

PREPARE 



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

WRAP UP, DISSEMINATION PLAN, RECOMMENDATIONS

Training on Resource Efficiency and Optimization (TREO)

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1 Project

TREO (Training on Resource Efficiency and Optimization) was a partnership project implemented from October 2013 to June 2015. Its main objective was to transfer and exploit the vocational education and training (VET) European Course on Eco-efficiency developed within the TRUST IN partnership¹ to VET schools, business representatives and enterprises in partner countries, and implement it through interactive and innovative processes with enterprises and teachers and trainers at the partnering VET institutions.

The overall project objective was the transfer and practical implementation of the VET Course on Eco-efficiency including sector specific training courses in the following areas:

- building and construction,
- food,
- mobility,
- tourism,
- renewable energy sources and energy-related products.

The project was built on the concept of the VET training course developed within the Leonardo Lifelong Learning project “European Training Partnership on Sustainable Innovation” (TRUST IN). It aimed at linking this concept with the world of practice and facilitating its adaptation, practical implementation and further spread with VET professionals, enterprises, professional associations, chambers of industry and commerce, regional and local authorities, and higher education institutions. Special attention was given to facilitation of participation of specific sectors (see above).

The project partners organized workshops in different countries, each workshop specialized in one of the sectors mentioned above. Relevant stakeholders from the guest country were always invited to the workshop. In total, five workshops were organized (see chapter 2).

The project Partnership was formed by the following organizations from the whole Europe:

- Aalborg University, Denmark
- Enviro, Czech Republic
- University of Maribor, Slovenia
- Stenum, Austria
- Fonden Dansk Standard, Denmark
- Austrian Institute of Ecology, Austria
- Nigrad, Slovenia
- Prospektiker, Spain
- National Laboratory of Energy and Geology, Portugal
- Atmoterm, Poland
- Centrul National Pentru Productie si Consum Durabil, Romania
- Camera de Comert, Industrie si Agricultura Timis, Romania
- Subalansuotos pramones pletros centras, Lithuania
- Social and Environmental Responsibility Centre, Bulgaria

¹ Project nr. 2010-1-DK1-LEO04-01870 10.

2 Project wrap up

TREO (Training on Resource Efficiency and Optimization) was a partnership project with the main objective to transfer and exploit the European Course on Eco-efficiency in vocational education and training (VET) developed within the Leonardo da Vinci Partnerships. Fourteen partners from ten countries, both 'old' and 'new' EU Member states took part in the project. They ranged from universities, VET, research and standardisation institutions, to municipal, consulting, small and medium enterprises and a chamber of commerce, constituting an effective public-private partnership. Together with VET schools, teachers' associations and enterprises in partner countries, it was implemented through interactive and innovative processes with enterprises, and teachers and trainers at the partnering VET institutions.

The project is building on the concept of the VET training course developed within the Leonardo Lifelong Learning project "European Training Partnership on Sustainable Innovation" (TRUST IN), but including sector specific training courses in the following areas: building and construction, food, mobility, tourism, and renewable energy sources and energy-related products. Five workshops have been organised in five different partner states with all the relevant stakeholders from the guest countries. The programmes contained sector specific competences of environmental and resource efficiencies (energy, materials, water), standards and EU directives, together with learning methods and tools, management, and organisations of interest. The programmes have been discussed in all the partner states regarding three important questions:

- Which issues were missing in the specific sector course design and which competences should be covered?
- Which didactics could be recommended for the training?
- Which training providers would be suggested for such a training?

The programmes aimed at linking this concept of resource efficiency with the world of practice and facilitating its adaptation, practical implementation and further spread with VET professionals, enterprises, professional associations, chambers of industry and commerce, regional and local authorities, and higher education institutions. The project has achieved the planned specific objectives:

- ✓ Integrating resource efficiency and innovation in sustainability concepts and practices;
- ✓ Testing, applying and disseminating common concepts of sector specific courses on eco-efficiency;
- ✓ Supporting participants in the acquisition and use of knowledge, skills and qualifications to advance personal development, employability and active participation in the European labour market;
- ✓ Improving quality and innovation of VET system, institutions and practices;
- ✓ Enhancing attractiveness of VET employers and learners for jobs in resource efficiency.

