



## **100 000 BIOBASED TOP-UPS**

Quickest route to Paris Proof housing?

Frank Vahstal







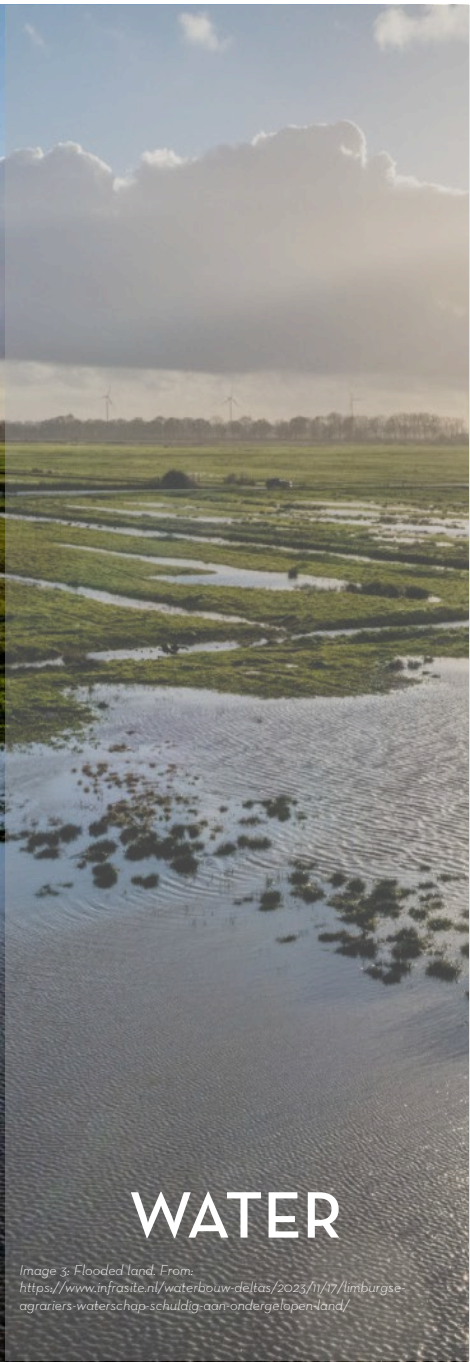
# NITROGEN

Image 1: Livestock farming. From: <https://www.foodlog.nl/artikel/nederland-goed-voor-05-biologisch-eu-areal/>



# BIODIVERSITY

Image 2: Dutch nature. From: <https://www.parkvakanties.nl/blog/algemeen/de-15-modiste-plekken-van-de-veluwe/>



# WATER

Image 3: Flooded land. From: <https://www.infrasiten.nl/waterbouw-deltas/2023/11/17/limburgse-agrariers-waterschap-schuldig-aan-ondergelopen-land/>



# HOUSING

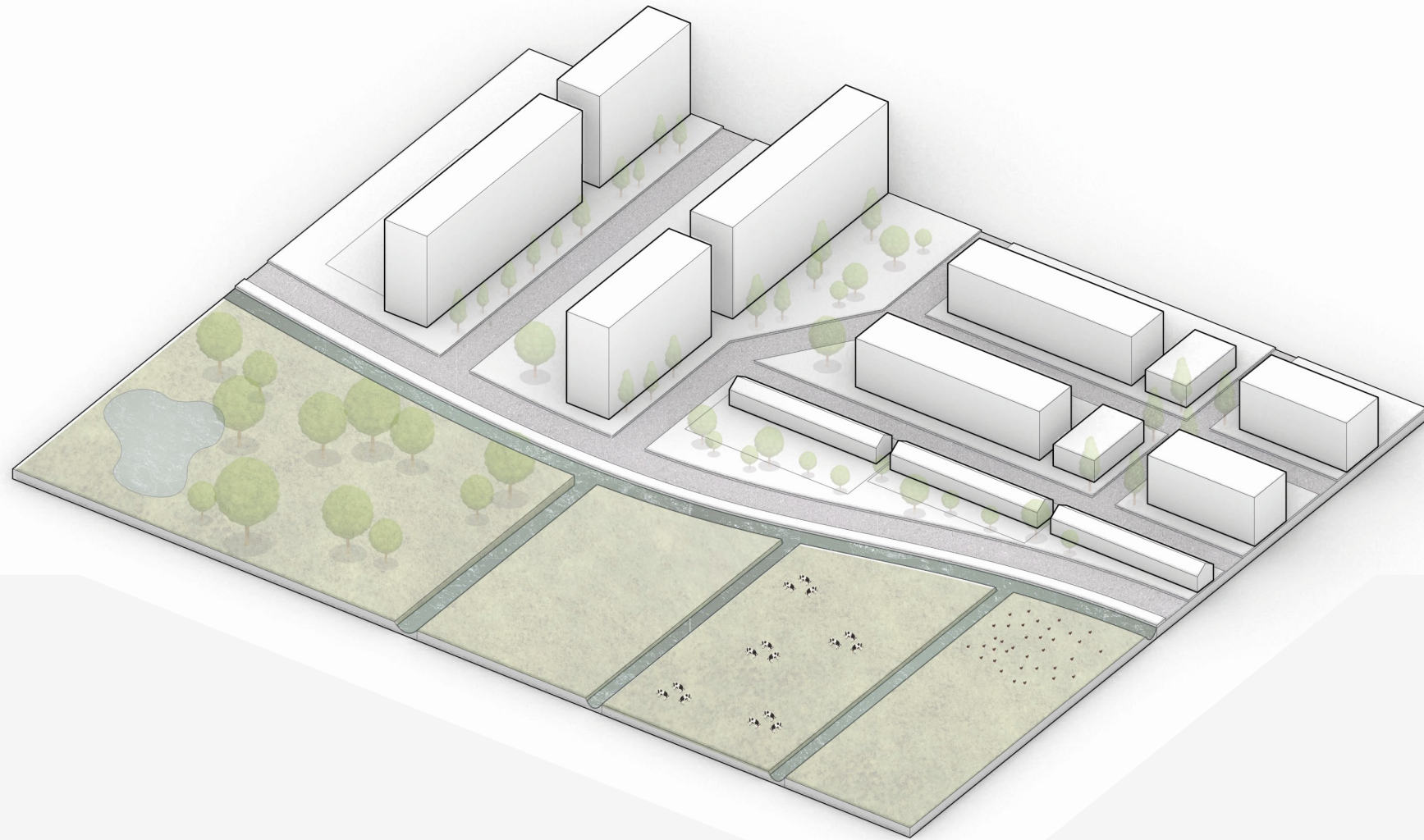
Image 4: Housing market. From: <https://www.nu.nl/economie/6834956/beleggers-kopen-steeds-minder-huizen-op-in-grote-steden.html>

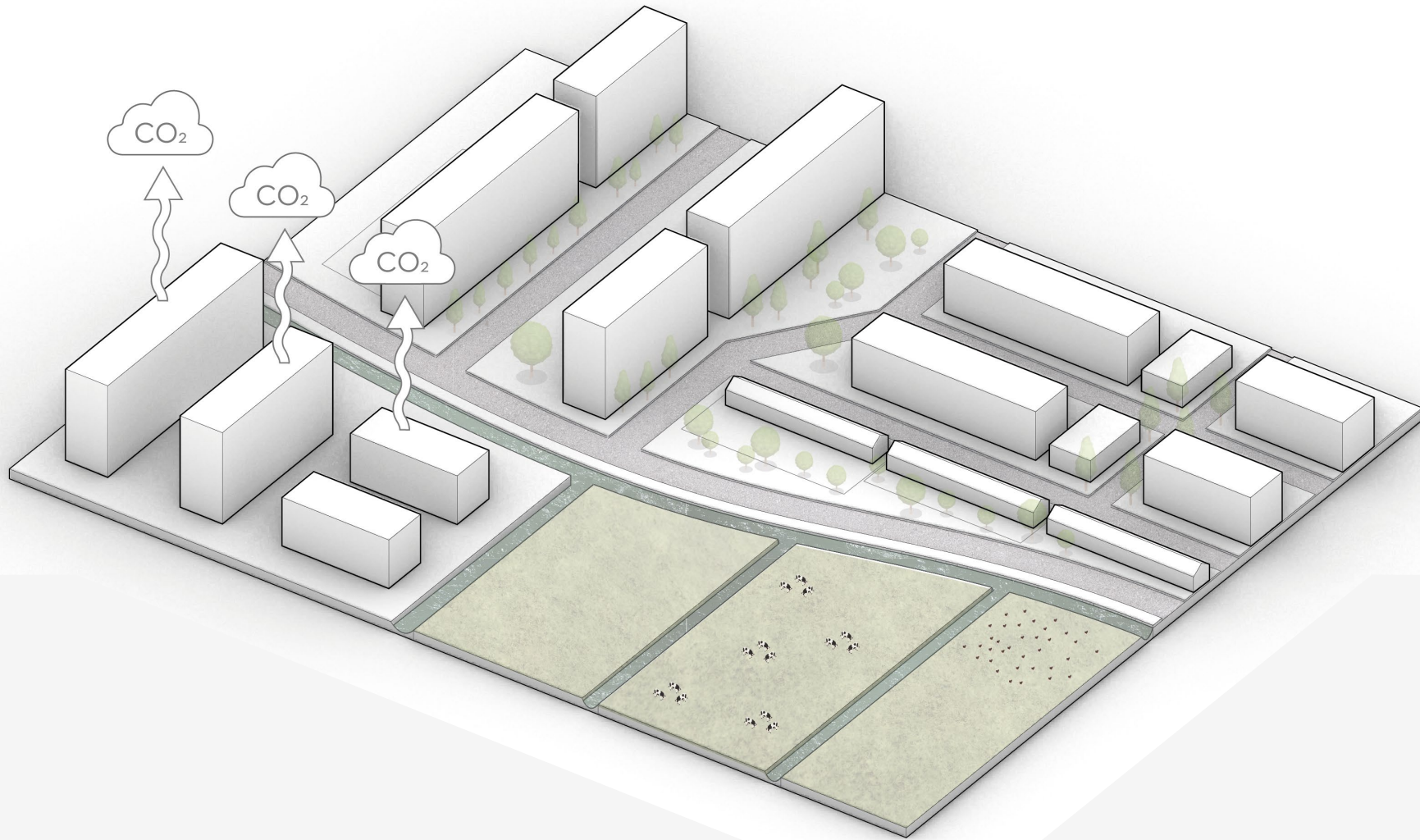


# CARBON

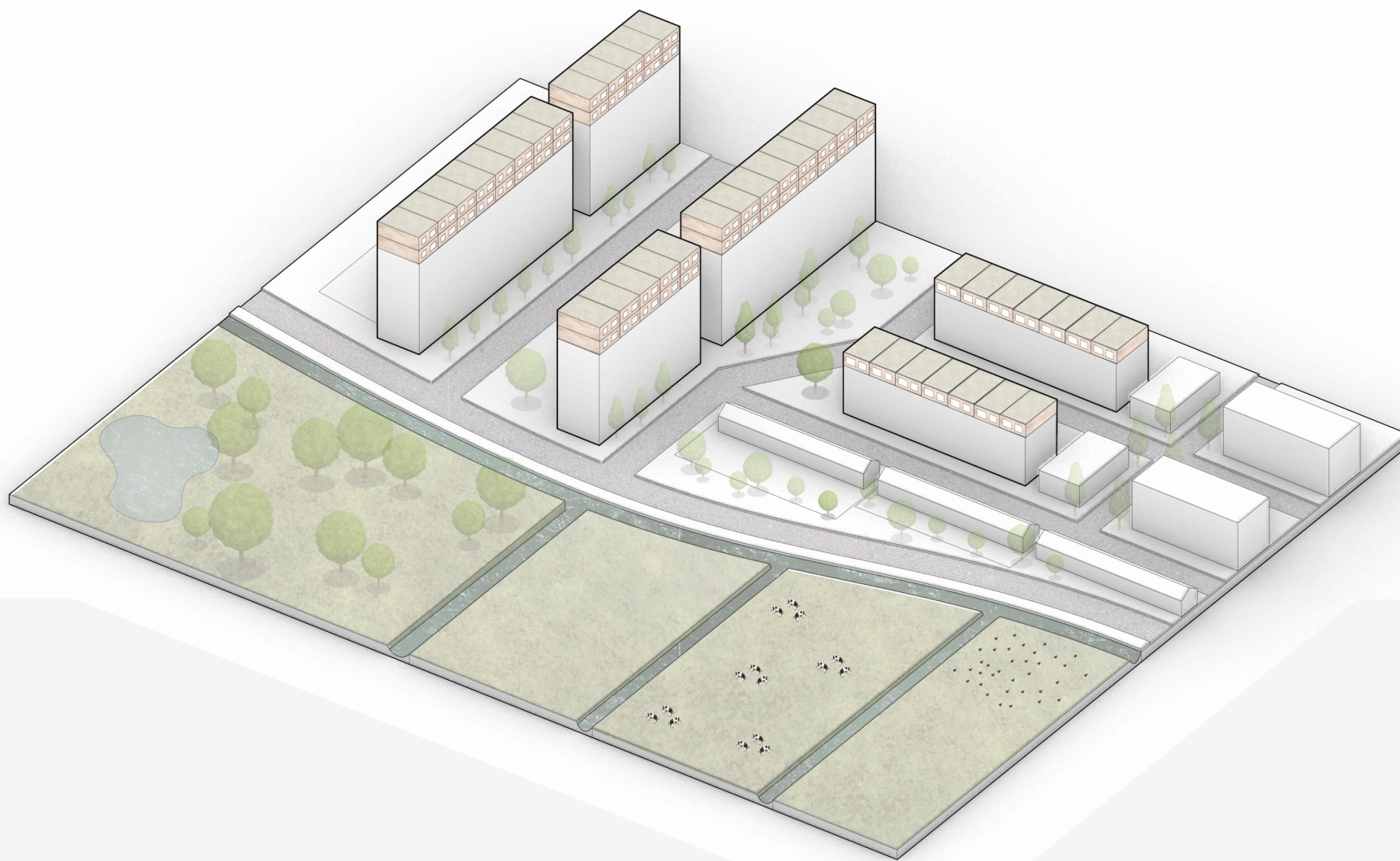
Image 5: Steel factory. From: <https://www.parool.nl/nederland/zweden-bevestigen-gesprekken-over-overname-tata-staal-ijmuiden-bb770acd/huizen-op-in-grote-steden.html>













