



Scope of the Funes project

Traditional professions are forced to adapt to the requirements of changing markets continuously. Technical developments, including modern communication techniques and global IT networks play an important role in this. Accordingly, developments of new special skills are key to keep track of the new trends and protect European furniture industry's competitiveness. As an answer to this challenge Funes project develops models for new skills necessary in a modern furniture industry and elaborates the training material to facilitate the acquisition of these new skills.

Expected results of the project

- Scenarios of the development of European furniture industry by 2020;
- identifying new necessary skills for employees in the European furniture industry;
- Development of training modules for the acquisition of these new skills;
- Learning objectives in e-learning format for existing and future employees in the furniture industry.

New special skills are especially important in furniture making companies. The European furniture industry encompasses almost 124 000 companies generating over EUR 90 bn a year and employing approximately 1 m people. Furniture as a leading industry in many European countries stimulates the development of many co-operating industries and at the same time the community of designers, IT technologists, market analysts etc. The sector continuously develops and changes significantly, thus evolving out of a rather traditional manufacturing sector into a highly industrial. This is the effect of globalisation processes, use of new working methods and tools, implementation of innovative and ecological materials, emerging of new needs and behaviours of customers resulting from new life styles and demographic changes (ageing societies), making products tailor-made or introducing compulsory standards and legal regulations. The forecasted escalation of these trends makes it necessary to quickly introduce significant changes to the qualification profile of the furniture industry employees as well as to acquire skills which will enable the employees to cope with new challenges and assure continuous operation of companies in a very competitive furniture market.



7 project partners from 5 EU states:

- AIDIMA – Furniture, Wood and Packaging Technology Institute – Spain
- FEVAMA –Business Federation of Wood and Furniture of the Valencian Community – Spain
- COSMOB – Specialized Centre for the Wood–Furniture Industry – Italy
- Vocational Training Centre ENAIP Lombardia – Italy
- ITD – Instytut Technologii Drewna – Poland
- CFPIMM – Professional Training Centre of Wood and Furniture Industries – Portugal
- InnovaWood – Belgium



Project co-financed by the EU funds within the programme
ERASMUS+/KA2–Cooperation and Innovation for Good Practices
Project no. 2014-1-ES01-KA202-004883