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Upskilling professionals for deep energy efficiency renovations

A tool for better schools



www.cea.org.cy/en/upgreat/

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This project is part of the European Climate Initiative (EUKI), of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, of the German Federal Government.

 HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens



Supported by:



on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag



IDENTITY

The UPGREAT project [Upskilling Professionals for deep energy efficiency RENovations: A Tool for better schools] is the consortium of four partners (the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the Hellenic Passive House Institute, the Cyprus Energy Agency, and Da-Di-Werk) aimed at upskilling building professionals for deep energy renovations -especially for school buildings-, through the development and implementation of a Training Toolkit in selected schools in Cyprus and Greece. The project is funded through the European Climate Initiative (EUKI), with resources from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, of the German Federal Government.

BACKGROUND

Given that the building sector is responsible for more than 1/3 of the total greenhouse gas emissions and 40% of the energy consumption in Europe, the deep energy renovations have become mandatory across the European Union, for both, public and private buildings, including schools.

The renovation of school buildings, however, is more complex, as it requires a multi-parameter approach, which requires high levels of experience and training. Beyond the energy saving techniques, this holistic approach includes parameters related to the comfort and health of the building users, as well as a variety of social and environmental factors.

The above, in combination with the delayed implementation of the European Union Directives, the involvement of multiple stakeholders with different expertise and backgrounds, and the lack of consultancy and monitoring of legislation implementation, delay the readiness of countries such as Cyprus and Greece to proceed in large-scale upgrades of school buildings. Therefore, construction sector professionals, technical services, as well as any other stakeholder promoting deep energy renovation of buildings, need to update their knowledge and upskill their workforce.

OBJECTIVES

Through its lifetime (27 months), the UPGREAT project aims to create the necessary conditions for the implementation of large-scale renovation projects, which will be implemented more effectively and will contribute to the establishment of national and European policies to address energy and climate crisis. More specifically, the project aims to:

- Secure the desired levels of comfort, by eliminating the gap between design & construction
- Increase comfort, by enforcing the transition to low-energy buildings
- Reduce construction, operation & maintenance costs, by following a holistic design approach
- Increase Local Authorities' capacity to develop and manage sustainable energy and climate related projects
- Raise public awareness on the energy efficiency of buildings

These will be achieved with the help of the Toolkit the project will develop for the professionals of the building sector and the support of the German and Greek partners who have many years of experience in the renovation of school buildings.

In this context, the project identifies five (5) pillars with the following activities:

- Collection of data & Evaluation on performance gaps and barriers for energy efficiency implementation methods
- Clustering of target groups & Creation of interactions
- Development of a Total Training Toolkit & Conduction of Training Courses
- Exploitation of the training material by key stakeholders and target groups
- Dissemination among the target groups in the building sector & Awareness to the general public

