

In **1986** parity organisations from several European countries, dealing with the vocational training in the building sector, established a common network in a spirit of collaboration and non profitable activity. Since its foundation, the partners of **REFORME** have shared their interests and experience within the scope to develop best practices at national levels and to transfer them towards a wider European context.

Throughout the creation of this specialized network, knowledge and experience of the partners enrich the social dialogue practiced within the construction industry. Thus, this common heritage is at the disposal of both national and European stakeholders. The common projects enable the REFORME partners to anticipate changing and to adapt training strategies.



This concept is considered as a foundation of the REFORME network which, right from the beginning, has put forwards the objective of mutual empowerment and the development of common projects.

The priority initiatives of the network embrace participation in international vocational training workshops & debates, promotion of mobility projects, definition of professional competences, development of pedagogical methods and training programmes and valorisation & dissemination of the common achievements.

The transnational strategy of lifelong learning, adopted by the European council for the period 2007-2013 provides the partners with the guidelines permitting to complete national orientations and to draw up activity plans for REFORME.

1 MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

The **REFORME** network has facilitated the setting up of mobility projects for over 2,300 younger people and trainers. They could benefit from professional practice abroad thanks to the co-financing guaranteed by both the national partners and by EU programmes and initiatives (mainly Leonardo da Vinci) corresponding to the education and learning goals determined by the European Union.

Various tools, such as the **ABC of Construction** (LdV 1999) or the **Illustrated Multilingual Dictionary of Construction Industry** (LdV 1996) have been developed.

The network has also carried out various European projects aiming at improvement of the vocational training in the construction industry:

COM.BAT (LdV 1997), focussed on the certification of professional skills,

SOURCE (LdV 1998), aimed at vocational training of workers in the field of restoration of architectural heritage,

COPILOTE (LdV 2006), aimed at defining accompanying strategies for company tutors,

Q-CASE (LdV 2006), achieved to ensure the quality of vocational training within the school building sites,

TRASFOBUILDING (LdV 2007), dealing with the evaluation of formal and informal learning.

Other projects, like **Réseau RE.FORM.E** (LdV 2000) and **Enhancement of the Copenhagen Process in the RE.FORM.E. Network** (LdV 2006, or **RE.FORM.E. Network** (FSE 2009) have made it possible to continue the exchange of good practices and to carry out dissemination and valorisation of European principles in the field of vocational training.



2 ORGANISATION

The **REFORME** partners meet two or three times a year. In addition to this, a REORME Summit is organised every three years, where employers, trade unions and trainers from all the member countries take part. At these meetings the network members present the results achieved in the preceding years and fix new objectives.



SUMMITS

1986 – UTRECHT • *SVB*, Dutch partner, invites its European counterparts (parity bodies leading training in the construction trades) to its 40th anniversary.

1987 – DIJON • *CCCA-BTP*, French partner, organizes a second summit that reinforces the twinning of the training institutions.

1990 – TURIN • *FORMEDIL*, Italian institution, hosts the third summit that set up technical working groups.

1991 • After a contact with the European Council, the network was named *RE.FORM.E Réseau pour la FORMation en Europe*, “network for training in Europe”. This provides a better

identification of its profile.

1993 – BARCELONE • *Institut Gaudí de la Construcció*, Spanish institution, hosts the fourth summit, focussed on VET strategies in the construction sector.

1996 – TILBURG • *SVB* (called *Bouwradius Groep* today) organizes the fifth summit. At this occasion, a European workshop on VET perspectives in the construction industry was organised with the help of the **REFORME** partners.

1999 – AVIGNON • *CCCA-BTP*, French institution, organizes the sixth Summit of **REFORME**. This time the main theme was the promotion of European educational paths for younger people in the construction sector, confirmed by the *Europass Training*.

2003 – LISBON • *CENFIC*, Portuguese institution, organizes the seventh summit with the theme how to attract and retain younger people in the construction industry, by giving them a better image of the sector through a higher quality training that includes educational paths in companies.

