



## The European Construction Sector Observatory

The European Construction Sector Observatory (ECSO) aims to inform European policymakers and industry stakeholders on the market conditions and policy developments through regular analysis and comparative assessments. Visit our website and gain access to a wide range of industry data and analysis. ECSO has all the information for you to stay up to date with the latest news and practical analyses about the European Construction sector.

28 Country Fact Sheets, 155 Policy Fact Sheets, 7 Analytical Reports, 3 Trend Papers and our updated website are now online.

### IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU WILL FIND:

4 Updated Country Fact Sheets, 3 New Policy Fact Sheets, Updated ECSO Website

## Updated Country Fact Sheets are online

Four updated Country Fact Sheets are now available for download, focusing on the construction markets in Estonia, Ireland, Latvia and Lithuania. 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 Estonia: Overall, investments into the Estonian construction sector have been increasing over the last decade. Infrastructure investment is one of the biggest focal areas of the country.

Country Fact Sheet Ireland: In the last decade, investments in the Irish construction sector have increased by 54% overall. Investments have been made in Ireland housing and renovation, civil engineering, research & development, and infrastructure.

Country Fact Sheet Latvia: Latvia's construction investments have experienced both ups and downs, depending on the sub-sector. For example, non-residential construction and civil engineering grew by 15% in the last 5 years.

Country Fact Sheet Lithuania: Investment in Lithuania's construction sector has been increasing steadily, with funds primarily allocated to civil engineering and residential building projects.

## New Policy Fact Sheets are online

Three new Policy Fact Sheets (PFS) are now available for download, focusing on policies in Ireland, Sweden and the Netherlands. The PFS provide a clear view of three national policies and the various public investments made to address construction sector challenges.

Ireland - EPD Ireland Programme: The Irish Green Building Council launched the EPD Ireland programme in 2018, with the financial support of the national Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Green Enterprise programme.

The Netherlands - Circle Economy: Circle Economy is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to accelerate the transition to a circular economy. The organisation's budget comes from philanthropic partners and pro-bono partnerships.

Sweden - Build 4.0 (Bygg 4.0): In 2017, Public Housing Sweden started the Build 4.0 programme with a budget of about EUR 120 000 to design a completely digital construction process for residential buildings.

## 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

Website update of ECSO: The European Construction Sector Observatory website is getting a makeover. In addition to an improved aesthetic and easier navigation, the updated site now includes two additional functions: a data mapper allowing you to visualise a wide range of construction data.

Report: COVID-19 impact on the construction sector: The International Labour Organisation has published a brief about the impact of the pandemic on the construction sector. Although it does not solely focus on the European Union, the report addresses several general issues that have affected the construction sector everywhere.

Article: Buildings' energy consumption and how to fix it: As part of the Davos Agenda, the World Economic Forum posted published an article exploring various ways to decarbonise existing and new buildings in the EU. Some studies have shown that buildings account for between a quarter and a third of all CO2 emissions.

EIB Investment Report 2020-2021: This European Investment Bank report looks at the toll the pandemic has taken on European firms' investment and plans, as well as their efforts to meet the demands of climate change and the digital revolution.

## Upcoming Events

BUILDING GREEN: 21-22 April 2021: online (from Aarhus, Denmark). A two-day livestream event that focuses on construction projects and initiatives in and around Aarhus in Denmark.

BIM EUROPEAN SUMMIT Barcelona 2021: 22 - 23 Apr 2021: Barcelona, Spain. The BIM Academy of Spain is organising their annual international congress on Building Information Modelling at the World Trade Centre in Barcelona.

GREEN BUILDING: April 2021 (to be confirmed): Zagreb, Croatia. The Zagreb Fair, founded in 1909, is proud to host the International Sustainable Building Fair. The major themes will be building and construction, building machinery and environmental protection.

ARCHITECTURAL BUILDING WEEK: 12-15 May 2021: Sophia, Bulgaria. The International Exhibition for Energy Efficient, Ecological and Functional Construction is taking place in Sophia this year. In addition to the countless stands with innovative construction-related companies, various seminars will be held each day.