Calculating Costs and Benefits for the use of Building Information Modelling in Public tenders

Methodology Handbook
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Methodology Handbook
The European construction ecosystem is at the centre of a tough but also promising set of economic, environmental and societal challenges. As one of the 14 industrial ecosystems in the European Union, it is responsible for almost 9% of the EU GDP, 7% of employment, and it is composed by 3.1 million businesses, most of them being SMEs.

The European Union has set the green and digital transition as high priorities for the years to come. The European Green Deal aims at transforming the European Union into a just and prosperous society with a modern, resource efficient and competitive economy. On the same time, the Commission is determined to make this a “Digital Decade for Europe”, with a clear focus on data, technology, and infrastructure and strengthen EU’s digital sovereignty.

The construction ecosystem is transforming, grasping the benefits of digital tools and technologies. Building Information Modelling (BIM) is one of the principal tools that transforms the construction ecosystem and the management and interventions to the built environment. The EU Public Procurement Directive of 2014 encourages public entities to use BIM when procuring for construction projects. On that basis, the European Commission has been collaborating with the EU BIM Task Group since 2016. The “EU handbook for the introduction of Building Information Modelling by the European public sector” was published in 2017 as one important result of this collaboration. The handbook, translated from English to 20 more languages, has been downloaded more than 30 000 times.

Certainly, there is more to be done in order to make BIM the norm in public procurement for construction. The methodology for a cost benefit analysis for the use of BIM in public procurement is one of the first deliverables of the Renovation Wave Communication (2020) and aims to build the case for the introduction of BIM in public procurement for individual public projects, by demonstrating costs and benefits from their perspective.

The methodology was developed as part of the service contract GRO-SME-20-F-101, EASME/2020/MV/0001 with three main objectives:

1. The creation of a model that measures the costs and benefits for using BIM in public construction projects, also taking into account expenditures, revenues and non-monetary benefits
2. The validation of this model, demonstrating its relevance and practical applicability through 6 case studies, representative of different types of projects
3. The drafting of an informative and easy-to-consult handbook, addressed to public entities in the EU that want to learn more about this model

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4 https://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/eu_public_directives_en.htm
5 http://www.eubim.eu/
6 http://www.eubim.eu/handbook/
Abstract

This handbook represents the work carried out by RINA Consulting S.p.A. and its subcontractor, B1P Group S.r.l. in the framework of the service contract GRO-SME-F-101 ‘Methodology for cost-benefit analysis for the use of Building Information Modelling (BIM) in public tenders’. The document is structured in five main chapters which present the analysis performed during the project and the results obtained. The first section introduces the topic developed in the following parts and presents the purpose of the handbook to the public entities who are the target group. The second chapter provides insights on the present status of BIM adoption in the public sector, through literature research, interviews and an on-line survey. The third and fourth sections represent the core of the document. The third chapter presents the developed cost-benefit analysis (CBA) tool, describing the approach and methodology used to create it and a step-by-step guide to learn how to simulate a cost-benefit analysis using the tool. The fourth section is a practical implementation of the CBA tool in six case studies, representing various types of projects (small-scale infrastructures and buildings with differing budgets and covering diverse phases of the life cycle), in order to show validation of the model. The last chapter includes the conclusions of all the work performed.
Acknowledgments

The production of this handbook is funded by the European Commission and the service contract EASME//2020/MV/001. The work performed in this service contract was steered by:

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Souheil Soubra: EU BIM Task Group, CSTB
Herve Busschaert, Corrado Marchetti: European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA)
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RINA Consulting and B1P Group would like to thank all the stakeholders from different public institutions for supporting the activities presented in this handbook, participating with their time and expertise in online surveys and phone interviews:

Belgium
Atelier Stadsbouwmeester, city of Antwerp
Municipality of Antwerpen

Bulgaria
Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works
UACEG (University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy)

Croatia
Arhitektura minimal d.o.o
Arhitektonski studio Helman i Jukić
Baldinistudio d.o.o.
Croatian Chamber of Chartered Geodetic Engineers (HKOIG)
Faculty of Architecture, University of Zagreb
Institute IGH jsc
State Geodetic Administration

Cyprus
Cyprus Energy Agency (CEA)

Czech Republic
Czech Agency for Standardisation (ČAS)
Regional Office of the Pardubice Region
Vysočina Region

Estonia
Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
Estonian Transport Agency
RB Rail AS (Rail Baltica)
Rigi Kinnisvara AS
TaTech (Tallinn University of Technology)
TTK UAS Tallinn Tehnikakõrgkool

Finland
Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency (FTIA)
VTT

France
AITENDERS
CEREMA
CHU de Dijon (Centre Hospitalier Universitaire)
EDF (Energy - Electricité de France)
Groupe ADP SA (Aeroports de Paris)
Ministère de la Transition Ecologique
SNCF Gares & Connexions
State Real Estate Directorate
University of Caen Normandy
VINCI
BIM in Motion

Germany
The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR)

Greece
BImA (Institute for Federal Real Estate)
BIM Design Hub
CERTH/ITI (Information Technologies Institute at the Centre for Research and Technology-Hellas)
Dekitis Consultant Engineers S.A.
HELLASCO (The Hellenic Association of Consulting Firms)
IsZEB (Intelligent Solutions for Zero and Positive Energy Buildings - DIH CNPC)
Ministry of Environment and Energy - General Secretariat of Spatial Planning and Urban Environment
PEDMEDE (Panhellenic Association of Engineers)
Technical Chamber of Greece (TCG)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ireland | Limerick Institute of Technology - Development Unit  
TU Dublin - School of Surveying and Construction Management |
| Italy   | A2A Ciclo Idrico S.p.A  
ACEA Elabori S.p.A.  
Aeroporti di Roma (the managing company of the Rome airport system)  
AICOM S.p.A.  
Anas S.p.A. - Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane Group  
Bank of Italy  
Calabria Region-Health Protection Department - Healthcare Construction and Technological Investments Sector  
DICATAM (Department of Civil Engineering Architecture Landscape Environment and Mathematics), University of Brescia  
Energia Calabria  
Ferrotramviaria S.p.A.  
Graphnet S.r.l  
Hexagon  
Institute for Building Information Modelling Italy (IBIMI)  
Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development - Laboratory Resources Valorisation (ENEA)  
IRE Liguria (Infrastructure Energy Recovery Ligurian Regional Agency)  
Italian State Property Agency  
Italian State Property Office, Liguria Regional Directorate  
Marche Region - Department of Health and Hospital Construction  
Ministry of Sustainable Infrastructures and Mobility  
Municipality of Bari  
Municipality of Florence  
Municipality of Genoa  
Municipality of Milan  
Municipality of Orsomano  
Municipality of San Lucido  
NKE  
Risorse per Roma SpA - In-house Agency of the City of Rome  
Roma Servizi per la Mobilita S.r.l.  
Piselli & Partners  
Polytechnic University of Bari, DICATECh Department of Civil, Environmental, Land, Construction and Chemistry  
Port System Authority of the Northern Tyrrenian Sea  
Sport e Salute S.p.A  
UniGE (University of Genoa) |
| Lithuania | LTG Infra  
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Municipality of Vilnius  
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Vilnius Development Company  
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Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST) |
| Norway | Norwegian Mapping Authority  
Statsbygg |
| Poland | Politechnika Poznańska (University of Poznań)  
Iscte - University Institute of Lisbon  
Câmara Municipal de Lisboa (Lisbon City Council)  
Lisbon School of Architecture  
XISPOLI – Engenharia, Lda |
| Portugal | Polish Technical University - Department of Construction Technology and Management |
| Romania | Cluj-napoca City Hall  
DRI upravljane investicij, d. o. o. (DRI Investment Management, Ltd.)  
Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia  
Slovenian National Building and Civil Engineering Institute  
Slovenian Infrastructure Agency  
University of Maribor  
ZRMK d.o.o. (Building and Civil Engineering Institute)  
ADIF (Railway Administrator) |
| Spain | ADIF (Railway Administrator)  
Barcelona City Council  
Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat Valenciana (FGV)  
Gorliz Town Council  
Ineco  
IteC - The Catalonia Institute of Construction Technology  
MITMA (Ministerio de Transportes, Movilidad y Agenda Urbana) |
| Switzerland | Federal Office of Topography swisstopo |
| Turkey | Municipality of Başakşehir |
| Latvia | Riga City Council Building Department  
State Joint-Stock Company ‘State real estate’ |
Construction is a strategic sector for the development of the European economy, and governments and public players are its largest client base. However, there are some commonly recognised problems that could affect the construction process: levels of collaboration, under-investment in technology and R&D and poor information management.

Implementing Building Information Modelling (BIM) could both solve these issues and bring further benefits to public and private stakeholders, although the method of effectively evaluating these benefits remains to be worked out. For this reason, EISMEA, under the powers delegated by DG GROW, announced a tender to develop a methodology for cost-benefit analysis for the use of BIM in public tenders. RINA Consulting S.p.A., together with its subcontractor, B1P Group S.r.l., were awarded this project that entered into force on 1 September 2020 and lasted for nine months. The implementation of the contract, funded by the COSME programme of the European Union, was supervised by an ad hoc ‘advisory board’ composed of representatives from the European Commission, EISMEA and the EU BIM Task Group (EUBIMTG).

The aim of the project was to develop a model which enables EU public clients to measure the costs and benefits of using BIM in their public construction projects. The project addressed three main objectives:

- **COST-BENEFIT MODEL DEVELOPMENT**
- **MODEL VALIDATION AND CASE STUDIES**
- **HANDBOOK CREATION**
OBJ 1 - Cost-Benefit Model development

The model for measuring the costs and benefits (both monetary and non-monetary) of using BIM in public construction projects enables EU public clients to assess the estimated advantages for their specific projects on their own. The consolidated cost-benefit analysis model is tailored to the needs and challenges of stakeholders involved in BIM adoption at various levels.

The model:

- leverages on extensive desk research aimed at obtaining a comprehensive overview of the actual cost-benefit models developed and applied for measuring the impacts of BIM adoption in private and public projects;
- is based on the identification and quantification of BIM-associated costs and benefits, properly weighted, by means of an online survey addressed to 122 stakeholders (mainly public entities at various administrative levels). This helped to understand the main challenges in the adoption of BIM and what the authorities consider as (monetary and non-monetary) costs and benefits;
- relies on validation of the desk research findings through 40 structured interviews;
- considers both financial and economic analyses which drive the users to the evaluation of the benefit-cost ratio to measure the value for money of using BIM, thus calculating the eventual profitability of using BIM in public projects;
- allows the performance of a sensitivity analysis to verify the robustness of the model, the risk grade deriving from critical variables in the project and the measurement of their impacts on the sustainability of the project.

