

Invitation to the 2nd Nordic market dialogue for ecolabelling of medical supplies - NIELS

Location: Malmö

Time: 11:15-17:00 (CEST)

Date: 14th of October 2024

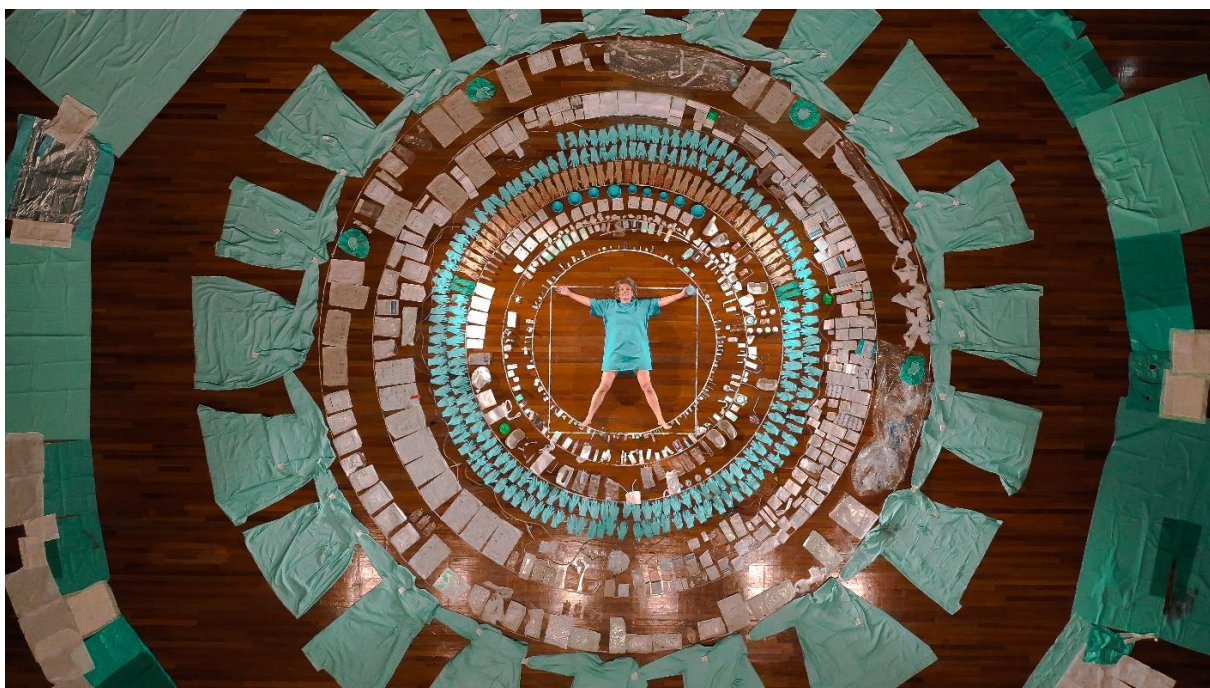


Photo: Maria Koijck, waste from one breast cancer operation.

The five Nordic public buyers (hereafter the Buyers) are hereby inviting all interested market actors to the second common Nordic market dialogue, to follow up on the [first market dialogue from 2023](#).

The buyers are:

Danish Regions: The Regions Joint Procurement,
Helsinki University Hospital (HUS)

Landspítali – The National University Hospital of Iceland,
The National Secretariat for Sustainable Public Procurement, Sweden,
The Norwegian Hospital Procurement Trust (NHPT)

Background

Medical products are essential for maintaining modern and high-quality health care systems. At the same time, they can be a threat to both the environment and our health due to hazardous content, and high levels of resource extraction. According to Health Care Without Harm Europe, the global health care sector is responsible for almost 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 71% of that, is primarily derived from health care product supply chains (scope 3 emissions).

The health care sector has often been exempted from environmental regulations. However, to prevent health and environmental damage, this cannot continue.

Needs description

To make it easier for both public buyers and suppliers to make the best possible environmentally sustainable choices, the buyers are interested in exploring how **third-party environmental labelling**¹ can make an important difference. It will: contribute to more sustainable procurement practices and product choices, make it easier for public buyers to make the right choices, save time and resources for both suppliers and buyers, because documentation and evaluation will be easier with certified products.

In close dialogue with the market the public buyers wish to reduce the use and spread of both environmentally and health damaging products and substances in a lifecycle perspective, through greener procurements of medical supplies.

Market dialogue purpose

The buyers have set high goals to reduce their environmental impact, and so have suppliers. By joining forces and using their purchasing power the buyers want to both challenge the market to develop more sustainable products, and to support the transition through sustainability demands and criteria in procurements.

The aim:

- Continue the discussion on how public-private collaboration through procurement can pave the way for a transition towards a circular economy, with non-toxic products.
- to continue exploring possibilities for how procurement of sustainable health care products can be made easier, through standardised labels or other types of information in dialogue with the market.
- Exploring possibilities for applying for national, nordic and/or EU funding in public-private partnerships to develop more sustainable products.
- Exploring how NIELS can go European in collaboration with the Nordic MedTech associations.

Market dialogue objectives

The objectives of this market dialogue are as follows:

- Update the market about the Buyer's strategies and practical measures to procure greener products.
- Discuss the market actors' progress towards ecolabelled products.
- Discuss how public-private collaboration through procurement can stimulate suppliers to produce more environmentally friendly products and how public buyers can procure these products.

Target groups

Nordic and European suppliers of medical products to the Nordic health care sector. Nordic public buyers of medical products (for hospitals (public and private), municipalities, etc.). Ecolabelling organisations, industry associations, cluster organisations, R&D organisations within relevant fields in Nordic organisations. National, Nordic, and European funding organisations. Decision and policy makers at national, Nordic, and European level.

Preliminary Programme (final programme will be distributed to all registered attendees)

11:15-11:30 Registration

11:30 Lunch

¹ Primarily Type-1 ecolabels, certified by independent certifying bodies: [GLOBAL ECO LABELS LISTESI.pdf \(ecogloballabel.org\)](#). Type-3 Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) are also valuable to buyers, e.g. in climate accounting.

12:30-14:30 Plenary

- including welcome, update from the buyers, update from Nordic Ecolabelling and announcement from MedTech association(s).

14:30-15.00 Coffee break/Fika

15.00-17.00 One-to-one meetings for suppliers with the buyers and Nordic Ecolabelling (separate meetings)

Practical information

Location: Best Western Malmö Arena Hotel (Hyllie Boulevard 12, 215 32 Malmö)

Time: 11.15 -17:00

Date: 14th of October 2024

Registration

Confidential one-to-one meetings: Further information will be provided after registration.

Please prepare for the following/questions for suppliers for the one-to-one meetings:

For the meetings with buyers:

- Have you made any progress towards ecolabelling any of your medical products (since the first dialogue)? Please share plans.
- Input for the buyers?
- Open questions from suppliers

For meetings with Nordic Ecolabelling:

- The Nordic Ecolabelling organisations are going to revise and expand the criteria for medical consumables in 2025. Do you wish to be involved in the criteria development process? (more information about the process will be given in the plenary session)
- Do you have input for Nordic Ecolabelling?
- Open questions from suppliers

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More information: [NIELS webpage](#)