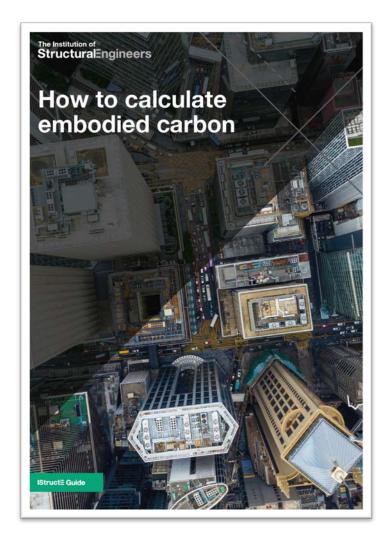
The Institution of Structural Engineers

### How to calculate embodied carbon

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#### Sustainable design in a climate emergency How to calculate embodied carbon



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### Sustainable design in a climate emergency How to calculate embodied carbon

- 1. Context
- 2. Purpose, Principles, Impact
- 3. The Guide
- 4. How to calculate embodied carbon
- 5. Communication
- 6. Reporting
- 7. What's next?

#### Sustainable design in a climate emergency How to calculate embodied carbon

#### We will seek to

- Raise awareness of the climate and biodiversity emergencies and the urgent need for action amongst our clients, collaborators and supply chains.
- —— Advocate for faster change in our industry towards regenerative design practices and a higher Governmental funding priority to support this.
- Establish climate and biodiversity mitigation principles as a key measure of our industry's success: demonstrated through awards, prizes and listings.
- —— Share knowledge and research to that end on an open source basis.
- Evaluate all new projects against the aspiration to contribute positively to mitigating climate breakdown, and encourage our clients to adopt this approach.
- Upgrade existing buildings for extended use as a more carbon efficient alternative to demolition and new build whenever there is a viable choice.
- Include life cycle costing, whole life carbon modelling and post occupancy evaluation as part of the basic scope of work, to reduce both embodied and operational resource use.
- Adopt more regenerative design principles in practice, with the aim of providing structural engineering design that achieves the standard of net zero carbon.
- Collaborate with clients, architects, engineers and contractors to further reduce construction waste.
- —— Accelerate the shift to low embodied carbon materials in all our work.
- Minimise wasteful use of resources in our structural engineering design, both in quantum and in detail.

We hope that every structural engineering practice operating in the UK will join us in making this commitment.

#### We will seek to:

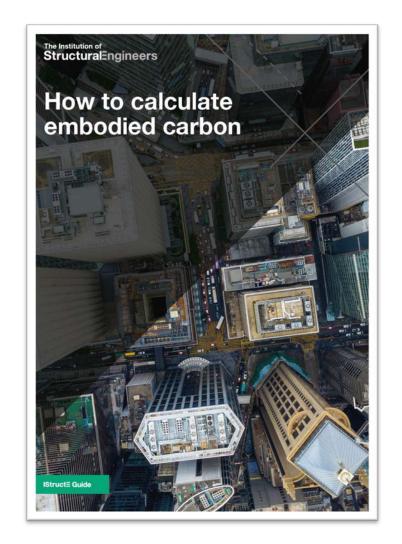
- Share knowledge and research to that end on an open source basis
- Include life cycle costing, whole life carbon modelling and post-occupancy evaluation as part of the basic scope of work, to reduce both embodied and operational resource use.
- Accelerate the shift to low embodied carbon materials in all our work
- Minimise wasteful use of resources in our structural engineering design, both in quantum and in detail



