



BUilding Green Skills



newsletter n.1
July 2015

Introducing the project

Started in December 2014, BU.G.S. (BUilding Green Skills in the construction sector) is a project co-financed by the European PROGRESS Programme. It aims at detecting green skills gaps, which could negatively impact on professional growth and firms competitiveness, and at enhancing green "re/up skilling" in the construction sector. To reach these goals, project activities and outcomes will be implemented in Austria, Croatia, Italy and Slovenia focusing on two main issues:

- the identification of specific green skills need in the construction sector as foreseen by European, national and regional strategies and regulations;
- the development of tools and training solutions useful to remove existing (or potential existing) green skills bottlenecks in the field.

The main results foreseen by the project are:

- the development of a data mining analysis software to identify green skills gaps;
- the set up of a web platform to support users and potential users;
- the design of training paths for VET professionals.



The project is addressed to those who work on and for the construction field, such as designers, site managers, technicians, hard hats, VET professionals, stakeholders, etc. and need to improve

or provide green skills for professional growth and employment opportunities.

Members of the consortium, located in 4 EU countries, are public and private bodies dealing with:

- vocational education and training programs for the building sector;
- strategies and services for SME associations with companies of the construction field;
- vocational education and training strategies aimed to strengthen the job creation potential of green skills in the construction sector.

News from the BU.G.S. Meeting in Ljubljana

On 18 and 19 June 2015 the partners of the project "Building Green Skills" met in Ljubljana (Slovenia) at the premises of the Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia. The aim of the meeting was to discuss about the project implementation and its interim achievements. More specifically, debates focused on the green skills bottlenecks identification and the definition of the focus for the training modules to be provided to training professionals.

As far as the gap identification is concerned, the data analysis, conducted by Ecipa and focused on the construction sector, has highlighted relevant differences in the use of renewable energy sources in the project countries, also due to different national legislation in the field.



These outcomes and other information on issues related to the energy efficiency in the construction sector (regulations, certifications, renewable resources used, skills and knowledge required, avail-

able trainings and needed improvements, etc) will be available to public through the data mining analysis software. The beta version of this tool has been presented during the meeting and it is already available on the web (<http://bugs.42b.it/en/>). As pointed out by the responsible partner, the software, useful to identify the green skill gaps existing in the construction sector, addresses mainly to three kind of users: companies, consultants and trainers, associations and public bodies.

Project partners then discussed about the analysis about good practices led by the European Centre for Renewable Energy, the Austrian partner of BUGS. The focus was on best practices of vocational education and training (VET) on the skills related to energy efficiency in the construction sector. Main conclusions reported by the responsible partner are:

- there is the need to strengthen the adoption of green building certificates as measure to bring standards towards Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standards;
- the skills gaps can be mainly expected in the adult labour force.

For these reasons, some partners suggested to adopt a cross cutting approach to green skills and competences of the construction sector and to rise the awareness on the NZEBs European rules (<https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy->

[efficiency/buildings](#)). Moreover, a short duration of training pathways has been agreed as the best solution to facilitate the involvement of companies and employees as well as of professionals.



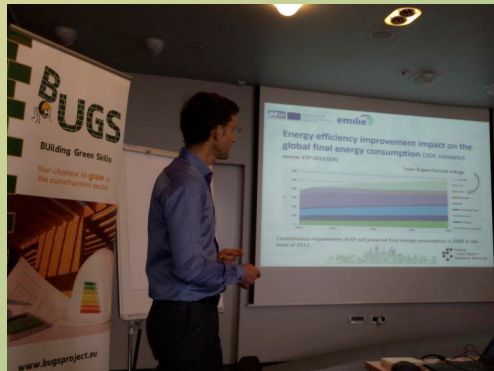
Also specific topics to be tackled by the training modules and common to all project countries have been identified by partners: heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC), insulation, smart buildings.

On the basis of these important considerations, the training paths will be developed in autumn 2015 in order to carry out the pilot phase.



Synergies and Capitalization

To give visibility to project activities and create useful synergies, BU.G.S. partners have decided to include in the project meetings agenda the presentation of EU project or initiatives focusing on energy efficiency, innovation technologies for SMEs and trainings.



During the project kick off meeting in Basovizza (Italy), the BRICKS project (<http://www.bricks.enea.it/>), focused on skills and competences in the construction sector, has been presented by Ms. Anna Moreno of ENEA; at the meeting in Ljubljana the Institut „Jožef Stefan“ of Ljubljana presented the Emilie project (www.emilieproject.eu). Financed by the MED Programme, it aims at strengthening SMEs innovation capacities in the field of energy efficiency and disseminating innovative technologies and know-how. Practical examples of pilot plants, based on renewable energy sources and new technologies, have been described as well as the dissemination tools and activities implemented.



The meeting ended up with a session focusing on the **NZEBs: definition, national plan by 2020 and project examples in Slovenia** have been presented by Dr. Marjana Šijanec Zavrl, from the Building and Civil Engineering Institute ZRMK.

For further information on the project, please contact the partners clicking on their logo here below:



Launch of project web-platform:
by mid October 2015

Next Newsletter:
After next meeting in Croatia in October 2015

www.bugsproject.eu



This project is co-funded by the European Union

This newsletter is supported by the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – PROGRESS (2007-2013). This programme is implemented by the European Commission. It was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment, social affairs and equal opportunities area and thereby contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 Strategy goals in these fields. This seven-years Programme targets all stakeholders who can help shape the development of appropriate and effective employment and social legislation and policies, across the EU-28, EFTA-EEA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries. For more information see: <http://ec.europa.eu/progress>. The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission.

