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HABITABLE November Updates



Some Key Highlights

November 2025 marks a highly active period for the HABITABLE project. National alliances are taking shape, cooperation with industry is deepening, and the exchange of best practices across Europe is becoming a real engine for modernising vocational education and training in the *habitat* sector. This edition highlights key progress achieved through our 4th Transnational Partner Meeting in Greece and the Bench Learning phase of Business–Education Partnerships.

4th Transnational Partner Meeting | Greece

The 4th Transnational Partner Meeting (TPM4) of the Erasmus+ HABITABLE project – Alliance of Centres of Excellence in Vocational Training for Sustainable Habitat – took place in Greece on 21–23 October 2025, hosted by the University of Thessaly.

The meeting began on Tuesday, 21 October 2025, with a guided visit to the Department of Forestry, Wood Sciences and Design in Karditsa, where partners explored its academic and research facilities and discussed their relevance to HABITABLE's goals in wood sciences, design, and sustainable construction.



It continued with coordination sessions through Wednesday, 22 October 2025, during which partners reviewed progress across the Work Packages, aligned next steps, and planned



activities for the coming project year.

On the final day, partners visited the **ALFA WOOD Group** facilities in Larissa, gaining insight into innovative and sustainable wood-processing practices in Greek industry. TPM4 closed with a visit to the **Pineios Brewery**, providing a setting for exchange on national alliances and stakeholder cooperation, reinforcing HABITABLE's long-term vision for Centres of Vocational Excellence and habitat-sector skills development.



Greek Multiplier Event

The 4th HABITABLE Multiplier Event in Greece, titled “Bridging the Gap” was held on 22 October 2025 in Karditsa within the framework of TPM4. It was organised by CluBE – Cluster of Bioeconomy and Environment of Western Macedonia and brought together stakeholders from VET providers, SMEs, learners/students, and public authorities to strengthen links between training and labour-market needs in the habitat sector.



A key part of the event was the panel “Bridging the Gap between the Labour Market & Learning Pathways in the Habitat Sector in Greece”. Speakers included Dr. Konstantinos Ninikas (University of Thessaly) on the Greek VET landscape and wood/design links to the labour market; Mr. Georgios Petrou



(DIMITRA Education & Consulting S.A.) on the Educational EXALCO Institute as a green/digital skills model with industry, Dr. Angeliki Tsameti on creative and innovative approaches to green/digital competences, and industry representatives Mr. Ioannis Delfos (ALFA WOOD Group) and Mr. Alexandros Chliapas (Chliapas S.A.) on regional skills gaps in wood manufacturing. The panel closed with discussion on curriculum modernisation, VET attractiveness, and stronger SME cooperation.



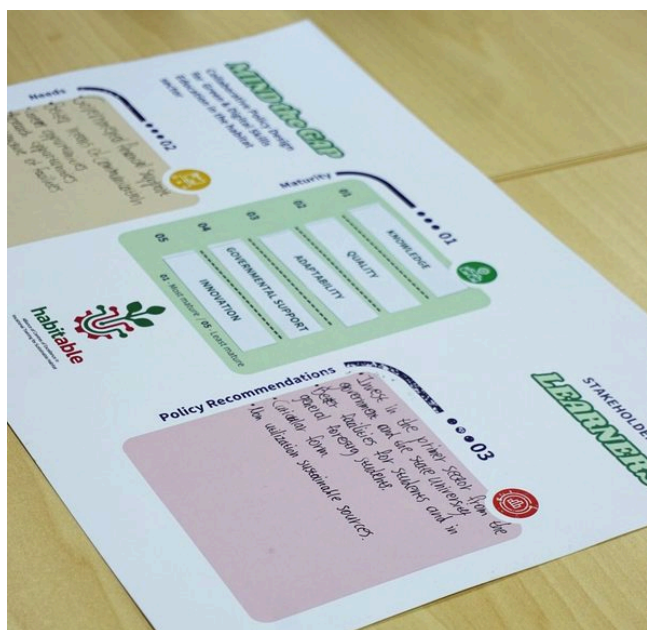
A milestone of the event was the signing of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** establishing the **Greek Alliance of the HABITABLE Project**, formalising synergy among the Department of Forestry, Wood Sciences & Design (University of Thessaly), DIMITRA Education & Consulting S.A., and CluBE. This Alliance is intended as a long-term national platform to strengthen Centres of Vocational Excellence and ensure the sustainability of HABITABLE outcomes beyond 2027.