OBJ 2 - Model Validation & Case Studies

The practical usage and relevance of the cost-benefit methodology was demonstrated with its application to several representative types of projects. It focused on small-scale infrastructures and buildings of various budgets and covered various phases of the life cycle (e.g., design, planning, construction and operation).

The new model was developed for its potential application throughout the entire European Union territory and for various framework conditions, as demonstrated through the analysis of the six case studies.

Each case study, representing various BIM maturity levels for specific types of assets and project life cycle phases, was analysed to estimate how the costs and benefits may differ when progressing from BIM level 0 to 1 and from BIM level 1 to 2.

The case studies are not strictly linked to a specific EU country or a specific project, but are valid for all EU Member States and applicable to various asset categories. The purpose is to show that the CBA model can be applied throughout the entire European Union territory, and to various framework conditions.

The intended outcome of the project is to provide the main beneficiaries of the model (e.g., public entities, policy makers, European Commission) with quantitative and qualitative arguments for using BIM for public construction works.

OBJ 3 - Handbook creation

The third objective was to compile this handbook, an easy-to-read and illustrated document to serve as a guideline for the EU public entities wishing to learn about the BIM cost-benefit analysis and use it.

The handbook includes the problem definition as the lack of clear costs and benefits associated with BIM and the approach used for identifying and measuring these. Furthermore, it presents the model developed to simulate the costs and benefits of adopting BIM in public projects and the case studies that can guide the users in understanding better and utilising the model.
## CONTENTS

1  **Introduction**  
   1.1 AEC Sector, Sustainability and BIM  
   1.2 Purpose of this handbook  
   1.3 How to use this handbook  
   1.4 Target groups  

2  **Where are we now? Background analysis**  
   2.1 BIM and public sector stakeholder needs  
   2.2 Literature review  
   2.3 On-site data collection: interviews and online survey results  

3  **Is BIM cost-effective for public entities?**  
   **Development of Cost-Benefit Analysis tool**  
   3.1 Approach: CBA, BIM and public authorities  
   3.2 Methodology: model for identifying and measuring potential costs and benefits  
   3.3 Guide: step-by-step procedure to simulate cost-benefit analysis  

4  **How to practice the CBA tool?**  
   **Validation through case studies**  
   4.1 Case study 1 - Conversion of an old building in a sport centre  
   4.2 Case study 2 - Maintenance and renovation project of a road  
   4.3 Case study 3 - New port construction project  
   4.4 Case study 4 - Renovation project for a public building  
   4.5 Case study 5 - BIM verification project  
   4.6 Case study 6 - New residential building construction project  

5  **Conclusions**  

6  **Abbreviations**
1 Introduction

1.1 AEC Sector, Sustainability and BIM
1.2 Purpose of this handbook
1.3 How to use this handbook
1.4 Target groups
1.1 AEC Sector, Sustainability and BIM

Digitalisation in the construction sector and its related monetary and non-monetary benefits is considered a key action for the improvement of the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry productivity. Subsequently, the overall development of the European economy would also be boosted considerably by digitalisation.

The construction sector is strategic because of its capability to generate incomes not only from the creation of new services and jobs but also from the delivery and maintenance of the built environment. In addition, the improved productivity of the AEC sector through the digitalisation of its processes could also generate high savings leading to economic upturn, especially at public level. The Government and public sector clients represent the construction industry’s single biggest client. Therefore, the investment in improving the construction process at public level, represented by BIM methodology, is fundamental in helping ensure the success of digitalisation in the construction sector.

The construction industry, especially in the public sector, faces some commonly recognized issues such as low levels of collaboration, under-investment in technology and research and development (R&D), as well as poor information management. These issues then create a chain of problems which end up affecting the construction framework, resulting in poor value for money, unpredictable cost overruns, late delivery of projects and more project changes than are necessary.

It is widely understood that positive returns on investment can be achieved with Building Information Modelling (BIM) implementation. There are two popular BIM maturity evaluation systems: the BIM maturity and the BIM maturity index levels (levels of initial/ad hoc, defined, managed, integrated and optimised). However, most organisations which are not familiar with BIM implementation or which are at the low maturity level refrain from adopting such comprehensive approaches, unaware of the related benefits of BIM process and how to evaluate them.

BIM, also known as n-D modelling, virtual model or virtual prototyping technology, can be defined as a collaborative process to produce, communicate and analyse construction projects using a digital information model throughout the project construction life cycle\(^1\,^2\).

BIM is at the centre of a digital transformation of the construction sector and the built environment. Governments and public procurers across Europe and around the world are recognising the value of BIM as a strategic enabler for cost, quality and policy goals. Many are taking proactive steps to foster the use of BIM in their construction sectors and public asset delivery and operations to secure these economic, environmental and social benefits.

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Benefits related to BIM have to be framed within the overall sustainability and environmental goals set for the AEC sector. There has been a large number of studies elaborating the benefits of using BIM in the construction industry. In less than ten years, more than 900 studies on BIM utilisation have been published as academic papers, and most of these illustrate how BIM could change the construction industry, increasing its productivity. Various studies have shown how effective BIM is and considerable effort has been put into identifying the benefits and obstacles of using it. The main recognised benefits that BIM technology can provide can be found in the life cycle cost control, in the effective construction process, design and quality improvement, decision-making support and risk management. Some of these benefits have a greater impact in specific projects (e.g., facility management) than others. Further benefits are also claimed in the ability to share information, in the reduction of construction and design errors, faster working environments, enhancing efficiency, operational efficiency, and so on. Therefore, with its three-dimensional ability combined with the versatility to control vast amounts of associated data, BIM is supported by many industry professionals as an effective tool for improving the construction industry.

The main recognised benefits that BIM technology can provide can be found in the life cycle cost control, in the effective construction process, design and quality improvement, decision-making support and risk management.

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1.2 Purpose of this handbook

This handbook will prepare the reader to apply the model developed for evaluating the costs and benefits of using Building Information Modelling (BIM) in public tenders without the need for any additional resources.

This informative, easy-to-read and illustrative handbook is aimed at public stakeholders who want to learn about BIM cost-benefit analysis and who wish to implement recommendations for the introduction of BIM as part of a wider change programme.

What the handbook IS:

- a document that clearly describes the new BIM cost-benefit methodology, and develops a theoretical map of how those benefits could drive public stakeholders toward BIM adoption and implementation
- a guideline for the identification of the costs and benefits of BIM, covering some aspects that, at the moment, are not so clear (e.g. cost-benefit ratio)
- a collection of strategic recommendations for widening BIM usage in the public construction sector
- a practical guide to replicate the proposed costs-benefit analysis (CBA) methodology and assess BIM process viability for any public tender

What the handbook IS NOT:

- a technical introduction to BIM (which is covered widely in other literature) or a development of standards that could ‘compete’ with documents produced by standards bodies, academia and industry association

The handbook includes:

- Problem definition (i.e., BIM can be beneficial although its cost-benefit ratio is not clear)
- The approach used for identifying and measuring the potential costs and benefits
- The model that public organisations can use to simulate the costs and benefits of their projects
- Case studies which could guide the model users in the methodology application and results interpretation
1.3 How to use this handbook

EU public authorities, for whom this handbook has been written, can use it to:

- promote the introduction of Building Information Modelling (BIM) in the public construction sector, one of the least digitalised industries. Many researchers have highlighted awareness of BIM implementation and its benefits as important aspects to encourage its adoption by industry as a new method of delivering projects. However, some aspects of BIM adoption still remain unanswered, for example, the method for working out the cost-benefit ratio; this handbook intends to address this issue.

- define a clear new cost-benefit analysis (CBA) BIM methodology for identifying and measuring potential costs and benefits.

- provide a practical and easy-to-understand model which can directly simulate costs and benefits in any construction project.

- describe practical case studies, to be considered as reference examples on how to use the CBA model.

- bring the current understanding of the AEC sector closer to the costs and benefits (both monetary and non-monetary) of using BIM in public tenders.

- stimulate, through a wider introduction of BIM and implementation of a new BIM cost-benefit methodology, competitiveness and economic growth while delivering value for public money.

- encourage greater dialogue across the public and private sectors for further collective actions, accelerating growth and fostering competitiveness in the construction sector, especially in the Small and Medium Size Enterprises (SMEs).

- provide support to enable Governments and public sector clients to transition construction to the digital era.
Public entities at various administrative levels (national, regional, local) are the main target groups of this handbook. However, the EU BIM Task Group has also identified the following target groups:

- Public policy makers involved in the development of policy for infrastructure or construction sectors
- National or local public clients/procurers primarily concerned with service procurement
- Operators responsible for the ongoing management and operation of the built asset or environment
2 Where are we now?  
Background analysis

2.1 BIM and public sector stakeholder needs
2.2 Literature review
2.3 On-site data collection: interviews and online survey results
Building Information Modelling (BIM) methodology is recognised as a strategic process for achieving digitalisation in the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry, especially in the public sector.

The adoption of BIM enables the cost, quality and policy goals to be met through its coordinated approach and the interoperability between all the disciplines involved in a building project.

2.1 BIM and public sector stakeholder needs

The public sector can benefit from the adoption of BIM in three distinct stakeholder roles:

• Public procurer or an infrastructure and estate owner concerned with the project phase (i.e., delivery of built assets)
• Public infrastructure and estate owner concerned with the operations and maintenance phase (i.e., use of public built assets)
• Policymaker concerned with the development of legislation, policy, regulations or standards for improving performance of the sector or built environment (i.e., sector focus)

The analysis performed during the project highlighted a heterogeneous status of BIM implementation and thus various levels of BIM maturity in the public sector across Europe. Even though most of the organisations displayed good knowledge of BIM processes, the perception is that this could be considered a fairly new methodology, not yet fully consolidated.

It is generally agreed that BIM could reduce the overall costs of a project during its life cycle, solving the collaboration issues and lowering the number of unexpected changes. Nevertheless, the lack of short-term benefits, together with a long payback period are listed as the main negative factors slowing down the uptake of BIM methodology. Cultural resistance to changes in the traditional procedures plus the lack of a legislative framework and an incentives system are seen as the main barriers to the development of BIM in the public sector.

However, on the positive side, several benefits are achieved from the adoption and use of BIM in a public organisation. These benefits include improved management of a construction project throughout its life cycle, reduced times when compared with the traditional processes and the achievement of a higher quality product. Indeed, the use of BIM processes allows storage of large amounts of data, cutting down on errors and unforeseen changes and collaboration and interaction with various disciplines.

