

28 Country Fact Sheets, 150 Policy Fact Sheets, 7 Analytical Reports and 3 Trend Papers

IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU WILL FIND:

are now online.

6 Updated Country Fact Sheets

Sheets

5 New Policy Fact

Construction news and events

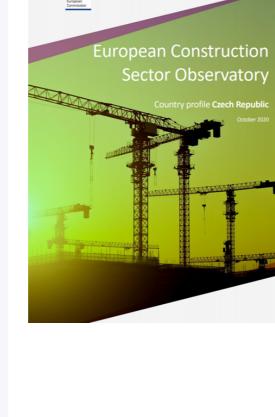
The construction sector is responsible for the largest waste stream in the EU economy. To ensure that the construction sector contributes to a sustainable economic growth, circular solutions including the responsible use/reuse/recycling of materials within the entire

Circular Economy in the construction sector

construction life cycle are expected to play a key role. The drive to make the construction sector circular is reflected in several Member States' policies and in EU initiatives such as the Renovation Wave. This newsletter sheds light on some of the policies and instruments put in place to support this. **Updated Country Fact Sheets are online**

Six updated Country Fact Sheets are now available for download, focusing on the construction markets in the Czech Republic, Finland, Greece, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovenia. The reports provide an analysis of key figures, macroeconomic indicators, economic drivers, issues and barriers, innovation and the national/regional policy and regulatory framework.

Country Fact Sheet Czech Republic Backed by EU funding, the Czech government is



<u>Initiative</u> is an opportunity to increase investment in **smart building systems.** However, the

presently implementing a replacement scheme for obsolete and inadequate heating sources

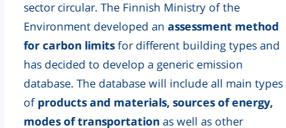
in households. Investment in buildings in line

with the EU's <u>Smart Finance for Smart Building</u>

milestones of a long-term renovation strategy that would support the renovation of national housing stock into high, energy-efficient and decarbonised building stock by 2050 are still not well defined. Some of the schemes adopted to improve the energy efficiency of buildings include PANEL 2013+, New Green Savings Programme 2014-2021, EFEKT Programme 2017-2021. Read more about the future of the construction sector in the Czech Republic in the <u>new Country Fact</u> Sheet. **Download the Country Fact Sheet**

European Construction

Sector Observatory



Fact Sheet.

processes such as site operations and waste management. Read more about the future of the construction sector in Finland in the new Country

Country Fact Sheet Finland

Finland is taking steps to make its construction

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performance requirements. These regulations ensure that every new building of the public sector, built after 1 January 2021, will be Nearly Zero-Energy Buildings (NZEBs). The renovation or construction of smarter buildings, with improved insulation materials, that are fully compliant with the principles of the circular economy, shall help in reducing energy and resource consumption. Read more about the future of the construction



economies to better transition itself into a

the new Country Fact Sheet.

wasteless economy. Read more about the future of the construction sector in the Netherlands in

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sector in Greece in the new Country Fact Sheet. **Download the Country Fact Sheet European Construction** Sector Observatory





Slovenia continues to support the efforts of the construction sector in going circular with the development of a circular-economy policy framework. As part of these efforts, the country participated in the EU-funded REBIRTH project

(Promotion of the Recycling of Industrial Waste

and Building Rubble), aimed at achieving a 70% recycling rate in industrial, construction and demolition waste by 2020. In addition, the

focussed on the **energy efficiency upgrade** of the housing stock by introducing a scheme known as Efficient House 2020 (Casa Eficiente

Country Fact Sheet Portugal

construction, namely LiderA which assigns a performance class from G up to A+++, and <u>SBToolPt</u> which classifies construction projects

based on their environmental, social and

economic impacts. The government is also

Portugal has developed two voluntary mechanisms to ${\bf support\ sustainable}$

2020). The programme offers loans on favourable terms for operations that promote the improvement of the **environmental** performance of residential buildings. Furthermore, to promote energy efficiency among households, the fees payable for the issuance of energy certificates for residential and commercial buildings were reduced. Read more about the future of the construction sector in Portugal in the <u>new Country Fact Sheet.</u> **Download the Country Fact Sheet**

> European Construction Sector Observatory

European Commission announced an allocation of EUR 50.0 million under the <u>Urban Innovative</u>

Actions (UIA) scheme to support innovative projects for sustainable urban development in Slovenia. The programme focuses on air quality, a circular economy, culture and cultural change and demographic changes. Read more about the future of the construction sector in Slovenia in the new Country Fact Sheet. **Download the Country Fact Sheet Policy Fact Sheets** Five new Policy Fact Sheets (PFS) are now available for download, focusing on policies in Austria, Estonia, Finland, Belgium and the Netherlands. The PFS provide an analysis of five national policies influencing the development of the construction sector in the area of



