



Executive Agency, Education, Audiovisual and Culture



ConClip – Development and utilisation of multi-lingual educational video clips (ConClips) applied by craftsmen and site supervisors (with a focus on migrants) to gain skills for the construction of passive houses

Progress Report

Public Part

Project information

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Executive Summary

Due to rapid energy efficiency policy development within the European Union during the last decade sustainable buildings such as low-energy and passive houses contribute more and more to climate protection strategies.

By 2020 "nearly zero energy buildings" should already be the standard for newly built properties. A big challenge to achieve this goal is to close gaps in skills and knowledge of craftsmen and building companies when it comes to transfer designs into real projects. While design of passive houses is already state of the art, a large part of the defects and non-performance of passive houses lies in wrong applications by craftsmen on the building site.

On European building sites, workers with different cultural and language background work together. When it comes to building a passive house, they have to understand how and why technical details and methods are to be implemented differently from conventional practice. And they have to understand a passive house as a technical system.

In order to close these knowledge gaps on the building sites, ConClip, a project under the EU-funded Leonardo Lifelong Learning Programme, was created. The main outcome is the production of video clips, to be accessed on mobile devices, directly on the building site or in classrooms, showing how to actually put the theoretical passive house detailed design into practice.

The consortium is composed of ten organisations with educational, research and technical background from seven countries.

ConClip provides a European further education platform with eight video clips that specifically support workers' skills and knowledge in construction, focusing on immigrants and low-skilled workers. It identifies the 20 most frequent defects in passive house construction and gives competent answers to the most important questions about passive house construction.

Each of the video clips lasts approximately three minutes each and supports workers on the building site, helping them to avoid long term defects of the passive house system. Each of the eight video clips will be produced in eight languages by means of text inserts and voice-over in German, Danish, Dutch, French, Polish, Turkish, Croatian and Serbian. In amount, 64 videos will be available.

An extra dissemination package ensures that the clips will be known to the sector stakeholders in economy, education and research. The target groups (craftsmen and site supervisors, educators, building companies & labour organisations) will be reached all over Europe.

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Abbreviations:

app.	approximately
CCD	ConClipDatabase
ConClip	CONstructionvideoCLIPs.
e.g.	exempli gratia – for example
EU	European Union
EQAVET	European Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training
ECVET	European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training
IT	Information Technology
P1-P11	Partner 1-11
PCM	Project Cycle Management
WP	work package
UK	United Kingdom
VET	Vocational Education and Training

1. Project Objectives

Overall objective

ConClip addresses the European Commission's approach in regard to lifelong learning focusing on the Decision No 1720/2006/EG of the European Parliament and at the same time contribute to the European Union's climate targets for 2020 (Strategy 2020).

Specific objective

ConClip develops and implements multi-lingual educational video clips to be applied by craftsmen and site supervisors (with a focus on migrants) to gain further skills for the construction of passive houses and thereby contribute to reaching the aims of the "Agenda for new skills and jobs".

Aims of the project and expected results

ConClip provides immediate and easy access to know-how on construction parts, fittings and installations of passive houses for craftsmen and site supervisors (but also to teaching staff and companies). The focus is laid on migrants and low-skilled workers by applying an innovative IT-learning approach.

A series of short educational video clips are created, to avoid construction defects mainly observed in passive houses. Clips can be downloaded on mobile devices or watched on the ConClip website. Each of the eight video clips will be produced in eight languages by means of text inserts and voice-over in German, Danish, Dutch, French, Polish, Turkish, Croatian and Serbian. In amount, 64 videos will be available.

ConClips are a new media multi-purpose-tool. The main quality is their general accessibility via the web, so that they can be used directly on the building site via smartphone or tablet as soon as they are needed for explanation. They can also be integrated in vocational training, higher education and further training for adult learners, supplemented by additional teaching material.

Descriptive texts in Croatian, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Polish, Serbian and Turkish help to understand specific technical terms. As inserts are bilingual (the migrant's language and the language of host country), this approach also helps to learn the language, especially in regard to technical terms.