Workshop “Mind The Gap” by Clube

The second main pillar of the event was the participatory workshop “Mind the Gap: Collaborative Policy Design for Green and Digital Skills Education in the Habitat Sector”. It was designed as a hands-on space for dialogue and joint problem-solving, focusing on how education and labour-market needs can meet more effectively in the context of the green and digital transition.





A total of 56 participants took part, representing three complementary stakeholder groups: education and training providers (VET), learners/students/young professionals, and SMEs/enterprises. This mix ensured that perspectives from those who design training, those who receive it, and those who need the skills in real workplaces were equally present in the discussion. Using a structured three-round co-design methodology (Maturity Mapping → Needs Mapping → Policy Co-Creation), participants first assessed current readiness for green and digital competences, then identified the most urgent gaps and ecosystem needs, and finally co-created concrete, actionable policy recommendations to better align learning pathways with market realities. The shared conclusion was clear: the

habitat sector's green and digital shift cannot be achieved by one actor alone, but requires shared responsibility, continuous multi-stakeholder cooperation, and sustainable frameworks for skills development — all core principles of HABITABLE.

Business - Education Partnerships (BEPs)

Over the past months, HABITABLE partners have been steadily advancing **Business–Education Partnerships (BEPs)** as one of the project's most practical priorities under WP3—well before the 4th Transnational Partner Meeting took place. This ongoing work forms the backbone of the BEP Incubator and is designed to ensure that vocational training in the habitat sector stays closely connected to real labour-market needs.

Sustainable & Innovative Business Training

Reorganization of Enterprises & Training in Sustainable, Green & Innovative Entrepreneurship

Areti Fourgkatsioti

DIMITRA Education & Consulting SA.

Date: 17/09/2025

DIMITRA

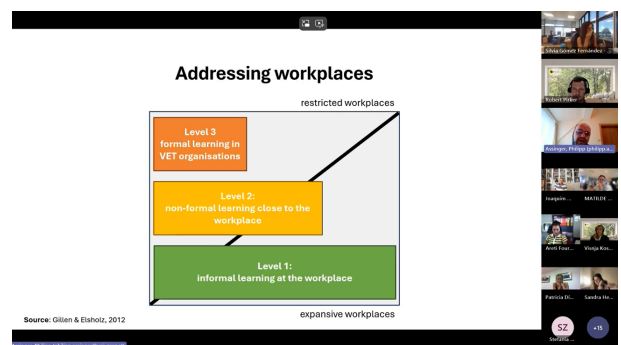
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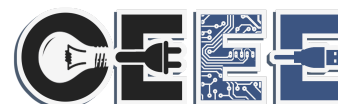
In the Benchmarking phase, 39 European BEPs were collected and evaluated through a common partner framework. The findings confirmed that BEPs are essential for future-ready VET, with the strongest impact seen in employability, future-skills relevance, and social inclusion.

Building on this, HABITABLE entered the Bench Learning phase with four online exchange sessions involving partners from five countries. The sessions showcased top-ranked BEPs, discussed how to adapt them nationally, and identified needs for next steps. Recordings will be shared through the DUAL Online Centre to support wider rollout.



This concludes the November edition. HABITABLE continues to advance through structured mutual learning, strong cross-sector partnerships, and sustained engagement with the habitat skills ecosystem. We thank you for your continued interest and support, and we look forward to sharing further updates in the next issue.

PARTNERS





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