

# **The workers who build our houses: identities, idiosyncrasies and illusions**

**Dr. Róisín Murphy**

# Overview

**Construction in Context**



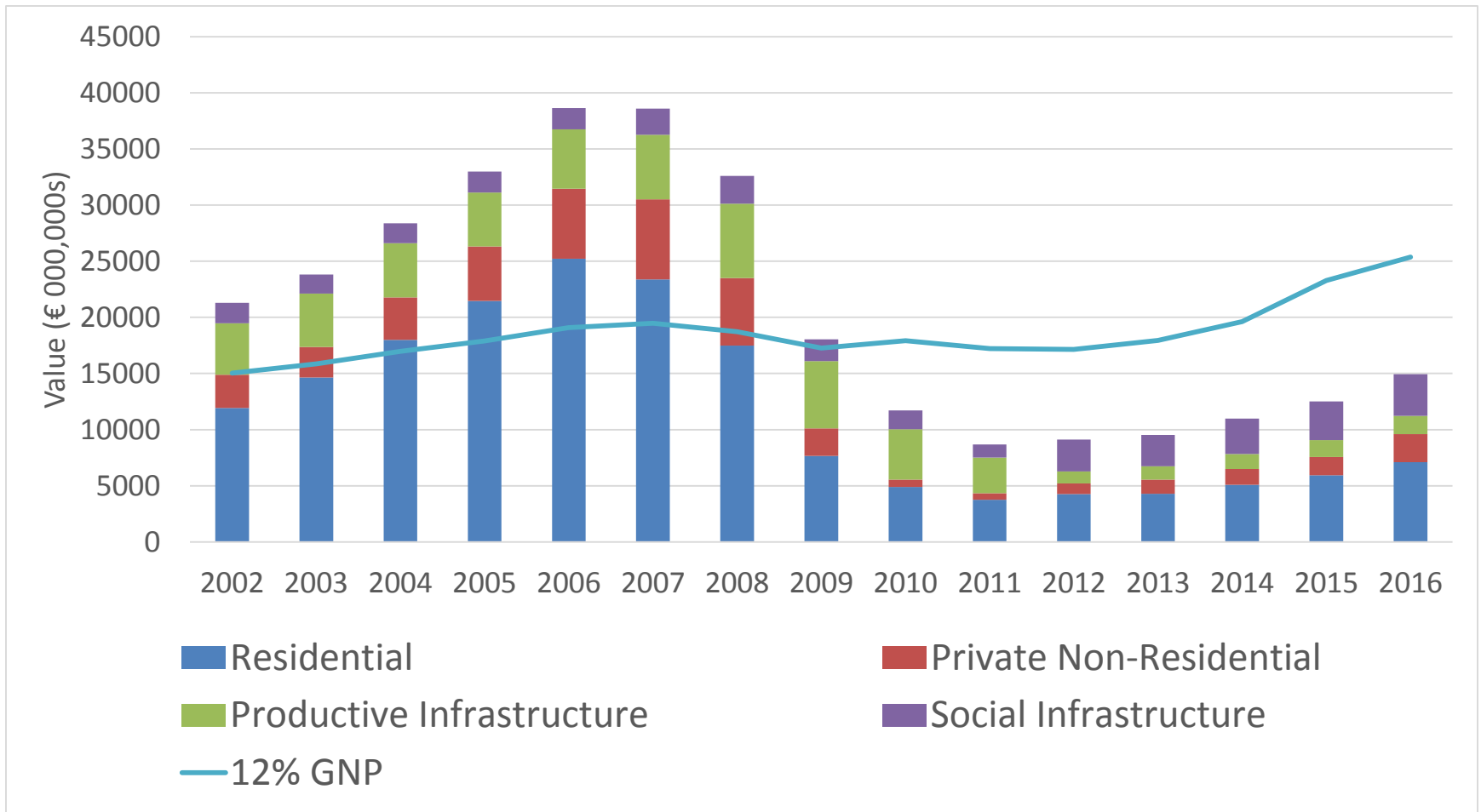
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graph TD; A[Construction in Context] --> B[Who are our construction workers?]; B --> C[Features of Construction Labour Market]; C --> D[Stakeholder Considerations];
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**Who are our construction workers?**

