ARCTIC

Alliance for Responsible, Circular and Transparent procurement of ICT

Do you feel you can do more to contribute to and benefit from a more sustainable ICT value chain?

Yes? Then join ARCTIC!

Did you know?

Some facts and figures of the current ICT value chain

14
percent

Is the estimated percentage of global carbon emissions in 2040. Compared to 2% in 2008.

50
million

tons of ICT e-waste generated a year, worth well over 60 billion dollars.

170
million

laptops are sold worldwide every year.

1.6
billion

mobile phones are sold worldwide every year.

1,327
exabytes

of data will be stored in data centers in 2021. Thats an 8-fold increase from 2015.
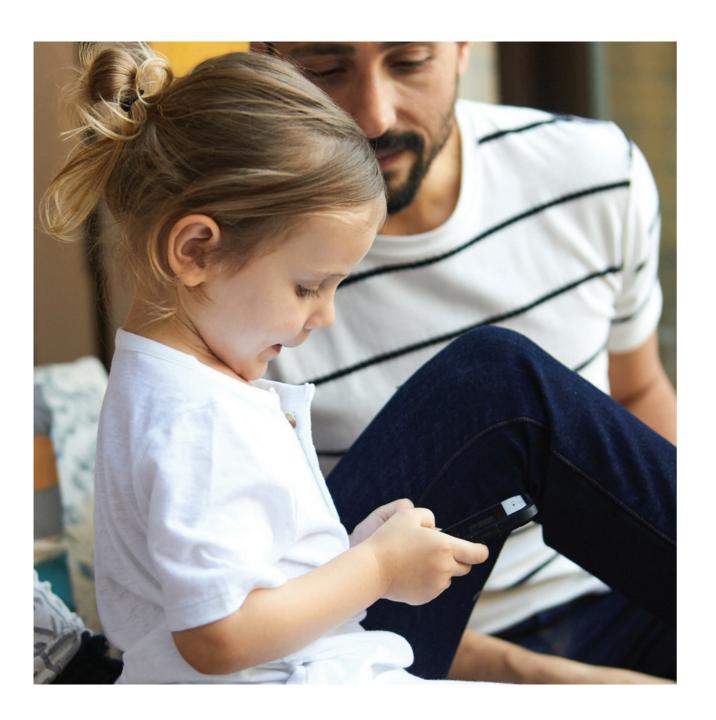
4.16
years

is the average age of a computer, whether it is a desktop or mobile computer.

7.2
million

the estimated amount of data centers in the world by 2021.

Why sustainable ICT matters to you?

Sense of urgency

ICT has changed our lives and society for the better, by connecting people, by providing information on levels never seen before and by significantly accelerating innovation. We can no longer imagine our lives without our laptops, smartphones or the data centres that provide the data that we have to come to rely on. Only by having a short look at the current numbers regarding e-waste, energy use, carbon footprint and human rights you probably realize that these numbers are shocking. When you add the rise of the middleclass and the ever-growing needs for data and technology you can barely image the consequences if we do not start acting now. Clearly, we must accelerate the change within the ICT supply chain. Let's do it together.

Your responsibility and leadership as an ICT stakeholder

You are a responsible company or body. You want to co-lead the way towards future sustainable ICT procurement across the globe. Together with other ICT manufacturers and suppliers or national governments, for example the United Nations' One Planet Network Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) programme. They believe innovation, collaboration and knowledge sharing among industry peers bring the best to our world and their organisations. That by scaling up efforts together in the ICT supply chain will not only be more sustainable but will also lead to cost efficiencies and more competitive pricing. As a private, public or supply chain leader you want to be at the forefront of creating and implementing a 100% circular, responsible and transparent global ICT value chain of products and services before or by 2030. Is that you?

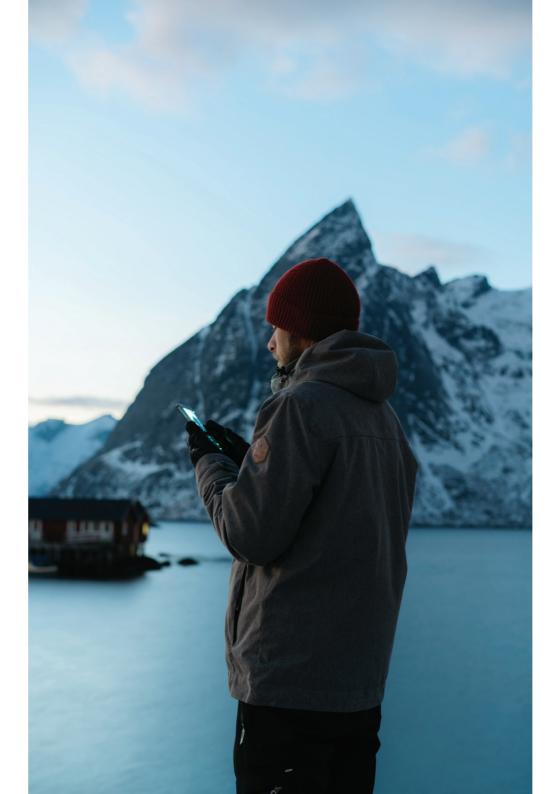**Your ambition, vision and collaboration**

