

FIRST NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2015

Welcome to PROF/TRAC's first newsletter!

Today we would like to introduce this new EU project to you and hope to send you further newsletters once every 6 months with updated news and events from around Europe on Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (nZEB).

PROF/TRAC IN A NUTSHELL

PROF/TRAC is a 3-year EU funded project with 15 partners from eight countries. It started in March 2015 and was initiated by an interdisciplinary team representing important stakeholders dealing with nZEB construction and refurbishment: universities, European umbrella associations of engineers, architects and social housing, and some of their national members.

PROF/TRAC targets technical experts, architects, engineers and building managers involved in nZEB design, construction and management by developing a European training and qualification scheme as part of a life-long learning process for continuous development and up-skilling of professionals.

WHY NEARLY ZERO ENERGY BUILDINGS?

NZEB construction and renovation is a big challenge for construction industry. A successful design and construction process towards nZEB requires innovative design processes and technologies based on an integrated design approach regarding the multi-disciplinary work teams. However, this approach is not yet common as the building sector is still very fragmented. Especially the collaboration between architects, engineers, technical experts and building managers is necessary to develop mutual understanding of each other's disciplines and combine skills to achieve optimal nZEB construction and retrofitting in terms of quality, energy efficiency and cost effectiveness.

PROF/TRAC offers a solution by developing an Open Training Platform and Qualification scheme for Continuing Professional Development for professionals in the building sector for all professionals involved in nZEB design and construction.

PROF/TRAC IS NOW ONLINE

Under the domain of www.proftrac.eu you can visit the open training platform for nZEB professionals. Here you can read all about the project, news and up-coming events and sign up for the newsletter. If you are a training provider and you would like to join our CPD scheme feel free to contact us.

PROF/TRAC @ CLIMA 2016

PROF/TRAC will organise a workshop at CLIMA2016 in a session dedicated to European projects in the field of energy efficient and healthy buildings. Project coordinator Peter op't Veld and the involved REHVA Members including CLIMA 2016 host DANVAC will present the first results of the work undertaken so far: the outcomes of the nZEB skills mapping performed in 4 partner countries, the identified professional profiles and missing skills identified by the experts, as well as the experiences of the first Train the Trainer session. EASME Project Officer Philippe Moseley will join the workshop and outline the Horizon2020 support scheme for the improvement of skills of professionals in the construction sector and highlight some successful initiatives. The workshop will serve as a platform of knowledge exchange between REHVA and ACE Member Associations interested in joining the PROF/TRAC training and qualification scheme.

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACTS TO CLIMA 2016!

CLIMA 2016 is the 12th REHVA World Congress, the leading international scientific congress in the field of HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning), organised on 22-25 May 2016 in Aalborg, Denmark. CLIMA 2016 will focus on building and HVAC system performance in practice: fulfilment of the designed performance level, ability to satisfy the occupants' needs, interaction with the users in daily practice and its role in the smart energy system. You can submit your abstracts [here](#).

MAPPING THE EU SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS ON NZEB

A first step in the project is to identify the professions involved in nZEB construction and retrofitting, and map, assess and compare the required skills versus their existing skills. Thereafter an inventory of current educational and training programs in relation to the different recognized professions will be developed for each participating country.

PROF/TRAC develops a common methodology for the mapping of skills and qualifications, which is based on the experiences of project partner ISSO of the BUILD UP Skills project in the Netherlands. Here an Excel tool was developed as the Skills Mapping Methodology together with a guidance document (PDF) explaining how to use it.

FIRST TRAIN THE TRAINERS COURSE SCHEDULED

PROF/TRAC will design and conduct a European central Train-the-Trainers (TtT) program. Its goal is an efficient use, adaption and implementation of existing training structures, training materials and accreditation schemes into national life-long learning. The TtT program will create 'ambassadors' for the PROF/TRAC project, who can initiate and organise their own national training programs and can train the trainers and professionals on national scale.

PROF/TRAC will prepare and organise three interactive face-to-face trainings. With their feedback, the next training rounds will be carried out by webinars to make the training more efficient and easily accessible for new trainers. All the stages will be supported by the Open Training Platform, which will be a part of the official website www.profrac.eu

The first TtT course for 21 participants from seven partnering countries will last three days. It will set off with a series of lectures given by experienced professionals from consortium partners: HIA and ISSO (Netherlands), AAU (Denmark), CVUT (Czech Republic) and IVE (Spain). These lectures cover various fields, such as how to map required skills, description of available educational materials, modern teaching methods and last but not least the design, construction, commissioning and operation of nZEBs. The second part of the course is a workshop, in which teams from each country will develop a training course tailored to specific needs of their country.

The first TtT course is organized by Czech Technical University in Prague (CVUT) and will take place in February 2016.

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