

BUILT BY NATURE

Sustainability Keynote
Structural Timber Conference 2026

Embodied Carbon is a Life Safety Issue

One life is lost for every 4,500 tonnes of carbon emissions emitted[1]

approximately equivalent to a large school built conventionally[2]

1 .(Bressler 2021, Nature)

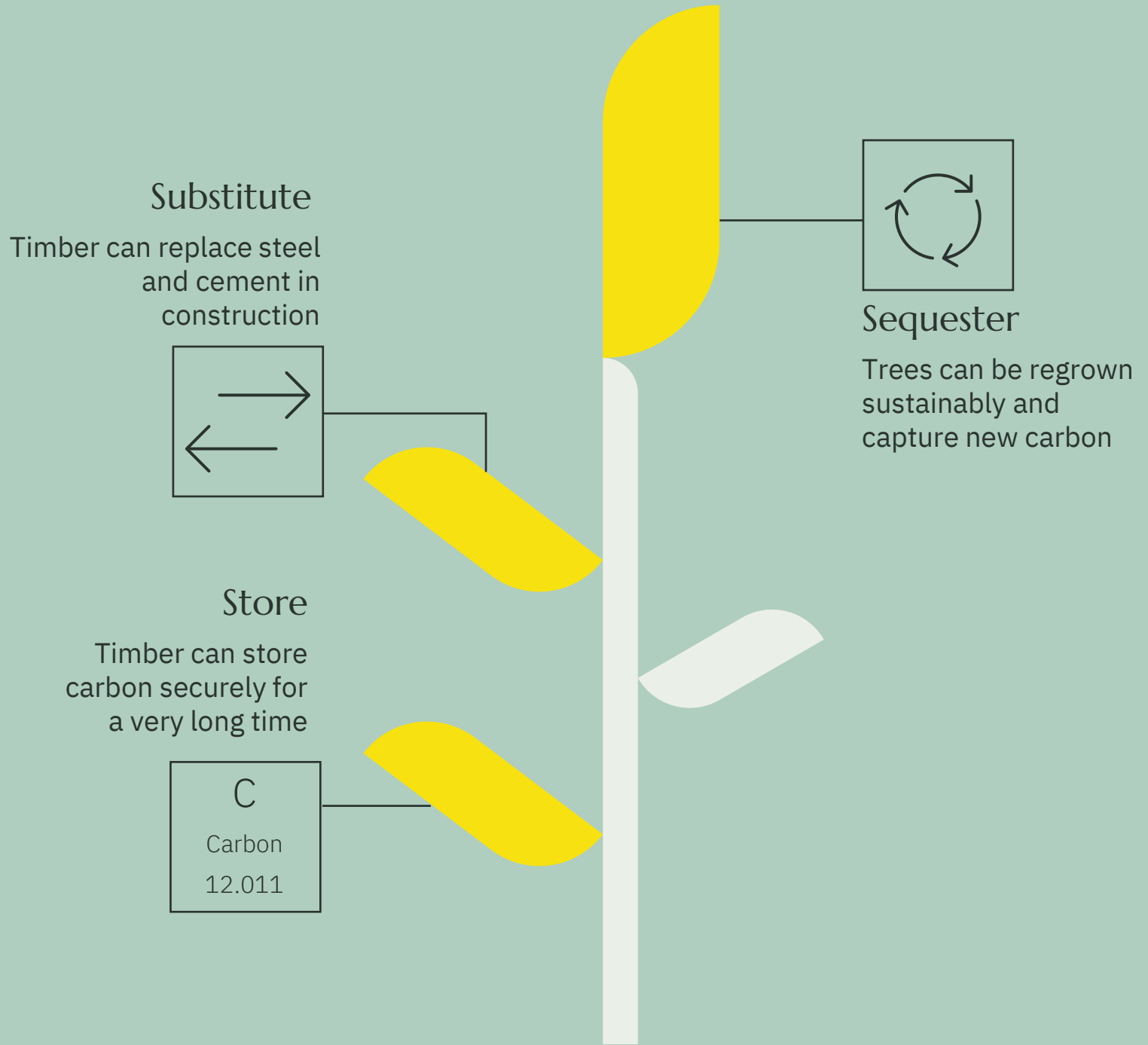
2. RIBA 2030 BAU

Our mission is to lead a global transformation of the built environment by accelerating the responsible use of timber and biobased materials for the benefit of climate, nature, and people.