The fulfilment of a 100% circular, responsible and transparent global ICT value chain of products and services is a shared responsibility, not a standalone action. It requires a collaborative effort of all supply chain parties involved to be successful. We formed an alliance that provides you with the opportunity to make the ICT market sustainable together with industry peers, government and societal partners. Are you ready to join us?

What is ARCTIC?

ARCTIC is the Alliance for Responsible, Circular and Transparent procurement of ICT (ARCTIC). This One Planet Network on Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) programme is a voluntary global multi-stakeholder partnership with the aim to promote and accelerate the implementation of sustainable public procurement globally.

- ARCTIC fosters proactive, cross sector, multi-stakeholder partnerships for both public and private sectors, driving collaborative change for more circular, transparent, responsible, and sustainable ICT supply chains. ARCTIC achieves its impact through the power of procurement, bringing procurers and market players together, creating both short-term collaborative action and long-term change in the sustainable profile of the ICT value chain.

- ARCTIC allies with globally influential affiliate partners, including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE), the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) and the Green Electronics Council (GEC).

- The initial focus of ARCTIC will be on making the value chain of laptops, smartphones and data centres more responsible, circular and transparent through joint procurement. From the outset, ARCTIC will support both entry level participants and leaders in driving circularity, transparency and responsibility, across ICT industries or supply chains and among its stakeholders.

ARCTIC is set up as an independent, not-for-profit organisation, led by a Board of Directors composed of leading voices from industry, procurement, government and civil society. The working groups and learning networks active under ARCTIC will be supported by a dedicated secretariat.
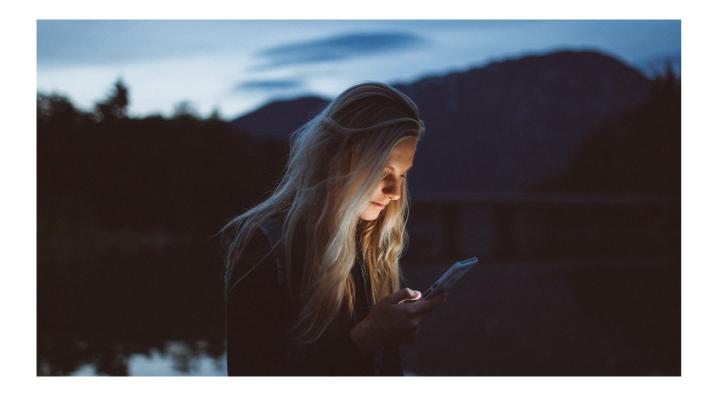
The SPP programme is a partnership co-led by ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, the Environmental Development Centre of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, the Ministry Of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands and the UN Environment Programme.

How ARCTIC secures Public Procurement demand?

The Dutch government is yet again taking the lead in bringing the UNEP Public Procurement Program to the next level.

In order to assure a continuously growing number of public bodies joining ARCTIC and along with that a growing joint procurement demand, The Dutch government is initiating a pact.

Signing this pact, participants commit to contribute to the stakeholder dialogue and to implement, execute and achieve ARCTIC's objectives.

In order to secure the participants' engagement and commitment the pact will guarantee a yearly financial contribution.

ARCTIC will organize public-private working groups under the Pact, knowledge-sharing and communication, as well as monitoring and reporting.

ARCTIC's fundamentals

ARCTIC stands for the Alliance of Responsible, Circular and Transparent procurement of ICT. But what does responsible, circular and transparent really mean to us?

Responsible.
Being conscious of the choices and actions of you and your organisation and the impact thereof on the world, its resources and society.

Circular.
Being able to maintain function and value of products in combination with great care for resources.

Transparent.
Being capable of creating insights in and of the value chain's direct and indirect impact.

How did ARCTIC get started?

In 2015 the Dutch Government was asked by the United Nation's Environment Assembly and programme (UNEP/UNEA) to take the co- lead in the ICT category of its One Planet Network on the Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) programme.

Together with the governments of Germany and Finland as co-leads, the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management initiated the ARCTIC predecessor, called Transform Together.

However, where Transform Together addressed smartphones, ARCTIC broadened their scope to a wider range of products including laptops and data centres.

How ARCTIC works

Focus, structure and continious improvement

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3 product categories

1. Mobile Phones
2. Laptops
3. Data Centres

6 workstreams that:

1. Raise awareness & increase knowledge
2. Define harmonized criteria & align standards
3. Simplify & standardize (procurement) processes
4. Clarify impact of products, services & solutions
5. Align legislations, simplify taxation & policies
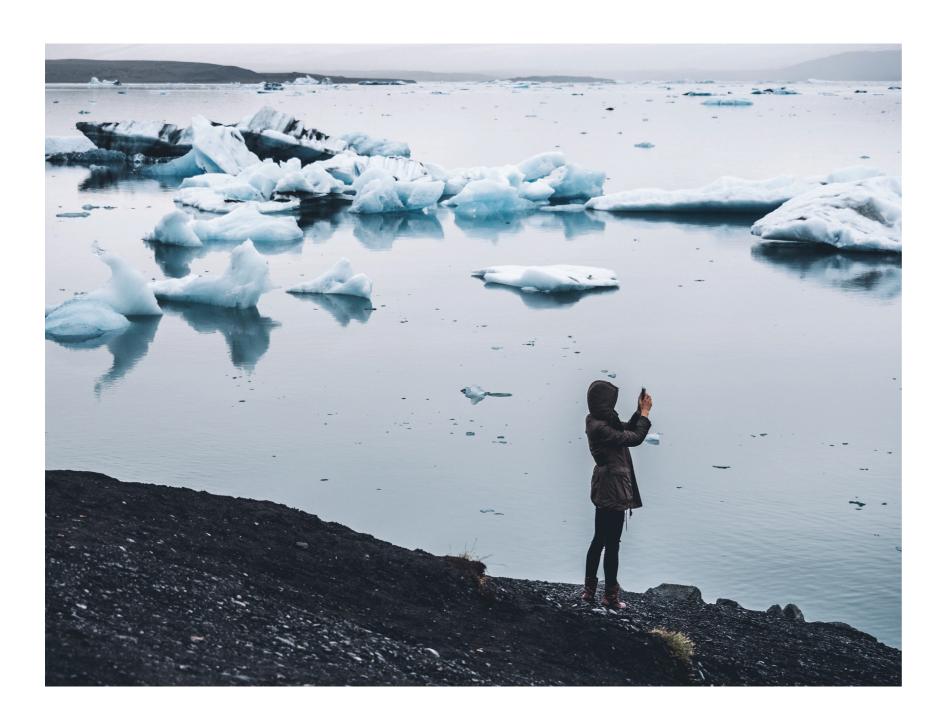6. Drive system innovation

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3 key deliverables

1. Buyers speaking with a single voice: Harmonize and standardize demand, Secure buying organisations commitment (public & private sector) through consolidated criteria.

2. Awareness raising: Increase Knowledge at both market and demand (buyers) side (topics Circular Economy, Business models, Circular/Sustainable procurement).

3. System change: stakeholder collaboration striving for a breakthrough in innovation covering overall system, products/solutions, infra structure processes, procurement, market.

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3 SDG's

What benefits will ARCTIC bring to its stakeholders?

ARCTIC will partner with value chain participants, setting in motion the staged implementation of a 100% circular, responsible, transparent and global ICT procurement value chain benefiting all parties. By or before 2030 we seek to achieve the following:

Buyers on the demand side will see benefits from integral cost savings through resource use reduction (materials and energy) and a reduction in C02 emissions. Standardization, simplified communication resulting in a high degree of market and internal stakeholder alignment helps provide these efficiencies.

Market representatives benefit from low total cost of ownership also driven by standardization and harmonisation of customer requirements and reporting criteria.Scarcity of materials is inevitable which puts business continuity at risk. An open dialogue on closing the loop or maintaining ownership of these materials is facilitated by ARCTIC.

Governments (e.g. national/regional/local authorities and cities) can lead by example and deliver key policy objectives while sending strong market signals. Responsible procurement allows governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve resource efficiency and support recycling. Other positive co-benefits include poverty reduction, improved equity and respect for core labour standards across the value chain.

Standard setters, legislation and policy makers are other participating stakeholders who will be collaborating closely to eliminate bottlenecks and drive innovation across the whole value chain.

