



8 February 2021



DG GROW responds to the President's column in the December 2020 issue of the **Voice of EFCA**.

The Head of Unit 'Circular economy and construction' emphasises that *'the Commission will examine whether the national recovery and resilient plans reflect the proposal to deliver a massive building renovation plan appropriately'*.

The **Digitalisation and BIM Committee** welcomed two guests at its virtual meeting on 19 January 2021.

Mark Baldwin presented the BuildingSMART International Professional Certification. Committee Vice-Chair commented that international standardised training and global common understanding are a useful step forward to standardise BIM knowledge and the certification process.

Ian Pritchard and Peter Sørensen, representing ACE (Architects' Council of Europe), agreed to take forward joint initiatives to ensure portability and interoperability of software services, prevent loss of control over the data and eliminate unfavourable licence agreements.

The European Commission (EC) more and more focuses development efforts on facilitating European sustainable development investments. The EC wishes to be more visible on the geopolitical scene and strengthen its policies abroad. It is decreasing its involvement in the implementation of projects, particularly in infrastructure, energy and cities.

Consequently, the **European External Aid Committee** will shift its focus on the institutions that actually implement financial investments, i.e. the European banks and Member States Development Agencies.

However, actions with regard to the ongoing review of the 2020 PRAG (Procedures and Practical Guide), current misinterpretations and possible mistakes are continued.



[SURE](#) instrument: the Council has already approved a total of €90.3 billion in financial support to 18 Member States. €53.5 billion has been disbursed to 15 Member States

[EIB](#) Group increases financing to €77 billion in 2020, combating the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis - New edition of the EIB Investment [Report](#) 2020/2021 “Building a smart and green Europe in the COVID-19 era”

[EBRD](#) reports record 2020 investment in response to Covid-19

Preparing the post COVID-19 world: Commission launches the New European Bauhaus [initiative](#)

EC [Communication](#) ‘A united front to beat COVID-19

New [strategy](#) to stimulate the openness, strength and resilience of the EU's economic and financial system



[FIDIC](#) Covid-19 Webinar Series 2021

[FIDIC](#) State of the World Webinar Series

[FIDIC](#) Committee Webinar Series

[IMF](#) / World Economic Outlook January 2021 Forecast

[UN](#) World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP), January 2021

[UN](#) Environment Programme (UNEP) report: climate litigation has become more common and more successful worldwide

[UNEP](#) Adaptation Gap Report: progress in planning for, financing and implementing adaptation (January 2021)