



Green Growth

Competence to face the circular economy challenge in the building sector

CONTEXT

The building sector plays a big role in achieving Europe's ambition of climate neutrality by 2050, since this sector is responsible for over 35% of the EU's total waste generation. The Circular Economy Action plan identifies construction and buildings as key product value chains for circular economy and supports measures which will deeply impact skills and competences needed in the sector. It will be especially at the demolition stage - during dismantling, reuse, recovery or disposal of building materials.

How to deliver these trainings? Transversal learning outcomes are becoming increasingly important. Thus, Europe endorses the modernisation of VET by the uptake of innovative approaches and digital technologies for teaching and learning as well as favouring professional development of VET-teachers, trainers and mentors in VET-centres and work-based settings.

OBJECTIVES

Green Growth aims at reducing the contribution of the building sector to CO₂ emissions by implementing different strategies to reinforce circular economy as a transversal skill in the construction VET training sphere:

- to raise awareness and the holistic importance of building with circular principles to trainers in construction, workers, companies VET-centers
- to boost specialized "green" VET training tools in construction, making the sector more attractive and accelerating its transition to a circular economy
- to strengthen the capacity of VET-centres to adopt a circular economy holistic approach and implement it in their workshop delivery
- to respond to current emerging skill needs of the construction sector concerning the reuse and recycling of materials and waste management, affecting blue collar workers and SMEs specialized in renovation works



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- to improve opportunities for integration into the “green” labour market and create career opportunities for blue collar construction workers and SMEs
- to empower cooperation between educational institutions and business as a result tailoring and sharing training solutions between both worlds.

PARTICIPANTS

The project addresses mainly four target groups:

1. Trainers in construction and other VET-staff (e.g. VET-managers, etc.)
2. Construction workers
3. Construction companies
4. VET-centers

ACTIVITIES

A number of activities will be carried out to achieve the objectives and to contribute to the adoption of a circular economy scheme in the construction VET sector:

- handbook for VET-trainers in construction: circular economy in practice
- MOOC: circular economy competences for construction VET-trainers
- APP: implementing circular economy in building renovation works
- roadmap for a circular approach in construction training delivery

METHODOLOGY

The initiative uses an inclusive methodology that aims at targeting and involving on the one hand main beneficiaries that will participate directly in the activities and on the other hand relevant key players that will evaluate results and endorse the project.

Also, the combination of quantitative and qualitative research techniques gets the most out of different sources, allowing sound and supported conclusions and recommendations; besides, the production of new training contents and skills using the EQF methodology guarantees its transferability to others sectors and countries alike.



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RESULTS

The project intends to obtain the following results:

- trigger the circular economy in the construction sector
- delivery of new educational methods with a circular economy approach
- delivery of a MOOC on the circular economy competences
- change of behaviour by using the APP for the implementation of circular economy
- place construction VET-centers as living laboratories of circular economy.

IMPACT

The high project's impact within the sector and its organisations is ensured by the presence of a sound representation of reference institutions in the delivering of construction VET in their countries. The actions envisaged also ensure a multiplier effect on the territory through the multiplier events and the presence of the members of the partnership in international networks. Moreover, the European dimension of actions fosters innovation and impact at EU level.

POTENTIAL LONGER TERM BENEFITS

Training tools and practical recommendations are to complement and support the current activities of the target groups (training, making-decision support, delivering of training). The MOOC and the APP will be maintained by FLC, as a coordinator, 3 years after the project's end. Handbook and Roadmap will be integrated in the own activity of the VET-providers. All outcomes will be free of use and easily updated.