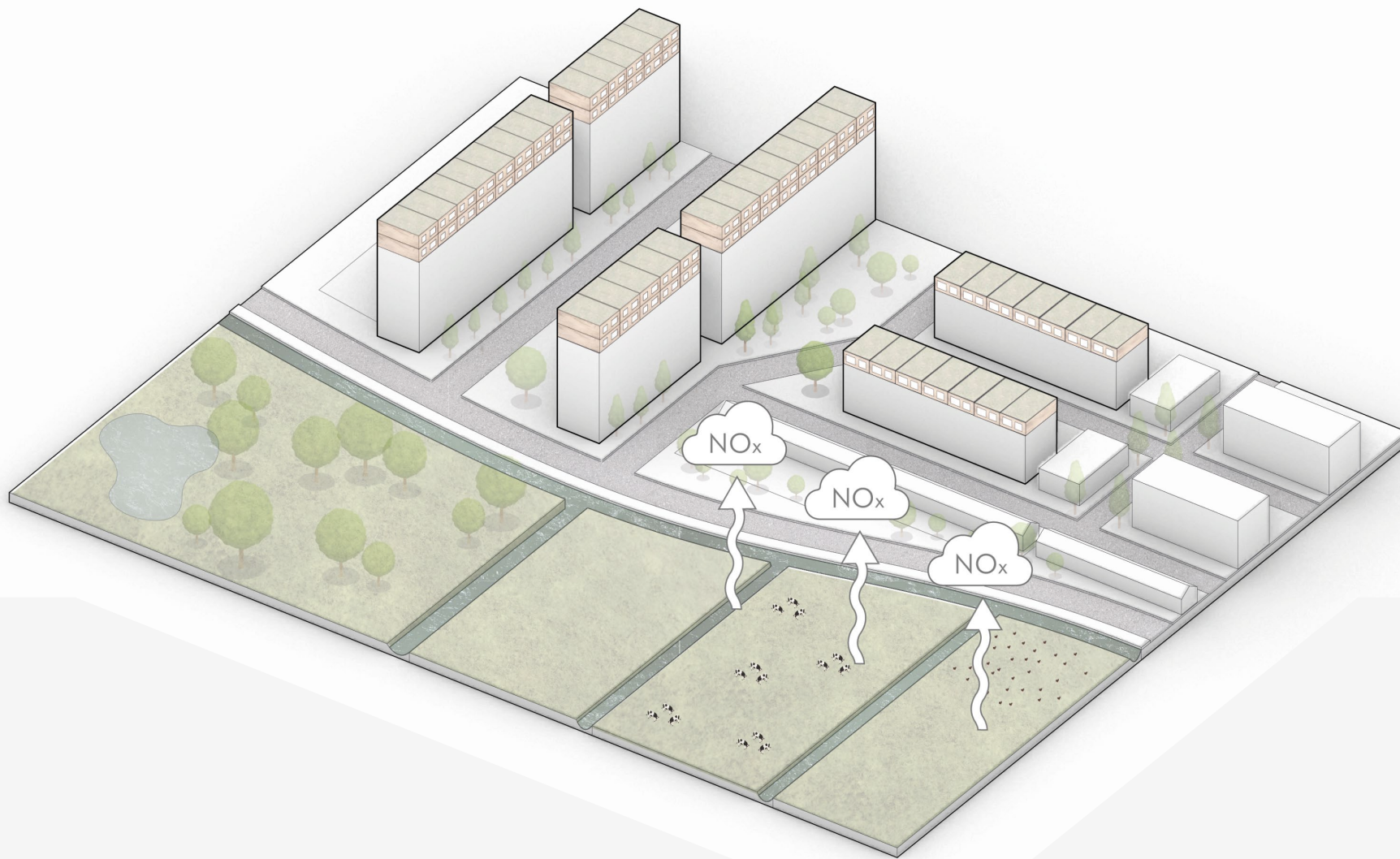






Image 6 Miscanthuscultivation, by Universität Hohenheim (n.d). Retrieved from [Innovationsorigins.com](https://www.innovationsorigins.com)



Image 7: Flax cultivation, by Faay(n.d). Retrieved from [faa.nl](https://www.faa.nl)



Image 8: Straw cultivation, by Hengelo's Weekblad (2021). Retrieved from [www.hengelowerbos.nl/nieuws/over-nieuw-landbouw-product-voor-omgeving-voor-weddezeel](https://www.hengelowerbos.nl/nieuws/over-nieuw-landbouw-product-voor-omgeving-voor-weddezeel)



Image 9: Dutch forestry, by WUR(2019). Retrieved from [www.wur.nl/nl/nieuws/resultaten-particuliere-bosbouw-verder-omlaag.htm](https://www.wur.nl/nl/nieuws/resultaten-particuliere-bosbouw-verder-omlaag.htm)





## 100 000 TOP-UPS

With **local biobased** material?





# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

## MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION

- How can locally sourced biobased building materials be used in constructing top-ups in The Netherlands?

## SUB QUESTIONS

### 1. The Potential

Why should we build the 100 000 required top-ups with biobased materials?

### 2. The Resources

What kind of biobased materials can be sourced in The Netherlands?

### 3. The Scale-up

Can the production of these materials be scaled-up to contribute to the construction of the 100 000 required top-ups?

### 4. The Benefit

Does using locally sourced biobased building materials reduce the embodied emissions compared to the conventional material choices?

## DESIGN QUESTIONS

### 5. The Design

How can locally sourced biobased materials help inform the design for the top-up of Smits Vastgoedzorg?

# HYPOTHESIS

## MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION

- How can locally sourced biobased building materials be used in constructing top-ups in The Netherlands?

## HYPOTHESIS

- The 100 000 required top-ups could be constructed with locally sourced biobased materials.
- By doing so the embodied emissions will be reduced.



**THE POTENTIAL**

# POTENTIAL WHY TOP-UP?

OPERATIONAL VS EMBODIED EMISSIONS

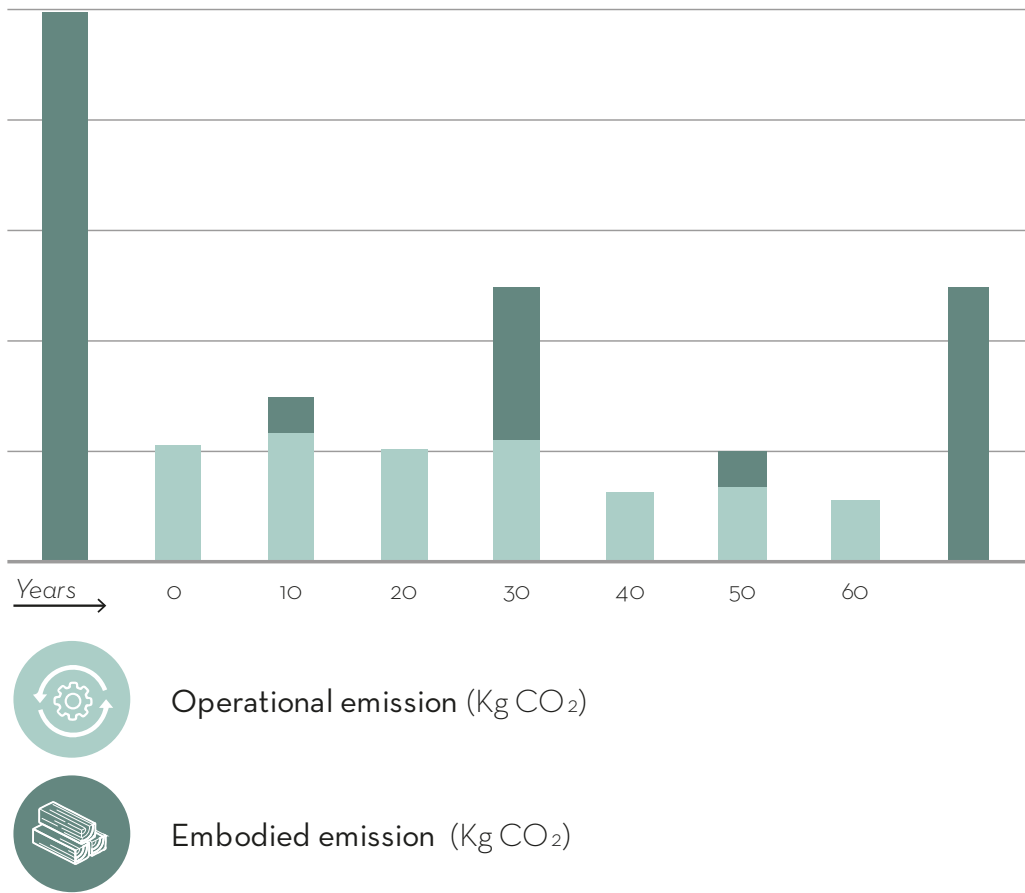


Fig. 1: Embodied vs Operational, adapted from: Dutch Green Building Council. (2021).

Paris Proof Housing 2030

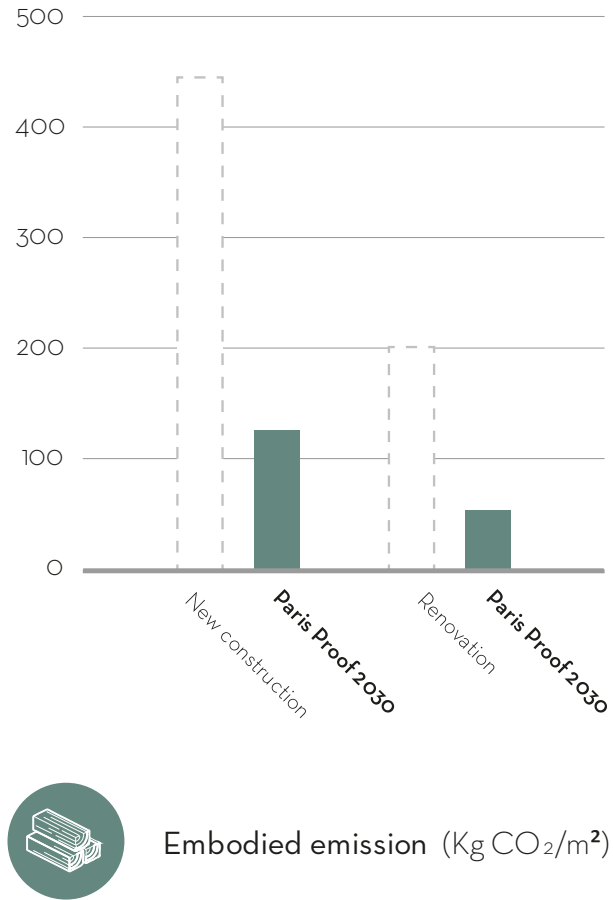


Fig. 2: Paris Proof housing, adapted from: Dutch Green Building Council. (2020).



