



Newsletter n°5 - 20 September 2021



**EDITORIAL NOTE**

As we start again after the summer break, the notion of ‘back to work’ is taking on a new meaning: one that is neither wholly remote, nor fully office-based. This month in the federation’s calendar shows a long series of online meetings. So, I’ll be still reconnecting with many of you in virtual form.

As I write this note, I am joining the business days of FIDIC’s Global Infrastructure Conference, learning about the world’s major challenges and how they might be addressed. In case you haven’t attended, take a look at [Infrastructure Global](#)

Jan Van der Putten



**2/7/2021: Digitalisation & BIM Committee.** EFCA and ACE (Architects’ Council of Europe) submit a joint letter and position to DG GROW, setting out concerns regarding software vendors’ licensing terms and practices, and suggesting a meeting to discuss possible further actions

**30/7/2021: European Sector Review.** EFCA launches a consultation round with the member associations on this new initiative. The intended ranking of the 200 major engineering consulting firms across Europe will demonstrate the industry’s economic importance and strength, and increase the federation’s visibility among the industry

**August 2021.** The latest issue of The Voice of EFCA: expresses the industry’s concerns about increasing insurance premiums across Europe and risk-adverse clients who deter from innovation in projects. The Voice of EFCA is circulated to EC officials and Members of the European Parliament

**18/8/2021: High Level Construction Forum.** As member of the Construction 2050 Alliance, EFCA joins this initiative of the European Commission (DG GROW) which has evolved from the previous Construction 2020 initiative

**2/9/2021: D&S meeting.** Directors of the national associations learn about present and forthcoming EU legislation impacting on the business. They discuss both lessons learned from the COVID-19 crisis and the need for a constructive dialogue between

engineering consultants, construction companies and clients to ensure better and innovative projects

**7/9/2021: Board of Directors.** For the first time, the agenda of the meeting provided for a session of the FIDIC Europe Board.

The meeting discussed and commented on ongoing Committee activities.

Jeffrey Seeck, Chair of the Future Trends Committee, presented the final draft of the forthcoming 'Future Scenarios 2025' report.

The Board appointed Benoît Clocheret, Nikola Matić, Denis Lohest and Sarah Ingle to sit on the newly established Governance and Nomination Committee

**8/9/2021: Digitalisation and BIM** Committee. Aidan Mercer (buildingSMART International - bSI) made a presentation. The meeting agreed enhancing EFCA-BSI collaboration to promote open BIM in infrastructure projects. The Committee decided to develop a newsletter addressed to all EFCA members in the near future

**10/9/2021: European Green Deal** Committee. The working groups 'Climate Adaptation' and 'Sustainable Mobility' presented concrete action plans. The other two groups 'Circular Economy and Waste Management' and 'Production and Use of Renewable Energy' will make their work plans in the coming weeks

 **BLOCK THE DATES**

**Wind Energy Ireland – [Presentation](#) on Ireland as a Case for Systems Integration**  
Wednesday, 29 September 2021 4:00 PM-5:00 PM (UTC+01:00) Brussels

Full [Calendar](#) of EFCA meetings



newsroom

**14/7/2021: [Fit for 55](#) – delivering the EU's 2030 climate target on the way to climate neutrality.** MEPs debated the EU climate package on 14 September 2021

**16/7/2021:** New Eu **[Forest Strategy](#)** for 2030

**29/7/2021:** EC technical [guidance](#) on the **climate proofing of infrastructure** in the period 2021-2027

**August-September 2021:** first disbursement of funds under **[NextGenerationEU](#)** to Belgium, Luxembourg, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Spain, Lithuania, France, Germany, Denmark, Cyprus, Latvia and Slovenia

**6/9/2021:** EU finance ministers approve the **[recovery](#)** plans submitted by Ireland and Czech Republic. The proposals sent by 18 Member States since April to access the coronavirus fund have now been validated

**15/9/2021:** MEPs back the €14,2 bn fund (**[IPA III](#)**) supporting seven partner countries on their path to EU membership (Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Kosovo, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia, the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Turkey)

**Eurostat:** Sustainable development in the European Union - Monitoring report on progress towards the **SDGs** in an EU context — 2021 edition

**EIB:** Digitalisation in Europe 2020-2021

**EC:** Study about the impact of open source software and hardware on technological independence, competitiveness and innovation in the EU economy

**EIB:** European firms and climate change 2020/2021: Evidence from the EIB Investment Survey

**Nordic Council of Ministers - Sustainable Public Procurement** and the Sustainable Development Goals

**International Energy Agency:** new **Sustainable Recovery Tracker** to measure clean energy impact of Covid-19 response

**International Energy Agency:** Empowering Cities for a Net Zero Future

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):** Climate Change 2021: the Physical Science Basis

**Global Alliance for Building and Construction:** Decarbonizing the Buildings Sector - 10 key measures

**BlackRock** Financial Markets Advisory (prepared for the **EC**): Development of tools and mechanisms for the integration of ESG factors into the EU banking prudential framework and into banks' business strategies and investment policies

**AON:** Weather, **Climate** & Catastrophe Insight – 2020 annual report

**InEight:** Global Capital Projects Outlook, 2021 - Top Trends of the Global **Construction** Sector

**Turner & Townsend:** International **construction** market survey 2021

**Deloitte** Global Powers of Construction 2020

**Tarmac** – Infrastructure Intelligence: Clean construction: unlocking net zero

**EBRD** online resource with legal and **business guidance** to support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises

**Corporate Europe Observatory and LobbyControl:** Big Tech's web of influence in the EU

