



**EPIC**  
CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

# China for Construction Innovation Program Edition 2026

November/2026

Performed By:



Local partners:



**ITeC**

Global partners:



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# PROGRAM SUMMARY



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# WHAT

E

The EPIC Program connects its participants with the best innovation and business **ECOSYSTEMS** worldwide and their brightest minds

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P

Provides a **PERSONALIZED** experience according to the destination city, the profile of the participants and the theme of the edition of the Program

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I

Guides participants in their **IMMERSION** to the target ecosystem to broaden horizons, acquire new knowledge, establish connections and create high-impact ideas

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C

**CERTIFIES** participants through the Global Innovation Management Institute, recognized as the main seal in the area of Innovation, worldwide

# HOW DO WE DO IT?

This edition will connect participants to cutting-edge ecosystems to generate clear and tangible results through four main activities:

- 1 ACTION - LEARNING
- 2 NETWORKING
- 3 BENCHMARKING
- 4 CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

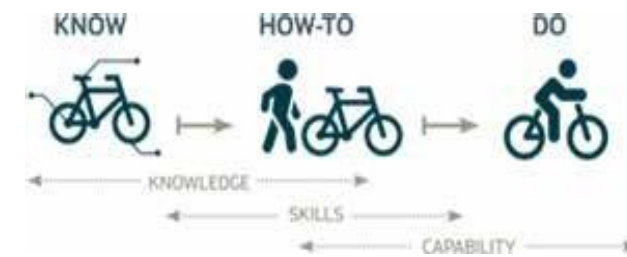


## 1 ACTION-LEARNING

Acquisition of New Knowledge, Methodologies, Frameworks, and World-Class Tools



\* Proprietary methodology illustration



## 3 BENCHMARKING

Observation of Best Practices Through Technical Visits to the Triple Helix\* of the Ecosystem\*\*



\* Corporates, Academia and Government

## 2 NETWORKING

Connection with the Brightest Minds and Key Players in the Ecosystem



## 4 CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Experience the Culture and Opportunities Offered by the Ecosystem for Your Community



\* Illustrative examples

# EDITION

CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION



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# PROGRAM RELEVANCE

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

Global benchmarking could help participants scale faster, build smarter, and adopt breakthrough construction technologies to elevate its competitive edge

### How the construction sector can benefit from China Benchmarking



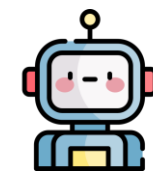
**Acceleration of Construction Industrialization:** in modular, offsite, and prefabricated systems that significantly increase productivity, reduce on-site time, and improve consistency in quality.



**Exposure to Large-Scale & High-Speed Project Delivery:** International ecosystems with powerful examples of delivering mega-projects quickly and efficiently



**Advanced Digital Integration in Urban Systems:** digital twins, BIM at territorial scale, and city-wide smart platforms to enhance coordination, reduce errors, and improve long-term asset management



**Innovation in Robotics, Automation & New Materials:** innovation toolbox and technologies that support higher levels of productivity and sustainability



**Enhanced Productivity & Cost Engineering Approaches:** Global best practices in cost optimization, value engineering, and lean construction to improve competitiveness and efficiency across project phases

# WHY CHINA

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

China is the world's largest construction market and a global engine for built-environment innovation, where massive urbanization meets bold experimentation in industrialized building, digital twins, and green infrastructure. Immersing in its leading ecosystems—from smart cities to high-speed rail and prefabricated housing—offers unique access to scalable solutions in productivity, sustainability, and advanced construction technologies that are rapidly redefining global industry standards.

**No. 1 construction market in the world**

**No. 1 global manufacturing powerhouse for construction materials**

**Top 3 global ecosystems for smart cities and digital urban management**

**Top 5 worldwide in industrialized and prefabricated construction**

**Top 5 global hub for BIM, digital twins, and AI in construction**

**Top 3 exporter of construction machinery and equipment**

**Top 3 strategic markets for global construction partnerships and PPPs**

**Top 3 in the world for mega infrastructure and “mega-project” execution**



# WHY SHANGHAI

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

Shanghai is a world-class ecosystem for industrialized construction, mega-projects, digital city management, and access to China's manufacturing powerhouse.

