

# Circularity in architecture

# Table of contents

## Introduction:

- Faculty of Architecture – University of Liège
- Laboratory of digital culture in Architecture
- Amélie Halbach

## Context:

- Construction and demolition
- Circular economy
- BIM

## Subject:

- BIM “as-built” as a tool for decision-making between demolition or deconstruction
- Research questions

## Survey adressed to architectural offices

- Objectives
- 4 Parts

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# Faculty of Architecture – University of Liège

- About 800 students
- 90 teachers
- 250 first-year students
- 2 sites



Botanique Site  
Rue Courtois



Outremeuse Site  
Boulevard de la Constitution



## Main subjects

- **BIM** –European project BIM GAME – New e-learning methods in total collaboration to learn BIM through new technologies + **BIM coordinator certificate**
- **Modelling of spatial, temporal and semantic information** collected from 3D terrestrial **laserscan** (TLS) applied to Cultural Heritage. Modelling of spatiotemporal information collected from location-based networks. Development of **H-BIM** for an efficient management of built heritage information.
- **Parametric architecture** - Evolution of **methods** and the **use of digital design** tools to support design activities

Amélie Halbach

**ULiège**

Masters of architecture

September 2014- June 2019

Liège, Belgium

**Technical University of Technology (TUT)**

Erasmus exchange student

August 2017 – May 2018

Tampere, Finland

**Master's thesis**

Title: BIM "as-built" as a tool for decision-making between demolition or deconstruction

