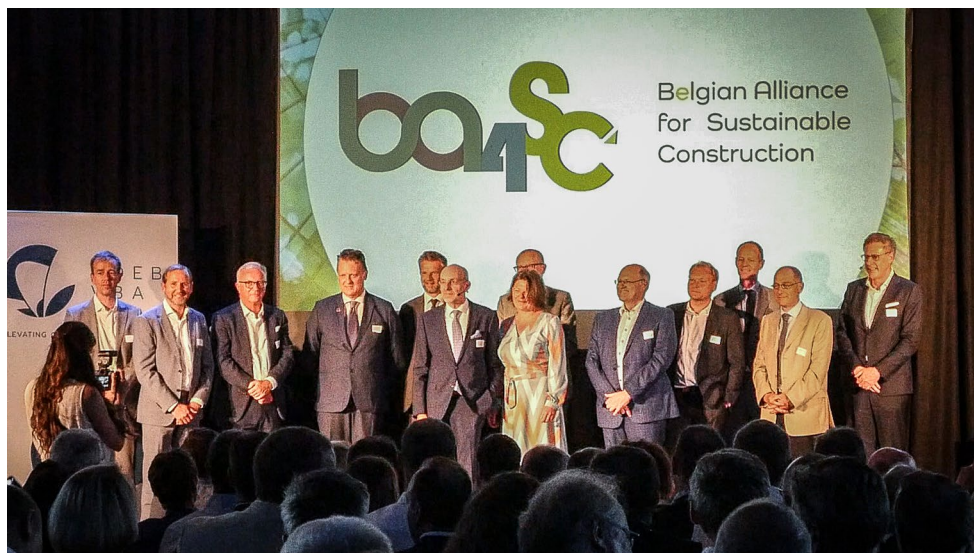


PRESS RELEASE

BA4SC – BELGIAN ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

Woluwe-Saint-Pierre, June 15, 2022 - The Belgian actors of the construction world were present yesterday evening, in company of the advisor of Zakia Khattabi, Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, to launch a new alliance for sustainable development: BA4SC.

The construction sector has a major role to play in sustainable development. Aware of the challenges, the various players, from materials suppliers to architects and design offices, as well as large companies and players in real estate, have already taken numerous initiatives. With BA4SC, they intend to move up a gear by taking advantage of their structural interdependence to move forward together, to go faster and further.



A true systemic revolution

In fact, most of the sector's CO₂ emissions come from indirect sources, such as transport, production, materials, waste, etc. An alliance is the solution in order to take each individual actor into consideration as part of a system that must be rethought in its very logic, says Didier Cartage, director of ADEB-VBA, enthusiastically. As Einstein rightly said, "we cannot solve a problem with the same thinking we had when we created it". And the challenge is great since Belgium has committed to reducing its CO₂ emissions by 55% for 2030.



Together to accelerate the transition

Therefore the Alliance proposes a series of measures such as the sharing of effective initiatives already implemented in different regions, in other countries but also in other sectors, the distribution of different actions to optimize human and financial resources or the evolution of regulatory frameworks if necessary. If everyone actively contributes to the common effort, this networking that the Alliance aims to achieve will increase the positive impact of the construction sector and accelerate the sustainability transition to reach the 2030 and 2050 objectives," says Didier Cartage. And this is indeed what the different actors expressed last night during the launch event. Concretely, the BA4SC will meet on August 24 to launch the various working groups, taking into account both the needs of the sector and the priority areas for sustainable development.

Minister Zakia Khattabi adds that "the buildings you build today are also the mines of the future. Therefore, a building should not be built only for its first life. It must be designed in such a way that the building components are already ready for a second life. This requires appropriate materials and construction techniques. Buildings should be constructed to be easily dismantled. In this way, the materials retain their value. This prevents them from being wasted. And that no new raw materials are needed for the next building. This requires a different design philosophy and extensive cooperation throughout the chain."

With the support of the Brussels Enterprises Commerce and Industry (BECI), the Belgian Building Materials Producers (BMP-PMC), the Construction Confederation (CC), the Impartial Control Organization for Construction Products (COPRO), the Belgian Road Research Center (BRRC), the Scientific and Technical Center for Construction (CSTC-WTCB), the Federation of the Belgian Cement Industry (FEBELCEM), the Association of Leading Belgian Architectural Firms (G30), the Sectoral Organization of Engineering and Consultancy Firms in Belgium (ORI), the Center of Competence, Control, Inspection and Certification (SECO), the Public Service of Wallonia (SPW) and the Professional Union of the Real Estate Sector (UPSI-BVS).

About ADEB-VBA

ADEB-VBA, Association of Belgian Contractors of Major Construction Works, is the representative and spokesperson of the 65 major construction companies in Belgium. They represent a turnover of 10 billion euros, i.e. 15% of the construction sector in Belgium, employ more than 19,000 people and create more than 57,000 indirect jobs. ADEB-VBA is a member of the Construction Confederation.
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