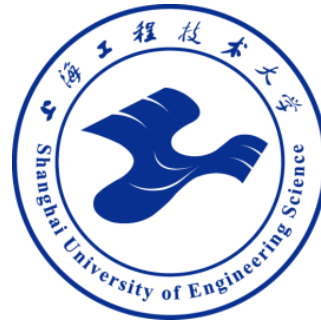
### Why Shanghai is globally relevant

- One of the world's largest mega-cities, **unparalleled scale** in new districts, TOD, and regeneration
- Global benchmark in **digital governance**, including:
  - Digital twins
  - Urban platforms
  - Integrated district planning
- Strong ecosystem of **large developers, EPC contractors, engineering giants**, and smart-city operators
- Access to **nearby industrial clusters** (Suzhou, Ningbo):
  - Prefabrication
  - Steel structures
  - Smart façades
  - Smart HVAC/MEP systems
  - Construction robotics
- Leading examples of **urban regeneration**: industrial-to-innovation districts, waterfront redevelopment, creative parks
- Fast-paced environment showcasing **speed, cost efficiency, and system-level productivity** rarely seen in Europe.



# SUES UNIVERSITY

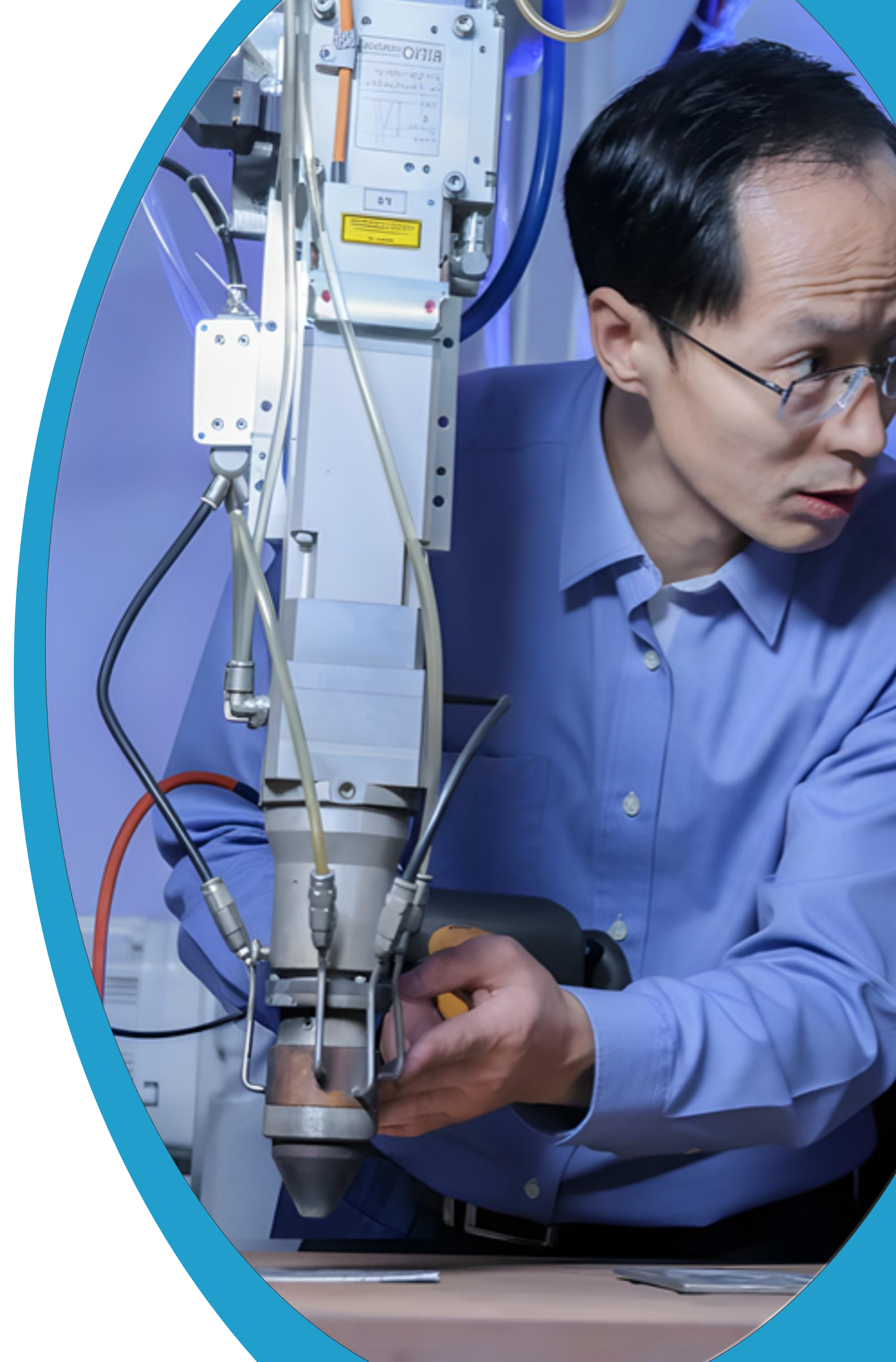
CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION



The Shanghai University of Engineering Science (SUES) is a practice-oriented applied engineering university, deeply embedded in Shanghai's industrial and manufacturing ecosystem. It is known for translating engineering research into real industrial applications, especially in advanced manufacturing, materials, automation, and construction-related technologies.

