Forthcoming Meeting

Call for Abstracts

International Conference on Construction in a Changing World

4-7 May 2014, Kandalama, Sri Lanka

The School of the Built Environment, University of Salford and CIB are pleased to announce the CIB 2014 International Conference on Construction in a Changing World, from 4th – 7th May 2014. The following CIB Working Commissions and Task Groups will join this major conference to be held in 2014 in making this one of the key international conferences in the field in 2014.

- CIB W055 Building Economics
- CIB W065 Organisation and Management of Construction
- CIB W089 Building Education and Research
- CIB W092 Procurement Systems
- CIB W096 Architectural Management
- CIB TG81 Global Construction Data
- CIB TG72 Public Private Partnership
- CIB W102 Information and Knowledge Management in Building

Background

Driven by technology innovation, demographic growth, environmental change, a new economic order and a strong undercurrent of social and political desire for change, the world is changing quickly. Construction doesn’t exist in isolation and, in a fast-changing world the sector has the vital role of providing the requisite built environment to meet the challenges presented by these changes. The CIB 2014 International Conference on Construction in a Changing World will bring together resources and knowledge across different fields, technologies and disciplines to deal with the major challenges that construction professionals will be confronted with in the coming years.

Conference Themes and Topics

The organisers of the conference welcome contributions from industry practitioners, researchers and academics. The themes of the conference include, but are not limited to:

Construction industry economics

In the context of Construction Industry Economics, the implications of this changing environment are many and varied. For example:
- Greater social mobility requires improved transport links, new housing is needed to deal with rising levels of urbanisation, social development needs a focus on infrastructure such as schools, water resources and treatment, communications and hospitals.
• Many of the world economies are still suffering the effects of a prolonged economic downturn in which austerity policies mean that construction activities are constrained and macroeconomic factors affect demand, labour availability, materials costs etc.
• A key element of responding to change in the context of the economic uncertainty we all face, is getting the forecasts right, recognising whole of life costs and promoting value for money spent.

Contributions on all aspects of Construction Industry Economics are welcome.

Global construction data

Following discussions at the TG81 meeting in Brisbane, papers on any aspects of global construction data would be welcome at the CIB W055 conference in Sri Lanka in 2014. Of particular interest are three main strands of research.

• First is papers relating to theoretical issues on making international comparisons of construction data, such as construction purchasing power parities, differences in definitions used in different countries, issues of data collection, sources of data.
• The second is country specific papers dealing with analyses of construction output, employment, the number of firms, market concentration and market growth rates, and imports and export.
• The third strand of relevance to TG81 is papers on company performance including turnover, profitability and the assets of construction firms.

Of course, papers on other relevant topics would also be welcome. For example, some members may be interested in issues such as the global impact of construction on sustainability, global property data, materials and the production of manufactured construction components, and national market institutional arrangements.

Our longer term outputs include a collected publication of our papers and the collection of national and sub-national construction data. Our data would then be freely accessible to inform further research and debate on issues affecting the wider research agenda and the implications for wider global and national economics.

Organisation and Management of Construction

The changing environment poses many challenges for organising and managing construction activity. We particularly welcome papers in the following themes:
• Innovation in construction
• Collaboration and integration in construction project management

• Construction data, and international measurement and comparisons
• Application of IT in building production management
• Design and Innovation for Sustainability
• Sustainable procurement
• Managing low-carbon construction
• Professional service firms
• Managing global projects
• Transition management
• Digital practices in construction

Education in the Built Environment

For Education in the Built Environment, technology continues to change the way we learn by offering ubiquitous access to better materials. It also impacts on the landscape for education and research as it removes boundaries and shrink distances. We are certainly on a journey, but where will it lead and how will we get there?

There is much uncertainty around the changing practices in education and much anxiety over questions such as:
• Will MOOCs make everyone redundant?
• How should we identify and share our best educational practice?
• How should education support business?
• Should educational providers lead or follow industry and practice?
• How to demonstrate the value of research skills to industry and practice?

These questions, and many more, will be debated at the conference and contributions on these issues and others related to Education in the Built Environment are welcomed.

