



REB-BUILT Project

*Rehabilitation of the Built Environment in the Context of Smart City and Sustainable
Development Concepts for Knowledge Transfer and Lifelong Learning*

Erasmus+ Programme – Strategic Partnership

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Intellectual Output 2

REPORT

Establishing legal, institutional and regulatory framework for the advancement and management of a post-graduate development programme for professionals to gather knowledge and competencies on the rehabilitation of the built environment.

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1. Aim of the report

The aim of this report is to establish legal, institutional and regulatory framework for the advancement and management of a post-graduate development programme Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment for professionals to gather knowledge and competencies on the rehabilitation of the built environment, at the Universities members of the RE-BUILT Consortium.

This report is organized as follows:

- The introduction, considering the (i) Structure of education at the RE-BUILT Consortium: post-graduate studies Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment and (ii) the normative and legal framework.
- The main institution in charge of postgraduate program Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment at the RE-BUILT Consortium the (i) International post-graduate School at the RE-BUILT Consortium
- The General Regulations of Educational Activities, considering: (i) Object and scope of application; (ii) General guiding principles of teaching activity and (iii) General organization of the teaching activity.
- Official teaching courses, considering: (i) Registration.
- Unofficial higher education courses, considering (i) The permanent Training during the RE-BUILT Consortium; (ii) Titles of "Unofficial Postgraduate Degree" and "University Expert"; (iii) Continuing Education Courses, and (iv) University Extension Courses.
- Specific existing post-graduate studies related to the rehabilitation of the built environment.
- Conclusions, considering proposals to implement a post-graduate development programme on the rehabilitation of the built environment.
- References including the main regulations of the RE-BUILT Consortium applied to post-graduate course Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment and the citations in which the main text is supported.

2. Introduction

The RE-BUILT Consortium gather many students. It stands out for its wide array of degree programmes with noted international scope. Closely linked to the history of European education, with different systems coming from Middle Ages to modern times, the RE-BUILT Consortium combines the values of tradition with the fact of being an innovative, quality and powerful consortium.

In recent years, the members of Consortium has undergone a process of adapting their studies to the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). Furthermore, the RE-BUILT Consortium is formed of universities that have been recognized with the European Quality Certificate for the EFQM Excellence Model and qualified as an International Campus of Excellence.

In accordance with the current regulatory context, this report is subjected to the principles set forth in the Organic Law of each University and the Statutes of the Universities, adapted to the the statements of the Bologna (1999) for the progressive harmonization of European university systems.

3. The International post-graduate School

The international post-graduate School of the RE-BUILT Consortium aims to promote a postgraduate course Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment in quality and differentiating, which responds to the needs of professional specialization and at the beginning of the research career, with a marked international character, and always within a global perspective of the offer of the teachings.

The international post-graduate School depends organically on the Vice rectorate of Internationalization of each University.

According to its Operating Regulations, approved by the management board of the RE-BUILT Project composed by the local coordinators and the RE-BUILT manager on August 28, 2019, on behalf of the 3rd RE-BUILT transnational meeting held in Orleans, the objectives of the International post-graduate School of the RE-BUILT Consortium are as follows:

1. To develop a broad, and at the same time rational and coordinated, offer of official and unofficial/own postgraduate courses, paying special attention to the work and research needs of the graduates and their strategic nature
2. To facilitate the postgraduate students, the realization of professional practices.
3. To promote the labour insertion of their graduates.
4. To promote lifelong learning and professional training, according to the needs of continuation, updating and diversification of the training of professionals.
5. To promote, in the postgraduate field, relations with other national institutions, through the development of joint degrees and double degrees.
6. To promote the internationalization of the postgraduate course at each University of the RE-BUILT Consortium, with special emphasis on the recruitment and mobility of international students and professors, and on the establishment of international joint and double degrees.
7. The dissemination, promotion and search of funding for the postgraduate RE-BUILT programme, both nationally and internationally.

4. The General Regulation of Educational Activities

The “General Regulation of Educational Activities” is the normative document that regulates the teaching activity at the RE-BUILT Consortium.

4.1. Object and scope of application

Article 1 provides that:

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1. The teaching activities are the set of actions that lead to develop the educational process to its highest educational level and to the achievement of the objectives indicated in the Statute of the RE-BUILT Consortium.
 2. The present general regulation will be applicable to the teaching given in the Universities of the RE-BUILT Consortium in the official Master and Doctorate programs during the RE-BUILT Project implementation period, as well as, until its extinction.
 3. The teachings and titles of the RE-BUILT Consortium will be governed according to the provisions of these regulations.