## Why SUES is highly relevant for the Construction Program

- SUES is built around “**industry–university–research**” integration, which makes it extremely strong for applied learning and technology transfer
- **Professors and researchers with direct experience** working with construction companies, factories, and developers
- **Has a strong focus on:**
  - Industrialized construction & prefabrication
  - New materials and construction systems
  - Automation, robotics, and smart manufacturing
  - Digital construction tools and process optimization
- **Provides a strong vision in:**
  - How China is industrializing construction (offsite, prefab, modular systems)
  - How materials, cost engineering, and productivity are optimized at scale
  - Practical insight into how innovation moves from lab → factory → construction site



*The University will provide the program competition Certificate*

# PROGRAM DETAILS

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

This international mission is designed for leaders in the construction industry. It focuses on key themes for driving sector innovation: cutting-edge architectural design and global trends, new materials and building systems, industrialized and off-site construction, sustainability and circular economy, user experience and building performance, as well as the application of digital technologies, automation, and robotics on the jobsite. The content is fully aligned with the latest transformations in the global construction and infrastructure markets.

## TOP 5 TRANSVERSAL TOPICS

- China vs. Western Innovation Mindsets & Execution Models
- China's Key Innovation Focus Areas Today
- Innovation for new opportunities identification and creation
- Leadership for execution and results acceleration
- Global mindset and strategic partnerships development
- Advanced Construction Methods and Industry 4.0 for the Built Environment
- ConstrucTech & Smart Buildings (IoT, Sensors and Automation)
- BIM, Digital Twins and Data-Driven Project Management
- Industrialized, Modular and Off-Site Construction Systems
- Low-Carbon Construction, Sustainability and Circular Economy

## DATA

November, 09-13, 2026

## COUNTRY

China (Shanghai)

## SELECTED AUDIENCE

Executives and leaders from the construction industry, as well as representatives of public and industry institutions, who seek to explore global trends, innovative materials, and new technologies to boost competitiveness and accelerate the modernization of the construction sector.

## DESIGN

Program designed by the Boston Innovation Gateway global leaders, BIG's China partners and a local experts in the target industry

## CERTIFICATE



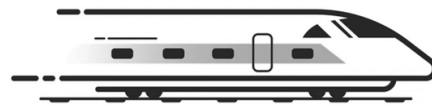
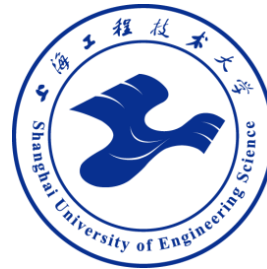
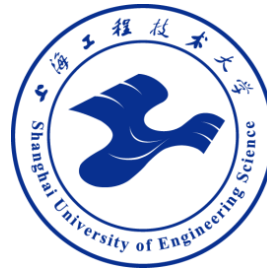
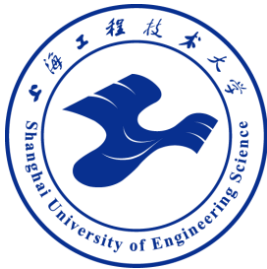
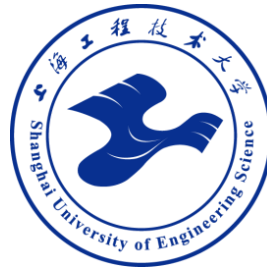



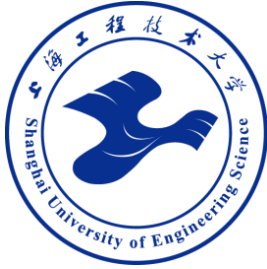











Issued by the Shanghai University Partner SUES

# AGENDA

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

The EPIC agenda is designed to be intense, but also eclectic and dynamic.

The selected activities are the state of the art for innovation and entrepreneurship in the construction industry.

