



SKILLCO NEWSLETTER

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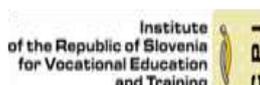
COORDINATOR



WHAT IS SKILLCO?

SKILLCO is an innovative international project that addresses the construction industry's skill gaps. It is a three-year project involving VET providers, national regulatory partners and representatives of the construction sector (employers), both at EU and national level. The SKILLCO project is coordinated by the Chamber of Construction and Building Materials Industry of Slovenia (CCIS) and joins partners from Germany, Hungary, Slovenia and Belgium.

One of the first goals of the project was the identification of 4 industry-related skill gaps of construction workers, which we have accomplished through an extensive research. Based on the research carried out, training units and supporting learning materials (videos, pictures and graphic materials, manuals, quizzes, evaluation sheets, etc.) were prepared. Slovenian partners have already started (September 2018) testing the materials in the secondary vocational education programs and secondary professional education in the construction sector and among employers in the construction sector. Testing will be carried out in all partner countries.



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(1) 4 skills every construction worker/professional needs

In the first year of the project, we completed a comprehensive study of sources and conducted a survey on missing skills in the construction sector. Among the construction workers, we identified four areas of key skill gaps: green skills, occupational safety and health, literacy and numeracy.

Many similar studies have already been done on this topic by CEDEFOP, OECD, EU Skills Panorama, etc., and also within different EU projects like for example BUS.TRAINERS (Building up green skills of trainers from the construction industry), BUS project Pillar 1 and 2 etc. Majority of studies that we have analyzed come to the same conclusion as we have in the SKILLCO research: The skills fields that are actual nowadays and which will continue to be very important in the future are green skills and occupational safety and health (OSH). Moreover numeracy and literacy skills fields are also lacking among construction workers, since those are “focused in construction sector”.

(2) Learning Units and Materials

In the last few months, various activities have been carried out related to the identified gaps, and we have designed learning units (part of the curriculum) for the latter:

NUMERACY SKILL: Construction Cost Calculations for a New SKILLCO House

LITERACY SKILL: Construction Project Scheduling for a SKILLCO House

OSH SKILL: Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders for Construction Workers

GREEN SKILL: Reuse and Correct Handling of Construction Waste Material Built in a SKILLCO House

Within the framework of the above mentioned gaps, the SKILLCO project developed learning units, which were prepared for inclusion in the VET curriculum. The teaching material was prepared on the basis of learning units, the latter drafting and linking 16 short films to SKILLCO as additional study material, which will also be included in the SKILLCO application:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCE8vh6FvzsVlv_6p79EmHkw/videos .



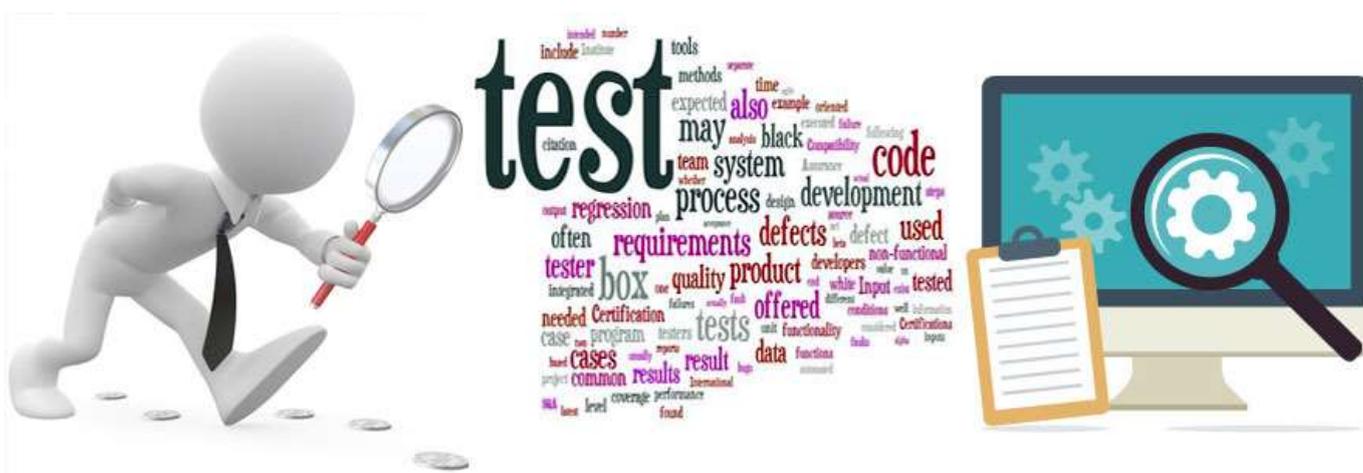


(3) The SKILLCO PILOTPHASE is in the starting blocks

After the Berufsförderungswerk der Bauindustrie in Kerpen called on all partners to address relevant institutions, schools and companies and to encourage them to test and evaluate the learning materials developed within the framework of the project, the 5th Partner Meeting taking place on 17 and 18 October 2018 will be used to discuss all further steps of PILOTING with the respective partners in SLO, HUN and DE.

