



**Improvement of Vocational Education and Training  
related to Ecodesign and Sustainable Production  
in the Furniture Sector**

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### **The ECO4VET Project**

ECO4VET (Improvement of Vocational Education and Training related to Ecodesign and Sustainable Production in the Furniture Sector) is a European project financed by the Life Long Learning programme. It started in December 2013 and will last two years.

The main objective of ECO4VET project is to develop tools and methods for training professionals in the furniture industry in Ecodesign and Sustainable Production and thus, at long term, reducing the furniture industry's environmental impact.

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### **ECO4VET Benefits. Can I participate?**

There's an identified educational gap between training offer and skills demand related to ecodesign and sustainable production. Furthermore, there is not an official



curriculum in these matters at European level.

ECO4VET will develop tools and methods that will benefit individuals working in furniture enterprises, students and unemployed, training entities and other entities participating in education or employment active policies.

Furniture sector professionals, unemployed and students will have the possibility to be the first in doing the course and testing the e-learning platform.

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## State of the project – January 2015



The project has already finalized some key stages. One relevant project phase has been the identification and definition of vocational skills, knowledge and competence mismatches among professionals of the furniture sector, regarding concepts of Ecodesign and Sustainable Production and its integration in the furniture industry and from its results, another key step for the project that has been completed: the design of the curriculum.

Other on-going activities of the project are the creation of the on-line platform framework that will host the online course, the development of the training materials and dissemination activities.

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## IKEA redesigns its Sustainability Strategy for 2020

Furniture giant IKEA has launched a redesign of its Sustainability Strategy for 2020, “People & Planet Positive”.

They have identified three change drivers that will transform their business: inspire and enable millions of customers to live a more sustainable life at home, strive for resource and energy independence and take a lead in creating a better life for the people and



communities impacted by their business.

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## 50 Ways your Home can Save the Earth



UK-based magazine [Good To Be Home](#) has published some clever ideas to make homes more eco-friendly.

They point 50 things that people can do in their homes to reduce their negative impact in the environment. They aren't difficult or expensive to do, and they all make a difference.

Some of them like can also be applied to furniture industries like replacing bulbs, using eco-paints, avoiding polyester, synthetic fibers and toxic materials.

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Lifelong  
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