The majority of public organisations which have adopted or are willing to implement BIM do so not only to produce Employer and Organisation Informative Requirements (EIR and OIR), but also to check the models and verify their compliance with the tendered specifications. The final goal is to improve the coordination activities, during the construction phase and the management and maintenance of the public asset, by having all the necessary information stored.

The lack of short-term benefits, together with a long payback period are listed as the main negative factors slowing down BIM adoption.

2.2 Literature review

Literature review has been a preliminary essential step in identifying costs and benefits of using BIM in public tenders. Five main scientific papers were selected to provide valuable information on other past cost-benefit analysis experiences. The information collected refers to the approaches used for measuring costs and benefits associated with BIM adoption. It was useful to evaluate how those methodologies were tested and validated through case studies and understand the main challenges faced by researchers. The information analysed also highlights the critical risks to be addressed during the design of the methodology. Seven additional literature sources were carefully examined in order to define a suitable list of indicators for capturing the most significant costs and benefits for the adoption of BIM in public tenders.

The key elements which emerged from the analysis of each resource were fundamental for the identification of indicators that a consistent cost-benefit analysis (CBA) should involve. The most significant costs and benefits reflecting the point of view of the public clients are summarised in the following table. It is worth highlighting that the literature review results have been reinterpreted considering the public clients’ perspectives.

### BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>MEASURABILITY AND COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Savings related to early clash detection</td>
<td>These items are related to the reduction of costs from the creation of a high-quality model which enables the detection of interferences and errors during the design phase, preventing expensive changes during the construction stage of a project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings related to prevention of changes in construction phase</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings associated with schedule reduction</td>
<td>These values are associated with the quantification of the time saved using BIM for a project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings associated with accuracy in quantity take-offs</td>
<td>This benefit is associated with more accurate estimates of the required material and the connected activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental benefits</td>
<td>The environmental benefit is associated with a reduction in the quantity of material wasted and so with the overall CO₂ emissions of the project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings associated with lower risks (enhanced certainty)</td>
<td>This value is an advantage for the enhanced certainty in expenses. After careful consideration, this benefit was excluded from the CBA as it does not reflect the condition of a large set of public clients across Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings realized in FM and maintenance activities</td>
<td>Savings made through BIM adoption in the operations phase (once the asset has been completed) are often referred to as those largest in size and being realised over a longer period of time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings associated with lower number of litigations</td>
<td>These last two items are event-related benefits whose quantification is strictly dependent upon the occurrence of an event, e.g., a litigation, a claim or an accident, and the associated costs of settling the individual negative issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings related to better H&amp;S</td>
<td>These are the most mentioned benefits connected to BIM adoption and cited in the majority of literature sources reviewed. This indicator was excluded from the CBA, as a credible universal estimate of this advantage in monetary terms could not be calculated, especially considering the ‘ex-ante’ nature of the analysis provided by the CBA methodology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ÍNDICATOR | MEASURABILITY AND COMMENTS
--- | ---
Hardware related investments | These three investment items were mentioned in various resources as the most relevant expenses associated to BIM adoption.
Software related investments | 
Training related expenses | 
Design phase cost/BIM model creation | This cost is associated with the BIM model creation expenses which are charged to the public entity.
Consulting costs | This expense appears to be significant (especially in the early stages of BIM adoption).

Besides the costs and benefits, several limitations and challenges which dealt with the employment of BIM in the construction industry were also reported by various authors. The research underlined that both a comprehensive database of BIM adoption experiences and a common baseline for evaluating BIM implementation impact are still missing. In this framework, the various costs and benefits have so far been quantified using diverse approaches, based on differing assumptions, reflecting the perspectives of diverse stakeholders and employing case-specific data.

The research underlined that both a comprehensive database of BIM adoption experiences and a common baseline for evaluating BIM implementation impact are still missing.

Main Reference methodology/study

- BIM Level 2 Benefits Measurement (the full report), PWC (2018)
- Building Information Modelling: Evaluating Tools for Maturity and Benefits Measurement, M. Kassem, J. Li et al., (2020)
- The project benefits of Building Information Modelling (BIM), D. Bryde, M. Broquetas, J. M. Volm (2012)
- How to Measure the Benefits of BIM, A Case Study Approach, K. Barlish (2011)
- Creation of Formula to Predict Time and Cost Benefit by Using 5D BIM Rather than Traditional Method of Construction, A. Khan and A. Muneeb (2019)
2.3 On-site data collection: interviews and online survey results

With the aim of accurately quantifying the indicators assessed through the literature review, an online survey was distributed to a list of public contractors and telephone interviews were conducted with selected stakeholders. This activity enabled the measurement, in practice, of the effects associated with the implementation of Building Information Modelling (BIM) in the public construction sector, through ad hoc questions and relying on the direct experience of public stakeholders.

Interviews results

40 stakeholders from various European countries were interviewed. They were able to provide helpful perspectives on BIM implementation in a public framework. Amongst these were public authorities, national companies, research institutes and universities. All participants supplied very interesting information based on their unique experience with BIM, not only from its direct adoption but also in their support for organisations which are implementing BIM.

The interviews were individual and semi-structured; the questions were focused on identifying the main costs and benefits and strengths and weaknesses of using BIM. The information which was collected and analysed further emphasised that BIM adoption in public procurements is a very long and complex process, more related to a deep cultural change towards digital thinking rather than simply the introduction of new software and hardware to support the regular work.

Two main topics emerged from the interviews:

- the main benefits, weaknesses, opportunities and threats found in the processes which lead a public administration to adopt and regularly use BIM in public procurements
- the costs associated with the integration of BIM methodology in the common procedures within a public organisation

A SWOT analysis was set up in order to present the results obtained in terms of strengths and weaknesses directly associated with the implementation of BIM. Threats and opportunities were also identified as barriers which could slow down the process or as vehicles to foster it.
### STRENGTHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>WEAKNESSES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improvement in management and coordination</td>
<td>Few or no benefits at the beginning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvement in maintenance activities - operation phase</td>
<td>Low productivity and additional effort required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of contingencies through improvement of clash detection and quality check</td>
<td>Specific knowledge and expertise required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved time management and efficiency in time scheduling</td>
<td>High costs of adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvement in costs estimation and information management</td>
<td>Complexity and lack of flexibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of total projects’ costs</td>
<td>Interoperability issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvement in projects’ quality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OPPORTUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>THREATS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regularisation and streamlining of the national AEC procedures</td>
<td>Lack of a clear regulatory framework and incentives for adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digitalisation of the aec sector</td>
<td>Cultural and procedural obstacles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific studies on and analyses of costs and benefits associated with BIM</td>
<td>Monopoly of certain software companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of a clear regulatory frameworks and introduction of incentives</td>
<td>High costs of adoption</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding the costs associated with the use of BIM, the main outcome of the interviews is that the initial costs of starting to use BIM methodologies are higher than the immediate benefits gained. These costs refer in particular to the necessary training for the staff and to the required software and hardware. It is commonly agreed that an estimate of the return of the investment associated with BIM adoption can be assessed only after several years from its implementation. However, after those initial expenditures, no more extra costs are identified and all the expenditures are completely absorbed by the projects’ costs. In this context, it is worth recalling that the point of view used to develop the methodology corresponds to the one of the public client/procurer and not to architectural or engineering firms’ nor to contractors’.

### AVERAGE COSTS FOR BIM ADOPTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training costs (cost/person)</th>
<th>Software licenses costs - modelling &amp; verification (person/year)</th>
<th>Hardware costs (cost/person)</th>
<th>Total costs (cost/person considering the first year of adoption)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 - 8 k€</td>
<td>8 – 10 k€</td>
<td>2 - 3 k€</td>
<td>15-20 k€</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Survey results

The invitation to complete the online survey was sent to more than 500 potential respondents in European countries and 122 of these complied. This sample is made up of respondents from various public and private entities categorised as: ‘national authority’, ‘local authority’, ‘state-owned company’, ‘university’, ‘association’, ‘research institute’ and ‘other’ comprising organisations which cannot be included in the previous categories (e.g., architectural firms, engineering firms, companies which are only partially state-owned, chambers of commerce and NGOs).

Each respondent was required to self-assess the BIM maturity level of their entity based on the descriptions contained in the table below, based on Bew’s and Richards’ study:

Almost 70% of respondents indicated that their organisation belongs to BIM maturity level 0 or 1. 26% belongs to BIM Maturity Level 2 while only 5% declared to be at BIM maturity level 3. (See Figure below) No statistically significant pattern was identified correlating the geographical location with a particular BIM maturity level.

BIM Maturity levels description (extracted from the survey)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIM Maturity Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 0</td>
<td>There is very little collaboration among stakeholders and 2D CAD drafting is employed - BIM is not adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Both 2D and 3D CAD drafting is employed and information on the project are shared among stakeholders through a Common Data Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Each stakeholder works on its own 3D model, but a federated model exists, time-management and cost-management information are shared among stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>All project stakeholders are working on a single shared 3D model and the model is employed also to carry out facility management and maintenance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The main results obtained from the survey show the current state of BIM adoption in the public construction sector: the project phases in which BIM is employed and the most common costs and benefits associated with each phase.

As indicated in the following graphs, it appears that most public procurers tend to adopt BIM in the design phase. The highest expenses, however, were found in the renovation projects, design and operations phases.

With regard to BIM associated benefits (and savings), most of the stakeholders agreed that BIM can generate a substantially positive impact during the operations phase (including facility management and maintenance activities).

This result is extremely interesting when combined with the fact that, as highlighted above, only a small percentage of respondents’ organisations (less than 20%) are employing BIM during this phase. Hence, it appears that the majority of public procurers expect to obtain substantial benefits from the BIM model used for facility management and maintenance activities.
Is BIM cost-effective for public entities?

Development of Cost-Benefit Analysis tool

3.1 Approach: CBA, BIM and public authorities
3.2 Methodology: model for identifying and measuring potential costs and benefits
3.3 Guide: step-by-step procedure to simulate cost-benefit analysis
3.1 Approach: CBA, BIM and public authorities

The need to produce such a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) tool relates to the fact that Building Information Modelling (BIM) is a critical driver in the digitalisation of the construction sector in Europe. Despite the many advantages that are often attributed to its employment, a consistent and replicable methodology for estimating BIM’s concrete impact on public tenders appears necessary to foster its adoption further. The tool enables EU public clients to assess the costs and advantages of adopting BIM in their specific projects. It was developed following a consolidated cost-benefit analysis methodology tailored to the needs of and challenges faced by public stakeholders.

