

PRESS RELEASE
"COME SI FA" - SUPPLEMENTARY TRAINING TOOLS IN ARCHITECTURE:
INNOVATION IN THE FIELD OF TRAINING THE NEW EUROPEAN PROFESSIONAL

Corip has promoted a project to develop innovative training tools for architects in Europe, bringing together thirteen prestigious partners for this purpose. It has submitted a funding application to the European Community as part of the Leonardo Project.

"COMESIFA - Contenuti e Metodologie : Strumenti Integrativi per la Formazione degli Architetti (methodologies and contents: supplementary tools for the training of architects) is the title of the project promoted by CORIP, an integrated engineering and architecture services and communications outfit, as part of the Leonardo programme. The project, which was approved by the European Commission, brought together excellent partners in the areas of teaching, professions, training, and entrepreneurship that have joined the initiative.

The project, which started 20 December 2002, will be developed over the course of two years. Its motivation may be found in the shortcomings still present in the field of training young professionals operating in the fields of architecture and building in general.

The project's partnership is comprised of:

three universities: the inter-departmental centre C.i.t.e.r.a., Valle Giulia faculty of architecture at Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza" (Italy); Ecole d'Architecture de Saint-Etienne (France), and Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania);

two professional training and updating bodies: Cefme-Formedil (Italy) and AFM-Ance (Italy);

three small- and medium-sized enterprises: CORIP, project promoter (Italy), Cloud 9 (Spain), and Zooo (Belgium);

one trade-union body: Federarchitetti Italia (Italy);

two professional orders: Ordine degli Architetti della provincia di Roma (Italy), and Association of Greek Architects (Greece);

one specialized publishing house specialized in publications linked to the world of building: Stahlbau (Germany) and lastly, a European body, FIEC (Federazione Europea dell'Industria delle Costruzioni).

"Comesifa" aims to be a tool for developing and trialling teaching methods capable of bringing the prevalently theoretical training instruments adopted in academia together with updating and supplementing the practical skills that the professionals must have if they are to operate on an increasingly interdisciplinary and international labour market. The methodological approach common to all project partners thus aims at optimizing and fostering the exchange of information and know-how between different national and international sectors and contexts.

A "communications platform" on the Internet at www.comesifa.net will follow the project as it evolves, keeping the site's visitors abreast of the contents and developments of the work. It will offer tools for communication among the 13 partners: a chatroom for online meetings, personalized e-mail for each partner, a document inbox, and links for expanding the information network over the participants' individual sites.

The project includes analysis of training needs in the various trans-sectoral and international contexts with definition of priorities; development of teaching and scientific content with analysis of points of connection; interchange and integration with the productive and business context; and choice of the appropriate information technologies through which to transmit the content that is developed.

The aim is to operate by integrating the partners' various skills and to have prototypes on hand that can be reproduced and trialled in other disciplines in the sector, and to improve teaching and learning in terms of quality and time, with considerable returns in the phase of entry into the workplace, and ongoing updating in professional life.

The final product (probably a multimedia CD) will be a prototype offering integrated, multidisciplinary professional updating, and the creation of a network of communications and interrelations between the various sectors of the profession.

Corip

Promoter of the "Comesifa" project

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