

## Doka Ventures - Building Future Conference 2017

**"The most exciting ideas happen at interfaces."**

**Networks across the whole construction sector are the foundation for deep insights and ideas regarding future needs and developments. Therefore, Doka Ventures hosted its first Building Future Conference in June 2017.**



Nowadays, the construction industry probably faces its biggest challenges ever. But also its greatest chances. The self-reinforcing combination of two global mega trends, namely demographic change and increasing urbanization, will lead to a dramatically rising need for new concepts for housing and infrastructure. The construction industry is the world's largest sector but it has the lowest productivity. Hence, its innovation potential is obvious.

To gain insights on the impact of possible future trends, cross-industry networks are a sound basis to share knowhow, experience and vision for the future. On 21 June 2017, Doka Ventures organized and hosted the Building Future Conference at Umdasch Group's headquarters in Amstetten, Austria. Twenty-six experts along the whole construction value chain representing planners and architects, developers, construction firms, researchers, various suppliers, material experts, logisticians and startups followed our invitation.

The event started with a hearty welcome and opening by CEO Jürgen Obiegli (Doka Ventures) who also serves as Member of Doka Group's Advisory Board. Werner H. Bittner, Member of

the Executive Board of Doka Ventures, followed with an introduction relative to Doka Ventures` goals and way to tackle areas of interest. As keynote speaker, Dr. Benjamin Dillenburger, Assistant Professor of Digital Building Technologies at ETH Zurich, gave an impressive and current overview on additive manufacturing and robotics employed in the domain of construction. Maria Tagwerker-Sturm (Doka Ventures) as well as Benjamin Bergmayr (Palfinger Group) provided condensed information on relevant trends in the construction industry. To get everyone into direct interaction, a BarCamp followed with the intended intensive and inspiring discussions on trends and new technologies in the building sector.

The day was full of fruitful insights, discussions and exchange of experience and opinions and due to the very positive feedback from participants, the decision was easy to host another Building Future Conference next year. This event will take place on 24 April 2018, in Amstetten, Austria. In addition, two Innovation Groups are going to be formed to work intensively and continuously on specific future themes. The first group will deal with digitalization and the other group with new building methods and materials. In case you are interested to participate in one or both of these innovation groups, kindly contact Maria Tagwerker-Sturm.

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