The cost-benefit analysis tool was designed for ease-of-use by people with varying degrees of knowledge and experience of BIM.

The steps followed to reach this aim are reported below and are expanded upon in the previous and following chapters:

- Literature review and identification of main BIM cost-benefits
- Validation of the literature research through the on-site consultation phase: online surveys and telephone interviews
- Definition of the tool
- Application of the tool in practical case studies, representing various types of projects (small-scale infrastructures and buildings with differing budgets and covering diverse phases of the life cycle), in order to refine and validate the model

The definition of the tool followed the process described in the block diagram, starting with the monetary and non-monetary cost-benefit indicators identified and selected in the previous phases of this study. Next, it was assumed that each project follows a three-phase process, starting with ‘Planning and design’, then ‘Construction’ and, finally, ‘Operation and maintenance’. Ad hoc formulas were established for the computation of each indicator whose value was set to be automatically allocated over a time-period reflecting the project specifications. The difference between benefits and costs related to BIM adoption over the period enabled the computation of the project-related cashflow. In this context, benefits consist of savings arising from BIM adoption in the project, while costs relate to additional expenses associated with BIM implementation in the project and a share of the investments necessary for its adoption. The cashflow obtained, once discounted, led to the computation of the Net Present Value (NPV). Two versions of this indicator were considered: the NPV, addressing solely the financial viability of adopting BIM in the project, and the ENPV (Economic Net Present Value) which incorporates positive environmental and ‘social’ externalities in the analysis. When the value of these two indicators is positive (NPV\(\geq\)0 and ENPV\(\geq\)0), the implementation of BIM in the project is considered a sustainable solution. By analysing benefits and costs separately, it is possible to measure how much benefits exceed costs and how many euros are gained for each euro invested in BIM. This value is given by the Benefits-Costs Ratio (BCR) and is a measure of the so-called Value for Money (VfM).

The methodology was built to carry out an ex-ante assessment of the use of BIM in a public procurement process. In this framework the results cannot capture and reflect the information that could be easily collected through an ex-post analysis. Therefore, the tool relies heavily on preliminary established values in order to limit the amount and complexity of information required by the user. These values ensure that the tool can be used to assess the sustainability of adopting BIM in various investment projects, providing estimates of related costs and benefits.

By analysing benefits and costs separately, it is possible to measure how much benefits exceed costs and how many euros are gained for each euro invested in BIM.
3.2 Methodology: model for identifying and measuring potential costs and benefits

The work carried out during the project led to the creation of the CBA tool for estimating the costs and benefits of employing BIM in a construction project. As described in the previous chapters of this handbook, the study began with the review of several existing research projects and methodologies to measure benefits and costs associated with BIM adoption. The findings of the literature review process were combined with the results of the online survey, and discussed further during the interviews conducted throughout the study. These steps led to the definition of the list of cost and benefit indicators reported below.

### COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public entity personnel labour cost increase during pre-tendering phase</td>
<td>Costs related to lower productivity and additional effort required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public entity personnel labour cost increase during tendering phase</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public entity personnel labour cost increase during post-award phase</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased cost for consulting services to the public procurement process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM modelling activity cost</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public entity hardware upgrade investment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public entity annual software license fee</td>
<td>BIM related investment costs - share allocated to the specific project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel training costs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM coordination cost</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost reduction due to early clashes and errors detection with subsequent reduction of changes necessary during construction phase</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost reduction associated to more precise quantity take-offs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost reduction related to lower costs for claims/litigations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time savings in design and construction phases and associated project duration reduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public entity personnel labour cost reduction due to faster document analysis for facility management and maintenance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost reduction associated with more efficient annual maintenance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost reduction attributable to the government/society due to better Health &amp; Safety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO₂ emission reduction due to reduced material wasted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE WORK BEHIND THE CBA TOOL

Background computations

The CBA tool calculates most of the indicator values relying on a database created using the data collected in the online questionnaire. The computations of the cost and benefit indicators follow various approaches which were adopted to capture and reflect the specificities of each possible project assessed using the CBA tool. The value of a set of those indicators varies depending on the BIM maturity level considered; both level 1 and 2 scenarios are provided for each project.

As an example of how the CBA tool calculates the values of the costs, three diverse approaches are presented.

Approach 1 used to obtain the values of the following indicators

- Public entity personnel labour cost increase during pre-tendering phase
- Public entity personnel labour cost increase during tendering phase
- Public entity personnel labour cost increase during post-award phase
- Increased cost for consulting services to the public procurement process

When the investment cost of a project is indicated as an input, the method for calculating the values of these indicators can be described in three phases:

1. Computation of the public procurement process cost. From the survey results, an average percentage (whose value is dependent upon the investment value) was extracted. This percentage represents the public procurement process cost connected to the specific project investment in a scenario where BIM is not adopted. For example, for investments between 1 and 5 million euros, the public procurement process cost is represented by about 8.5% of the total investment value.

2. Extraction of four expense items (e.g., Public entity personnel labour cost) from the resulting cost of the procurement process (once again related to a baseline scenario without BIM). Each item represents a share of the procurement process value (the value of each share is once again obtained from the analysis of the survey results).

3. Application of a percentage increase representing additional costs, efforts and/or productivity reduction related to the use of BIM in the project.

At the same time, the BIM-related cost increase is dependent upon a set of additional variables which affect the related percentage used in each scenario. In particular, concerning the cost increase involving the pre-tendering and tendering phases of a procurement process, the additional variables impacting the computation are:

- The BIM maturity level of the scenario which is being considered (1 or 2)
- The level of experience of the public client with BIM (some or no experience)
- The ‘Project category’ (‘New asset construction’ or ‘Work on an existing asset’)

These factors increase or decrease the related expense item by pre-fixed percentages which were established following both discussions with stakeholders and experts and internal assumptions.
Approach 2 used to obtain the value of BIM modelling activity cost

The ‘BIM modelling activity cost’ computation follows a completely different process that was established on the analysis of six real case studies. In particular, it was possible to produce an ad hoc database in order to estimate the time necessary for 3D modelling an asset.

The assets of the case studies were modelled following the specifications of the relative tender documentation and recording the actual time necessary for this activity. Furthermore, the time required to perform additional activities such as the quantity take-off extraction was also recorded. These data were analysed and, after several tests and discussions, they were used to establish the basic effort time necessary to model different areas and MEP systems of individual assets.

In this framework, two slightly similar approaches were developed in order to differentiate the cases in which the asset under study can be categorised as “Building”, “Infrastructure” or as a “Mixed” asset (an infrastructural asset with building(s) included in its area).

The overall approach can be summarised in three phases:

1. Once the inputs related to the asset are inserted in the CBA tool, the resulting number of hours necessary for the 3D modelling activities are calculated based both on this information and on the internal database. The modelling time is established in relation to the level of detail of the model, the size of the areas to be modelled, their average level of complexity and the level of standardisation. The latter refers to the extent to which an area already modelled could be replicated in order to obtain other parts of the same building. A similar approach was also adopted for the systems whose modelling time depends on their complexity and the size of the area served.

2. The modelling time is then increased by a percentage which represents the activities to be developed after the modelling process. These activities can be summarised as follows: initial documentation analysis, production of 2D drawings from the 3D model, quantity take-off extraction and other activities foreseen by the tender specifications or by the public authority.

3. The resulting number of hours is subsequently priced in line with the national hourly cost of a BIM Specialist in the country where the asset is located.

The BIM coordination cost in the case of a scenario with BIM maturity level 1 is proportional to the modelling time and adjusted according to the complexity of the asset architecture, structure and systems.
### Approach 3 used to obtain the value of BIM related investment costs

For the computation of BIM-related investment costs, the approach can be explained directly through an example: the ‘Public entity hardware upgrade investment’. The methodology employs once again an average value extracted from the survey: the hardware upgrade cost per employee of the public organisation. In the context of this indicator computation, this average value is directly multiplied by the ratio of the number of employees involved in BIM-related activities (whose daily work is affected by the introduction of BIM in the organisation, who either need to start using new software and/or attend trainings) and the average number of projects using BIM in a year. It is a simple approach which enables the user to account for a limited share of the overall hardware upgrade investment in each organisation project.

### User’s input

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees involved in BIM related activities</td>
<td>needing to attend training and/or start to use BIM-related software</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of projects per year that adopt/will adopt BIM in case of organizations without prior experience with BIM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CBA Tool database

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hardware upgrade investment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Combination of the two user’s input to obtain the number of employees affected by BIM introduction assigned to each project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Combination of the previous result with the average hardware upgrade cost per employee extracted from the survey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CBA Tool output

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hardware upgrade investment allocated to the project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Considering an average cost per employee applied on every project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For each cost and benefit included in the methodology, the tool allows the user to select whether he/she is willing to exclude the specific indicator from the computation. This option was included to encompass scenarios where not all cost savings and cost increases occur simultaneously in the project. For example, a public organisation might want to avoid accounting for hardware-related investments while assessing the use of BIM in a project. It might also be willing to exclude the possibility that any reduction in the project schedule might occur in relation to BIM adoption.

With regard to benefits, computations are generally more straightforward as, for most of these, an average percentage extracted from the survey is directly applied to the estimated project-related investment. Once again, additional factors like those affecting the BIM impact on the procurement process cost, reported above, affect the computation. For example, the benefit related to early clashes and error detection is computed on the project construction investment, but its value is adjusted depending on:

- The level of detail (LOD) of the model (200, 350 or 450/500)
- The ‘Project category’ (‘New asset construction’ or ‘Work on an existing asset’)

Another example is represented by the ‘Cost reduction attributable to the government/society due to better Health & Safety’ for which an average number of accidents avoided per construction project was established and priced, based on an estimated average societal cost of work-related injuries and illnesses (per case) in Europe.

For each cost and benefit included in the methodology, the tool allows the user to select whether he/she is willing to exclude the specific indicator from the computation, in order to encompass scenarios where not all cost savings and cost increases occur simultaneously in the project.
**Allocation of the indicators along the project phases**

Once the basic value of each cost and benefit is established, it is allocated over the project period, depending on the duration of each phase. The ‘Planning and design’ phase duration varies between 1 and 5 years, the ‘Construction’ stage duration ranges between 1 and 10 years while the ‘Operation and maintenance’ is set at 20 years. Each indicator is allocated using one of the approaches indicated in the following examples:

1. ‘Cost reduction associated to more precise quantity take-offs’ is set to be allocated on the first year of each project construction phase.
2. ‘Cost reduction associated to more efficient annual maintenance’ reduces the annual maintenance cost of the asset and it is allocated on each year of the operation and maintenance phase.
3. The initial amount of the ‘Cost reduction related to lower costs for claims/litigations’ is divided by the number of years of ‘Planning and design’ and ‘Construction’ phases. The annual share of the indicator value is then allocated during the two phases and its yearly share values are adjusted for inflation.

The allocation of cost and benefit values throughout the project period enables the final computation of the main tool outputs: the financial and economic indicators measuring the profitability and the value for money of adopting BIM in a specific project. With this regard, the Net Present Value and the Economic Net Present Value as well as the Benefit-Cost Ratio and the Economic B/C Ratio are computed. Moreover, the ENPV and the Economic Benefit-Cost Ratio are calculated for each of the three phases of a construction project which are assessed in the analysis.

A final interesting feature of the CBA tool is the possibility, thanks to a sensitivity analysis, to assess three potential scenarios for each project, leading to three diverse results for each estimate:

- Baseline Estimate
- Optimistic Estimate
- Pessimistic Estimate

The scenarios are obtained through the variation in the values of eight critical variables (four associated with the computation of costs of adopting BIM in construction projects and four connected to the calculation of the related benefits). These are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITICAL VARIABLES</th>
<th>Values associated with the computation of costs of adopting BIM in public construction projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>investment reduction percentage associated with enhanced accuracy of BIM-based quantity take-off</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>investment reduction percentage associated with early clashes and error detection.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>investment reduction percentage associated with time savings during the design and construction phases of a project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reduction percentage associated with the operations phase related to enhanced efficiency in asset maintenance activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the public organisation procurement process cost</td>
<td>Values associated with the calculation of the related benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the annual BIM-related software investment allocated to the project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the BIM-related investment in training allocated to the project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM modelling and coordination costs (the modelling activity cost refers solely to BIM maturity level 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.3 Guide: step-by-step procedure to simulate cost-benefit analysis

This section will guide you through the different steps required to create the tool for calculating the costs and benefits of adopting BIM in public tenders by public organisations.

INPUTS REQUIRED

General rules for the Inputs page:

- The information required must be entered in the white spaces
- When cells are grey, the user should not type in any information
- Unless otherwise stated, all white cells must be completed
- Numerical information required might refer to specific values (such as the number of years), the selection of options (‘1’, ‘2’, ‘3’, etc.), monetary amounts (expressed in €), surface areas (expressed in m²) and percentages

1. Preliminary General Information (questions 1 to 11)

2. BIM Model Creation Information (questions 12 to 14)

3. Category of Asset Information (questions 15 to 26)
Preliminary General Information (questions 1 to 11)

Here you are required to answer a set of questions which serve to acquire general information on the use of BIM in the public organisation involved in the project, and on the characteristics of the projects where BIM is or might be adopted.

The user is required to provide information on:

- the organisation’s experience with BIM
- the number of tenders in which BIM is or is expected to be used every year
- the project costs and timing
- internal employees
- other specific data necessary for defining the main features of the project

BIM Model Creation Information (questions 12 to 14)

This section is made up of three questions respectively on:

- the level of detail (LOD) of the model needed in the tender
- the asset category (‘Building’, ‘Infrastructure’ and ‘Mixed’)
- the average cost of a BIM specialist in the country (for enabling the tool to adapt costs computations to the national context of the user)

Depending on the answer to the second of these questions, you will be required to fill in one, two or all subsequent sections as explained in the following point.
Category of Asset Information (questions 15 to 26)

- If the asset category indicated is ‘BUILDING’, you should complete the sections:
  - Architecture and Structure (questions 15 to 17): information on surface size, average level of complexity and the level of standardization based on the scales provided in the tool interface
  - MEP design (questions 18 to 21): information on the four systems (if present in the project) and as foreseen by the tool: heating, ventilation and air conditioning; refrigeration; piping; electrical and lighting and special systems

- If the category of the asset indicated in question 13 is ‘INFRASTRUCTURE’, you should complete the section:
  - Infrastructure Surface and Systems (questions 22 to 26): information on surface size, systems and their level of complexity (based on the provided scales)

- If the asset category indicated is ‘MIXED’, you should complete all the three sections described above.
FOCUS ON CATEGORY OF ASSET INFORMATION

The data required in the “category of asset information” are explained through the following examples.

Area surface category

- Surface < 25 m²
- 25 m² < Surface > 150 m²
- 150 m² < Surface < 300 m²
- Surface > 300 m²

**LOW**

E.g. a façade made up of a wall of a small number of simple windows and few architectural details

**HIGH**

E.g. a façade made up of a curved wall with a large number of architectural details typical of a historical building

Level of standardisation

**HIGH**

Very similar areas that can be duplicated with few adjustments

Area served by MEP systems

**BUILDING**

Sum the gross floor areas of all the rooms (e.g. area Room1+area Room2) served by a system and repeat it for each MEP system present in these rooms

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

Calculate the area served by MEP systems as a rectangular projection (only for the specific zones where there are systems) and repeat it for all the systems present
OUT PUTS OBTAINED

Results sheet

The ‘Results’ sheet shows the overall results of the application of the cost-benefit analysis on the adoption of BIM in your project both for BIM maturity level 1 and 2.

The five indicators that are computed according to the level of BIM maturity are:

- the Benefit-Cost Ratio
- the Net Present Value (NPV)
- the Economic Benefit-Cost Ratio
- the Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)

Additionally, the BIM direct expenses (model costs and coordination costs) are displayed along with the Economic Benefit-Cost Ratio and the Economic Net Present Value (ENPV) associated with each phase of the project (planning & design, construction, and operational and maintenance).

It must be highlighted that in the BIM level 2 section, there is no cost associated to the modelling activity.

Benefit Cost Ratio / Economic Benefit Cost Ratio

These indicators describe the relationship between the benefits and the costs associated to the adoption of BIM in the project. When their values are higher than 1, it means that the advantages (expressed in monetary terms) of using BIM in the project outweigh the cost of its implementation.

Net Present Value / Economic Net Present Value

These indicators are used to evaluate the profitability of an investment over a period of time. In the case of BIM, the profitability is expressed as achieved savings. The higher are these indicators values, the more “profitable” (in terms of financial savings and socio-economic benefits) is the adoption of BIM in the project. The ENPV includes in its computation social and environmental benefits while the NPV does not.
For each BIM maturity level, the tool performs a cost-benefit analysis on the use of BIM for the specific project (for which the user has provided information on the Inputs sheet).

For each BIM maturity level, there exists a sheet where eight benefits and nine costs are listed. Both costs and benefits are entered for the three typical project phases:

- the design and planning (up to 5 years)
- the Construction (up to 10 years after the design phase)
- the Operation and Maintenance phase (20 years after the construction phase)

The values included in the CBA are automatically computed and allocated starting from the information entered in the Input sheet.

On the top left of the page, the user can select which phases should be displayed (‘Planning and Design’, ‘Construction’, ‘Operation and Maintenance’ or ‘All phases’).

Subsequently, you can find the Free Cashflow that the tool computes and on the basis of which the following indicators are calculated:

- Economic Net Present Value
- Actualized Economic Benefits
- Actualized Economic Costs (Actualized Costs)
- Economic Benefit-Cost Ratio
- Yield

**NOTICE** that the **Discount Rate**, set at the standard value of 4%, is the unique value that the user can change in the excel sheet, according to the characteristics of the project.

- By scrolling down the page, you will see displayed the ENPV, the Economic B/C Ratio and the associated Free Cashflow for each of the three phases
- By scrolling down even further, you will see displayed the financial aspects inherent to the three phases of the project
4 How to practice the CBA tool?
Validation through case studies

4.1 Case study 1 - Conversion of an old building in a sport centre
4.2 Case study 2 - Maintenance and renovation project of a road
4.3 Case study 3 - New port construction project
4.4 Case study 4 - Renovation project for a public building
4.5 Case study 5 - BIM verification project
4.6 Case study 6 - New residential building construction project
4.1 CASE STUDY 1
Conversion of an old building in a sport centre

MAIN PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

DESCRIPTION

The building is an old and disused one-floor factory (around 8 metres high) on the edge of the city. The two longest façades are made from metal plates, which give an industrial look to the building, while the other two are brick walls with a simpler aspect.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT AND PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

The project destination is a sports centre for the community, composed of two different parts: a large ice rink and a small office and locker room with showers. All the rooms are situated in front of the ice rink area, where the grandstand for the events is located.

The interventions required are summarised as:

- demolition of the interior of the building
- creation of the space for the ice rink including all service mechanical, electrical, plumbing and special systems
- construction of two rooms and the permanent grandstand

Tender requirements

The tender requires the detailed design for the interventions described for the renovation project.

No particularly relevant solutions are foreseen from a technological, architectural or structural point of view. The creation of a BIM model is required in order to extract the drawings and the Quantity take-offs (QTO) from it.
### PRELIMINARY GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your organisation have previous experience with BIM?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In how many projects per year, on average, might BIM be adopted?</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project category (New asset construction / Work on an existing asset)</td>
<td>Work on an existing asset (No BIM model available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of planning (including design) (€)</td>
<td>106800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of construction (€)</td>
<td>1068000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for construction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for planning and design</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees that might be involved in BIM activities in case BIM is implemented in projects</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Floor Area (m²)</td>
<td>1680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the annual maintenance costs of the project asset</td>
<td>32172 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM coordination is carried out internally/externally?</td>
<td>Externally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual salary of an employee of your organisation (€)</td>
<td>15781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicate the inflation rate for the project period (%)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOD Required in the tender (200/350/450/500)</td>
<td>2 (350)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asset Category (Infrastructure/Building/Mixed)</td>
<td>2 (Building)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BIM MODEL CREATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area surface category</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Number of areas per category</th>
<th>Level of standardization (1/2/3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface &lt; 25 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 150 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 300 m²</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface &gt; 300 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MEP DESIGN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area served by the system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical (e.g. HVAC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>400 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1500 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 3000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>400 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special (e.g. safety systems)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Surface &lt; 400 m²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES

- The hourly cost of a BIM Specialist has been estimated starting from the data indicated in “BIM Salary Report” (2020 Edition), published by BIM Corner. It has been considered the average annual gross salary of a “BIM Technician/BIM Modeler” working in Poland. The hourly wage has been estimated and increased by 50%, assumed it as the company mark-up for the hourly rate charged to the public client.
- The average annual salary of employees of the public organisation has been extracted from the report (Ms Excel file) available at: https://stat.gov.pl/files/gfx/portalinformacyjny/en/defaultaktualnosci/3292/1/44/1/employment_wages_and_salaries_in_national_economy_in_2019.xlsx. The data employed refers to “Public administration and defence; compulsory social security.”
### ECONOMIC IMPACT

**Project General Indicators:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>€40,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit-Cost Ratio</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BIM direct expenses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIM Model Cost</td>
<td>€4,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM Coordination Cost</td>
<td>€1,775</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phase Focus:**

- **Operation and Maintenance**
  - ENPV: -€10,127
  - EBC Ratio: 0.81

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**

- Efficient maintenance: €54,575
- BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO): €37,268

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO₂ Emissions Reduction</td>
<td>€533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)</td>
<td>€158,506</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CONSIDERATIONS

- Despite the negative ENPV of the Operation and Maintenance phase, the overall project NPV is positive and the associated B/C Ratio is slightly higher than 1: the adoption of BIM in this case study is expected to be advantageous and sustainable.
- The most relevant indicators chosen for this case study are the benefits associated to enhanced accuracy of the quantity take off and improved efficiency in maintenance activities. The latter, despite presenting a substantial value, does not offset the cost associated with a BIM modelling software license, hence the ENPV of the maintenance phase appears to be negative.