Supervisor: Sylvie Jancart



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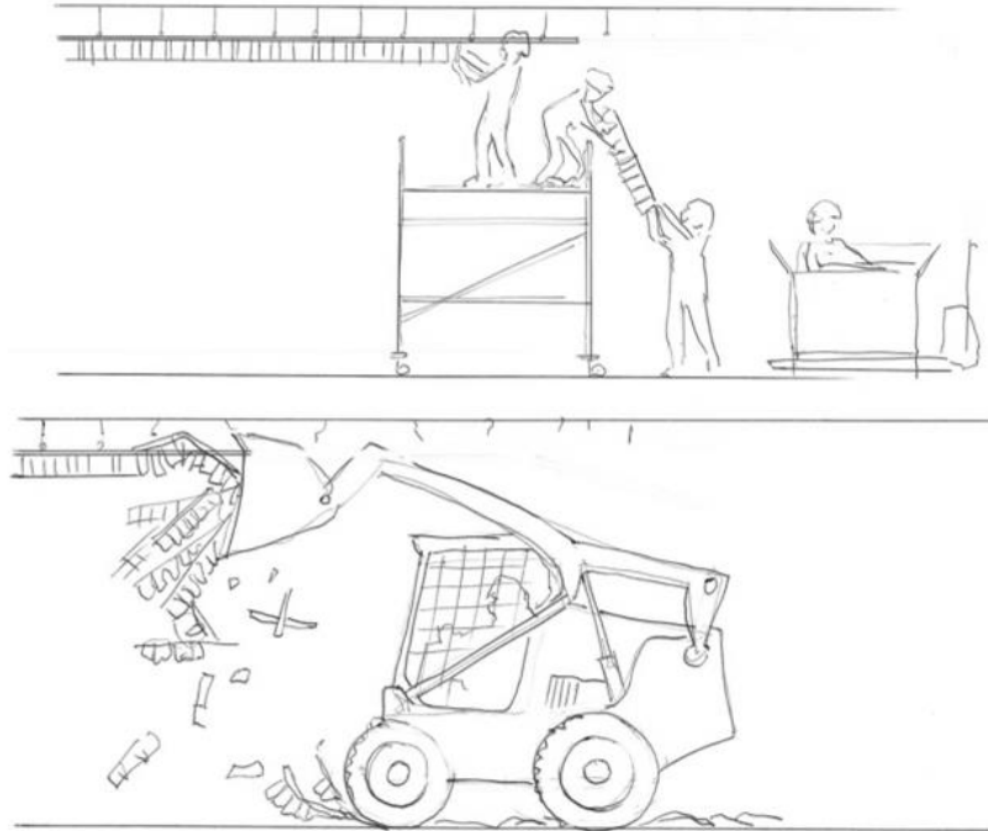
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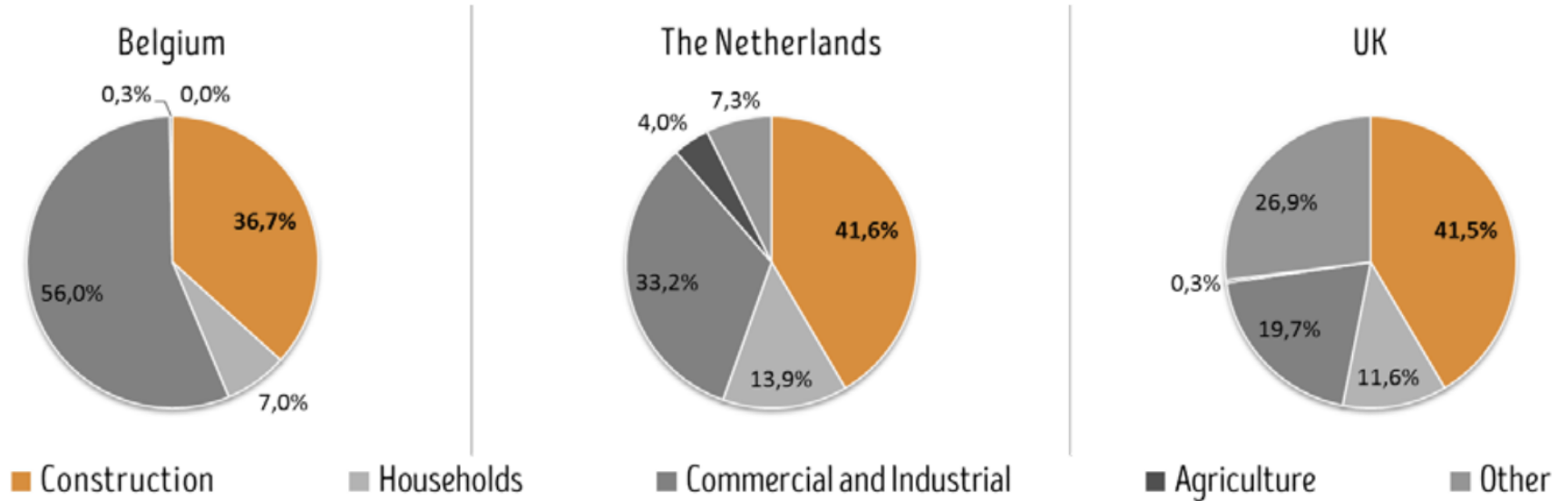
# Construction vs demolition



©Lionel Billiet,Rotor



# Waste production per sector



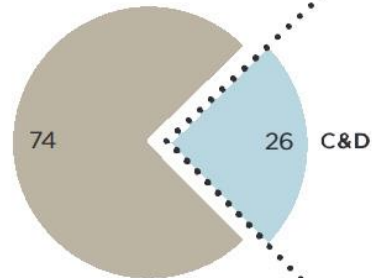
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# Construction and demolition waste: a noteworthy opportunity