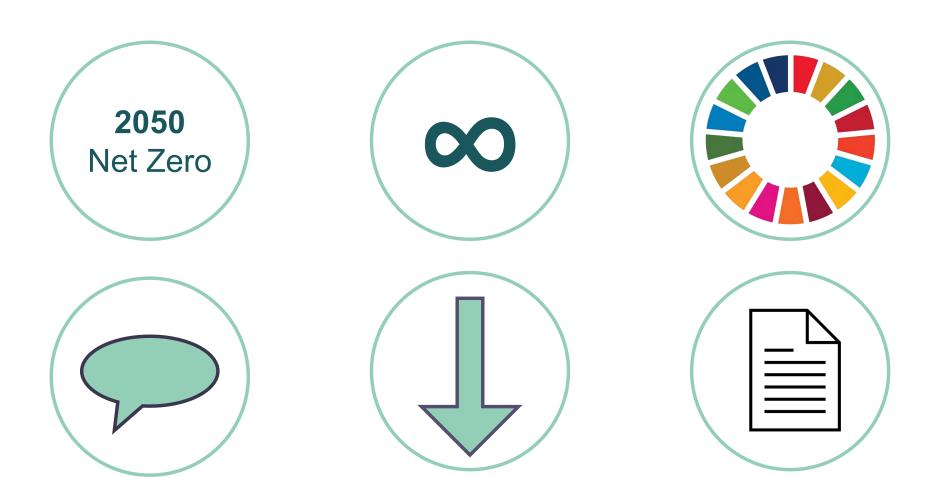
### Sustainable design in a climate emergency How to calculate embodied carbon

## Sustainable design in a climate emergency Purpose

- Provide a common calculation method
  - Enable meaningful design comparisons
  - Improve our understanding of embodied carbon
  - Support material demand reduction
  - Help us find new ways to reach net zero.



# Sustainable design in a climate emergency Principles







### Sustainable design in a climate emergency **Impact**

Cut one return flight to New York in economy



Save 1,000 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e

Cut meat, dairy, and beer from your diet



Save 2,000 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per year

Stop driving



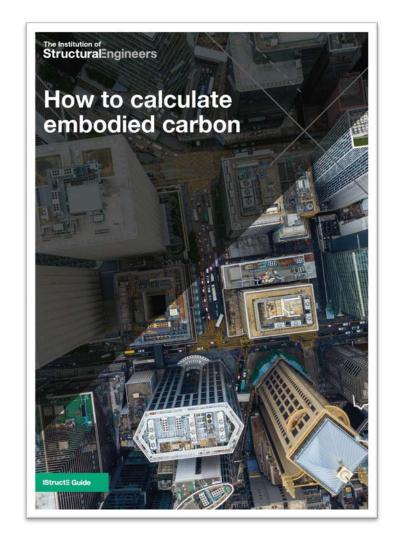
Save 3,000 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per year

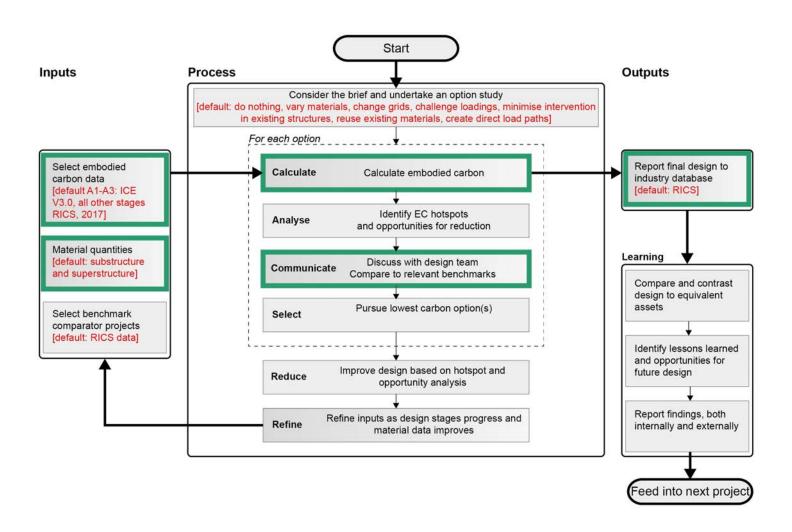
20% structural embodied carbon reduction achieved