### TIPS

Each cost and benefit indicator could be switched off if its calculation is considered not consistent with the project. In this case study, the full list of benefits and costs are calculated, so no indicator has been switched off.
# Outputs from the Tool

## Economic Impact

### Project General Indicators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>103,239 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit-Cost Ratio</td>
<td>2,15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BIM Direct Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIM Coordination Cost</td>
<td>3,301 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Phase Focus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>ENPV: 39,100 € - EBC Ratio: 1,73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operation and Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Most Relevant Economic Indicator:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Efficient maintenance</td>
<td>124,431 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO)</td>
<td>37,268 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Environmental Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO₂ Emissions Reduction</td>
<td>533 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)</td>
<td>221,330 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Considerations

- In this scenario, both the NPV and the B/C Ratio of the project are higher with respect to BIM maturity level 1.
- The values of the two most relevant indicators grew if compared to the BIM maturity level 1. In BIM maturity level 2 scenario, in fact, the benefit associated with enhanced efficiency in maintenance grew to such an extent that the operations and maintenance related ENPV is not anymore negative.

## Tips

In this scenario the full list of benefits and costs are calculated, so no indicator has been switched off.
4.2 CASE STUDY 2
Maintenance and renovation project of a road

MAIN PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

TIPOLOGY
INFRASTRUCTURE
renovation and maintenance

SIZE
34850 m²

BUDGET
11.052.564 €

LEVEL
DIGITAL TWIN

DESCRIPTION
The project involves renovation and maintenance interventions aimed at repairing and resurfacing substandard street pavements, providing new safety routes for citizens in several streets throughout the city.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT AND PLANNED INTERVENTIONS
The project includes various types of interventions such as maintenance and new installations. The main works involve the replacement of deteriorated road sections and the implementation of new traffic lights and road signs. Particular focus is placed on the underground sub-services, such as the MEP systems like sewers and electrical conduits, which must be connected to the existing network currently in use.

Tender requirements
In the tender documents, the public authority provides detailed design sheets of 2D drawings with the Bill of Quantities (BoQ) for each requested work. During the construction the BIM 3D - Digital Twin model is required including all the works to be carried out and each new element to be implemented for approval. The BIM team must use all the standards indicated by the public contractor’s BIM Manager in a Common Data Environment (CDE) provided by the public authority.

Example of 3D BIM model required: Digital Twin representation of a road portion
### PRELIMINARY GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your organisation have previous experience with BIM?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In how many projects per year, on average, might BIM be adopted?</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project category (New asset construction / Work on an existing asset)</td>
<td>Work on an existing asset (No BIM model available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of planning (including design) (€)</td>
<td>1004779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of construction (€)</td>
<td>10047785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for construction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for planning and design</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees that might be involved in BIM activities in case BIM is implemented in projects</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Floor Area (m²)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the annual maintenance costs of the project asset</td>
<td>2686 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM coordination is carried out internally/externally?</td>
<td>Externally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual salary of an employee of your organisation (€)</td>
<td>29004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is a Common Data Environment (CDE) going to be employed in the project?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicate the inflation rate for the project period (%)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BIM MODEL CREATION

| LOD Required in the tender (200/350/450/500) | 3 (450/500) |
| Asset Category (Infrastructure/Building/Mixed) | 1 (Infrastructure) |
| BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h)    | 23          |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFRASTRUCTURE SURFACE AND SYSTEMS</th>
<th>Total surface</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area served by the system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructures and systems</td>
<td>34850 m²</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mechanical</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21250 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21250 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Special</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21250 m²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES

- The hourly cost of a BIM Specialist has been estimated starting from the data indicated in “BIM Salary Report” (2020 Edition), published by BIM Corner. It has been considered the average annual gross salary of a “BIM Technician/BIM Modeler” working in France. The hourly wage has been estimated and increased by 50%, assumed it as the company mark-up for the hourly rate charged to the public client.
- The average annual salary of employees of the public organisation has been extracted from the report available at: https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/4647813#graphique-figure1. The data employed refers to employees from the “Fonction publique territoriale”
### Outputs from the Tool

#### Economic Impact

**Project General Indicators:**
- **Net Present Value (NPV):** 151,987 €
- **Benefit-Cost Ratio:** 1.69

**BIM direct expenses:**
- **BIM Model Cost:** 70,413 €
- **BIM Coordination Cost:** 40,623 €

**Phase Focus:**
- **Construction**
  - ENPV: 376,059 € - EBC Ratio: 3.80

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**
- **Clash Detection:** 237,339 €
- **BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO):** 0 €

#### Environmental Impact

**CO₂ Emissions Reduction:** 10,956 €
- **Economic Net Present Value (ENPV):** 281,252 €

#### Considerations

- Despite the large costs represented by the BIM modelling and coordination activities, and the absence of BIM related benefits during the design phase, the overall project NPV is positive and the associated B/C ratio is slightly higher than 1. In this sense, the use of BIM in this project can potentially be sustainable and lead to savings.
- The clash detection related benefit is the largest benefit achievable during the construction phase where the BIM model is used to obtain approvals before each construction step. This step, despite the allocation of BIM direct expenses still shows a positive ENPV.

#### Tips

- In this case study it is required the provision of a Digital Twin to be developed during the construction phase, so the benefit associated to the quantity take-off has been switched off as the design phase is assumed to be carried out without BIM.
- Considering the limited time-period in which the project is expected to be completed, the benefit related to the time saving has been deactivated. At the same time, assuming that the public organisation does not need any hardware upgrade, the corresponding cost item has been switched off.
OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

ECONOMIC IMPACT

**Project General Indicators:**

- **Net Present Value (NPV):** 595.306 €
- **Benefit-Cost Ratio:** 5.31

**BIM direct expenses:**

- **BIM Coordination Cost:** 30.746 €

**Phase Focus:**

- **Construction:** 751.394 € - EBC Ratio: 16.47

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**

- **Clash Detection:** 237.339 €
- **BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO):** 350.615 €

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- **CO₂ Emissions Reduction:** 10.956 €
- **Economic Net Present Value (ENPV):** 724.571 €

CONSIDERATIONS

- The overall project NPV and B/C ratios improved significantly from BIM maturity level 1 to level 2.
- The benefit related to the quantity take-off is considered in this scenario and it contributes significantly in improving the Construction phase Economic B/C Ratio value.

TIPS

- Differently from BIM maturity level 1 scenario, BIM is expected to be employed in all phases of a construction project, that is why, at BIM maturity level 2, also the quantity take-off related benefit is active.
- As for BIM maturity level 1 scenario, the hardware upgrade cost item and the benefit capturing time-savings are switched off.

4.3 CASE STUDY 3
New port construction project

MAIN PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

TIPOLOGY
INFRASTRUCTURE
new construction

SIZE
7203 m²

BUDGET
5.148.000 €

LEVEL
BASIC DESIGN

DESCRIPTION

The port is located on the inland coast of the country, overlooking one of the busiest stretches of sea in the region. It is developed for about three kilometres, parallel to the coastline, and the service structures are extended for over a kilometre on flat territory. The docks are uniformly constructed with a homogeneous structure and there are two buildings serving the mooring area for each dock.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT AND PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

The project focuses on the northernmost part of the lagoon, a bare area of land which separates the harbour from the sea where there a beach is situated a short distance from the current shoreline.

The construction of new docks and two buildings are the main interventions required by the project.

Tender requirements

No particularly relevant solutions are foreseen from a technological, architectural or structural point of view. The creation of a BIM model is required in order to extract the drawings and the QTO from it.

Example of 3D BIM model basic design detail required: dock’s structure
**PRELIMINARY GENERAL INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your organisation have previous experience with BIM?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In how many projects per year, on average, might BIM be adopted?</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project category (New asset construction / Work on an existing asset)</td>
<td>New asset construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of planning (including design) (€)</td>
<td>468000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of construction (€)</td>
<td>4680000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for construction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for planning and design</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees that might be involved in BIM activities in case BIM is implemented in projects</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Floor Area (m²)</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the annual maintenance costs of the project asset</td>
<td>23400 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM coordination is carried out internally/externally?</td>
<td>Externally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual salary of an employee of your organisation (€)</td>
<td>36430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is a Common Data Environment (CDE) going to be employed in the project?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicate the inflation rate for the project period (%)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BIM MODEL CREATION**

| LOD Required in the tender (200/350/450/500) | 1 (200) |
| Asset Category (Infrastructure/Building/Mixed) | 3 (Mixed) |
| BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h) | 25 |

**ARCHITECTURE AND STRUCTURE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area surface category</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Number of areas per category</th>
<th>Level of standardization (1/2/3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface &lt; 25 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 m²&lt; Surface &lt; 150 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 m²&lt; Surface &lt; 300 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface &gt; 300 m²</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEP DESIGN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area served by the system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical (e.g. HVAC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>400 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>400 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>400 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special (e.g. safety systems)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INFRASTRUCTURE SURFACE AND SYSTEMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total surface</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area served by the system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6890 m²</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mechanical</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5200 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5200 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Special</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project General Indicators:

- Net Present Value (NPV): €211,164
- Benefit-Cost Ratio: 2.72

BIM direct expenses:

- BIM Model Cost: €10,329
- BIM Coordination Cost: €4,537

Phase Focus:

- Planning & Design
  - ENPV: €-38,372, EBC Ratio: 0.35

Most Relevant Economic Indicator:

- Efficient Maintenance: €39,695
- BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO): €163,307

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- CO₂ Emissions Reduction: €4,575
- Economic Net Present Value (ENPV): €333,065

CONSIDERATIONS

- Although the costs associated to BIM adoption during the planning & design phase are exceeding benefits, the overall project NPV and B/C Ratio are still indicating that the use of BIM might still be advantageous in this case study.
- The value of the benefit associated with savings connected to more efficient maintenance activities, despite being referred to a 20 years' time-period, appears to be limited.

