

Overview

1. [News](#)
2. [Upcoming events](#)

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1. BUILD UP Skills country updates and related news

Report of 8th EU Exchange Meeting is online



This report sets out to harvest the results of the 8th BUILD UP Skills EU Exchange Meeting which took place on 2 and 3 June 2016 in Budapest, Hungary. A total of 59 participants attended the two-day event including 50 BUILD UP Skills project coordinators (representing finalised Pillar I projects as well as ongoing and finalised Pillar II projects) and H2020 Construction Skills project coordinators, 3 EASME representatives and 6 consultants from Trinomics, Visionary Analytics and GOPAcom. The report provides an overview of the presentations at plenary and parallel break-out sessions, and summarises the discussions that took place during the two-day exchange meeting.

Preparation of the 9th EU exchange meeting programme – please provide your input to the online survey!

On October 3rd, 2016 all BUILD UP skills and H2020-2014 EE4 (Construction Skills) project coordinators received an online survey via email, offering them the opportunity to feed into the agenda of the 9th EU Exchange Meeting taking place in Athens, Greece, on the 6th and 7th of December 2016. The results of the survey will help EASME and the supporting consultant to gather the last bits of information in order to polish the agenda for the upcoming EU Exchange Meeting and make the most of the two-day gathering.

Three Sector Skills Alliances projects relevant for BUILD UP Skills have been selected for funding

Three projects relevant to BUILD UP Skills have been selected for funding under the Call for Proposals EAC/AQ4/2015 – Selection Year 2016, Lot 2 on Sector Skills Alliances. These projects are: Skills sector alliances for transfer of knowledge and skills of VET workforce in construction; Geothermal & Solar Skills in Continuous Vocational Education and Training; and Building up green Skills for Trainers from the construction industry. For further information please visit [this link](#).

Energy Efficiency Call for Proposals 2017 Info Day

On 19 September, the Horizon 2020 Energy Efficiency Call 2017 Info Day took place in Brussels (Belgium). The Info Day was meant for everyone interested in applying for funding under the Energy Efficiency part of the Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy Societal Challenge (Call for Proposals 2017). The day offered attendees the latest updates on the European energy efficiency policy developments and priorities of the H2020 Energy Efficiency 2017 calls for proposals. Guidance on how to apply for funding was provided and networking between participants was facilitated. You can look back into the programme, consult presentations and watch videos of the parallel sessions [here](#).

New BPIE report on Building renovation strategies under the spotlight

A new BPIE report provides an overview of Member States' progress with implementing Article 4 of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) through the eyes of different stakeholders from governmental and non-governmental sectors. The report concludes that in order to build more effective strategies and facilitate the uptake of the European renovation potential, effective solutions would be stakeholder forums, clearer frameworks for financing schemes and more support measures. The full report is available [here](#).



European Parliament own-initiative report on the Heating & Cooling Strategy (GIEREK Report) approved

In a Press Release on 13 September 2016, EuroAce reported that the European Parliament Plenary approved an own-initiative report on the Heating & Cooling Strategy (GIEREK Report), calling on the European Commission to focus action on reducing energy use in buildings, especially with regard to the upcoming review of energy efficiency legislation (the Energy Efficiency Directive, the European Performance of Buildings Directive). Members of the European Parliament stressed the importance of renovation of the existing building stock and called for a strong political signal to promote investments in energy efficient innovations that improve the comfort and decrease their energy bills of households. In addition, the strategy refers to BUILD UP skills initiative (p.12) as follows: "The Commission will (...) Extend the work of the BUILD UP skills campaign to improve training for building professionals, in particular through a new module for energy experts and architects".

The draft report of the Parliament can be found [here](#).

New OpenEx report "Energy Transition of the EU Building Stock - Unleashing the 4th Industrial Revolution in Europe"

The report concludes that increasing the size of the emerging EU energy renovation market would require the design of an overarching, integrated and streamlined framework for buildings based on the "Efficiency First" principle. Such an overarching framework would streamline reporting and ensure coherence between the investment-climate-energy provisions currently included in EU policy instruments. It would also simplify implementation for Member States, avoid double-counting and facilitate compliance checking. The report suggests specific recommendations to address the gaps and loopholes in 14 existing EU instruments.

