

Financial questions of construction projects

How to think about money vs. architecture?

It's all about the money (?)

- Costs/expenses
- Incomes/revenues



What COSTS?

- Costs during the project
 - Building plot
 - Infrastructural facilities
 - Building
 - Outdoor constructions and installations
 - Furniture and artworks
 - Additional expenses
- Costs after the project:
 - Object management costs: (personal) costs in connection with the operation of the building
 - Operating costs
 - Maintenance costs

What COSTS?

- Cost estimation, calculation...
 - the accuracy depends on the details known
 - Basic budget → Cost plan → Cost estimation → Cost calculation → Cost check
 - preliminary estimation (based on samples)
 - cost estimation based on surface model (€/m²)
 - cost calculation based on technical specification (€/unit/work activity)

What COSTS?

- Preliminary cost estimation
 - Cost values of similar construction cases (functions)
 - Total cost / volume of an existing project (building) (m, m², m³)
 - Currency unit / construction unit e.g. € / m²
 - Planned volume m²
 - Modifications based on technical/organisational/architectural aspects
 - → Estimated cost

What COSTS?

- Additional costs
 - Cost of the land/plot + Infrastructure
 - Preparation and organisation of the project (programming, surveying, management, PR, insurances, studies etc...) 2,5-15%
 - Designers (architecture & more..) 2-14%
 - Financing, legal costs 1-7,5%
 - Reserve and profit 5-20% (or more)
 - Interior design (Art, furniture, technology etc...)
 - Exterior (gardening, paving, etc...)

What COSTS?

- Future expenses
 - Management costs: salary of the staff, PR etc.
 - Operating costs: energy consumption (!), water, telecommunication, consumables
 - Maintenance costs: continuous maintenance and periodic refurbishments

Revenues at last

- Incomes
 - Based on the selling / renting prices of the different functions
 - Modifications based on the location, quality of the building, additional services etc...
 - Usage of the building
 - Risk
 - $NPV = -C_0 + C_1/(1+r) + C_2/(1+r)^2 + \dots + C_T/(1+r)^T$
(where C_0 is the initial cost, C_n is the cash-flow, r is discount rate and T is time)