US C&D waste 2008

C&D is a significant waste stream

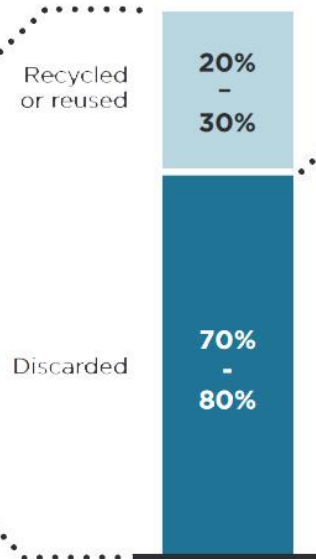
100% = 615 mn tonnes



C&D waste as a share of total

Less than one-third is currently recovered

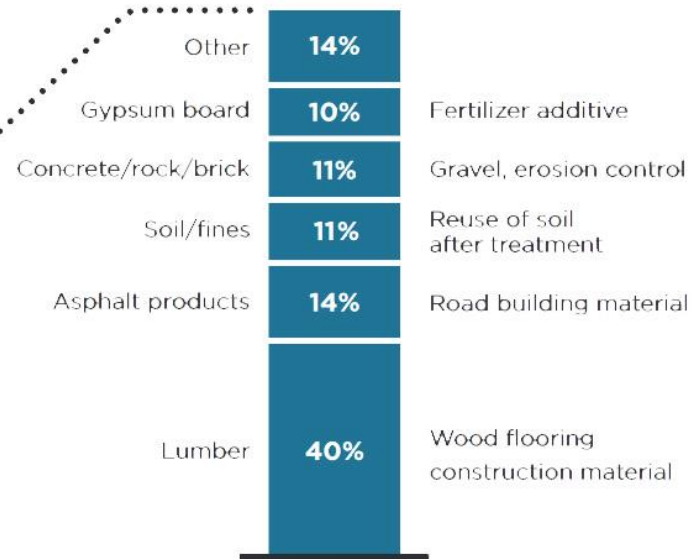
100% = 160 mn tonnes



End-of-life treatment of C&D waste

A lot of the discarded material could be recovered

100% = 112-128 mn tonnes



Composition of discarded C&D waste

© Ellen MacArthur Foundation