# POTENTIAL WHY BIOBASED?

## REASONS TO CHOOSE FOR BIOBASED

-  Scarcity of resources
-  Carbon capture
-  Regenerative
-  Health and comfort
-  Less transport
-  Less waste



Image 10: Iron ore mine. from [citicpacificmining.com/our-operation](https://citicpacificmining.com/our-operation)



# POTENTIAL WHY BIOBASED?

## A CRITICAL NOTE ON BIOBASED

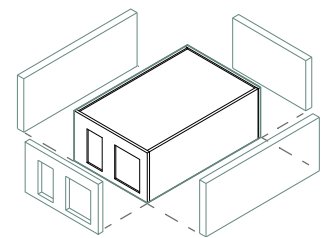
- Responsible cultivation
- Displacement concerns
- Growth location
- Manufacturing process
- The percentage of biomass
- Using biomass for energy



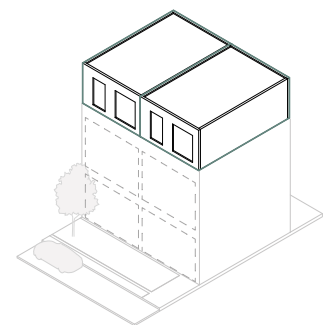
Image 11: Biomass energy. Retrieved from [parool.nl/amsterdam/biomassacentrale-diemen-krijgt-groen-licht-van-rechter](https://parool.nl/amsterdam/biomassacentrale-diemen-krijgt-groen-licht-van-rechter)



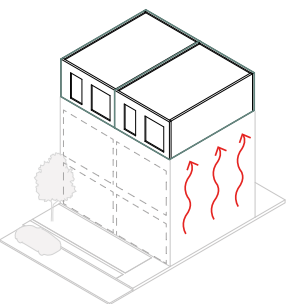
# POTENTIAL WHY BIOBASED TOP-UP?



PREFABRICATION

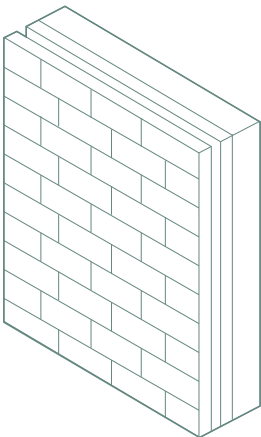


LIGHTWEIGHT



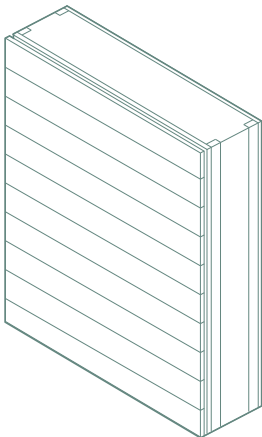
COMFORT

440 kg



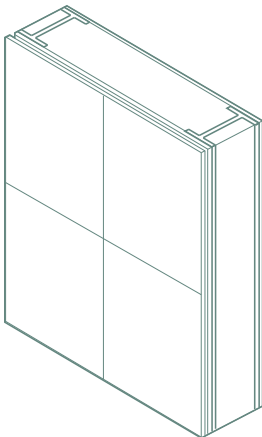
Concrete  
PIR  
Brick

120 kg



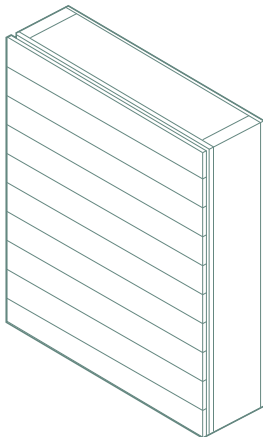
Timber  
Hempcrete  
Timber cladding

50 kg



Steel structure  
Rockwool insulation  
Composite cladding

46 kg






























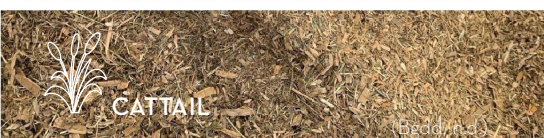







Timber  
Flax insulation  
Timber cladding

Fig. 3: Lightweight biobased structures, adapted from: Platform m3. (2020).

## THE RESOURCES



# RESOURCES

MATERIAL	ANNUAL YIELD	APPLICATION	#TOP-UPS
 <p>WOOD (Stora Enso, n.d.)</p>	→  <p>390 000 m3 (Probos, n.d.)</p>	→ <div>Structure  Insulation  Finish </div>	→  <p>7 400</p>
 <p>FLAX (Isolyas, n.d.)</p>	→  <p>151 710 m3 (CBS, 2023)</p>	→ <div>Insulation  Finish </div>	→  <p>4 322</p>
 <p>HEMP (Hempflax, n.d.)</p>	→  <p>84 852 m3 (CBS, 2023)</p>	→ <div>Structure  Insulation  Finish </div>	→  <p>2 417</p>
 <p>STRAW (Ecocon, 2022)</p>	→  <p>600 000 tonnes (CBS, 2023)</p>	→ <div>Structure  Insulation </div>	→  <p>155 844</p>
 <p>MISCANTHUS (Linex, n.d.)</p>	→  <p>10 000 tonnes (Boosten &amp; Oldenburg, 2014)</p>	→ <div>Structure  Insulation  Finish </div>	→ -
 <p>CATTAIL (Bodd, n.d.)</p>	→  <p></p>	→ <div>Insulation  Finish </div>	→ -
 <p>SEAWEED (Blueblocks, n.d.)</p>	→  <p></p>	→ <div>Insulation  Finish </div>	→ -

## THE SCALE-UP

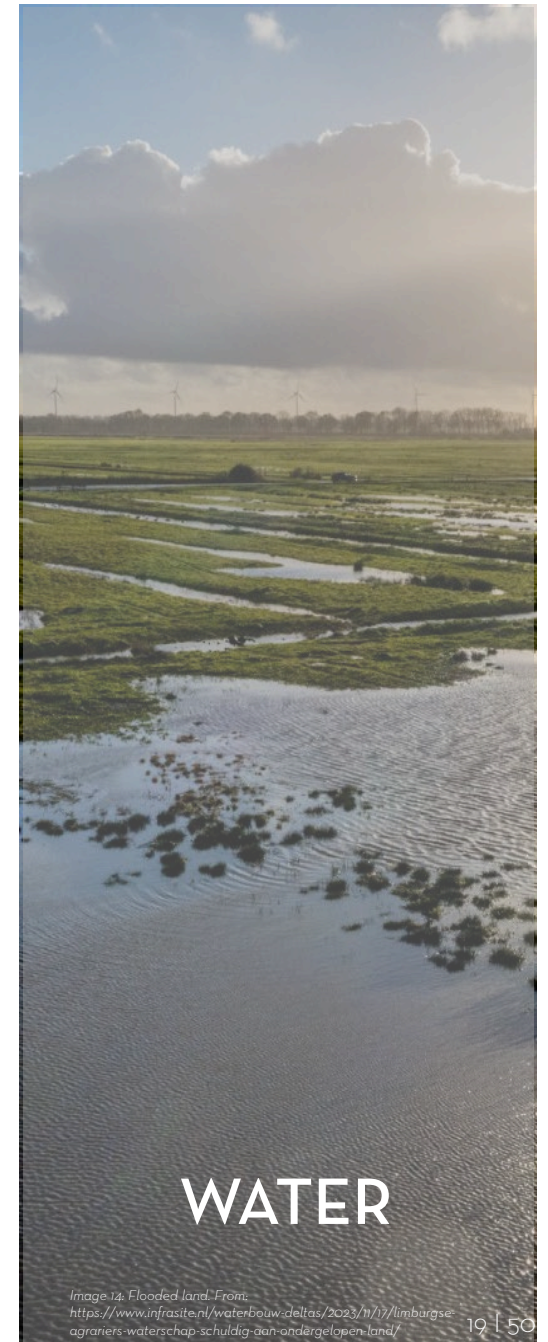
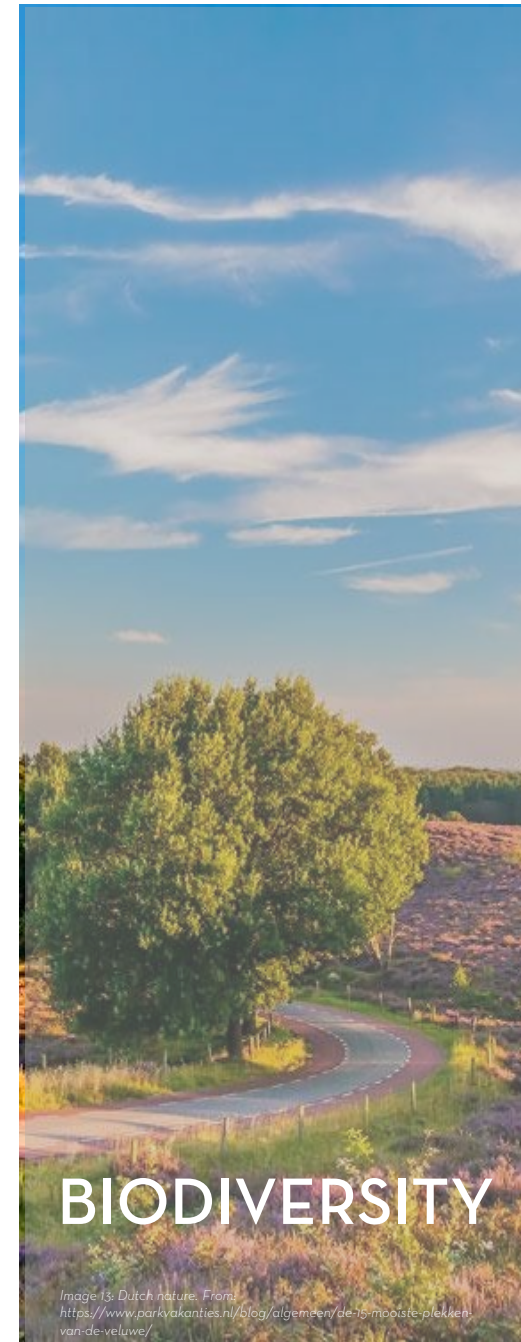


# THE SCALE-UP

## NATIONAL APPROACH

### GOALS 2030

- 50 000 hectares of fiber cultivation
- 400 000 tons annual yield of fibers
- At least 30% of new residential buildings are constructed using 30% biobased materials



# THE SCALE-UP

## REGIONAL APPROACH

The region of Zuid-Holland has three types of landscapes

- Natura 2000
- Clay landscape
- Peat landscape
- Sand landscape

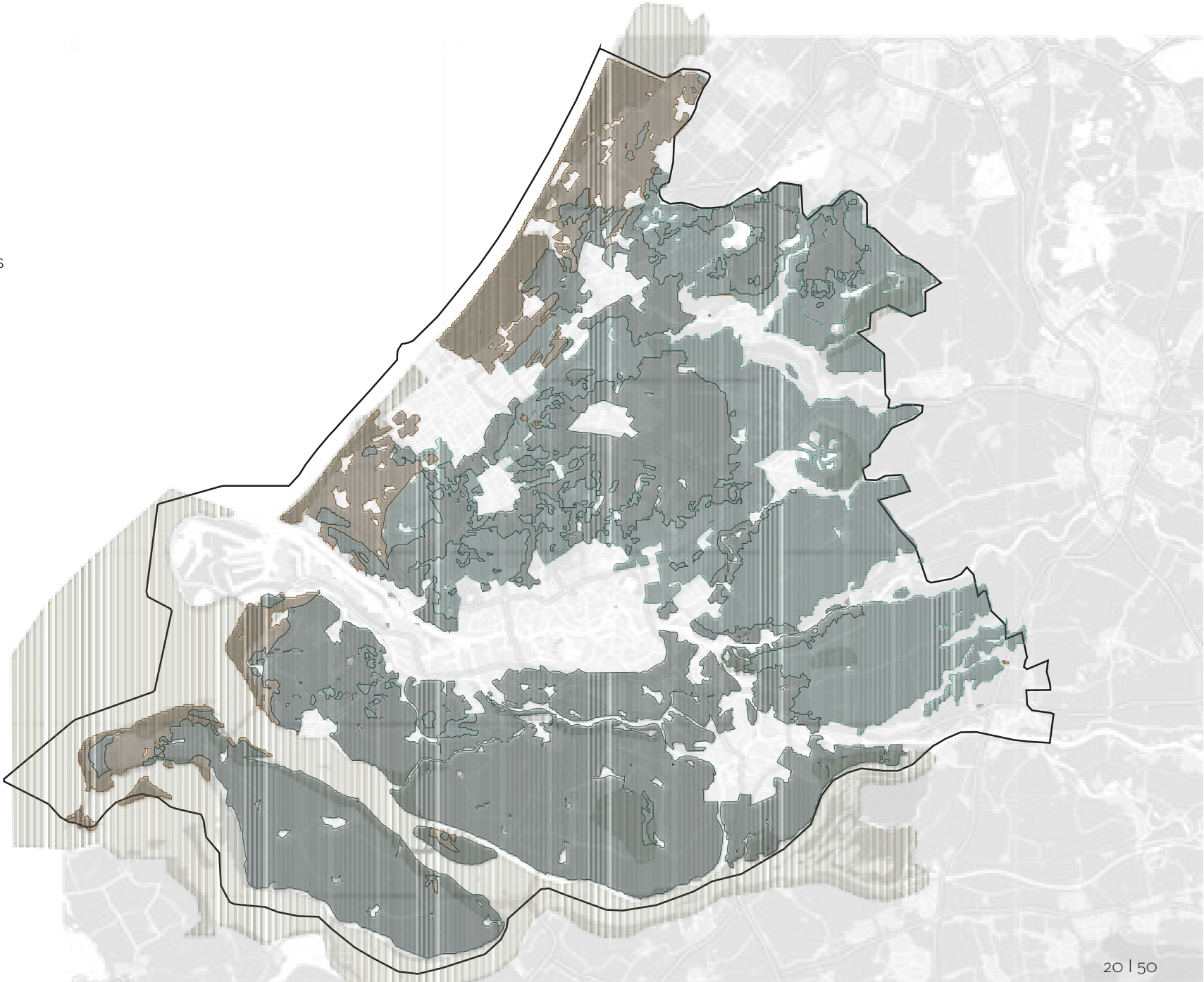


Fig. 4: Soil map Zuid Holland (Provincie Zuid-Holland, n.d.)



