

CONCEPT OF THE CENTER FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND INNOVATIONS IN CIVIL CONSTRUCTION



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Concept of the Center for Vocational Education and Innovations in Civil Construction

The Center for Vocational Education and Innovations in Civil Construction has been established within the framework of the Joint European Erasmus+ project “Future-Oriented Vocational Education and Training for the Construction Sector in Ukraine in a Partnership for Excellence” 101183275 - VETpartEx - ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CB-VET, funded by the European Union. The Center is part of the strategy of the Ukrainian State University of Science and Technology (USUST) to strengthen its leadership in the field of vocational education and innovation in civil construction.

Goal:

- To create a learning environment for implementing initiatives in the field of civil construction, including the development of training materials on energy-efficient construction, Building Information Modeling (BIM), lean construction, and building standards for vocational schools (VET), colleges, and higher education institutions, using the best national and international practices.
- To support the adaptation of vocational education curricula to current scientific and technological challenges, labor market demands, and societal needs.
- To promote interdisciplinary research in energy- and resource-efficient technologies, information technologies in civil construction, reuse of materials, environmental protection, eco-innovation, and sustainable development.

Objectives:

1. Educational Objectives:

- Analysis and updating of vocational education and training programs for vocational education institutions (VET), colleges, and higher education institutions (HEIs) in line with best European practices in the fields of energy-efficient construction, building information modeling (BIM), sustainable construction, and European construction standards;
- Development of training materials and delivery of training sessions for representatives of VET institutions and colleges;
- Cooperation with employers in Ukraine and the EU to align training programs for skilled workers with labor market demands;
- Raising awareness among stakeholders about the capabilities of vocational (vocational-technical) education institutions in training specialists for Ukraine’s construction sector;
- Development of distance learning platforms for training skilled workers in energy-efficient construction, building information modeling, sustainable construction, and European construction standards.

2. *Research Objectives:*

- Promote participation in European research (Horizon 2020) and educational (Erasmus+) framework programs to support integration into the European research and education area.
- Facilitate international cooperation in vocational education in construction and related sectors.
- Engage and coordinate interdisciplinary research groups from various academic and educational institutions and colleges.
- Unite various stakeholders to develop a strategy for the advancement of vocational education in construction and related fields.

Organizational and Staffing Structure of the Centre, Subordination, and Interaction with Other Units

The *Centre for Vocational Education and Innovation in Civil Construction* is an **integral part** of the *Educational and Scientific Centre for the Development of Vocational Education*. Its main task is to create a vocational education environment at the university in collaboration with industrial partners.

Staff and Job Descriptions

The *Director of the Center for Vocational Education and Innovation in Civil Construction* (hereinafter referred to as the Director) reports to the Head of the Educational and Scientific Center for Vocational Education Development, manages the Center's activities, and ensures its operation within the university's structure. The Director of the Center coordinates with other structural units of the Ukrainian State University of Science and Technology (UDUNT) and external partners as part of the *Educational and Scientific Center for Vocational Education Development*.

The Director of the Center establishes a *Coordination Council* that includes all participants of the Erasmus+ project “Future-Oriented VET for the Construction Sector in Ukraine in Partnership for Excellence” 101183275 - VETpartEx - ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CB-VET, namely:

- FH MUNSTER UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, Münster (Germany) – Chair of the Coordination Council;
- EUROMASC AS, Oslo (Norway);
- MENDEL UNIVERSITY IN BRNO, Brno (Czech Republic);
- SLOVAK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN BRATISLAVA, Bratislava (Slovakia);
- VOCATIONAL COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF BOTTROP (Germany);
- UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (Norway);
- CENTER for SCHOOL-BASED PRACTICAL TEACHER TRAINING, Gelsenkirchen (Germany);

- INSTITUTE OF VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, Kyiv (Ukraine);
- DNIPRO INDUSTRIAL PEDAGOGICAL PROFESSIONAL PRE-HIGHER COLLEGE, Dnipro (Ukraine);
- MUNICIPAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION "KRYVYI RIH CENTER FOR TRAINING AND RETRAINING OF WORKERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY" OF THE DNIPROPETROVSK REGIONAL COUNCIL, Kryvyi Rih (Ukraine);
- STATE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTION "LUTSK HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECTURE", Lutsk (Ukraine);
- STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION "ODESA CENTER FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING", Odesa (Ukraine);
- HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL No. 1, Rivne (Ukraine).

The *Coordination Council* ensures the active participation of project partners in the Center's activities, including training sessions and contributes to the dissemination of training outcomes and methodological developments among regional partner institutions.

The *Director of the Center*, by official order, appoints deputy directors, defines their responsibilities, and allocates their areas of responsibility.

Interaction with Project Partners and External Stakeholders

The Center's cooperation with the Institute of Vocational Qualifications and vocational (vocational-technical) education institutions — including Dnipro Industrial Pedagogical Vocational College (Dnipro), the Municipal Educational Institution "Kryvyi Rih Center for Training And Retraining of Workers in the Construction Industry" of the Dnipropetrovsk Regional Council (Kryvyi Rih), the State Vocational Education Institution "Lutsk Higher Vocational School of Construction and Architecture" (Lutsk), the State Educational Institution "Odesa Center for Vocational Education and Training" (Odesa), and Higher Vocational School No. 1 (Rivne) — is ensured through the involvement of representatives from these institutions in all events organized by the Center in Ukraine and the European Union within the framework of the Erasmus+ project "Future-Oriented VET for the Construction Sector in Ukraine in Partnership for Excellence" 101183275 - VETpartEx - ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CB-VET.

In turn, UDUNT, the Institute of Vocational Qualifications, and the vocational (vocational-technical) education institutions having close ties with employer representatives and their organizations, the academic community, and other vocational institutions at both regional and national levels, ensure the dissemination of information about the Center's results and the engagement of a broad range of stakeholders in its activities.

Forms of Interaction Among Center Staff

The main forms of interaction among the Center's staff include regular working meetings and consultations, including through remote communication platforms:

- *Monthly operational meetings* involving the Director of the Center, Deputy Directors, and members of the Coordination Council to discuss current tasks and priorities;
- *Quarterly strategic meetings* to review achievements, identify challenges, and plan future actions.

For prompt information and document exchange, communication is conducted via email and group chats.

To ensure feedback and evaluate the Center's performance, a system of regular internal feedback is in place. This includes staff input on the effectiveness of collaboration and goal achievement, with the option of anonymous surveys to gather suggestions for improving the Center's operations.