## How to avoid demolition waste?



©Pixabay

# From linear to circular

Linear economy



Recycling economy

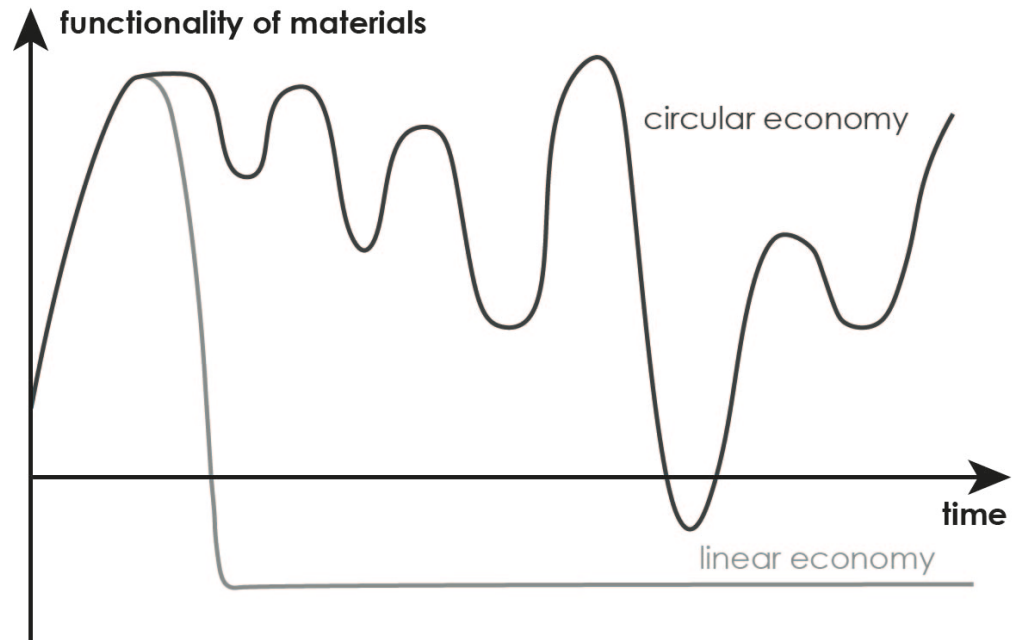


Circular economy



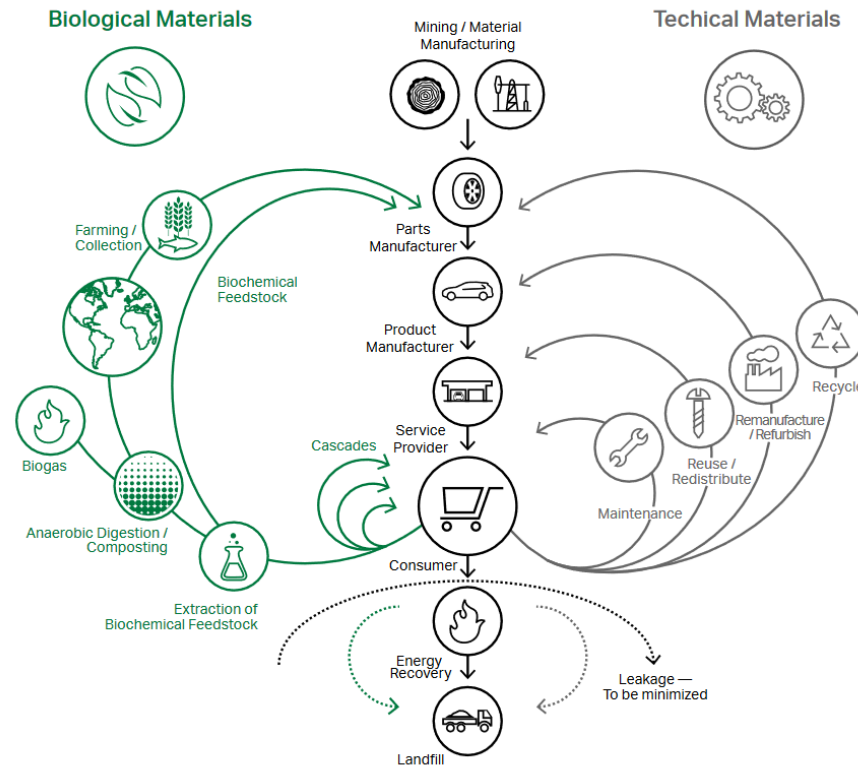
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# Influence of circular economy over time



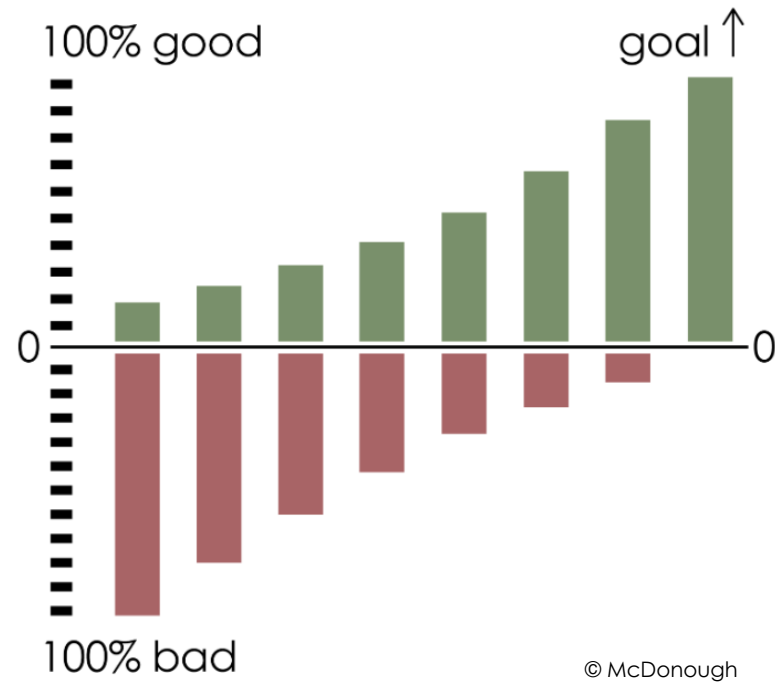
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# Circular economy: an industrial system that is restorative by design