# THE SCALE-UP

## REGIONAL APPROACH



Image 15: Dutch landscape



# THE SCALE-UP

## REGIONAL APPROACH

### CLAY LANDSCAPE

- Salinization
- Soil depletion due to current intensive agriculture



Image 16: Clay landscape



# THE SCALE-UP

## REGIONAL APPROACH

### PEAT LANDSCAPE

- Oxidation of the peat soil causing CO<sub>2</sub> exhaust
- Subsidization



Image 17: Peat landscape



# THE SCALE-UP

## REGIONAL APPROACH

### SAND LANDSCAPE

- Soil and water pollution
- Pressing nitrogen crisis



Image 18: Sand landscape



# THE SCALE-UP

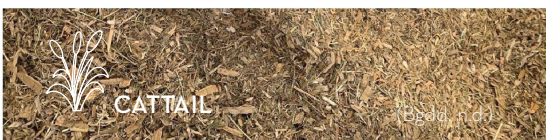
## REGIONAL APPROACH



Image 19: Topping-up on location

# THE SCALE-UP RESOURCE APPROACH

## MATERIAL



## APPROACH

- The annual yield of wood from the Dutch forestry is and will always be very limited.
- Flax is a rotation crop which is cultivated every 7 years, and will help improve the soil quality.
- Hemp is a rotation crop which is cultivated every 5 years, and will help improve the soil quality.
- Straw is a residual and abundantly available.
- Miscanthus has minimal requirements and could grow on any soil.
- Cattail grows along the more and more present water bodies.
- Seaweed require minimal land.



## THE BENEFIT

# THE BENEFIT

## GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL

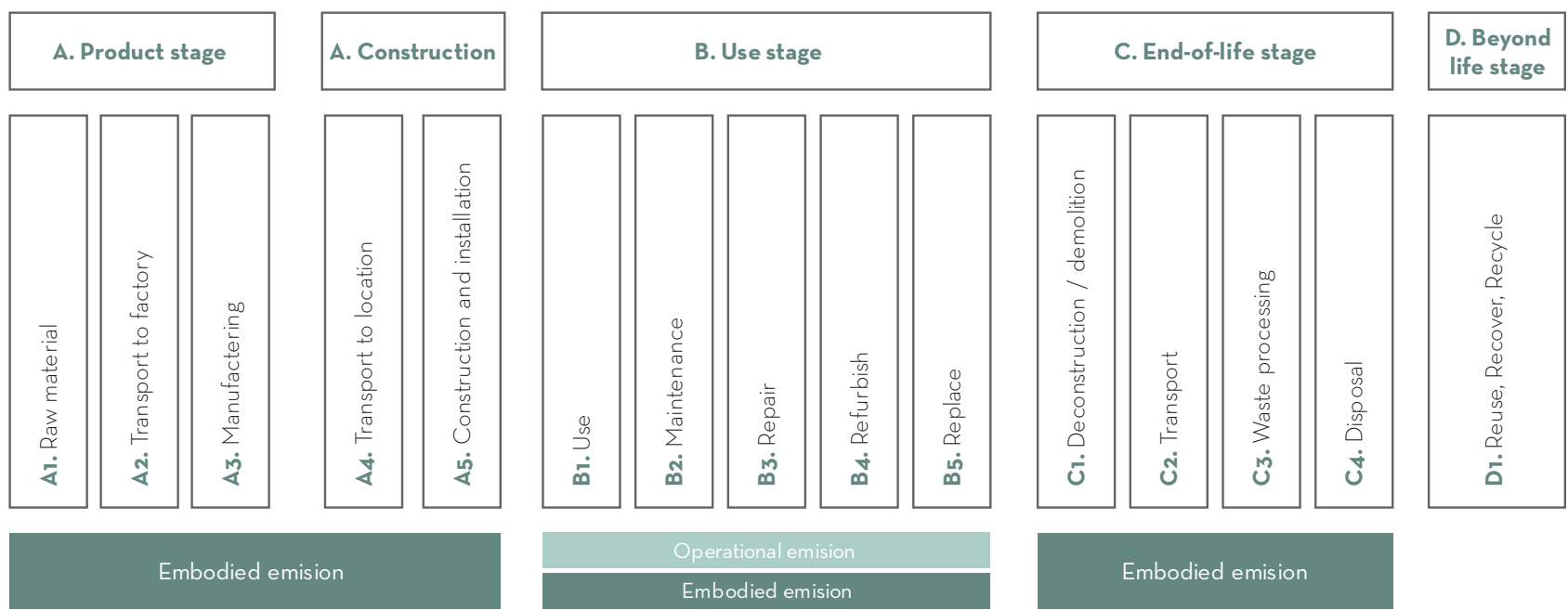


Fig. 5: Schematic representation of Life Cycle Assessment (EN 15804, 2012 + A2:2019)



# THE BENEFIT

## GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL

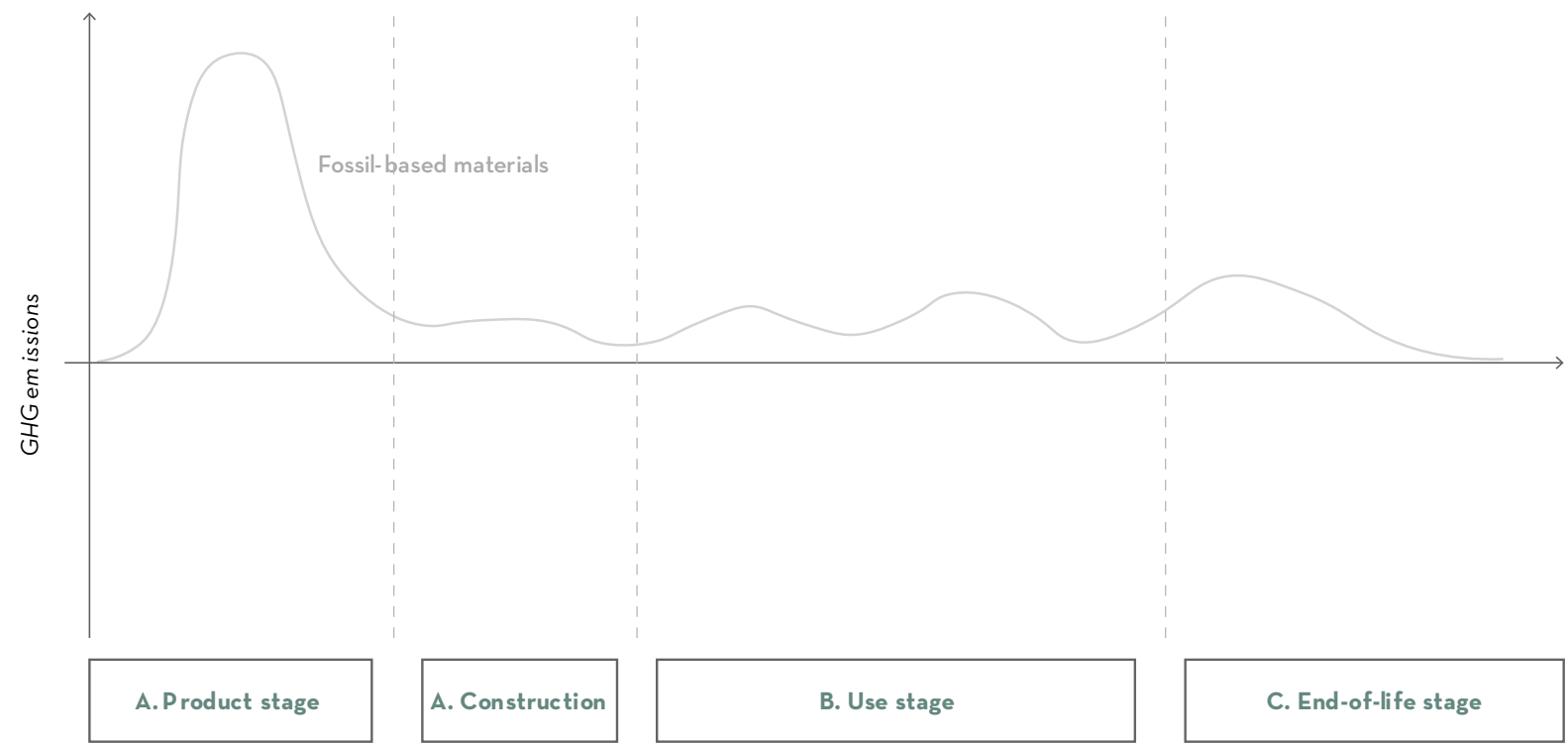


Fig. 6: GHG emissions in a life cycle (Gobbo et al., 2021)

# THE BENEFIT

## GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL

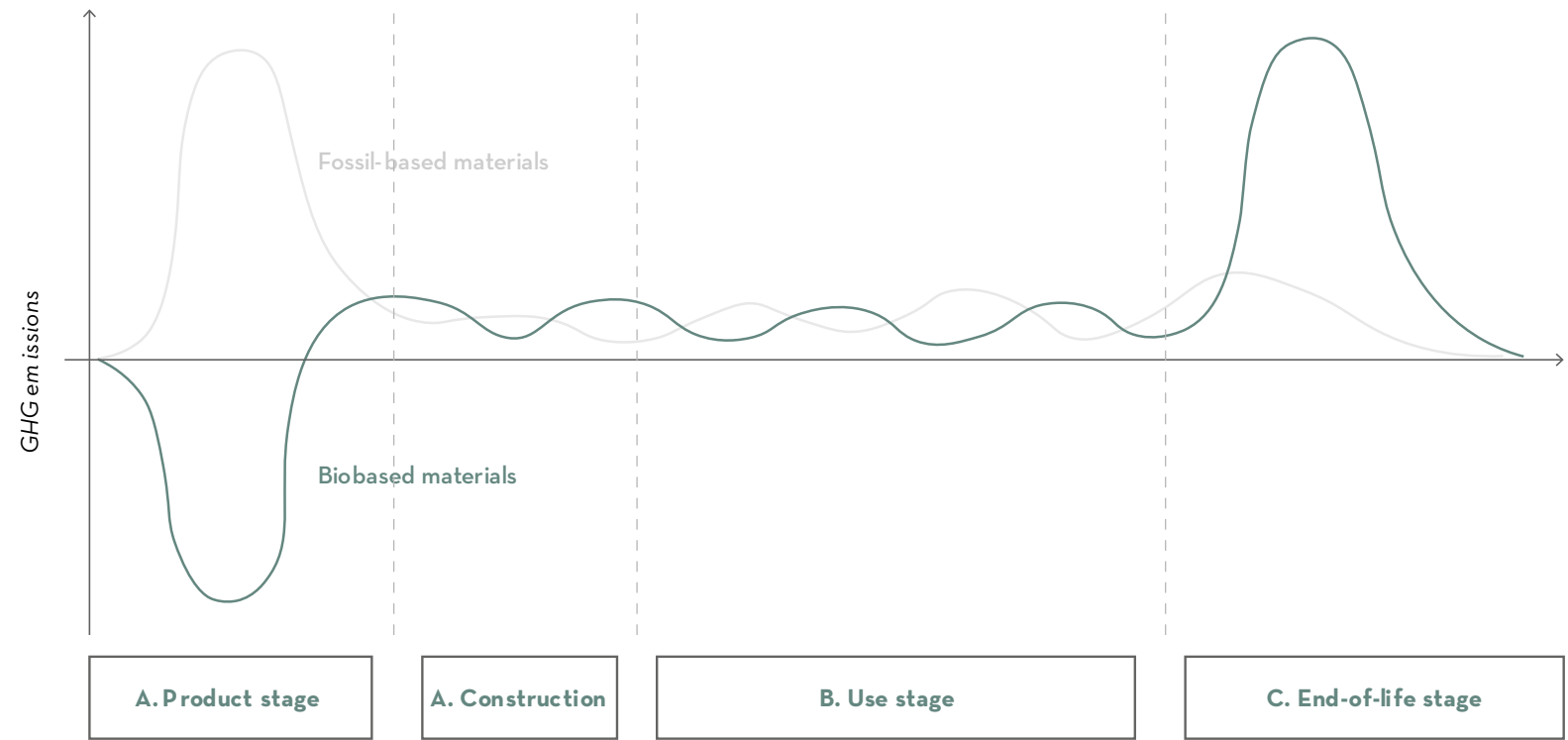


Fig. 6: GHG emissions in a life cycle (Gobbo et al., 2021)