Save 200,000 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per year

### Sustainable design in a climate emergency The Guide







### **Sustainable design in a climate emergency The Guide: Contents**

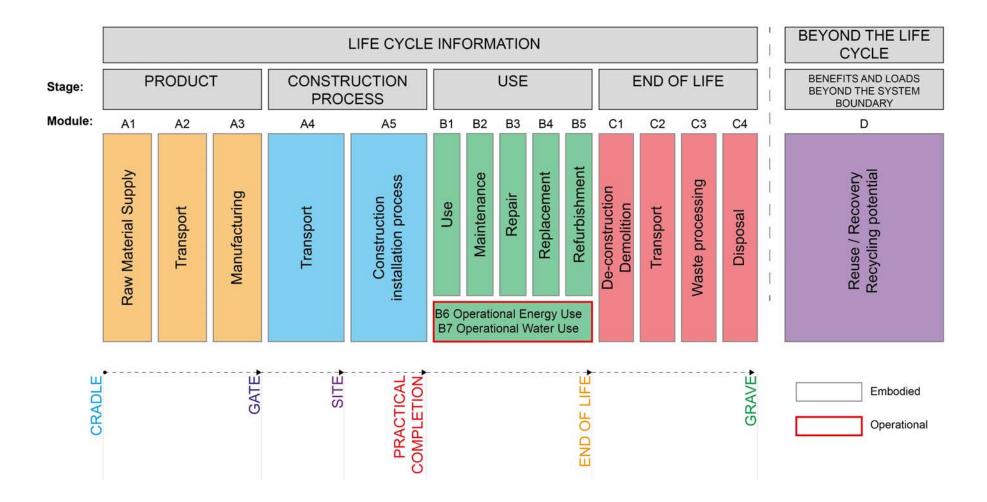
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- Guide follows the process diagram
  - Inputs
  - Process (calculation)
  - Outputs
- Easy to navigate



