



INNOVATIVE QUALIFICATIONS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATION IN BUILDING SECTOR

KA3 - Support for Policy Reform
 Joint Qualifications in Vocational Education and Training. [VET]
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WHAT IS ICARO

Continuous technological innovation coupled with the serious crisis that has hit the sector in the past few years require a redefinition of professional profiles and continuous training of construction technicians. The same European Commission has invested among its priorities in a sustainable, innovative and intelligent industry.

ICARO is an International project that aims at training a new generation of site technicians able to respond to the challenges imposed by new technologies and new regulatory framework in the building sector. There is a need for a generational change, steering the young and unemployed towards qualified professions.

The gender issue will also play a central role: only 10 per cent of graduates in vocational training in the building sector are women, we want this percentage to increase rapidly.

Some project partners are members of the Reform network, established at the beginning of the '90s. Starting from this,

ICARO will promote a new network that will develop a methodology to enhance the certification and qualification schemes and a more effective use of European tools for qualification transparency.

ICARO then intends to develop initiatives addressed at international student mobility, and to facilitate transnational mobility of future workers.



OBJECTIVES

The objectives of **ICARO** are essentially three:

- revitalize the building sector by means of a profound generational turnover, steering the young and unemployed towards qualified professions;
- reverse the trend that sees few women employed in construction;
- increase employment possibilities by incorporating work-based learning in the training process of companies.

With **ICARO** we wish to improve the planning of training activities that lead to the VET qualification at European level involving students, enterprises and the system of professions. Work transition and apprenticeship must become the paradigm of training so as to introduce elements of flexibility within the curricula. In this scenario the experience of WBL plays a strategic role.

Work and training policies will be in constant correlation through the establishment of a permanent forum. In short, **ICARO** will develop a combined qualification of "Worksite Technician", which refers to a multi-functional technical profile able to supervise activities on the building site, coordinate the building and/or renovation process, follow the planning, management and supervision of works, optimizing the human resources involved.

PHASES

The project starts from an in-depth analysis including:

- a building sector with a shortage of skilled labour;
- the need for competences and skills not met by the public education and training system;
- 40% of companies in Europe currently have serious problems finding manpower, young people with the necessary competences.

At the same time, innovative processing sectors are emerging that require new competences such as:

- energy efficiency, digital competences, addressing new types of possible accidents deriving from new processes;
- greater need for transversal/behavioural competences.

The final products that will be created in the project will be:

- a guide on national and European regulations and their relative impact in terms of necessary competences;
- a study about the lack of competences by means of a company survey;
- a guidance document to improve and update current qualifications in the countries involved with regard to the profile of worksite technician;
- proposal of a new training and qualification course.

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