

## Position Paper of the EU BIM Task Group (November 2025)

### Fostering the policies to incorporate BIM in Public Procurement across the EU

#### Introduction

Building Information Modelling (BIM) and in general Information Management (IM) as established by ISO 19650 standard, has become a cornerstone of innovation and efficiency in the construction sector. Across the Asset lifecycle—from planning and design to construction, operation, and maintenance - BIM delivers substantial qualitative and financial benefits, savings estimated of 10-20%<sup>1</sup>. Information management using building information modelling also presents advantages for sustainability in the construction sector, contributing to the reduction of the environmental impact of its activities. Construction is one of the most resource-intense sectors with significant potential for circularity. BIM can help reduce waste volumes by up to 15% and construction waste management by up to 57%<sup>2</sup>. For public sector clients, this translates into better value for money, increased transparency, and improved project outcomes.

In recent years, we have been witnessing a major shift from traditional to integrated processes and from analog to digital systems. This transformation is fundamentally reshaping how assets are planned, designed, delivered, and managed throughout their lifecycle.

The digital evolution in the construction sector has introduced a completely new approach to the planning, design, construction and operation of public works.

It is important to note that the acronym BIM, in its literal sense, does not fully reflect the set of methodologies, processes, and enabling technologies associated with information requirements and data management. These aspects are clearly defined in the international technical standard UNI EN ISO 19650-1:2019, which positions Building Information Modeling within the broader framework of information management.

The standard refers to “Information management using Building Information Modelling”, emphasizing that modelling should be understood as “digital representation,” while information management relates to the overall coordination and control of processes across the asset lifecycle.

Therefore, it is essential to clarify that BIM refers not only to tools and technologies, but also to a structured methodological approach aimed at achieving defined objectives. These objectives include, in particular, risk mitigation and management, optimization of feasibility studies, and improved efficiency in public investment. This is made possible through the implementation of methods and processes based on information requirements and the management of structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data.

Despite the growing recognition of BIM’s value, there remains a significant disparity across EU Member States in terms of digital maturity and regulatory frameworks governing the use of BIM in public

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<sup>1</sup> Handbook for the Introduction of BIM by the European Public Sector. EU BIM Task Group. 2017

<sup>2</sup> 'Digitalisation in the construction sector, Analytical Report,' ECSO, DG GROW. 2021

procurement<sup>3</sup>. This inconsistency not only hampers the efficient uptake of digital construction methodologies across borders but also poses a risk of deepening economic disparities within the internal market.

### Current Challenges

At present, there is no unified EU-level approach to the mandatory implementation of BIM in public procurement. Some Member States have already enacted national regulations requiring the use of BIM for publicly funded construction projects. As per an EISMEA commissioned study in 2024, 12 EU countries have already introduced some form of legal mandate for BIM in public procurement. The other 15 countries either use agency-level requirements, voluntary promotion, or are in preparatory stages<sup>4</sup>. National mandates are playing a key role in facilitating the adoption of BIM in public procurement. However, the wide variation in their scope, content, and implementation highlights the need for specific actions and coordinated measures to mitigate the risks and challenges that this diversity poses for cross-border collaboration and procurement harmonisation.

Such fragmentation complicates the work of multinational firms, weakens interoperability, and undermines the goal of a Digital Single Market in construction. Moreover, countries at earlier stages of BIM adoption risk falling further behind, missing out on the economic and sustainability benefits that BIM offers.

### Position of the EU BIM Task Group

The EU BIM Task Group believes that it is essential to reduce the current disparities in BIM adoption and regulatory implementation across Member States. To support this goal, we propose the development of a unified EU-level strategy that promotes the harmonized use of BIM across all EU countries in public procurement. Furthermore, we propose that the European Commission harmonize the use of BIM by Member States within the new public procurement legal framework.

We recommend that minimum BIM requirements be compiled and defined at EU level (e.g. vendor neutral openBIM is mandatory for all new construction and renovation projects of public buildings and infrastructure with a value exceeding 25 million euros). At the same time, it is important to leave the possibility for Member States to set detailed regulatory and technical requirements within a common framework.

We expect such a common framework to help national Policy Makers to design and develop strategies to incorporate BIM in Public Procurement as it would:

- Provide clarity and certainty to public clients and industry stakeholders
- Facilitate cross-border procurement and collaboration
- Drive digital and sustainable transformation and innovation in the construction sector
- Improve value for money in public procurement
- Promote more sustainable, efficient, and transparent infrastructure delivery across Europe

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<sup>3</sup> EC study on “Support of the digitalisation of the built environment, public procurement and SMEs in construction”, EU BIM Task Group Survey for Public Clients and Policy Makers

<sup>4</sup> PwC study “Analysis of the adoption of BIM across the EU” (June 2024) commissioned by EISMEA

### Recommended Actions in Support of the Recommended Framework

To complement a harmonised regulatory approach, we also recommend the following supporting measures:

- Development and dissemination of standardised BIM requirements and guidelines  
*Common templates and voluntary technical standards will facilitate alignment across projects and jurisdictions.*
- Knowledge-sharing platforms and experience exchange events  
*Conferences, workshops, and case study dissemination will help build capacity and share best practices.*
- Integration of BIM in municipal building permit processes  
*Leveraging BIM can streamline permitting, improve accuracy, and reduce administrative burdens.*
- Integration of BIM in public procurement processes  
*openBIM files (open, non-proprietary, and interoperable format) enhance operations on the side of the tender participants as they can be imported into their software and public procurers may automatically compare quantities in project and budget documentation*
- Alignment of BIM with sustainability and life cycle assessment (LCA) frameworks  
*BIM should be embedded into tools and regulations supporting carbon reduction, circular economy, and environmental performance assessments.*

### Conclusion

The strategic use of BIM in public procurement is not merely a technological shift. In fact, BIM & IM implementation enables the aggregation and consultation of data from multiple sources and pursues the overarching objective of serving the public interest—also through the improved efficiency of public investment. Moreover, it facilitates the analysis and selection of strategic design solutions by taking into account various impacts (economic, social, and environmental) and can also contribute to making public procurement and building permitting effective strategic tools to achieve these goals.

By taking coordinated action at the EU level, specially from policy makers and public clients, we can unlock the full potential of BIM, support equitable digital transformation across Member States, and ensure that public investments deliver the highest value to citizens.

The EU BIM Task Group is ready to work with the European Commission to ensure the implementation of the above measures.