TIPS

- Considering the limited time-period required for the design and construction phases of the project, no substantial time-savings are expected for this case study, so the corresponding benefit has been deactivated.
- It is assumed that no additional consulting services supporting the public procurement process are necessary (the corresponding cost item has been switched off).
OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project General Indicators:

- **Net Present Value (NPV)**: 248,079 €
- **Benefit-Cost Ratio**: 2.96

**BIM direct expenses:**

- **BIM Coordination Cost**: 14,464 €

**Phase Focus:**

- **Planning & Design**
  - ENPV: -26,331 € - EBC Ratio: 0.47

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**

- **Efficient Maintenance**: 90,504 €
- **BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO)**: 163,307 €

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- **CO₂ Emissions Reduction**: 4,575 €
- **Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)**: 369,980 €

CONSIDERATIONS

- In this case study, it appears that the shift from BIM maturity level 1 to level 2 does not bring a large improvement to the NPV and the B/C Ratio.
- At BIM maturity level 2, the situation of the planning & design phase is slightly improving its ENPV, even if it remains negative as for BIM maturity level 1.
- The savings generated through enhanced efficiency in maintenance activities is instead significantly increasing at BIM maturity level 2.
4.4 CASE STUDY 4
Renovation project for a public building

DESCRIPTION

The building is an existing five-storey school located in the centre of a metropolis. The structure is made of concrete and masonry elements.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT AND PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

The main objective of the project is the interior renovation of the building, including the reconfiguration of the existing walls and floors, to accommodate new classrooms such as art classrooms, performing arts, gymnasium and widened hallways. The construction of new wheelchair-accessible restrooms is also planned, together with high-end MEP systems improvements, including all the electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems. No interventions are foreseen for the external parts of the building, but the courtyard with the existing asphalt playing field must be demolished together with the fencing and netting, and proper disposal of all demolished materials must be considered. The new project includes the construction of a basketball court using high-end materials.

Tender requirements

In the tender documents, the public authority provides the basic design sheets of 2D drawings and requires a 3D BIM model during each work stage required.

During construction, the 3D BIM - Digital Twin model is required. This includes all the works to be carried out and each new element to be implemented for approval. The BIM team must use all the standards indicated by the public contractor’s BIM Manager in a Common Data Environment (CDE) provided by the public authority.
### Preliminary General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your organisation have previous experience with BIM?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In how many projects is BIM adopted, every year, on average?</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project category (New asset construction / Work on an existing asset)</td>
<td>Work on an existing asset (No BIM model available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of planning (including design) (€)</td>
<td>1190000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of construction (€)</td>
<td>11900000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for construction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for planning and design</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees of your organisation that are involved in BIM related activities?</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Floor Area (m²)</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the annual maintenance costs of the project asset</td>
<td>65497 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM coordination is carried out internally/externally?</td>
<td>Externally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual salary of an employee of your organisation (€)</td>
<td>52464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is a Common Data Environment (CDE) going to be employed in the project?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicate the inflation rate for the project period (%)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOD Required in the tender (200/350/450/500)</td>
<td>3 (450/500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asset Category (Infrastructure/Building/Mixed)</td>
<td>2 (Building)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BIM Model Creation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area surface category</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Number of areas per category</th>
<th>Level of standardization (1/2/3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface &lt; 25 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>25 m² ≤ Surface &lt; 150 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>150 m² ≤ Surface &lt; 300 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface &gt; 300 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Architecture and Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area served by the system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical (e.g. HVAC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3000 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 5000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>400 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1500 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 3000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special (e.g. safety systems)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MEP Design

**Notes**

- The hourly cost of a BIM Specialist has been estimated starting from the data indicated in “BIM Salary Report” (2020 Edition), published by BIM Corner. In this case study, it has been considered the average annual gross salary of a “BIM Technician/ BIM Modeler” working in Belgium (prudentially slightly increased to be aligned with the values considered for the other case studies). The hourly wage has been estimated and increased by 50%, assumed it as the company mark-up for the hourly rate charged to the public client.
- The average annual salary of employees of the public organisation involved in this project, has been extracted from the report of Statbel (Ms Excel file) available at: https://statbel.fgov.be/sites/default/files/files/documents/Werk%20%26%20opleiding/9.1%20Lonen%20en%20arbeidskosten/9.12.%20Gemiddelde%20bruto%20maandlonen/SES2016_FR.xls. Data employed refers to “Architectes, urbanistes et géomètres”
### ECONOMIC IMPACT

#### Project General Indicators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>403,327 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit-Cost Ratio</td>
<td>3,44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### BIM direct expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIM Model Cost</td>
<td>41,411 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM Coordination Cost</td>
<td>21,237 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Phase Focus:

**Construction**  
ENPV: 545,814 € - EBC Ratio: 7,70

#### Most Relevant Economic Indicator:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Efficient Maintenance</td>
<td>113,328 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-Savings</td>
<td>238,361 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO₂ Emissions Reduction</td>
<td>1,283 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)</td>
<td>520,975 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CONSIDERATIONS

- The NPV and the B/C ratio highlight the profitability, expressed as savings, of the investment in BIM and its subsequent use in the project. In this scenario a Digital Twin is required, so the modelling activity cost is allocated during the construction phase, as 3D models are used for review and approval before each construction stage.
- The two most relevant indicators reported for this case study refer to the savings generated by an increased efficiency in the asset maintenance activities as well as the time-savings obtained during the three years of the construction stage of the project.

### TIPS

- In this case study three indicators have been switched off as they are not considered consistent with the project of this scenario:
  - the savings associated with the reduction of the number of claims and litigations.
  - the savings related to the enhanced accuracy of the quantity take-off, as BIM has not been employed during the design phase.
  - regarding costs, no increase in effort is required during the post-award phase due to the adoption of BIM.
OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project General Indicators:

- **Net Present Value (NPV)**: 1,130,822 €
- **Benefit-Cost Ratio**: 8,53

**BIM direct expenses:**

- **BIM Coordination Cost**: 37,147 €

**Phase Focus:**

- **Construction**
- **ENPV**: 1,097,797 € - **EBC Ratio**: 19,51

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**

- **Efficient Maintenance**: 258,388 €
- **Time-Savings**: 472,079 €

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- **CO₂ Emissions Reduction**: 1,283 €
- **Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)**: 1,248,470 €

**CONSIDERATIONS**

- The NPV and the Benefit-Cost ratio are showing that the use of BIM in the project is advantageous, with even larger potential benefits with respect to maturity level 1 scenario.
- The NPV of the construction phase almost doubles its value from the maturity level 1 to the level 2.
- The values of the two most relevant indicators are higher in this scenario than in BIM maturity level 1. The CBA tool in fact foresees an increase of these two benefits at the maturity level 2.

**TIPS**

- The indicators related to savings associated with a reduction in expenses for claims and litigations and the labor cost increase during the post-award phase are both switched off.
- Differently from the previous scenario, the indicator representing savings arising from the enhanced accuracy of the quantity take-off is active as, in case of BIM maturity level 2, BIM is employed in all phases of the project life-cycle.
4.5 CASE STUDY 5
BIM verification project

MAIN PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

TIPOLOGY

BUILDING verification

SIZE

4000 m²

BUDGET

26.880.000 €

LEVEL

DETAILED DESIGN

DESCRIPTION

The building is a new built, highly specialised state hospital. The public authority is the main stakeholder of the construction which has been designed by international architects and structural engineers using high-end technical and design solutions. The contracting authority prepared all the design activities, using a highly specialised and controlled BIM process, through consolidated contract documents shared with the key design stakeholders. There are currently multi-disciplinary coordinated BIM models, where each element is listed and can be found with the same name, in the QtO and construction schedule documents.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT AND TENDER REQUIREMENTS

The contracting authority requires the verification of the BIM process implementation by considering the following activities:

- study of the documentation related to the design phase, in particular both the contractual documents concerning the BIM process and the documents produced after the analysis of the entire procedure, which led to the production of each design content
- verification of the BIM models produced during the design phase, checking the correspondence of the information in the models with those required by the contractual documents.
- open discussion between the designers and the contracting authority to settle any unresolved points and problems encountered

Example of 3D BIM coordinated model to be verified: portion of MEP systems and architectural elements
Does your organisation have previous experience with BIM? | Yes
---|---
In how many projects is BIM adopted, every year, on average? | 8
Project category (New asset construction / Work on an existing asset) | New asset construction
Cost of planning (including design) (€) | 3600000
Cost of construction (€) | 23280000
Number of years for construction | 4
Number of years for planning and design | 2
Number of employees of your organisation that are involved in BIM related activities? | 28
Gross Floor Area (m²) | 4000
Cost of annual maintenance of the completed asset | 219.708 €
BIM coordination is carried out internally/externally? | Externally
Average annual salary of an employee of your organisation (€) | 50837
Is a Common Data Environment (CDE) going to be employed in the project? | Yes
Indicate the inflation rate for the project period (%) | 2

**BIM Model Creation**

| LOD Required in the tender (200/350/450/500) | 2 (350)
| Asset Category (Infrastructure/Building/Mixed) | 2 (Building)
| BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h) | 43

**Architecture and Structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area surface category</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Number of areas per category</th>
<th>Level of standardization (1/2/3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface &lt; 25 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 m²&lt; Surface &lt; 150 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 m²&lt; Surface &lt; 300 m²</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface &gt; 300 m²</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEP Design**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area served by the system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical (e.g. HVAC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1500 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 3000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1500 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 3000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3000 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 5000 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special (e.g. safety systems)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1500 m² &lt; Surface &lt; 3000 m²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

- The hourly cost of a BIM Specialist has been estimated starting from the data indicated in “BIM Salary Report” (2020 Edition), published by BIM Corner. In this case study, it has been considered the average annual gross salary of a “BIM Technician/BIM Modeler” working in Germany. The hourly wage has been estimated and increased by 50%, assumed it as the company mark-up for the hourly rate charged to the public client.
- The average annual salary of employees of the public organisation has been extracted from the report available at: https://www.destatis.de/EN/Themes/Labour/Earnings/Earnings-Earnings-Differences/Tables/yearly-gross-earnings.html. The data employed refers to “Public administration and defence; compulsory social security”
## OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

#### Project General Indicators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>1,633,533 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit-Cost Ratio</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BIM direct expenses:**

- **BIM Model Cost**: 33,626 €
- **BIM Coordination Cost**: 22,992 €

**Phase Focus:**

- **Operation and Maintenance**
  - ENPV: 234,894 € - EBC Ratio: 5.15

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**

- **Efficient Maintenance**: 395,515 €
- **Clash Detection**: 577,948 €

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO$_2$ Emissions Reduction</td>
<td>2,643 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)</td>
<td>1,748,967 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CONSIDERATIONS

- The positive ENPV estimated for the operation and maintenance phase is contributing to the potential substantially high NPV result for the overall project. A very high B/C Ratio is estimated to be achievable during the project lifecycle. In this framework the adoption of BIM for this scenario is expected to be advantageous and sustainable.
- The most relevant indicator in this case study refers to the enhanced efficiency in maintenance, where the value reported is the sum of the annual savings realized over a period of 20 years. The other relevant benefit is associated with the clash detection allocated along the construction phase.

