

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

#Skills4Climate: solving the skills and professionals' shortages in the energy transition

#Skills4Climate

EHPA seminar, 4 May 2022

WHAT IS EUROPEON?

Since **1954**, EuropeOn (ex-AIE) is the voice of European electrical contractors, a sector consisting of:

300 thousand businesses, mainly local SMEs but also multinational companies

1.8 million professionals, i.e. **1 in every 134 active** Europeans and **15%** of construction sector workforce,





CONTEXT

We first launched the Skills4Climate campaign in November 2019

Green Deal \rightarrow involves electrification, deployment of renewables, energy efficiency \rightarrow concrete implementation relies on availability of electrical contractor & installers

A technical challenge

Energy transition requires the quick rollout of clean technologies

Technologies are evolving at a fast pace

Technologies are increasingly complex and interlinked

A workforce challenge

The electrical contracting sector already reports difficulties with recruiting as well as numerous vacancies

Europe-wide lack of attractiveness of the sector & education

The technical challenge exacerbates the workforce challenge

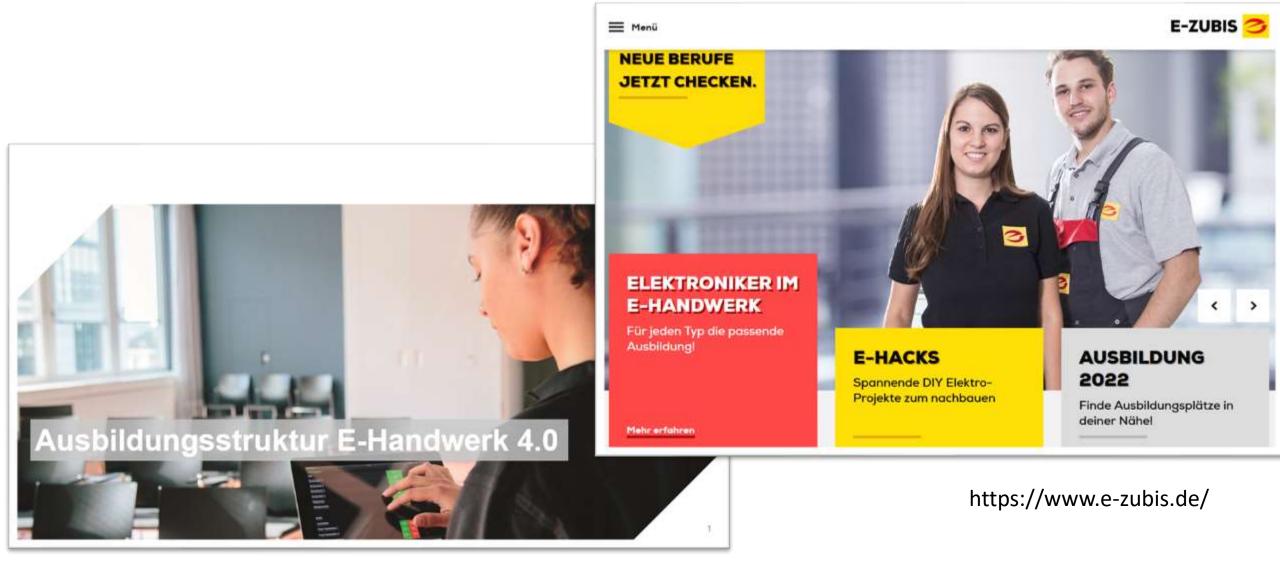


OVERARCHING ASKS

- Intertwine Skills and Climate Strategies
- Incentives for Technical education
- Incentives for Apprenticeships
- Incentives for Up- and Re-Skilling
- More Public-Private Partnerships