**Features of Construction Labour Market**

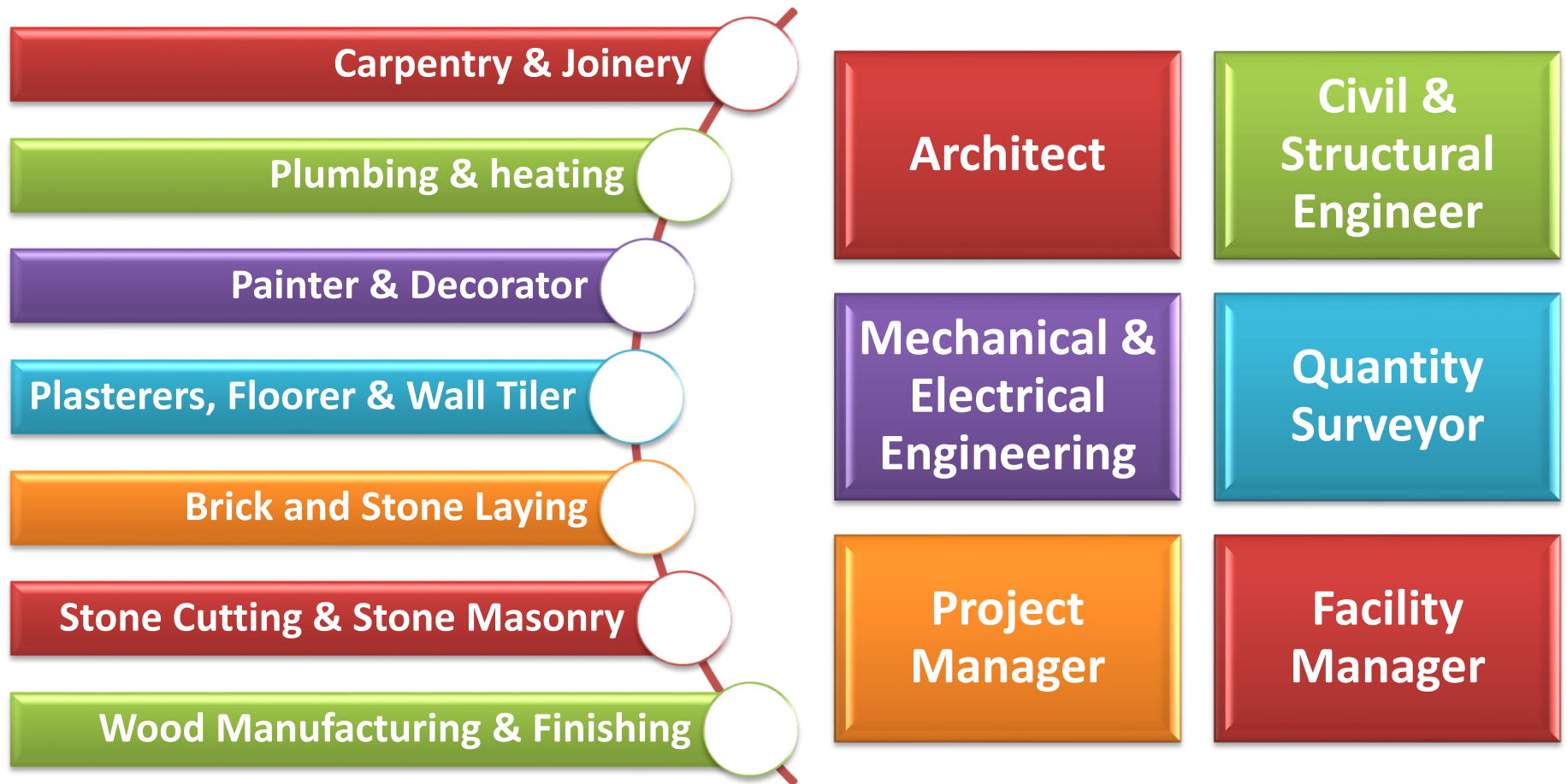
**Stakeholder Considerations**

# Value of Construction Output

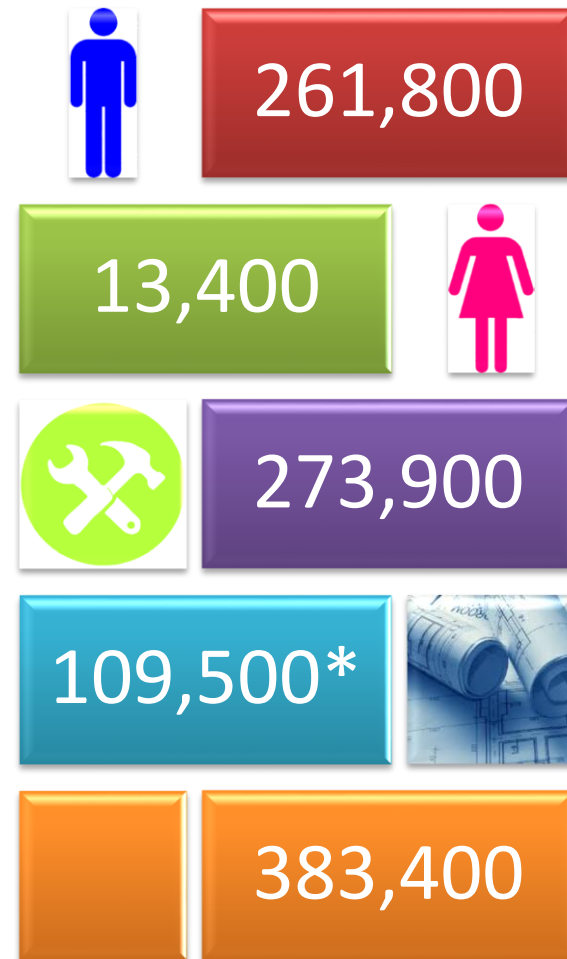


Source: Adapted from DKM/CIF Demand for Skills in Construction to 2020

# Who are our construction workers?

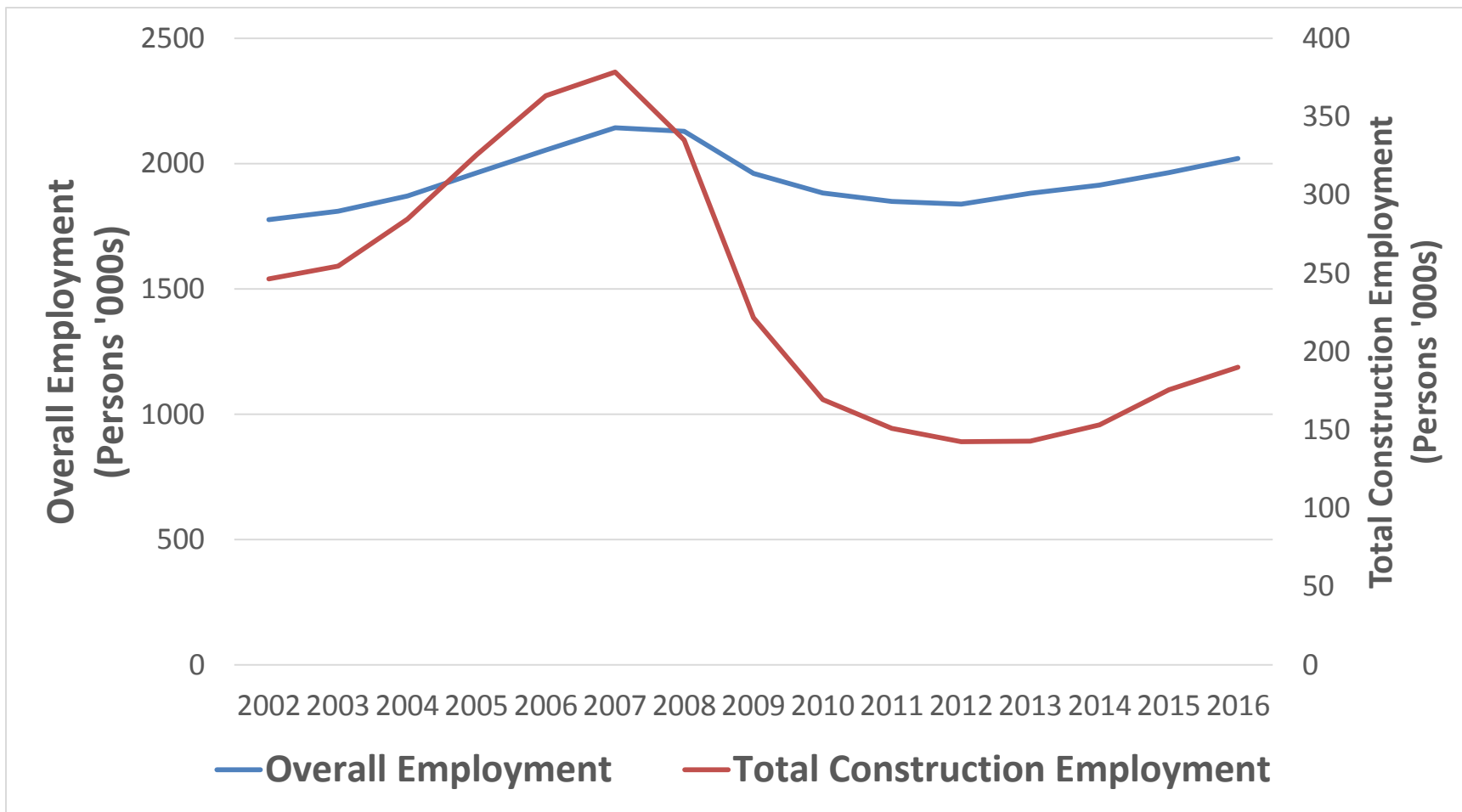


# Direct & Indirect Employment: Current (Q1 2017) v