



PRESS RELEASE

International consortium starts independent research into methodologies for the assessment of the Global Warming Potential (GWP) of biobased materials used in construction

Brussels, 11 October 2021 – The Global Warming Potential (GWP) is one of the impact categories for Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), a scientific method used to analyse the impacts of goods and services through their entire life cycle. In the construction sector, this method is used to develop Environmental Products Declarations (EPDs), the “building blocks” on which full assessments at building and infrastructure level are performed.

To conduct in-depth independent research into the methodology used to assess the GWP of biobased materials, the consortium hired the consultancy and engineering firms LBP|SIGHT and Royal HaskoningDHV. The research focuses on biobased materials used in the construction sector and will identify differences in methodology and assumptions, compared to other construction products. Results are expected in Q1 of 2022.

Alessio Rimoldi, Secretary General of BIMB - Federation of the European Precast Concrete Industry: “Achieving a net-zero carbon economy by 2050 is one of the key pillars of the European Green Deal. Evaluating the environmental effects of construction materials and products in an objective way is one of the preconditions for taking the right measures and decisions to mitigate climate change. As a consortium, we want to expand the scientific knowledge around GWP assessment methodologies.”

Dirk-Jan Simons, senior consultant sustainability and environment at LBP|SIGHT: “It is of great importance for the whole building products industry and the construction sector as a whole, that we perform an independent study based on scientific principles, in order to achieve objective rules for a comparative evaluation at building level.”

Contact

For more information, please contact:

Alessio Rimoldi
Federation of the European Precast Concrete Industry | European Concrete Platform
M: +32 (0)473 950690
E: ar@bibm.eu

Mike Leonard
Chair of the consortium communication group
T: +44 (0)121 705 1714
M: +44 (0)7778 842831
E: mike@buildingalliance.co.uk

About the construction products consortium

The consortium is a collaboration between European and global key players in the field of construction products: the European Concrete Platform (ECP) (composed of the [Federation of the European Precast Concrete Industry](#) (BIMB), the [European Cement Association](#) (CEMBUREAU), the [European Federation of Concrete Admixtures Associations](#) (EFCA) and the [European Ready Mixed Concrete Organization](#) (ERMCO)), the [European Ceramic Industry Association](#) (Cerame-Unie), the [European Autoclaved Aerated Concrete Association](#) (EAACA), the [European Calcium Silicate Unit Producers Association](#) (ECSPA), the [European Mortar Industry Organisation](#) (EMO), and the [Global Cement and Concrete Association](#) (GCCA).

The research is being conducted by:

