

Archie O'Donnell – Feb '24

# The Carbon QS

Digitising Sustainability  
Monitising Carbon

**KOSMOS**

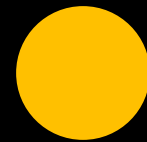
**optimal**  
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORS

# Sustainability Workshop

## Part 1

Archie, Simon Roger

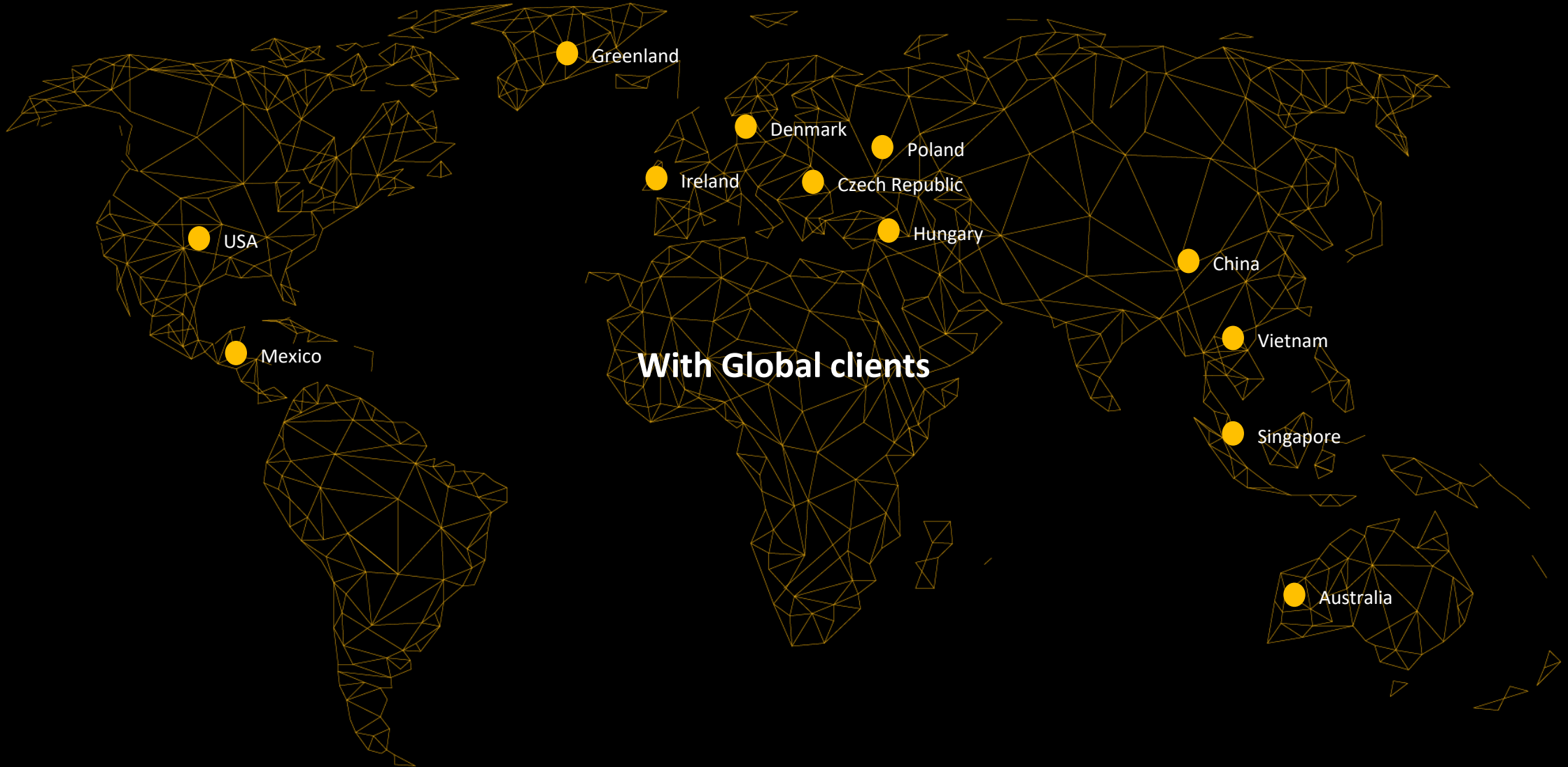
- The Sustainability Team
- **What is driving Sustainability**
- **The Starting Line**
- **Carbon Literacy**
- **Counting Carbon**
- **Creating Value from Climate Risk**



We are **KOSMOS**

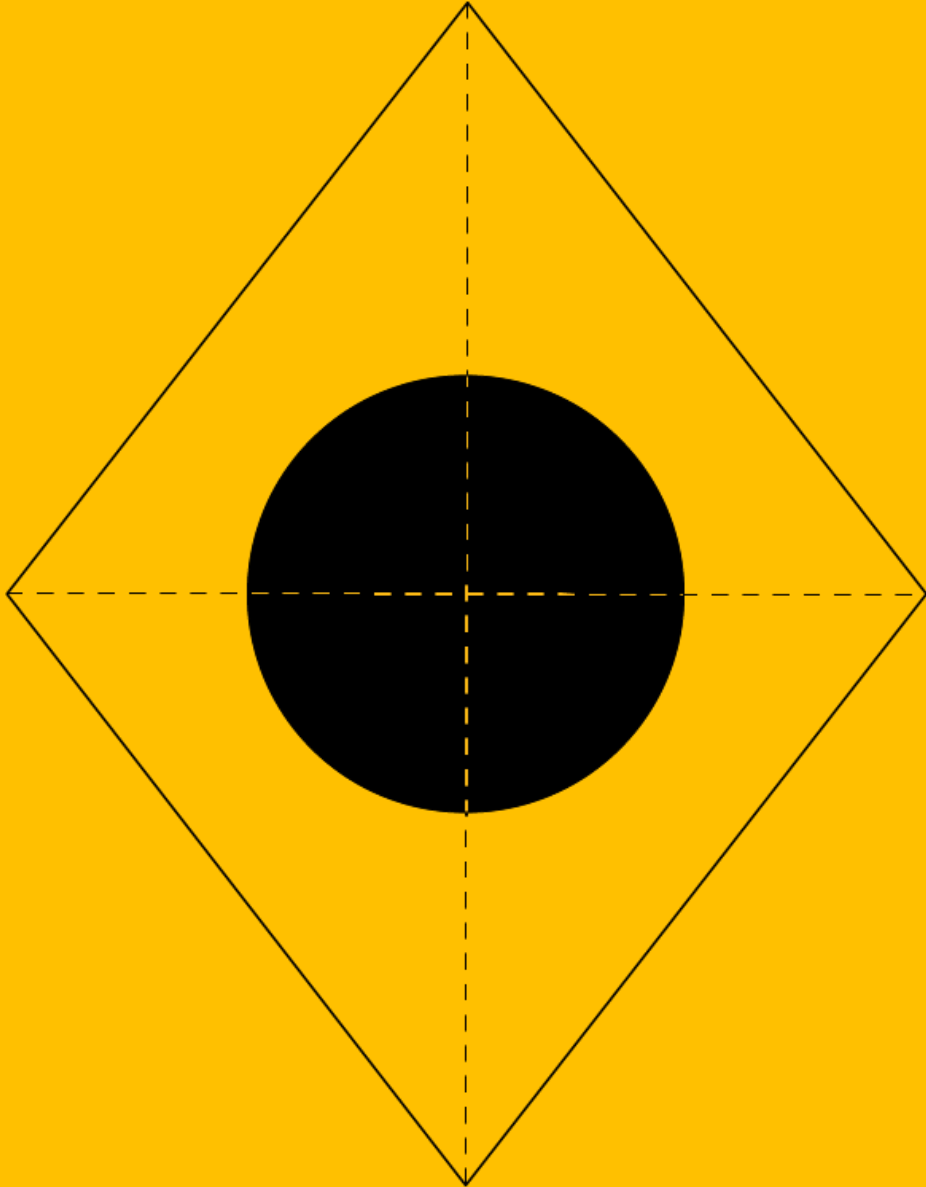


**This is digital and carbon quantity surveying  
on a global level**





From our offices in **Denmark** and **Ireland**

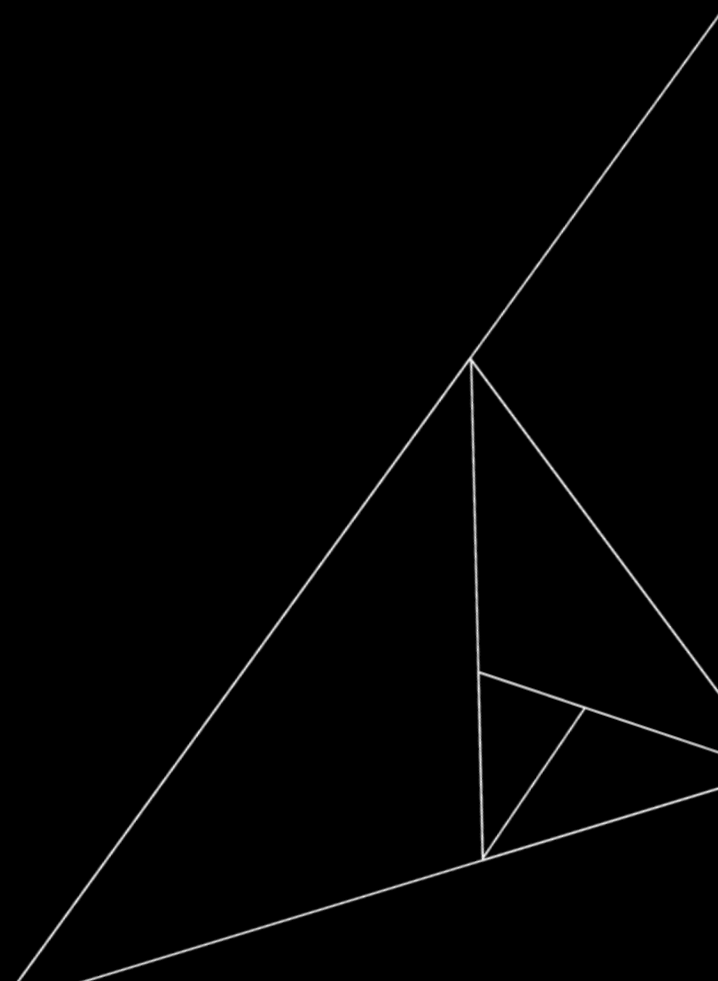


**KOSMOS** are changing how the construction industry is measured, analysed and managed

**1,452,197 m<sup>2</sup> and counting**

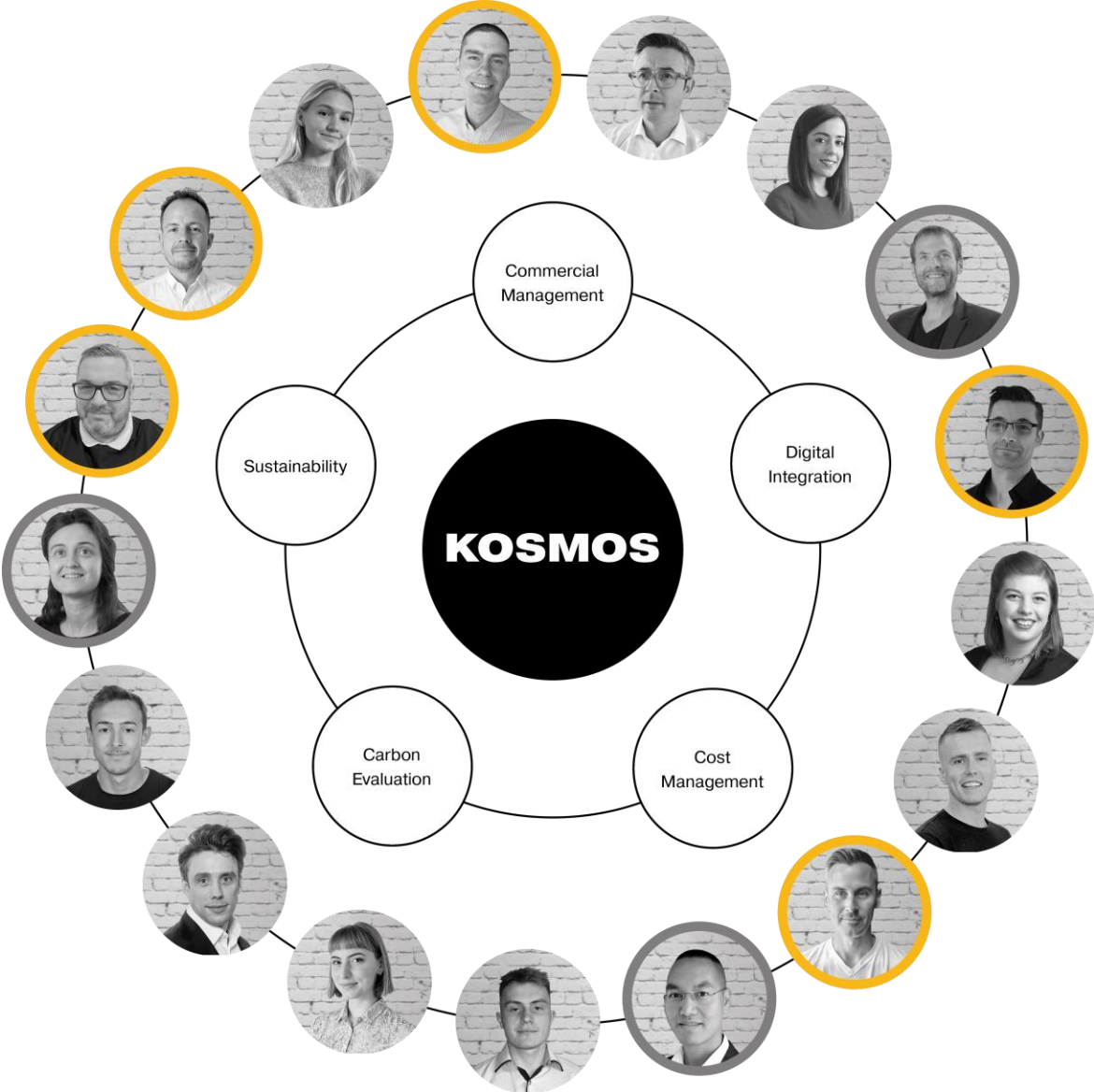
## Value Driven Sustainability Management:

“Integrated collaborative approach to designing to carbon budgets, with continuous follow up & cost control.”