Project results have been and will be presented at national and international conferences. The Final Report will be distributed to stakeholders in partner countries, EU and globally through the PREPARE and UNIDO's RECP Networks and published at the PREPARE portal and the European Shared Treasure database of Lifelong Learning Programmes. A dissemination flyer has been prepared for distribution.

3 Dissemination plan

Dissemination activities	Communication tools	Target group/s/ audience	Responsible
Promote the outcomes of TREO project on PREPARE website – 2015–2016 and social media	(1) Briefings and meetings with stakeholders (2) Prepare website include the information related to project outcomes and training curricula, all partners provide links of their websites to the Prepare website (3) Newsletter and messages released in social media and published on the PREPARE website (4) TREO training curricula and /or final Brochure on the PREPARE website and partners ones	General public, target groups and potential beneficiaries, VET providers, academia, business environment, NGOs; government.	PREPARE Secretariat, All partners
Networking through participation in various education related events for increasing visibility of the TREO project results (dissemination of the TREO Brochure and training curricula)	(1) Briefings and meetings with stakeholders (2) Presentations in national and regional conferences focused on education	General public, target groups and potential beneficiaries, VET providers, academia, business environment, NGOs; government.	All partners
Dissemination of Final Report	(1) The electronic version of the Final Report will be distributed by email to the relevant stakeholders	VET providers, schools and universities, regional and national governments, professional associations and societies, chambers of industry, NGOs, etc.	All partners
Continuation of dissemination is foreseen during the future Prepare projects (Erasmus + LLL)	(1) The project events and relevant meetings with stakeholders will be used to disseminate TRO training curricula and the TREO Brochure	VET providers, schools and universities, regional and national governments, professional associations and societies, chambers of industry, NGOs, etc.	All partners involved in the new project

4 Recommendations for further work

Demand for resources is being driven not only by a growing population, but also by increasing wealth. As people in the developing world grow richer, they are consuming far more resources than before. If global resource consumption levels per capita across all developing regions were to catch up with consumption levels observed in OECD countries, the world would require 180 billion tons of materials in 2050, almost tripling the amount of materials used compared to 2008 levels. Clearly, such a level of consumption cannot be sustained.

To prevent the depletion of vital natural resources, it is necessary to find new ways of decoupling economic growth from resource-intensive production. The production processes must be more resource-efficient, developing substitutes for supply-constrained resources and promoting the reuse and recycling.

In this context, the resource efficiency in Europe is a must in terms of growth and jobs. Communications and other initiatives from the Commission concerning circular economy including industrial symbioses, demonstrate a huge potential for combining resource efficiency and green jobs. Concretely, resource efficient Europe is one of the seven flagship initiatives as part of the Europe 2020 Strategy aiming to deliver smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. This is now Europe's main strategy for generating growth and jobs, strongly supported by the European Parliament and the European Council.

However, the transition to an economic model where the resources use is more efficient, will require significant innovation, from small incremental changes to major technological breakthroughs. Obviously, to perform such transformation it will be necessary a skilled workforce. TREO project has addressed the key economic sectors (food, mobility, energy, tourism, buildings and construction) where according to the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe (COM(2011) 571) the intensity of resources use is considerable. The 'greening' skills agenda is important for all economic sectors, spreading the knowledge, skills and capacities to the rest of the sectors.

Lifelong learning – the continuous development of competencies – is a shared interest and responsibility for employers, employees and public authorities. For public authorities it is a priority in order to achieve the objectives related with resource efficiency policies. For employers, access to and development of a skilled and adaptable workforce is one of the conditions for innovation, productivity, competitiveness and lower production costs. For workers, acquiring, updating and developing relevant knowledge and competences throughout working lives is most effective to find and remain in employment, whilst simultaneously moving Europe towards its resource efficiency goals.