

The K4I Forum Dinner Debate – 13 April 2011
“Public Procurement in Support of Innovation”

Speakers

Mr. Ulf Dahlsten

Principal Adviser, DG INFSO, European Commission



Mr. Dahlsten, born in 1946 and of Swedish nationality, is Principal Adviser at the Directorate-General Information Society and Media. Prior to become Principal Adviser, Ulf Dahlsten was Commissioner at PostComm in the UK.

From 2004 to 2008 he was Director of "Emerging Technologies and Infrastructures at the Directorate-General Information Society and Media and the official responsible for the EC Communication on Pre-Commercial Procurement. Prior to joining the Commission, Ulf Dahlsten was President and CEO of Icon Medialab International, an internet consultancy offering solutions in ecommerce, ebusiness and internet banking.

Ulf Dahlsten has been instrumental in the Swedish deregulation of the railways, the postal services and taxi services. His transformation of the Swedish Post from a monopoly-protected authority into a profitable customer and business oriented company earned him the 'European Hermes Award'. Ulf Dahlsten has occupied various posts with the Swedish government, including State Secretary for Energy and for Communications as well as State Secretary and Chief of Cabinet of the Prime Minister's Office. Ulf Dahlsten started his career as a teacher in Mathematics at the Royal Institute of Technology. He holds a MSc(Ph) degree from the Royal Institute of Technology and a MSc(Ec) from the Stockholm School of Economics.

Mr. Bertrand Wert

Policy Development for Industrial Innovation
DG ENTR, European Commission



Bertrand Wert is working for the European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry, Directorate Industrial Innovation Policy, since 2009. He has been involved in the preparation of "Innovation Union" communication, particularly for public procurement of innovation and eco-innovation parts.

He is currently monitoring the public procurement networks for innovation, under the Lead Market Initiative (<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/lead-market-initiative>), and he is closely involved in the preparation of a European scheme to support financially procurement of innovation and making links with policy support to R&D&I of SMEs; a kind of Small Business Innovation Research European scheme.

Previously, he has been for five years an interdisciplinary researcher in social sciences working on urban and territorial sustainable development and on the eco-building/eco-refurbishment sectors, mainly under European programmes.

He has a PhD in Political Science (Université Paris-Dauphine, France), a MA in Political Science --International Relations (Université du Québec à Montréal, UQAM, Canada), and a Master in Political Science -- European studies (Université Libre de Bruxelles, ULB, Belgium).

Mrs. Heide Rühle

MEP, Member of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection



Heide Rühle was first elected to the European Parliament in 1999. She is currently a member of the Committee of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection and a substitute member of the Committee of Regional Development. Over the last 25 years, she held different positions within the Green party both on the regional and the national level. Among her main points of interest are questions concerning public procurement, services of general interest and consumer protection. Heide Rühle was born in Heilbronn on 5th November 1948. She now lives in Stuttgart.

Mr. Sinan Tumer

Head of International Research Policy

SAP Research



Sinan Tumer is responsible for managing international research policies at SAP Research with special emphasis on innovation deployment and adoption programs. He is assessing various instruments from the European Commission and US Federal Government for collaborations with the Public Sector, like pre-commercial public procurement (PCP), technology procurement (TP) and public procurement of innovation (PPI).

Previously as the Director of Operations at SAP Research, he was responsible for operations of SAP Research centers around the globe. As part of his responsibilities, his research Project Management Office (PMO) established and maintained end-to-end research processes to provide consistent approaches among research projects, which included research projects management infrastructure, assessment of operational risks and development of methods in managing publicly co-funded research projects.

Sinan joined SAP in 1991 at SAP America in Philadelphia. Before transferring to SAP's global research senior management team in 2000, he held various management positions at SAP America as the Consulting Director of the North East region of USA and as the Partner Alliance Director. Prior to his career at SAP, he had held various IT management positions, eight years as Systems Integration consulting at Andersen Consulting and Price Waterhouse, as well as Information Systems management positions at leading consumer products companies Sunmark, subsidiary of Nestle, and Ralston Purina in St. Louis Missouri for six years. Sinan holds Masters degree in Systems Engineering and Master of Science degree in Computer Sciences, both from Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta Georgia USA.

Mrs. Marieke Van Putten

Project Manager Public Procurement of Innovation

Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation



After a career in non-profit consultancy I work since 2002 for the government. In 2009 I became responsible for Public Procurement of Innovation. This involves activities such as policy making, match making between supply and demand and guidance. In the Netherlands the interest in this topic is increasing. The need to solve societal issues – creating a sustainable environment - is the main driving force for public authorities to buy innovative products.

Most recent jobs: 2008 – Present Program Manager Public Procurement of Innovation, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation 2004 – 2008 Manager Regional Economic Policy, Program Manager Regional Innovation Programme “Pieken in de Delta” 2002 – 2004 Associate Director city development city council Enschede

Studies: 1988 – 1990 Rotterdam School of Management, Master of Business 1974 – 1981 Wageningen University, MSc Management, Economics and Consumer Studies.