The utilisation of ConClips in a learning environment (vocational training, higher education and further training for adult learners) presents a new teaching approach. On-the-job-training is complemented with modern IT support and at the same time helps to overcome language barriers.

Intensive and detailed needs analysis made the project highly visible within the target stakeholder groups (craftsmen and site supervisors, educators, building companies & labour organisations) and at the same time ensures the usage of the clips by them.

Sustainability of the project is ensured by winning construction companies, vocational education centres and other actors in the field to not only to use the already produced ConClips, but to finance the production of even more ConClips in their specialised fields.

By implementing this modern, IT-based learning and teaching tool, not only migrant workers in the construction business will benefit from easy access to further education, but also low-skilled workers in the project countries and – due to the multi-lingual approach – other European countries in which Croatian, Dutch, French, German, Polish, Serbian or Turkish speaking migrants are working on construction sites. ConClips can easily be accessed through the ConClip website and downloaded on mobile phones without additional costs. Therefore – for the first time – the direct target group working in the construction business is being provided a practice-oriented, location-independent and cost-free learning tool which will also improve their skills and make them fit for the demands of the "green job market".

2. Project Approach

The methodology of the proposed project is based on a participatory and comprehensive approach.

In order to successfully achieve the project objectives the consortium works with the PCM (Project Cycle Management) approach.

Work package 1 clearly describes the approach in regard to the management of the project and the reporting tasks.

Within the project, surveys function as a tool for determining the target groups' specific needs. Within a survey on didactics and methodology, the status of specific knowledge and skills of workers is identified. With a second survey, professionals helped identifying the 20 most construction defects. The main target group for the surveys are institutions for vocational and further training and for higher education, they are forwarding the questionnaires to their contacts in their countries. A third survey will take place as soon as the first three clips are online, to evaluate their perception and usefulness for the target groups.

Further didactical and methodological tasks within ConClip:

All country teams develop introductory workshops for employees / workers and teaching staff to impart the specific potentials of using ConClips. Also, partners identified existing courses in which ConClips could be well integrated. For each partner country, partners shared a list of selected courses. The British partner is mainly contributing recommendations on how to integrate ConClips within the ECVET standards (which have to be developed) and defining the rules for the production of the clips with regard to EQAVET principles.

As an interim result, ConClips will be integrated in following kind of courses:

1. Vocational education / training for skilled workers (ConClips as part of teaching material)
2. Further education for teachers / instructors, who need more complex didactic instructions how to implement ConClips in their courses to workers
3. Basic education in schools, if found appropriate by teachers
4. Vocational Training for Green Building Auditors (DGNB, BREEAM etc.)
5. In-house-Training of construction companies, training their own personnel (Employers / Site Supervisors / Site Foremen / Workers). For them, ConClips serve as a tool for explanation in the working process; the course implementation handbook contains simple didactic instructions for this target group. For them, Ad-hoc-information & guidelines for unskilled workers will also be provided.

The selected courses integrating ConClips will be analysed in regard to how ConClips influence the credits of those courses in relation to ECVET and EQAVET principles. As general European ECVET standards have not yet been developed, the outcome will be a recommendation on how to consider ConClips within the credit system of existing courses.

Additional to the project contract and in order to insure the sustainability of the project the lead partner created a project platform for internal communication and upload of project outcomes for discussion and feedback. The CCD enables the project team to communicate in a fast, efficient and traceable way. The CCD is implemented in the project homepage.

Major milestones:

M.1: training gap analysis finished: the most relevant issues for the videos are defined, the list of the most common defects of passive houses was compiled (month 6)

M.2: ConClip handbooks finished:

The "ConClip video implementation handbook" serves as a guideline on how all the clips are to be produced (video design according to the information needs of the target group).

The "ConClip course implementation handbook" serves as a guideline to teachers (and also supervisors) on how to implement ConClips in courses or at the site. It contains didactical and methodological approaches for VET institutions and also offers additional teaching material, elaborated for the specific clips, giving supplementary information on the main topics.