Architectural management

With changing client needs and profiles and changes within the construction industry, the past decades have had wide implications for design professionals. Especially for designers with often smaller practices (SME’s) it’s difficult to cope with these changes adequately in terms of adapting their businesses as well as their knowledge management. Also the credit crunch has put the design practices under pressure.
Papers are invited under the following themes:

- The future of smaller architectural design practices
- The evolution of digital design practices
- Re-design business models for design practices
- Re-thinking services portfolio's of design practices
- Designer’s roles in renovation and transformation of buildings
- The role of designers and the upcoming economies
- Effects of new types of procurement on the design profession
- A changing world and a changing industry; implications for architectural education

Public Private Partnerships

Many worldwide changes, even upheavals and transformations, have been triggered, by recent financial crises, emerging priorities and critical issues, e.g., relating to environmental and sustainability concerns, leading to rethinking the relative roles of public and private sectors. Novel forms of PPP have emerged. Many are yet to be tested.

Research in PPP continues to grow, given the increasing challenges in implementation. Specific PPP related issues covered by research and related publications include: PPP Structures, Systems & Mechanisms, stakeholder management, project and corporate financing; risk and value management; market analysis, modelling and forecasting; relational contracting and relationship management, sustainability frameworks, project management, sustainable procurement strategies, capital structure decisions and management; statutory regulations in the PPP environment; developed and developing countries’ issues; transaction management, design quality, legal and contractual requirements, role of financial and insurance sectors; institutional and multilateral funding, life cycle analyses etc.

Papers are welcomed in any of the above and related areas, as well as on any other emerging PPP issues in a changing world. Examples of some specific topics in the PPP realm that may be addressed are:

- Decision Models / Frameworks
- Policies and Strategies
- Implementation – Needs and Issues
- PPP Markets
- Financing
- Performance
- Risk Management
- Relationship Management
- Sustainability of the developed infrastructure / services
- Governance & Institutions
- New challenges and Opportunities
- Managing Change & Innovation

Conference Venue

CIB 2014 is taking place at Kandalama Hotel, Sri Lanka. Occupying a most unique site in the cultural triangle’s heartland, the Geoffrey Bawa designed Kandalama Hotel is flanked by two UNESCO world heritage sites and is the first hotel in the world to be awarded the prestigious LEEDS Green Building Certification. Further details and images can be found here.

Abstracts

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is 18th October 2013. (The organisers are working on a very tight time scales)
For any other inquiries, regarding CIB 2014, please contact the conference organising committee at enquiries@cib2014.org.

Additional Information

The CIB2014 website at www.cib2014.org provides more details on the conference including themes, the calls for papers, important dates and the venue.

For further information about CIB W055 contact the Coordinators: Les Ruddock l.ruddock@salford.ac.uk and Sidney Newton s.newton@unsw.edu.au.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W055 here.

For W065 contact the Coordinators: Kalle Kähkönen kalle.e.kahkonen@tut.fi and Hans Wamelink j.w.f.wamelink@tudelft.nl.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W065 here.

For W089 contact the Coordinators: Martin Betts m.betts@qut.edu.au, Melvyn Lees Melvyn.Lees@bcu.ac.uk and Richard Burt rab0011@auburn.edu.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W089 here.
For W092 contact the Coordinators: Steve Rowlinson steverowlinson@hku.hk and Peter McDermott p.mcdermott@salford.ac.uk.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W092 here.

For W096 contact the Coordinators: Matthijs Prins M.Prins@tudelft.nl and Bob Giddings bob.giddings@northumbria.ac.uk.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W096 here.

For TG81 contact the Coordinator: Stephen Gruneberg S.Gruneberg@westminster.ac.uk.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB TG81 here.

For TG72 contact the Coordinators: Mohan Kumaraswamy mohan@hkucc.hku.hk and Akintola Akintoye aakintoye@uclan.ac.uk.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB TG72 here.

For W102 contact the Coordinators: Malik Khalfan malik.khalfan@rmit.edu.au and Charles Egbu c.o.egbu@salford.ac.uk.

You can find more information on the activities of CIB W102 here.