

## Involving women and young people for more inclusive construction SMEs

EBC will celebrate its 25 year anniversary with a **photo exhibition** and a **dinner** on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 in the European Parliament's restaurant on involving women and young people to make construction SMEs more inclusive. The construction sector is in urgent need of **new talented and skilled people** to replace retiring workers and cope with demand. Women and young people are the future of the sector.

The exhibition will feature photos depicting the passions, the efforts and the stories of young people and women working in construction trades. It shows how they got involved in the sector and what their take at the future is.

**Join us for the cocktail on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 18h00 in the Parliament.**

The exhibition and the dinner are supported by the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union and they are sponsored by Velux, Engie and Total.

- To register for the exhibition please contact us: [secretariat@ebc-construction.eu](mailto:secretariat@ebc-construction.eu)
- [For more information click here](#)



At the occasion of the 25 year anniversary on 13<sup>th</sup> October, in cooperation with EBC, **DG GROW** will also hold the award ceremony for the **winners of the European video competition "Build Europe with us"**. The competition was launched to encourage young talent to join the construction sector.

For more information visit: [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction/video-competition/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction/video-competition/index_en.htm)

## Smart standardisation for SMEs From national to European standardisation in a global context

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 SBS is organising its "Smart standardisation for SMEs" EU conference for the first time. The special focus this year is "From national to European standardisation in a global context".

The event aims to gather SBS members and experts, high-level speakers from the EU institutions and bodies, as well as stakeholders participating in the standard-making process to discuss how the standardisation process, impacts SMEs and how SMEs can benefit from it.

- [Click here for more information](#)
- To register contact the SBS secretariat: [info@sbs-sme.eu](mailto:info@sbs-sme.eu)

## Implementation of Guide 17 for SMEs to be improved



The [CEN-CENELEC Guide 17](#) is a guidance document for standard writers that proposes a comprehensive approach to **take into account SMEs' needs during the entire standard drafting process**.

In July Small Business Standards SBS — representing SMEs in standardisation — released a research exercise about the implementation of Guide 17 in some of the CEN-CENELEC Technical Committees where SBS is represented by its experts. The study has no statistical relevance due to the low numbers of assessed standards. It **mainly aims at highlighting the shortcomings in the implementation of Guide 17** with a view to addressing them in line with the full cooperation between SBS and CEN-CENELEC.

The study shows a general tendency to **inadequately evaluate the cost for SMEs of implementing standards** (such as training, testing, buying new equipment, etc.). This cost has a fundamental economic impact on SMEs' activities in standardisation. Other highlighted issues are the **excessive length of the standards** as well as their **bureaucratic and over-specialised language**. The inclusion of charts, drawings and clarifying examples would facilitate the understanding by SMEs.

- [Click here to read the whole document of the research](#)

## BaseEUCities in Brussels to promote sustainable growth in European cities

Building on the six years of its success as an established event in the UK, Base cities created a new Pan-European event: baseEUCities in Brussels. Unlike previous Base Cities events, the new show will focus not just on the needs of one particular city, but on **solutions for all European cities** through the direct participation of more than a hundred of them.

This event is designed to house as many partnerships as possible within the main sectors directly involved in the **sustainable growth and development** of European cities.

**Where:** Brussels EXPO, Halls 6 and 10, plus Auditorium 2000

**When:** 27 – 28 – 29 October 2015

- [Click here for more information](#)

Calendar	
29/10/2015	UEAPME & SBS Construction Forum, Brussels
19/11/2015	<a href="#">Citizens at the Heart of the Sustainably-built Environment, Brussels</a>