



RICS Built Environment European Summit 2025

21st October 2025

Venue: Hungarian Central Bank (Buda Centre), Budapest

07:45

Workshop Registration

*Workshop is limited and strictly by registration only. (Select 1)

08:00

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Morning Breakfast Workshop I

09:15

Financing the transition: understanding the changing landscape and KPIs of financing real estate projects

As regulations and policies changed and investor expectations evolve, real estate financing is undergoing a fundamental shift. This workshop aims to bridge the gap between banks, developers, and investors, providing clarity on financing expectations and identifying collaborative pathways to ensure sustainable, compliant, and investable real estate projects.

Some key themes:

- Bank Perspectives: How financial institutions interpret and integrate regulatory requirements into their lending and investment strategies.
- Changing KPIs: What metrics matter most in real estate financing today, and how they are evolving.
- Impact on Developers & Investors: The challenges project developers and investment funds face in securing financing under new criteria.
- Mobilizing Capital: Concrete examples and innovative solutions that enable different financial players to unlock funding and accelerate the transition.

Chaired by: Linda Zeillina-Cross, CEO of International Sustainable Finance Centre (ISFC)



Morning Breakfast Workshop II

Exploring Alternative Property Sectors: Trends, Opportunities, and Innovations

This workshop will explore the rise of alternative property sectors, including co-living, senior housing, data centers, life sciences real estate, student accommodation, and industrial logistics. This interactive workshop will provide real estate professionals with practical insights into the risks, returns, and strategic approaches necessary to navigate alternative sectors successfully. Attendees will leave with a deeper understanding of how to tap into new opportunities and future-proof their real estate investments.

Key Themes:

- **Market Trends:** Understanding the latest drivers behind the growing demand for alternative property sectors.
- **Investment Opportunities:** How investors can diversify portfolios and capitalize on high-growth niches.
- **Development & Operational Models:** Unique challenges and best practices in financing, designing, and managing alternative assets.
- **Innovations in the Sector:** Emerging technologies, ESG considerations, and new business models shaping the future.

Morning Breakfast Workshop III

Addressing Skills Gaps & Attracting the Next Generation

The built environment is undergoing rapid transformation, driven by technological advancements, regulatory demands, and evolving workforce expectations. However, a growing skills gap threatens the sector's ability to meet future challenges. This workshop will explore strategies to upskill existing professionals as well as to attract, train, and retain the next generation of talent in real estate, construction, and urban development. This workshop will bring together industry leaders, academia, and policymakers to discuss practical solutions for addressing workforce shortages and ensuring that the built environment remains an innovative, skilled, and future-ready sector.

Key Themes:

- **Current & future Skills:** Identifying the critical competencies needed for tomorrow's built environment workforce.
- **Talent Attraction:** How to position real estate and construction as attractive career paths for young professionals.
- **Industry & Education Collaboration:** Bridging academia and industry to create more relevant training programs.
- **Innovative Learning & Upskilling:** Exploring new education models, apprenticeships, and digital learning tools.

09:00

General Registration and Networking Coffee



09:30 **Opening remarks by** Susanne Eickermann-Riepe FRICS, Chair of RICS Europe World Regional Board

Welcome Note

09:40 **Opening Keynote**

10:00 **Keynote Fireside Chat –
The Future of Real Estate: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities in a Changing Market
A Conversation between CEOs**

10:15 **Panel 1
From European Green Deal to Clean Industrial Deal: What Does It Means for the Built Environment?**

The Clean Industrial Deal represents a pivotal step in Europe's transition to climate neutrality and industrial competitiveness. In President von der Leyen's political guidelines issued in Oct 2024, this means supporting and creating the right conditions for companies to reach the EU's common goals - simplifying, investing and ensuring access to cheap, sustainable and secure energy supplies and raw materials. This will prepare the way towards the 90% emission-reduction target for 2040 which the EU is proposing to enshrine in our European Climate Law.

Panel experts will discuss how these frameworks will shape and have shaped policies, investments, and innovations in construction, urban planning, and building operations. They will examine challenges and opportunities for the construction industry in adapting to these ambitious goals, offering insights into how the sector can drive the transition toward a greener, more sustainable future.

Moderator:

Panellists:



11:00

Panel 2

Managing Physical and Transition Risks: Strategies for a Resilient Future

The European Union (EU) faces a significant challenge in boosting investment in climate change mitigation to achieve its ambitious climate targets. The amount of investment required to reach net zero emissions by 2050 is estimated to be around 2 ¾ percent of gross domestic product (GDP) annually.

The panel will explore strategies for mitigating physical risks, such as extreme weather events and resource scarcity, while navigating transition risks related to evolving regulations, market shifts, and technological advancements. Discussions will focus on integrating resilience into business models, infrastructure planning, and policy frameworks. The panel will provide actionable insights into risk assessment, adaptation measures, and collaborative approaches to ensure a sustainable and resilient future for businesses, communities, and ecosystems. It will also explore the topic of financing for the climate transition in Europe as well as risk financing and insurance solutions.

Moderator:

Panellists:

11:45

Fireside Chat

Tackling the Affordable Housing Crisis in Europe

This fireside chat examines the urgent challenge of addressing Europe's affordable housing crisis in the face of demographic shifts, growing urbanization, economic inequality, and environmental pressures. Experts will explore innovative policies, financing mechanisms, and design solutions to create accessible, sustainable, and resilient housing. Key topics include leveraging public-private partnerships, integrating energy-efficient retrofitting, and optimizing land use for social and environmental impact. The role of technology and community engagement in fostering inclusive housing development will also be discussed. Join us for a deep dive into actionable strategies to ensure affordable housing for all, while advancing Europe's broader sustainability goals.

12:15

Panel 3

Scaling Sustainability on a Neighbourhood Level: Brownfield Redevelopment – Lessons learnt from Budapest

13:00

Networking Lunch



14:00 **Afternoon Keynote Speaker/ Keynote fireside chat**

The Role of Data in Real Estate: Unlocking Insights and Managing Security Risks

Moderator:

Speakers:

14:30 **Debate**

Maximizing on-site renewables vs. grid-reliance – the right level in the light of energy security and profitability

Moderator:

Speakers:

15:15 **Keynote presentation**

15:30 **Panel 4**
Repurposing Buildings: Blending Heritage with Modern Innovation

This panel will look into the growing trend of adaptive reuse, where old buildings are transformed to meet the needs of modern society while enhancing their resilience. From transforming industrial factories into cultural hubs to revitalizing historic landmarks for residential or commercial use, the discussion will highlight how European cities are preserving their heritage while embracing innovation. Panellists will explore the environmental and economic advantages of reimagining existing structures—reducing waste, conserving resources, and addressing urban challenges. Discussions will highlight successful case studies, design innovations and the process of navigating regulatory hurdles. Audience will gain insights into navigating funding challenges and identifying resources that support the transformation of existing structures into vibrant, functional spaces while achieving financial viability.

Moderator:

Panellists:



16:15	Closing Keynote
16:30	Reveal for 2026
16:45	Closing Networking Drinks

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