

Call for Task Group and Project Partner Applications: Embodied Ecological Impacts of the Built Environment

This document has three sections:

1. Introduction to the project Embodied Ecological Impacts for the Built Environment
2. How organisations can become a Project Partner
3. How individuals can join the Task Group

1. Introduction to the project Embodied Ecological Impacts of the Built Environment

Purpose of the report:

We are currently in both a climate and ecological crisis with the planetary boundaries and tipping points showing we are at a crucial point for action to reduce ecological impacts. Carbon metrics have started to gain traction within the built environment, with whole life carbon measuring becoming more commonplace. However, to tackle the climate and ecological crisis, we need to also look at other embodied impacts beyond carbon and increase our understanding of the ecological impacts of the built environment supply chain. This will improve decision-making processes during the project design stages. Expanding the discussion of carbon, this project focuses on wider embodied impacts of the construction industry such as deforestation, land use, and ecosystems. This is of particular importance in regard to forthcoming recommendations of the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD).

Set within this context, UKGBC is launching a new project to explore the Embodied Impacts beyond carbon of the Built Environment. This project aims to explore those other ecological impacts and understand their impact and scale, and how we can best measure them to evaluate the scale of impact and work to reduce those impacts as a sector.

For this project, we are seeking both applicants to be Project Partners and have a role in the steering of the project, as well as Task Group members who will help create the guidance through research, workshops, and interviews.

The project aims to:

- Expand the conversation from carbon to other nature-related Impacts, leading to a more holistic assessment of sustainability In the Industry
- Raise awareness of nature-related Impacts of the built environment and equip businesses with the knowledge to enable better decision-making toward nature positivity
- Identify a set of 'embodied Impact' categories that are most critical and deserve Increased attention and research

The output is expected to be a report that will outline the most important embodied impact categories. This will help the industry have a more holistic view of the impacts on climate, nature and biodiversity by looking beyond carbon. There may also be further supplementary outputs to disseminate the information and show the role different stakeholders can have in looking at these embodied impacts.

Target Audience:

The primary audience will be for (1) designers and clients when choosing and specifying materials within projects, (2) contractors and manufacturers who produce and use materials in the built environment, and (3) investors and asset owners who will need to be aware of nature-related financial risks of their investments.

The secondary audience will include Local authorities who may include this within the planning strategy and requirements, and National Government who are already developing policy for nature-positivity. It also may benefit ecologists and follow environmental NGO's is getting the wider ecological impacts recognised. Researchers may find this useful as this report is expected to highlight gaps in research that would help the industry with better decision-making.

2. How Organisations can become a Project Partner

Project Partnership

Overview

Embodied Ecological Impacts for the Built Environment is a project under our Resilience and Nature programme. Alongside the Programme Partners, Project specific partners help enable projects through providing funding and knowledge allowing us to continue responding to the evolving needs and demands of wide range of stakeholders. This allows the Resilience and Nature programme to develop more varied outputs and provides smaller organisations with the opportunity to influence individual outputs.

Cost of project partnership

6,000 per Project Partner.

Benefits of project partnership

By becoming a Project Partner, your organisation will:

- Be credited with enabling the project and facilitating progress and positive impact in the built environment
- Secure a position on the project Task Group
- Take a steering role, helping to shape the project and associated outputs, as well as how those outputs are conveyed to industry to maximise impact and uptake
- Receive brand recognition via inclusion of your organisation's logo on all project-related outputs and collateral (e.g. reports, videos, presentation slides)
- Be given opportunities to present at project output launch and / or related events
- Be able to collaborate with other industry leaders and build your organisation's network

3. How individuals can apply to join the Task Group

Task Group Applications:

UKGBC will be convening an industry Task Group to lead the development of this report, in line with the above aims. This is so the report builds on existing industry knowledge, initiatives, and real-life project experiences, and to ensure that the guidance is relevant to industry.