Peak (Q2 2007)



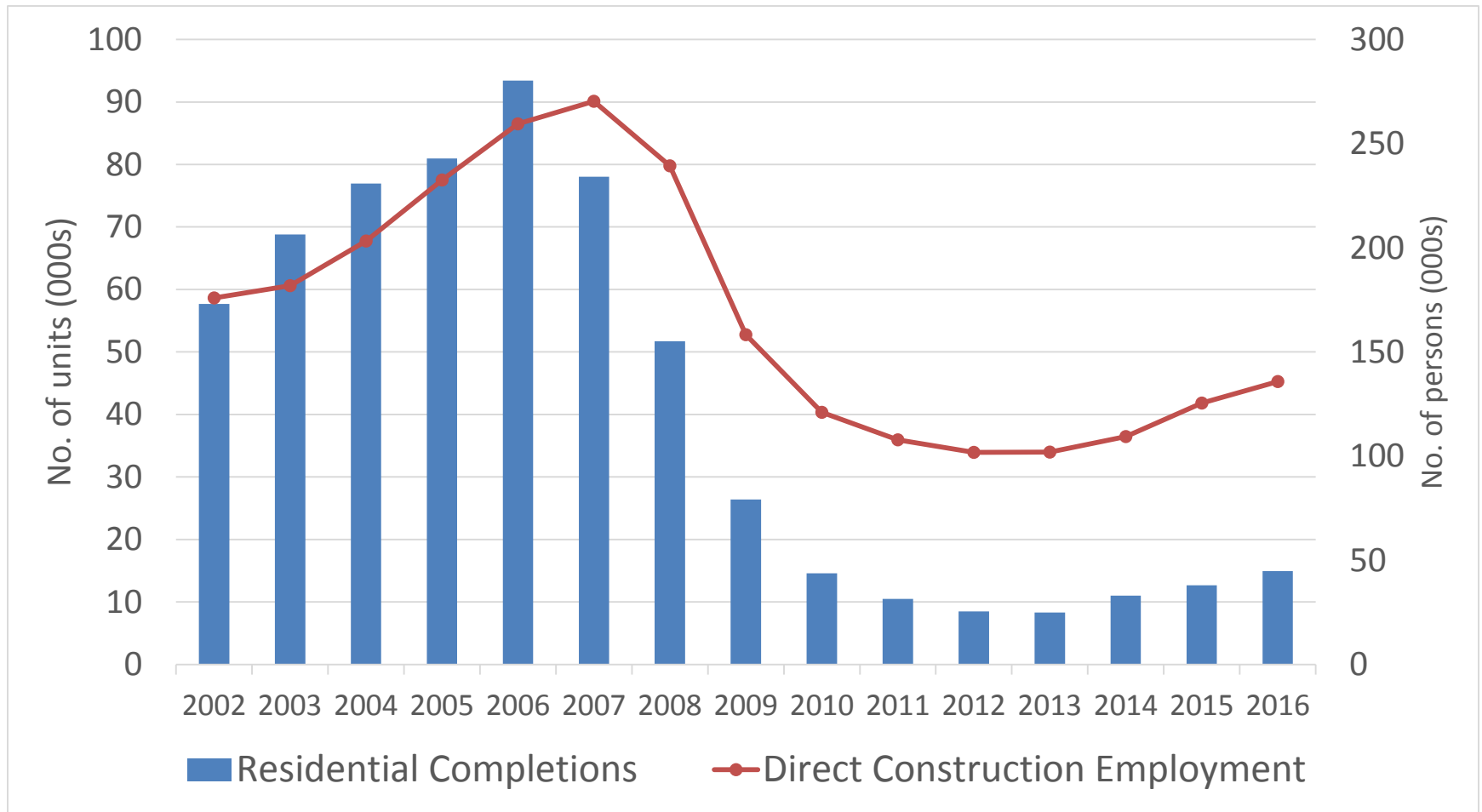
Source: CSO Statbank, 2017. \*Estimate of indirect employment (40%)

JOB TITLE	NUMBER EMPLOYED	% FEMALES
Civil Engineer	8,100	10.4%
Quality Control Engineer	5,100	51.8%
Engineering Professional	4,600	16.9%
Arch. Technologist Surveyors	3,300	0%*
Electrical & Electronic Trades	34,300	2%
Carpenters & Joiners	18,100	0%
Plumber	9,400	1.1%