© Reinterpretation of 3XN of an original owned by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation

# The upcycle chart



# Circular economy in the building sector



Conception

Flexibility  
Modularity  
Normalisation



Materials

Local  
Bio



Construction processes

Waste management  
Reuse

What is waste?



What is waste?

« Waste is material without identity »

Thomas Rau



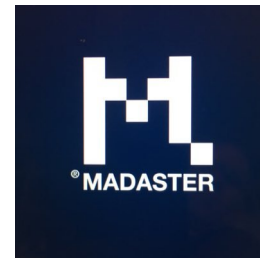
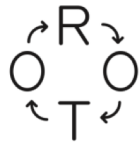
If we give an identity to a material, it is no longer waste

# Reuse of building materials



Existing materials

Future materials



# A LITTLE GAME

*Is it circular?*

Is it circular?

*Using plastic bottles as bricks*



Is it circular?

Waste House by BBM



© BBM

Is it circular?

*Light as service in terminal buildings at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol*



©Philips

Is it circular?

*The Green House in Utrecht*



© The green house, Utrecht

## Is it circular?

Quality writing paper → photocopying paper → cardboard for packaging → tissue paper/toilet paper





Is it circular?

*Kamikatz Public House by Hiroshi Nakamura & NAP*



© Hiroshi Nakamura & NAP

Is it circular?

*Flow by Desso*



© Desso

Is it circular?

*Think by Steelcase*



© Herman Miller

Is it circular?

