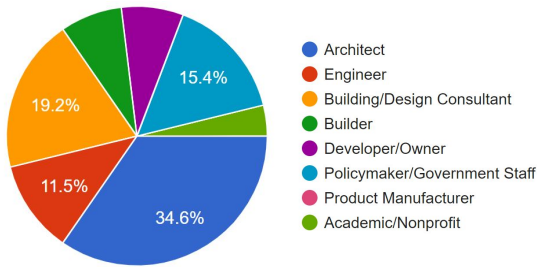


CLF SF Carbon & Coffee Series

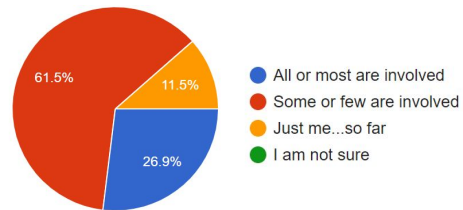
Planning Survey Results

CLF San Francisco Bay Area is in the planning process for a series called Carbon & Coffee. This series aims to encourage embodied carbon research at firms across the building industry and facilitate a cross-firm knowledge-sharing on the topic. As part of the planning effort, we conducted an exploratory survey on the current status of research on embodied carbon in the Bay Area. We thank the 24 respondents, which included many disciplines, with architects (35%) and building/design consultants (19%) being the most represented.

Survey Respondents

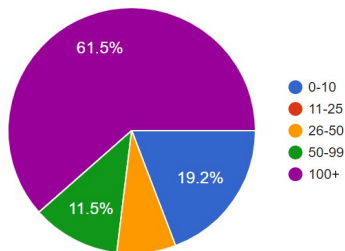


Are employees at your company actively involved in environmental and/or professional associations such as AIA, CLF, USGBC, ULI, etc.?

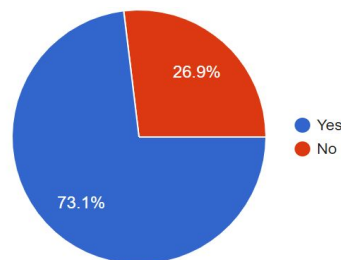


By virtue of being a self-selected group, the answers likely reflect the leading edge of practice. Almost 89% of respondents said at least some of their staff have environmental accreditations (27% said most or all staff). Of the 89% that responded that their company or organization participates in research initiatives, 73% were supporting research specifically on embodied carbon. The types of embodied carbon research covered a broad mix, including general data (e.g. LCA, working with EC3; 6 respondents), specific systems or materials (e.g. MEP, concrete; 5 respondents), and types of construction (e.g. modular, carbon-storing; 3 respondents).

Company Size

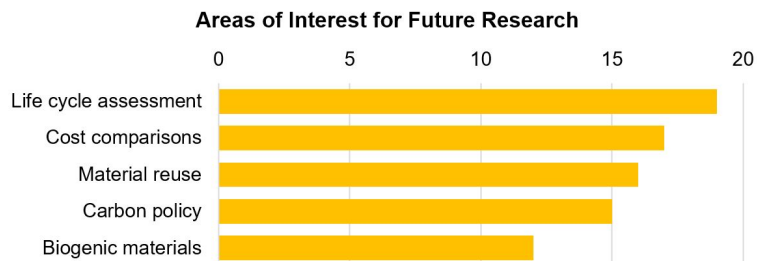


Company Conducts Research on Embodied Carbon



The most common ways of supporting research were allowing employees to report their time spent doing research (8 respondents), having a formal structure such as an innovation team or incentive program (7 respondents), and hard cost funding for expenses other than employee time (6 respondents). Four respondents indicated a mix of all three of these elements.

We looked for common themes and interests to inform the Carbon & Coffee series. The most common requests for CLF SF Bay Area were connections with others in the industry (cross-sector partnerships, connections with specific disciplines; 11 respondents), funding (which the chapter does not have to offer, but can support collaborations to seek outside funding; 9 respondents), and information (e.g. financial case data, case studies; 7 respondents). There was wide interest across the suggested topics for future research.



Next steps

The CLF SF Bay Area team will reach out to various participants to learn more about your specific research initiatives and needs. We plan to set up a series of brief morning presentations of recent research findings or questions from this community. Additionally, we aspire for this series to bring people in our network closer together, help this network collectively identify local research initiatives and opportunities for partnerships. We hope to support your research and in turn, support low-carbon policy and design in our region. Topics covered in this series will align with the areas of interest you identified in our survey. As an example, this series can cover the following:

- members' insights into cost differences in conventional vs. carbon smart materials
- engaging policymakers to identify data needed to enact or improve embodied carbon policies
- discussion of funding proposals for new embodied carbon research & efforts

...and more.

Anyone interested will be able to sign up for a Carbon & Coffee spotlight spot, where the individual's or company's findings, requests, and questions will be brought up for discussion in front of our members and leadership team. The planned kickoff for this series is Q1 2021. Our team is actively working to finalize the structure and logistics for this series. Stay tuned.

We appreciate your support and involvement!

Sincerely,

CLF SF Bay Area Hub Leadership Committee

Vaclav Hasik, Miya Kitahara, Massey Burke, Brian Houstle, Ruchi Shah

As always, visit clf-sfbayarea.org for events and resources or contact us at clf.sfbayarea@gmail.com