

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following document is the deliverable D7.5 “First main project event”, which provides an overview of the DigiPLACE launch conference held in Bologna during the Digital&BIM fair. This document contains the programme of the conference and the main actions activated to disseminate first project results and the impacts of the project in the construction context.

PUBLISHING SUMMARY

On Friday 22nd November, the EU-funded DigiPLACE project “Digital Platform for Construction in Europe” hosted its first public event and launched the call for [registration to the project’s Community of Stakeholders](#).

The DigiPLACE Launch Conference “Towards a European digital platform for construction” was held in Bologna, within the professional trade fair [Digital&BIM Italia](#), and gathered close to two hundred attendees and several more watching the live-streaming feed.

Representing the DigiPLACE partnership, Assistant Professor and consortium coordinator Alberto Pavan of [Politecnico di Milano](#), presented the project, listing its goals and ambitions, detailing its timeline and milestones, and introducing its 19 partner organisations. DigiPLACE will define a Reference Architecture Framework for digital construction platform based on an EU-wide consensus involving a large community of stakeholders, resulting in a strategic roadmap for successful implementation of this architecture.

The conference was opened by President of [Federcostruzioni](#) Federica Brancaccio and President of [ANCE](#) Gabriele Buia, who highlighted the potential of digitalisation for SMEs, enabling growth in terms of market access, productivity and sustainability. Representing the [Italian Ministry for transport and infrastructure](#), Engineer Pietro Baratono addressed in his opening presentation the challenge of connecting national and international digital platforms.

[CECE](#) Secretary General Riccardo Viaggi moderated the event, welcoming on stage European Commission representative Ilektra Papadaki, who reminded the audience about the new Commission's priority for a “Europe fit for the Digital Age”. Ms. Papadaki also stressed that cooperation through digital platforms is crucial to achieve the EU sustainability goals.

The Launch Conference welcomed a panel debate among experts and project partners from the academic world, the technology sector, the manufacturers and the architects. The speakers tackled the role of digital platforms in construction, sharing experiences and lessons-learnt for the advancement of DigiPLACE.

The Launch Conference represented an opportunity to gather all the stakeholders of the sector to discuss the latest digital innovations. It was also a chance for the DigiPLACE partners to enhance the project's visibility and to hold the first DigiPLACE **Advisory Board** meeting.

Within the next months, DigiPLACE will host several national workshops with the aim of expanding the **Community of Stakeholders**.