Austria - Construction Carousel

materials. The CC helps firms recycle or upcycle

construction. The catalogue makes it easier to match the supply and demand of high-quality **reuse components** and raw materials for new construction projects. One such successful demolition was that of a Coca-Cola Factory. With the help of the CC, around 5,000 roof panels and 3,000 m2 of green roofs were recovered for reuse in thermal insulation. Read more about the Austrian Construction Carousel initiative in the

new Policy Fact Sheet

Download the Policy Fact Sheet

materials when dismantling buildings in

(BauKarussell) The Construction Carousel (CC) was launched in 2016. The initiative is principally focused on responsible demolition and reselling recovered

European Construction Sector demolition projects. After in-depth research and on-site construction visits, an online Construction Carousel Catalogue was created that lists all materials recovered from demolition projects that can be purchased for new



reduce material waste, but the energy

exhausted during the construction phase. It is focused on finding new building methods in order to reduce energy waste. The GDCC shows

great potential with 320 participating organisations joining and more than 134 **experimental projects** being registered and ongoing. Discover more about the GDCC initiative in the <u>new Policy Fact Sheet</u>. Download the Policy Fact Sheet **European Construction Sector**





The Estonian Digital Construction Cluster (EDCC) was launched in 2019 with the aim of increasing the use of smart construction solutions and supporting the digital transformation of the construction sector. Through digital technologies, construction companies could rapidly configure building systems to make them energy and resource efficient or improve their adherence to green regulations. Part of its success relies on **the partnerships** struck with a wide range of construction companies, including property developers, architecture and engineering firms, research institutions, IT companies, construction material producers and property service providers. Learn more about the Estonian Digital Construction Cluster in the <u>new Policy Fact Sheet</u>. **Download the Policy Fact Sheet**

Estonia - Estonian Digital

Construction Cluster

Netherlands - Circular Construction Economy

Programme

Knowledge and Innovation

In order to support the construction sector's transition to a circular economy, the Circular

earlier this year. In particular, the programme

business models, green policy measures, legislation and prioritising a green tendering process. So far, the BTIC has launched one

hopes to develop circular strategies such as new

sub-programme, the <u>Circular Concrete Programme</u> 2020-2023, with a budget of EUR 8 million over four years. This programme aims to innovate new material to replace concrete, or at least reduce the use of primary materials used in

Construction Economy Knowledge and <u>Innovation Programme</u> (BTIC) was launched

European Construction Sector

Observatory

European Construction Sector



concrete. To find out more about the Circular Construction Economy Knowledge and Innovation Programme, consult the <u>new Policy</u> Fact Sheet.

Download the Policy Fact Sheet

Construction News and Events Construction is changing rapidly, with new business models, concepts and technologies being introduced to best respond to new demands and requirements. To keep you aware, please find below a quick summary of news and upcoming events. **Construction News** Message on Level(s) from Commissioner <u>Level(s)</u> is a European framework to assess and report on the sustainability of buildings. It brings buildings into the circular economy. Users of Level(s) can assess and report against various indicators, from the design stage all the way through construction to

operation, occupation and end of life of a building. The EU

Commissioner for the Environment released a short video explaining the environmental challenges currently faced by the European

construction sector and how these challenges can be addressed using

Level(s). Watch video

Sinkevičius

the circular economy The Commission published an in-depth report about <u>Circular economy principles for buildings</u> <u>design</u> (2020). The paper covers the entire value chain of construction, making suggestions on improving circular economy aspects where relevant and possible. In it, you will find expertise from construction stakeholders, who have largely shaped this report. Construction industry actors, including economic operators in the value chain, policymakers, legal and technical actors are

aligned with Level(s).

Designing buildings in the context of

invited to read the findings. The report is also

Read more



2nd International Conference on Circularity in the **Built Environment** 24-26 November 2021 The 2nd international conference on Circularity in the Built Circularity in the

Construction Events

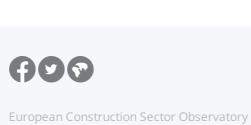


Construction Materials, Circular Design & Management, Social Circular Economy, and Standard Policy and Legislation. CiBEn intends to provide all participating actors and stakeholders with the opportunity to exchange their ideas and showcases in advance/innovative technologies and methodologies to implement

with – including CDW Recycling Technologies, Sustainable

Environment (CiBEn) aims at becoming a major point of contact between researchers, engineers and practitioners in the area of green

and sustainable construction. Eight main topics embracing all different aspects related to the theme of circularity in the built and environment, and sustainable construction materials will be dealt



circularity in the European and worldwide construction sector. **More information**

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