*PIT lab Amsterdam by DOOR Architecten*

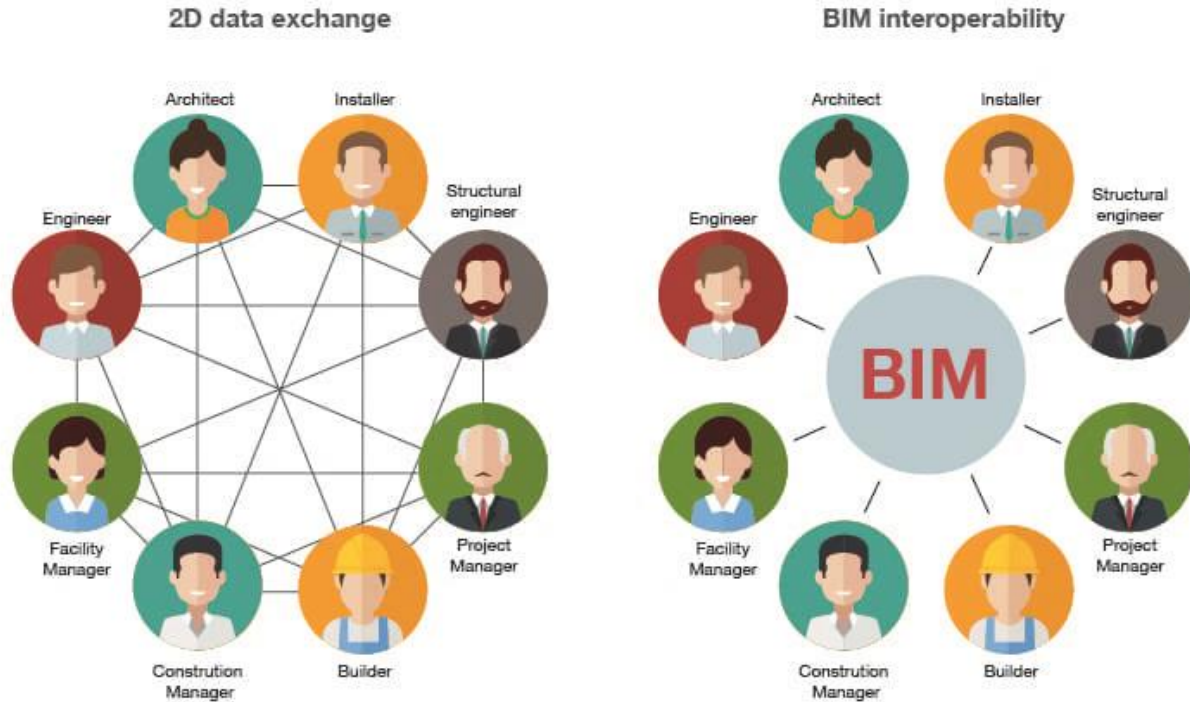


© PIT lab

Is it circular?

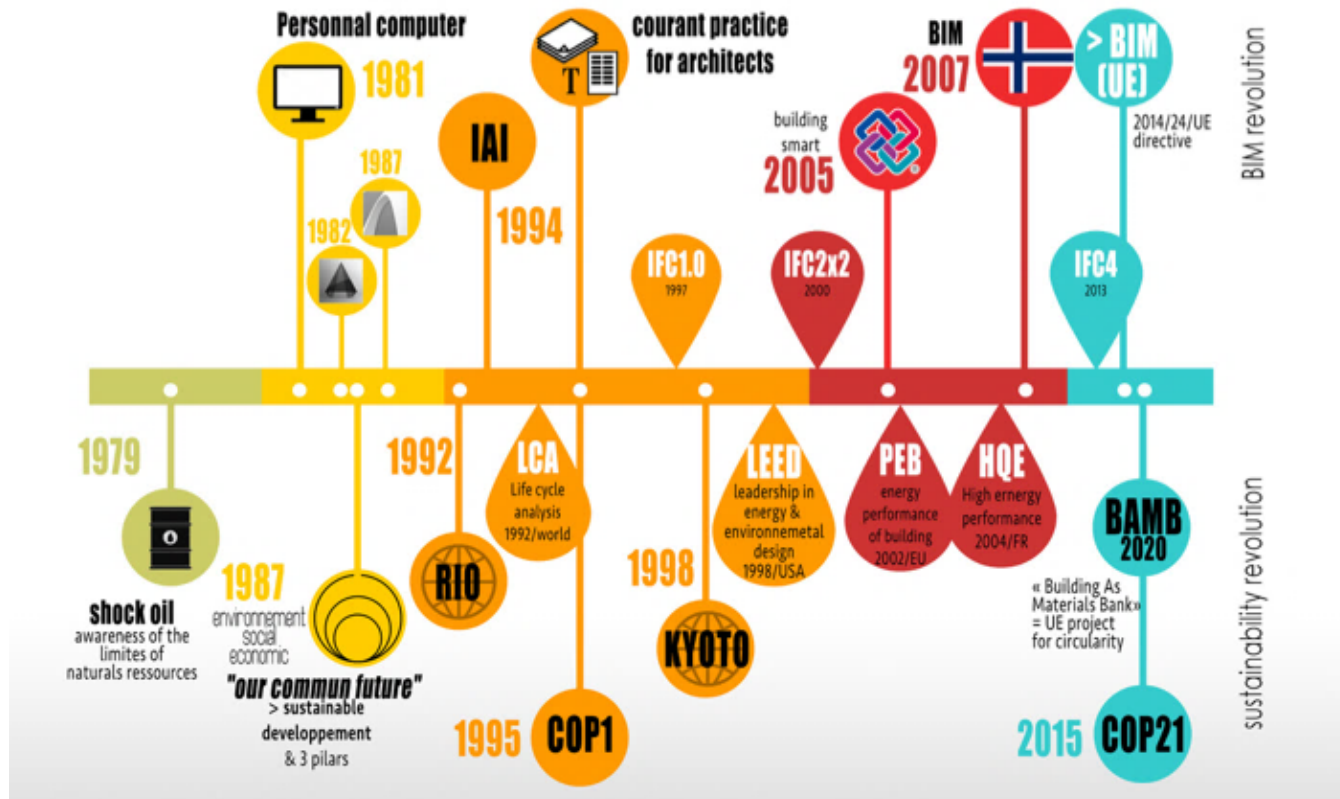
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# Evolution of the way of working



