



Green Building Council Australia

Embodied carbon 101

Tuesday 19 November 2024 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Agenda

12:30 pm

Class welcome and introduction

12:35 pm

The embodied carbon context: what is it and why do we care?

This session will help set the scene, providing a clearer picture of where the industry is headed and why. Gain a better understanding of what embodied carbon is and how it fits into the overall goals for the built environment to achieve net-zero.

- Defining embodied carbon and why it's important
- The business case for reducing embodied carbon
- Overview of key strategies and barriers for reducing embodied carbon
- Why supply chain collaboration is essential to achieving targets
- How Green Star responds to embodied carbon
- A demo of the upfront carbon emissions calculator

Emily Chung, Green Star Program Lead, GBCA

1:00 pm

Understanding carbon measurement and benchmarking

Gain a better understanding of how to measure embodied carbon, what methodologies and tools are available, and what data to collect.

- Understanding the terminology and life cycle stages
- The role of LCAs, EPDs and other tools
- What data is needed and where to get it?
- What does good and bad look like? Setting benchmarks, KPIs, references, and targets
- Focusing on the outcome of reducing carbon, not the methodology

Katie Eyles, Sector Lead, NABERS

1:25 pm

Discussion groups: measurement

- What are your experiences with measuring embodied carbon to date?
- What barriers have you faced? How have you overcome them?
- How have or could you use the measurement data you've collected? What do you still need?

1:45 pm

Break

1.55 pm

Shifting business as usual: designing out carbon

Learn how new approaches to design and project management can help reduce embodied carbon in the built environment, and how to best engage the supply chain to get optimum results.

- Embedding low embodied carbon design thinking from the start and including carbon as a success factor of project delivery
- Understanding options and boundaries for reducing embodied carbon by design
- When to engage and invest in different parts of the supply chain to ensure optimal decarbonised design
- Understanding areas of responsibility and influence of different players in the supply chain for reducing embodied carbon

Catherine Trinh, Consultant, Sustainable Futures, Integrated Solutions, Lendlease

2.15pm

Innovations in low carbon materials

The presentation will provide an insight into a major construction material and one manufacturer's journey to decarbonise. This session will cover:

- What is being done to reduce embodied carbon in materials?
- What products are available now and how do these compare to traditional materials (carbon, costs, specs etc.)?
- What is left to be done and how can we get there?

Evan Smith, National Sustainability Manager - Sustainable Construction, Holcim

2:35 pm

Discussion groups: where to next?

- Where could you start on your journey to reduce embodied carbon? Or what could be your next steps?
- Where can you have the most influence and add value to a project?
- How can we improve collaboration to tackle this issue together?

2:55 pm

Closing remarks and end of course