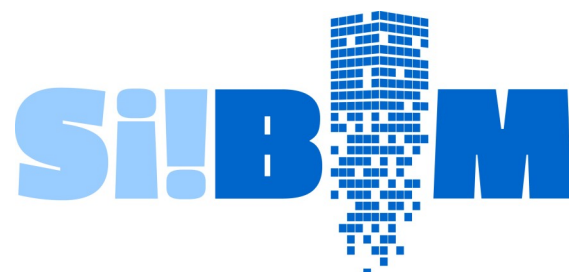




# Step into BIM – digitising VET



## About Si!BIM initiative in EU area

The aim of Step into BIM (Si!BIM) project is demonstrable innovation and added value in vocational education training specifically focusing on improving digital skills and awareness with the focus on use and relevance of BIM within the construction sector. Good digital skills are paramount within a modern industry and an area which most workforces are critically lacking. The UK has already passed into the mandatory adoption of Building Information Modelling (BIM) for Government funding construction projects. Likewise Europe is progressing forward with BIM adoption continuing on from the European Union Public Procurement Directive (EUPPD) which outlined that all 28 European Member States should encourage, specify or mandate the use of BIM and other suitable digital tools for publicly funded construction and building projects in the European Union by 2016 (OJEU, 2014) however despite Government mandates the provisions on how to up-skill the industry has not yet been fully realised, hence why research such as this is critical.

This project would help employers and employees tackle the challenges in BIM digital skills training by creating an accessible learning portal which enhances the knowledge and awareness of digital skills for existing and new entrants into the industry. Innovative and modern technologies will be utilised to support digital training providing participants with greater career opportunities and improved career mobility in VET areas within the construction industry.

The project will explore and evaluate key areas of innovation and best practice in digital skills in Building Information Modelling (BIM), cloud based data handling, innovations in Virtual reality (VR) and Augmented reality (AR) technologies and its use within VET training and utilising the 3D model and 'virtual build' in construction. Additionally efficiency improving digital tools such as 4D (time) and 5D (cost) simulation tools will be integrated into the training materials. Digital skills are currently lacking within the construction sector and action is required in the short and long term to try and prepare the current and future workforce for the evaluations the industry is facing. By creating an easily accessible web platform to reach output training materials project not only aims to support potential and new entrants to the industry but also provide existing workforce with the opportunity to improve their lifelong learning potential enabling them greater work mobility and improving career progression. Learning objectives of the project will evaluate key areas of innovation and best practice in digital skills and in response create training materials to help build skills and awareness in BIM. The materials will be quality tested as part of the project and disseminated through the project website and partners organizations.

The results from the testing will evaluate the learning taking place through the training material and where it can be used by the apprentice in their current or future employment. The initial impact will concentrate on the apprentices who take part in the testing process to ensure that the final material are reitatively improved. Post testing impact and sustainability will be achieved through the final training material being made available through the project web-site for all construction apprentices in the partner countries to use.



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## A WORK COMMITMENT

Si!BIM outputs are designed to be sustainably useful to EU VET providers, construction site workforce and learners, sectoral stakeholders, and public authorities involved in policy-making for:

- a) training purposes, and
- b) the promotion of mobility and transparency in qualifications.

To this end, all project results will be freely accessible by the public. This license only requires reference to the creator, which will be defined as the Si!BIM strategic partnership under the Erasmus+ programme.

Specifically:

*We are planning to design a **new free tailor-made Si!BIM Course in the field of construction**, which will be developed and packaged as Open Educational Resources (OERs) for unrestricted third-party use, suitable for integration and/or exchange in training platforms for construction workers.*

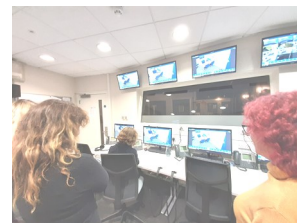
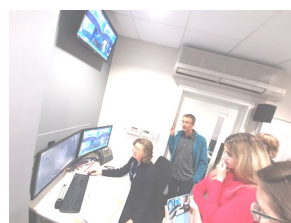
*Learning units/modules that will be downloadable from the project website in digital form and target groups will be allowed to improve them with updated VET and industry data.*

*The Si!BIM VOOC infrastructure will provide open and unrestricted access to all training materials*

## A START

Collaborating partners met first in November 2019 in UK, Coventry University. Discussions were intense to define a clear and fit for all project focus, of course much finetuning among participating partners will be needed in implementation of forthcoming steps. BIM is a huge topic, with content emerging daily and a immense potential for different target groups.

The meeting was closed by study visit of the Simulation Centre. The Centre is the most advanced interactive people training and development centre in the UK. Its bespoke programmes, combined with cutting-edge technology which is unique in the UK, help companies and organisations across a range of sectors to train and develop their staff to new levels. The use of our Learning Curve interactive screen and real-life scenarios using specially-trained actors, not only improve skills but help develop new ways of working designed to impact on your bottom line.



## OUR NEXT STEPS



1. Si!BIM course specification

2. Si!BIM Vocational Open Online Course (VOOC):

UNIT1 Introduction to BIM

UNIT 2 BIM Modelling

UNIT 3 BIM Management

3. Pilot training workshop

4. Pilot testing and workshop

5. Si!BIM Info Day (UK, DE, SI, ESP, BEL)

## BENEFICIARIES INVITED

TO PARTICIPATE IN A COVENTRY UNIVERSITY STUDY AND TESTING Si!BIM course, study equipment and facilities in mid 2021:

1<sup>st</sup> target group: VET trainers/teachers/mentors dealing with BIM

2<sup>nd</sup> target group: VET trainees-apprenticeship students studying BIM (3-5 EQF)

3<sup>rd</sup> target group: current workforce in construction industry - manual labourer and lower management, representatives of VET institutions, SMEs in construction.