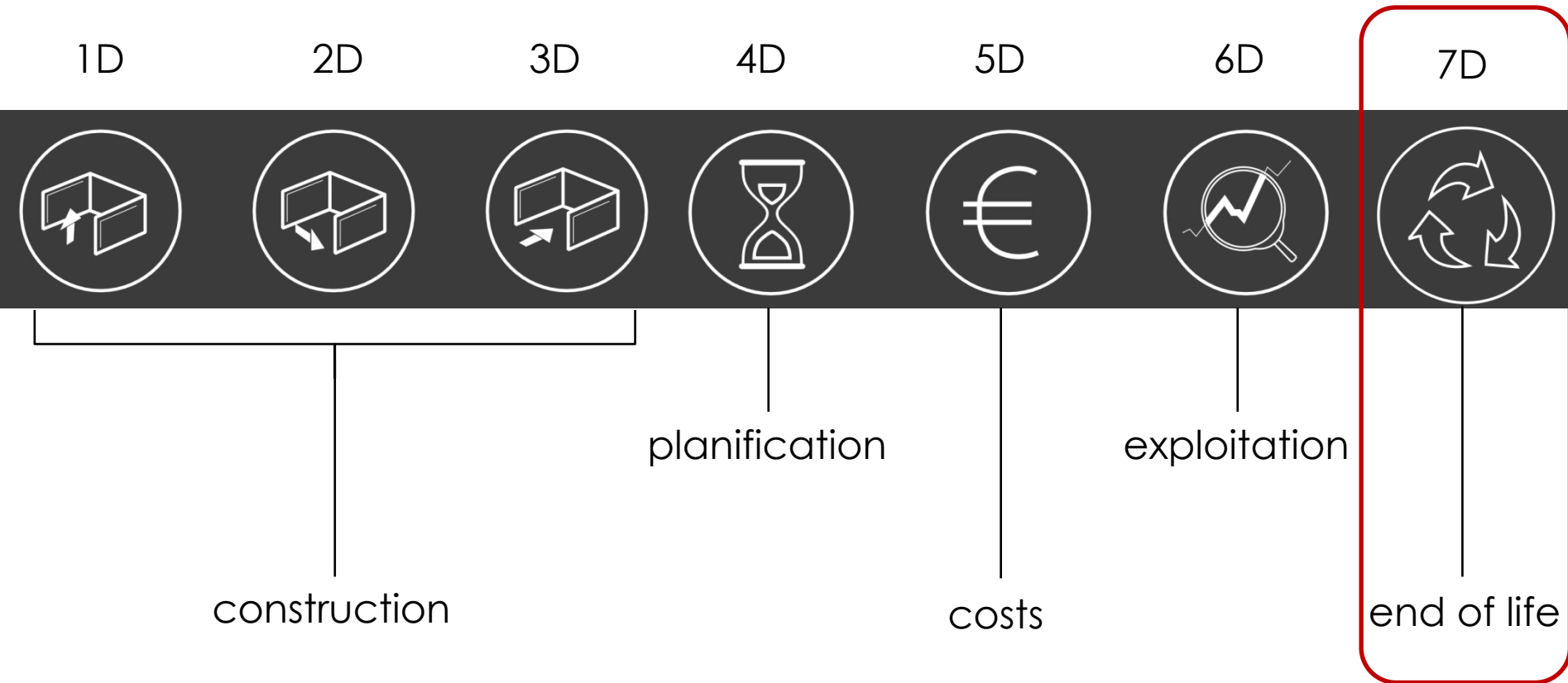
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# Timeline : evolution of BIM versus sustainable design



