

Riga, 26th April

Venue: Glass Hall, Bergs
Bazaar, Hotel Bergs

Wooden Architecture:

History and Future in the Nordic-Baltic Region

Background: Nordic countries are becoming increasingly aware that wooden architecture is more than just a good example of using local renewable resources, since wooden buildings also have an impact on human health, environmental aesthetics and local employment. The conference *Wooden Architecture: History and Future in the Nordic-Baltic Region* aims to highlight the latest trends in wooden architecture and the construction sector in general. The main focus will lie on upcycling, energy efficiency and health issues, particularly in relation to contemporary architecture and possible developments in the future. Some presentations will take a historical perspective on wooden architecture in urban settings, illustrating the contribution of cities to people's wellbeing throughout different times.

Target Audience: architects, developers, policy makers, climate change experts, sustainable building specialists and social sustainability activists

Moderator: Gatis Zamurs, CEO Latvian Wood Construction Cluster

14:00-14:20 Opening

- *Stefan Eriksson, Director of the Nordic Council of Ministers' Office in Latvia*
- *Arvils Ašeradens, Minister of Economics, Deputy Prime Minister*

14:20-15:00 Wooden Architecture in Urban Environment: History and Future

"The Idea of the 'Golden City' Throughout the Centuries", Professor Laura Kolbe, University of Helsinki

15:00-15:20 Coffee break

15:20-16:00 Nordic Take on Wooden Architecture: Future of Social Sustainability and Climate Change

- Issues to discuss:
- Climate change - statistics of humidity & rain for the next 20-50-100 years and its impact on building sector
 - Responsible procurement and social sustainability – opportunities and challenges in the Nordic countries
 - Best Nordic wooden architecture
 - *Susanne Rudenstam, CEO, Swedish Wood Building Council*
 - *Jonas Olsson, Expert, ArkDes, SUSTAINORDIC network*
 - *Mads Randbøll Wolff, Expert, Wood in Construction Project*
 - *Anders Vestergaard Jensen, Project Manager, Climate-KIC*

16:00-17:00 Latvia and Wooden Architecture: the Future Outlook

- Issues to discuss:
- What are the barriers for Latvia to foster wooden architecture in the cities?
 - The demand side: what are consumer's fears and prejudices? How to work with stereotypes associated with wooden buildings?
 - How to strengthen Nordic Baltic link in wooden architecture?
 - *Miķelis Putrāms, architect, MADE*
 - *Kristaps Ceplis, CEO, Green Homes*
 - *Inga Bērziņa, Chairwoman Kuldīga City Council*
 - *Viesturs Celmiņš, urban planner*

Please sign up for the conference by 16th April here: <https://ej.uz/qpha>