	MON 09/11/26 SHANGHAI	TUE 10/11/26 SHANGHAI	WED 11/11/26 SUZHOU	THU 12/11/26 SHANGHAI	FRI 13/11/26 SHANGHAI
<b>MORNING</b> (ACTION-LEARNING & NETWORKING)			 Transfer		
<b>MORNING</b> (BENCHMARKING & NETWORKING)					
<b>AFTERNOON</b> (BENCHMARKING & NETWORKING)					 Closing/ Networking session
<b>AFTERNOON</b> (BENCHMARKING & NETWORKING)	 Networking session				
<b>NIGHT</b> (OPTIONAL CULTURAL EXPERIENCE)			 Transfer		

\*preliminar

# BENCHMARKING



**WEIBUILD** is a fast-growing leader in construction robotics, specializing in autonomous wall-coating and rebar-processing systems that industrialize key on-site activities. By combining precision machinery, navigation, and AI vision, its worker-friendly robots tackle “dirty, difficult, and dangerous” tasks such as plastering, spraying, and rebar machining—boosting productivity, quality, and safety while accelerating the shift toward automated, high-performance construction sites.



**SUZHOU INDUSTRIAL PARK** is a flagship innovation zone where advanced manufacturing, digital infrastructure, and green urban planning intersect to redefine construction. The park’s ecosystem of engineering firms, R&D centers, and smart city pilots accelerates adoption of BIM, industrialized building systems, and low-carbon materials, offering a living laboratory for next-generation, high-efficiency urban development.



**GLODON** is a leading digital construction platform provider, specializing in BIM-based cost management, project controls, and smart site solutions for the AEC industry. By integrating 5D BIM, cloud collaboration, and data-driven budgeting into a single ecosystem, Glodon shows how end-to-end digitalization can improve cost accuracy, reduce overruns, and turn construction projects into continuously optimized, information-rich assets.



**ZN HOUSE**, operated by Suzhou Zhongnan Steel Structure, is a leading modular construction company specializing in prefabricated container buildings and rapid-deployment camp solutions for construction, mining, public infrastructure, and emergency response. By combining industrialized steel structures, flat-pack and folding systems, and eco-efficient envelope designs, ZN House shows how off-site fabrication can cut lead times, reduce waste, and enable scalable, low-carbon built environments.



**SHANGHAI CONSTRUCTION GROUP (SCG)** is one of China’s largest and most innovative construction and engineering companies, transforming skylines and infrastructure through an integrated “design–build–operate” model. By combining BIM, digital twins, prefabrication, and low-carbon materials, SCG shows how industrialized construction can raise productivity, quality, and safety while cutting emissions, offering a powerful benchmark for those seeking scalable, future-ready solutions.

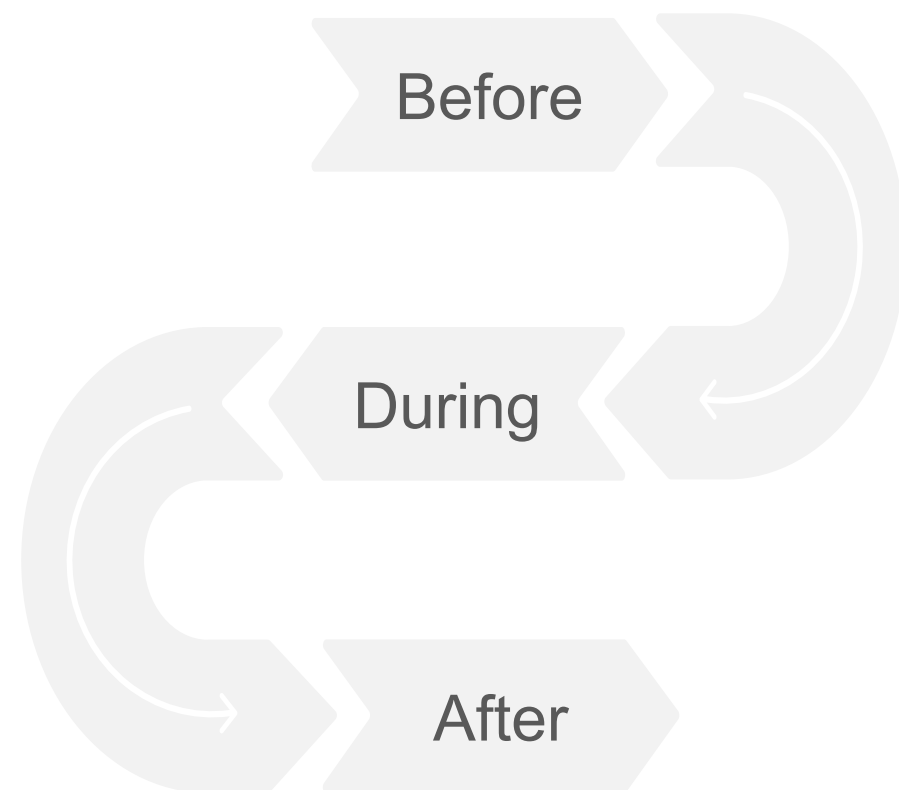


**AMBILIGHT** is a pioneer in flexible electrochromic glass, delivering smart façades that dynamically control light and heat for high-performance buildings. Its film-based EC technology offers concrete lessons on integrating smart glazing into building envelopes to cut cooling loads, enhance comfort, and enable low-carbon, climate-responsive designs showing architects, engineers, and contractors how next-generation materials can unlock both energy savings and new performance standards.

