

**Common Goals and Strategies for  
ECO-Traditional Techniques for Construction and Landscape sectors partnership project  
2013-2015**

Goals	Strategy	Evaluation
<p>Recognize and develop skills which respond to the need of Labour market and improves employment opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Creation of a Powerpoint presentations about the traditional skills updated after each mobilization.</li> <li>-Development and hosting of a partnership website which holds both, the findings of the project and the traditional skills info sheets.</li> <li>- Creation of information sheets about each technique which provide visual information about different techniques and methods aimed at facilitating industry skills shortages</li> <li>- Through participation in mobilizations to partner countries (visits of companies and workshops), the participants raised the awareness of the possibility of joining the European labour market and working in a country other than their own.</li> </ul>	<p>The PowerPoint presentation on the overview of the ECO-traditional construction and landscape techniques and presentations on results from each mobilisation visits, created and updated by the project's Greece partner, provide a useful visual reminder for each participating country as well as for the Europe as a whole.</p> <p>The project website, created and hosted by the project's Croatian partner is acting as a partnership portfolio that stores relevant information on partners, their respective countries and ECO-traditional construction and landscape skills. The site offers visual references on various techniques and methods for improvement of Europe wide eco-traditional skills needs. <a href="http://www.eco-construction-project.eu/">http://www.eco-construction-project.eu/</a></p> <p>These sheets are uploaded onto the project website to offer visual information about materials, techniques and methods, historical aspects as well as any relevant health and safety considerations to facilitate construction and landscape industry skills needs. The skills information sheets, designed by the project's Finnish partner, provide visual information about the different traditional craft techniques that participants have shared with each other. These sheets are uploaded onto the project website to offer visual information about materials, techniques and methods, historical aspects as well as any relevant health and safety considerations to facilitate construction and landscape industry skills needs.</p> <p>Via post mobilisation evaluations and regular feedback from French partner, the success of the project was continuously evaluated and formed the basis for planning of future mobilisations with any strengths and weaknesses taken into an account. Post mobility Evaluation reports are also available via project's website.</p> <p>With these experiences, several students said they could consider going and working in a European country.</p> <p>The partnership discovered that the labour market needs are similar in most European countries in that the unemployment is high and improved investment into VET to train the workforce is required.</p>
<p>Raise awareness and respect in traditional construction and Landscape techniques</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pre visit activity investigating the topic of the mobilization in their own country in preparation for the mobility.</li> <li>- Visits and workshops during the mobilities</li> </ul>	<p>The pre-mobilisation inquiries didn't finally provide relevant information apart from checking that the participants knew what they were going to do during the mobility, which was the case. This is the reason why the pre mobility Inquiries were given up for the last mobility : indeed, it was very difficult to collect all the opinions.</p> <p>The link between the workshops and the visits to the topic for each mobilization was delivered with a great success in some cases and less in others. Any such links between the real life and eco-traditional skills were appreciated by the participants as these allowed the discovery and greater understanding of eco-skills covered by the project.</p>