An overview of the expected programme of works is as shown below. The Task Group will convene in December, and across the following 7 months will explore ecological impacts of real estate and construction choices and decisions through workshops and individual interviews. The final output will be published in Summer 2023.

Please note that all workshops will be held via online video conferencing, unless otherwise agreed with the Task Group.

The Task Group will collectively work towards the following key objectives:

- Identify impacts beyond carbon resulting from the built environment and its supply chains and consider how they could be measured;
- Support in the creation of outputs which explain these embodied impacts and why they are important to consider.

Task Group Programme:

Table 1: Proposed project timeline

	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
1 Call for applications	Light Blue	Light Blue										
2 Task Group workshops and individual interviews			Pink	Pink	Pink	Pink	Pink	Pink	Pink			
3 Output writing						Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue			
4 Output review									Orange	Orange		
5 Output design										Light Blue	Light Blue	
6 Launch												Light Blue

Table 2: Provisional dates for Task Group workshops

Workshop 1: Kick-Off	Wednesday 14 th December	10:00-11:30
Workshop 2	Wednesday 1 st February	10:00-11:30
Workshop 3	Wednesday 22 nd March	10:00-11:30
Workshop 4	Wednesday 10 th May	10:00-11:30
Workshop 5	Wednesday 21 st June	10:00-11:30

Please note that provisional dates may be subject to change. Should this be the case, the Task Group will be informed as soon as possible.

Task Group Applicant Criteria:

- Work for a UKGBC member organisation or bring skills and knowledge additional to those within the membership
- Have a minimum 5 years of relevant experience or very specific knowledge within a relevant topic area. These might include:
 - Resource efficiency and supply chain impacts
 - Holistic life cycle assessments including impact categories beyond Global Warming Potential
 - Ecological impacts assessments
 - Regional, national, or global approaches to resource efficiency and circularity
 - Practical experience implementing a planetary boundaries approach into project work
 - Ecological impacts of materials manufacturing
 - Assessment of nature-related risk
 - Experience with science-based targets for nature
 - Environmental input-output modelling
 - Monitoring and measuring environmental impacts, ideally related to the built environment

We encourage applicants from businesses and organisations across the built environment and beyond to ensure a diverse range of views and perspectives in the Task Group. These include investors, developers, contractors, engineers, architects, planners, academic researchers, government bodies and NGOs.

Task Group applicants must be able to:

- Attend workshop meetings (as above dates)
- Contribute a minimum of **3-6 hours per month** between January and July to the Task Group, inclusive of workshop times, plus availability to review the draft guidance before launch.
- Actively engage in between meetings on tasks, such as research, reviewing and drafting content
- Represent your sector / area of expertise in workshops discussions, and leverage your knowledge network to link to existing or ongoing work that can contribute to the project and ensure outputs of lasting value to the industry
- Help promote the launch of the final output

All Task Group applicants are expected to have **a minimum 5 years of relevant experience.**

Applications to become a **Project Partner** will be open from **25th October 2022 until 14th November 2022.**

Applications to join the **Task Group** will be open from **25th October 2022 until 22nd November 2022.**

To apply, please email **kai.liebetanz@ukgbc.org** using the template below:

Full name	
Job Title and Department	
Organisation	
Please explain your relevant knowledge, experience, and skills for this project (max 200 words)	
Please share any involvement with relevant existing, or ongoing industry or academic research, work, or initiatives (max 100 words)	
Are there any currently any workshop dates that you are unable to attend? (Refer to Table 1, page 3)	
Please confirm that you have put in a calendar placeholder for the Kick-off workshop on Wednesday December 14th 10:00-11:30 am :	

We expect to finalise the Task Groups w/c 28th November.

Applicants will be chosen based on their experience, whilst ensuring a diversity of individuals within the Task Group. UKGBC is committed to actively targeting a diverse representation in the composition of all task groups. We want to be inclusive to everyone regardless of ethnicity, religious beliefs, gender, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, or political beliefs. This includes targeting an even gender split on this task group.

This project is possible due to the generous support of our Resilience and Nature programme Partners:

