Community of Interest

The EuroFM Research Network (RNG) is one of three working groups of the European Facility Management Network (EuroFM) and aims to operate as a community of interest, to prioritise and agree on EuroFM a research agenda, to create and share new knowledge by facilitating collaborative research amongst members.

The research network is responsible for organising an annual programme of work that makes a leading contribution to the EuroFM mission to advance knowledge in Facilities Management and its application in practice, education and research, in order to communicate leading thinking and evidence through Europe.

The research network strives to achieve the highest quality of scientific research as recognised internationally, whilst ensuring its practical relevance and providing the foundation for education in Facilities Management. RNG collaborates with the other EuroFM network groups to ensure the application of research in practice and education.

Membership

Members of the research network are active in research in Facilities Management, willing to openly share their research output and to contribute to furthering the overall research objectives.

The research network seeks to develop and support centres of excellence in all European regions as a means of focusing effort and maximising resources.

A members database containing up-to-date research interests, current research projects, research staff and students is maintained and accessible through the research network web pages.

Programme of work

The objectives of the annual research programme are to present and provide open access to original research that contributes to the understanding of the role of FM in organisations and to encourage the discussion and development of new knowledge amongst researchers and FM professionals and educationalists on this important topic.

The research network creates working groups to address its agenda, focus on key themes and to develop its knowledge base. The working groups provide the framework for the annual programme of meetings, including EuroFM research workshops and the annual EuroFM Research Symposium, normally held as an integral part of EFMC.

RNG organises three network meetings a year, hosted by member organisations, and including a thematic workshop and round table discussion. EuroFM research workshops are held as part of the Research Symposium to explore theoretical and methodological issues in FM research and to provide the opportunity for presenting research in progress and for the presentation of postgraduate research.

An open call for papers is issued annually with the overall theme of ‘Advancing knowledge in Facilities Management’. The call covers the working groups, research workshops and research symposium and leads to publication by EuroFM special issues of the International Journal of Facilities Management and in edited book collections. Papers are expected to address the unique
mission of EuroFM by clearly showing the implications of research findings to practice and education in the field.

RNG promotes and supports collaborative research projects amongst the members and those of the practice network and corporate associates. EuroFM will seed fund research projects.

RNG promote and recognise excellence in FM research. EuroFM make annual awards for outstanding contributions from individual researchers and for the best published paper. RNG collaborate with the Education network group in a poster competition for

RNG promotes and supports postgraduate research in FM and encourages the involvement of students, as full members of the research network and participation in the annual research programme.

**Knowledge base**

RNG publish and regularly update a EuroFM research agenda setting out priorities for creating new knowledge and identifying the issues that the practice and educational communities see as being important.

RNG publish position papers, setting out the status of research on these important Facilities Management issues. Green papers set out the needs for new research to develop knowledge in specific areas. White papers set out the conclusions of completed research

EuroFM has adopted an open access policy and strategy for publication of its sponsored research. RNG works in partnership with member organisations to make the results of the research in the network as openly available as possible.

EuroFM is in the process of creating an open access platform for scientific publication and provides the opportunity of publishing FM research at different stages of development and for the purposes of higher education qualification.

RNG liaises with other research networks, with CIB and IFMA in particular, to ensure open discussion of the output of EuroFM work and to ensure its recognition and status on the international stage.

**Communication**

RNG regularly reports on its activities on its web pages on the EuroFM website, through the International Editorial Committee and in European FM insight.