# Meet the team



# Meet the team



**Phil Lucas**  
Senior MEP Building  
Services Specialist



**Craig Cooper**  
Sustainability QS, BREEAM  
AP



**Simon top Laustsen**  
Sustainability Engineer  
DNGB



**Archie O'Donnell**  
Senior Sustainability  
Specialist  
LEED/BREEAM/HPI



**Roger Barclay**  
Commercial Manager  
Whole Life Carbon QS

## What we do

- **Cost**
- **Commercial**
- **Carbon**
- **Digital**

**KOSMOS**



Quantitative &  
Science based  
targets approach  
to sustainability

Value add

**Integrated Collaboration**



Cost Control



Carbon  
Budgeting



Value Driven  
Sustainability

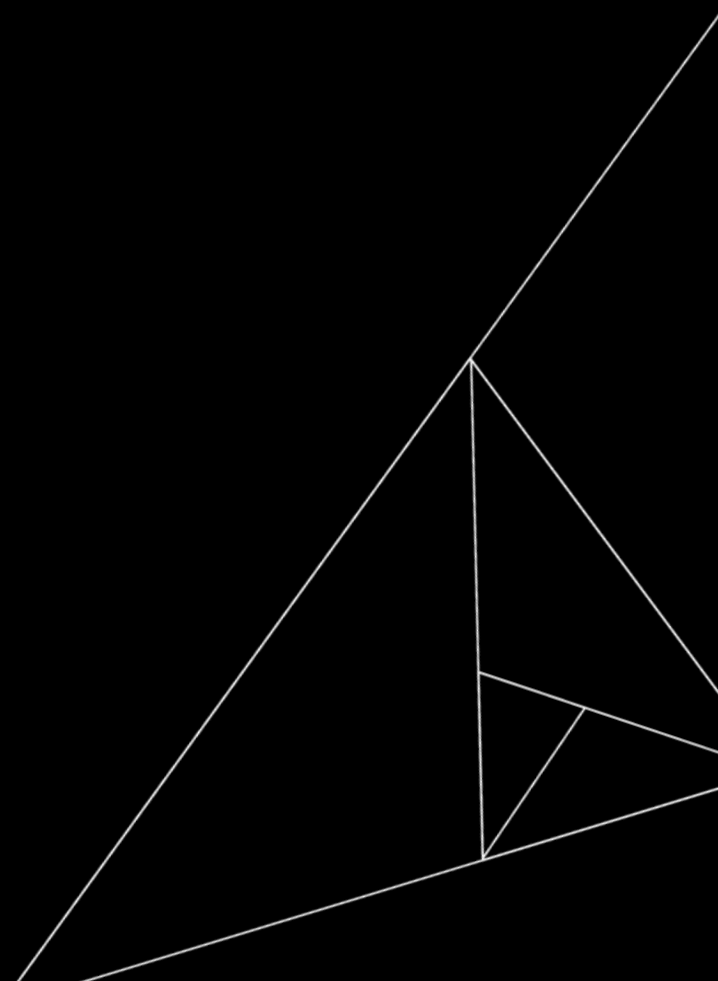
# Agenda

1. Understanding  
Carbon in Buildings

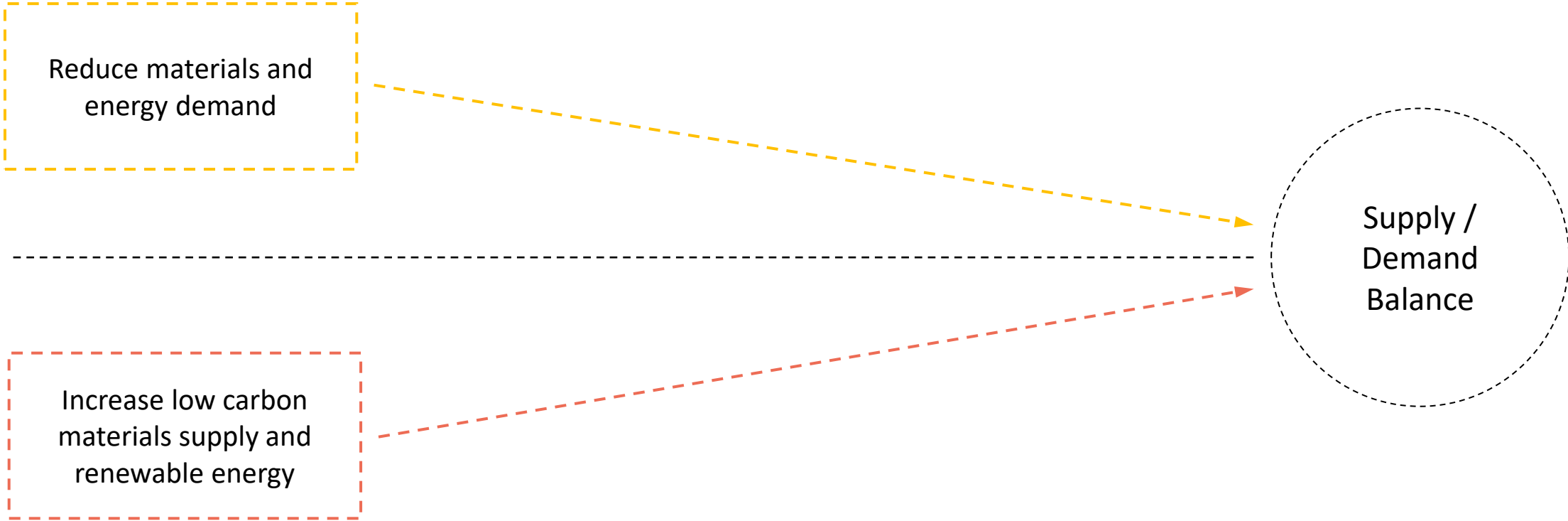
2. Challenges in  
Counting Carbon

3. Standardisation and  
Data

4. Learning from International  
Practice



# Drivers of Decarbonisation



2020 → 2050



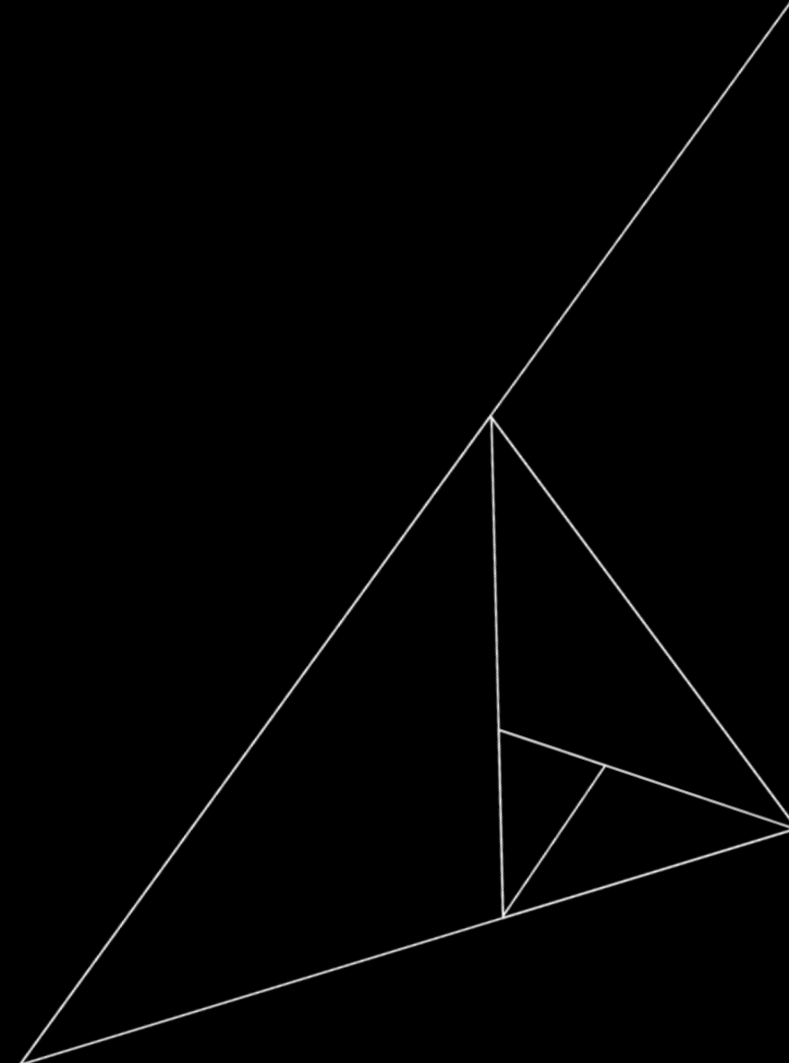
CHAPTER 01

# Understanding Carbon in Buildings

CHAPTER 01

# Understanding Carbon in Buildings

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## What is Whole Building LCA? (wb-LCA)

### Whole building life-cycle assessment



An assessment targeted at understanding the life-cycle environmental impacts of materials used in constructing a building.



An Assessment that examining the environmental impacts that stem from the life cycle of a product, process, or service.



Providing climate impact information for decision-making related to the design, construction, operation, maintenance, and eventual demolition or reuse of a building.

## UNDERSTANDING CARBON IN BUILDINGS

### Why is it Important?



Buildings are responsible for approximately 40% of global greenhouse gas emissions.



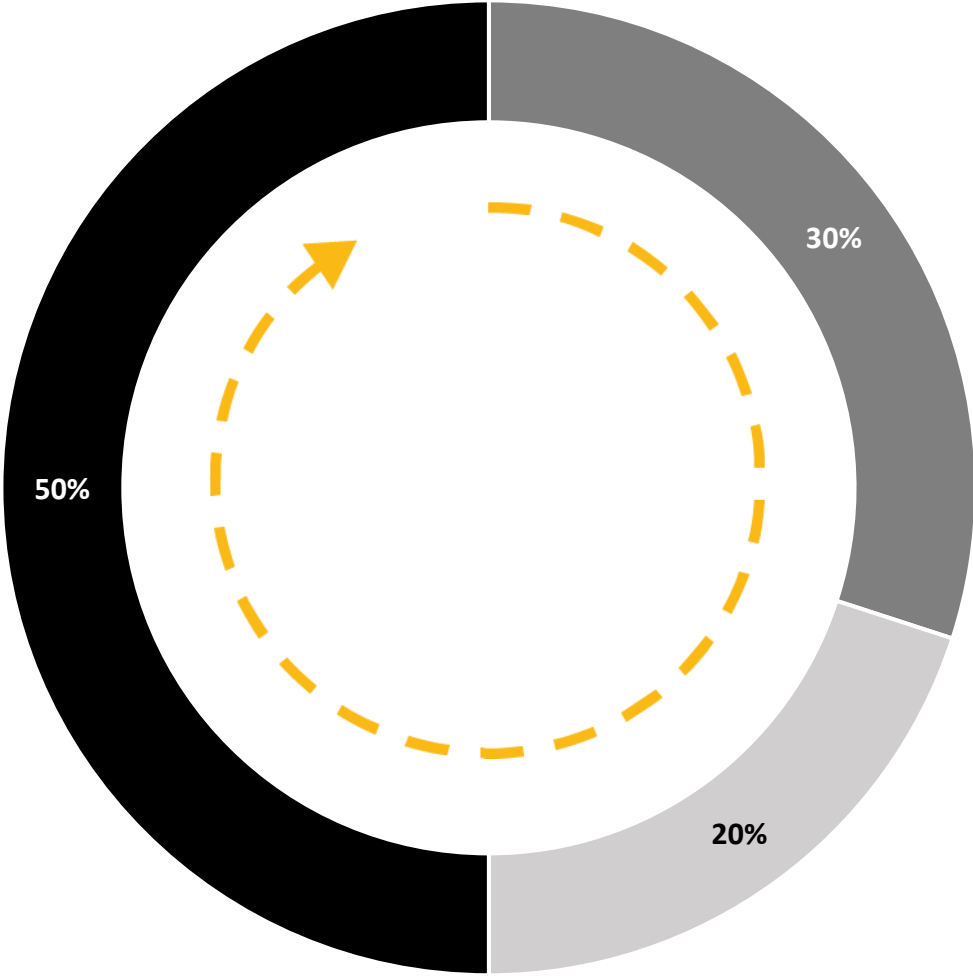
By understanding the carbon impact of buildings, we can identify areas where we can reduce emissions and make buildings more sustainable.



Whole building life cycle assessment (wbLCA) is one method that can help us understand the environmental impacts of buildings and identify areas where we can improve their sustainability.

# Defining Carbon

- **Whole Life Carbon**
- **Up Stream Embodied Carbon**
- **Down Stream Carbon**  
Maintenance and Replacement
- **In Use**  
Operational Carbon