### Sustainable design in a climate emergency

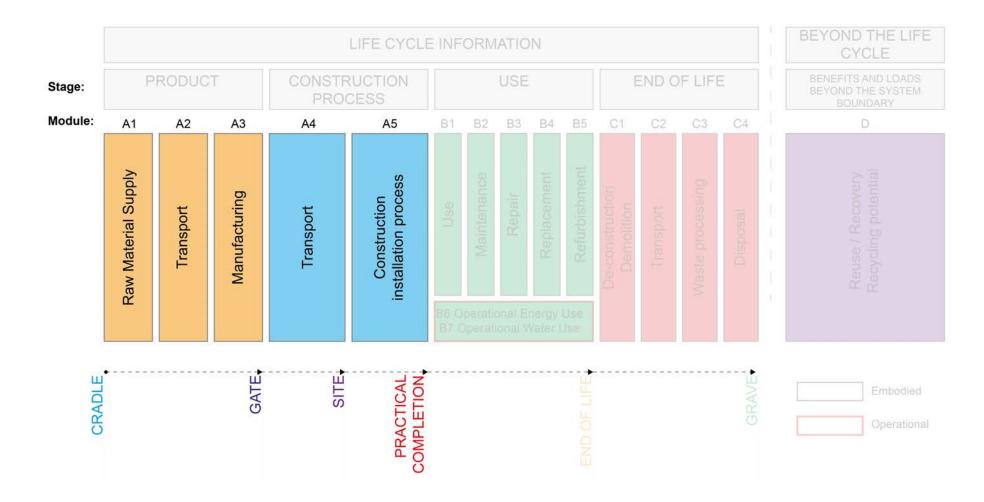
#### The Guide: Scope





### Sustainable design in a climate emergency

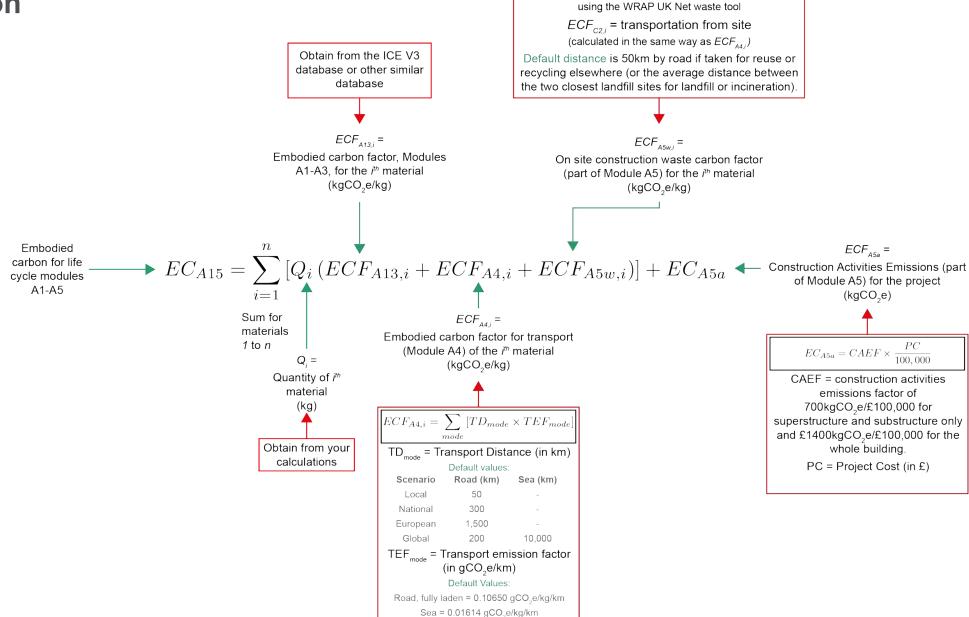
#### The Guide: Minimum calculation





### **Sustainable design in a climate emergency Calculation**

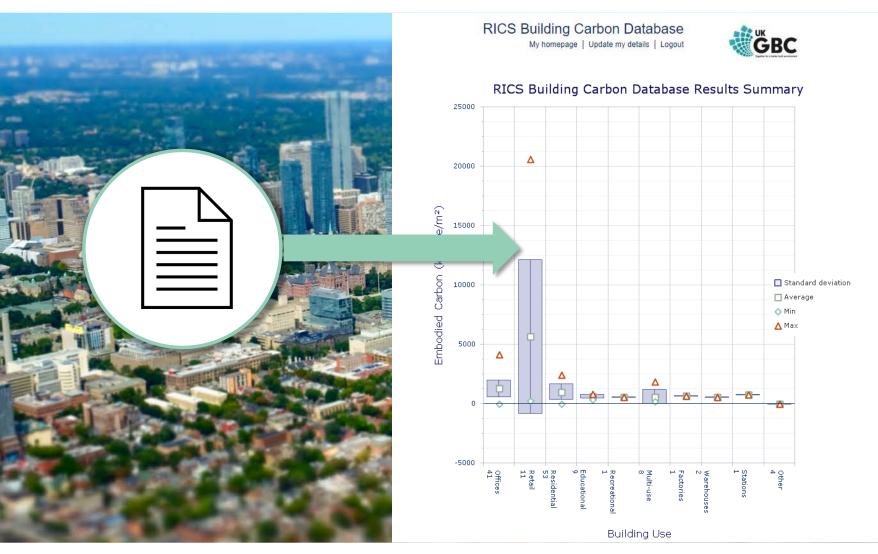
**IStruct≡** 



 $ECF_{A5w,i} = WF \times (ECF_{A13,i} + ECF_{A4,i} + ECF_{C2,i})$  WF = Waste Factor

 $WF = V \times \left(\frac{1}{1-WR} - 1\right)$  V = volume of material and WR = waste rate as estimated

# Sustainable design in a climate emergency Reporting





### Sustainable design in a climate emergency What's next

- Evening Seminar Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020
  - Orlando Gibbons (Arup) and John Orr
  - https://www.istructe.org/events/hq/launch-calculate-carbon/
- Download the guide and read it!
  - https://carbon.tips/h2c