# THE BENEFIT

## GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL

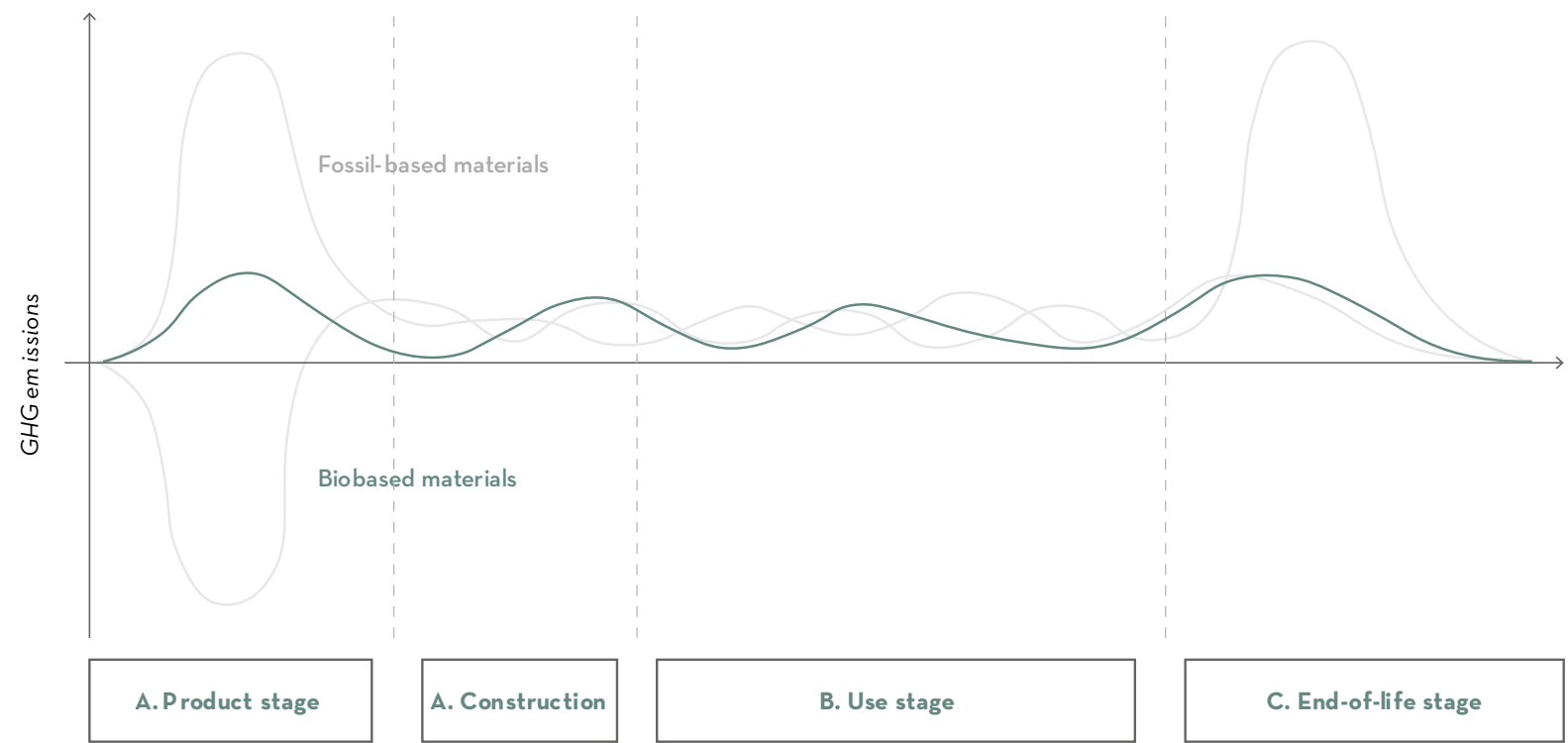


Fig. 6: GHG emissions in a life cycle (Gobbo et al., 2021)

# THE BENEFIT

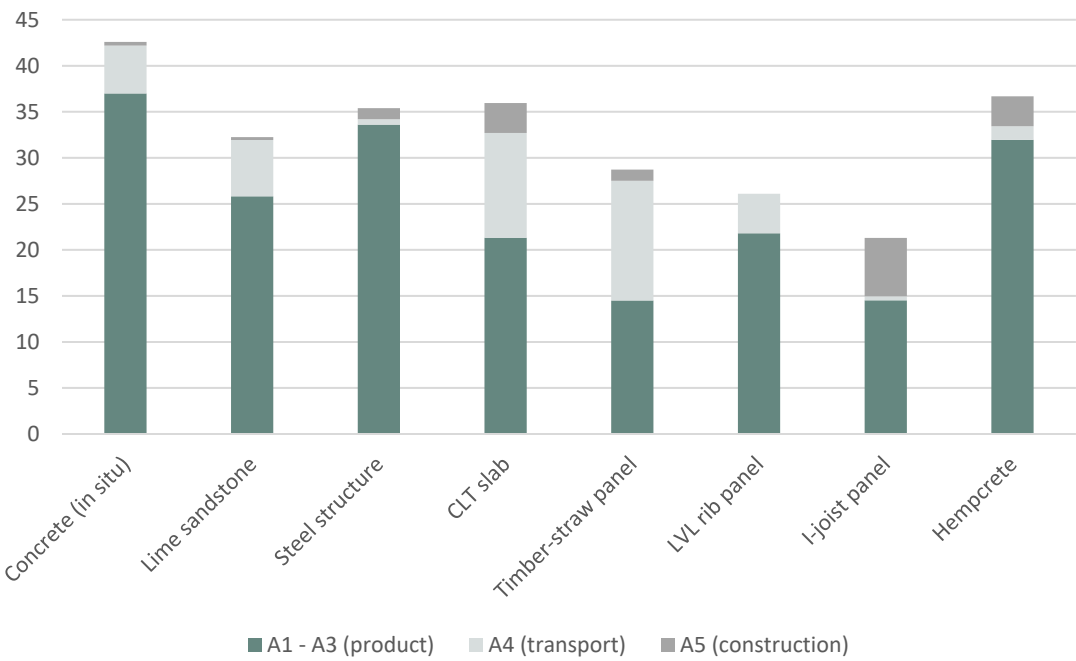
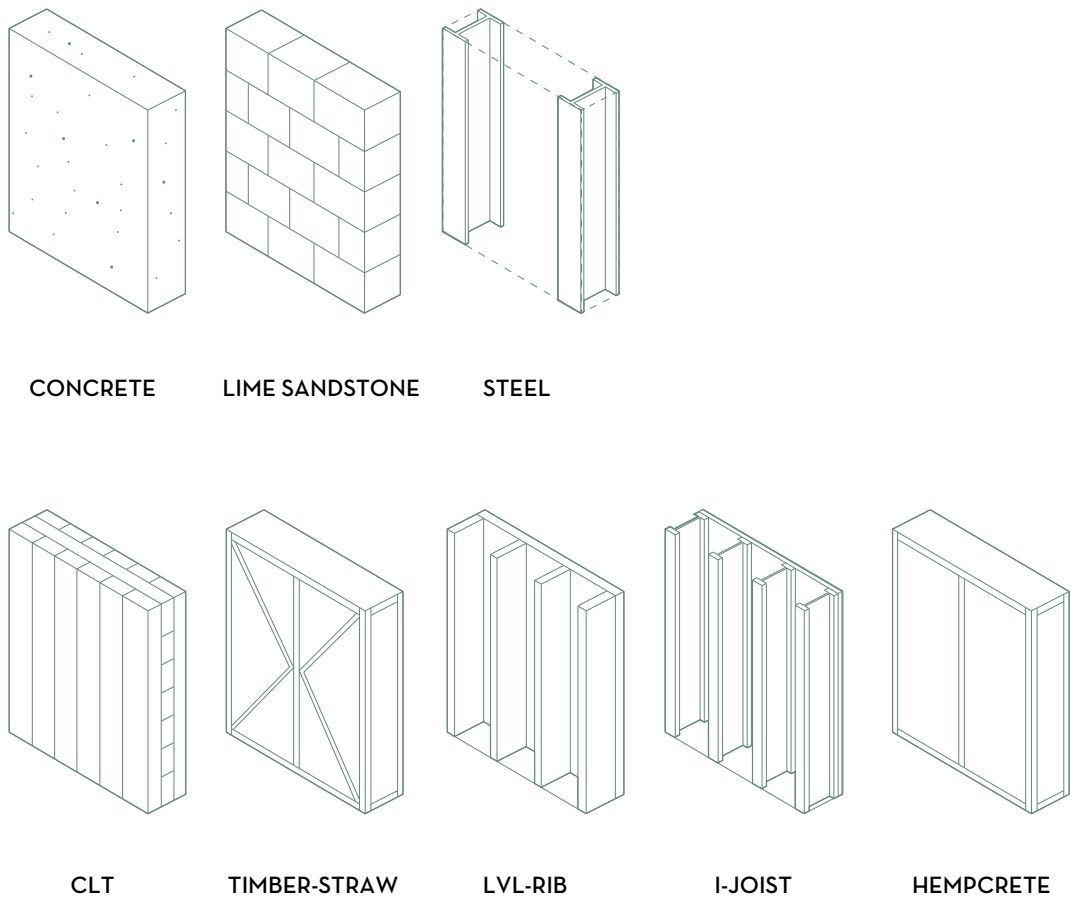


Fig. 7: GWP for 8 load-bearing structures

## COMPARISON OF GWP





# THE BENEFIT

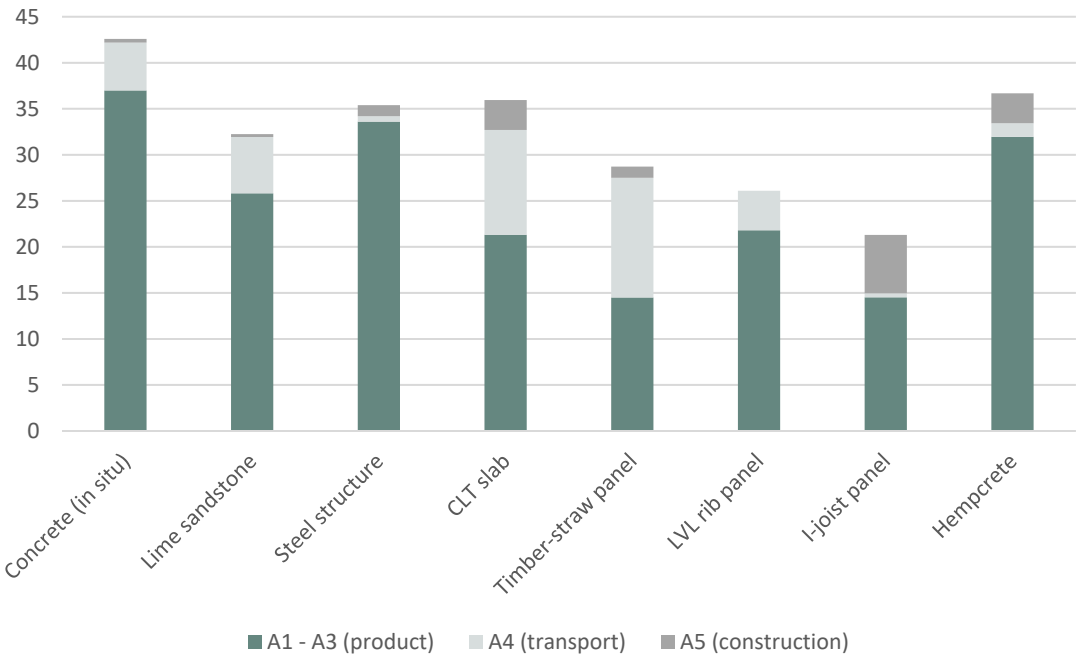


Fig. 9: GWP for 8 load-bearing structures



Image 20 Timber-straw panel (Ecococon, n.d.) from: <https://www.biobasedbouwen.nl/producten/ecococon-prefab-stropanelen/>



