

BIM and Diversity in Construction

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According to the UK Cabinet office, Building Information Modelling is a process of generating and managing information of a build asset, allowing multi-disciplinary information to be superimposed within a model enabled by a combination of technology, processes and people. There is an underlying assumption that there will be an efficient collaboration built on trust, the involvement of people and culture. Significantly a recent RICS (2014) survey identifies that 'cultural change' is one of the biggest challenges that faces the effective implementation of BIM ahead of the government's 2016 deadline (<http://www.rics.org/uk/knowledge/news-insight/press-releases/biggest-cultural-shift-in-a-generation-required-for-adoption-of-bim/>). This paper identifies the factors in construction that impact on the underrepresentation of ethnic and gender minorities. As such it asks if the arrival of BIM could exclude minorities even further, as well as, considering how we might increase the engagement of BME and women to make our industry more representative.

Biographies:

Vian Ahmed is a Professor in Built Environment & Director of PGR, at Salford University, with expertise in Construction Management and IT and research interest in Skills, Culture and People in Construction.

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