4.2 General guiding principles of teaching activity

Article 2 provides that:

1. The RE-BUILT Consortium will provide quality, critical, scientific, humanistic and professional education, with its university communities actively participating in the entire training process.
2. The RE-BUILT Consortium will ensure that the contents of the taught activity are coherent with the values and principles of equality, freedom, justice, solidarity, non-discrimination and pluralism.
3. The teaching activities of the RE-BUILT Consortium are based on the principles of teaching quality, academic freedom and freedom of study.
4. The quality of teaching at the RE-BUILT Consortium will be guaranteed by the principles of competence and dedication of the teaching staff, student participation and effectiveness of services.

4.3 General organization of the teaching activity

Article 3 provides that:

1. The responsibility of the teaching activities corresponds, in its scope, to the teaching staff of the RE-BUILT Consortium who has recognized full teaching capacity and will develop it in the exercise of their academic freedom and within the limits derived from the organization of teaching, the curricula, the programs of the subjects and the applicable regulations.
2. The partner coordinators will coordinate and develop the teaching activities that have been assigned to their team in the curricula and should collaborate with the coordinator (TUIASI) in the application of the quality assurance system of these plans.

3. The partner universities will supervise the correct development of the curricula taught in them and will organize the teaching activities corresponding to the courses and subjects that integrate them. In addition, the RE-BUILT Consortium will be responsible for the system of quality assurance of the curricula for the evaluations to maintain the accreditation of the corresponding qualifications.

5. Official Teaching Courses

Regarding the official teachings, the RE-BUILT Consortium establishes *in Article 4. Registration*, that:

1. It corresponds to the RE-BUILT Consortium, through its Management Board, to propose, following a report from the partner universities, the assignment of Official Teachings, as well as the proposal for the creation of Official Degrees and the conditions for obtaining them.
2. Proposals for new Degrees must include a feasibility study using objective data that demonstrates the academic or scientific interest of the field of study in question, as well as the existence of a social demand to ensure a sufficient number of students.
3. It corresponds to the Management Board of each University of the Consortium to approve the assignment to RE-BUILT Official Teachings.
4. The management board may also propose and ascribe post-graduate Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment courses, or the period of Doctorate training, to University Doctoral School, following a report from the Doctoral School and RE-BUILT Consortium of the field of study in question.

6. Unofficial Teaching Courses

The development of Unofficial/Own Teachings, as a clear manifestation of the principle of university autonomy, is a recognized possibility. The partner Universities, in addition to imparting teachings leading to the obtaining of Official Titles of Degree, University Master and Doctorate, will be able to teach some RE-BUILT lessons leading to the obtaining of other titles.

6.1. The Permanent Training Center

Regarding the unofficial/specific teachings referred also and called as “Own Teachings”: The RE-BUILT Consortium launched the major objective to unify and coordinate the offer of Own/Unofficial Degrees of the partner universities and the processes of management and approval of it.

The configuration of the Own/ Unofficial Teachings of postgraduate programme is according to the General Regulation of Teaching Activities. Such Regulation, approved by agreement of the Senate of each partner university devotes to the general regulation of such teachings already adapted to the scenario of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). Moreover, the organization of University Extension of postgraduate course Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment is assigned to the RE-BUILT Consortium.

In this context, it was more than necessary to address the set of Unofficial Teachings package of the RE-BUILT Consortium as a whole, the RE-BUILT Consortium being responsible for coordinating all the unofficial training activities of each University regarding the postgraduate programme.

Permanent Training Board of the RE-BUILT Consortium

1. The general management competences of the Own/Unofficial Teaching programme for postgraduate programme Sustainable Rehabilitation of the Built Environment correspond to the curricula decided by the RE-BUILT Consortium:

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TUIASI (leader)	Hazard risk mitigation for a sustainable built environment
BOKU (leader)	Sustainable infrastructure design and maintenance
UO (leader)	Durability of sustainable materials and structures
USE (leader)	Energy efficiency. Smart Cities.
UNICAS (leader)	Vulnerability of buildings: from Heritage Building Information Modelling (HBIM) to seismic analysis
UM (leader)	Sustainable rehabilitation in architecture and urban development
HST (leader)	Conservation, rehabilitation and integration of cultural heritage
BUT (leader)	Transformation of the built environment for the rehabilitation of socially disadvantaged city districts

2. The Permanent Training Board of the RE-BUILT Consortium designs the general lines of action in terms of its Own/Unofficial Teachings and will implemented the mechanisms of support, advice and timely evaluation to guarantee the academic quality of the courses offered and the organizational efficiency of the same.

