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EU External Investment Plan explained at EEA COM meeting

EFCA's European External Aid Committee (EEA COM) discussed our industry's role in project development with officials from DG DEVCO (International Cooperation and Development).

European External Investment Plan (EIP)
How will it work?

Goals:

-  Contribute to sustainable development
-  Contribute to jobs and growth
-  Tackle root causes of migration

3 pillars:


- Investment Fund (EFSD)**
 - Africa Investment Platform
 - EU Neighbourhood Investment Platform
- Technical assistance**
To support local authorities and companies in submitting projects to the Fund
- Cooperation programmes & political dialogue**
To improve the investment climate and overall policy environment in countries concerned

Supported by new guarantee to reduce risk

A one-stop-show for public and private investors

Impact:

- € 3.35 billion from EU budget and European Development Fund (EDF)
- € 44 billion expected to be mobilised through the EIP
- € 88 billion if EU Member States match EU contribution to EIP

#InvestGlobal 

Against the EU strategy to use innovative financial instruments to improve sustainable investment in Africa and the Neighbourhood and the proposed External Investment Plan, EFCA underlined the need for funds for technical assistance.

Independent consulting engineering services help to identify, formulate and implement viable project plans: preparation costs and time are reduced, risks are identified and managed, technology and training are integrated in the early stages and private investors are mobilised.

The EFCA - DG DEVCO meeting concluded with an exchange of views on possible and practical proposals to improve the visibility and transparency of the blending instruments so that firms can locate, assess and win projects in developing countries that receive EU grants. Concrete suggestions are being elaborated for further negotiation with the Commission.

2017-2020 EFCA Forward Plan: implementation of commitments started

During the summer months, Kevin Rudden together with the Directors and the secretariat started to work on a series of issues to strengthen the federation.

Mid-August, a newly established subcommittee, comprising Kevin Rudden, Nikola Matić and Jan Van der Putten, exchanged views on how to integrate all European countries in the federation. A series of actions are planned towards former EFCA member associations, as well as approaches to the associations in the Balkan and Baltic countries, and other potential entities in Europe.

The Board subcommittee on Future trends (Maurizio Boi, Kevin Rudden and Nikola Matić) is expected to arrange its first meeting shortly.

Meanwhile, the secretariat continues to investigate both possible sponsorship arrangements and (online) tools/platforms for the membership and the industry.

Kevin Rudden will report on the Board and secretariat initiatives at the 17 November 2017 D&S meeting in Zürich.

The latter meeting will provide the forum for the national Directors to agree joint national efforts in setting up three new task forces (Communications, European Benchmarking Survey and State of the Union) and reactivating the working party on Association Best Practice.

Summer 2017 edition of EFCA YP News available



This year's summer edition is bringing news about the winners of the 2017 EFCA Young Professional award and interesting information on the YP Forum that was held in Copenhagen.

Read and share it!

networking for new knowledge

2017 European Commission Construction Conference: Let's build changes!

Early July, industry leaders, finance professionals and investors, policy makers, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups discussed trends, strategies to remain competitive and the role of the public sector in supporting the transition of the construction sector.

Four key areas were identified for the break-out sessions:

- Using construction to reshape our cities
- Sustainability - resource efficiency and beyond
- Innovation and digitalisation and their impact on business models
- Skills – a capable workforce to deliver transformational change.

FIDIC 2017 International Infrastructure Conference Highlights

From the 1st to the 3rd of October 2017, the global consulting engineering industry will gather in Jakarta, to discuss about urban planning strategies to adapt our infrastructure to be more resilient.

The FIDIC Conference is a key networking venue for the world's leading consulting firms working in the infrastructure sector such as AECOM, Aurecon, IMC Worldwide, Cardno, CDM Smith, Tata Consulting Engineers, Nippon Koei Co Ltd, Witteveen+Bos; financial institutions and consulting firms such as KPMG and Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank; Ministries, Government bodies and International organisations such as Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ministries of Economic Affairs and Public Works of Indonesia, World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) to name just a few.

This year's Conference will offer three exciting days packed with inspiring Plenary Sessions, interactive Business Best Practice Forum discussions, leadership development opportunities during the Young Professional Symposium and more!
Have you registered yet? If not, you may still do so at www.fidic2017.org and be part of this important event.

Kevin Rudden and Jan Van der Putten look forward to participating in the Jakarta conference and meeting with member representatives and colleagues there!

E F C A A G E N D A

Internal Market Committee	Brussels	14.09.2017
BIM Task Force	Brussels	15.09.2017
FIDIC-EFCA Sustainable Development Committee	Jakarta	1.10.2017 (13:00-14:30)
FIDIC International Infrastructure Conference	Jakarta	1-3.10.2017

Confirmed speakers include:

- Gavin English, Managing Director of IMC Workbank
- Dr. Hiroo Tada, Senior Advisor, JICA
- Alan Lovell, UN Sakakima Award for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Kouson Kayant, Global Director Excellence & Expertise, Austlian
- James Stewart, Chairman, Global Infrastructure KPMG
- Maseki Sekusela, Nippon Koei Co Ltd, Japan
- Dikhan Noy, Chair in the Economics of Disasters, Victoria University
- Kaushik Chakraborty, Vice President, Bentley Systems, Asia
- Dr. Marlene Hong, President Elect, WFEO

Logos: Bentley Advancing Infrastructure, FIDIC, AMFAN, INKINDO, BST Strategic Partner.

Board of Directors meeting	Budapest	12-13.10.2017
European External Aid Committee	Brussels	24.10.2017
Barometer Task Group	Brussels	08.11.2017
Directors & Secretaries General meeting	Zürich	17.11.2017
Board of Directors meeting	Brussels	08.12.2017



E U R O P E A N B R I E F I N G

Juncker Plan now set to trigger more than €225 billion in investments

Handbook for the introduction of BIM by the European Public Sector

Single Market Scoreboard: REU countries compliance with EU law not yet good enough

Production in construction down by 0.5% in euro area (June 2017 compared with May 2017)

Level(s): a common sustainable language for the buildings sector

European Construction Sector Observatory (ECSO)

Meeting climate and energy targets is an investment challenge

Shaping the future of energy in Europe

Employment and social developments in Europe

Citizens ♥ EU

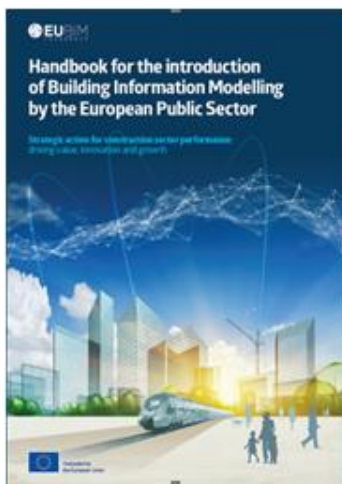
Juncker Plan now set to trigger more than €225 billion in investments

The European Investment Bank ([EIB](#)) has now approved 276 EFSI-backed operations, supported by €33.7 billion in [EFSI](#) (European Fund for Strategic Investments) financing.

The [European Investment Fund](#) (EIF) has approved 296 SME financing agreements, with total financing under the EFSI of just under €10 billion.

Around 445,000 SMEs and Midcaps are expected to benefit from improved access to finance as a result of these EIF agreements.

Handbook for the introduction of BIM by the European Public Sector



The [handbook](#) was produced by the [EU BIM Task Group](#), which gathers the collective experience of public policy makers, public estate owners and infrastructure operators from over twenty European countries. EFCA participated in the friendly review of the final draft.

The handbook aims at encouraging the wider introduction of BIM by the European public sector as a strategic enabler; and harmonising a European wide common strategic approach for the introduction of BIM.

Single Market Scoreboard: EU countries compliance with EU law not yet good enough

The [Single Market Scoreboard](#) gives an accurate picture of the state of implementation of the EU Single Market rules in a number of policy areas (public procurement, professional qualifications, postal services, trade integration and market openness).

It also evaluates how the EU countries help citizens and businesses via various EU [portals](#) for general [information](#), concrete [problem solving](#) and [job search](#).

Production in construction down by 0.5% in euro area (June 2017 compared with May 2017)

In June 2017 compared with May 2017, seasonally adjusted production in the construction sector decreased by 0.5% in the euro area (EA19) and by 0.2% in the EU28, according to first estimates from [Eurostat](#), the statistical office of the European Union.

In June 2017 compared with June 2016, production in construction increased by 3.4% in the euro area and by 3.6% in the EU28.

Level(s): a common sustainable language for the buildings sector



[Level\(s\)](#) is a voluntary reporting framework to improve the sustainability of buildings.

Using existing standards, [Level\(s\)](#) provides a common EU approach to the assessment of environmental performance in the built environment.

[Level\(s\)](#) links the individual building's environmental performance with resource priorities at European level.

[Level\(s\)](#) is entering a test phase running from 2017 to 2019. Professionals of the construction and buildings sector are invited to [participate](#).

European Construction Sector Observatory (ECSO)



European Construction Sector Observatory
Providing valuable **insight** on the European
construction industry

ECSO presents detailed Country Fact Sheets (CFS) for the construction industry in the EU countries.

Each CFS provides an analysis of key figures, macro-economic indicators, economic drivers, issues and barriers, innovation, the national/regional policy and regulatory framework.

Meeting climate and energy targets is an investment challenge

A stocktaking [briefing](#) published by the European Environment Agency (EEA) says that the smooth transition to a low-carbon future poses a major investment challenge that depends on a substantial redirection of finance flows towards more sustainable investments.

The briefing is based on a [study](#), which found that only a few European countries have turned their climate and energy objectives into concrete investment needs and plans to date.

Only Belgium, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, and to some extent, Germany, appear to have a national approach or strategy in place to track spending related to climate mitigation and adaptation.

Shaping the future of energy in Europe

This year's 'European Environment Agency's (EEA) [Signals 2017](#) – Shaping the future of energy in Europe: Clean, smart and renewable,' examines the state of play of Europe's energy system and recent trends.

Employment and social developments in Europe

The [2017 review](#) 'Employment and Social Developments in Europe (ESDE)' confirms positive labour market and social trends and continued economic growth.

Citizens ♥ EU

A majority of respondents to two surveys, the '[Spring 2017 – Standard Eurobarometer](#)' and the Flash Eurobarometer '[Future of Europe – Views from outside the EU](#)', say they have a positive view of the EU.

A [study](#) that was commissioned by the [Friedrich Ebert Foundation](#) shows that 61 % of EU citizens want more cooperation at EU level.



EDITORIAL OFFICE: Kevin Rudden, Jan Van der Putten
EDITOR: Anne Croisiau
ADDRESS: EFCA Secretariat, Ave. des Arts, 3/4/5, B – 1210, Brussels,
Phone: +32-2-209.07.70
Fax: +32-2-209.07.71
E-mail: efca@efca.be
<http://www.efcanet.org/>