This call is exclusively for proposals of original research articles, which will be published in the related section of the journal.

QUALITY OF DEMAND AND EFFICACY OF THE PROCESSES

The drastic reduction in resources allocated to investments in public works is one of the effects of the crisis that since 2008 struck the world’s industrially advanced economies. This is particularly true in the EU, where the tight controls on budgets prevent member states to create new bonds to finance counter-cyclical industries. Countries with the most critical financial parameters, such as Italy, suffer serious negative consequences of this situation, in the absence of realistic opportunities to reverse the downturn, even in the medium term.

However, the reduction of available resources does not decrease the demand for public buildings, which indeed continues to grow, along with the level of social expectations in terms of functional quality, equipment, safety and environmental sustainability of such structures.

Also, delivery high performance standards results in a steady increase in operating costs, which soars to a dominant role in the whole business plan, compared to the already high initial costs.

In this context, it is important and urgent to increase the efficiency of construction processes in order to maximize the return on investment and safeguard service levels, despite the reduced availability of resources.

To achieve a greater productivity, the whole construction process - from conception to demolition - needs to be carefully designed and managed to reduce the margin of uncertainty, avoid losses and approximations and introduce robust innovation, both in funding mechanisms, and in the organizational models, methods and means of control.

A recognized precondition for effectiveness in the construction industry lies in the integration of project vision and the vision of the process: the project as a response to a request considering constraints and resources, the process as the organization of the activities, roles and skills taking into account the economic and social structures of a given context.

The use of project management methodologies allows the project to be implemented effectively. The use of methodologies to manage the process (Process Management) allows the industry and its various components, to improve the processes creating value along the supply chain of construction. Life Cycle approach has extended the concept of the project from planning, management to the end of life. The approach of Quality System introduced the concept of continuous process improvement in the construction sector, with its various operators.

The research area of building technology developed theories, methodologies and techniques to structure and orchestrate the processes of the project and consolidate their regulatory models in the building process: the roles of operators, and particularly the final
users operators, the decision-making models and the organizational models, tools, guidance, assessment, monitoring and so on.

Original contributions on research and experimentation will be selected through this call with reference to the topics set out above, to be published in TECHNE n.6.

Articles on research and experiments must be emailed to redazionetechne@tecnologi.net by July 6, 2013.

The articles must be written in English. Texts, references, images and notes must comply with the editorial specifications set out on the journal's website (see http://www.fupress.net/index.php/techne/information/authors). The procedure for the acceptance and review of papers, articles and contributions is set out at the web address http://www.fupress.net/index.php/techne/about/editorialPolicies