The "ConClip video implementation handbook", the "ConClip course implementation handbook" and the teaching materials are critical for the sustainability of the project results and the use of the videos in further courses. (month 8)

M.3: "Recommendation on how to apply ECVET criteria on courses involving ConClips" All partners collect material how to define ECVET & EQUAVET principles within the education structure in their country. The aim is to define the ECVET & EQUAVET value of the courses where ConClips shall be incorporated. (month 8)

M.4: Production of the first 3 ConClips and translation of text inserts and voice-over in 8 languages: German, Danish, Dutch, French, Polish, Turkish, Croatian and Serbian. (month 16)

M.5: The evaluation report based on feedback from target groups (craftsmen and site supervisors, educators, building companies & labour organisations) on the first 3 ConClips provide the basis for the production of the next 5 ConClips. This milestone presents the third survey within the project (month 22)

M.6: Production of the remaining 5 ConClips (month 26)

M.7: Commitments from companies and educational institutions for project sustainability. (month 29)

Indicators of success:

I.1: All expected results are implemented in time and budget and according to the Grant Agreement by the end of month 30. At the moment there is no critical delay of the project. Costs are in line with the contract.

I.2: At least 30 representatives of the targets groups 1, 2 and 3 per mainly targeted project country (AT, BE, DE, DK) confirm with the evaluation feedback to go on using ConClips.

Status: This part has not yet been realised, as the WP has not started yet. Due to the letters of intent already signed, fulfilment of this success indicator is most likely.

I.3: A database with at least 100 contacts is implemented and used by the end of month 4.

Status: The database already comprises more than 232 contacts and is growing weekly. Success indicator is fulfilled.

I.4: 4 public events with at least 30 participants per event are implemented by the end of month 28.

Status: Public events will start as soon as all ConClips are finished, success indicator will be fulfilled.

I.5: The ConClips are integrated into at least 2 educational courses per main targeted project country by the end of month 28.

Status: There is great interest in using the ConClips in courses. The fulfilment of this success indicator is most likely.

I.6: The ConClips are in use on at least 1 construction site per main targeted project country by the end of month 28. Success indicator will be fulfilled.

I.7: At least 8 educational institutions commit themselves by the end of month 28 to include ConClips in existing courses.

Status: Due to the letters of intent already signed, fulfilment of this success indicator is most likely.

I.8: By the end of month 28, institutions or companies agree to fund at least 4 more ConClips.

Status: Due to the letters of intent already signed and ongoing negotiations, fulfilment of this success indicator is most likely.

3. Project Outcomes & Results

Project Start-up:

The project started with issuing and signing the contracts between the partners.

The kick-off meeting took place in Vienna, Austria where the jointly developed logo was presented. All partners received a lecture from one of the leading passive house expert in Austria, Prof. Martin Treberspurg. The second consortium meeting was organised in Hamburg. The agenda, minutes, evaluations are attached to the confidential report.

A joint contact database with more than 230 stakeholders was created (numbers weekly growing), for the broad dissemination of information and for advertising upcoming project events and workshops via email was implemented and the first newsletter will be send with beginning of December 2014.

A folder was then produced which informs on the project content and its intended outcomes, to be distributed by the partners at various project related occasions.

The project poster offers relevant information on the project with introduction, news & information and activities pages. The folder addresses the three target groups' craftsmen and site supervisors / educators / building companies & labour organisations. Interested stakeholders are invited to get involved and can apply for more information. All project partners are introduced.

The project folder and the project poster can be uploaded of the website by everybody.

Website:

The website was created under www.conclip.eu, it presents the central project platform and offers all relevant information on the project with introduction, news & information and activities pages. The website addresses the three target groups, as there are

- craftsmen and site supervisors
- educators and
- building companies & labour organisations.

Website functions:

- The newsletter can be signed up for
- Interested stakeholders are invited to get involved and can apply for more information
- All project partners are introduced to the visitor
- Information about the future ConClip video platform can be accessed
- Visibility material – such as the project folder and the project poster as pdfs – can be downloaded.

The project website has been regularly updated in the course of the project.

By the end of the project, the ConClip webpage will include the video clips for download together with written explanations (multi-lingual).

Stakeholder meetings:

Stakeholder meetings were organised in the partner countries. They were important to receive feedback and discussion on the project and its intentions/achievements.