© Charlotte Dautremont

# BIM 7D?





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# BIM “as-built” as a tool for decision-making between demolition or deconstruction



© Shu Wang, Amtateur Studio

# Research questions

*What? How much? Where?*



Documentation



Identification

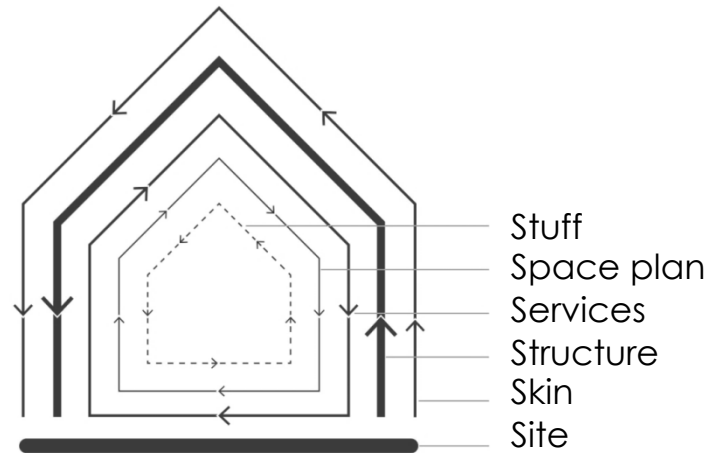


Maintenance



Security

...



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## **Survey addressed to architectural offices**

- Objectives of the survey
- Four parts
- Selection of the offices

## Objectives of the survey

- Identify the challenges for architects
- Identify the offered solutions
- Identify the wished of the architects



The survey consists of four parts

1. General informations
2. Approach to circular economy
3. Use or non-use of BIM-technologies
4. Combination of BIM and circular economy



The survey consists of four parts

## 1. General informations

- Size of the architecture office
- In which region they practice
- The principal contractors of their projects
- The average size of your design projects in 2018
- The number of projects they have in progress in the different development phases

2. Approach to circular economy
3. Use or non-use of BIM-technologies
4. Combination of BIM and circular economy

The survey consists of four parts

1. General informations

**2. Approach to circular economy**

- Knowledge according to circular economy
- Knowledge of the concept "Design for Deconstruction"
- Recovered or reused building materials in new design, construction or renovation projects
  - If yes, how they have done it
  - If not, why they haven't done it
- What they think could help promoting the use of recycled materials

3. Use or non-use of BIM-technologies

4. Combination of BIM and circular economy



The survey consists of four parts

1. General informations
2. Approach to circular economy
- 3. Use or non-use of BIM-technologies**
  - Knowledge of BIM
  - The use BIM-technologies
  - Advantages and disadvantages of BIM
  - How they save and share the information
4. Combination of BIM and circular economy

The survey consists of four parts

1. General informations
2. Approach to circular economy
3. Use or non-use of BIM-technologies
- 4. Combination of BIM and circular economy**
  - Integration of information about recovered materials into a BIM model
    - If yes, how they have done it
    - If not, why they haven't done it
  - New skills and knowledge / new professions

## Selection of the offices

- Applying the principles of circular economy:

*3XN Architects, Thomas Rau, William McDonough, SuperUse Studios, Epicuria Architects, Cepezed, DOOR Architecten, LIAG, Plekvoor, Samyn & Partners, Atelier 4 | 5, Alain Richard, V+, DDS+, ....*

- Using BIM:

*Mecanoo Architecten, Cigler Marani Architecten, PLH Architecten, A-tract architecture, 8office, Jasper Eyers, B2Ai, VK Architects & Engineers, ...*

- Combining the principles of circular economy and the use of BIM:

???

Thank you!