# STEP-BY-STEP

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

Get ready for a structured journey that goes far beyond your moment in the destination city and aims to generate clear and practical results to be implemented back in your home country



- Onboarding

- Setup

- Connection to the Virtual Program Portal with all the detailed information for your preparation before the trip

- Connection to the program's Learning Management System (LMS) for access to world-class proprietary reading material and videos, on the topic of immersion focus

- Action-Learning

- Debriefings

- Networking

- Benchmarking

- Insights-Generation

- Cultural Experience

- Action-Learning sessions for the transfer of new knowledge

- Debriefings for consolidation of learning and connection with practice

- Networking through Guest Lectures and Events

- Benchmarking through visits to organizations of the triple helix of the ecosystem

- Insights-Generation through Workshop for mapping ideas and creating new business concepts

- Experience of gastronomy, arts, sports and leisure in the city

- Road-map

- Network connection

- International Certification in Innovation (optional)

- Expert consultant guidance for prioritization of your ideas and development of road-map (virtual session - 1h)

- Joining the global network of the GIM Institute - optional

- International testing and certification (Innovation Associate - GIMI Level 1) - optional

# KEY TAKEAWAYS

EPIC BOSTON FOR CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

At the end of the program, participants will generate clear and tangible results, including but not limited to:

- Expanded vision and mentality;
- Deep understanding of the ecosystem;
- New relationships and/or alliances;
- New opportunities identified;
- New knowledge and insights to apply Monday morning.



***“Learning about the trends has inspired us greatly, and understanding real cases helps us bring this knowledge to replicate it in Spain.”***

*Jacinto Segui Mendez, Director at FINSA.*



***“It is a process that is changing the way I approach innovation in my company, and one of the things that has impacted me the most is having strong allies and partners to develop new projects.”***

*Cristian Salmeron Mateo. Head of Innovation at ELECNOR.*



***“Among the main learnings, one is the connection between innovation and the business, oriented toward financial results, and the other is taking a pause in the day-to-day and thinking beyond what we believe we can do.”***

*Juan Fran Sierra Sanz. CIO at SORIGUÉ.*

# INVESTMENT GIVES AND GETS

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

The program has an investment of **USD \$6.500**, including all the items listed below + **USD \$100\*** for night city guide / support

Main Items - Before the Immersion		
Item	Description	Condition
1	2 Briefing Meetings with Contractor	Included
2	Program Design	Included
3	Kickoff with the Contractor's Team	Included
4	2 Planning / Follow-up Meetings	Included
5	Hiring of Third Parties	Included
6	Customized LMS for the Program	Included
7	Content - Videos and Reading Materials	Included
8	Participant Profile Analysis	Included
9	Individual Mentoring with Participants	Optional
10	Kickoff and Pre-Travel Guidance with Participants	Included

Main Items - During the Immersion		
Item	Description	Condition
1	Toolbox Workshop	Included
2	Master Classes	Included
3	Benchmarking Sessions	Included
4	Networking Sessions	Included
5	Cultural Experience*	Included
6	Briefing for Third Parties	Included
7	Agenda Curation and Facilitation	Included
8	End-to-End Execution Management	Included
9	Opportunity Mapping Workshop	Optional
10	7 Follow-up Meetings	Included

Main Items - After the Immersion		
Item	Description	Condition
1	Certification	Included
2	Individual Mentoring with Participants	Optional
3	Project Debriefing Meeting with Contractor	Included
4	Participant Satisfaction Survey	Included
5	Program Retrospective Report for Contractor	Included

\*Program Prices do not include air flights, lodging, food, cultural activities or additional activities

\*The final program price will be provided once the destination city is selected and the agenda is agreed with the partners

\*The USD 100 corresponds to a on-site city support provided by a third-party guide during free evening hours to assist participants with touristic orientation and city navigation. Boston Innovation Gateway acts solely as a facilitator and does not provide or profit from this service.