Stakeholders were contacted personally by the contract partners to ensure their participation. Many of the stakeholders who were invited agreed to sign a letter of intent for further support of the project, intending to use the materials produced.

The minutes of one of the stakeholder meetings in Austria, dated 09-12-2014 is attached to the confidential report and contains the results of the themes that were suggested. Furthermore the minutes of the project meetings are uploaded to the project website.

Newsletters were sent out to more than 232 recipients (stakeholders/potential partners and target groups as there are craftsmen and site supervisors, educators and building companies & labour organisations).

For a better communication and easier handling of the project management between the consortium partners, several project specific e-mail addresses were set up. One of the e-mail addresses is for the project office: conclip@conclip.eu. The other e-mail address includes more than 30 project partner e-mail addresses and reaches automatically all the team partners. This e-mail address is only used for the internal communication and was an extra performance of the lead partner without being a component of the project contract.

The CCD – ConClipDatabase:

The project team soon recognised that it was lacking a project database. Therefore, in addition to the project contract, the CCD – ConClipDatabase was created. CCD is an online platform, hosting contact, mails, discussion fora, documents, calendars, outputs such as reports, films and more. Especially feedback to interim results can be organised within the partnership very time efficient. This ConClipDatabase was an extra performance of the lead partner and was not a component of the project contract.

The CCD is in use since end of November 2014. All project partners (via the person responsible for the project) have received an e-mail with the Login-Data of the CCD-ConClipDatabase: <http://conclip.eu/intern>, so every single partner has his/her personal login and password.

The CCD also provides a “confidential” button, e.g. for salary sheets and similar. Clicking the C button, the document will only be visible to the specific partner and the ConClip management (=administration of ConClip). Documents with no “confidential” button activated can be seen by all partners.

In order to enable all project partners to enter the CCD immediately, they received a manual how to use the CCD-ConClipDatabase efficiently.

The templates for contracts, minutes, internal reports, offers, PR guidelines, contact data base, sheets for internal evaluation of meetings etc. were provided to all partners via the CCD-ConClipDatabase.

EQAVET & ECVET principles:

ECVET stands for the credit transfer system for vocational education and training for the EU.

EQUAVET stands for the European quality assurance in vocational education and training brings together the Member States of the European Union, the Social Partners and the European Commission in a community of practice to develop a culture of quality assurance both within national vocational education and training (VET) systems and at a European level.

The Recommendation Paper is produced for VET institutions as a guiding tool on how to consider ConClips within the credit system (ECVET) of existing courses. It provides detailed information on the ECVET criteria used for the assessment of such courses also explaining the emphasis put on each criterion. The steps which led to the credits of the courses influenced by the inclusion of ConClips are demonstrated. As general European ECVET standards have not yet been developed, so another outcome will be a recommendation on how to consider ConClips within the credit system of existing courses.

All partners will collect material how to define ECVET & EQUAVET principles within the education structure in their country. The aim is to define the ECVET & EQUAVET value of the courses where ConClips shall be incorporated. The draft of the EQAVET&ECVET principles, written by the project partner who is member of the UK's ECVET expert group, is attached to the report.

Surveys and Teaching Materials:

It is to be mentioned that ConClips are developed in a way that teaching material in its usual sense shall not be needed. Still, the project team will provide a brief document providing information on how, when and with what intention to use the ConClips. Both the learning/teaching environment as well as the working environment will be considered and further information will be provided via links.

Within the project, surveys function as a tool for determining the target groups' specific needs. Within a survey on didactics and methodology, the status of specific knowledge and skills of workers was identified, whereas with another survey professionals helped identifying the 20 most construction defects. The main target group for the surveys are institutions for vocational and further training and for higher education. One further survey will serve to evaluate the reception of the first three clips by the target groups.

Due to one partner leaving the consortium, the surveys were a few weeks delayed, but not critically.

The elaboration of teaching materials will be finished in February 2015.

The list of cooperation partners will be finished in January 2015.