■ Embodied A1-A5    ■ Embodied B-C    ■ Operational B6-B7

# Lifecycle Carbon Timeline



**Up Stream**  
Embodied Carbon

**In Use**  
Operational  
Carbon

**Downstream Carbon**  
Maintenance and Replacement



Extract



Transport  
to Factory



Manufacture



Transport  
to site



Construct



Use and maintain



Demolish

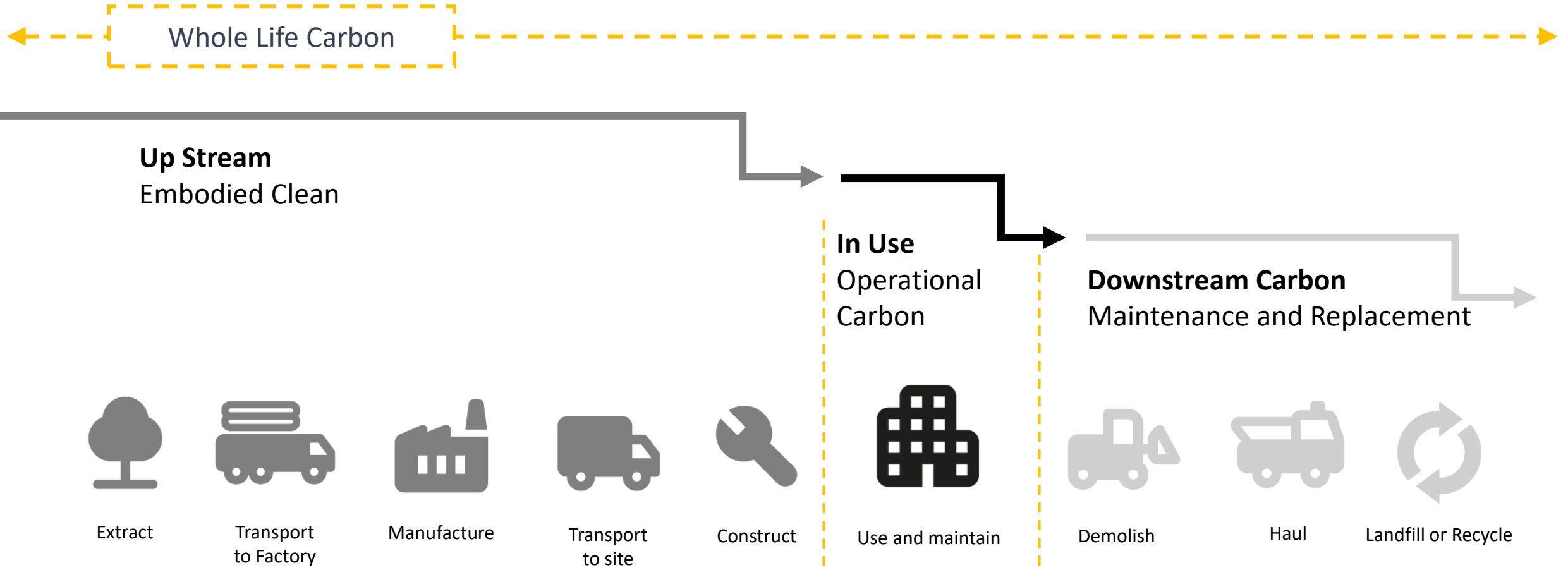


Haul

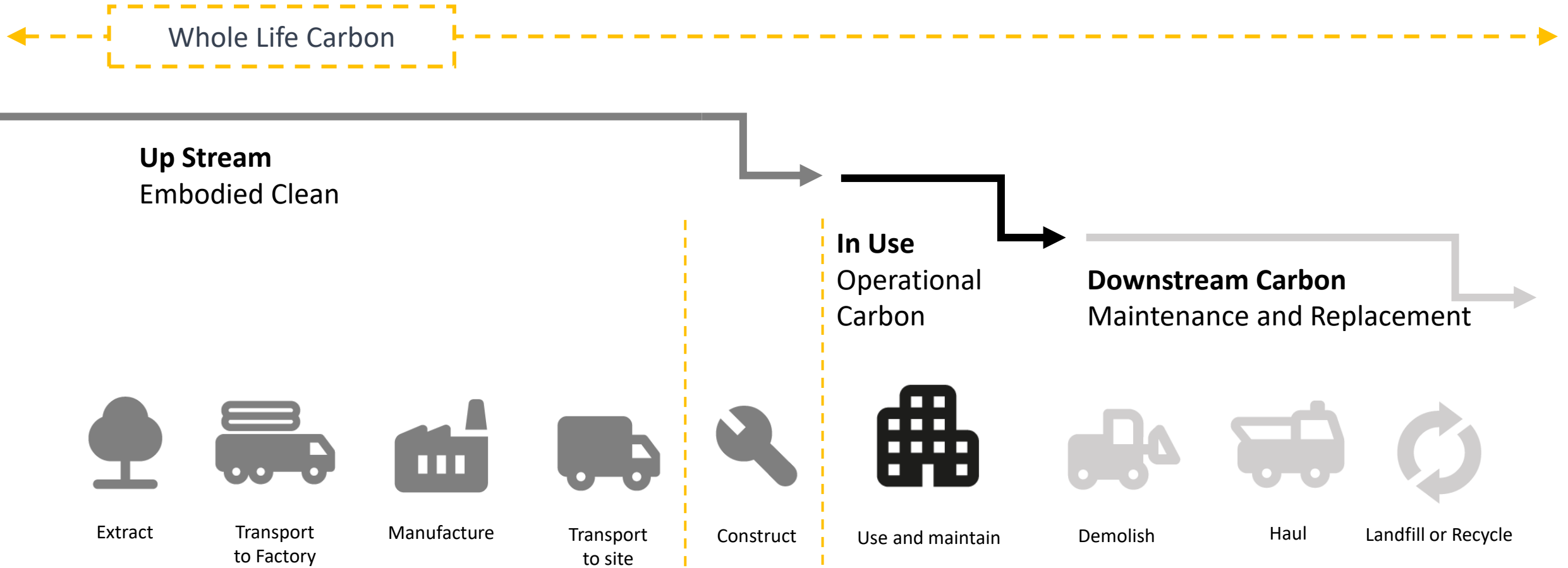


Landfill or Recycle

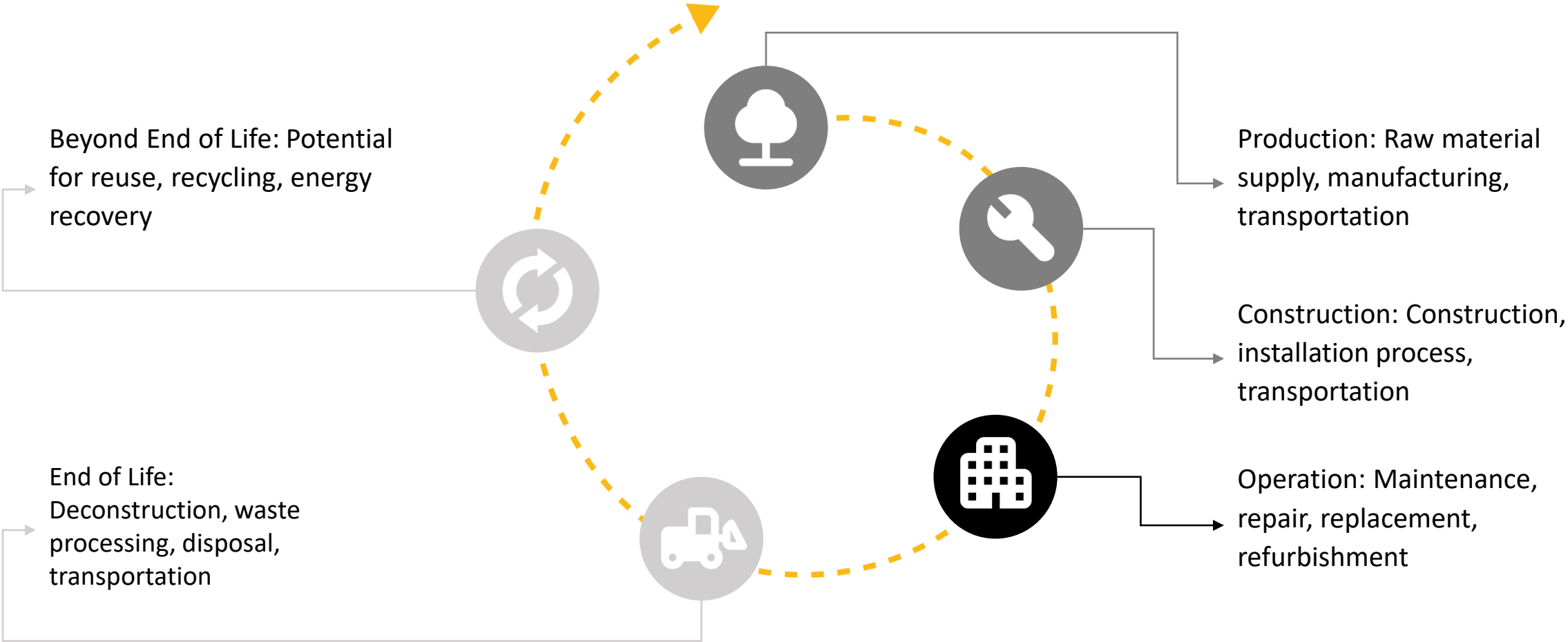
# Lifecycle Carbon Timeline



# Lifecycle Carbon Timeline



# Lifecycle Assessment



# Whole Life Carbon



## Product

A1	Raw material supply
A2	Transport
A3	Manufacturing

## Construction

A4	Transport
A5	Construction/Install

## In Use

B1	Use
B2	Maintenance
B3	Repair
B4	Replacement
B5	Refurbishment
<b>Operational Carbon</b>	
B6	Operational Energy
B7	Operational Water

