New Project enables Circular Economy in the Building Sector

BAMB, Buildings As Material Banks

15-09-2015 In BAMB, 16 partners from 8 European countries are working together with one mission – enabling a systemic shift in the building sector by creating circular solutions.

Each brick, board, piece of wood or glass in a building has a value. These materials are often not reused after demolition or refurbishments, instead they are wasted, and a cost instead of an asset. Sustaining the value of the materials is the key to circular material use – and ways to harvest this value is at the center of the circular economy. The BAMB project aims to utilize the true value of these materials and enable a circular building industry.

Today, building materials end up as waste when no longer needed, with effects like destroying ecosystems, increasing environmental costs, and creating risks of resource scarcity. To create a sustainable future, the building sector needs to move towards a circular economy. BAMB will enable a systemic shift where dynamically and flexibly designed buildings can be incorporated into a circular economy. Through design and circular value chains, materials in buildings sustain their value – in a sector producing less waste and using less virgin resources. Instead of being to-be waste, buildings will function as banks of valuable materials – slowing down the usage of resources to a rate that meets the capacity of the planet. The project is developing and integrating tools that will enable the shift: Materials Passports and Reversible Building Design – supported by new business models, policy propositions and management and decision-making models.

During the course of the project these new approaches will be demonstrated and refined with input from 6 pilots. The BAMB project started in September 2015 and will progress for three and a half years as an innovation action within the EU funded Horizon 2020 program.

Find out more:

Contact information:

Communication Coordinator, BAMB – Buildings As Material Banks
Lisa Apelman
bamb@ronneby.se
Phone: +46457 61 88 14
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The BAMB project is funded by European Commission within Horizon 2020. Horizon 2020 is EU’s programme to support research and innovation and aims to drive development in Europe to create sustainable growth and economy. The funding, private investments, business and research the project attracts and creates promise breakthroughs, discoveries and world-firsts by taking great ideas from the lab to the market.