	<p>- The involvement of Association of craftsmen Zagreb and other Small and Medium Enterprises bring knowledge skills and expertise to the project by working together.</p>	<p>All the above materials contribute to an understanding of the common goals and strategies for ECO-Traditional Techniques for Construction and Landscape sectors partnership project as well as offer recommendations for each researched eco-skills area.</p> <p>During the lifetime of the project, the partnership agreed that eco-traditional skills are transferable in most cases as although the buildings in each country may be slightly different, the skills that are needed to restore these are usually the basic craft skills with the knowledge about the local materials and weather conditions added.</p> <p>Some of the participants felt that there was often a mixed understanding within the partnership on what should be considered a traditional and what eco(logical) skills in relation to the construction and landscape skills. This was mentioned in participants' evaluations as well as during the coordinators' meetings during each mobilization.</p>
To improve knowledge within the field of sustainable environmental construction technology	<p>- Visual powerpoints, explanations during the workshops or visits, diagrams explaining how traditional materials and techniques work.</p>	<p>The partnership noted that the duration of each mobilization was too short and it was often difficult for the host to include everything they wanted to share with their partners. The project may have benefitted from 5 days' worth of workshops and visits to allow more time to appreciate each other's history, culture and learn even more eco-traditional skills.</p>
To develop awareness of the extent and diversity of opportunities in learning and work	<p>By participating to the mobilities, where the workshops are led by the other countries teaching staff, the participants become aware of the different learning or working methods.</p>	<p>The partnership has benefited from the value added from the involvement of Association of craftsmen Zagreb and other local agencies and businesses such as Bowmer &amp; Kirkland and Derby Homes (UK), Chios Architects Association (Greece) and Denis Masson (France) as well as a number of local SME's.</p> <p>The assembly of this European wide industry and educational expertise has provided a highly unique opportunity to bring an exceptional knowledge, skills and expertise to the project in order to respond to the labour market needs and has enabled participating students create a closer links between their vocational qualification, their working life and social outlook.</p> <p>The cultural aspect of the project was well achieved and partnership as a whole enjoyed learning about the different cultures and different ways of life.</p>
To become aware of employment opportunities in different European countries	<p>- Workshops, and visits of companies, allows the participants to meet and discuss with craftsmen in order to be more aware of working methods and conditions in each country.</p>	<p>All the post mobility evaluations highlighted the excellent quality of the visits, workshops, meetings with the world of work. In addition to this, each participant, both staff and student alike, had an opportunity to investigate the possibility of becoming a true participant of the European labour market.</p>
To improve language skills	<p>- Before the mobility each partner sends a vocabulary list to prepare the participants for the workshops, but also basic words of communication in his own language.</p> <p>- During the mobility the participants use the language of the project and with the contact of the others they can learn a few words from the other languages for the partnership.</p>	<p>Although the duration of each mobilization visit was too short to have a real language immersion, the communication between all the partners was appreciated and participants learnt a few words from each language.</p> <p>The formation of the international groups during the workshop activities made the communication in English a necessity and facilitated improved industry related vocabulary for the participants from all countries.</p> <p>The shorter duration of these mobilisations and the teacher/staff participation encouraged participation from learners who are not yet ready for work experience mobility placements in other European countries (never been abroad before, lacking in confidence, very limited language</p>

		<p>skills, etc.) and as a result, partner institutions have noted a marked improvement in confidence levels amongst the learners who either travelled out or hosted incoming groups. This phenomenon was noticed for every partner that had young students who were met several times by the participants or by their teachers afterwards. It was an unexpected, but was very positive for the respective groups. Some students kept in touch via facebook.</p> <p>The use of a translator during one of the mobilization visits (into the language other than the partnership language) created some tension within the partnership. Although it facilitated the greater understanding on the topic for the group concerned, it was also felt that it resulted in the reduced communication with the participants from other countries.</p> <p>The partnership noted the need to be aware of this phenomenon. However, the language was a secondary objective in our project, and the overall results from the participation were very satisfactory.</p>
<p>To raise awareness of the different educational systems and methods within the European community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Creation of powerpoints explaining the educational system</li> <li>- By going to the mobilities, the participants can compare the similarities and differences in the methods between their educational system and that of the host country.</li> </ul>	<p>The biggest difference in the approach to the eco-traditional craft skills within the participating countries were the health and safety considerations and the use of the Personal Protective Equipment on the construction sites.</p> <p>The partnership between 6 institutions gave an opportunity to compare vocational education in five countries and as a result, raised quality standards of VET. Best teaching practices were observed by each institution thus raising the quality of delivery across all institutions involved.</p> <p>In some instances, there has been a lack of support from leaders of partner institutions to support participation from teachers/staff and this has resulted in increased workloads and working extra hours in order to plan for hosting as well as making up for the lost teaching hours after the trip.</p> <p>The final mobility in Finland facilitated coordinators' discussions around the outcomes from all previous evaluations and results. This resulted in the evaluation of the common goals and strategies for ECO-Traditional Techniques for Construction and Landscape sectors partnership project as well as lessons learned and recommendations from the partnership work.</p>