## End of Life

C1	Deconstruction
C2	Transport
C3	Waste processing
C4	Disposal

## Beyond Lifecycle

D1	Benefits and Loads
D2	Reuse, Recovery, Recycling







CHAPTER 02

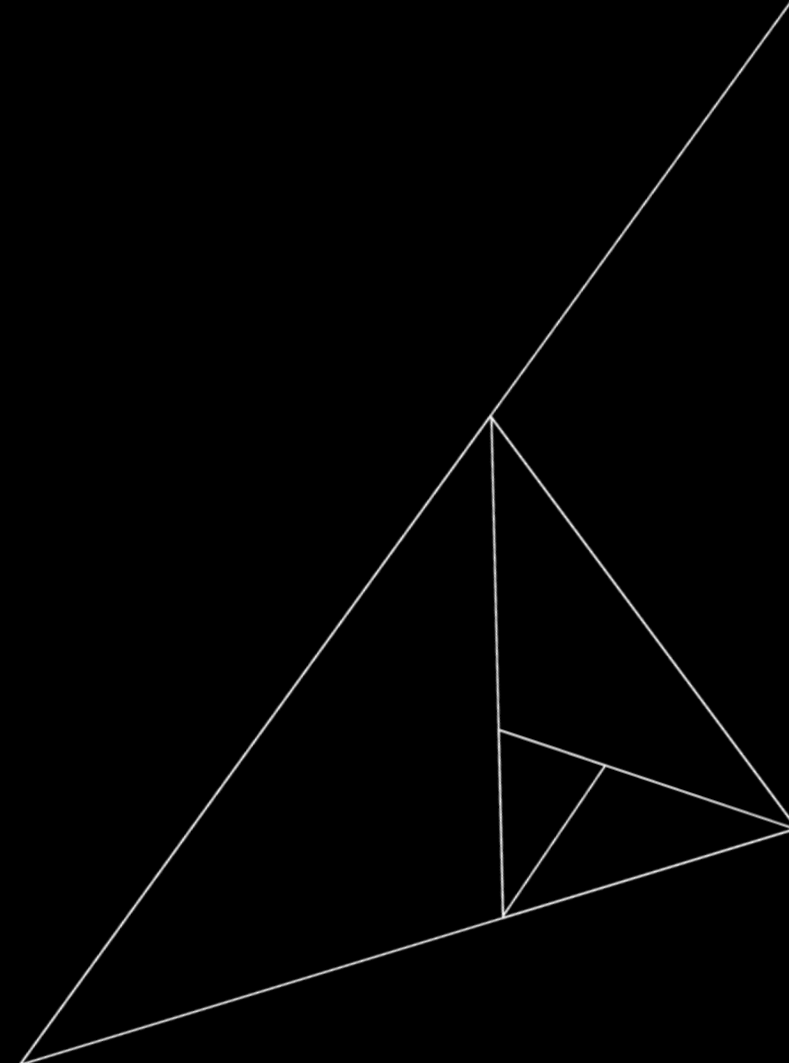
# Challenges in Counting Carbon

**KOSMOS**

CHAPTER 02

# Challenges in Counting Carbon

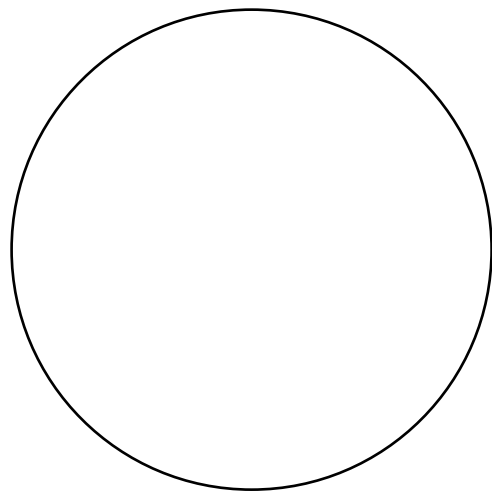
**KOSMOS**



# Whole Life Carbon

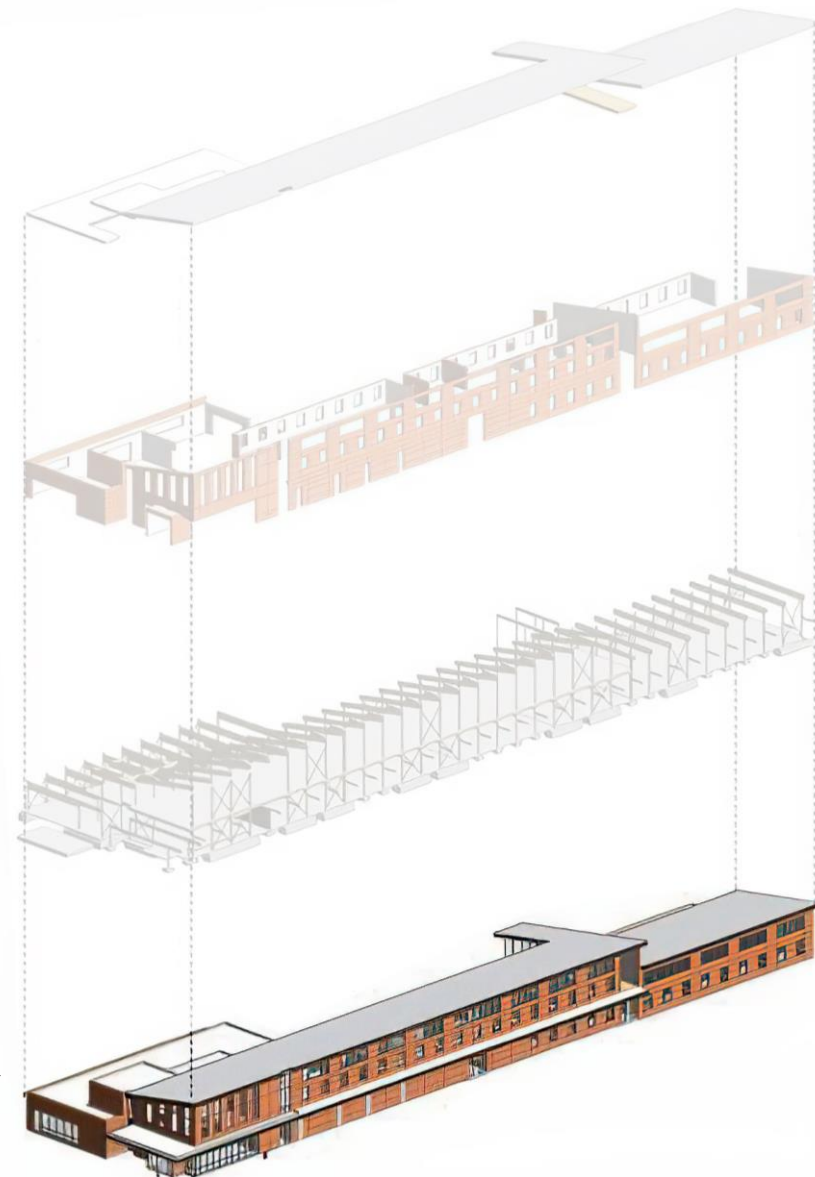


# Whole Life Carbon

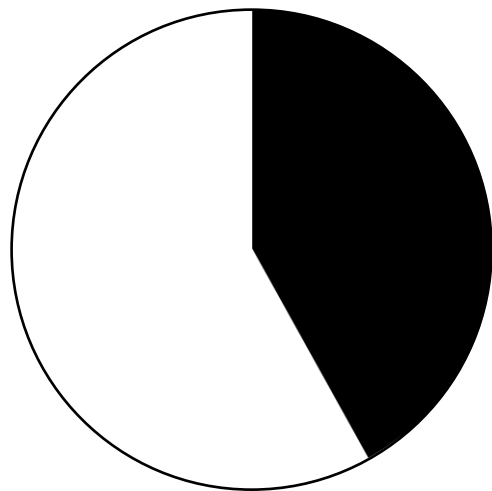


**KOSMOS**

100%



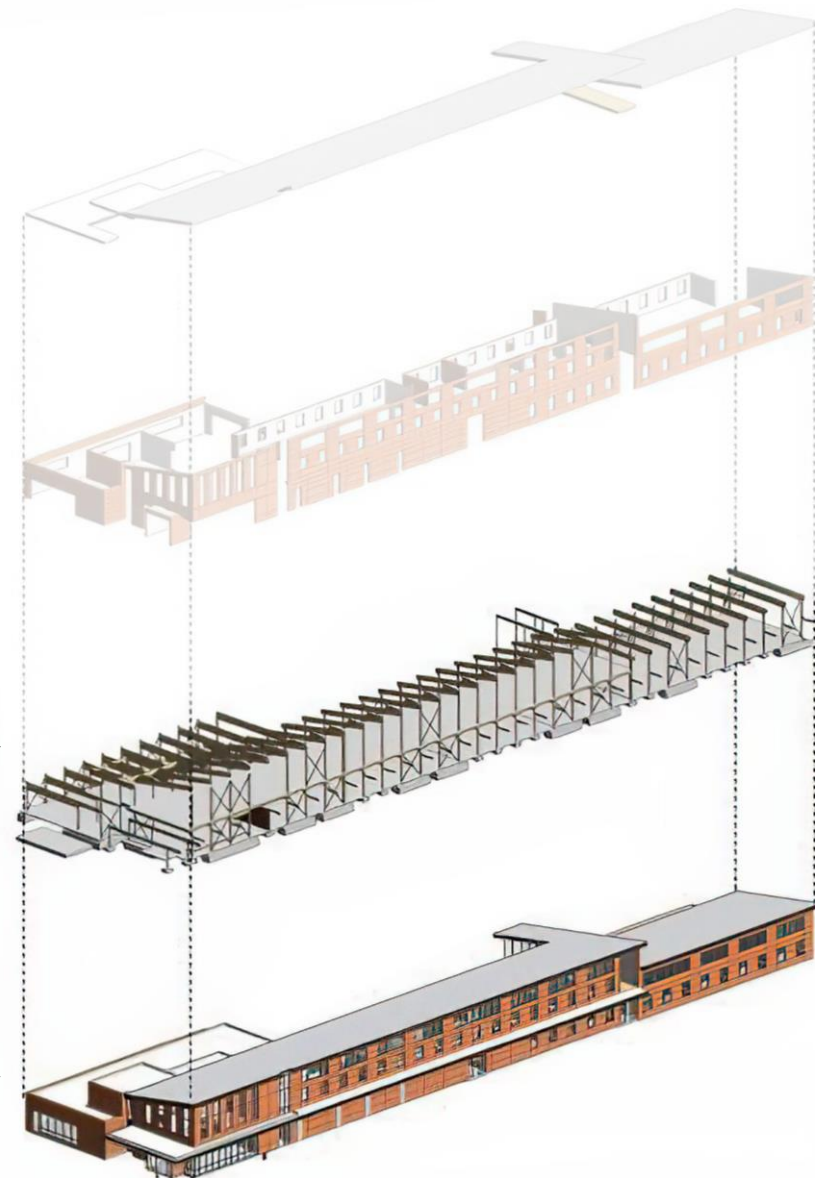
# Whole Life Carbon



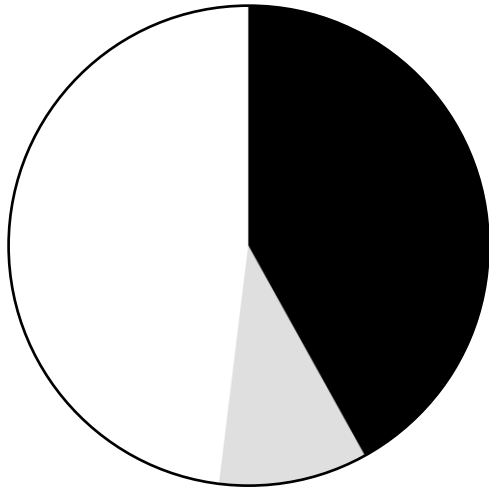
**KOSMOS**

40%

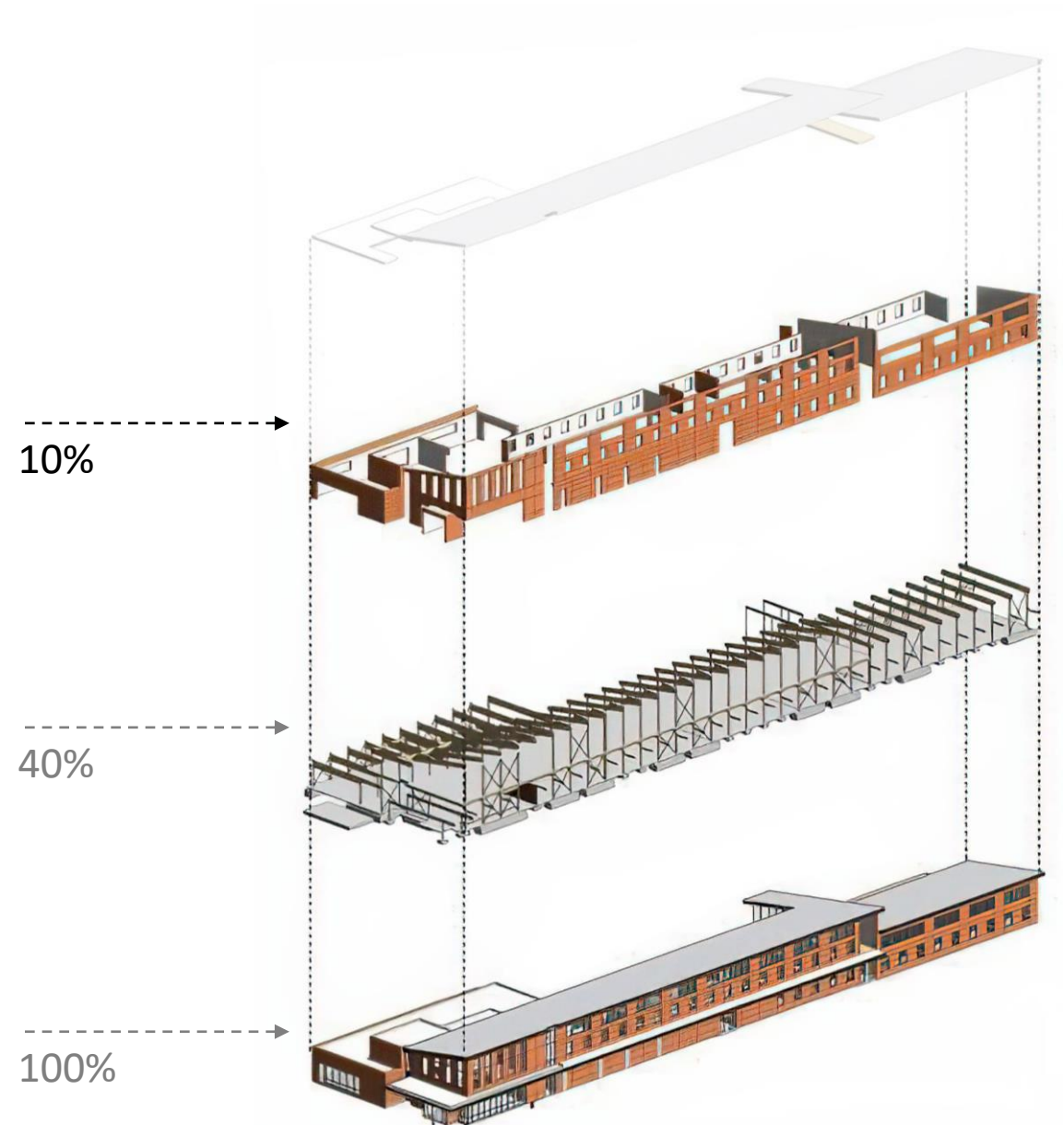
100%



# Whole Life Carbon



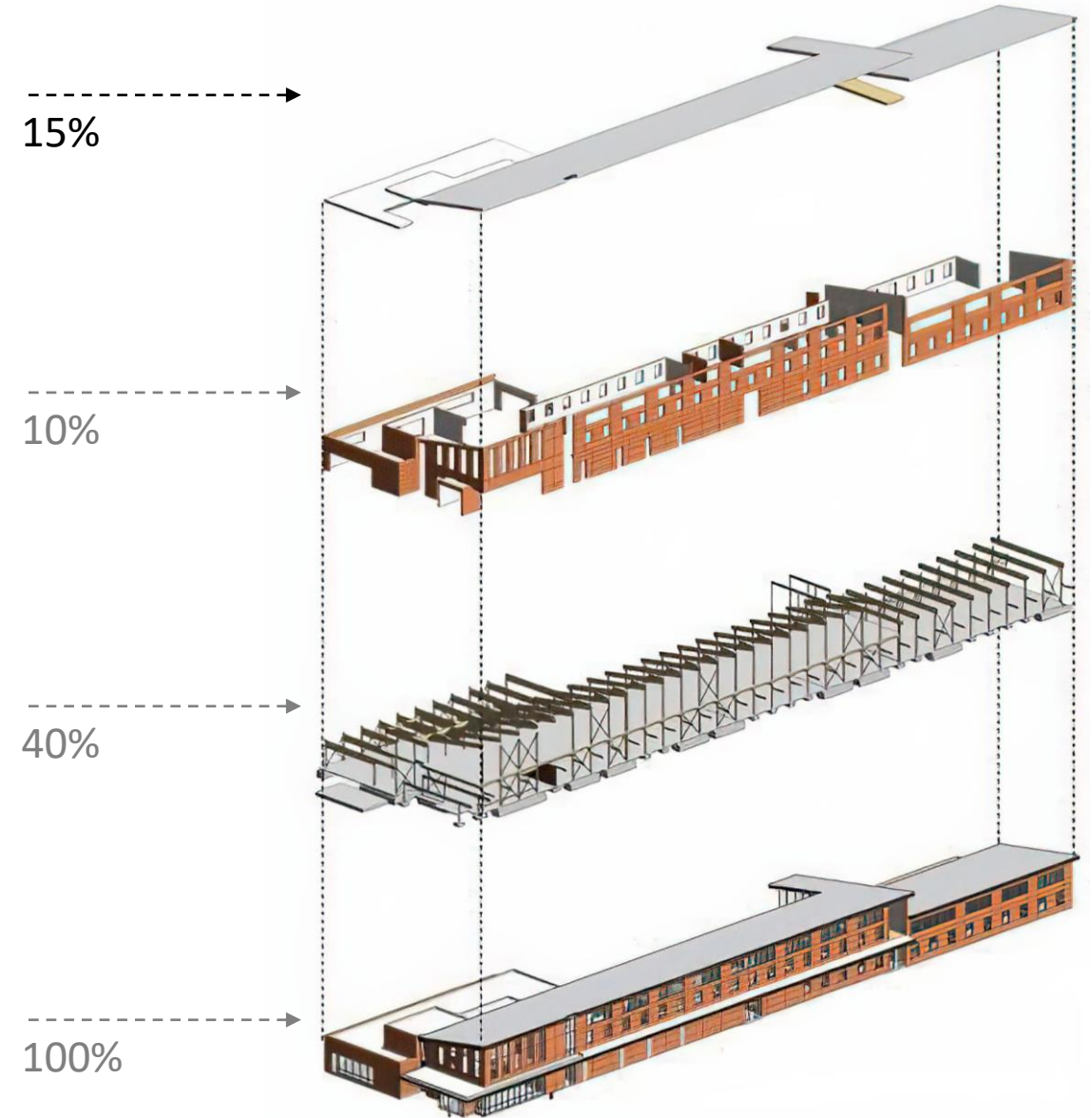
**KOSMOS**



# Whole Life Carbon

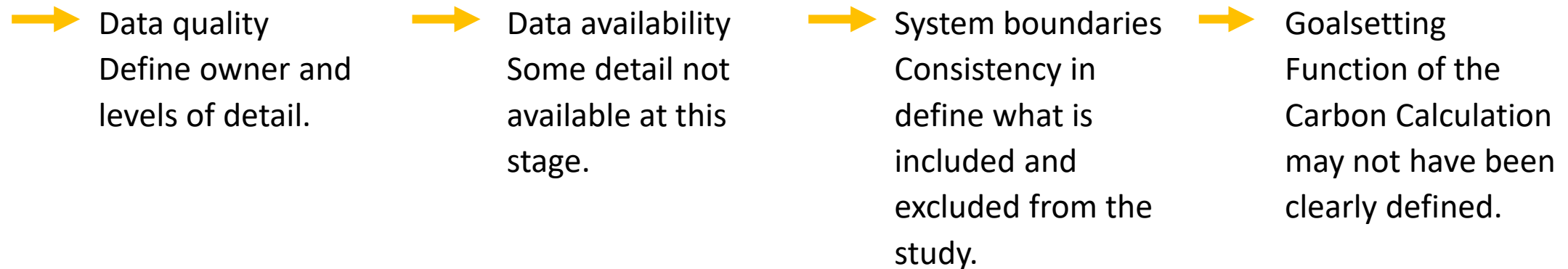


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## The Need for Accurate Measurement

### Trust and reliability through accuracy and consistency of LCA





## CHALLENGES WITH WHOLE BUILDING LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (wbCLA)

### Accuracy and Consistency



Time Cost of detailed analysis.

Data collection, escalating level of detail with project progress

inputs - raw materials, products energy. Carbon coefficients

outputs – reporting for different use cases – LEED, ESG, etc

# CHALLENGES WITH WHOLE BUILDING LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (wbCLA)

## Accuracy and Consistency



Assumptions

Use of 'product specific data' vs National Average data?

National database of materials being built by IGBC

Shortage of Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)

Suppliers using one EPD for multiple products



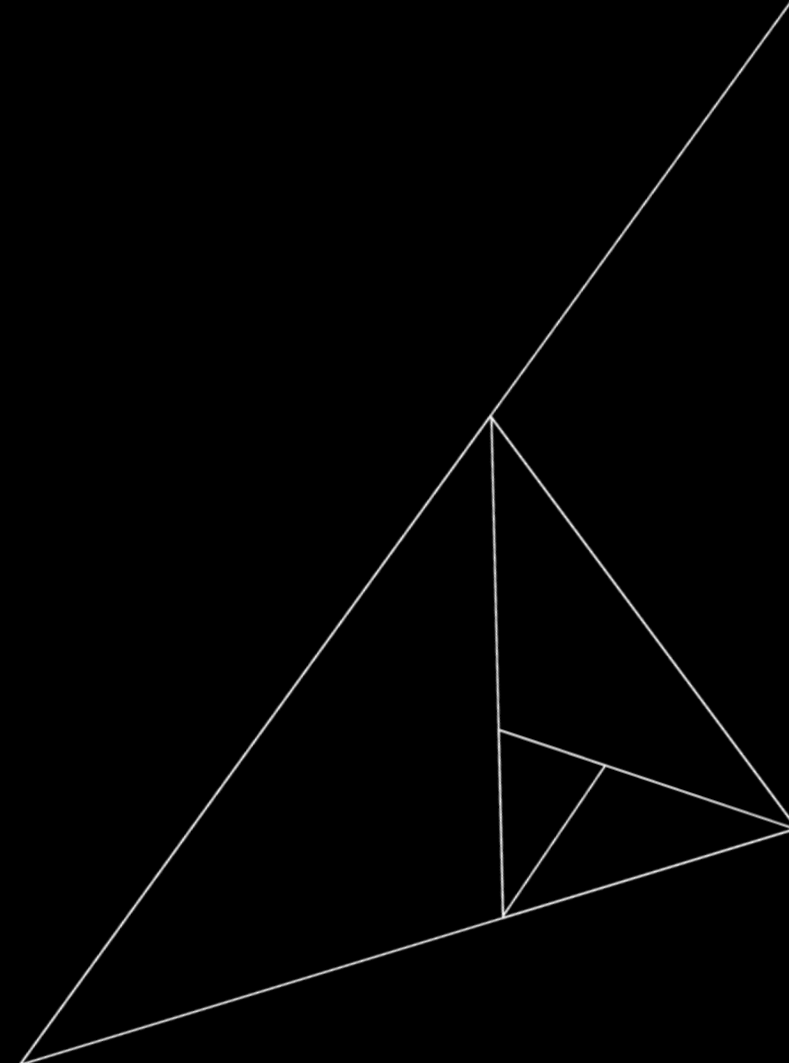
CHAPTER 03

# Standardisation and Data

CHAPTER 03

# Standardisation and Data

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## STANDARDISATION

### Where BIM Comes in Handy!

#### Information structures to streamline assessment process

- Measure once - BIM can automate quantification and build a material inventory.
- Digitalise - Using digital design tools -BIM, to automate the identification of Carbon hotspots.
- Future BIM - LCA development will focus on highlighting data gaps & lack of quality in models and procedural errors.

# STANDARDISATION

## The Rules

Does this look familiar?