The videos - ConClips:

In general, the challenges in passive house design are divided into eight issues, each of them dealing with a specific passive house problem:

- Design
- Foundation and basement
- Exterior walls
- Windows and solar screening
- Roof
- Air tightness
- Thermal bridges
- Heating, ventilation & hot water production

This list will be modified as the project progresses and issues will have to be adapted to the specific everyday needs of construction workers on the building site; these issues are based more on the needs of skills than of knowledge.

The first three ConClips are drafted on following issues:

- 1. Thermal Heat Bridges
- 2. Air Tightness
- 3. Perforating walls for the installation of Heating / Ventilation

The first video was produced in December 2014 by partner P2. The scripts for the second and third video were also drafted in December 2014. Translations are in progress by the project partners.

The recording of the second and third video is planned end of March 2015.

The next five topics will be discussed in the course of the partner meeting in Odense, 25th of February 2015. A more detailed description of the last five screenplays will be sent out with end of April 2015. The last five videos will be produced from September 2015 to October 2015.

Impact of results on target groups:

ConClips should be integrated as a training tool into educational offers of formal and non-formal learning and into the daily working environment of the target groups (craftsmen and site supervisors, educators and building companies & labour organisations).

These aims will be achieved by

- contacting the relevant actors and players in the field and informing them about ConClips (for example in Stakeholder meetings)
- implementing specific target group oriented promotion activities such as informative after-work events in bigger companies with a socialising background
- achieving commitments with companies and educational institutions to foster the use of ConClips within their organisations (WP.8.1) and
- concluding agreements with companies for the production of further ConClips (letter of intent)

In AT, BE, DE, DK, at least 2 educational institutions will be committed to implement ConClips and at least 4 companies will be searched to fund an additional ConClip.

The consortium partners have strongly in mind to extend ConClips to other countries by applying for further funding within the framework of Leonardo da Vinci's "Transfer of Innovation" program or other suitable funding programmes.

Where can you find results produced so far?

The master tape of the first video is produced and can be seen on the website of ConClip as soon as the versions in the other languages are finished. Now, the text inserts and voice-over text for ConClip's further language versions are translated and will be implemented in the video and audio studio. The draft English version of the clip is handed over to the Donor with the confidential progress report.

The final version of the first ConClip is uploaded to the CCD end of February to collect the partners' feedback. To save costs, translated versions of the first three clips will have to be produced en bloc; they will be uploaded to the ConClip homepage in May 2015: <http://www.conclip.eu>

The internal project platform "CCD – ConClipDatabase" is found under the address <http://conclip.eu/intern>, the confidential report provides the Login (read only).

Some results are slightly delayed, but not critical to the overall project time plan

Based on the fact that work package leader of work package 5, partner P7, has left the consortium, the WP5 is delayed, but not critically. P1 and P6 took over the assignments of P7 in WP 5. A request to the programme management for approval is still waiting for a positive answer in written.

The production of the videos is now well in progress, production started 4 weeks later than stated in the contract (1 month later) because of the termination of P7. Work package 6 had to be re-organized due to the contractual budget cuts in the beginning of the project. The first video clip is already produced and the draft version uploaded on the CCD.

4. Partnership

As building physics do not differ from country to country, contents of the ConClips are relevant for all participating countries in the partnership. Still, due to different climates the experts from participating countries bring in their specific country experience. Cooperation is also cost and resource efficient. All partners bring in their experience, existing materials can be used and add to the project value.

ConClips will be used in schools, vocational training, on the job, at the building site and even by private property owners in all participating countries.

The impact can be multiplied within the international partnership, as each partner has his own network within his country and also within Europe.

Bringing together Inputs from all countries, jointly defining target groups, drafting outputs valid for all countries saves resources, maximises output and is a lot of fun.

Strengths and weaknesses, as well as different approaches to passive house construction find equilibrium within the partnership, fostering excellent results. The team grows together and will, by the end of the project, draft a clear exploitation strategy to carry on with ConClip productions. An interest group for passive house skills development in construction has developed on a formal project basis.

Cooperation with stakeholders in the countries is very productive, as they are eager to take part in the process of drafting the ConClip contents. Choosing the “right topics” is the best pre-requisite for broad dissemination of the clips.

