

Friends:

As we approach the midpoint of 2023, I want to thank you for your engagement with the Center for Innovation. Together, we have shaped an international conversation about innovating and advancing our industry. With this letter, I'd like to share CFI's focus and challenges.

Our mission is to inspire innovation in the design and construction industry. This year we will conduct at least 20 webinars and host four sessions of the Innovation Leaders Roundtable, a small working group of innovation leaders within our industry. In April, we co-hosted the Lean Design Forum, "Lean Design Meets Innovation and Industrialized Construction," in conjunction with P2SL at UC Berkeley. On June 23rd, we will launch the fifth Innovation Lab cohort. Led by UC Berkeley professors, this asynchronous course leads working professionals through a rigorous process to help address an innovation challenge in their workplace.

These initiatives are only possible with your support.

LOOKING AHEAD

CFI is also exploring the opportunity to learn and share innovative ideas and processes as Ukrainians begin to reconstruct their country. This journey began when CFI hosted a webinar during the 2022 Fall Forum presented by the Lean Institute Ukraine. During that webinar, our Ukrainian guests shared the challenges of rebuilding during the war while simultaneously planning for peace.

Since then, we have been collaborating with Dobrobat and Lean Institute Ukraine, to plan two of our most significant events:

- 1. CFI-Ukrainian Summit** - In July, five leaders from CFI will join 300 Ukrainians in Kyiv to discuss reconstruction efforts and to learn the objectives and pain points of reconstruction from Ukrainian mayors, ministry officials, and citizens.
- 2. CFI-Ukrainian Bay Area Study Tour** - In October, CFI will host a delegation of Ukrainian government officials and industry leaders on a 10-day study tour to see innovative projects and meet innovators like you. The exact schedule will be determined following the July event.

Note: this schedule could change based on US government advisories regarding security during the ongoing conflict.



Photo from Lean Design Forum
April 5, 2023

SPECIAL PROJECTS

CFI-Ukrainian Summit
July 2023

**CFI-Ukrainian Bay Area
Study Tour**
October 2023

Learn More:
[www.centerforinnovation.org/
special-projects](http://www.centerforinnovation.org/special-projects)



MID-2023 UPDATE

JUNE 16, 2023

CFI's engagement with Ukraine is rooted in a profound respect for the ingenuity and creativity of Ukrainians. Ukrainians have clarified that they seek a new way to design and build and are hindered only by a lack of knowledge of other ways to do their work. The chance to begin anew is a powerful opportunity for innovators like you to share best practices at scale.

Innovation in Ukraine will support efforts around the globe to respond to technically challenging questions, such as repurposing material waste from war, directly benefiting the industry when we plan to rebuild after demolition or other natural disasters. Many countries face the challenge of mobilizing to build hundreds of thousands of housing units. CFI sees its work with Ukraine as a "research laboratory" where new methods can be brought to countries that need to rapidly rebuild infrastructure and housing on a scale not seen since the end of WWII. We plan to research the implementation of new methods and opportunities and help overcome impediments. We also plan to share this research in webinars, articles and our website.

CFI seeks to leverage new design and construction techniques in Ukraine to support the Ukrainian people and share the journey with our community. One of CFI's tenets is to "reshape the AEC industry for tomorrow." We can think of no better way to reshape our industry than to support Ukrainians as they envision a country at peace with the biggest reconstruction effort of our lifetimes.

As always, we will share our successes and failures throughout this journey. Thank you again for your support. We can not do any of this without you, and we hope you are gaining the value we believe we're bringing to you and the AEC industry as a whole.

Sincerely,

Stuart Eckblad, FAIA

President, Center for Innovation Board of Directors