# THE BENEFIT

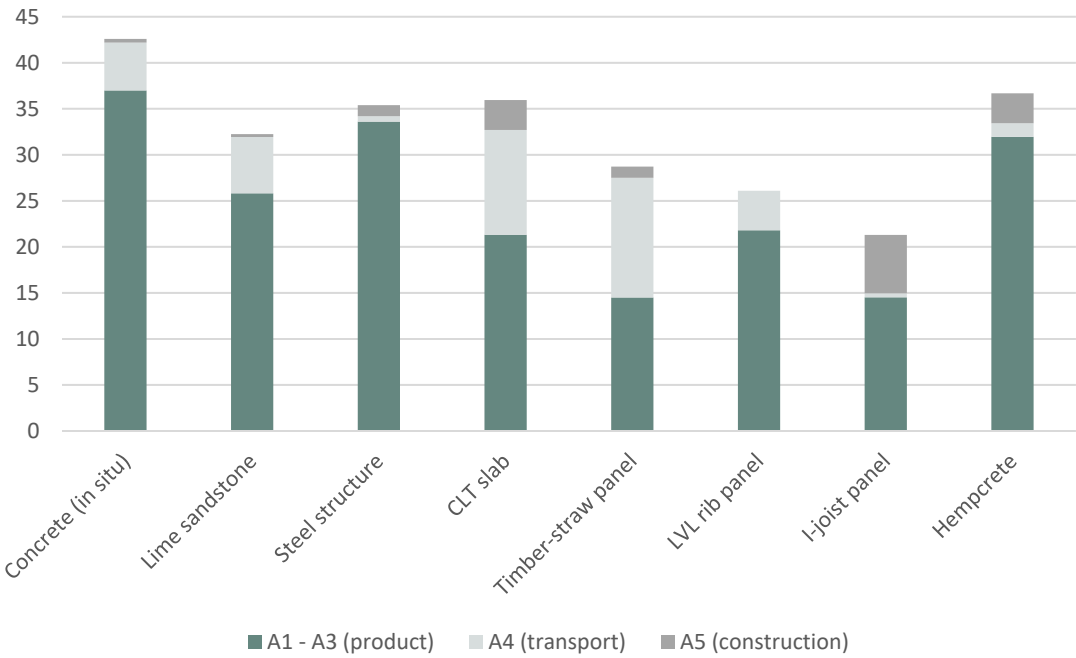


Fig. 9: GWP for 8 load-bearing structures



Image 21 Scandinavian forestry from: [globalwoodmarketsinfo.com/norway-boosts-softwood-log-exports-eu-countries-filling-russian-supply-gap/](https://globalwoodmarketsinfo.com/norway-boosts-softwood-log-exports-eu-countries-filling-russian-supply-gap/)



## THE DESIGN

# DESIGN CURRENT DESIGN

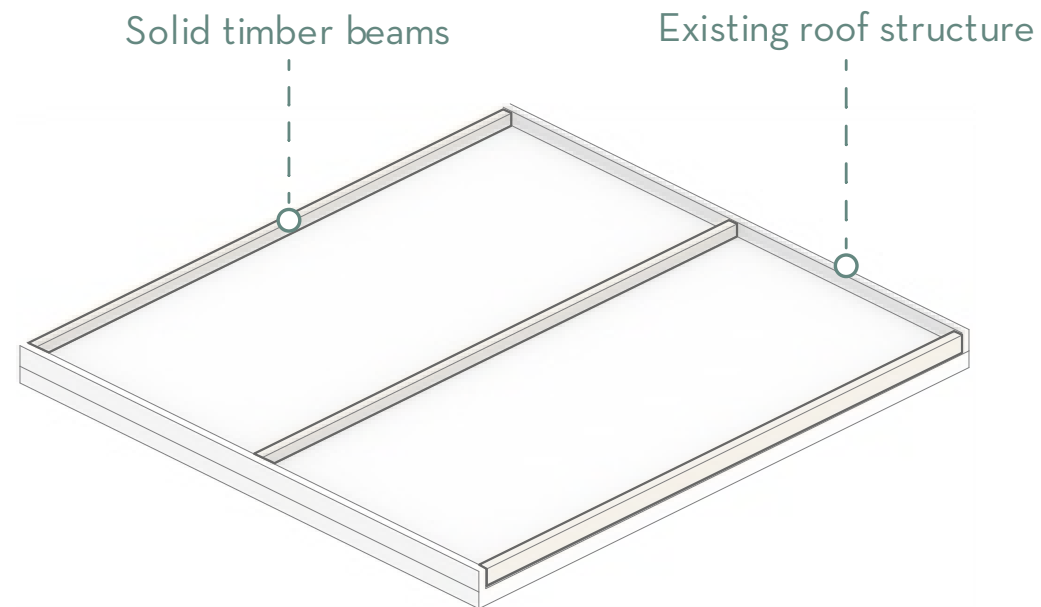


Fig. 10: Structure of the top-up

## DESIGN TEAM





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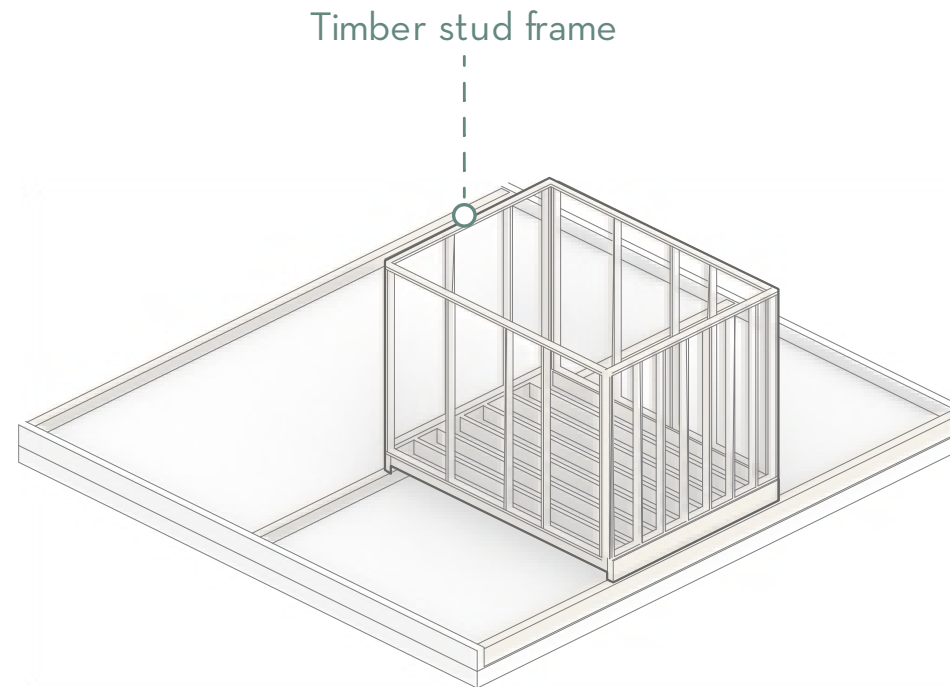


Fig. 10: Structure of the top-up

## DESIGN TEAM



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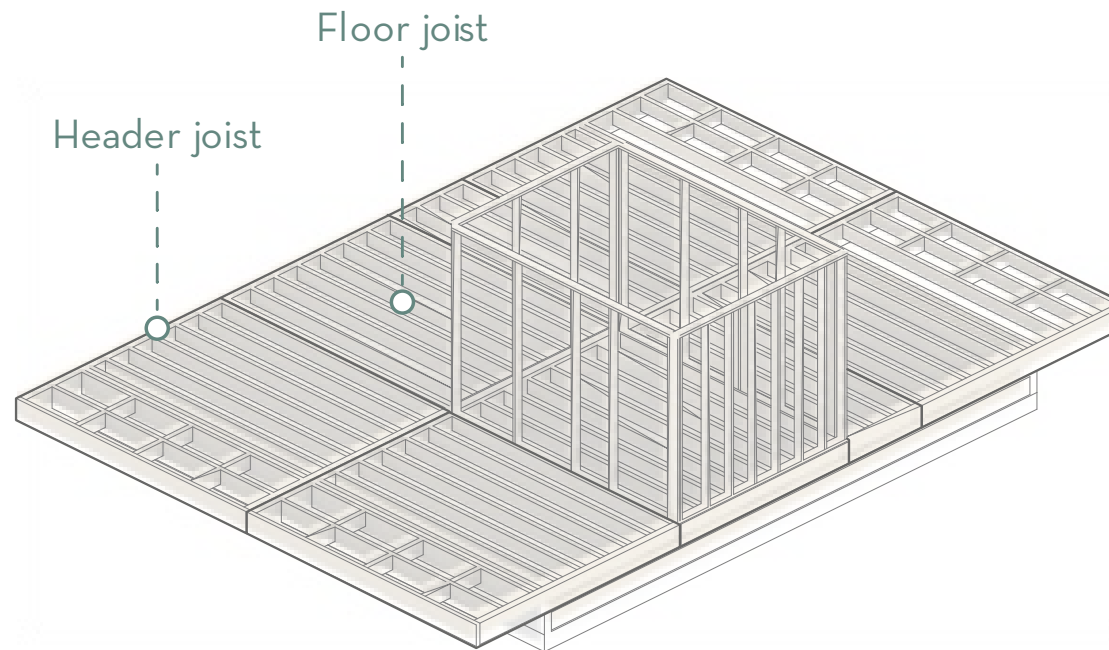


