



CLOSER

Close to Resources Recovery



On behalf of the CLOSER project, we are pleased to welcome you to the third issue of our newsletter.

Here you will find information about the project activities, as well as news and events related to construction and demolition waste (CDW). We hope that the topics of this third newsletter are of interest to you.

If you are not registered to receive the newsletter, please sign up [here](#).

Highlights:

- *1st Webinar CLOSER*
- *Pre-demolition PT Audit Guideline*
- *Summer Course SoRc*

1st WEBINAR CLOSER

The 1st Webinar of the project CLOSER "Pre-demolition Audits – Built to unbuild", was held on 21 June 2021. A total of 183 attendees participated in the event.

The conference opening was held by Dr Maria de Lurdes Antunes, a Member of the Board of Directors of LNEC, who welcomed the attendee´s and drew their attention to the importance of resource efficiency in the context of pursuing the transition to a circular economy.

Dr Ana Filipa Salvado chaired the webinar. The first speaker, Dr Susana Escária from Secretaria-Geral do Ambiente, highlighted the relevant role of EEA Grants towards reducing social and economic disparities in Europe and strengthening bilateral relations. Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway have established the Multiannual Financial Mechanism EEA Grants through the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement to improve the economic and trade relations.

Dr Maria João Falcão Silva, the second speaker, gave a short introduction to the CLOSER project underlining the relevance of implementing pre-demolition audits in buildings.

Eng. Ivone Nobre from IMPIC and Eng. Seyed Rezvani from LNEC presented the legal obligations of contracting authorities and the main results of the survey carried out in task 3 of CLOSER. The different practices adopted during the demolition and rehabilitation of buildings were mainly referred by the construction companies.

Eng. Mafalda Mota from APA, presented the changes due to the new waste legislation that comes into force on the 1st of July. The communications session ended with Dr Josefina Lindblom presenting the Level(s) approach for the sustainability of buildings.

The round table panel joined Eng. Carlos Mineiro Aires, President of the Portuguese Order of Engineers, Dr Josefina Lindblom, Senior Policy Officer of DG Environment - European Commission, Eng. Ana Carvalho, Vice-President of Figueira da Foz Municipality and Eng. Maria José Ramalho from Grupo Casais to debate how to raise people awareness for responsible building demolition. The moderators were Dr Isabel Martins from LNEC and Eng. Mafalda Mota from APA.

The presentations and the round table discussion can be accessed through the link <http://closer.lnec.pt/repository.html>



Dr. Maria de Lurdes Antunes



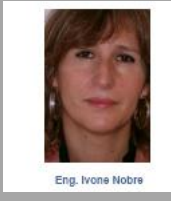
Dr. Ana Filipa Salvado



Dr. Susana Escária



Dr. Maria João Falcão da Silva



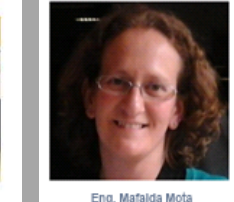
Eng. Ivone Nobre



Eng. Seyed Rezvani



Dr. Isabel Martins



Eng. Mafalda Mota

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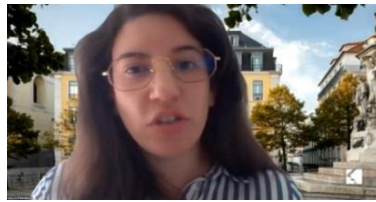
Eng.º Carlos Mineiro Aires



Dr.ª Josefina Lindblom



Eng.ª Ana Carvalho



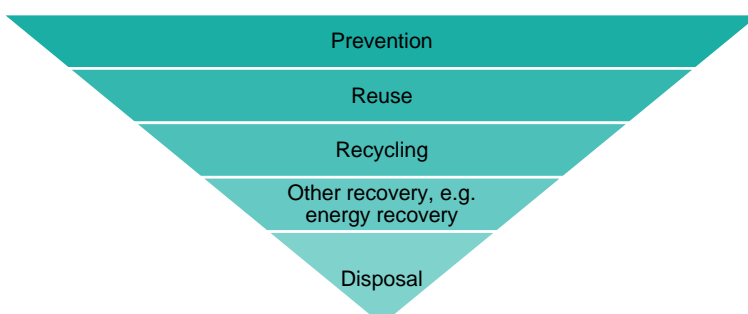
Eng.ª Maria Ramalho

Pre-demolition PT Audit Guideline

The guide, under development, covers CDW pre-demolition audit and aims to enhance the national recovery rate, the quality, traceability, transparency, and confidence level on materials from CDW. The set of recommendations should promote competitiveness between natural and recycled aggregates and facilitate the certification of secondary materials. The adoption of pre-demolition audits requires the support of policymakers to make it recognizable and acceptable in the construction sector.

It provides information about the general concepts and specific subjects about the CDW pre-demolition audit. The document must be well-aligned with CDW protocol and guidelines, WFD 2008/98/EC, European strategies, the Construction 2020 strategy, the Communication on Resource Efficiency Opportunities in the Building Sector and the most recent European Circular Economy Plan presented by the European Commission in 2020.

The audit will address the amount, nature and composition of the reusable materials and waste produced, identified through documentation analysis and *in-situ* study. The management options will depend on the presence of dangerous substances or materials containing these types of substances and the policies that rule their removal. A comprehensive report will enable precious recommendations for the future application of recycled materials and reused materials. Through the audit, the waste hierarchy must always be observed.



Summer Course SoR-c

The research fellow of the project CLOSER, Seyed MHS Rezvani, will attend the School of Reconstruction (SoR-c) hosted by Brighton's School of Architecture and Design to re-think, re-use, and recreate new structures based on discarded construction materials.

Demonstration on the use of reclaimed materials will be the objective of students from design, architecture, construction and engineering areas working together from 2 to 13 August.

This summer school aims to provide a response to the declaration of a climate emergency by the UK Parliament committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

SoR-c is part of a larger project whose goal is to increase the reuse of building elements after their first application. There is a large number of elements that are technically reusable, but they end up being recycled and even disposed into landfills. These alternatives should be avoided over reutilization because they lead to greater environmental impacts and a clear reduction in economic value of the elements.

The Summer school can widen the perspectives of the project CLOSER regarding the reconstruction and explore various proposals that may be relevant for using materials arising from demolition and rehabilitation projects of buildings.