Partners from the countries of Slovenia, Germany and Hungary, who are active in pilot training, will, at this stage, develop the developed teaching materials and evaluate them with employees in construction companies, and with the students, teachers and mentors as well as external observers, they will make suggestions for improvement or correction of results, which we produced for missing skills.

Pilot training starts in October 2018 and ends in September 2019. When the testing and adaptation of all advanced teaching materials will be completed, the final integration into the Skillco application will be followed, scheduled for September 2019. The ROLL OUT will take place in October 2019 in Ljubljana.



(4) 5th SKILLCO partner meeting in Kerpen

From 17 to 18 October 2018 the fifth project partner meeting was held at the ABZ Kerpen, our host organization represented by project manager Björn Müller. Major results of the meeting were the presentations of our upcoming pilot training, which will start soon at training centers in Germany, Hungary and Slovenia. During the pilot trainings we will test the handbooks and learning material that was produced during the first half of the project. The SKILLCO app was also baptized, its name is SkillApp.



(5) „BUILD YOUR FUTURE!” – Hungarian national event

Péter Valló, the director of BKSZC (Budapesti Komplex Szakképzési Centrum) shared his ideas with us about the event:

“As you know the European Skill week- Euroskills is taking place for the third time at present. We wished to join it to promote the profession of construction workers. The event takes place in eight places at the same time (Budapest, Debrecen, Eger, Győr, Miskolc, Pécs, Szeged, Szombathely). The central location takes place at Pogány Frigyes Vocational School of BKSZC (1183 Budapest, Thököly utca 11.).

The official opening ceremony of the event was 6 Nov, 2018 at 10 am. The aim of the event was to gather together all the people who are interested in construction working field. To ensure the opportunity to observe among the several fields of professions, to show the latest tendencies and to meet different groups of interests.

Promoting our present competition SKILLCO was possible. Plenty of brochures and leaflets were printed and spread at the organization. Roll ups advertised the program. Péter Valló, director, highlighted the importance of the SKILLCO competition and special thanked for the representatives.





With the contribution of the 20 exhibiting companies we organized a successful and memorable event. Schools, companies and students all left with grateful satisfaction.



(6) SKILLCO App slowly getting in shape

After some months of intensive development, the SKILLCO app for supporting students and teachers is slowly getting in shape. After common preparatory work concerning the conception and structure of the app, which was done together with the whole project consortium, the West German Chambers of Crafts and Skilled Trades' Council (WHKT) started development and already reached first milestones: a first testing and working version of the app including the planned structure is running and tested internally.



“The final version of the app will include a module for teachers and one for students. We want to make sure that the target groups will gain a modern possibility to learn the material we produce”, Philipp Dohmen, Working Package Leader of the WHKT, says.

Next steps of the app development are the programming of quizzes, implementation of further content and the provision of OER (open educational resources) features.

SKILLCO in the Future

Forming of SSA "Alliance for advancement of VET in construction": By the end of the project SKILLCO (in 2019) we will create the non-formal form of future sectoral collaboration on EU level with developing SSA "Alliance founding document" in the construction (SSAC document).

ARE YOU INTERESTED TO JOIN US and FURTHER ADDRESS THE QUALIFICATIONS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR? CONTACT US AND AS A SUPPORT SIGN THE DOCUMENT!



(7) Partner contacts:

	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia	Gospodarska zbornica Slovenije	www.gzs.si
	School Centre Celje	Šolski center Celje	www.scc.si
	The Slovenian Institute for Vocational Education and Training	Center RS za poklicno izobraževanje	www.cpi.si
	West German Chambers of Crafts and Skilled Trades' Council	Westdeutscher Handwerkskammertag	www.whkt.de
	The Training Institute of the Federation of Construction Industry NRW	Berufsförderungswerk der Bauindustrie NRW gGmbH	www.abz-kerpen.de
	The National Federation of Hungarian Building Contractors	Építési Vállalkozók Országos Szakszövetsége	www.evosz.hu
	Budapesti Komplex Centre of Vocational Training	Budapesti Komplex Szakképzési Centrum	www.bkszc.hu
	European Construction Industry Federation	Fédération de l'Industrie Européenne de la Construction	www.fiec.eu

For further information contact the coordinator:
Valentina Kuzma (CCIS)
E-mail: valentina.kuzma@gzs.si

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To get notified on new informations regarding SKILLCO project sign up for our newsletter at www.skillco.eu/en/content/news