**EN 15978:2011**  
Sustainability of construction works.  
Assessment of environmental  
performance of buildings. Calculation  
method

**ISO 14040:2006** Environmental  
management  
Life cycle assessment  
Principles and framework

**ISO 14064-1:2018**  
Greenhouse gases — guidance at the  
organization level for quantification  
and reporting of greenhouse gas  
emissions

**ISO 14025:2006**  
Environmental labels and declarations  
Type III environmental declarations  
Principles and procedures

**ISO 15686-5:2017**  
Buildings and constructed assets  
Service life planning



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CHAPTER 04

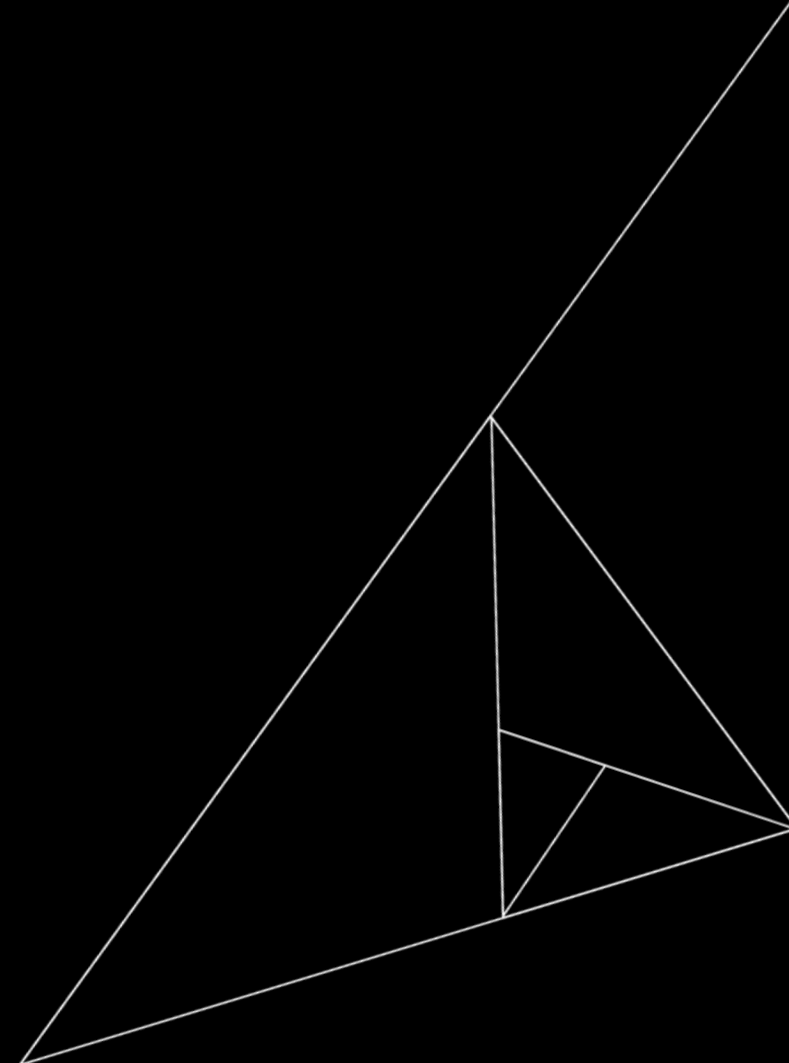
# Learning from International Practice



CHAPTER 04

# Learning from International Practice

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# Simplification



Input

The Building

Output

Metrics

Goal

Construction

Results

Environmental Impacts

Scope

Use / Operation

Interpretation

Cost Impacts

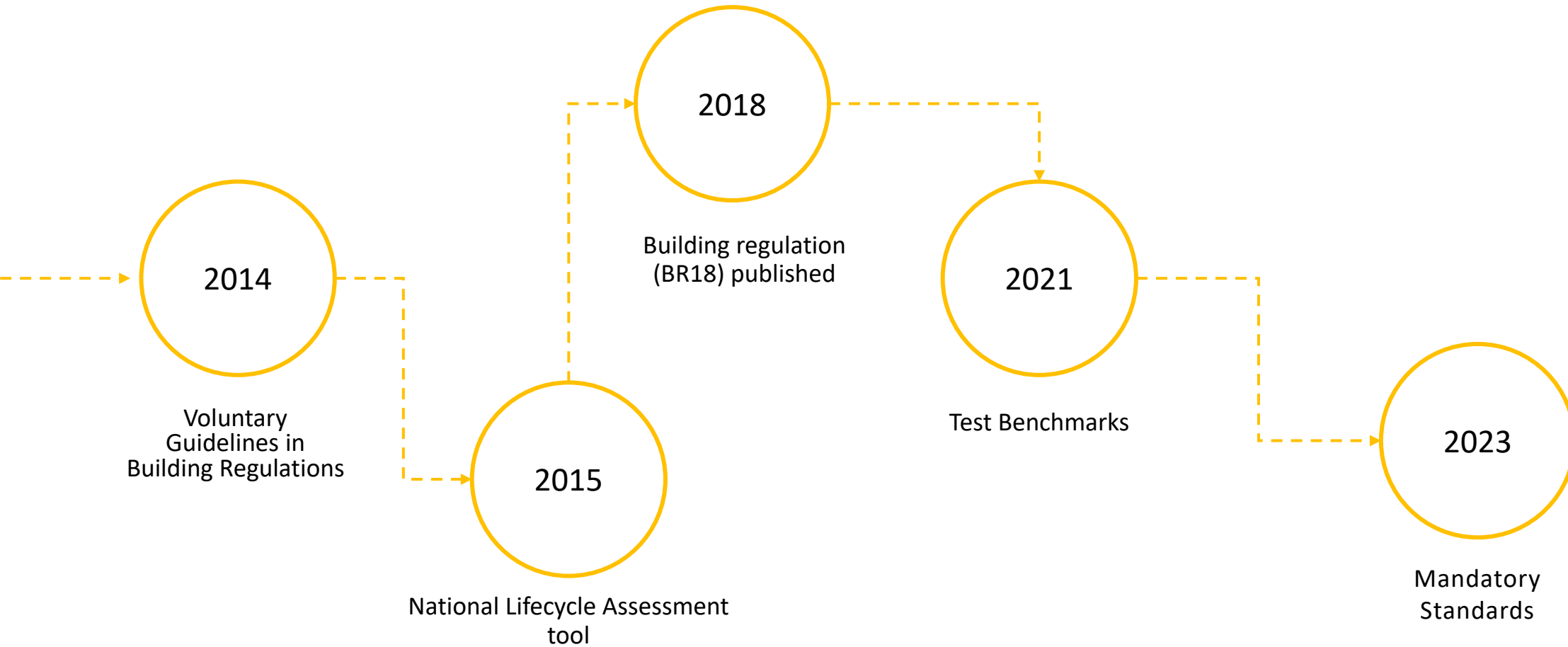
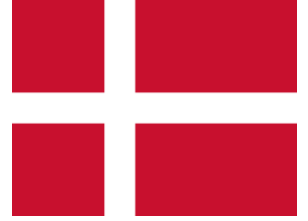
Inventory

Deconstruction

Options

Impacts

# Learning from Denmark Timeline



# Stage 2B – Detailed Design

Data Quality	Building Elements					
	Structure	Facade	Interior	MEP	Stuff	Site
Products A1-A3	391	59	51	120	0	
Construction A4-A5	11	1	2	1	0	30
In Use B1-A5	0	59	53	240	0	
In Use Energy B6-B7				620		
End of Life C	50	6	5	13	8	
<b>Emissions</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,647 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup></b>

5 High Quality data retrospectivity  
 2 Lower Quality data representivity

# Stage 4- Construction

Data Quality

Building Elements

	Structure	Facade	Interior	MEP	Stuff	Site
Products A1-A3	5	3	2	2	2	4
Construction A4-A5	4	4	2	2	2	3
In Use B1-A5	4	3	2	2	3	3
In Use Energy B6-B7				N?A		
End of Life C	4	2	2	2	2	2
Emissions	623	44	352	620	8	1,647

Score

66%

Strategy



Delivery



Zero Carbon Buildings



Early-Stage Carbon Calculations and Benchmarking



Goalsetting and Data Collection Strategy



Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) calculations



LEED / BREEAM Credit Selection or Green Procurement Strategy



Net Zero Carbon Roadmap -1.5°C path



Data Quality evaluation and Reporting



Carbon Reduction and Optimisation

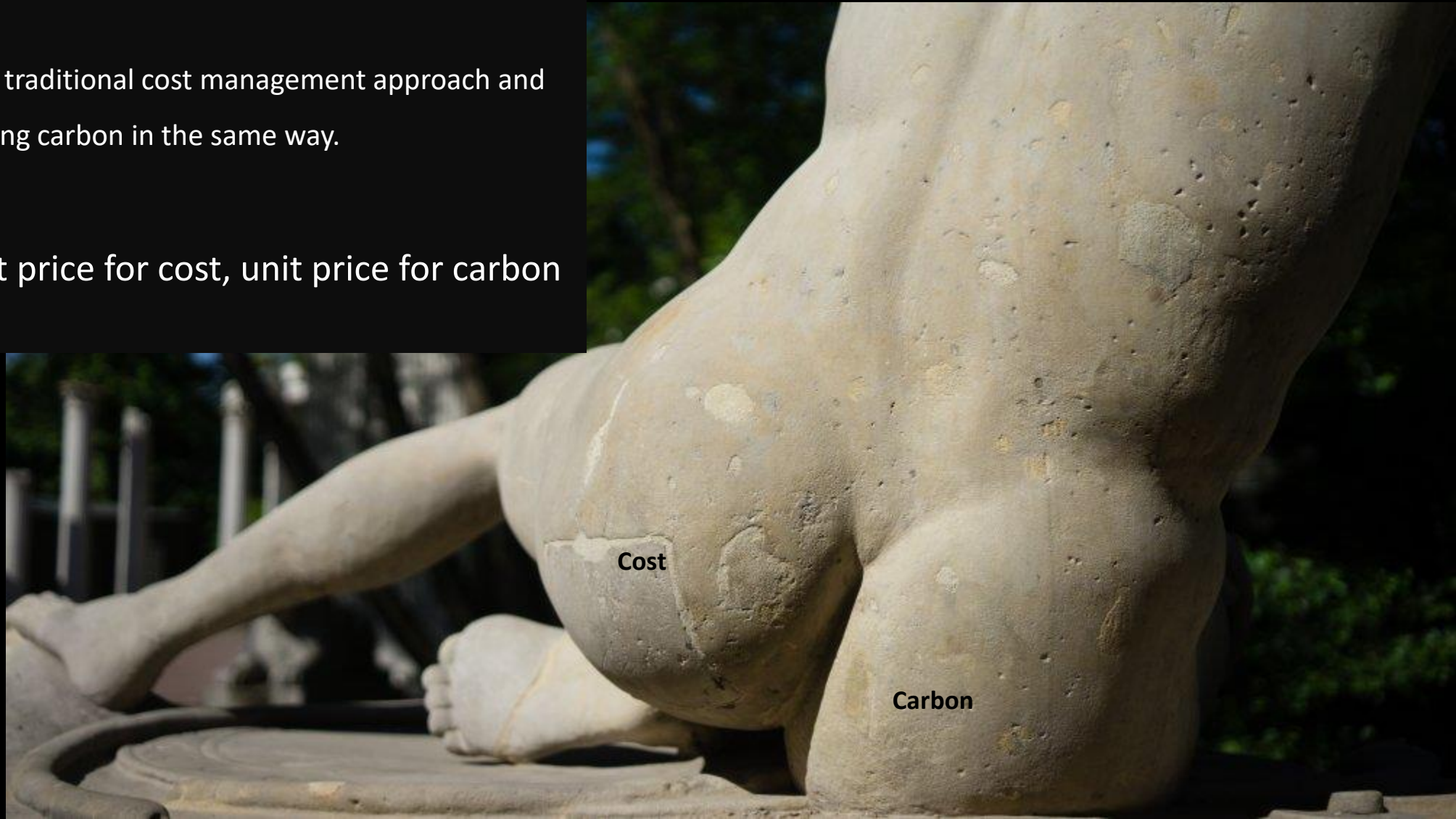


Cost Optimisation

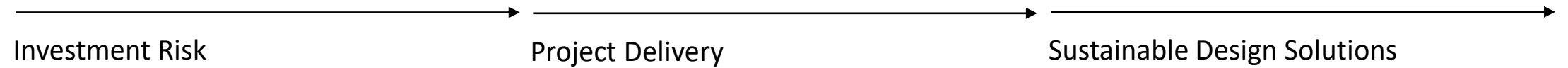
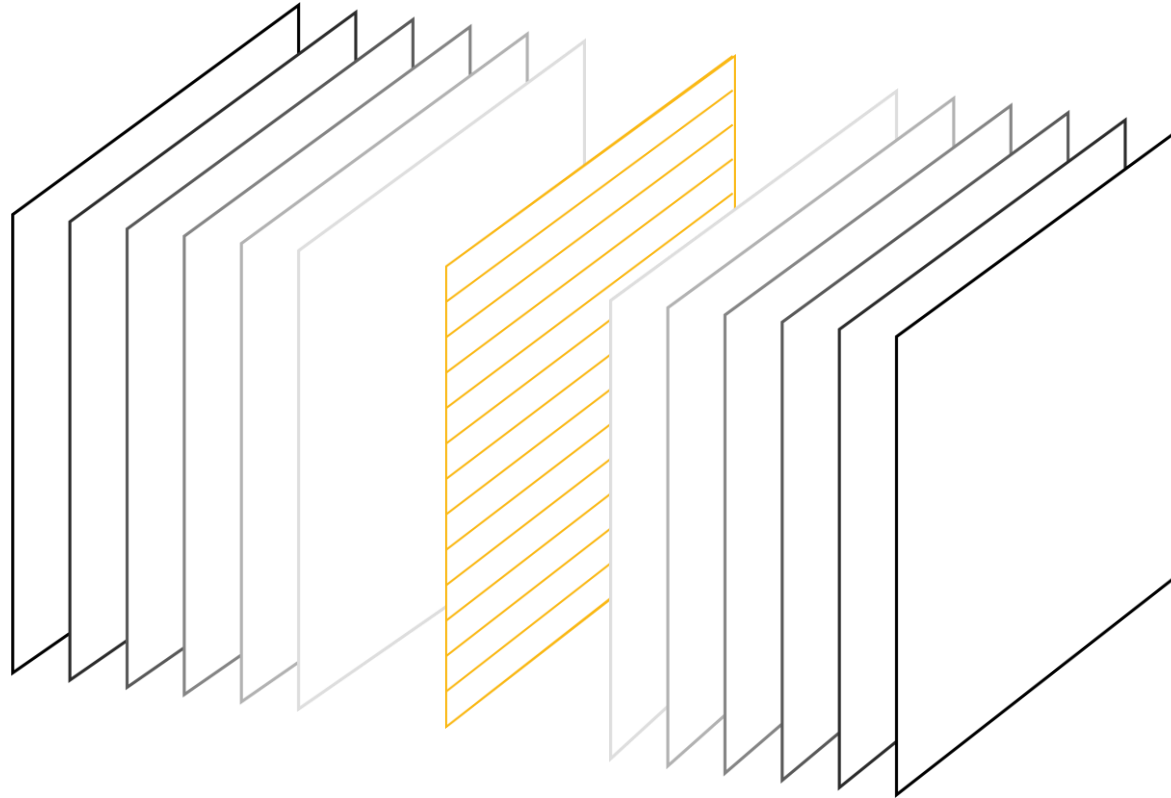
# The intrinsic Link between carbon & Cost

Simply Taking our traditional cost management approach and we're just managing carbon in the same way.

