# Fostering innovation and digitalisation in the construction industry

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# A major European industrial ecosystem

**27 million**

people employed

**6.5 million**

companies, mainly SMEs

**12%**

of EU value added

**30–35%**

of public procurement value

Labour shortages, ageing assets and rising costs increase the need for modernisation.

# 01 A common European roadmap

01 Clear objectives and milestones for construction modernisation

02 Funding instruments and measurable progress indicators

03 Digital tools, advanced materials and modern construction methods across the value chain

# 02 Interoperable digital systems

01 Common standards for BIM, digital building logbooks, product passports and permitting

02 Connected data throughout design, construction, maintenance and renovation

03 Reliable records on hazardous substances and continuity of data when ownership changes

# 03 Dedicated support for SMEs

01 Targeted funding and simpler access to EU innovation programmes

02 Local advisory services suited to different levels of digital maturity

03 Technical support for BIM, artificial intelligence, robotics and industrialised construction

# 04 Quality and long-term value in procurement

01 The Most Economically Advantageous Tender approach

02 Quality, lifecycle costs, environmental performance, traceability and resilience

03 BIM, digital product passports and alternative technical solutions in public projects

04 Direct SME participation and responsible subcontracting chains

# 05 Industrialised construction

01 European hubs for modular construction, prefabrication, 3D printing and robotics

02 Production linked to research and development, with mass customisation

03 Architectural quality, structural safety and solutions suited to local needs

# 06 Skills and worker protection

01 Updated curricula, upskilling and reskilling for new construction methods

02 Worker consultation, human oversight and clear accountability for AI and robotics

03 Connected social ID schemes compatible with ESSPASS and the EU Digital Identity Wallet

04 Equal opportunities for women, young people and vulnerable groups

# 07 Circularity and resilient assets

01 Reuse, refurbishment and high-value recycling as standard practice

02 Buildings as material banks supported by digital traceability

03 Resilience criteria in construction standards, procurement and public investment

04 Digital twins and smart monitoring for maintenance and safety

# 08 Affordable housing and spatial planning

01 Greater construction capacity, available land and faster permitting

02 Housing planned together with transport, energy and water infrastructure

03 Targeted support for homebuyers, tenants and groups facing barriers to housing

04 Investment and updated spatial planning for rural and remote areas

# 09 Financing the transition

01 Financial instruments aligned with sustainability, resilience and effective governance

02 Tax and financing incentives for technology, energy efficiency and circular solutions

03 Support for workforce training, small projects and peripheral areas

# 10 Less dependence on imported resources

01 Local value chains and stronger recycling capacity

02 Sustainable material production and low-carbon construction products

03 Lower exposure to supply disruptions and price volatility

# Implementation of the recommendations

# Coordinated action across the construction ecosystem

EU institutions and Member States
Financial sector, businesses and social partners

Preliminary draft opinion
The recommendations do not constitute adopted binding rules