

FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 29 National Member Federations in 26 countries (23 EU & EFTA and Turkey) construction enterprises of all sizes, i.e. small and medium-sized enterprises as well as "global players", carrying out all forms of building and civil engineering activities.



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FIEC Press Release

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FIEC says YES to extension and reinforcement of Investment Plan for Europe

■ **“This is very good news!”** said FIEC President Jean-Louis Marchand after the announcement by Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on the extension and doubling of the Investment Plan for Europe in his speech on the State of the Union.

“As Vice-President Katainen stressed in his speech when addressing FIEC members at our latest Congress in June, the construction sector can play a key role in addressing the long-term societal challenges that Europe faces”, added President Marchand.

“But for construction enterprises to play our role in the economy, we need a stable investment strategy, as no investment means no growth, no jobs and no future!” he continued. “Prolonging and reinforcing the current Investment Plan is therefore very much welcomed by FIEC! This investment plan goes in the right direction and FIEC is contributing to promoting it amongst its members.”

He warned however: “The rationale of the Investment Plan is to mobilise private money. This is desperately needed, but many essential projects for EU competitiveness are not able to attract private money, as they do not offer acceptable returns or any return at all for private investors... At some point, public money must also be mobilised in as smart and efficient ways as possible!”

In this sense, FIEC recommends safeguarding and reinforcing those EU budget lines which successfully grant money to projects (i.e. Connecting Europe Facility and “Horizon 2020”).



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