Quantum, unit price for cost, unit price for carbon

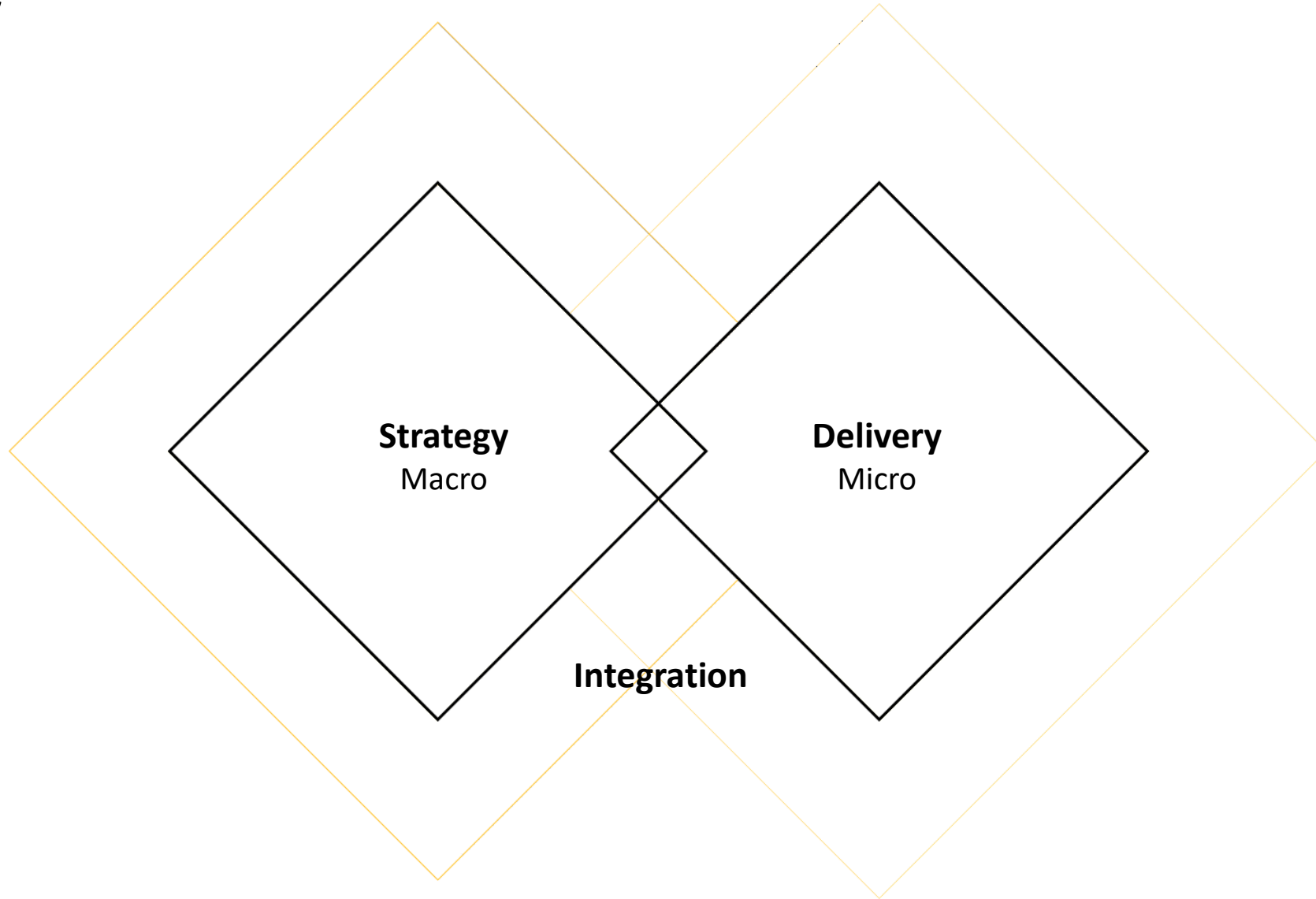


# Applying and ESG lens

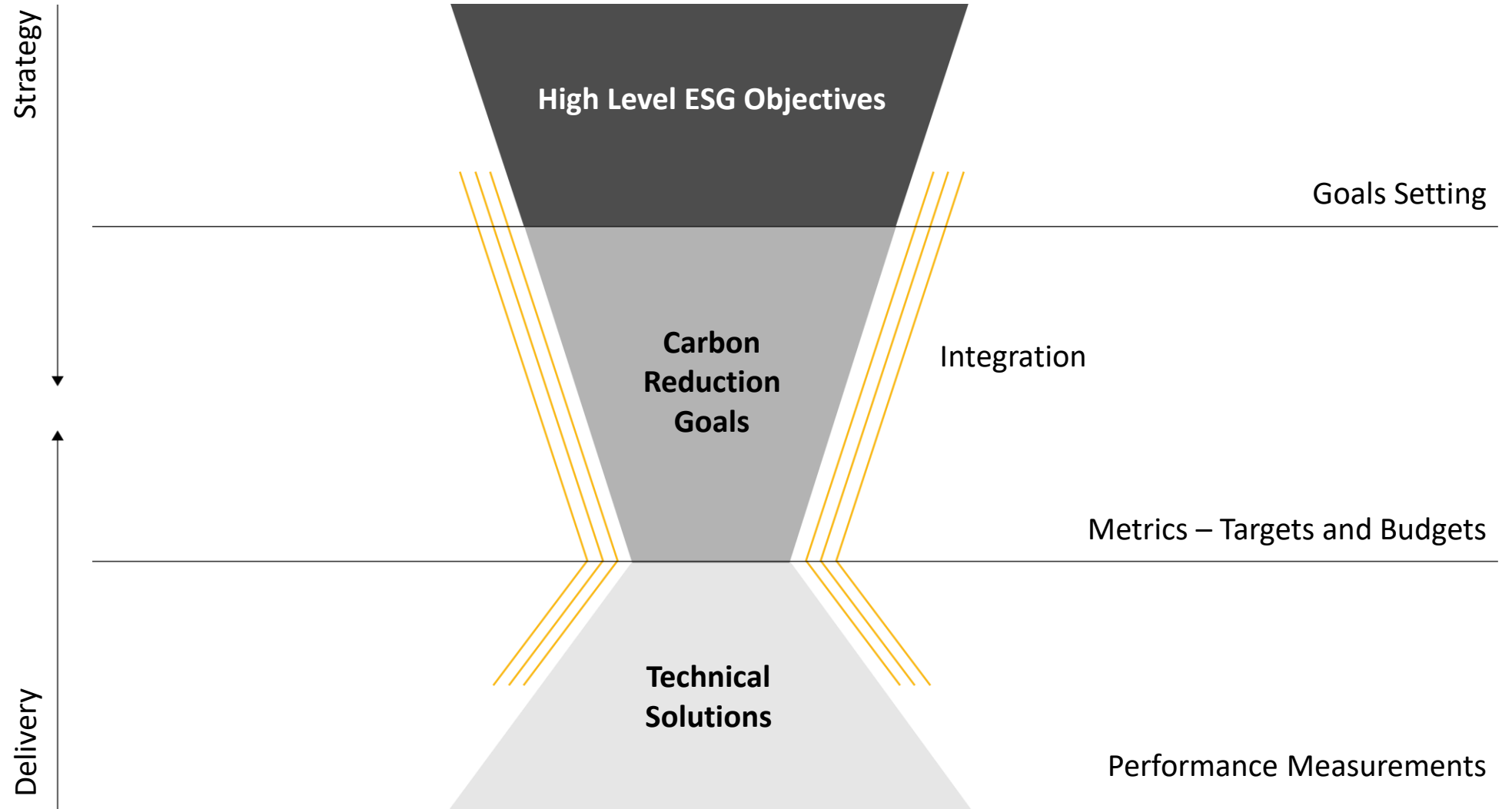




# Overview



# Overview



# Client journey



## Roadmap

- Carbon risk assessment
- Goalsetting – business case
- Climate neutral Pathway
- Budget – Carbon

## Evaluate

- ESG / GRESB, EU taxonomy
- Calculate Value at Risk
- LCA calculation
- evaluate options

## Track

- Cost model
- Carbon budget
- Viability of measures
- Internal Carbon price

Delivery

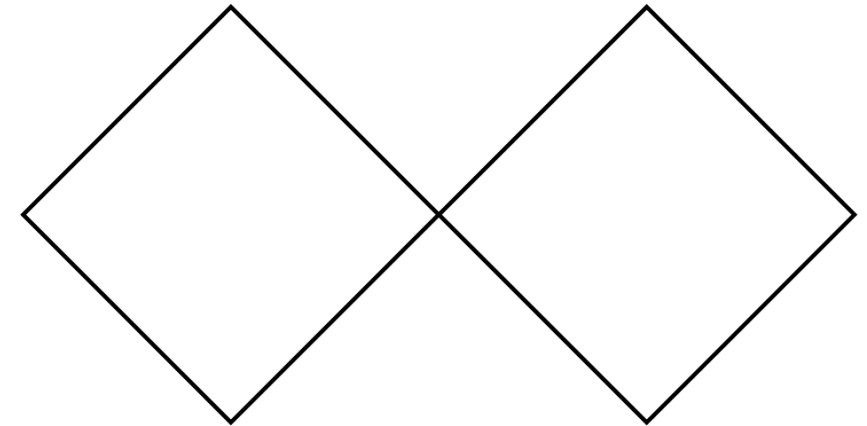
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Turning high level  
objectives into real  
world  actions

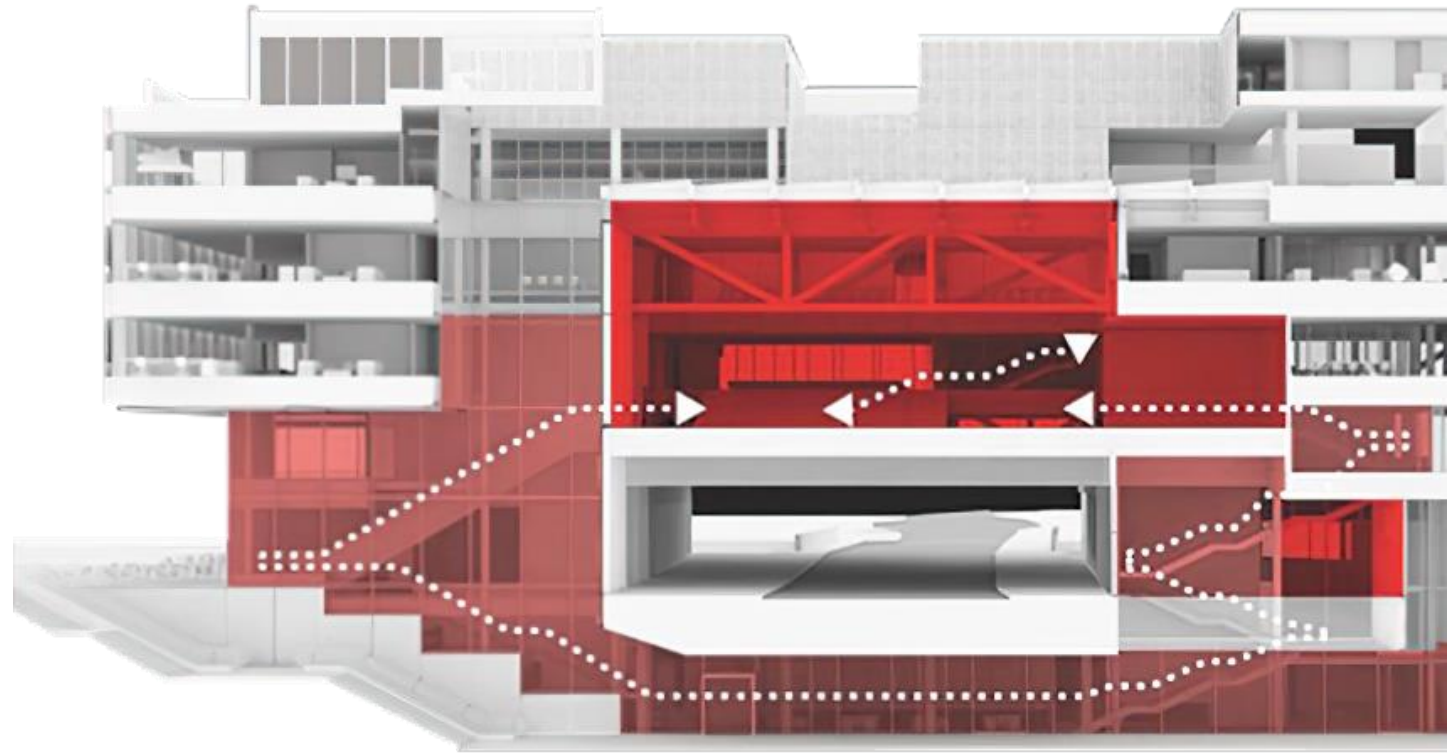
# International Cost Management Standard ICMS 3

## **Benefits of Standardised Reporting on project costs and carbon emissions:**

- Transparency through cost data classification
- Consistency in reporting and tracking
- Connected data to merge Carbon & Cost
- Easier comparison between Alternatives
- Better Access to supply chain and digital data libraries



## Application to projects



# Timeline

Public Spending Code  
2019



Green Public  
Procurement 2019



Digital Mandate  
2024 (ICMS-3)



Infrastructure  
Guidelines 2023



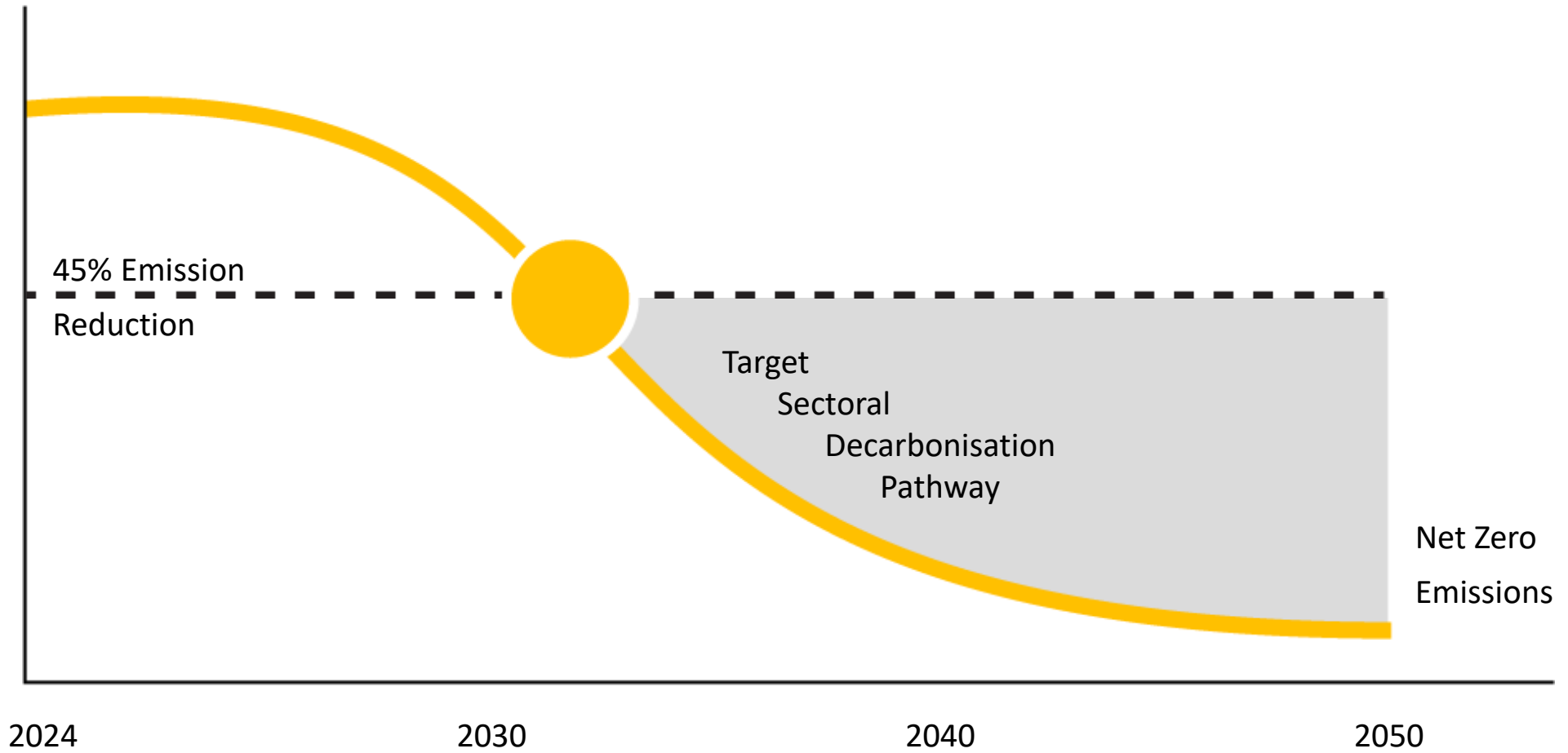
EPBD Energy in Buildings  
directive



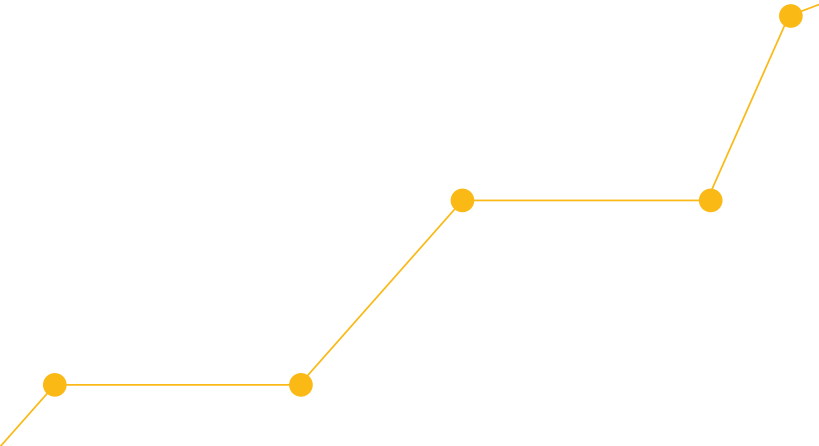
2030 Targets  
Public Sector  
Mandate



# Tightening targets for carbon and climate performance







# ICMS3

International Cost Management Standard (ICMS)

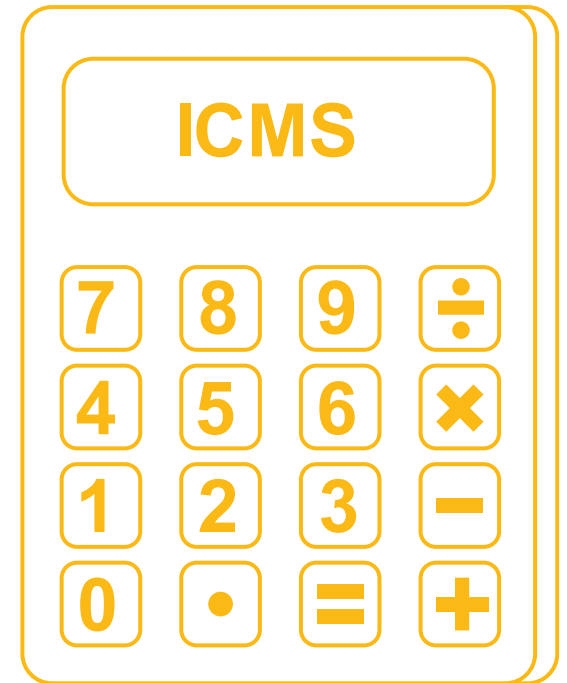
Digital requirements in the Capital Works from January 2024

ICMS 3 creates an intrinsic link between Carbon & Cost

Measures, tracks and reporting on operational and embodied carbon

Enables consistent reporting across the National Development Plan of:

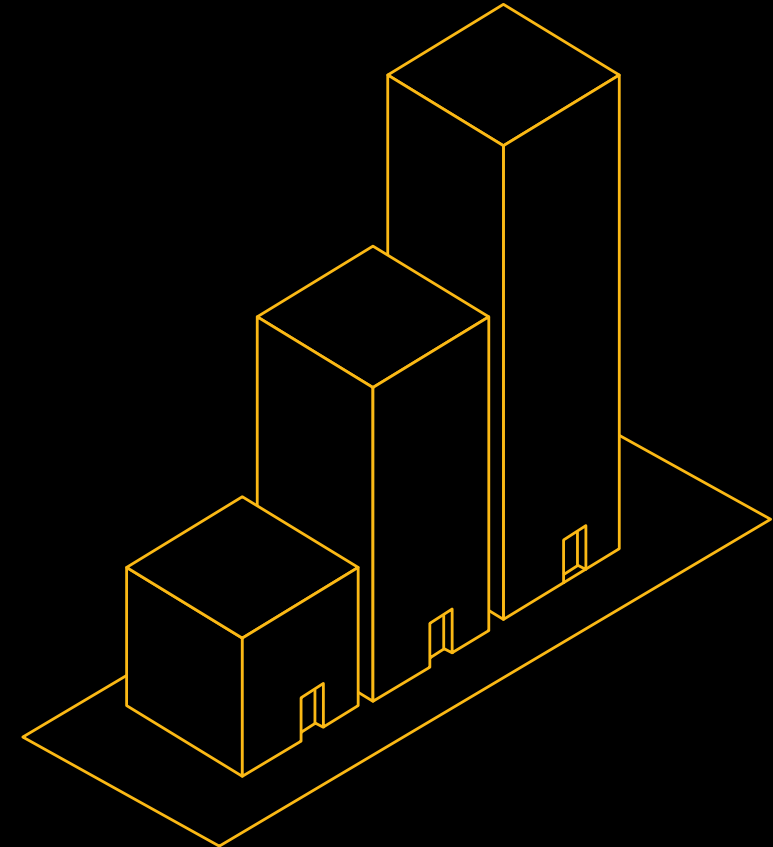
+ Initial Costs   + Life cycle costs   + Life cycle Carbon



# Economic Appraisal 'Value for Money'

## Public Spending Code (PSC updated in 2019)

- Improved Accuracy of cost estimation and forecasting.
- Include Risk identification and risk management
- Requires external evaluation of projects over €20m at six key project lifecycle stages,
- Now includes parameters around lifecycle Carbon

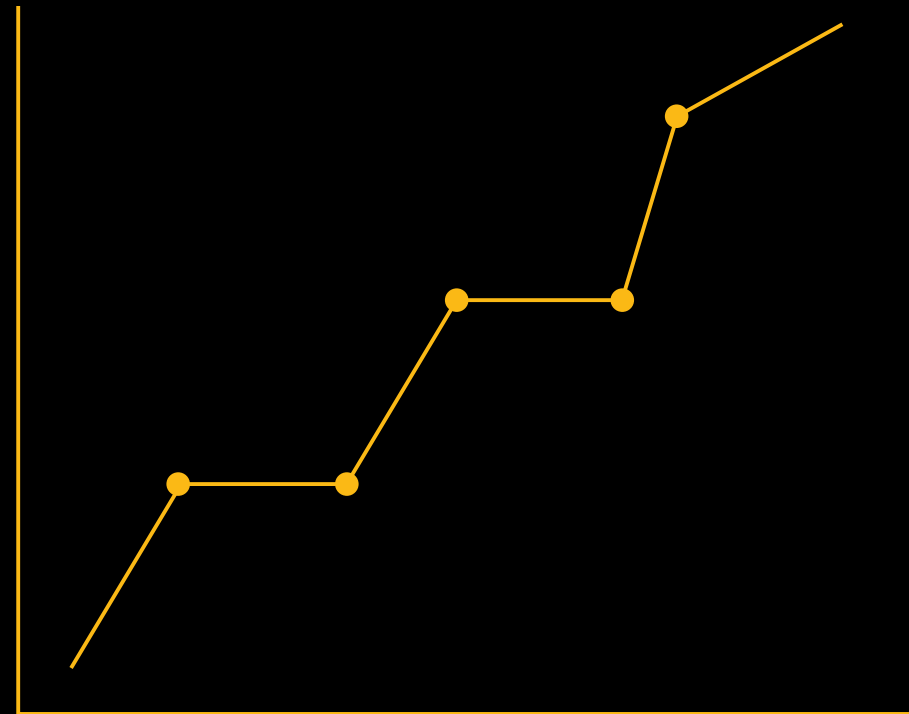


# Economic Appraisal

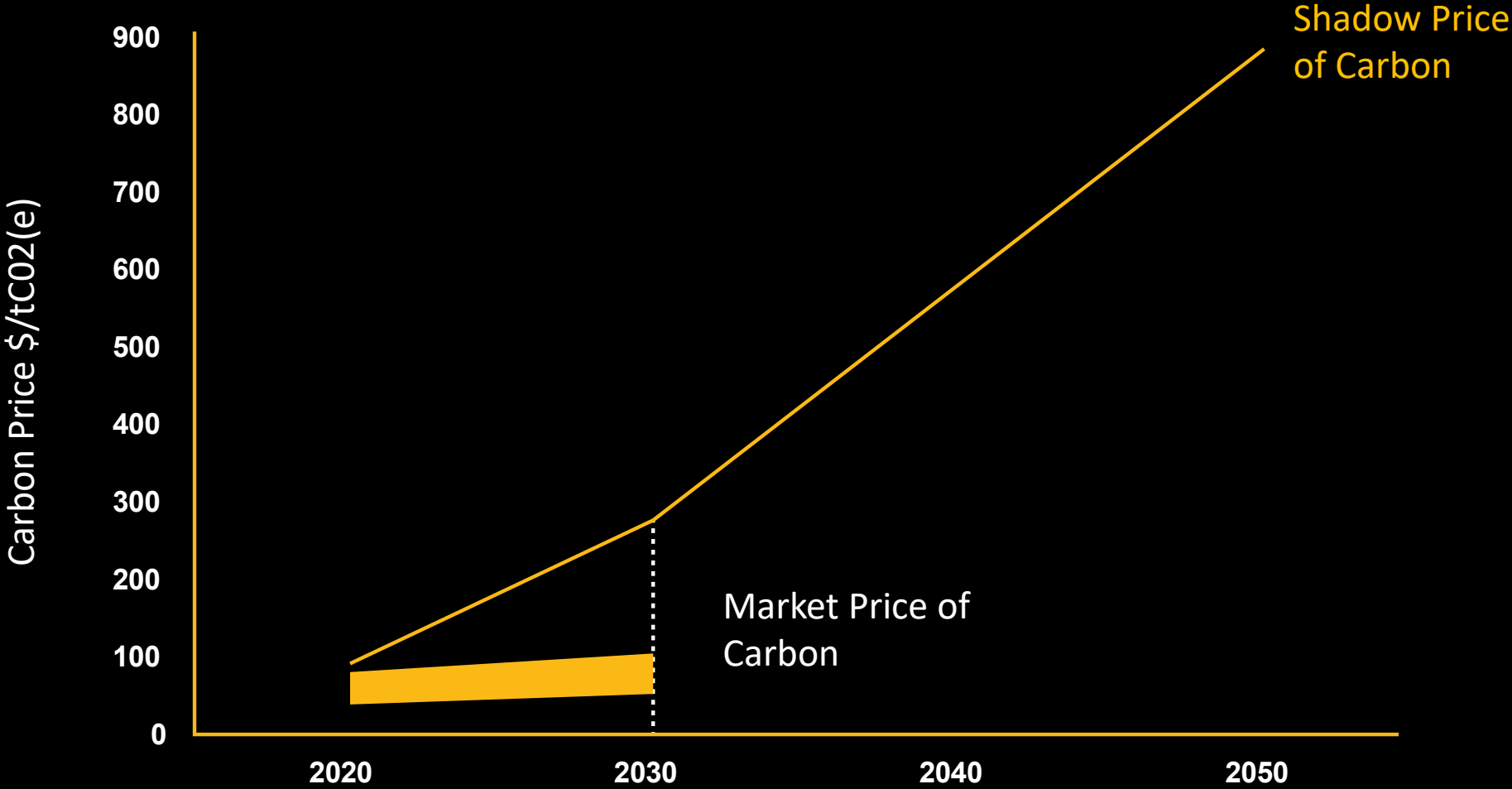
## Shadow Price of Carbon

- Used to monetise the value of Carbon Emissions from Greenhouse Gases
- Future projects emissions must be included, and index linked to future hypothetical carbon prices

Link : [Section 6 of Central Technical References and Economic Appraisal Parameters.](#)



