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Recent LCA studies in Japan

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Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



Environment Programme)



Source: Net-zero buildings -Where do we stand? (WBCSD, July 2021) the World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Net-zero buildings: Where do we stand?

Figure 7: Whole life cycle stages, EN15978 (2011)¹⁰



Average Distribution of Embodied Carbons (WBCSD/ARUP 6 Case Studies)



Chapter 2: Achieving Sustainable Economic Growth through Addressing Social Issues

~increasing incomes and productivity through entrenchment of wage increases and strategic investment~

3. Responding to social issues through increased investment and social implementation of innovative technologies

(2) GX and energy security

While promoting energy security and decarbonization in an integrated manner, we aim to build a resilient economic structure by strengthening industrial competitiveness and developing growth frontiers through the creation of new demand and markets. To this end, based on the goals of achieving carbon neutrality in 2050 and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 46% (compared to FY2013) in FY2030, the GX National Strategy will be formulated by the end of FY2024, while promoting GX-related investments of over 150 trillion yen over 10 years through public-private sector cooperation, as well as the Energy The "Energy Basic Plan" and "Global Warming Countermeasures Plan" will be revised by the end of FY2024. Work toward the realization of a circular economy.(omitted).

With regard to regions and lifestyles, select 100 or more leading decarbonization regions by FY2025, and revitalize regional economies by horizontally deploying advanced initiatives. Promote "DEKO-KATSU (Decarbonization-Eco Action)" and 3Rs to change people's lifestyles. In addition to infrastructure, including urban development GX, carbon neutral ports, and <u>buildings*, promote</u> <u>decarbonization</u> of mobility-related sectors such as fuel cell railcars, zero-emission ships, and next-generation aircraft.(omitted)

* Efforts to promote CO2 emission reductions throughout the entire life cycle from construction to demolition.

Development of the methodology of the Life Cycle Assessment for buildings

- Discussion on the life cycle assessment, counting on not only operational carbon but also carbon discharged <u>from construction to the end of life</u>, has been deepened rapidly mainly in the European nations.
- MLIT set up "Zero Carbon building Promotion Council" in December 2022 under Public-Private partnership, to develop the life cycle carbon calculation methodology, considering the Japanese construction culture.
- Out new assessment tools "J-CAT (Japan-Carbon Assessment Tool) " has been released in May 2024.



Coverage of the life cycle carbon

Project Structure



LCA by J-CAT (Japan-Carbon Assessment Tool)

LCA is basically calculated by the following method. Materials manufacturing stage: Calculated by multiplying the amount of building materials and equipment used by the CO2 emissions intensity of each building material, etc. Construction, maintenance and demolition: Calculated based on certain scenarios and assumptions.

(e.g., Factor of construction, repair rates, renewal cycles, reuse rates, etc.)

Example of input info to J-CAT Input info Result display image				
Constr uction	A1	Raw material Supply	Amount of materials x CO2 intensity Factor of construction	J-CAT 算定ソフト 標準算定法 算定結果
	A2	Transport		数68 年ゲルビル すらした すうした すうし
	A3	Manufacturing		Lizer 202 rf # 50 m
	A4	Transport		
	A5	Construction and Installation		○ C+C4 PRTR 0.0 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.0 0.1 0.0 0.0 0.1 0.0
In-use	B1	Use	Freon fill rate x Assumed leak rate	
	B2	Maintenance	-	supervised info, such as huilding
	B3	Repair	Repair rate x Renewal cycle (initial value or individual input)	Be-7 <th< th=""></th<>
	B4	Replacement		
	B4	Refurbishment		
End of Life	C1	Deconstruction and Demolition	Edge material rate / waste material reuse rate, waste material recycling rate (initial value or input individually)	GHG排出量(kg-C02/m2) 200 市法伝 第二ンクリート 飲骨 単鉄筋 『大法 第二ンクリート ●外装 目内装 その他 ・・地定 ヨンクリート ・・地定 ヨンクリート ・・地定 ヨンクリート ・・地定 ヨンクリート ・・地定 ・・・地定 ・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・
	C2	Transport		Time axis is taken into account and the result is indicated.
	C3	Waste Processing		Fixed/variable electricity emission factor can be selected.
	C4	Disposal		Ref. https://ibecs.or.jp/english/JCAT/index.html

Example of Building Parts Employed for a Detached House

\downarrow This house consists of some 60,000 building parts, with 500-1,000 kinds of products. \downarrow \downarrow



"House with a dormer window," two-story detached house with light-gauge steel frames, produced by SEKISUI in 1983

- Maintenance of GHG emission units is essential for the calculation of embodied carbon.
- Promote EPD/CFP acquisition for individual products to reflect company efforts!!



Source: SEKISUI HOUSE, LTD.

Description of carbon storage

Carbon storage and sequestration are not included in the whole-life carbon calculation results, which are currently the majority internationally. However, as reference information, a column that can be included with the basis for calculation should be included in the results.

Automatic calculation of biogenic carbon storage and emissions by inputting the amount and species of wood (lumber, laminated wood, plywood) used

Expression method: Based on ISO 21930 (2017)

Calculation method: Based on the Guidelines for the Indication of Carbon Storage in Wood Used for Buildings (Forestry Agency)

(2) Other than wood (concrete, etc.)

The calculator will optionally include the calculated value and the basis / source of calculation in the result sheet.

<draft carbon storage notation>



<input sheet>



Wood: Based on ISO21930(2017), expressed as -1 kg CO2e/kgCO2 at the material production stage (A) and +1 kg CO2e/kgCO2 at the demolition stage (C3). In the "regulatory approach" in the U.K., France, and Germany, there is an example of subtracting wood carbon storage from lifetime carbon emissions of a building under certain conditions, but we recognize that this is a rare case worldwide. While keeping a close eye on future trends overseas, for the time being, the following notation will be used separately.

*The amount of each material's demolition phase is accounted for in the WLC.

Description of carbon storage in wood in J-CAT



Notation of results taking into account changes in calculation conditions over time

Added a new result expression that takes into account changes in calculation conditions over time in order to express the impact of Embodied carbon for short-term mass emissions.



- Discussion towards institutionalization of life cycle assessment (LCA) for widespread use.
- Ensure the link between J-CAT (: Japan Carbon Assessment Tool for Building Lifecycle) and BIM, and also promote the web-based LCA tool.
- Accelerate the development of EPDs. Create a flow of encouragement from building clients, general contractors, and designers to develop EPDs for their component and equipment manufacturing divisions.
- Accelerate the development of systems and human resources for the maintenance of EPDs.

[Definition of LCCM housing in Japan]

Housing that <u>reduces CO2 emissions</u> throughout the entire life cycle (from construction to demolition, reuse, etc.) by reducing CO2 emissions at material manufacturing and construction stages in addition to CO2 emissions at the use stage, and by extending the service life.



Solar power generation panel Multi-light distribution of + Solar water heating collector panel LED lighting High-efficiency water heater Fuel cell ■ Wooden louvers to block solar radiation Local wood

Image of the transition of C02 emissions throughout the entire life cycle

Example of LCCM housing



Thank you for your attention.