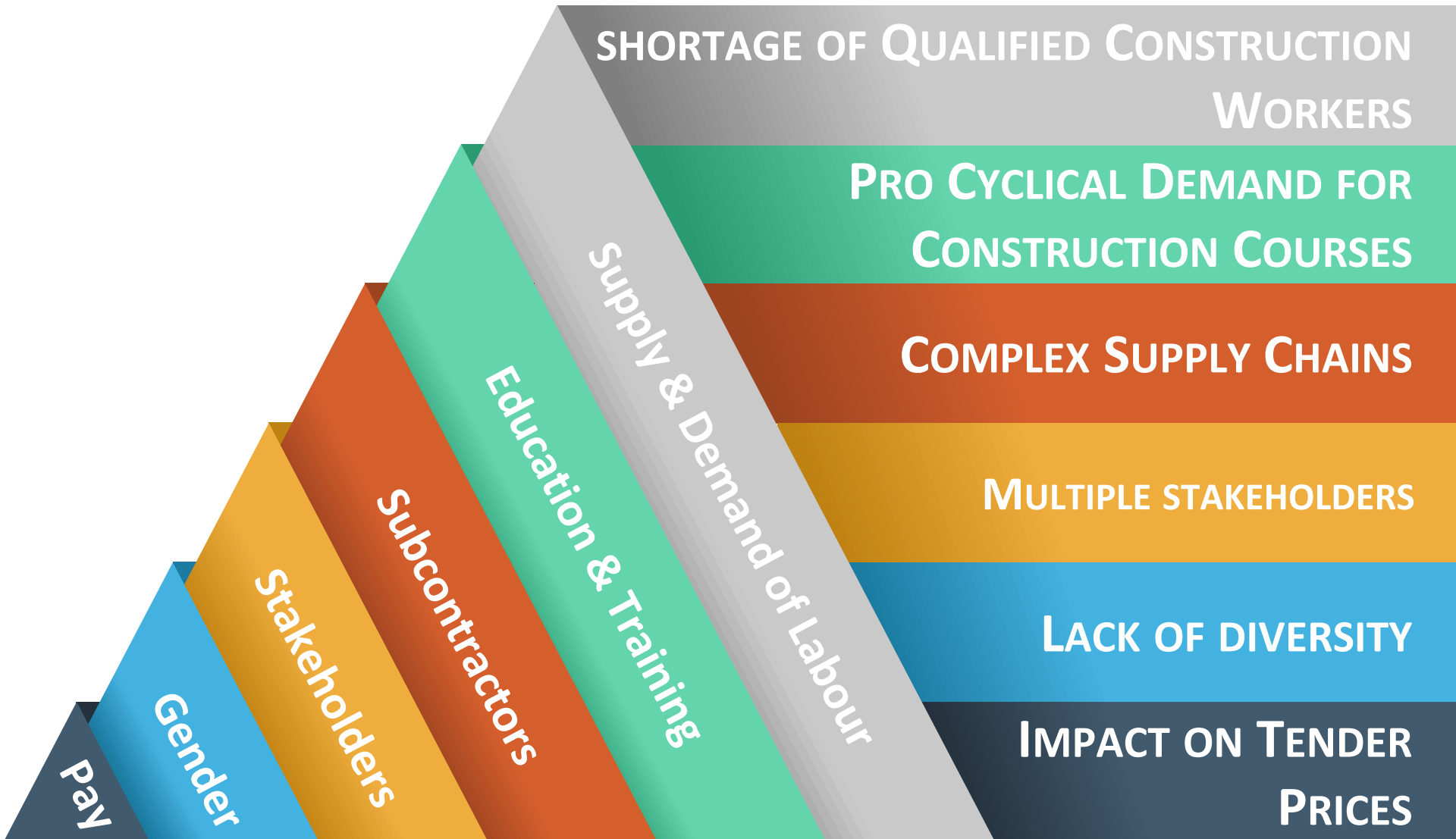
Source: CSO QNHS June 2017

# Residential Construction & Employment

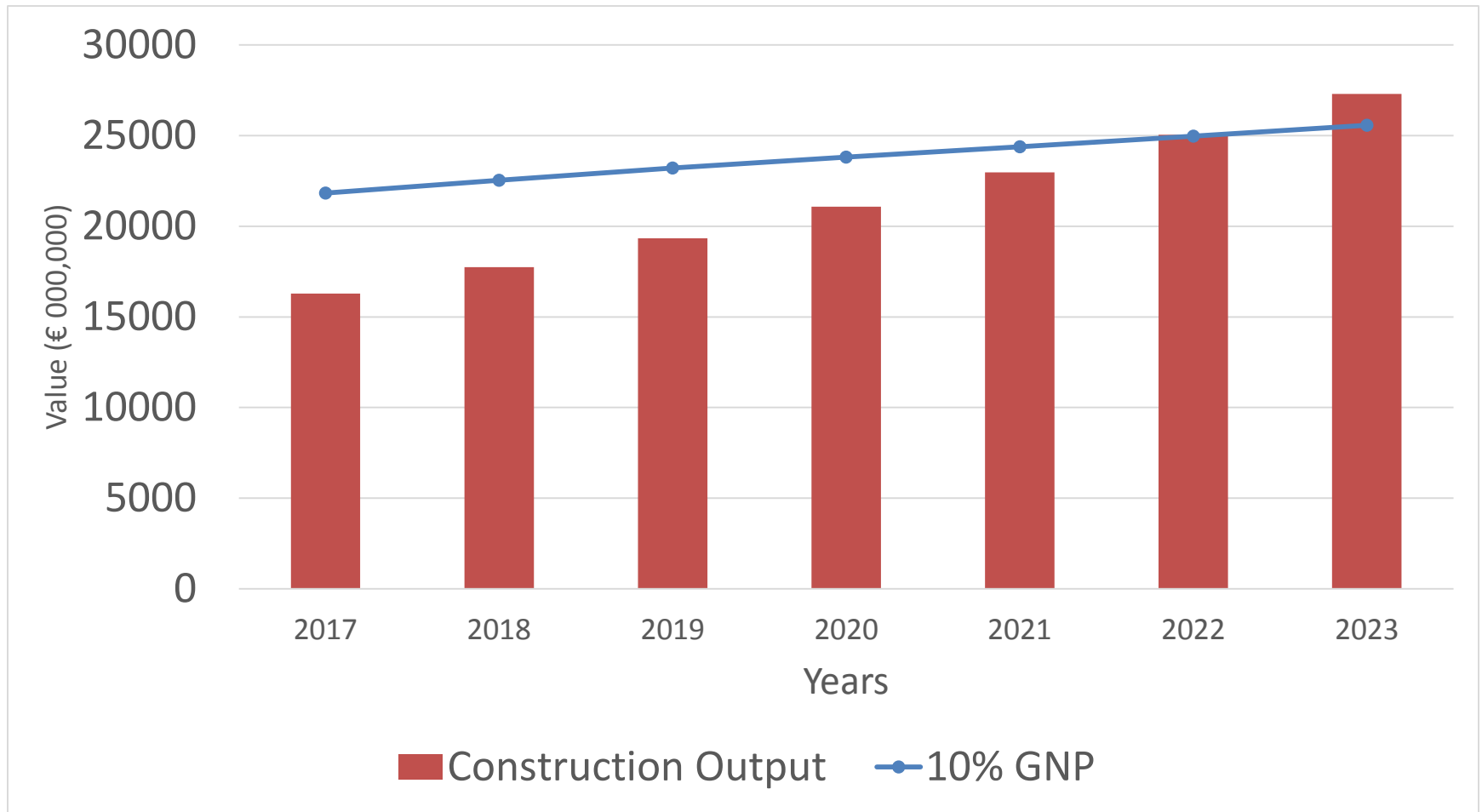




# Construction Labour Market Features

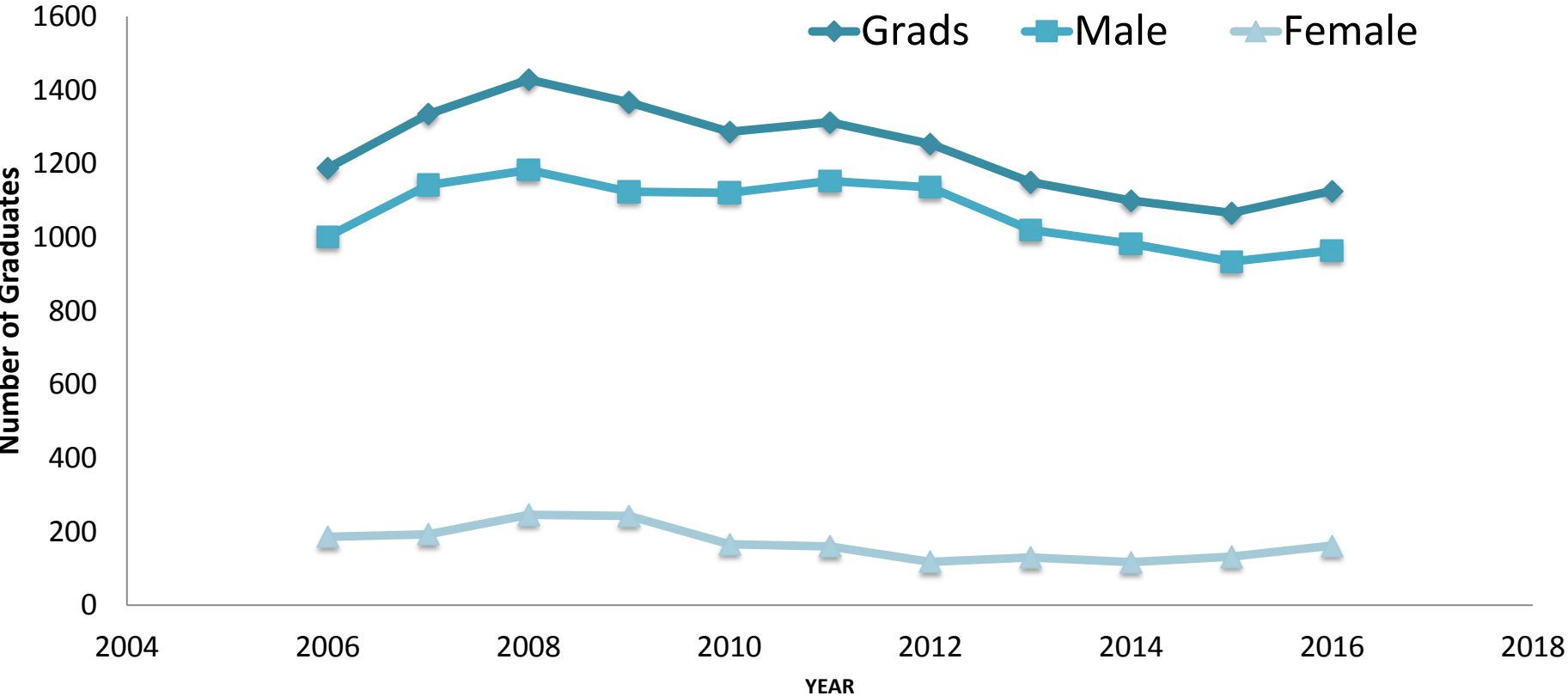


# Construction Output Forecast



\*Based on DOF GNP Growth estimate & DKM/CIF 9% construction output

# DIT CEBE Graduate 2006-2016



# APPRENTICES

## Supply:

### New Registrations:

- 2004 - 4738
- 2010 - 244
- 2016 - 947

**Demand: under investigation**

# PROFESSIONS

## Supply:

### Graduate QS (DIT):

- 2009 - 114
- 2016 - 34
- 2017 - 20

**Demand: shortage of c.700 (2014)**

# Construction Labour Misconceptions



## Government

- Capital investment in social housing
- Amend funding arrangements for provision of social housing (Capital Assistance Scheme)
- Funding for R&D
- Funding for new industry training programmes

## Industry

- Workplace planning
- Strategic Focus – management and leadership training
- Facilitate work placement
- Mentoring Programmes
- Marketing the trades and professions

## Education

- Increased engagement with second level
- Work placement
- BIM / Technology
- Flexible learning
- Apprenticeship model
- Degree Apprenticeships and Masterships
- Routes to access, transfer and progress

## Representatives

- Cross profession/trade collaboration
- Lifelong learning opportunities
- Improve image of sector
- Lobbying



A word cloud of terms related to the construction industry. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape and vary in size and color. The most prominent word is 'Shortage' in large red font. Other significant words include 'Sustainable' in red, 'Education' in green, 'Training' in orange, 'Construction' in purple, 'Apprenticeship' in yellow, and 'BIM' in yellow. Other words include 'Finance', 'Tender Prices', 'Housing', 'FDI', 'Affordability', 'Technology', 'Policy', 'Brexit', 'Skills', and 'Education'.

Finance  
Tender Prices  
Housing  
FDI  
Sustainable  
Education  
Training  
Construction  
Skills  
Shortage  
Apprenticeship  
BIM  
Affordability  
Technology  
Policy  
Brexit

# Requirements



**Government Capital Expenditure & Funding Models**

**Collaboration Across Stakeholders**

**Knowledge Generation and Transfer**

**Attract and Retain Talent**

**Embrace Technology**

**Sustainable Built Environment**



**Thank you**