More about ARCTIC

- Measuring the impact will be co-developed in close collaboration between all relevant stakeholders in order to increase transparency, drive continuous improvement and reduce the administrative burden.

- The overall contribution of ARCTIC to the relevant SDG's will be communicated to all stakeholders.

- Peers working together will drive towards harmonized market demand by drawing up coherent procurement criteria that link to global certification schemes (e.g. EPEAT and TCO Certified).

- As an ARCTIC member you can execute pilots and share learning experiences with peers in the ARCTIC training and learning networks. Your efforts will raise awareness, create stakeholder engagement and consumer demand, provide industry procurement guidance and promote global knowledge and expertise.

- The ARCTIC members will jointly achieve procurement breakthroughs, whilst setting the standards among partners – from industry, to buying organisations, national governments and civil society parties alike – to target, operate and measure progress in creating a global sustainable future ICT value chain.

- ARCTIC members and partners will jointly foster innovation by developing a collaborative ICT roadmap. Together, they will look at design, change management and the supporting commercial and legislative framework of industry policies, competitive rulings and governing law.

- As a member of ARCTIC you will be a recognized frontrunner in establishing a robust future proof global ICT value chain.

ARCTIC membership places you among a group of value chain peers and leaders who promote sustainable ICT. Join industry leaders, governments and civil society today to help create the sustainable and competitive ICT procurement we need tomorrow

ARCTIC is a not-for-profit organisation. Where does your contribution go?
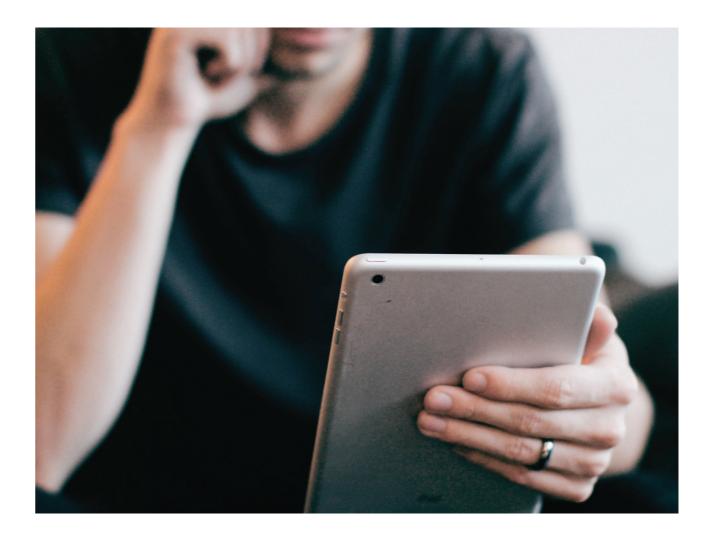
- We facilitate working together in a multi-stakeholder approach, so we can create a faster and more sustainable market change.

- In order to manage and grow ARCTIC properly and structurally, staff and secretarial operations are required.

- Your financial contribution makes it possible to develop guidelines & training material, create necessary communication material and organise events & workstreams.

- To facilitate dialogue, collect and share information, manage workstreams and ensure a proper and safe membership administration, ARCTIC uses an online IT platform.

- ARCTIC hosts and organises an annual meeting (General Assembly) for its members and potential members.

How to join ARCTIC?

You can become an active, strategic or associate member of ARCTIC. Your chosen membership profile translates into specific types, membership benefits, contributions and annual participation fees. Ask us for the membership details.

To activate your ARCTIC membership today, please visit our website membership page.

- As a contributing Associate ARCTIC Member, you will have full access to the alliance's knowledge, tools and best practices, you will be able to participate in training sessions and attend all ARCTIC's relevant member meeting sessions.

- As a contributing Active ARCTIC Member, you will, in addition to the associate membership package, be able to contribute in developing new criteria, standardize communication, policies and regulations and attend all ARCTIC workstreams or other meeting sessions.

- As a contributing Strategic Member, you will, in addition to the active membership package, be entitled to be in the lead in setting the ARCTIC strategic direction and agenda as a decision-making representative of the entire ARCTIC member community.

- Representatives of public entities/organisations can contribute and participate in the Advisory Board through an collaboration agreement which outlines the commitments, scope, objectives, support, roles and responsibilities and activities.

Have we raised your interest?

Do you want to know more about ARCTIC or how to contribute or participate. Please visit ARCTIC website for more details or contact us via email.

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info@arctic-alliance.com

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