to the large differences between public institutions in:

- quantities of food consumed
- standards for staff leading the nutrition
- education of the staff preparing public procurement
- opportunities to hire legal aid.

The Catalog of foods contributes to shorter supply chains and greater diversity of the offer of local food in public institutions. It offers a quick overview of the local offer and the possibility of establishing contact or fulfilling the demand for food. The Catalog contains a wide range of foods, their nutritional value, packaging quantities, allergens, certificates obtained, order codes and EAN codes, as well as the exact geographical location of the provider via a map. The application allows you to filter foods by regions, manufacturers and product categories.

The Catalog of foods for public procurement enables public institutions to name foods correctly and to design sets. It allows to review market analysis and obtain product data. The public institution may create generic lists of the set of food types for the public procurement and send inquiries for excluded lots. Through the Catalog of foods for public procurement, public institutions are provided with assistance in:

- food designation
- assembly design

- design of separate sets
- developing criteria
- printout of products with all data
- establishing direct contact with tenderers via a map of tenderers or sending inquiries for excluded lots
- printout of information on nutritional value, allergens and valid certificates
- ensuring the requirements of the Public Procurement Act regarding excluded lots and the Decree on Green Public Procurement regarding the achievement of the percentage of organic food and food with a certificate from quality schemes.

## Benefits for public institutions

- market analysis of potential suppliers and their food products
- selecting and exporting of selected correct named food products
- forming sets in a frame of each food category
- setting of award criteria
- forming of excluded sets
- using transparent information about nutrition value, allergens and implemented quality schemes
- Google map about potential suppliers and their products

## Benefits for suppliers

- identity card of the supplier and contact data – presentation to the public food procuring institutions
- presentation of food products with descriptions including nutritional value, allergens and quality schemes
- providing information about demand of 20 % excluded sets from public institutions
- quick information exchange about modification of offered food products – incentive for reformulation
- Google map of contract expired dates of public institutions

## References

[https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/default/files/major\\_chronic\\_diseases/docs/ev\\_20180315\\_co\\_12\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/default/files/major_chronic_diseases/docs/ev_20180315_co_12_en.pdf)