Image credit: www.SafeSchoolsForTheFuture.com

Timber - and biobased materials - present a powerful, natural carbon capture and storage solution

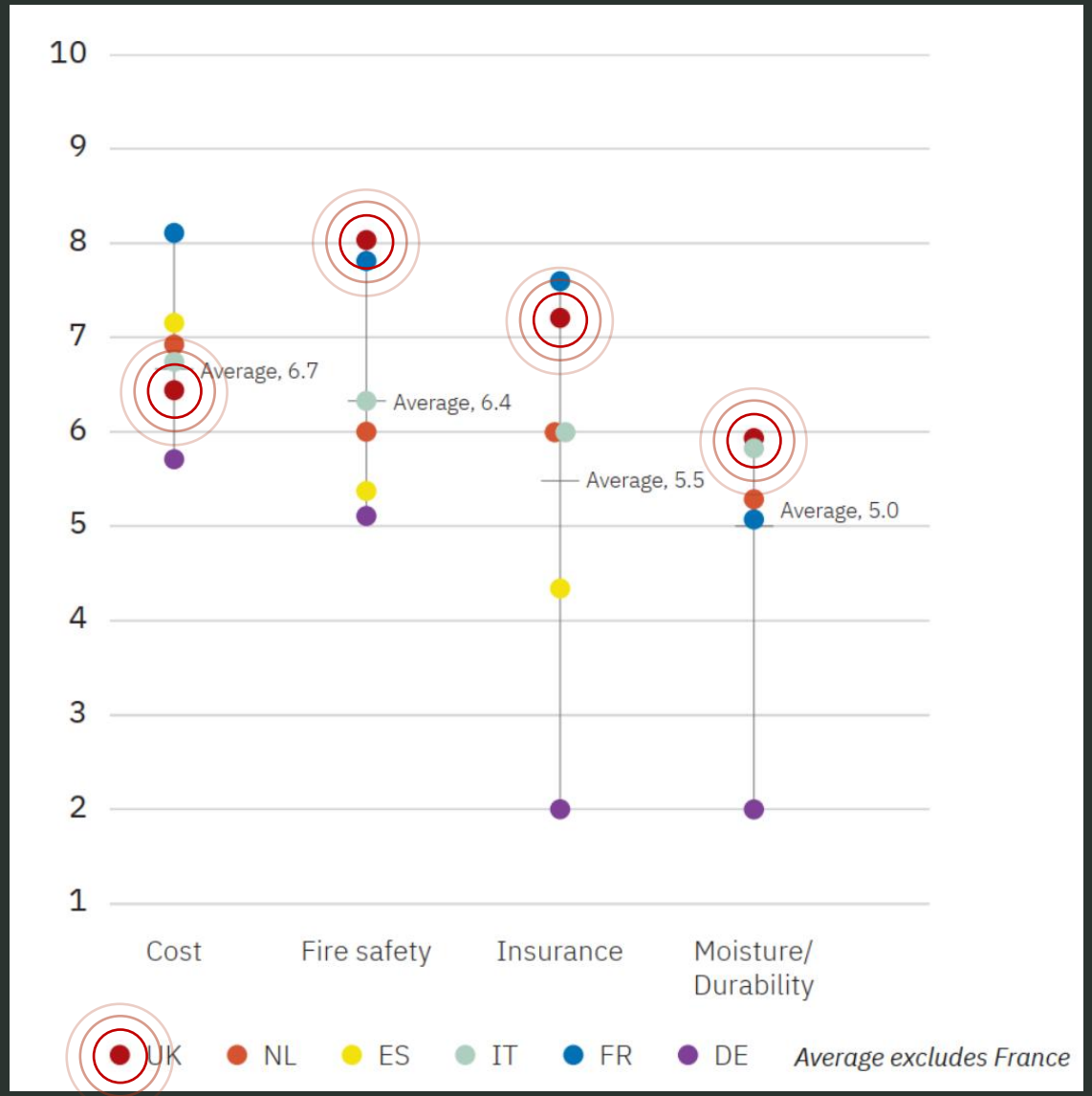


Source: EFECA Advancing the development of a 3S forestry framework for the Forestry Economy Coalition

Our challenge is...

Regulatory
Cultural
Industrial

Rating the impact of challenges to adopt timber



Built by Nature, State of the Network 2025

The Built by Nature Frontrunner Network



Safeguarding Timber in Construction



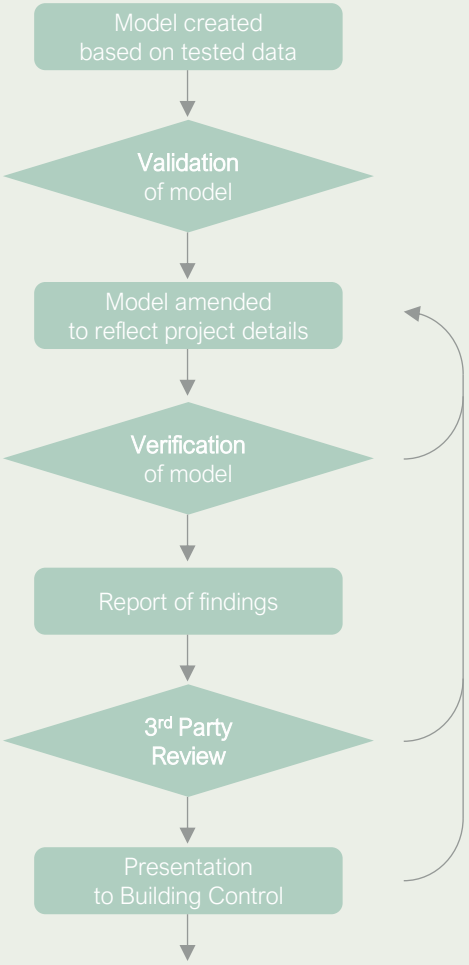
65% lower
Energy bills

65% lower
Embodied Carbon

60% less
Harmful spaces

95% less
draughty

17 real world
examples



Research team:

ARCHITYPE/PERFORM+
UCL
THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
IGNIS
woodknowledge
PYC Construction
LOWFIELD TIMBER FRAMES
Forestry Commission
Department for Education
Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Publication here:

www.SafeSchoolsForTheFuture.com

Principles for Responsible Timber Construction

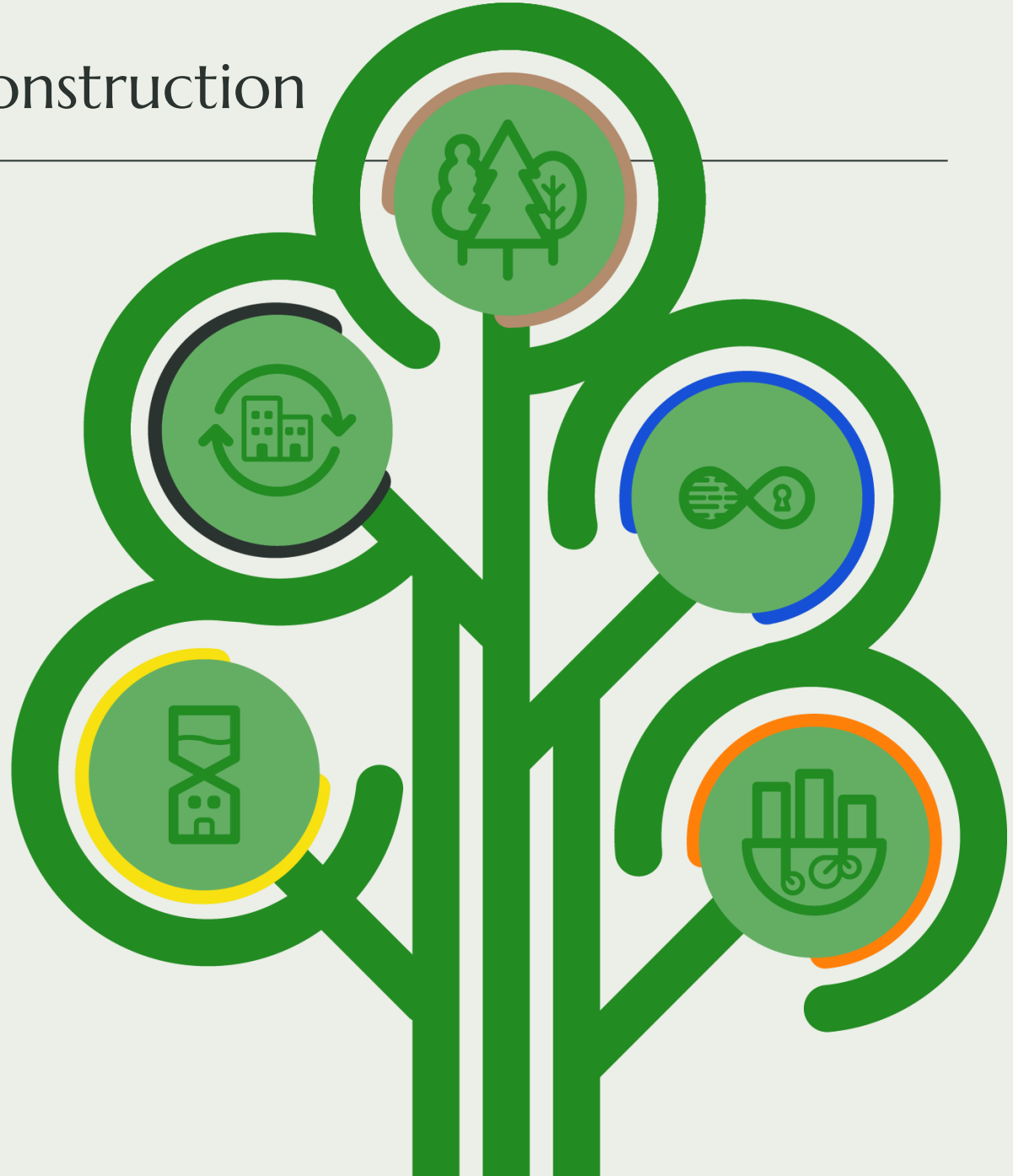
Principle 1
Extending the life of existing buildings

Principle 2
Accounting for Whole Life Cycle

Principle 3
Ensuring Sustainable Forest Management

Principle 4
Maximising the carbon storage potential of wood

Principle 5
Promoting a timber building bioeconomy



Principles for Responsible Timber Construction



BAUHAUS EARTH

BUILT BY NATURE

FCLP

Built by Nature prize 2025 Winner

The Black and White Building

London, United Kingdom
by **Waugh Thistleton**





Thank you

