



WORLD  
GREEN  
BUILDING  
COUNCIL

# #BUILDINGLIFE

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European  
Climate  
Foundation

IKEA Foundation



Laudes ———  
— Foundation

**28% OF GLOBAL  
EMISSIONS ARE FROM  
OPERATIONAL CARBON**

**11% OF GLOBAL  
EMISSIONS ARE FROM  
EMBODIED CARBON**

# #BuildingLife

Call on the European Commission and national governments to support #BuildingLife by committing to ambitious policies to tackle the total environmental impact — both carbon and resource related — across the entire lifecycle of a building.



# **BUILDINGS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AROUND...**

50% of all extracted  
material

35% of the EU's total  
waste





# Buildings are blowing the budget

*We expect to build a city the size of New York every month*

Global carbon budget for 1.5°C is just 420 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e

By 2050, embodied carbon of construction will emit  
>100GtCO<sub>2</sub>e

Or 25% of our global budget!

A stylized graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a hand with fingers pointing upwards, composed of geometric shapes in blue, green, and yellow. Above the hand is a large orange circle representing the sun. The background is a light gray with geometric patterns.

## Mission critical

*EU green deal is our last chance to show world what a 1.5 degree pathway looks like*

**Construction sector must tackle TOTAL impact - emissions of full life cycle or we will blow the carbon budget.**

**Countries must adopt whole life carbon targets in the sector by 2030.**

**EU must lead here before 2025.**

**Few countries are on track.**



## Our vision

By 2050, new buildings, infrastructure and renovations will have **net zero embodied carbon**, and all buildings, including existing buildings, must be **net zero operational carbon**.

A net zero embodied carbon building (new or renovated) is **highly resource efficient** with **upfront carbon** minimised to the greatest extent possible and all remaining **embodied carbon** reduced or, as a last resort, offset in order to **achieve net zero across the lifecycle**.



## Collaboration

Establishing roadmaps to form a common vision

## Communication

Raising awareness and building capacity

## Education

Addressing foundational gaps in skills, data and benchmarks

## Innovation

Creating new business models, new technologies and circular patterns

## Regulation

Mandating reductions in embodied carbon that are aligned with 1.5°C compliant decarbonisation pathways

# Levers of change



## Accelerate

Harness the power of voluntary, financial, policy and regulatory market forces

# #BUILDINGLIFE PROJECT

BuildingLife is a regional project that will support and accelerate the ambitions of the EU's Green Deal in the building sector through:

- EU whole life carbon policy roadmap
- 10 National whole life carbon roadmaps
- EU leaders' forum
- Governments working group
- Whole life carbon commitment



# #BUILDING LIFE CAMPAIGN AMBASSADOR

**“Green and sustainable buildings could solve 50% of resource efficiency and 40% of climate challenge and ensure better living conditions. Let’s do it!”**

**SIRPA PIETIKÄINEN MEP**  
European People’s Party  
Finland





**EUROPE'S  
TRANSITION TO  
A CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY WILL  
HELP ADDRESS  
KEY SOCIETAL  
CHALLENGES**

**INCLUDING  
POPULATION  
GROWTH,  
URBANIZATION  
AND  
RESOURCE  
SCARCITY**



**We call on all the  
European Commission  
and national  
government to support  
our #BuildingLife by  
committing to ambitious  
policies so that we can  
address the TOTAL  
carbon and resource  
impact of our sector.**

**JOIN**  
**#BUILDINGLIFE**