



2 December 2020



Autumn 2020 **EFCA Industry Barometer** [report](#): COVID-19 pandemic continues to hold the European consulting engineering industry in its grip

Autumn 2020 **EFCA meeting of national Directors and Secretaries General (D&S)**: summary of the COVID-19 measures and impact, national consulting engineering market situation and industry concerns, and national association initiatives. Exchange of views on alternative methods for enhancing cooperation (increased frequency of virtual meetings).

EFCA 2021 GAM & Conference: due to the persistent uncertainty in relation to COVID-19 and based on responses gathered from the D&S, the EFCA Board of Directors decided - with the well-being of attendees as the number one priority - to reschedule the Istanbul events to 2022. A programme for the virtual 2021 GAM and online events will be developed.

EFCA's European External Aid Committee continues negotiations with DG DEVCO (International Cooperation and Development) on the review of the 2020 PRAG (Procedures and Practical Guide). The Committee will initiate the dialogue with the European Parliament Committee 'Budgets'. The technical and professional references period is the most relevant issue for our industry.

EFCA Secretary General Jan Van der Putten participated in a webinar on FIDIC contracts together with EIC (European International Contractors), CICA – Confederation of International Contractors and MDBs . A tripartite Working Group (CICA, FIDIC and MDBs) will be set up to elaborate guidance on cost relief and time extension for contractors that have incurred extra cost due to the impact of Covid-19 as well as on the crucial role of Dispute Boards.



EC Economic [Forecast](#) – Autumn 2020: Rebound interrupted as resurgence of pandemic deepens uncertainty

European [Council](#) message to Member States: efficient public procurement rules and practices, combined with increased public spending, can accelerate the economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis and lead to a sustainable and more resilient EU economy.

The European Commission has disbursed €8.5 billion in the third instalment of financial support to five Member States under the [SURE](#) instrument. With this disbursement, 15 Member States have received around €40 billion under the EU SURE instrument between the end of October and the end of November.

Vaccine [deals](#): European Commission approved a sixth contract with Moderna It will enlarge the already broad portfolio of vaccines to be produced in Europe, including the contracts signed with AstraZeneca, Sanofi-GSK, Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, BioNTech-Pfizer and the contract approved with CureVac.

EU increases its [contribution](#) to **COVAX** to €500 million to secure COVID-19 vaccines for low and middle-income countries

The European Commission adopted a **Pharmaceutical [Strategy](#)** for Europe

Council and Parliament reach a provisional agreement, setting the amount of the [React-EU](#) initiative at €47.5 billion (€37.5 billion in 2021 and €10 billion in 2022). Unlike other cohesion programmes, Member States can apply for a 100% EU grant rate. The pre-financing rate is set at 11%.

[Team Europe](#) steps up delivery to its COVID-19 recovery package up to €38.5 billion for **partner countries**.

COVID-19 measures have mixed **impacts on the environment** according to a European Environment Agency ([EEA](#)) briefing

European Restructuring Monitor ([ERM](#)) report 2020: COVID-19 crisis led to doubling of EU restructuring job loss in first six months of 2020

[Survey](#) on the access to finance of enterprises (SAFE) highlights Covid-19's devastating effect on **SMEs** and their access to finance

CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE

[EIB Investment Survey](#) – Businesses are intending to reduce investment due to the pandemic

Climate Transparency [Report](#): Comparing G20 climate action and responses to the COVID-19 crisis

[OECD Global Outlook on Financing for Sustainable Development](#): COVID-19 crisis threatens Sustainable Development Goals financing

On 1 December, the [OECD](#) cut its **growth forecast** for the eurozone, warning against ending public support for the economy and workers too quickly, as it could damage a fragile recovery

[WTO](#) report on the effects of the pandemic and the international **trade**-related measures adopted by G20 countries

COVID-19 is having a profound **effect on local and regional authorities** / [survey](#) of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

A global survey of enterprises: Managing the **business disruptions** of COVID-19 / [ILO](#)

A no deal Brexit would weaken post-COVID recovery in the **UK** / [KPMG](#) study

World Travel & Tourism Council ([WTTC](#)): despite a slight improvement since June, a staggering 174 million Travel & Tourism jobs could be lost in 2020 if barriers to global travel remain in place

NGOs and lobbying organisations with lower staff resources had less access to European and domestic policymakers during the pandemic, according to a [study](#) by the Universities of Amsterdam, Copenhagen and the Trinity College Dublin.

Are You Prepared for the Next Big Threat? Evaluating Current and Future Threats /Aon [survey](#)

Renewables 2020 [report](#): impact of the Covid crisis on solar, wind, hydro and other renewable technologies and outlook to 2025