

## F E D E R A T I O N N E W S

**Incoming President listens to national associations**

**Activities and mandate European External Aid Committee under review**

**Do you want to be recognised as the rising talent by the European industry leaders?**

**Successful test: FIDIC awareness webinar on ISO 37101**

**EFCA agenda**

## Incoming President listens to national associations

With a view to set out the Federation's 2017-2020 objectives and strategies, Kevin Rudden, who will take over the presidency on 1 June 2017, is engaging with all members.

At the end of 2016, Kevin Rudden invited his colleagues in the EFCA Board of Directors to identify strengths and opportunities for EFCA.

From the Board's debate it appeared that EFCA's key role, namely lobby towards the EU institutions is unquestioned and well done.



Points of particular interest in the current industry representation model relate to communications, the promotion of the industry in Europe (to future business leaders) and platforms for exchanging the federation's body of knowledge and industry intelligence.

To move the federation further and to engage with all stakeholders, the directors of the national associations are invited to formulate their views on, and expectations of what a more perfect European representation model could look like.

A compilation of the responses will be presented at the 6 April 2017 D&S meeting in Brussels for a workshop discussion. The 2017-2020 Forward Plan will then address the outcomes of the workshop.

## Activities and mandate European External Aid Committee under review

At its February meeting, the committee discussed major changes in the EU and international institutional development aid framework as well as current market and business realities.

The update of the committee's 2012 Terms of Reference is also linked to the impact of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the development aid market.

In order to respond to global challenges, identify opportunities where they arise and support the European industry's competitiveness, the committee will bring proposals to the EFCA Board.



## Do you want to be recognised as the rising talent by the European industry leaders?

The deadline for the 2017 EFCA YP [competition](#) is rapidly approaching: up to 5 entries per country are expected by 31 March 2017.



networking for new knowledge

The jury that will assess the projects and shortlist of up to ten candidates. The jury is composed of Maurizio Boi (Italy), Kari Harsunen (Finland) and Nikola Matić (Serbia).

At the end of April, all short-listed candidates - and all interested YPs - will be invited to make themselves available to participate in the YP Forum (Copenhagen, 1 June 2017).

The overall winner, runners-up and honorary mentions will be formally announced at the 2 June 2017 [Conference](#) in Copenhagen.

## Successful test: FIDIC awareness webinar on ISO 37101

Following its active participation in ISO Technical Committee TC 268, FIDIC is supporting the practical implementation of the new international standard that has been developed to help city leaders set and achieve their city's sustainable development agenda.

ISO 37101:2016 establishes requirements for a management system for sustainable development in communities, including cities, using a holistic approach. The standard does not impose a specific vision for a sustainable city and it can be used for both large and small cities in developed and developing countries.



FIDIC's pilot webinar, including a presentation by an expert of ISO TC 268 and a demonstration of an example of supporting tool to use the standard, attracted broad interest on 8 February 2017.

It also opened doors to develop an awareness raising campaign and training programme in partnership with other international parties in various regions.

## E F C A A G E N D A

FIDIC – ACES – EFCA Regional Infrastructure <a href="#">Conference</a>	Belgrade	09-10.03.2017
Task Force on BIM	Brussels	22.03.2017
D&S meeting	Brussels	06.04.2017
Board of Directors meeting	Napoli	20-21.04.2017
Barometer Task Group	Brussels	09.05.2017
Board of Directors meeting	Copenhagen	01.06.2017
<b>2017 EFCA GAM &amp; CONFERENCE</b>	Copenhagen	1-2.06.2017
Sustainable Development Committee	Brussels	14.06.2017
European External Aid Committee	Brussels	26.06.2017
Board of Directors meeting	Budapest (tbc)	7-8.09.2017 (tbc)
Internal Market Committee	Brussels	14.09.2017
FIDIC International Infrastructure Conference	Jakarta	1-3.10.2017
Board of Directors meeting	Brussels	24.11.2017



Copenhagen - Superkilen



E U R O P E A N B R I E F I N G

**€444 million investment in key European energy infrastructure project**

**Connecting Europe Facility (CEF - Transport) Blending call**

**Support to investment in local infrastructure in the Nordic countries**

**4 member states requested to respect the EU rules on late payments**

**Production in construction down by 0.2% in euro area-Up by 0.6% in EU28 (December 2016 compared with November 2016)**

**European Parliament calls for rules on robotics and artificial intelligence**

**New tool to track the status of EU environment law**

## **€444 million investment in key European energy infrastructure projects**

Of the [selected](#) 18 projects, 7 are in the electricity sector ([Connecting Europe Facility](#) support €176 million), 10 in the gas sector (€228 million) and 1 for smart grid (€40 million).

5 projects relate to construction works (€350 million) and 13 to studies (€94 million).

## **Connecting Europe Facility (CEF - Transport) Blending call**

For the first time, the [call for proposals](#) of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) will require the combination of €1 billion of grants CEF grants with financing from the [European Fund for Strategic Investments](#) (EFSI), the [European Investment Bank](#), National Promotional Banks or private sector investors.

In order to receive Connecting Europe Facility support, applicants will be asked to show evidence of the projects' financial readiness to obtain complementary funding from public or private financing institutions. The aim is to progressively move towards a smart combination of grants, loans and guarantees to leverage private funds.

The call has two deadlines for submission of proposals, the first one on 14 July 2017 and the second one on 30 November 2017.

## **Support to investment in local infrastructure in the Nordic countries**

The EIB agreement was made possible by the support of the European Fund for Strategic Investments ([EFSI](#)).

The “[Infranode I](#)” investment platform will address the lacking investments by primarily targeting public and private small and mid-cap infrastructure companies and assets in the Nordics. Its focus will lie on regulated utilities, renewable energy, social and transport infrastructure projects.

## 4 member states requested to respect the EU rules on late payments

The [Late Payment Directive \(Directive 2011/7/EU\)](#), which had to be transposed into national law by 16 March 2013, puts in place strict measures to discourage a culture of late payments.

Greece, Italy, Slovakia and Spain are to take measures, ensuring the Directive's effective application.

Late payment remains a highly pertinent and relevant issue for companies across the EU.

## Production in construction down by 0.2% in euro area - Up by 0.6% in EU28 (December 2016 compared with November 2016)

According to first estimates from [Eurostat](#), the decrease of 0.2% in production in construction in the euro area in December 2016, compared with November 2016, is due to building construction falling by 0.5%, while civil engineering rose by 0.8%.

In the EU28, the increase of 0.6% is due to civil engineering rising by 1.2% and building construction by 0.2%.

## European Parliament calls for rules on robotics and artificial intelligence

The rules are needed to guarantee a standard level of safety and security.

They should include ethical standards for the development of artificial intelligence, and introduce an insurance scheme to cover liability for accidents involving driverless cars.

The Commission is not obliged to follow the [Parliament's](#) recommendations, but must state its reasons if it refuses.

## New tool to track the status of EU environment law

The Environmental Implementation Review ([EIR](#)) provides the information, the tools and the timetable for improving how EU rules on waste management, nature and biodiversity, air quality, water quality and management are applied.

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