Database of Good Practice Policies and Initiatives	
Country	Northern Ireland
Level of Outreach	National
Supported by	EU Horizon 2020
Field of Interest(s)	Energy Efficiency, Digitalization, Promotion of the attractiveness of the Construction Industry, Training Development
Organisation	
Name of organisation	Belfast Metropolitan College
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Policy/Initiative Data	
Title of Initiative	**BIMCert**
Partnership details	Ireland – Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) UK – Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) Portugal – Instituto Superior Technico Ireland – Future Analytics Consulting, Macedonia – Institute for Research in Environment, Civil Engineering and Energy Croatia – Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar EIHP
Project Duration	01.01.2018 to 31.12.2019
Total Budget	€1,247,000.00
Description	BIMcert is a project aimed at providing a large scale training & qualification scheme providing the requisite skills for the entire construction supply chain to: 1. Enable collaborative working to improve access to and the transition from design to development and delivery of both new build and renovation to achieve energy efficient near zero buildings (embedded energy) 2. Achieve efficient and effective ongoing management of the building in terms of energy and fabric (operational energy) 3. Utilise (BIM) Building Information Modelling (virtual construction) as the enabling methodology and tool (sustainable energy) https://energybimcert.eu/
Phases	N/A

Project Details	
Aim	Together we must work to demystify and democratise BIM – breaking down the barriers faced by an industry wishing to upskill and avail of the benefits. BIMcert will develop a blended, fully supported suite of BIM learning tools, which will allow geographically dispersed construction project teams to use technology to enhance information exchange and collaboration. The project will have a particular focus on testing the BIM approaches to green and passive building design to contribute to the improvement of energy efficiency.
Target groups	Professionals, lecturers, trainers, students, construction industry, construction workers, craftworkers, building owners, local authorities, public policy makers.
Exchange of Experiences	Collaborative approach with other educational organisations (Higher and Vocational) and other EU projects, creating a strong BIM Alliance through sharing materials and resources at workshops and meetings across Europe.
Outcomes 1	To develop a more efficient and relevant training programme to integrate concepts of sustainability and renewables together in practical application and integration with technology (BIM) based on real work industry needs and limitations
Outcomes 2	To improve processes for new workers to enter or catch up with new trending technology (BIM) to enter the construction sector
Outcomes 3	To make it easier for the (global) construction companies to get qualified staff for design, manufacture and maintenance of their products based on this module direct employability skill set.
Outcomes 4	Provide efficiencies across the entire supply chain
Outcomes 5	Integrate skills within companies and professionals and for better collaboration platforms
Outcomes 6	Create the final qualification and supporting material that can be implemented across Europe and be further developed and/or lead to further educational progression
Policy/Initiative	
Skill gaps	One of the BIM implementation problems is the gap between academic focus on disciplinary principles and industry's need for proficiency in specific practical applications. The industry focus is on uniting professional skills for energy efficiency in construction with a modern construction method, including software tools and associated processes (BIM)
Mis-matching of skills	Overcome skills mismatching and improve employability in the current European construction market by improving and extending the existing skills of Trainers, SMEs, site managers, craftworkers and other experienced operatives using digitalization approaches.
Skills-Shortages	Transfer knowledge of BIM and nZEB to and from other countries providing mutually recognised on-line trainings across Europe enabling ease of mobility of the workforce and therefore reducing skills shortages in certain countries.
Training	Blue collar workers usually have difficulty accessing a suitable upskilling pathway. We are adding to the achievements of existing BUILD UP Skills initiatives. Byte sized learning outcomes allow for micro accreditation that will enable these workers to easily achieve upskilling and qualifications in a short period without impacting on their ability to earn
Career moves	Supports the ladders of progression in BIM knowledge, enabling workers to upskill step by step and finally obtaining recognisable creditation to find work in other fields in the construction industry.
Mobility	Mutually recognised on-line BIM trainings across Europe enabling ease of mobility of the workforce
Other EQF-Level	Micro Accreditation proposed in BIMCERT provides recognition for bite- sized pieces of learning (of benefit both to individuals and SMEs), enables appropriate Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) including from existing EU- funded projects such as BUILD UP SKILLs and MeN, supports the ladders of progression aligned with levels of BIM maturity, enables workers to collect learning modules as building blocks towards attainment of qualifications recognised by National Qualification Frameworks & EQF
Transfer in Europe	Transfer knowledge of BIM and nZEB to and from other countries providing mutually recognised on-line trainings across Europe enabling ease of mobility of the workforce
Entrepreneurship Opportunities	Opportunities for new roles in the constuction sector for BIM management facilities
Other	Awareness and collaboration of short flexible micro-BIM trainings enabling academic, industry, construction sector, public sector, and private building owners to understand the diverse use of BIM