

## **Topic: Design for Deconstruction**

### **Brief description and main aims:**

The European Commission is preparing a document with the input of stakeholders, on the Principles of Design for Deconstruction. The work falls under the Construction 2020 initiative, Thematic Group 3 “Sustainable use of natural resources”. Design for Deconstruction is a concept whereby buildings are designed with the end of life already in mind. The aim is to maximise the opportunities for re-use and recycling of materials from disassembled buildings, by firstly choosing non-toxic and re-useable materials as far as possible and then installing them in ways that facilitate easy disassembly, such as avoiding the use of glues etc.

### **Why FIEC is dealing with this issue/topic and its objective(s):**

FIEC supports the Circular Economy in construction. One of the obstacles to recycling and re-use is that materials are often toxic, or do not meet current safety standards, which have superseded those that were in place at the time of construction. Another obstacle is that materials have been installed in ways that make it impossible to recover them at disassembly or demolition stage. The Principles of Design for Deconstruction will help to explain how buildings can be better designed and constructed for maximum recycling and re-use opportunities. FIEC supports this work and is involved in the small stakeholder group dedicated to the development of the principles.

### **Actions and key dates :**

- 11/10/2018** – Meeting of Thematic Group 3, Design for Deconstruction Working Group
- 14/03/2019** – Meeting of Thematic Group 3, Design for Deconstruction Working Group
- October 2019** – Principles of Design for Deconstruction to be published.