# LOGISTICS AND RESOURCES

## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

Main Items - Logistics		
Item	Description	Condition
1	Simultaneous Translation	Included
2	Transfer at the destination*	Included
3	Breakfast	Optional
4	Morning Coffee Break	Included
5	Meals (Lunch)	Optional
6	Snacks (Afternoon)	Optional
7	Meals (Dinner)	Optional
8	Accommodation	Not Included
9	Airfare	Not Included
10	Travel Insurance	Not Included

Professional Team		
Item	Description	Condition
1	Client Manager	Included
2	Pedagogical Advisor	Included
3	Project Manager	Included
4	Logistics Leader	Included
5	Administrative and Logistics Assistants	Included
6	Curator	Included
7	Activity Facilitator and Instructors	Included
8	Communication Assistant	Optional
9	Photographer	Optional
10	Video Maker	Optional

\* Transportation of the first to the last commitment of the day's agenda, excluding the cultural agenda and airport transportation

# TEAM CHART

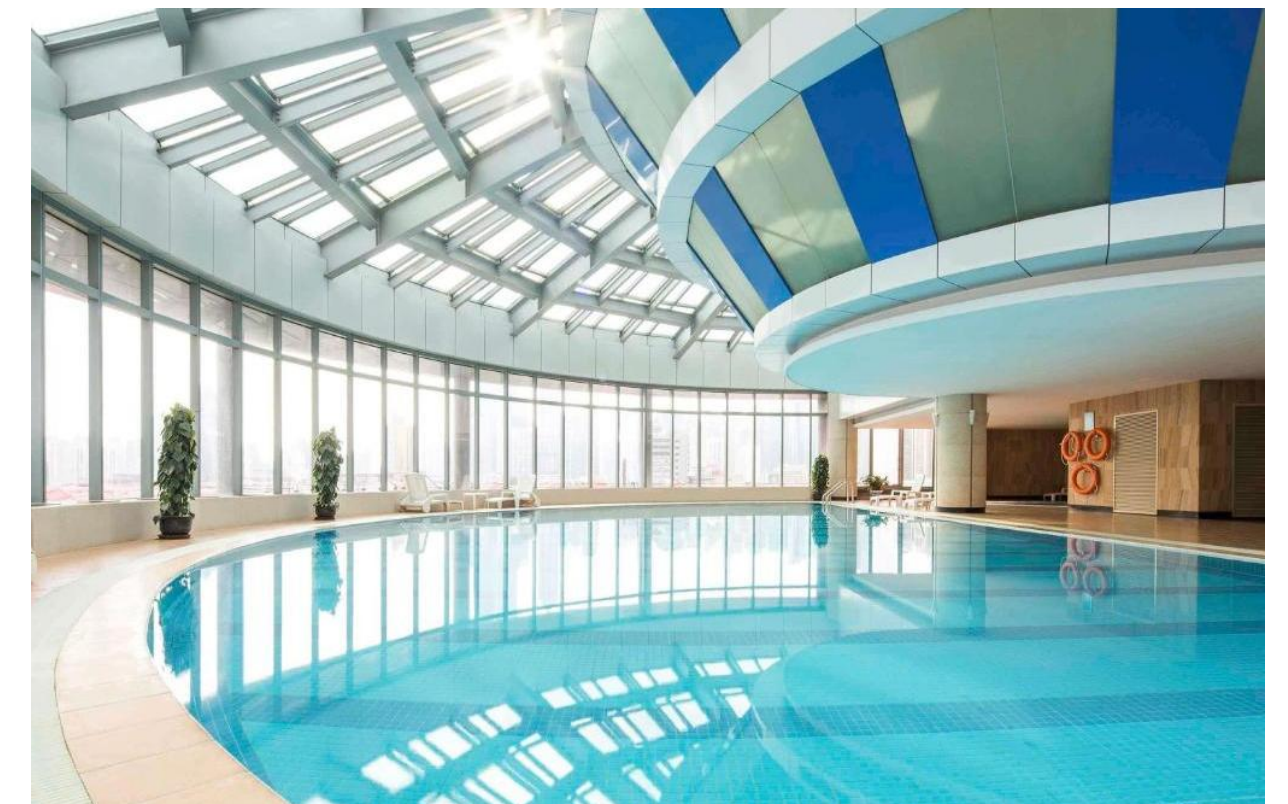
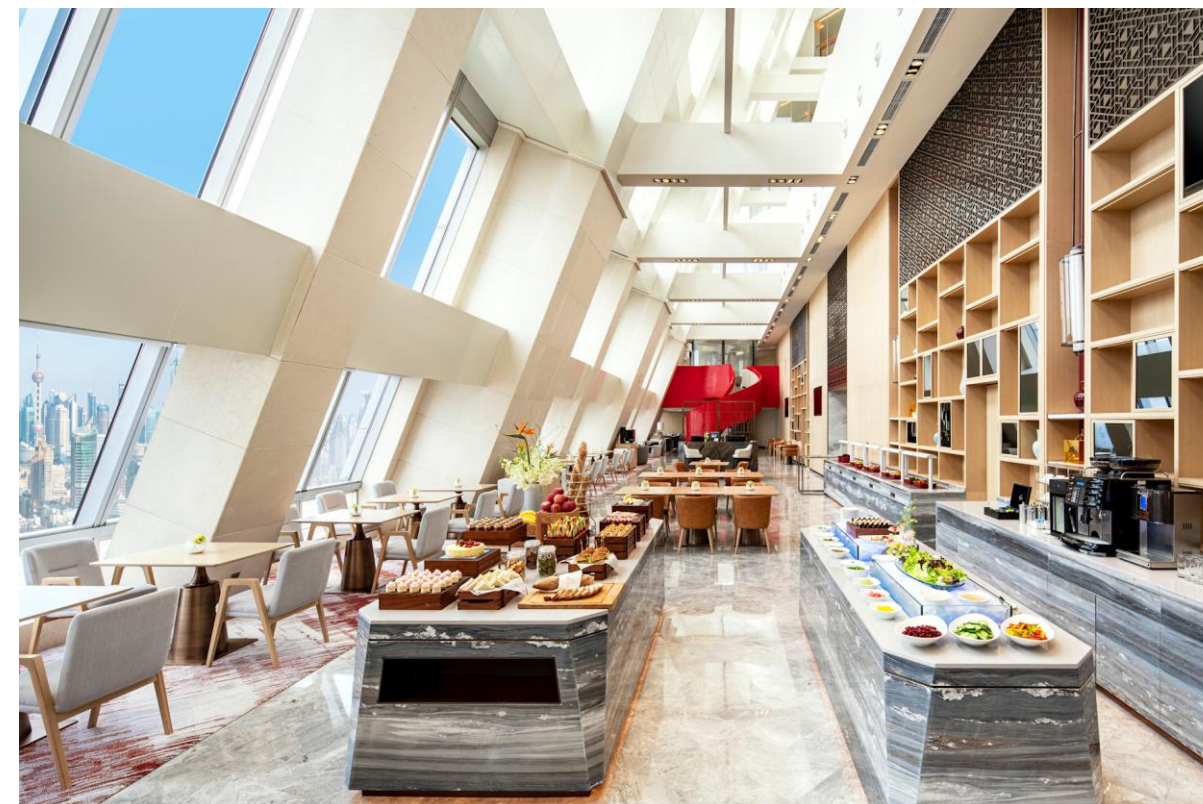
CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION



# ACCOMMODATION

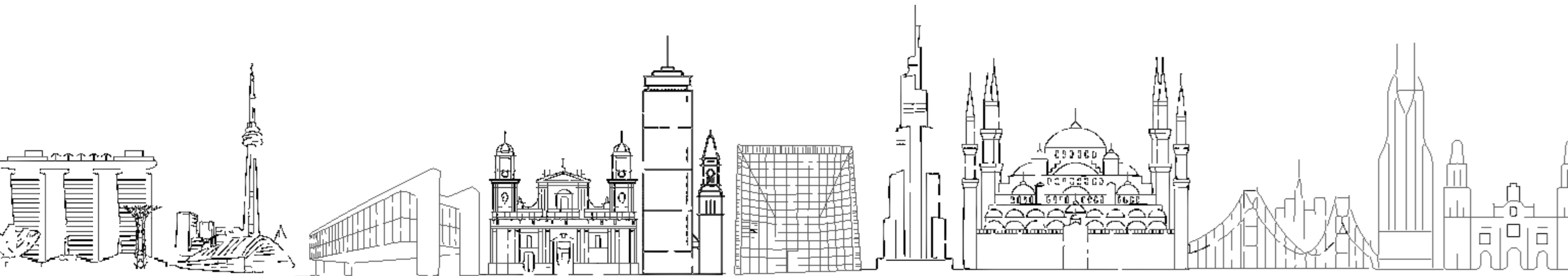
## CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION

Accommodation is **not included** in the program fee. The program will announce **the official program hotel by the end of July**, which will serve as the central meeting point for daily logistics, as the bus will depart from this hotel each morning to the scheduled activities and return there at the end of each day. The official hotel is expected to be a 4–5 star property, with an estimated average rate between **USD 150 and USD 200 per night**



# WHY US

BOSTON INNOVATION GATEWAY



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## UNIQUE ACTION LEARNING-APPROACH

Participants have action-Learning sessions and differentiated connections with professors, researchers and alumina networks, as a result of our unique access to more than 150 world-renowned universities, to which we transfer cutting-edge knowledge, through consulting or training programs



