

Overview

Prior to the start of this project, knowledge of the possible instruments and measures to achieve a more even utilization of construction capacity, together with their effects, was basically limited to the supportive measures used before 1985 as well as the technology and organization of winter construction. There were no comparative investigations of the effects of measures to achieve a more even pace of construction in other countries.

The overall goal of this project was to identify, investigate, and document international experiences with construction in winter, particularly how it is encouraged and supported, and to develop a list of options for their application in Germany. In the framework of an international comparison, we therefore prepared a qualitative assessment of the effects of such measures in the countries Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, and Switzerland. Here we also considered the possible interactions with other conditions that encourage or limit construction in winter. Along with non-weather related causes for interrupted construction, these included identifying the application of innovative technologies to support winter construction, as well as the social, legal, and weather-related conditions.

We then proceeded to prepare a catalogue of instruments and measures to achieve an even utilization of construction capacities in Germany. The catalogue contains a variety of suggestions for prerequisites and steps to be created to move toward a steady pace of construction activity throughout the year in Germany.

The RKW has undertaken the informative realization. The further realization, particularly the realization of the results in the form of legislation, is task of the federal government, together with both the employers and the employed in the construction industry.

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