



News from ECQA®



Spring arrived and we've got news for you!

The ECQA® is currently active in quite a few projects. We will try to update you in our Newsletters on the progress we are making there.



CHAISE - blockchain skills for Europe

The European Blueprint **CHAISE** has completed its first year of activity with the release of numerous publicly available deliverables. Most notably, the results of four studies can be downloaded from the website:

- [Study on Blockchain labour market characteristics](#)
- [Study on Blockchain skills demand](#)
- [Study on Blockchain skills supply](#)
- [Study on skills mismatches in the Blockchain sector](#)

Furthermore, the project came up with regularly updated

- [registries of Blockchain educational and training offerings](#)
- [registry of Blockchain skill matching initiatives](#)
- [registry of Blockchain online job vacancies](#)

Based on the insights collected from these studies and other works, the consortium is currently elaborating a **Blockchain Skills Forecasting Model**, which will be **released in March 2022**.

[Find more information here](#)



EDRIVETOUR

The ECQA has recently been integrated in the [EDRIVETOUR](#) project

as a partner for skill certification and project quality assurance.

The bEyonD the boRder of electric VEHICLES: an advanced interactive cOURSE (E-DRIVE TOUR) project aims to develop an advanced interactive course related to Sustainable Electric Mobility Engineering that will train individuals with the necessary skills & knowledge to work in the electrical automotive industry as well as in the Ultra Lightweight Vehicle (ULV) that comprises e-bikes and e-cargo bikes.

The course is also formulated to stimulate transversal competences such as the increased sense of initiative & entrepreneurship. The course is designed to follow the European Credit Transfer & Accumulation System (ECTS) credit standards for certification recognition across the EU.

The innovative curriculum comprises of interactive teaching methods & partnerships with expert academic & industrial organizations in order to give to the students a solid background for starting a fruitful career in the industry.

[Find more information here](#)

VI-TRAIN

Erasmus+ Project VI-TRAIN – Traditional Trades going virtual

NEW!

In the Erasmus+ project VI-TRAIN - **V**irtual **T**RAINing for traditional Crafts - the requirements for innovative trainings for traditional crafts/skills at risk and handling of structural damage are developed and prepared for certification by ECQA.

The objectives of VI-TRAIN are to:

- identify suitable virtual training tools for tradespeople (manual work)
- identify suitable means of online collaboration in practical training courses
- derive success criteria for best-possible digital solutions
- develop and test a virtual/3D training system for trades and building damage detection

- investigate and test ways to overcome restrictions
- develop a train-the-trainer system for the application of selected methods in the training of traditional trades.

To meet these challenges, the project partners are looking at usable new techniques, technologies and possibilities of digitalisation. VI-TRAIN partners are analysing these techniques and technologies to assess their usefulness for the purposes of the project.

However, in the case of manual trade work, these examples are missing, which means that partners have to look for parallels in applying such. These procedures are then closely examined to see if they are also suitable for training tradespersons. In addition to the performance of relevant craft activities, also the result must be available virtually. This requires targeted instructions by experienced tradespeople. It is precisely this training that is to be supported by selected digitisation aids.

Suitable Best Practice examples will be presented in Country Reports and a summarised EU Report on the VI-TRAIN website in March. Evenly important in this context is data protection for the tools used. Important for you:

At an **Information Day on 8 March 2022**, the digital options and their use for Cultural Heritage will be introduced in a Study Visit at the Institute of Digitalisation and Informatics **at IMC Krems**. You will receive an invitation to this visit by separate post. Or you can register right [here](#).

[Find more information here](#)



FLIP2-INCREAS – Pilot Project to strengthen Cultural Heritage Sector

Over the last decade, European Cultural Heritage has increasingly become the focus of the European Commission's attention. The Culture Programme stimulated and invested in initiatives such as the Capitals of Culture, the European Year of Cultural Heritage, the European Heritage Label and others. A number of reports and strategies, such as that for the European Heritage of the 21st Century, were developed and published. Which by now give a fairly clear picture of where cultural Europe is heading in the years to come.

The challenge is now to take action and put what has been proposed into practice. The INCREAS - **IN**novation and **CRE**ative **S**olutions for Cultural Heritage - project partners see the Pilot Project as a perfect opportunity to continue several steps taken over the last five years: building on EU projects such as MODI-FY, PRO-Heritage, RCIA as well as the European Heritage Label (EHL) - awarded to the Union of Lublin in 2014 and the Imperial Palace Vienna in 2016.

Existing tools such as [ESCO](#) and [EU SkillsPanorama](#) are complemented and updated. This way a strong sector is developed, combining Cultural Heritage - primarily built Heritage - and Creative Industries for mutual benefit.

At the same time, a range of innovative training measures such as Advanced Digital Skills modules will be developed and implemented. A structured Exchange Programme and initiatives to protect traditional trades through involvement of young people will ensure the survival of skills at risk.