2008 – GIJÓN • *Fundación Laboral de la Construcción del Principado de Asturias*, in collaboration with *Fundación Laboral de la Construcción* and *Intitut Gaudí de la Construcció*, Spanish partners, organizes the eighth Summit. This makes it possible to approach the **REFORME** objectives and the European educational strategy formulated in the Copenhagen Declaration of November 2002 and in the Lifelong Learning Programme (2007-2013).



REFORME partners operate in the following thematic groups:

- Group 1: European mobility in the training of younger people**
- Group 2: Training and accreditation of trainers**
- Group 3: In-job training for construction workers**

The assurance of coherence between these three groups and the choice of strategic directions of the network are the responsibilities of the **coordinating group**, in which all partners are represented and whose presidency is triennial, being currently in charge of *Fundación Laboral de la Construcción del Principado de Asturias* (2008-2011).

The VET policies in our countries remain inspired by the European Lifelong Learning Programme. Within this general framework, the mobility of younger trainees and workers, the coherence between qualifications and skills, the integration of disadvantaged people and the risk of exclusion from the labour market were designed as main fields of investigation.

Thus, the **REFORME network** has established the following common **priorities**:

1. Putting forward of attractive higher quality vocational training for all meeting market needs.
2. Setting up of common European mechanisms contributing to create a European space and to maintain the competitiveness of the European labour market.
3. Strengthening of mutual learning, cooperation and exchange of experience, promoted by the network for the last 20 years.

The member organizations of the network established the following common **goals** for the coming years:

- Improving of the quality and attractiveness of education and training.
- Promotion of the transnational mobility.
- Improving of the teacher in-job training.
- Encouraging workers to participate in Lifelong Learning actions.
- Implementation of the problematic linked to the sustainable development within training centres.
- Encouraging of the use of new technologies of communication in vocational training national systems.

And to match them, the following **objectives** will be achieved between 2008 and 2011:

1. More mobility projects for VET professionals, trainees and workers in activity.
2. Promotion of the sustainable development among trainees, trainers and workers.
3. Development of professional certification based on experience, throughout the valorisation of formal and informal training paths.
4. Implementation of *Europass Portfolio* in all **REFORME** organizations: *the European CV, Europass Mobility, Supplement Europass, Europass Certificate and Language Dossier*.
5. Promotion of management skills in the in-job training activity.
6. Improvement of the vocational lifelong training of workers.
7. Development of educational tools for the vocational training.
8. Improvement of trainer's qualifications in the **REFORME** organisations.
9. Convergence between the pathways and the lifelong learning systems in different European countries.
10. Creation of a virtual European centre for instructors based on an Internet platform, which will contain educational tools and expertise for the training of trainers.

4 PARTNERSHIP



The founding organizations of **REFORME** met for the first time in Paris. At that time there came only from four European countries: France, Spain, Italy and Holland. However, it did not take long for the network to expand. In fact, in 1990, at the Turin meeting, three new organizations and two countries were added: Germany and Portugal. Since then five more bodies coming from five countries, have joined the network : Belgium, Switzerland, Finland and Sweden.

At the present time the network includes eleven organisations from nine European countries. The network www.reforme.org remains open to any institution that shares its objectives and philosophy.

BYN (Sweden)



www.byn.se

BZB (Germany)



www.bzb.de

CCCA-BTP (France)



www.ccca-btp.fr

CENFIC (Portugal)



www.cenfic.pt

ECAP (Switzerland)



Institut de formation professionnelle, de formation permanente et de recherche fondée par CGIL

www.ecap.ch

KEUDA (Finland)



www.keuda.fi

Formation PME (Belgium)



www.formation-pme.be

FORMEDIL (Italia)



ENTE NAZIONALE PER LA FORMAZIONE E L'ADDESTRAMENTO PROFESSIONALE NELL'EDILIZIA
ANNO: PENAL-UR. FILCA-CISL. FILIEA-COIL

www.formedil.it

Fundación Laboral de la Construcción (Spain)



www.fundacionlaboral.org

Fundación Laboral de la Construcción del Principado de Asturias (Spain)



www.flc.es

Institut Gaudí de la Construcció (Spain)



Institut Gaudí de la Construcció

www.igaudi.org