



## **Sustainability and Digital Transformation: The New Challenges of the Construction Industry**

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### **Message from the Guest Editors**

Dear colleagues,

The construction industry is among the least digitized, representing circa 13% of global GDP. Now with the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, the industry may return back to a depression and a vulnerable economic cycle. The R&D spending is well behind that of other industries, especially evident in spending on IT. The industry is asking for disruption and change. The most tangible changes that digital transformation may bring are a manufacture-led approach to construction and digital platforms, automatic control of production processes, the introduction of robots that gradually replace manual labor, the implementation of predictive models for project decision making, and new relationship concepts with stakeholders. Thus the impact of the digital transformation will be significant for all company business functions. The objective of this call is to develop and demonstrate both theoretical and practical insights that will enable the exploitation of new and emerging digital technologies, data, and analytics to enhance the built environment, thereby driving up commercial competitiveness and productivity of the construction industry.

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