The European perspective supports the clips to be marketed to the target groups (craftsmen and site supervisors, educators and building companies & labour organisations).

Finally, with ConClip, the European Union reaches workers on the building site as well as trainees and is visible to them via a trendy and easy to handle medium.

5. Plans for the Future

The first video covered the topic

1. Thermal Heat Bridges

and was produced in December 2014 by partner P2. The scripts for the second and third video are also drafted in December 2014. Translations are in process by the project partners. The recording of the second and third video is planned for end of March 2015, with the following topics:

2. Air Tightness

3. Perforating walls for the installation of Heating / Ventilation

The next 5 topics will be discussed in the course of the partner meeting in Odense, on the 25 February 2015. The detailed description of the last 5 screenplays will be sent out with end of April 2015. The last 5 videos will be produced from September 2015 to October 2015. Preliminarily, the following topics are chosen:

4. Design

5. Foundation and basement

6. Exterior walls

7. Windows and solar screening

8. Roof

This list can still be modified as the project progresses and issues will have to be adapted to the specific everyday needs of construction workers' on the building site, – based more on the needs of skills than of knowledge.

ConClips will be integrated as a training tool into educational offers of formal and non-formal learning and into the daily working environment of the target groups (craftsmen and site supervisors, educators and building companies & labour organisations). Therefore, specific target group oriented promotion activities such as informative after-work events in bigger companies with a socialising background will be held.

There will also a special focus to collect letters of intent from companies and educational institutions to foster the use of ConClips within their organisations (WP.8.1) and on concluding agreements with companies for the production of further ConClips.

In AT, BE, DE, DK, at least 2 educational institutions will be committed to implement ConClip and at least 4 companies will be searched to fund an additional ConClip.

The consortium partners have strongly in mind to extend ConClips to other countries by applying for further funding within the framework of Leonardo da Vinci's "Transfer of Innovation" programme or other suitable funding programmes.

The production of the videos is now well in progress, production started a bit later than stated in the contract. The first video clip is already produced and the draft version uploaded on the CCD. For 2 more, the story boards are already drafted.

6. Contribution to EU policies

The project addresses priority 3.3.3 by referring to the "Agenda for new skills and jobs" which aims at "equipping people with the right skills for the jobs of today and tomorrow". The project fosters the need of VET and further education being more responsive to labour market needs and the promotion of integrating learning with working with a focus on workers with a migrant background.

According to the Agenda, "the potential of intra-EU mobility and of third-country migrant inflows is not fully utilised and insufficiently targeted to meet labour market needs, despite the substantial contribution of migrants to employment and growth". Therefore the project is concerned with the following statements of the Agenda:

- "Improving access to lifelong learning, to help people move to [...] expanding occupations such as those emerging from 'sustainable growth' policies, equal opportunities policy and legislation."
- "More flexible learning pathways can facilitate transitions between the phases of work and learning."
- Flexicurity in many cases leads to "short-term working arrangements which have not been complemented often enough with training opportunities for employees".

ConClips especially address migrant workers in the construction business by also offering this learning tool in Croatian, Polish, Serbian and Turkish (countries with the highest portion of migrant workers in the sector).

Also the "Europe 2020 Strategy" and the "Energy 2020 Strategy" set clear targets ("shifting towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon economy", "helping people acquire new skills" and "encouraging people to update their skills by especially addressing older, low-skilled and migrant workers"). Since building structures account for 40% of EU's energy consumption, with the EU's "Directive on the energy performance of buildings" as of 2021 all newly built and refurbished buildings will have to follow at least passive house standards.

National efforts of the targeted project countries' Governments:

Austria: The Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management presented in 2010 its "Master plan green jobs" including, amongst others, assurance of a high qualification level.

Belgium: Since 2010 committed to the creation of jobs in "Green sectors" and for the "Greening" of the economy and the labour market.

Denmark: In 1997 the development of a "Green Jobs" concept and policy started and is to some extent being prolonged with the 2003 policy statement 'Making Markets Work for Environmental Policies'.

Germany: With its UFOPLAN 2010 the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety emphasizes further developing the national initiative for environmental innovation and employment.