## BENCHMARKING WITH WHO WORKS WITH LEADERS

Participants rely on benchmark sessions and differentiated connections with professionals from leading global and regional organizations, as a result of our unique access to hundreds of world-renowned clients, for which we conduct consulting and training projects to develop new capabilities and accelerate growth



## ACCESS TO UNIQUE GLOBAL RELATIONS NETWORK

Participants have the chance to make differentiated connections with the players of the destination ecosystem and build alliances faster, as a result of our local network of pre-established global relations and the previously built credibility



**Muhammad Yunus**

Nobel Prize winner  
and Judge Hult Prize\*

We have access to a unique network of relationships. We have developed several initiatives in partnership with leaders and organizations at a global level, including the Hult Prize for entrepreneurship, promoted in partnership with the Bill Clinton Foundation and Hult IBS, considered by TIME magazine one of the 5 best ideas of today.

**Bill Clinton**

42 President of the United States  
and co-founder of the Hult Prize\*



\* The Hult Prize is the largest global social entrepreneurship competition and was designed by our team of leaders

## CONTINUITY OF CONNECTIONS, IDEAS AND PROJECTS

Participants have the unique opportunity to continue their connections, ideas and projects after the Program, as a result of the local presence of our teams in more than 20 countries and our experience "making it happen" globally



## TEAM SUPPORT IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

Participants are guided by a team of professionals with global training and experience, as well as knowledge about the countries of origin and destination, who not only "know how to teach", but mainly, also know how to "make it happen"



# DIFFERENT PROGRAMS AND FOCUS AREAS

The EPIC Program has been running since 2016 and has already connected hundreds of leaders, entrepreneurs, professionals, and university students to the best entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems in the world.

## PROGRAMS EXAMPLES



Boston



San Francisco



Miami



Barcelona



Dubai



Singapore



South Korea



Medellin



Florianópolis

Making Innovation Real • Disrupt or be Disrupted • Business Model Innovation • Strategy Innovation • Leadership Innovation • Tech Innovation • Ecosystems Innovation • Growth Acceleration • Market Expansion • Economics Development • Smart Cities • Innovation for Governments, Finance, Education, Health, Security, Mobility, Agro

# LEADERSHIP TEAM

The EPIC program design and content were envisioned by prominent consultants and innovation thought leaders who also teach at the top business schools worldwide.



**HITENDRA PATEL, PhD**

Managing Director of IXL Center

Dr. Patel has not only helped drive innovation for large corporations like Johnson Controls, Hewlett Packard, LG, Verizon and P&G, but has also consulted small to medium size enterprises and governments around the globe. He built the world's largest start-up accelerator for budding young entrepreneurs through Hult Prize in collaboration with President Bill Clinton and his team.



**RONALD JONASH**

Chairman of the Board of the GIM Institute

Ron was a senior partner of the Monitor Group where he established and led their Innovation Practice. He was also a founder of Innovation Management Inc. For 20 years, he held Managing Director position of the Technology and Innovation Management Practice for Arthur D. Little worldwide. As a Professor, he led numerous executive leadership and development programs at major companies.



**MANUEL MENDES**

Co-founder and Managing Director of BIG

Manuel is a serial entrepreneur and consultant with a focus on international business and innovation. He has worked with over 400 organizations, governments, and universities worldwide. His internationalization studies while at Harvard University were recognized and published at HBR, being later the basis for the Boston Innovation Gateway foundation and its proprietary methodologies, frameworks, and tools.

# GLOBAL PARTNERS

The EPIC Program is delivered in collaboration with the global leaders in INTERNATIONALIZATION, CONSULTING AND EDUCATION



Boston Innovation Gateway (BIG) was founded by IXL Center following a study conducted at Harvard University designed to help companies and individuals go international. The initiative was highlighted by the university in 2014 and published in the Harvard Business Review in 2015. BIG designs and coordinates the EPIC program.



The Center for Innovation, Excellence and Leadership (IXL) is the Certified Training Provider of the GIM Institute. IXL has a global footprint and is recognized by Forbes as one of the best consulting companies in innovation, growth & new business models. IXL delivers the training through its global team of consultants and thought leaders.



Global Innovation Management Institute (GIMI) is the global standard certification board for innovation and innovation management. Over 200 Fortune 500 companies and over 5,000 MBA students worldwide have developed mastery of innovation through the structured frameworks and processes of the GIM Institute. GIMI provides the certification for the program.

# THANK YOU!

## CONTACTO:

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### **Patricia Amaral**

CEO Conecta Barcelona

Executive Director, BIG Barcelona Office

# thinkbig

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Innovation  
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