2. Upcoming events

European Week of Regions and Cities 2016, Brussels (Belgium), 10-13 October

The European Week of Regions and Cities is an event aimed at a broad audience specifically interested in regional policy: politicians, government officials, private companies, financial institutions, European and national associations, journalists, academic students, and researchers and practitioners. The programme includes sessions on green solutions for energy poverty (11 October), Renewable energy and circular economy related to job opportunities in the outermost regions (12 October) and smart specialisation and energy tendencies in European regions (13 October) among others. Next to an official programme, various side events linked to one of the thematic priorities will take place. The full programme is available [here](#) and you can register for the event in [here](#).

UK Construction Week 2016, Birmingham (UK), 18-20 October

The UK Construction Week (UKCW) consists of nine shows: Timber Expo, Build Show, Civils Expo, Plant & Machinery Live, Energy 2016, Smart Buildings 2016, Surface & Materials Show and HVAC 2016. The event brings key industry players together, such as architects, project/energy managers, engineers and developers, providing a platform to discuss solutions in the energy sector among a wider range of interconnected industries.

Register or read more on: www.ukconstructionweek.com

The European Vocational Skills Week, Brussels and other Member States, 5-9 December

This first "European Vocational Skills Week: Discover your Talent!" will take place on 5-9 December 2016 with events and parallel activities in Brussels (press conference, conference, workshops, closing event with award-giving) and across other European Member States, EFTA and EU candidate countries. The involvement of learners, companies, business organisations, social partners, education / training providers, adult learning organisations, researchers, public authorities and society at large is called for. Interested parties can organise and register their event for the Week by supplying the information requested in [this form](#). One of these events will be a BUILD UP Skills related stakeholder workshop (further details will follow in the Newsletter of November).

For further information visit [this link](#).

2016 Euroheat & Power District Energy Days, Brussels (Belgium), 11-12 October

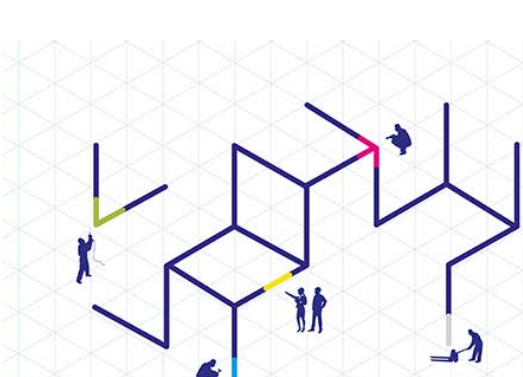
The Euroheat & Power District Energy Days will provide a high-level forum for policy-makers, industry and civil society to exchange views on how thermal networks can help deliver a smoother energy transition at European, national and local level. The event includes a policy conference followed up by the 2nd edition of the DHC+ Brokerage event and the final conference of the **STRATEGO project** on Multi-level actions for enhanced Heating & Cooling plans. Further information on the agenda and registration is found on the [event website](#).

20th European Forum on Eco-innovation, Tallinn (Estonia) 26-28 October

The Forum will examine financing opportunities for eco-innovative SMEs and will showcase success stories of companies who have succeeded in attracting investors and growing their business. It will also explore the enabling factors and challenges of transitioning to a circular business model and will address these through the lens of a circular, finance and public sector. The Forum will also provide an opportunity for participants to participate in a business-to-investors matchmaking session and will feature the Ceremony of the European Business Awards for the Environment. Read more on the [DG Environment website](#).

9th BUILD UP Skills EU Exchange Meeting, Athens (Greece), 6-7 December

The next BUILD UP Skills EU exchange meeting will take place on 6-7 December 2016 in Athens, Greece. As usual, this meeting is open for BUILD UP Skills project coordinators and partners involved in the BUILD UP Skills Pillar I, completed and ongoing BUILD UP Skills Pillar II, and ongoing Horizon2020 construction skills projects. Besides the usual plenary and parallel sessions, this EU exchange will include a site visit to the premises of CRES (the center for renewable energy sources and savings). Registration will open at the end of October. If you missed the previous EU exchange meetings or would like a reminder of what was discussed there, please visit [the page](#) on the BUILD UP Skills website dedicated to sharing their outputs.



BUILD UP Skills
9th EU exchange meeting
6 - 7 Dec 2016 @ATHENS