Fig. 10: Structure of the top-up

## DESIGN TEAM





# DESIGN CURRENT DESIGN

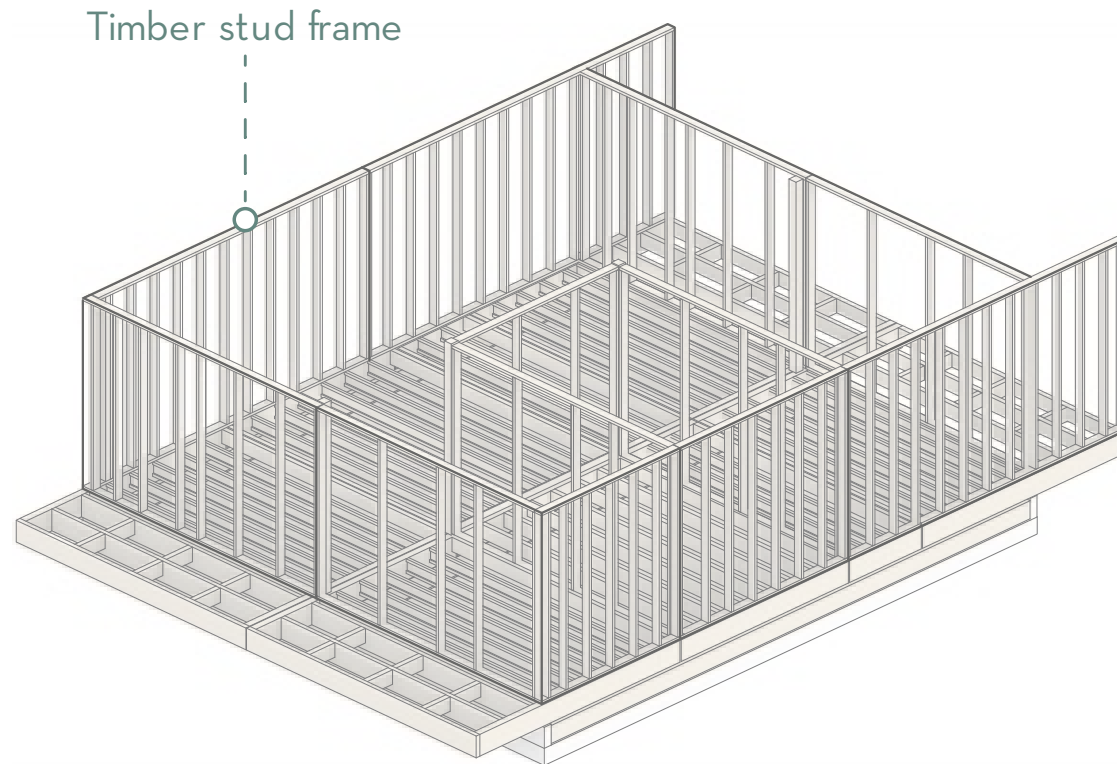


Fig. 10: Structure of the top-up

## DESIGN TEAM

nieuwe  
architecten

smits  
vastgoedzorg

job

# DESIGN CURRENT DESIGN

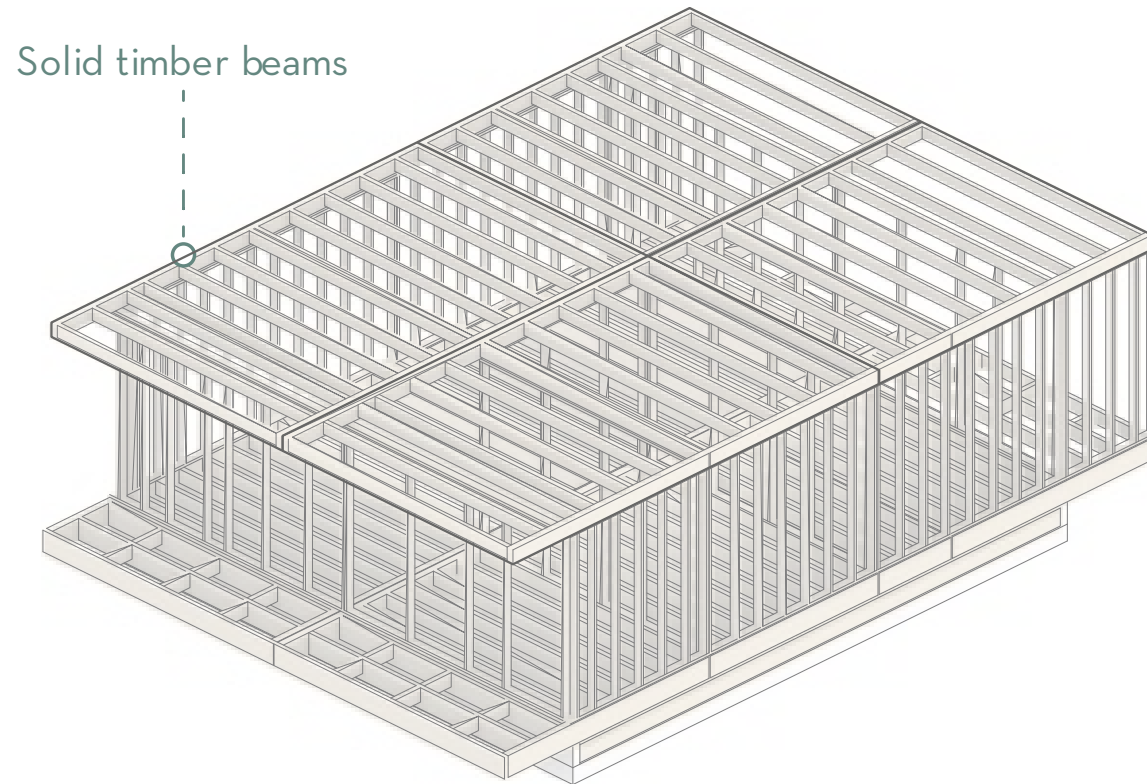


Fig. 10: Structure of the top-up

## DESIGN TEAM

nieuwe  
architecten

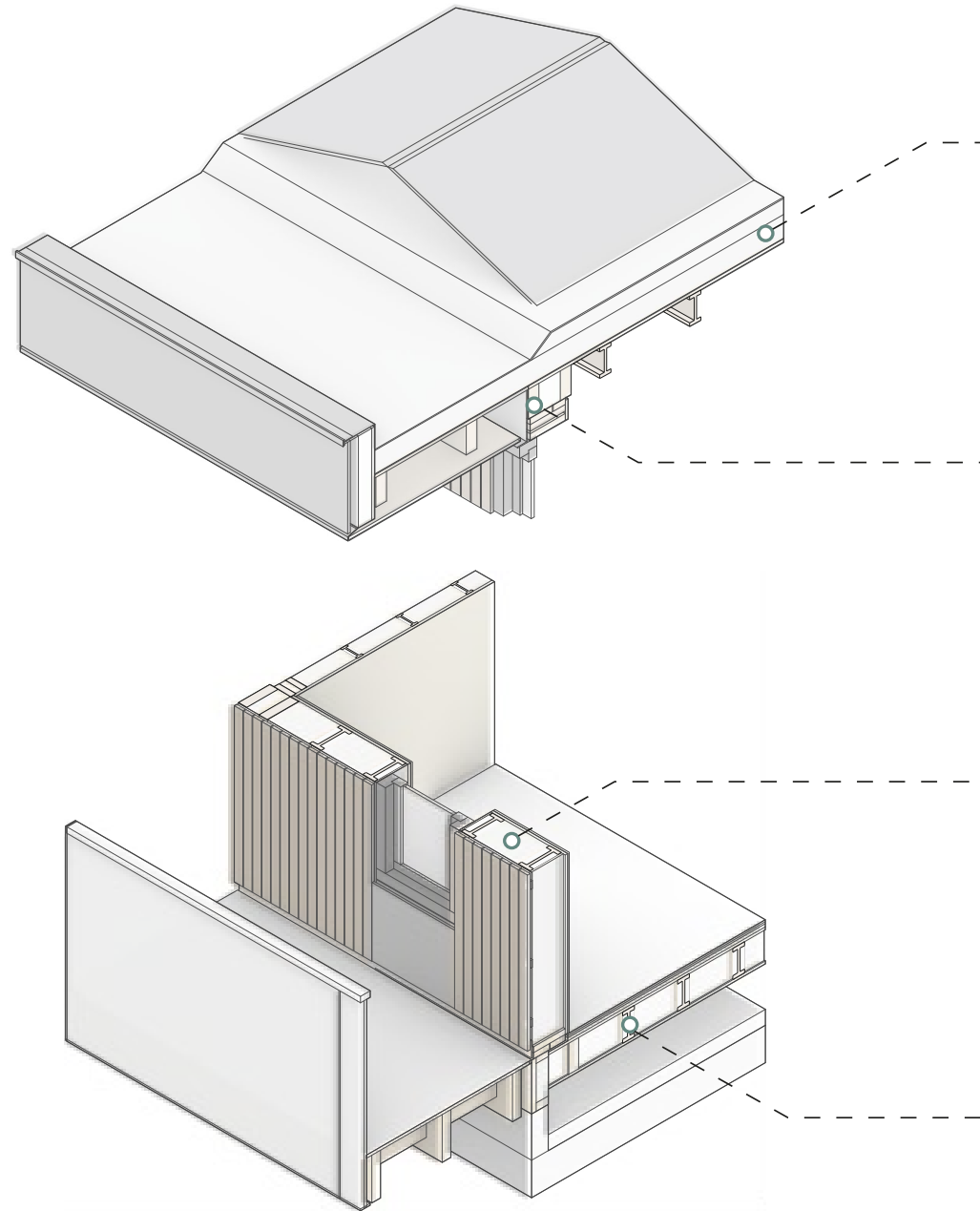
smits  
vastgoedzorg





# DESIGN SCENARIO 2023

- + Maximize the amount of biobased materials
- Limit the amount of scarce biobased materials



WOOD FIBRE



LAMINATED VENEER LUMBER



FLAX WOOL



I-BEAMS

Fig. 11: Materialisation of the top-up

# DESIGN SCENARIO 2023

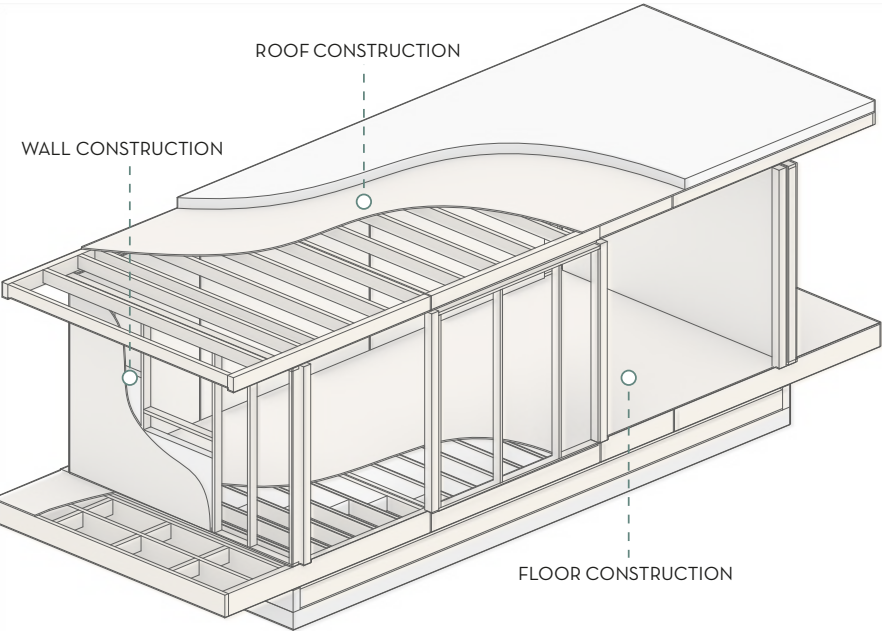
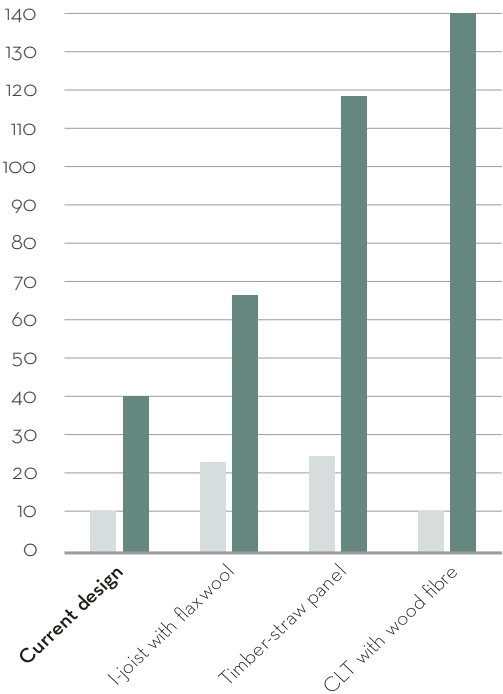
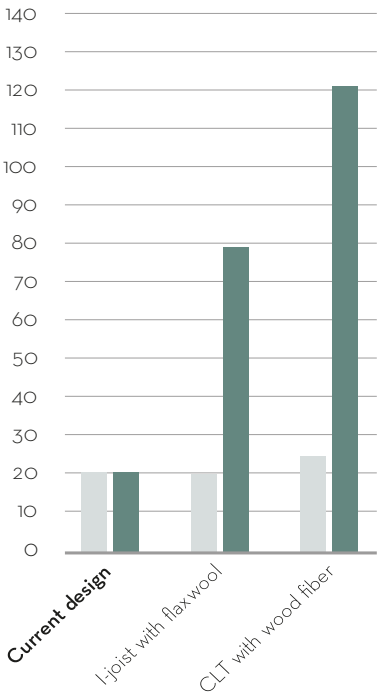


