The Context and Partners

This installation is part of the EU project FCRBE ‘Facilitating the Circulation of Reclaimed elements.’ This project aims to increase by +50% the amount of reclaimed building elements being circulated in Nonwestern Europe by 2032.

The installation presents the work of an international partnership involving SMEs, research centres, a university and public administrations. It is rooted in earlier initiatives that were successfully implemented on a local level. The project partners include BBRI, Bellastock, Brussels Environment, Construction Confederation Belgium, CSTB, Rotor (lead partner), University of Brighton and Salvo.

This travelling exhibition presents the hundreds of companies active today in the reused building materials sector. Based in Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and the UK, these businesses perform activities such as reclaiming materials from buildings slated for demolition, cleaning and conditioning them, and selling them to future users. They can also provide buyers with resourceful advice on how to put these materials in place in new projects.

The mobile exhibition includes:

1) A collection of samples of reclaimed materials

2) A map pinpointing the hundreds of companies active in the reclamation industry across the UK, Ireland, France, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg.

3) A compilation of short and didactic video clips presenting different perspectives on reuse: why it is important socially, economically and environmentally and who are the main actors of the reuse economy. One of the clips also presents some projects which successfully integrated reclaimed materials. Together, these components offer an inspiring glimpse at reuse practices in north-west Europe.

Targets

The installation targets the general public, but also professionals and policy makers connected to the built environment and those working in environmental and material resource management by providing useful information to foster the adoption of reuse practices. The exhibition is available in English, French and Dutch and encourages the audience to discover reclamation businesses that are most local to them, as well as the impact reuse that reclaimed building materials can offer in response to the global climate crisis.