### TIPS

- The indicators representing the decreased productivity during the pre-tendering and tendering phases of the project have been switched off assuming that the public organisation involved in the project has already extensive experience with BIM and so no lowered productivity is foreseen. At the same time, also the benefit representing time-savings has been switched off in this scenario.

---

48
**OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL**

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

**Project General Indicators:**
- **Net Present Value (NPV):** 1,930,283 €
- **Benefit-Cost Ratio:** 10.60

**BIM direct expenses:**
- **BIM Coordination Cost:** 74,871 €

**Phase Focus:**
- **Operation and Maintenance:**
  - ENPV: 587,393 € - EBC Ratio: 11.39

**Most Relevant Economic Indicator:**
- **Efficient Maintenance:** 901,773 €
- **Clash Detection:** 577,948 €

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- **CO₂ Emissions Reduction:** 2,643 €
- **Economic Net Present Value (ENPV):** 2,045,718 €

**CONSIDERATIONS**
- The overall project NPV and B/C ratio are suggesting that the adoption of BIM in the project is expected to be potentially highly advantageous. No negative ENPV are expected in any phase.
- The indicator representing savings from an improved efficiency in maintenance activities is expected to increase its value from maturity level 1 to maturity level 2. At the same time, the benefit connected to clash detection is assumed to be independent from the BIM maturity level.

**TIPS**
- The same economic indicators switched off in the BIM maturity level 1 scenario have not been considered here either, as they are identified as not consistent with the project.
4.6 CASE STUDY 6
New residential building construction project

MAIN PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

BUILDING
new construction

SIZE
1800 m²

BUDGET
2.307.780 €

LEVEL
BASIC DESIGN

DESCRIPTION

The project is the construction of a new residential building in the suburbs of a metropolis.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT AND PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

The new building must be a rectangular residential building with three floors connected by an internal staircase and an elevator. The functional characteristics and the distribution of the various floors must comply with the following requirements:

- the ground floor must consist of 10 standard housing units, a technical room, an entrance hall, and a distribution staircase with an elevator
- the entrance hall must be accessible from the main doors and must be connected to a central corridor with the entrance to the housing units
- each flat, which must be big enough to house four people or a small family unit, will consist of an entrance area in front of the living room, two bedrooms each with a balcony, a small kitchen and a toilet designed for disabled people
- the balconies in the bedrooms must be designed to respect the privacy of the other flats so the tenderer must use shades or different architectural elements to achieve this
- the stairway/elevator connecting the three floors must have windows on the external facades to allow adequate lighting and natural ventilation
- two external steel safety stairs must be located on the sides of the building

Tender requirements

The public tender requires the basic design for the interventions described in the new construction project. The creation of a BIM model is required in order to extract the drawings and the QTO from it.
### Preliminary General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your organisation have previous experience with BIM?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In how many projects per year, on average, might BIM be adopted?</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project category (New asset construction / Work on an existing asset)</td>
<td>New asset construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of planning (including design) (€)</td>
<td>69000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of construction (€)</td>
<td>2238780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for construction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years for planning and design</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees that might be involved in BIM activities in case BIM is implemented in projects</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Floor Area (m$^2$)</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of the annual maintenance costs of the project asset</td>
<td>29874 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM coordination is carried out internally/externally?</td>
<td>Externally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual salary of an employee of your organisation (€)</td>
<td>36430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is a Common Data Environment (CDE) going to be employed in the project?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicate the inflation rate for the project period (%)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BIM Model Creation

| LOD Required in the tender (200/350/450/500) | 1 (200) |
| Asset Category (Infrastructure/Building/Mixed) | 2 (Building) |
| BIM Specialist national hourly cost (€/h) | 25 |

### Architecture and Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Surface Category</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of Complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Number of Areas per Category</th>
<th>Level of Standardization (1/2/3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface &lt; 25 m$^2$</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>125</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 m$^2$ &lt; Surface &lt; 150 m$^2$</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 m$^2$ &lt; Surface &lt; 300 m$^2$</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface &gt; 300 m$^2$</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MEP Design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>Level of Complexity (1/2/3)</th>
<th>Area Served by the System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical (e.g. HVAC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>400 m$^2$ &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m$^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piping</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Surface &lt; 400 m$^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and lighting</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1500 m$^2$ &lt; Surface &lt; 3000 m$^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special (e.g. safety systems)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>400 m$^2$ &lt; Surface &lt; 1500 m$^2$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

- The hourly cost of a BIM Specialist has been estimated starting from the data indicated in “BIM Salary Report” (2020 Edition), published by BIM Corner. It has been considered the average annual gross salary of a “BIM Technician/BIM Modeler” working in Italy. This data has been increased by 50%, assumed it as the company markup for the hourly rate charged to the public client.
- The average annual salary of employees of the public organisation has been extracted from the report (Ms Excel file) available at: https://www.istat.it/it/files//2021/03/Tavole_ses2018.xlsx. The data employed refers to “Public control”
OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project General Indicators:

- **Net Present Value (NPV)**: 58,758 €
- **Benefit-Cost Ratio**: 1.60

BIM direct expenses:

- **BIM Model Cost**: 7,883 €
- **BIM Coordination Cost**: 2,223 €

Phase Focus:

- **Planning & Design**
  - ENPV: -39,813 € - EBC Ratio: -

Most Relevant Economic Indicator:

- **Clash Detection**: 39,662 €
- **BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO)**: 78,122 €

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- **CO₂ Emissions Reduction**: 1,132 €
- **Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)**: 178,576 €

**CONSIDERATIONS**

- The overall project Benefit-Cost Ratio is higher than 1 and the associated Net Present Value resulting estimate is positive: the adoption of BIM in this case study is expected to be advantageous and sustainable.
- This positive potential result is obtained despite the negative ENPV of the Planning and Design phase, that is expected to be offset by a high value during the year of construction.
- The values of the most relevant economic indicators reported are those adjusted for inflations set at 2% and allocated over the Construction phase.

**TIPS**

In this case study, the hardware upgrade investment has not been considered and the related cost has been switched off, as it has been assumed that the current hardware of the public organisation involved in the project is already enabling a smooth adoption of BIM. The benefit representing the savings through the reduction of claims and litigations and the benefit related to the time-savings have been both switched off.
OUTPUTS FROM THE TOOL

BIM MATURITY LEVEL 2

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project General Indicators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>100.715 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit-Cost Ratio</td>
<td>2.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BIM direct expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIM Coordination Cost</td>
<td>6.851 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Phase Focus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>ENPV</th>
<th>EBC Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning &amp; Design</td>
<td>-34.649 €</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most Relevant Economic Indicator:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clash Detection</td>
<td>39.662 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM based Quantity Take-Off (QTO)</td>
<td>78.122 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO₂ Emissions Reduction</td>
<td>1.132 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Net Present Value (ENPV)</td>
<td>220.533 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONSIDERATIONS

- The NPV and the Cost-Benefit ratio are suggesting that the adoption of BIM in the project is expected to be sustainable. In addition, considering the same phase as for BIM maturity level 1, the planning and design ENPV is not anymore negative.
- The values of the two most relevant indicators are equal to that for BIM maturity level 1. The CBA tool, in fact, does not foresee any increase of these two benefits shifting from one maturity level to the other. One of the reasons leading to this result relates to the fact that BIM maturity level 2 entails that, as a standard practice, the design activity is carried out using BIM, that is why no cost associated with this activity is charged to the public client.

TIPS

The same economic indicators switched off in the BIM maturity level 1 scenario have not been considered here either, as they are identified as not consistent with the project.
5 Conclusions
Fostering BIM adoption in the construction industry, starting from its use in public tendering, is a key issue to address in order to improve the industry performance and pave the way toward digitalization.

However, this study showed a lack of awareness by public procurers about the benefits of using BIM and how these benefits could in part, or totally, compensate the costs of its adoption.

Thus, this study and the developed cost-benefit analysis tool (CBA) for the use of BIM in public tenders aim to educate public procurers and enable them to estimate, ex-ante, the benefit-cost ratio of the adoption/decision for a specific foreseen investment.

The tool presented in this handbook, in fact, provides an investment-specific CBA which supports public decision-making case by case.

It is worth emphasising that the focus on public tenders has lead to the need for measuring not only the financial benefits (for example, savings due to precise quantity take-offs) but also economic benefits more related to the socio-environmental field (for example, reduction of wastes and CO2 emissions). For this reason, two clusters of performance indicators have been created to measure the viability of using BIM in an investment project: NPV and BC ratio, from a financial point of view, ENPV and EBC ratio, from the economic one.

The testing of the tool on six case studies has provided robust results, however, users’ feedback could lead to further improvements in the future.
6 Abbreviations
# 6 Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEC</td>
<td>Architecture, Engineering and Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCR</td>
<td>Benefit-Cost Ratio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>Benefit-Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM</td>
<td>Building Information Modelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BoQ</td>
<td>Bill of Quantities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBA</td>
<td>Cost-Benefit Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDE</td>
<td>Common Data Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSME</td>
<td>EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG GROW</td>
<td>The Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASME</td>
<td>Executive Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBC</td>
<td>Economic Benefit-Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIR</td>
<td>Employer’s Information Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EISMEA</td>
<td>European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENPV</td>
<td>Economic Net Present Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUBIMTG</td>
<td>EU BIM Task Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRR</td>
<td>Internal Rate of Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOD</td>
<td>Level of Detail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEP</td>
<td>Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPV</td>
<td>Net Present Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QTO</td>
<td>Quantity Take Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;D</td>
<td>Research and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VfM</td>
<td>Value for Money</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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