Fig. 12: The top-up decomposed

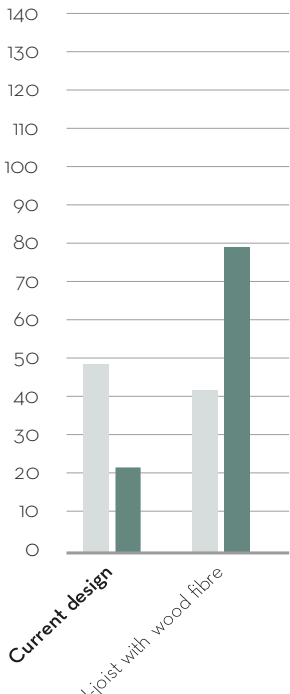
WALL COSTRUCTION



FLOOR COSTRUCTION



ROOF COSTRUCTION



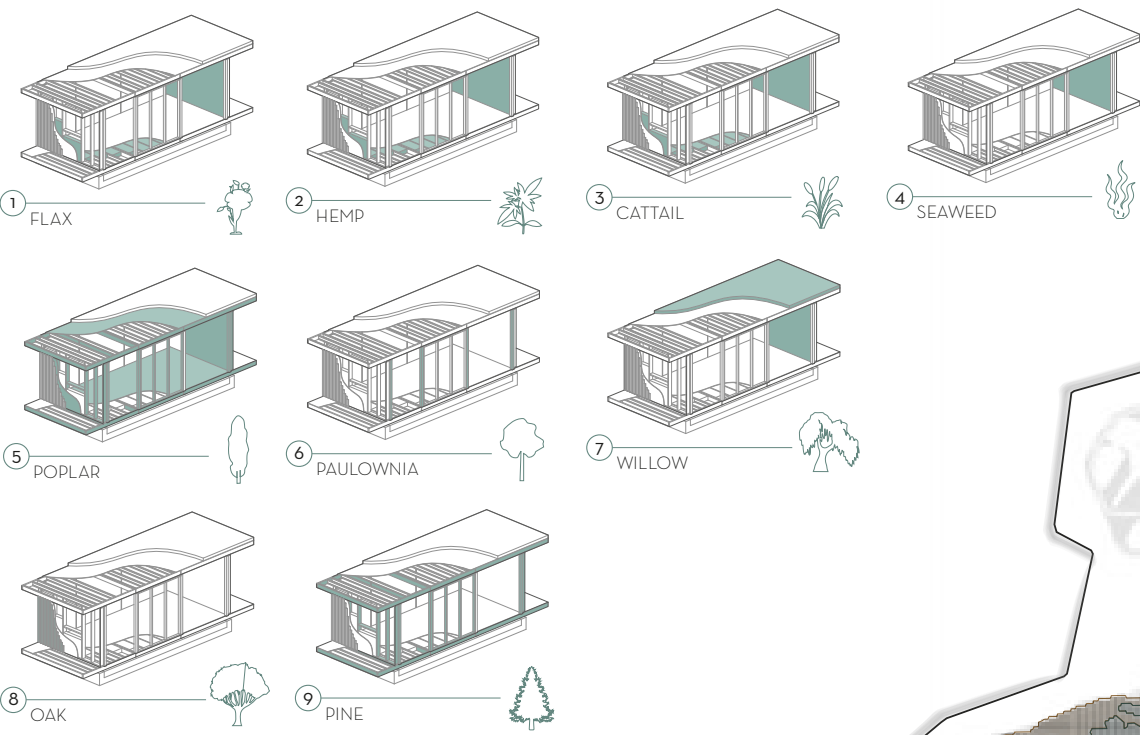
Global Warming Potential (GWP)

Stored Carbon

Fig. 13: GWP and stored carbon of design alternatives

# DESIGN SCENARIO 2030

## ALLOCATED RESOURCES



## UN-ALLOCATED RESOURCES

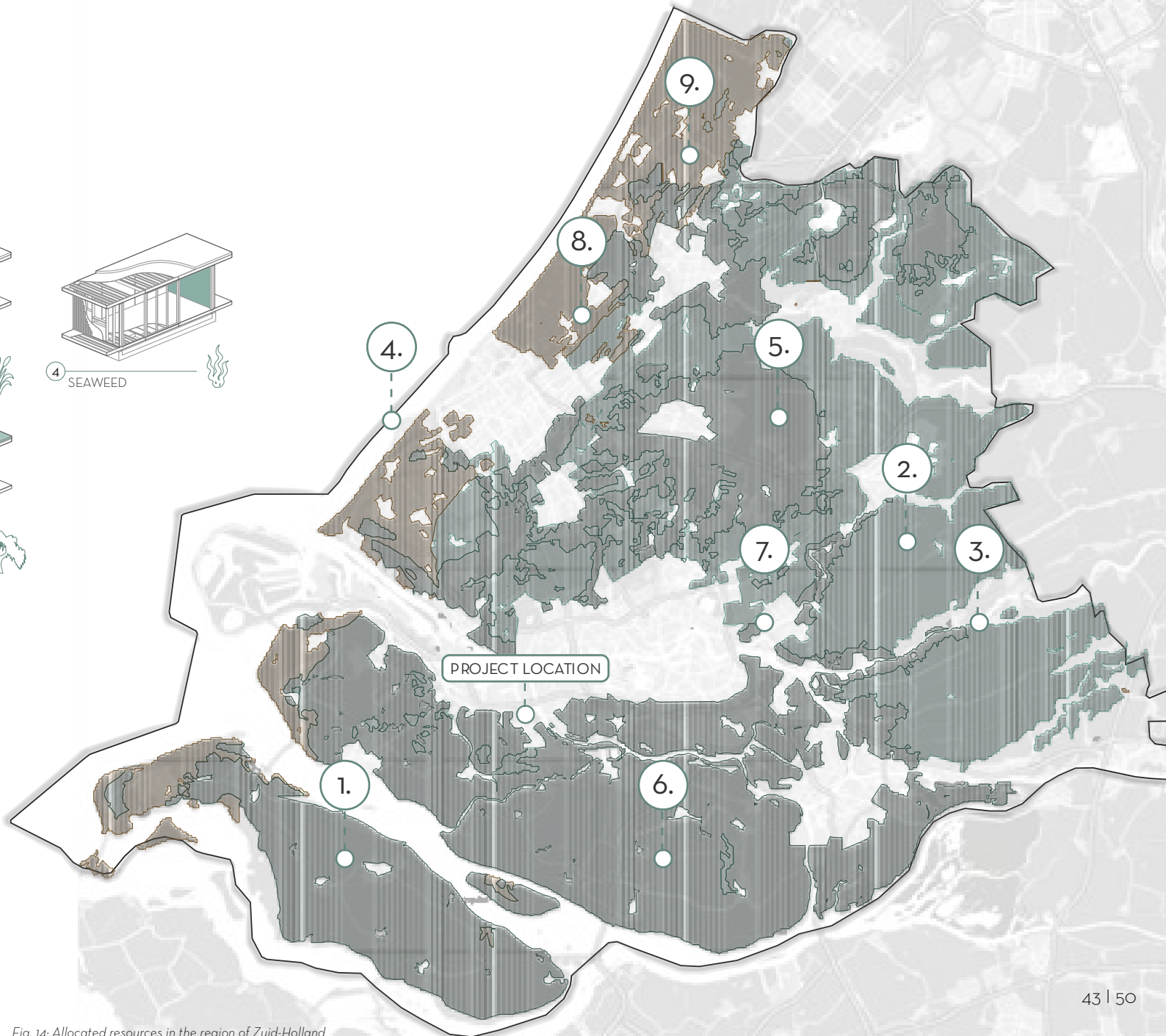
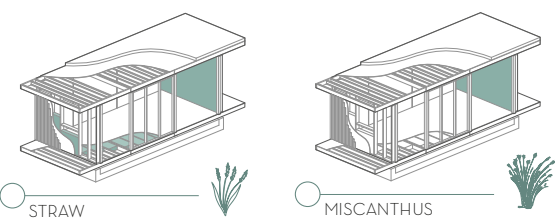
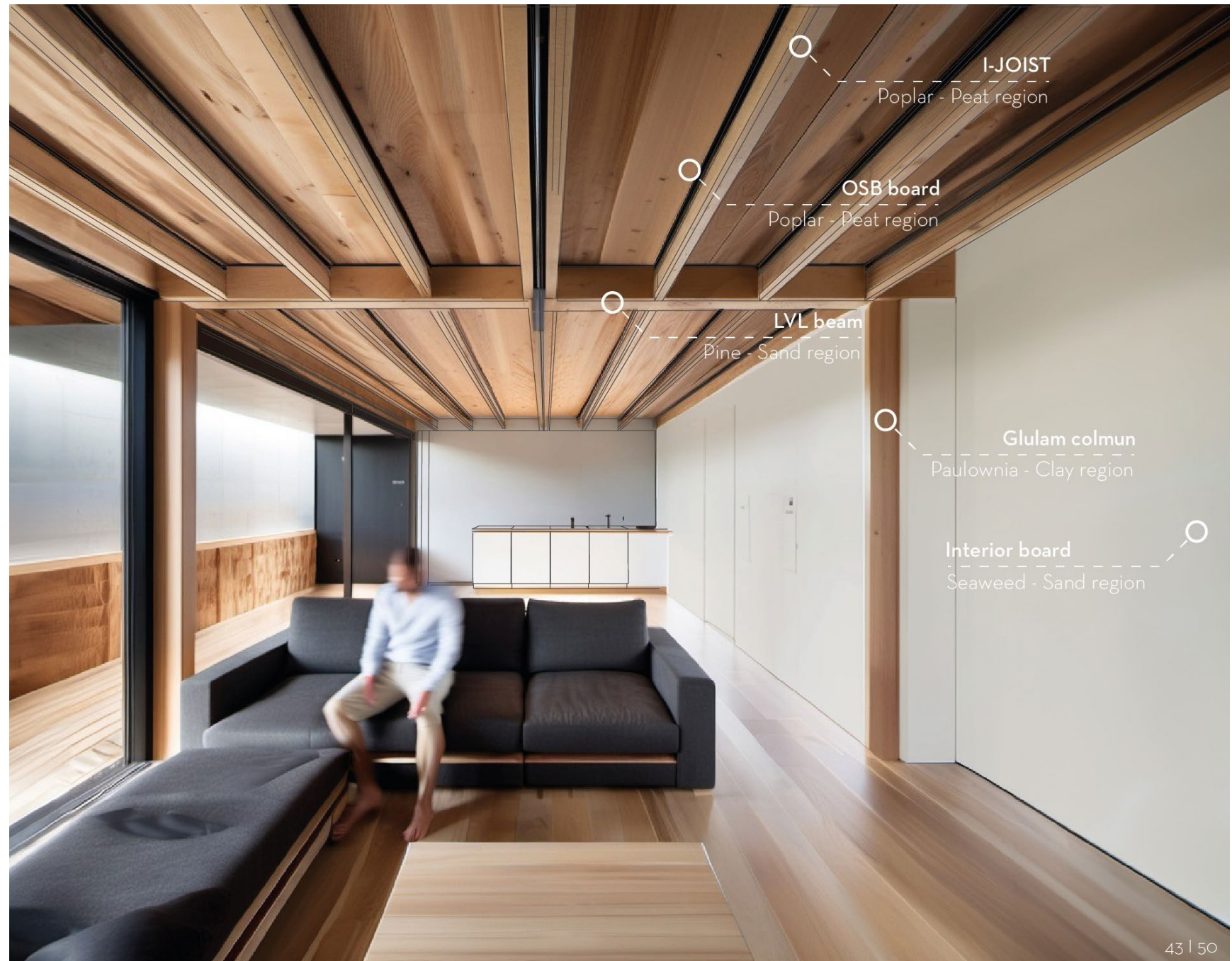


Fig. 14: Allocated resources in the region of Zuid-Holland



# DESIGN

## SCENARIO 2030





# DESIGN

## SCENARIO 2030



Image 23: Visualization of a section

# DESIGN

## SCENARIO 2030

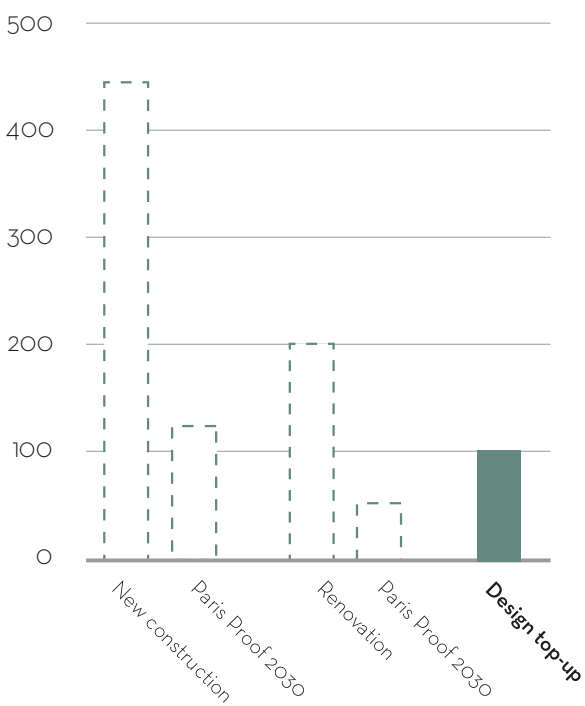


Image 24: Visualization of a section



# DESIGN

## SCENARIO 2030



Embodied emission (Kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>)

Fig. 2: Paris Proof housing, adapted from: Dutch Green Building Council. (2020).



Image 24: Visualization of a section

## THE CONCLUSION



# CONCLUSION

## MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION

- How can locally sourced biobased building materials be used in constructing top-ups in The Netherlands?

## HYPOTHESIS

- The 100 000 required top-ups could be constructed with locally sourced biobased materials.
- By doing so the embodied emissions will be reduced.

## CONCLUSION

- It is currently not possible to construct the 100 000 required top-ups with biobased materials
- The strong believe is that by 2030 the production and cultivation of biobased materials could significantly be increased without competing with food production or biodiversity.
- By constructing these top-ups with biobased materials the embodied emissions will reduce
- It is very complex to prove whether sourcing these materials locally has a positive impact on the GWP, since trade-offs could take place

QUESTIONS?