A specific outcome of the Pilot Project will be a prototype European Competence and Community Centre for Cultural Heritage, or EUComp Centre, which will be established in Mauerbach, AT. Here the focus will primarily be on practical Architectural Heritage Management. It will demonstrate how such centres can make a strong contribution to the economic success of European regions.

The INCREAS Pilot Project has already conducted a [series of workshops](#) and gained important insights. This has led to the complementary workshop "Statistical Data for the Cultural Heritage Sector" on 17 June 2021 with the EU Commission.

On 7 October 2021, the second Expert Meeting on INCREAS took place at Kartause Mauerbach. This time, too, it was a hybrid event, i.e. a combination of physical and virtual participation. Details of the conference programme can be found [here](#). There will also be an eBook in the future.

The matching of ESCO professions and listed competences in the Skills Panorama is in the process of being completed. This is the basis for the most proficient structure of the Cultural Heritage and Creative Industries sector.

Currently, project partners are working on individual project results, which are virtually sub-projects: These are in particular the Experts-Pool, Online Marketplaces and Guidelines for Regional Development. Especially the marketplaces have enormous potential to function as driver for the commercial exchange of products and services in the Cultural Heritage sector. On the one hand, users should be able to offer their products and services here, and on the other hand, cover their demand for historic (recycled) building materials. In the future, the Expert Pool will allow Europe-wide access to tradespeople and other specialists who contribute to the protection of valuable Cultural

Heritage.

The cooperation with the Blueprint project CHARTER is ongoing and shall enrich both projects.

[Find more information here](#)



Horizon 2020 Project PRO-Heritage – Energy Savings in built Heritage

The Horizon 2020 project PRO-Heritage aims to provide professionals and craftspeople with training in traditional competences and skills to optimise energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy for historic built Heritage.

The learning elements are based on Best Practices of the partner organisations. In addition, PRO-Heritage - **PRO**tect traditionally built **Heritage** Skills - creates a structure as well as an environment for regular exchanges of journeymen in Europe to learn from each other and share competences and skills.

The main issues of PRO-Heritage are

- the protection of traditional built Heritage skills and competences relevant for energy efficiency and renewable energies
- the need to involve sufficiently educated and trained professionals and tradespeople in appropriate conservation, maintenance and ongoing care
- the need to certify these professionals and tradespeople to enable them to be recognised for their competences and skills

Achieving better energy efficiency in historic buildings is seen as a WIN-WIN situation for all - owners face lower energy costs, occupants enjoy modern comforts at reasonable prices, and society as a whole reduces energy consumption and CO₂ emissions, which seems inevitable in times like these. For example, Imperial Palace Vienna was able to reduce its energy consumption from around 200 to around 80kWh per m² per year.

The first Train-the-Trainer course for PRO-Heritage took place in

Lisbon at beginning of November 2021.

In November 2021, PRO-Heritage was also a highly regarded participant in the break-out session of BUILD-UP Skills and EU Sustainable Energy.

The second PRO-Heritage Symposium entitled "Energy-efficient buildings" at Kartause Mauerbach was again well attended. Due to the infection figures, the event was offered both onsite and online. A programme for reading more is available [here](#).

In the future, there will be an eBook summarising each of the events. The project duration of PRO-Heritage was recently extended. This means that necessary Face-to-Face courses that had to be postponed due to Covid19 can now be held. An improved version of the teaching videos has thus become possible as well.

[Find more information here](#)



GreenSCENT

The kick-off meeting of the Horizon 2020 project [GreenSCENT](#) (GA 101036480) took place last month on the 2nd to 4th of February 2022.

The project, GreenScent – Smart Citizen Education for a Green Future – aims to **change citizens' behaviors allowing them to be the ones who act to implement the policies of the European Commission** in the context of the **Green Deal**.

Through the development of **pedagogical projects, accessible apps/web applications, competence frameworks, and community engagement**, GreenScent aims to **engage people with social and global issues as a means to foster empathy and behavioral change to achieve the Green Deal's aim of carbon neutrality by 2050**.

The project will last for 36 months and it includes 15 partners.

The participation of UAB in the project is multidisciplinary. Focus of ECQA will be to support the Certification and Assessment Schema for participants in the project and after the project lifetime. The ECCEL (European Certification for Climate and Environmental Literacy) is aimed to connect to different platforms for displaying the knowledge and skills gained with the project.

ECQA will be in charge of leading **WP4 Curriculum design, certification and content development for societal education** in the project.



For more information, please contact: [Michael Reiner](#)

[Find more information here](#)

If you are interested in all the projects, you can also find the updates on the [ECQA® webpage](#). If you are interested in more details, don't hesitate to contact us. If you have news for us for one of our next newsletters, please contact [Nicola](#).

Stay safe and stay healthy!
Best regards,

Your ECQA® Team

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