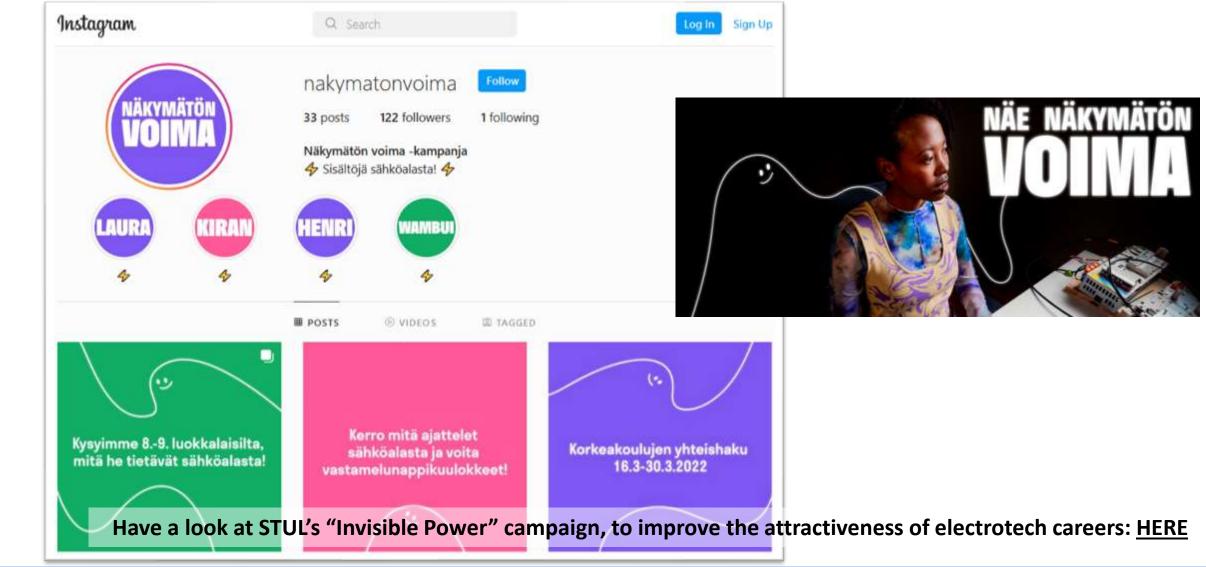
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https://www.metiers-electricite.com/





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OUR MEMBERS' COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS



Makers van morgen/ Tomorrow's makers => have a look at the campaign











EUROPEON'S COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS



Nov. 2020: Launch of the Pact for Skills with Commissioner Breton

#Skills4Climate

How can we emphasise the positive ideas...

Dead-end Mostly male (macho?) Not good enough (poor reputation) Hands-on Team spirit Old-fashioned Getting rid of school Hard job Innovation Low qualified Dangerous Working outdoors Low-paid Purposeful (mitigate climate change, contribute to key infrastructures) Repetitive tasks Dirty job Job security Green Challenged life/work balance Real career development Independence & Entrepreneurship Working outdoors

...and debunk the negative clichés?

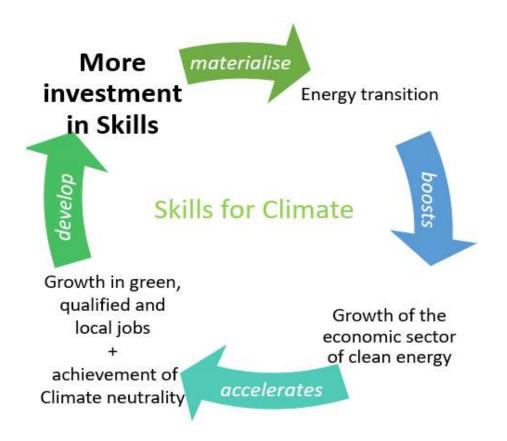
EuropeOn Skills Group: Image of the installation sectors: Looking at the roots of (un)attractiveness & how to challenge them



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THE #SKILLS4CLIMATE CAMPAIGN IN 2022

We gave a new push to our campaign in **March 2022**, in the context of the Recovery plans, the Fit for 55 package and the energy crisis



Investing in climate-related skills will foster jobs that are:

- NUMEROUS
- GREEN
- QUALIFIED
- LOCAL





• Require Member States to assess the gap between available and needed installation professionals to achieve EU climate and energy objectives

This will confront Member States with the pressing discrepancy in available personnel and the challenges they will face in the attainment of EU targets. It will encourage them to take appropriate action to promote technical careers and set up state-of-the-art training facilities.

→ Opportunity to act in the Renewable Energy Directive, Energy Efficiency Directive, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive...





• Launch an ambitious EU campaign to change mindsets across Europe...

...and enhance the attractiveness of technical/vocational education and careers in the twin transitions.

Such a campaign should also aim at attracting a workforce reflective of the gender and cultural diversity of Europe, presently underrepresented in the sector.

A Europe-wide campaign could be kicked off through an EU Skills Summit, inspiring national governments to develop bespoke campaigns in their own markets.





 Gather Member States, social partners, academia and all relevant EU and national stakeholders under a "Skills4Climate/Climate crafters Platform"

Similar format as the "Just Transition Platform"

Making technical careers a priority in the twin transitions

Connecting the challenge to ongoing EU initiatives (e.g. Social Climate Fund, Just Transition Fund, ERASMUS+, Bauhaus initiative, European Year of Youth activities, EU Sustainable energy Week, VET week, etc).



Thank you!









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