

Newsletter #9, July 2017

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1. BUILD UP Skills country updates and related news

EU GREEN WEEK BUS

Under the theme of 'Green jobs for a greener future', the EU Green Week (held in Brussels from 29 May to 2 June) focused on how EU environmental policies are creating green jobs and contributing to economic, sustainable and socially responsible growth in the EU. GOPA Com., the communications partner of the Consortium supporting the EASME with implementing the BUILD UP Skills was there and made [this summary](#) of the most interesting parts. On May 31st a plenary session on "Green jobs for the future" addressed the questions of core skills required in a fast-changing job market, where career paths are more complex every time, and how the world of education can help. BUILD UP Skills Qualibuild coordinator Mark Keyes was one of the speakers engaging in the discussion. A great short video of Qualibuild as success story for green jobs can be found [here](#).

BUILD UP Skills at the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) 2017

BUILDUP Skills was part of the European Sustainable Energy Week 2017. The EUSEW17 conference kick-started with the opening ceremony, at which, Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete said: 'Energy efficiency is not a slogan, it is one of the most cost-effective ways to accelerate the energy transition.' Dragomir Tzanev, project coordinator of the finalised BUILD UP Skills EnerPro (Bulgaria) and the ongoing H2020 Construction Skills [Train-to-NZEB: The Building Knowledge Hubs of Europe](#) was also there to [present](#) and engaged the audience (in a joint session with SEE Change Net) with the question: Do we have long-term vision & financial sustainability? Also the PROF-TRAC project presented in the EUSEW networking area.

For the full Storify report of the EUSEW 2017 by GOPAcom see [this link](#). The award winners of this year in the different categories, can be found on [this page](#) of the EUSEW website.

The 10th BUILD UP Skills EU Exchange Meeting report will be online in August!

The report of the 10th and last BUILD UP Skills EU exchange meeting which took place on the 30th and 31st of May in Rotterdam (the Netherlands) will be made available online on the BUILD UP Skills website in August – stay tuned thus! The report will include summaries of all the plenary and parallel presentations as well as of the key aspects of the discussions and final outputs by the Technical Working Groups – who have also submitted their final deliverables, result of the work and discussion in the past two years.

If you missed the previous EU exchange meetings or would like a reminder of what was discussed there, please visit the page on the BUILD UP Skills website dedicated to sharing their outputs - programme, list of participants, posters and all the presentations: <http://www.buildup.eu/en/skills/eu-exchange-meetings>

Extra free webinars from the MEnS project

Following the successful experience of the H2020 Construction Skills MEnS Webinar series on 'Retrofit Toward NZEB - Meeting of Energy Skills', the MEnS project delivered an extra batch of [three webinars](#) for FREE during July 2017. Each webinar was one hour long and hosted by highly experienced professionals talking about topics related to NZEB retrofit. At the end a Q/A session facilitated exchange among participants and sharing of best practices. For the full news see [this page](#) of the MEnS webpage.



Member States lower their energy ambitions and welcome a move to simplify the energy labelling system

The EU Energy council agrees non binding target on energy efficiency and a simplification of energy labels. This is what the EU's 28 energy ministers agreed on 26 June 2017 concerning the revisions of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and European Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). The compromise proposal settled on a non-binding 30% target, which if adopted further down the line would mean an increase on the 20% target currently in force, which is also non-binding. This target less demanding than the Commission and many campaigners had hoped for. Still, the UK, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and Romania were singled out for undermining a stronger deal. The full news can be read on [Euractive](#).

Handbook for the Introduction of Building Information Modelling by the European Public Sector launched!

[The Handbook](#) for the Introduction of Building Information Modelling by the European Public Sector produced by the EU BIM Task is available. The Building Information Modelling (BIM) is a digital form of construction and asset operations at the centre of a digital transformation of the construction sector and the built environment. According to its authors, the handbook "responds to the growing challenges faced by governments and public clients to stimulate economic growth and competitiveness while delivering value for public money through the wider introduction of BIM."



2. Upcoming events

The International Refurbishment Symposium, London (UK), 6-7 September 2017

The International Refurbishment Symposium is a gathering of international thought leaders on sustainable refurbishment. Curated by an expert Technical Committee, speakers share the latest, ground-breaking research and learning from academia and practice in refurbishment with the aim of increasing productivity, resilience and sustainability in the world's building stock. Recognising that 90% of the buildings we will have in 2050 have already been built, it addresses the many challenges of transforming the built environment to increase productivity, resilience and sustainability. More information about the speakers and the fees check the [event website](#).

Stakeholder Workshop Vocational Skills for energy efficient buildings, Bucharest (Romania), 24 October 2017

Back to back with the CA EPBD IV plenary meeting (25-26 October), a half-day stakeholder workshop on 'Stakeholder Workshop Vocational Skills for energy efficient buildings' is being organised by the EASME and Trinomics (contractor supporting the Agency with the implementation and evaluation of the BUILD UP skills initiative). The workshop will take place and its focus will be strategic and policy relevance of BUILD UP Skills for Member States / national administrations implementing the EPBD. The agenda for the stakeholder workshop (taking place in the afternoon of 24 October, 14:00-18:00) is currently under development but presentations from the DG ENER, CEDEFOP and BUILD UP Skills – H2020 Construction skills coordinators are foreseen followed by a panel discussion.

European Vocational Skills Week, Brussels (Belgium) and various other locations, 20-24 November 2017

The Second European Vocational Skills Week will take place in 2017 (the first took place in December 2016 and mobilised 1000 associated events and activities across Europe). The theme remains "Discover Your Talent" encouraging continuous training at all stages of their lives, with a strong focus on the importance of quality and excellence in VET. Mobility of VET learners (of all ages) and quality apprentices, partnerships between businesses and VET providers and sectoral approaches to address skills mismatches and respond to rapidly changing skill needs will be also addressed. The Commission's Directorate General Employment, Social affairs and Inclusion (EaFA) has opened a call for candidates to win the EaFA award during the Vocational Skills Week 2017. There are three categories: Companies (large and SMEs), apprentices and practitioners (teacher and trainers) in apprenticeships. Anybody with an interest in apprenticeships can recommend candidates in any of the 3 categories via the EUSurvey link provided here: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/E3EAfAawards>

2017 Eurogypsum forum, Brussels (Belgium), 27 September 2017

Organised by the European Builders Confederation (EBC), a European non-profit professional organisation based in Brussels, Eurogypsum is set out to share innovative transformations and architectural practices with EU representatives at the European Parliament. It wishes to demonstrate solutions to the challenge that European cities are facing to adapt to the evolving needs of the inhabitants (who face scarcity of housing with the resultant increase in cost of living), by promoting affordable and modern ways to speedily increase available housing, a better quality and more sustainable living, and an optimised cost of investment. The full programme is available [here](#) and registration is open until 15 September via [Eventbrite](#).

Stakeholder Workshop 'The BUILD UP Skills initiative – taking stock and looking forward', Brussels (Belgium), 22 November 2017

Back to back with the European Vocational Skills Week (20-24 November 2017), a half-day stakeholder workshop 'The BUILD UP Skills initiative – taking stock and looking forward' is being organised by the EASME and Trinomics (contractor supporting the Agency with the implementation and evaluation of the BUILD UP skills initiative). The workshops will take place. The agenda will include speakers from different relevant Directorate Generals (DGs) as well as an interactive session on to discuss the challenges in the development of energy efficiency skills: sustainability, mutual recognition, innovation in training, market acceptance'. If you are interested in participating and wish to be kept in the loop, please express your interest by sending an email to [Trinomics](#).

Save-the-date

20-24 November 2017