Direction of the Permanent Training Center

The direction of the Permanent Training Center is its highest governing body and it has the institutional representation of it. It will be exercised by an academic member of the RE-BUILT project appointed by the Rector/representative among the members of the university community.

a. Unofficial Master's Degree and University Expert Titles

- i. The title of "Unofficial Master's Degree" accredits a highly qualified postgraduate university education and is reserved for postgraduate courses of higher level and duration. The studies leading to the obtaining of an "Unofficial Master's Degree" will have a minimum extension of 60 European credits and a maximum of 120. Its duration will be, at least, one academic year.
- ii. The title of "University Expert" accredits a postgraduate university education of high level of specialization. The postgraduate studies leading to the obtaining of a degree of "University Expert" will have a minimum extension of 30 European credits and a maximum of 60. Its duration will be, at least, four months.
- iii. Neither the denomination nor the academic content of the unofficial teachings and own titles, may coincide, or induce confusion, with those of the official titles of each University of the RE-BUILT Consortium.

b. Continuing Education Courses

- i. The Continuing Education Courses are the Own/Unofficial Teaching modality under which are contemplated studies of extension, specialization, improvement or updating of knowledge that cover specific thematic areas of interest, with the general objective of contributing to the continuous learning of the students, as well as to the recycling of professionals, contributing to a better performance of their functions.
- ii. The Continuing Education Courses will be accredited through a Diploma of assistance or academic progress of each partner University of the RE-BUILT Consortium. The "Diploma of Specialized Training" may be issued as long as these teachings include at least 15 European credits and their duration is at least one quarter.

c. Conditions of access to Unofficial Courses

Conditions to access the Unofficial Courses depend on the type of courses.

- i. People who can access the "Unofficial Master's Degree" studies must meet the following requirements:
 1. To have an Official Degree.
 2. To have an Official University Degree issued in accordance with previous ordinances or to accredit the overcoming of the equivalent of 240 European credits in these degrees.
- ii. People who can access the studies of "University Expert" must meet the following requirements:
 1. To have an Official Degree or to have completed at least 180 European credits of the degree.
 2. To have an Official University Degree issued in accordance with previous ordinances or to accredit the completion in these degrees of the equivalent of 180 European credits.
- iii. Access to Continuing Education Courses will not be subjected to general conditions of qualification.
- iv. In all cases, it will also be necessary to meet the specific requirements established for each one of the own/unofficial teachings.

7. Specific existing post-graduate studies related to the rehabilitation and environment

The offer of Official and Unofficial post-graduate courses at the Universities of the RE-BUILT Consortium is diverse.

7.1. Continuing Education Courses

The Continuing Education Courses are governed as indicated in the previous Sections 6. Unofficial Teaching Courses, and 6.3. Continuing Education Courses

The offer of Continuing Education Courses at each University of the RE-BUILT Consortium can be consulted on the local website.

8. Conclusions

As it can be seen after a long analysis, the teachings that we intend to certify with the lessons that we gave during the implementation of the RE-BUILT project cannot be included in the *Official Teachings* because they do not meet common requirements for all the partners in the consortium. that are required for them. They could be included in the *Unofficial Teachings* of the Universities of the RE-BUILT Consortium.

After the analysis, there are two possibilities for the certification of the courses that we are going to carry out, within the framework of the Rehabilitation of the Built Environment in the Context of Smart City and Sustainable Development Concepts for Knowledge Transfer and Lifelong Learning, at the Universities of the Consortium,

- a) The classes taught only in local University, with local students, could be certified as free credits belonging to any of the subjects of their Study Plans. This certificate can be issued by the local RE-BUILT coordinator and the representative of each partner University.
- b) The classes taught during the 288-hour international course in Vienna, Orleans and Maribor (one third of the course is taught in each of these locations) could be certified by the representative of the three above mentioned Universities and the Project manager.

References

- [1] European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
<http://www.ehea.info/>
- [2] European Union. Joint Declaration of European Ministers of Education for the harmonization of the design of the European Higher Education System. Paris, 1998.
- [3] European Union. Joint Declaration of the European Ministers of Education on the European Higher Education Area. Bologna, 1999.