BuildOffsiteEU

Off-site industry-towards innovation in construction sector

2022-1- ES01- KA220- VET- 000087862

PROJECT PARTNERS

FUNDACIÓN LABORAL DE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN

Fundación Laboral de la Construcción (Spain)

ΠΕΔΜΕΔΕ 1934 ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΑ ΕΝΩΣΗ ΔΙΠΛΩΜΑΤΟΥΧΩΝ ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΩΝ ΕΡΓΟΛΗΠΤΩΝ ΔΗΜΟΣΙΩΝ ΕΡΓΩΝ
PANHELLENIC ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS CONTRACTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS

Pedmede Somateio (Greece)

Knowledge and skills management centre (North Macedonia).

Gospodarska zbornica Slovenije
Zbornica gradbeništva in industrije gradbenega materiala

Gospodarska Zbornica Slovenije (Slovenia)

IIPLE CPTO Edilizia Bologna

Istituto per L' istruzione Professionale dei Lavoratori Edili della provincia di Bologna (Italy)

ASSOCIATED PARTNER

ACH Asociación Española de CONSTRUCCIÓN INDUSTRIALIZADA

Spanish Industrialised Building Association

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Co-funded by the European Union

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Needs covered

BACKGROUND

The building sector has a direct impact on several of the indicators affecting climate change and energy use, which must be increasingly efficient and rely on the use of renewables to reach agreed climate and energy levels. Therefore, the off-site solution is a real option to ensure sustainable building. Industrialised construction contributes significantly to energy savings by using fewer materials for the manufacture of its products, by shortening construction times (with consequent savings in energy demand) and by prioritising the use of elements made from raw materials that are more likely to be recycled, thus helping to apply the principles of the circular economy throughout the production cycle. The objective of the BuildOffsiteEU project is to develop different tools to fill skills gaps in traditional trades in order to adapt them to industrialised construction.

Aim

BuildOffsiteEU aims at facilitating the (re)qualification of the workforce for the transition from traditional to industrialised (off-site) construction in line with environmental and climate change policies and the priorities of the Erasmus+ programme.

Needs covered

- Identify the different industrialised construction systems.
- Involve different stakeholders in the transition from traditional to industrialised.
- Identify “new skills” to facilitate the transition of labour from traditional to industrialised.
- Boost the construction sector as a catalyst for employability and labour attraction

BuildOffsiteEU addresses the adaptation of Vocational Education and Vocational Education and Training to the labour market needs in the construction industry and innovation in the application of VET to address environmental challenges. environmental challenges. This leads to the (re)qualification of the labour labour force for the transition to industrialised construction designing proposals for training pathways to bridge the training pathways to bridge the gap between old and new skills and competences skills and competencies, and establishing a pathway that reinforcing the vocational training offer in order to to achieve the goals of environmental of environmental sustainability in the the European Union.

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Partners and schedule

The activities planned in the programme for the 24 months of work include the technical and financial management, the development of various products and results and their outreach to companies, suppliers and vocational training centres, trainers and potential clients from the industrialised construction industry and the general public in Italy, Slovenia, Spain, North Macedonia and Greece.

A partnership composed of partners from five countries with different profiles:

- VET providers: Fundación Laboral de la Construcción (Spain), Istituto per L' istruzione Professionale dei Lavoratori Edili della provincia di Bologna (Italy).
- Business associations: Pedmede Somateio (Greece).
- Research centres: Knowledge and skills management centre (North Macedonia).
- Chamber of Commerce: Gospodarska Zbornica Slovenije (Slovenia).
- As an associated partner, a cluster related to the construction sector: Spanish Association of Industrialised Construction.

Results

Other results

- To disseminate the values, benefits and advantages of industrialised construction and the business opportunities it offers.
- To provide innovative and digital tools to vocational education and training centres, workers and other stakeholders in the construction sector.
- To valorise industrialised construction as an innovative process.
- To expand the training offer on industrialised construction in VET institutions at European level.

Project outcomes:

- Digital factsheets on industrialised building systems.
- Interactive map with "new competences" for industrialised construction.
- Training itinerary with proposals for acquiring these "new competences".

FUNDACIÓN LABORAL DE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN

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ACTIVITIES

What have we done so far?

A review of training programmes in each country was initiated to assess their adaptation to the "new skills" required for industrialised building systems, in line with the principles of Energy Efficiency and Circular Economy (EE&CE). An analysis of similarities and differences in these programmes was conducted to address skills gaps at EQF levels 3, 4 and 5.

This analysis was conducted as a desk research, targeting experts in competence-based performance assessment, VET trainers in the construction sector and professionals designing training programmes in the sector. The starting point were the main findings of the "New Skills" map from WP3, which identified the most relevant skills for four target professions: 1) Electrical Installer, 2) HVAC Engineering Technician, 3) Roof labourer and 4) Building and Construction labourer. (EQF 3,4,5). The desk research used the most relevant sources and up-to-date field studies in each country. These results were then shared with selected experts to gather feedback. Specific interviews were conducted in all the countries involved to validate the key findings of the desk research and fill any missing information on current training programmes. Correspondences were then made between the current training offer and the Map of "new skills" and in each country and the main deviations were identified.

What are we doing?

After analyzing the common and distinct characteristics of the training offers in the five partner countries to identify and address skills gaps at EQF levels 3-4-5, we are now focusing on designing a common framework for the training path. We define the main elements of the path, including content, methodology, evaluation, resources, and trainer profile. This work directly supports the project's objectives, enabling VET centers to adapt their programs to the new skills required in the off-site construction sector.

The creation of a standardized, validated training path based on European criteria enables effective upskilling and reskilling of workers, provides clear guidance for VET centers and trainers, and addresses the specific training needs of the off-site construction industry. Validation of the path by experts outside the BuildOffsiteEU partnership ensures its relevance to sector needs at the European level, establishing it as an innovative initiative in industrialized construction that directly responds to the demand for new skills.

The Info Day in Italy represents an important opportunity to present the analysis and validation methodology, as well as the results obtained, expanding the project's network of stakeholders and its impact.

What is left for us to do?

- The partnership has several key deliverables to complete, which are essential for its success and to ensure a lasting impact. Among the main expected outcomes is the creation of innovative and easily accessible digital tools, aimed at various stakeholders, with a special focus on the Interactive Skill Map.

The Map of "new skills" is one of the most important tools: a digital resource that highlights the skills required by traditional construction site jobs and compares them with the "new skills" needed in industrialized construction. This Map shows various skills needed to carry out the different tasks in industrialised construction for four professional profiles

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