

Join the *ProcureITfair* network!

Who we are

“ProcureITfair – Campaign for sustainable purchasing of computers” is a European network that establishes social and environmental criteria in public tenders for computers. Public institutions have the responsibility to question the origin of goods and services they purchase. As a major customer of computer brand companies they should introduce social and environmental requirements for their equipment.

Why computers?

Computers are produced under harsh working conditions. Workers in developing countries, mostly young women between 18 and 25, assemble motherboards, hard disks and chipsets. Basic workers’ rights are frequently violated. Furthermore, the industry does not operate in an environmentally friendly way. Great amounts of resources are wasted, toxic materials harm the people and the environment and a huge pile of e-waste is created. Often, e-waste is exported illegally to Africa or Asia where it is discarded under catastrophic conditions.

Why procurement?

In a global economy, public institutions have the responsibility to ask for the origin of purchased products. Procurement bodies can demand certain social and environmental criteria when ordering products. Due to the high volume of IT purchase by public institutions they are an important customer for IT companies. As the contractors of public institutions are obliged to abide to the requirements in tenders, social and environmental procurement of computers can spur the development of better products while non responsive companies loose out.

What we do

ProcureITfair tries to change the buying behaviour of public institutions. We conduct research on working conditions in computer production in the global south and we develop criteria for social and environmental procurement. We raise awareness and campaign in universities and municipalities to achieve a change in the buying behaviour of these institutions. We lobby and provide instructions for the implementation of social and environmental IT tenders (see e.g. the Guide for public procurement “Buy IT fair”).

What do we offer?

By joining the ProcureITfair network you will be able to access international experience and expertise in the field of social and environmental procurement. Additionally, there is the possibility to use our resources in your local context and to establish an exchange through regular communication and meetings. The more countries and cities participate in the campaign the greater our chance for success!

Please contact ProcureITfair at sarah.bormann@weed-online.org and visit our website www.procureITfair.org to find out more about our activities and possible ways for collaboration.