

WOODCircle (2022 - 2024) - Dual teaching and training for green and circular skills in the wood and furniture sectors for young European students and workers.

NEWSLETTER 2

15/09/2023



THE GREEN TRANSITION IN THE FURNITURE SECTOR

The furniture sector is a very relevant sector for the EU economy, employing about 1 million workers in about 120.000 enterprises (composed at 99% by micro, small and medium size companies), generating an annual turnover of around €96 billion and producing 25% of world Furniture.

In the last decades, this sector is facing some specific threats (as, for example, the competition from low-labour costs Countries, the ageing workforce and the weak attractiveness of the sector for the youngsters, the shortages of timber and wood-based materials), to which must be added three main events that concurred to make things even more difficult in the last three years: **the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the shortage of raw materials.**

In this framework, **the European Green Deal represents a great challenge, but also a great opportunity for companies** to come out reinforced by the current general environmental and economical crisis...

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THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ABOUT KSC FOR THE WOODWORKER ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

The online survey for fine-tuning the **professional profile of the Woodworker expert in Circular Economy and Sustainability** was administrated to strategic stakeholders across Europe on **March**, and its results have been now summarized in the **D2.2 Report - Survey results.**

The survey represents the second step for the definition of the new professional profile (the first step being represented by the Report on **Desk Research and Market Needs**), and its aim was to collect the opinions from the three following categories of professionals working in the Wood & Furniture sector:

1. **Woodworking employers, woodworking employees, business representatives**
2. **VET/HE operators with training offers for woodworking and furniture industries**
3. **Sustainability and Circular Economy experts**

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Survey Report

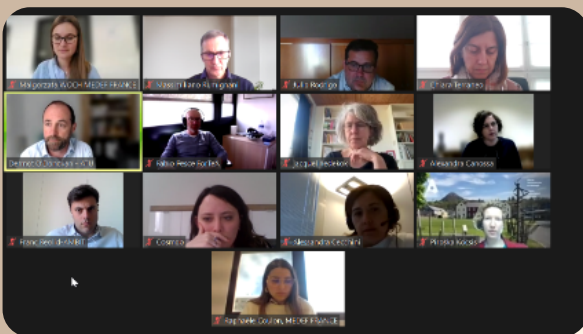
Survey on knowledge, skills and competences required for the "Circular Economy expert Woodworker"

www.woodcircle.net

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WOODCIRCLE'S TRANSNATIONAL WORKSHOP!

On Thursday 13th of April, with much success, the WOODCircle project transnational workshop took place!

As the title of this event suggests, it was organized in the framework of the **Erasmus+ project WOODCircle** and brought together **15 wood experts from various professional private and public organizations from 7 European countries**, to reflect on the project's initial results.

The workshop was held as a **hybrid event**, a flexible and convenient format favorable to the gathering and creation of discussion groups within a network of European wood experts. The primary objective of the workshop was to **mobilize and consult the expertise of wood experts to give us honest and critical feedback on the Skills, Knowledge and Competencies required for a circular economy expert woodworker...**

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TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING IN LETTERFRACK

The first face-to-face **transnational project meeting for the Erasmus+ project WOODCircle** took place on the **23rd-24th of May**. Partners travelled from **Spain (AMBIT), France (IPRA/ MEDEF), Hungary (Fabunio) and Italy (FLA and COSMOB)** to the Connemara campus of **Atlantic Technological University (ATU)**, who is the coordinator of the project. The project is a continuation of the **Erasmus+ project WOODigital**, which recently earned the **"Best practice" award**.

The main topics of discussion included the finalisation of the **professional profile, dissemination activities, the structure of the digital platform** that will host the online training materials, the **content and structure of the curriculum...**

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