



June 2017

BEPAM CIB Encouraged Journal
Call for Papers for 2 different Themes
Built Environment Project and Asset Management



Rethinking Construction Productivity Theory and Practice
and
Service innovation through linking design, construction and asset management

1st Call for Papers:
Rethinking Construction Productivity Theory and Practice

The construction industry makes a significant contribution to the gross domestic product of many countries. Boosting construction productivity is thus important for the sustained growth and competitiveness of any economy. Coupling this imperative to allegations of stagnant or even reduced productivity in the construction industry vis-a-vis other industries, there is now a need for a fundamental review of the underpinning body of knowledge, along with a systematic exploration of the future productivity narrative, including its core concepts, system boundaries, evaluation protocols, and applications. Increasing challenges such as climate change, resource scarcities, rising societal aspirations, and systems complexities should be considered alongside opportunities arising from emerging technologies such as automation, robotics, virtual reality and visualisation.

Many metropolises witness fast development of construction and infrastructure in the past and today, whilst they face severe challenges for the future, such

as from an aging workforce, skill shortage, cost escalation and systems complexities. Learning from and exploring the basis of productivity assessment and improvement initiatives in more progressive regions could provide valuable examples for others, given rapid worldwide urbanisation. Such drilling down and in-depth comparisons could contribute significantly to a step-rise, if not a paradigmatic improvement in the body of knowledge on productivity, apart from direct benefits from its deployment in practice.

This Special Issue is initiated with a proposal for a four-fold theoretical approach to rethinking construction productivity:

- (1) what construction productivity is and will be;
- (2) how knowledge on construction productivity is created;
- (3) how construction productivity is researched at different levels and in various processes; and
- (4) what socio-technical values construction productivity embraces.

The special issue also seeks to validate these theoretical aspects drawing on evidence.



An indicative but not exhaustive list of topic areas of this Special Issue is:

- Theory and metrics of construction productivity
- Methodology of construction productivity, e.g. Total Factor Productivity, Partial Factor Productivity and Single Factor Productivity
- Strategic thinking and systems engineering of construction productivity
- Construction productivity and key performance indicators (KPI)
- Construction productivity and Building Information Modelling (BIM)
- Construction productivity and emerging technologies, e.g. augmented reality and visualisation
- Construction productivity and prefabrication, off-site production, DfMA, modular building
- Construction productivity and lean
- Construction productivity and sustainability and life cycle assessment, e.g. energy and carbon
- Construction productivity and planning and design
- Construction productivity and project management
- Construction productivity and procurement

Information and Instructions for submissions

Expected publication date: September 2018
Submission deadline: 30 September 2017

Submissions to Built Environment Project and Asset Management are made using ScholarOne Manuscripts. Registration and access are available at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bepam>

Author guidelines, including on formats and length limit, must be strictly followed. These guidelines are on the journal website at: http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/products/journals/author_guidelines.htm?id=bepam

NOTE: Authors targeting this issue, should select (from the drop-down menu) the special issue "*Rethinking Construction Productivity Theory and Practice* in the relevant step of the submission process - under the item: "*Please select the issue you are submitting to*".

Submitted articles must not have been previously published, nor should they be submitted for consideration for publication elsewhere, while under review for this journal.

The submitted papers will be initially reviewed by the Guest Editor, and if judged suitable for the special issue will be sent to at least two independent referees for blind peer review.

BEPAM being an internationally established journal, is encouraged by CIB, recognised by the Australian Business Deans Council and indexed in Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) of Thomas Reuters, SCOPUS, EBSCO, INSPEC, etc.

For further information on the journal, please visit www.emeraldinsight.com/bepam.htm.

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2nd Call for Papers: Service innovation through linking design, construction and asset management

The service interface between the management of infrastructure projects and the subsequent management of assets requires greater attention. While many companies in the construction and infrastructure markets have transitioned to service organisations, many remain focused on the provision of goods. The construction industry has been quick to reinvent itself to reintegrate and disintegrate its supply chain, and, to use mergers and acquisitions to broaden the service offering to include, for example, project management, facilities management and real estate. However, there remains a lack of depth in service design and disconnect between the project delivery service, asset management service, and support for end-user experience in using assets. The disconnection may result in stifling opportunities for innovation and value maximisation.

To address these issues, the role of management innovation within firms and across organisational boundaries to integrate resources and design solutions that will improve the potential value derived from construction projects as assets in use is an important area to consider in further depth. The firm-project interface is also important, particularly for the development of service design and technical and technological developments that provide innovative value propositions and deliver technical capabilities for extracting asset value.

Apart from papers addressing the above thrusts, we specifically welcome submissions that target the following questions:

- How has and does innovation occur in service exchanges across design, construction and



asset management phases to deliver value and what is the potential for increasing value in practice?

- How do different actors (e.g., clients, users, providers, government) influence innovation in service integration, particularly between construction and asset management?
- How does and might the integration of a construction and asset management service disrupt existing market and non-integrated services?
- To what extent does the theoretical integration of a construction project, asset management and/or maintenance/operation service contribute to the whole life value and sustainability imperatives? To what extent is this working out in practice and what improvements can be made?
- How could gaps in service provision between parties at the institutional, firm and project and user interfaces impact project and asset management value delivery?
- To what extent is the co-destruction of value occurring between the firm and project levels, inter-organisationally between construction and client/user organisations?
- How are leading organisations reinventing themselves to (dis)integrate supply chains to increase value delivery?
- What is the relationship between value co-creation and service innovation?
- Which actors are influential in service innovation ecosystems and how do networks of service exchanges evolve? To what extent is this changing and might change further through normative and prescriptive measures informed by SDL?
- What is the role of individual actors (e.g., project managers, key account managers, functional managers) in service innovative to increase value?
- What is the role of technology in value co-creation and service innovation?
- To what extent does SDL contribute at the marco-level development and management of the built environment, the generation of smart cities, and their management.
- To what extent can SDL and service design be criticized, first in order to develop concepts appropriate to project environments, to understand micro-level co-creation activities, and second as a theoretical lens that has limited value to enhance understanding and application in practice.

Information and Instructions for submissions:
The closing date for submission of manuscripts is **5 December 2017**. This special issue is scheduled to be published in Autumn 2018. Author guidelines, including on formats and length limit, must be strictly

followed. They are available at:

http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/products/journals/author_guidelines.htm?id=bepam.

Submissions to Built Environment Project and Asset Management must necessarily be through Scholar-One Manuscripts. Registration and access are available at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bepam>.

NOTE: Authors targeting this issue, should select (from the drop-down menu) the special issue "**Service innovation through linking design, construction and asset management**" in the relevant step of the submission process - under the item: "Please select the issue you are submitting to".

Submitted articles must not have been previously published, nor should they be submitted for consideration for publication elsewhere, while under review for this journal. The Guest Editors will conduct an initial review of submitted papers. Those judged suitable to be reviewed for this special issue will be sent to at least two independent referees for double blind peer review, after which submissions may be recommended for revisions and further review, acceptance or rejection.

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