



European  
Commission

# HIGH LEVEL CONSTRUCTION FORUM

## 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Resilience Cluster Group

Technical Secretariat of the HLCF

20<sup>th</sup> of October 2021, 10:00-12:30 CEST

DG GROW



# High-Level Construction Forum - Resilience Cluster Group Meeting

**Virtual meeting- 20th October 2021, 10:00-12:30 CEST**

## Agenda

Time (CEST)	Agenda
10:00 – 10:10	<b>Opening and dial-in for participants</b>
10:10 – 10:20	<b>Opening remarks by the European Commission</b> Chair: Fulvia Raffaelli, Head of Unit for Construction, <i>DG GROW H.1, European Commission</i>  Purpose of the meeting in the context of the transition pathway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Which targets (either at a sector level or Member State level) have you committed to? Which targets are you setting?</li><li>• Which initiatives (either at a sector level or Member State level) have you undertaken? Which are you currently developing?</li></ul>
10:20 – 10:35	<b>Summary from High-Level Construction Forum and key themes for Resilience building</b> Chair: Mr Christophe Gran – Partner and Co-founder - <i>Zoe Institute for future-fit economies</i>
10:35 – 11:05 (30 minutes)	<b>Theme 1 – Providing the labour force with the right skills</b> Facilitator: Mr Felix Rohn, Policy officer, European Commission - <i>Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion - Unit B.2 – Skills Agenda</i>
11:05-11:30 (25 minutes)	<b>Theme 2 – Enhancing climate resilience and adaptation</b> Facilitator: Mr Stephen Richardson Director - Europe, <i>World Green Building Council</i>
11:30-11:55 (25 minutes)	<b>Theme 3 – Building a resilient construction industry</b> Facilitator: Ulrich W. Paetzold, Owner of <i>Ulrich Paetzold EU-Consulting</i> , previously Director-General of the <i>European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC)</i>
11:55 – 12:20	<b>Wrap-up: findings of the three themes</b> Facilitators: Mr Felix Rohn, Mr Stephen Richardson, Mr Ulrich W. Paetzold
12:20 – 12:30	<b>Next steps and closing remarks</b> Chair: Mr Roman HORVATH

## Topics for discussion

**The new High-Level Construction Forum 2021** is an initiative of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW). It is a follow-up to the previous High-Level Tripartite Forum of the Construction 2020 Strategy. Based on the updated EU Industrial Strategy (May 2021), the purpose of the High-Level Construction Forum will be to co-create the green, digital and resilient transition pathway for the EU construction industry ecosystem. This will be done in partnership with industry, public authorities, social partners and other relevant stakeholders.

**The first meeting of the High-Level Construction Forum on 28th October 2021** gathered over 220 participants. A large variety of stakeholders attended, and the active participation of many contributed to the success of the meeting. The stakeholders present included representatives of the Member States, the European Commission, international organisations, the construction industry, the academic community, and companies directly involved in the construction supply chain.

**Resilience is an evolving area in the Construction ecosystem discussions.** The Forum highlighted the importance of building resilience to ensure the success of the green and digital transitions, and more importantly, it plays an instrumental role in mitigating the impact of external shocks and adapting to an ever-changing environment.

**The meeting will be organised as follows.** After an opening by the European Commission and a short report of the discussions of the first meeting of the High-Level Construction Forum, we will consecutively dive into the three themes mentioned below. An expert from the field will lead the discussions and encourage all participants to share their views and questions on these themes. The meeting will end with a wrap-up and a short presentation of the next steps of the High-Level Construction Forum.

**The Resilience cluster meeting will build on the topics raised during the Forum** and initiate a discussion on the challenges, existing initiatives and actions related to:

1. Providing the labour force with the right skills
2. Enhancing climate resilience and adaptation
3. Building a resilient construction industry

### Theme 1: Providing the labour force with the right skills

**Facilitator: Felix Rohn, Policy officer, European Commission - Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion - Unit B.2 – Skills Agenda**

Key themes/directions for discussion:

- Skills can support green, digital and support climate adaptation
- Ageing workforce: Upskilling, adapted trainings and new entrants

- Think about how to jointly work together towards building the skills to support new business models and value chains, how the workforce can bring innovation in the way we deliver and organise the work for a more sustainable and resilient environment

**Questions on which the participants may reflect:**

- I. What are the key challenges in relation to skills?
- II. What are the existing initiatives which can be built on?
- III. Based on the challenges, outline 3-5 core actions that should be taken forward for the development of the transition pathway and owners/partnerships, i.e. your contributions

**Theme 2: Enhancing climate resilience and adaptation**

**Facilitator: Mr Stephen Richardson - Director Europe, World Green Building Council**

Key themes/directions for discussion:

- Designing building and infrastructure to be resilient and responsive to climate change (climate adaptation)
- Embed climate change adaptation into building regulations
- Municipalities and cities to prepare their climate resilience strategies

**Questions on which the participants may reflect:**

- I. What are the key challenges in relation to climate resilience and adaptation?
- II. What are the existing initiatives which can be built on?
- III. Based on the challenges, outline 3-5 core actions that should be taken forward for the development of the transition pathway and owner, i.e. your contribution

**Theme 3: Building a resilient construction industry**

**Facilitator: Ulrich W. Paetzold, Owner of Ulrich Paetzold EU-Consulting, previously Director-General of the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC)**

Key themes/directions for discussion:

- Competitiveness of the European construction industry and innovative business models
- Resilience of the construction ecosystem and its supply chains: e.g. construction material shortage
- Stable regulatory framework and predictable business environment

**Questions on which the participants may reflect :**

- I. What are the key challenges in relation to building a resilient construction industry?
- II. What are the existing initiatives which can be built on?
- III. Based on the challenges, outline 3-5 core actions that should be taken forward for the development of the transition pathway and owners, i.e. your contribution