UNESCO
International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Greening TVET

Construye 2020+: A new boost for green jobs, growth and sustainability

Innovation and Learning Practice

Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project

Submitted by Fundación Laboral de la Construcción

Construye 2020+ aims to green Spain's construction industry. Working with experts in the sector, the initiative redesigns training to integrate green skills and new technologies, while strengthening skills recognition and access to accredited courses.

Start date: June 2018
Type of implementing institution: Not for profit/NGO
Implementing partners: A consortium of Spanish experts from academia, business, government, civil society and the environmental sector
Funding programme: Horizon 2020+
Target group: Construction workers, trainees, companies

Education 2030

FUNDACIÓN LABORAL DE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN

Fundación Laboral de la Construcción

The Fundación Laboral de la Construcción (FLC), founded in 1992 by leading social partners in Spain's construction sector, is a non-profit organization that provides training to (re)skill workers, improve safety and support employability.

Description of activities

Construye 2020+ integrates green and digital competences into construction TVET by creating new standards, qualifications and training opportunities. It has developed a sector-wide framework on efficient construction and sustainable energy, created a 'Green Tag' certification to enhance formal recognition of skills, established an 'Energy Audit' qualification and modernized TVET courses for construction.

Relevance

What issues is Construye 2020+ designed to address?

Climate change and environmental degradation represent real threats to global economic growth, societies and ecological sustainability. The EU **energy and climate goals** call for a significant improvement in energy efficiency. With building and construction accounting for **40 per cent of the EU's total energy consumption**, the sector is pivotal to tackling climate change and advancing sustainability. This requires a workforce equipped with the right skills, knowledge and training.

What strategies has Construye 2020+ employed to address these challenges?

The initiative identifies, designs and integrates green competences into new and existing TVET programmes for construction through:

Development of a standard framework for operators and team leaders to meet sector needs, focusing on energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and nearly zero-energy buildings. It also embeds digital and collaborative skills using new tools such as **building information modelling** (BIM) and **LEAN construction**.

Creation of a new professional competence standard, known as the 'Green Tag'. This Tag, used to certify green skills within Spain's non-formal training system, can be obtained through a variety of short courses where skills are graded and validated.

Introduction of a new and officially recognized professional qualification in energy auditing.

Implementation of two short training courses for operators and middle-managers on improving the energy performance of buildings.

Updating of six 'BUILD UP Skills' courses, originally established by the European Commission to teach energy efficiency skills. The courses are: thermal insulation, windows installation, air conditioning installation, geothermal systems, biomass systems and calculation of energy performance.

Is this project part of a wider initiative or goal?

Construye 2020+ is part of the European Commission's BUILD UP Skills initiative and contributes to the **European Green Deal**, **Renovation Wave**, **European Skills Agenda** and **Pact for Skills**.

Added value

How is Construye 2020+ different from other similar initiatives?

Construye 2020+ prides itself on its holistic approach. Based on the 'Quintuple Helix' model, it brings together experts from academia, business, government, civil society and the environmental sector to identify skill needs, develop training and guide the initiative from conception to implementation.

What stage of implementation is the initiative currently at?

Following a successful pilot with 316 participants, in 2022 the initiative was integrated into the national continuing vocational education and training (cVET) programme. Since then, Construye 2020+ has delivered 36 courses in its first two years, reaching a total of 648 participants. With funding extended for another three years, a further 972 trainees are expected to participate.

What positive outcomes has the initiative achieved since inception?

By delivering cross-cutting TVET training on energy efficiency for operators and middle-managers, the initiative is expanding the pool of skilled construction workers. Following the formal recognition of the **Energy Auditor** qualification, a new **Advanced Diploma in Energy Auditing** has been integrated into the public TVET system. The framework now serves as a reference for national and regional training programmes.

Transferability

To what extent is this initiative transferrable?

The initiative is being promoted for replication across Europe through events, international forums and the **REFORME network**. Replicable elements include:

Programme development: include expert collaboration from inception, pilot courses and have a clear understanding of the processes required to integrate project results into national TVET frameworks.

Green Tag system: recognition of competencies can easily be replicated to standardize and certify skills across different regions and sectors.

Application of the Quintuple Helix approach: highly effective in identifying training needs and easily adaptable for different themes beyond construction.

What advice would you offer to those wishing to replicate this initiative?

Training should be adapted to local contexts; partnerships should be built with local stakeholders to overcome resource gaps; qualification recognition should be secured with accrediting bodies; and educators should be trained in the skills needed to deliver the curriculum effectively.

Has the initiative been promoted in any national or international contexts?

In addition to dissemination carried out by the project team through social partners, the BUILD UP Skills initiative benefits from annual exchange meetings where partners from projects across Europe share results and achievements.

The project's initial dissemination plans were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which limited opportunities for face-to-face promotion. The planned 'Construye 2020+ Tour' was instead adapted to an online format where it reached 16 autonomous communities in Spain, offering region-specific information and advice on energy efficiency, renewable energy and nearly zero-energy buildings.

Construye2020+ is one of the BILT project's Innovation and Learning Practices that address systemic challenges within the five work streams of the project.

Specifically, the this initiative addresses greening TVET.

Greening TVET

Responding to new development paradigms for sustainability and reduced environmental impact.

Additional Innovation and Learning Practices cover the following areas:

- **New qualifications and competencies in TVET**
- **Digitalization**
- **Entrepreneurship in TVET**
- **Migration and TVET**

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More information about this practice
Construye 2020+ website

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Cover photo: photos taken during pilot testing of Construye 2020+ © Fundación Laboral de la Construcción

About the BILT Project

UNESCO-UNEVOC's Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project is a reference point for innovation and learning in TVET. It fosters global policy dialogue and peer learning among TVET stakeholders while promoting innovation and inclusive excellence in TVET. BILT complements developments at the national level in supporting innovative, market-oriented and attractive modes of learning and cooperation in TVET.

The BILT project explores the process of identifying, integrating and implementing new qualifications and competencies in TVET. This is known as the 'three I's process'.

In addition to the broad focus on new qualifications and competencies, BILT addresses four complementary themes: Digitalization in TVET, Greening TVET, Entrepreneurship in TVET, and Migration and TVET.

For more information, please visit
www.unevoc.unesco.org/bilt

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New qualifications and competencies in TVET

- **Identifying** new qualifications and competencies in a timely manner;
- **Integrating** them into appealing and flexible curricula and training regulations; and
- **Implementing** them in innovative training approaches

Entrepreneurship in TVET
Unlocking the potential of innovative entrepreneurial activities and fostering entrepreneurial culture

Greening TVET
Responding to new development paradigms for sustainability and reduced environmental impact

Digitalization in TVET
Providing response to new skills demands, as technology has permeated the world of work and is changing the profile of jobs

Migration and TVET
Accelerating the integration of migrants into their host communities, and allowing them to become productive members of the workforce

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