

Topic: DigiPLACE

Brief description and main aims:

DigiPLACE is an EU funded project with a budget of €1M, which started on 1 September 2019. It will run for 18 months. The project has 19 partners, 13 of which directly represent the construction industry. There are also three Member States involved. The aim is to create a road map for a digital industrial platform for construction in Europe. This platform will be an operating system that integrates different technologies and various relevant applications and services used in Building Information Modelling (BIM) and also in other digital processes used increasingly in construction. The long term purpose is to facilitate the uptake of digitalisation in construction in the EU, by identifying and tackling the obstacles, such as the lack of compatibility of applications and lack of open access to data and interoperability of existing systems. Should the project be successful, it could be followed by a second much larger one, which would - amongst other things - actually create the platform.

Why FIEC is dealing with this topic:

FIEC was one of the original organisations that called for support for the construction industry, after the Digitising European Industry initiative supported other sectors, with considerable funding to facilitate the digital transformation of those sectors. Contractors are at the heart of the construction value chain and this platform needs to meet the requirements of construction companies. Therefore, FIEC is a partner in the project. Its specific role is to co-ordinate the Advisory Board. With the involvement of this Advisory Board and a larger network of more than 1000 stakeholders, the project will define a "Reference Architecture Framework" for the platform. In brief, that means recommended structures and ways of integrating IT products and services to form an overall solution for the construction industry, at EU level. This reference architecture will embody the best practice gathered from the stakeholders, in order to design the optimal delivery method for these specific technologies.

Actions and key dates:

- November 2018** – Submission of DigiPLACE proposal
- March 2019** – notification of "preferred proposal" from the Commission to the partners
- 01/09/2019** – launch of project (<https://digiplaceproject.eu/>)
- 21/11/2019** – First Advisory Board meeting and launch conference in Bologna
- 27/02/2020** – Second Advisory Board meeting (virtual due to lockdown in Milan)
- March 2020** – Call for experts to join the Community of Stakeholders

https://twitter.com/Digi_PLACE