# Price of Carbon



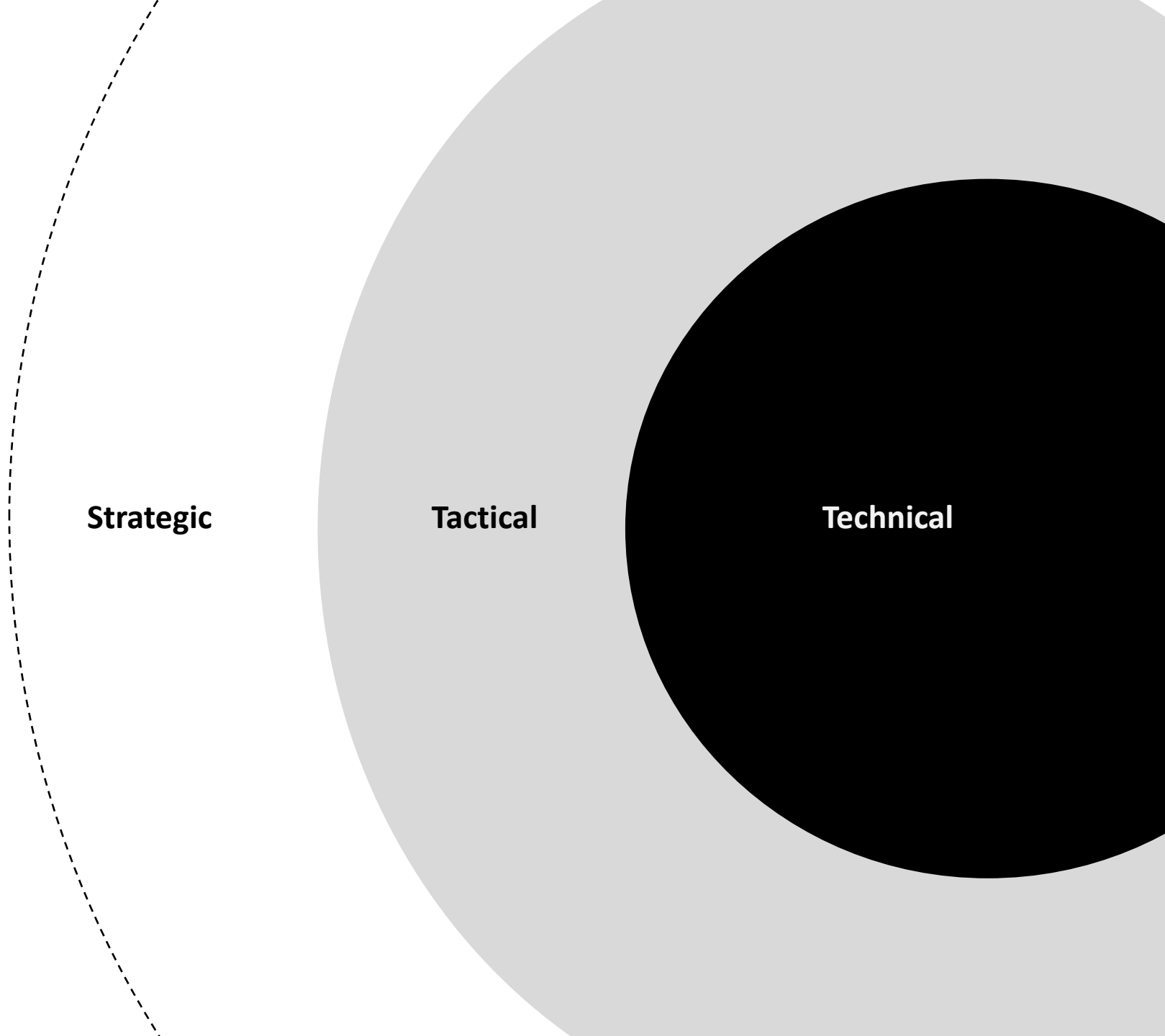
Project Delivery

Strategic

Tactical

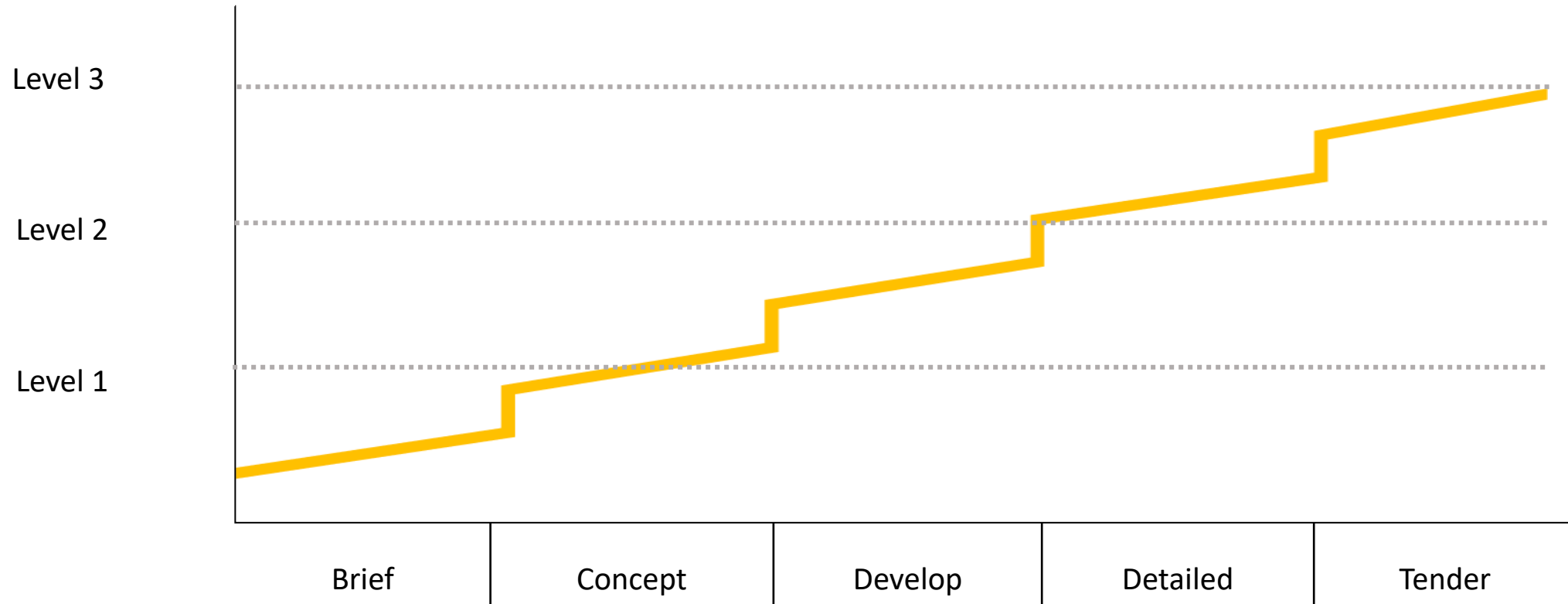
Technical

**KOSMOS**

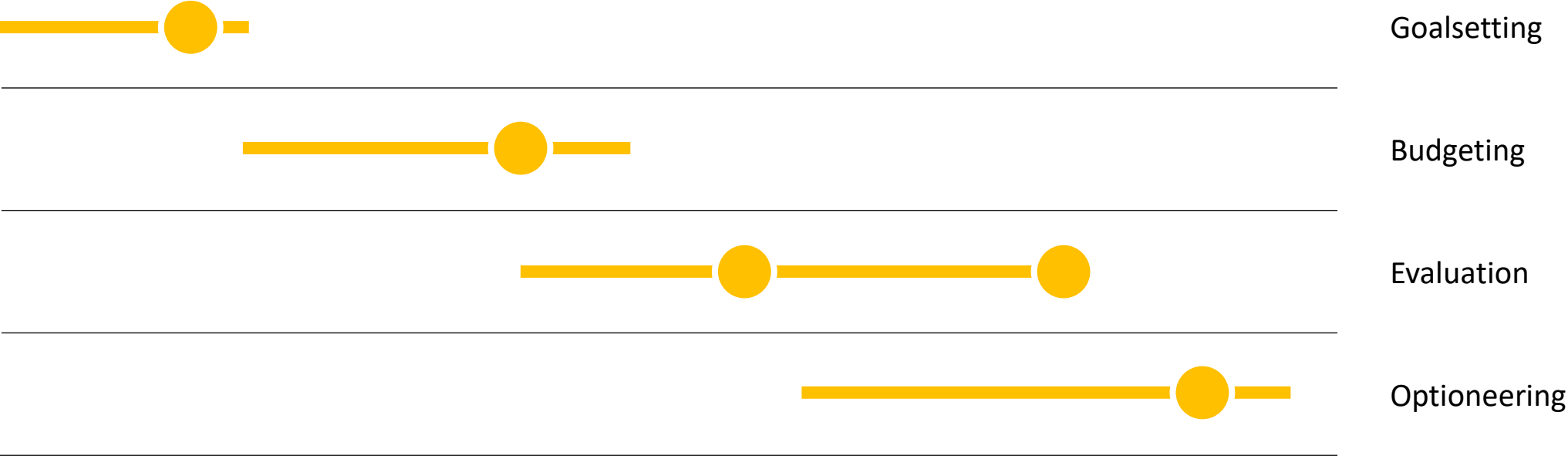


# Managing uncertainty and data gaps

**Granularity**

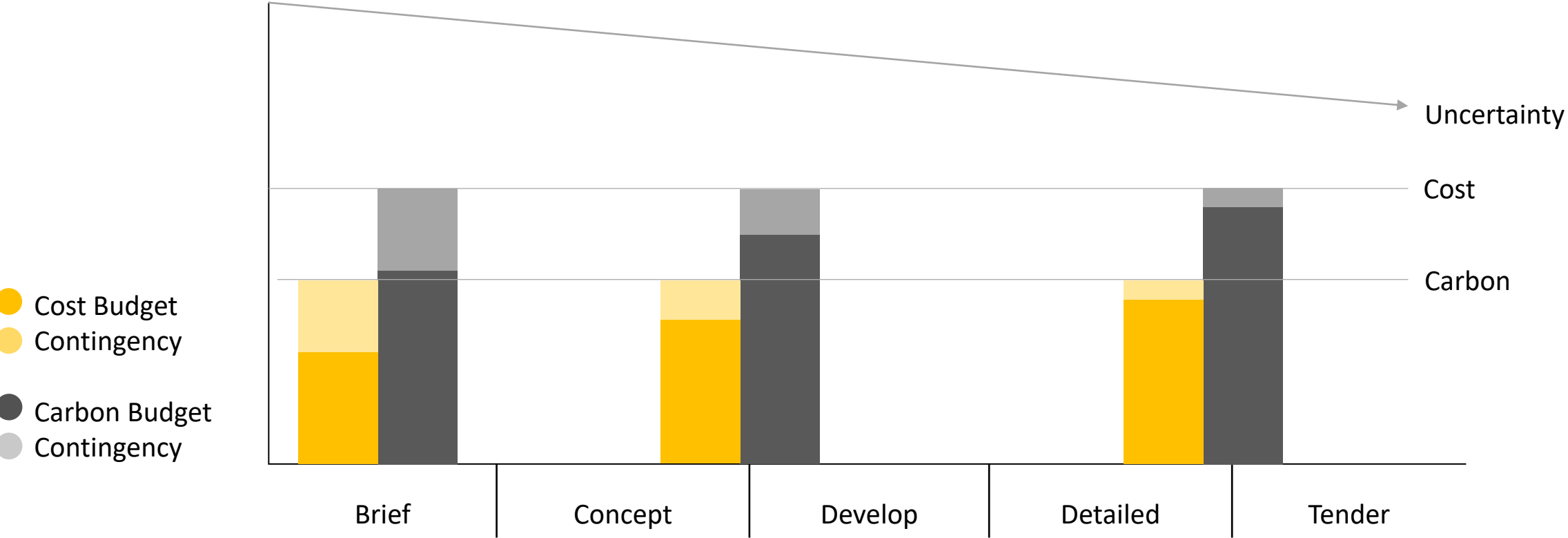


# Design Stages



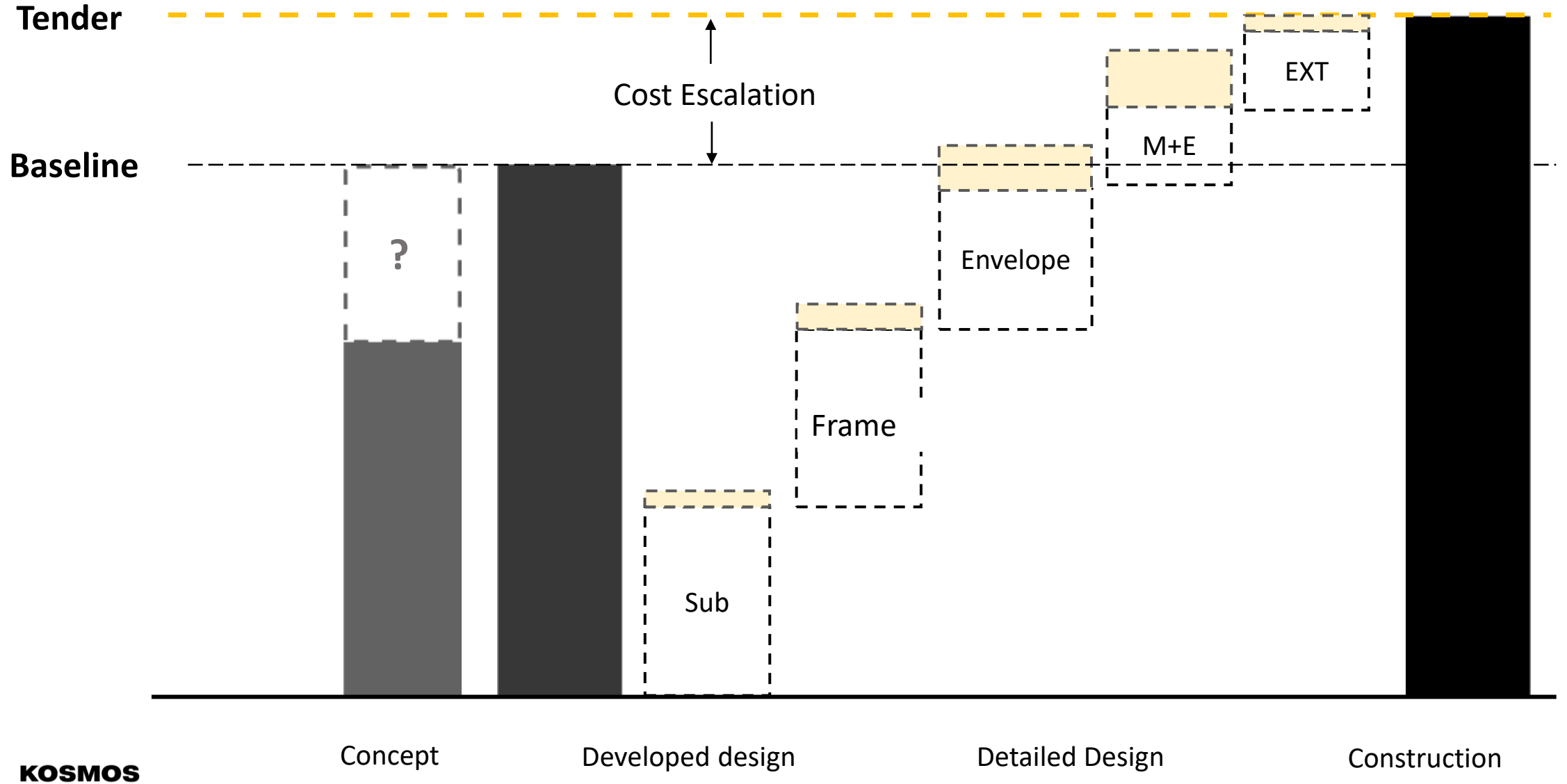
# Managing Carbon and Cost Budgets

## NECX29 Performance Clauses





# Identifying Carbon Creep

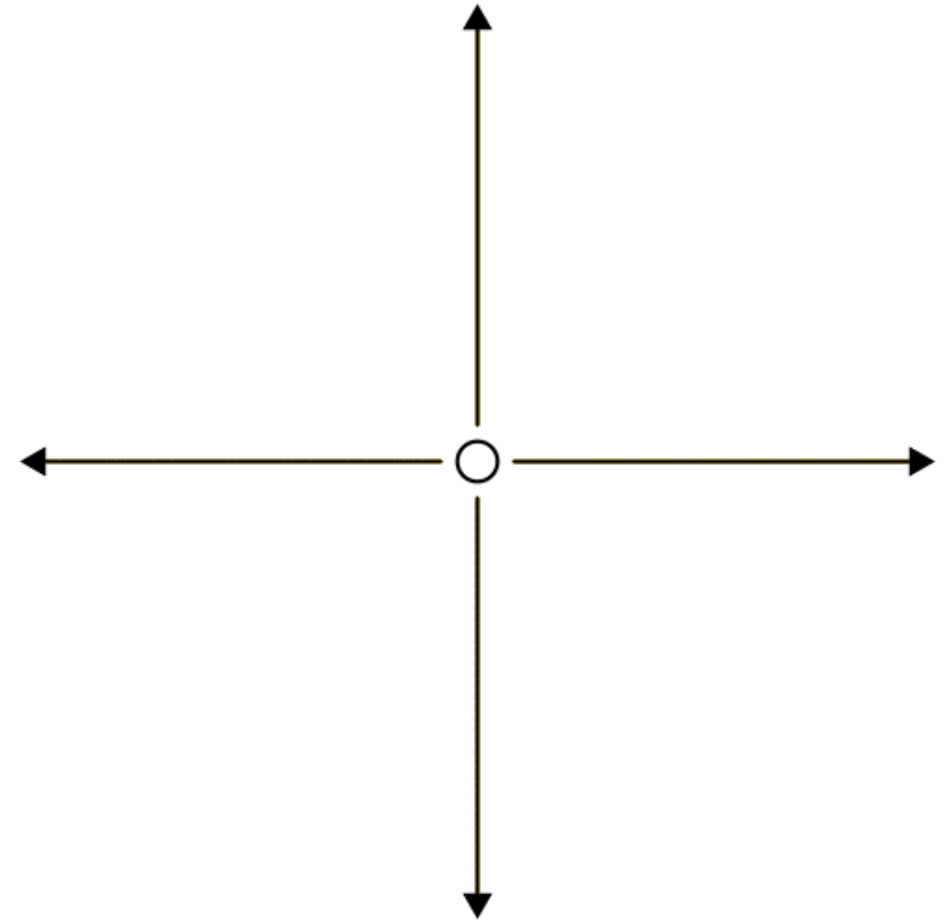


# Optioneering

## Reconcile cost-benefit trade-offs and Carbon reduction/energy Efficiency savings

- Option A CLT Deck with Screed
- Option B – CLT Deck with P/B soffit
- Option C – Precast with 30% GGBS
- Option D – Base case (Precast)

Cost optimality graph plotting proposed measures to identify the optimal solution





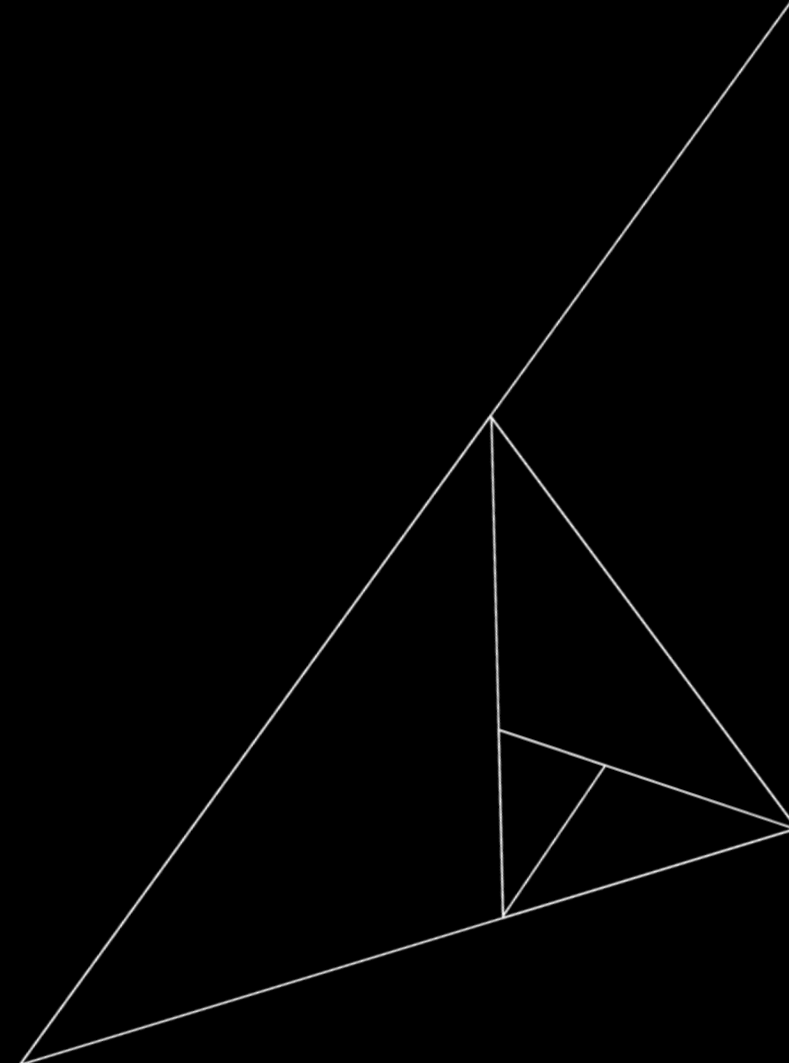
CHAPTER 03

# Reporting Format

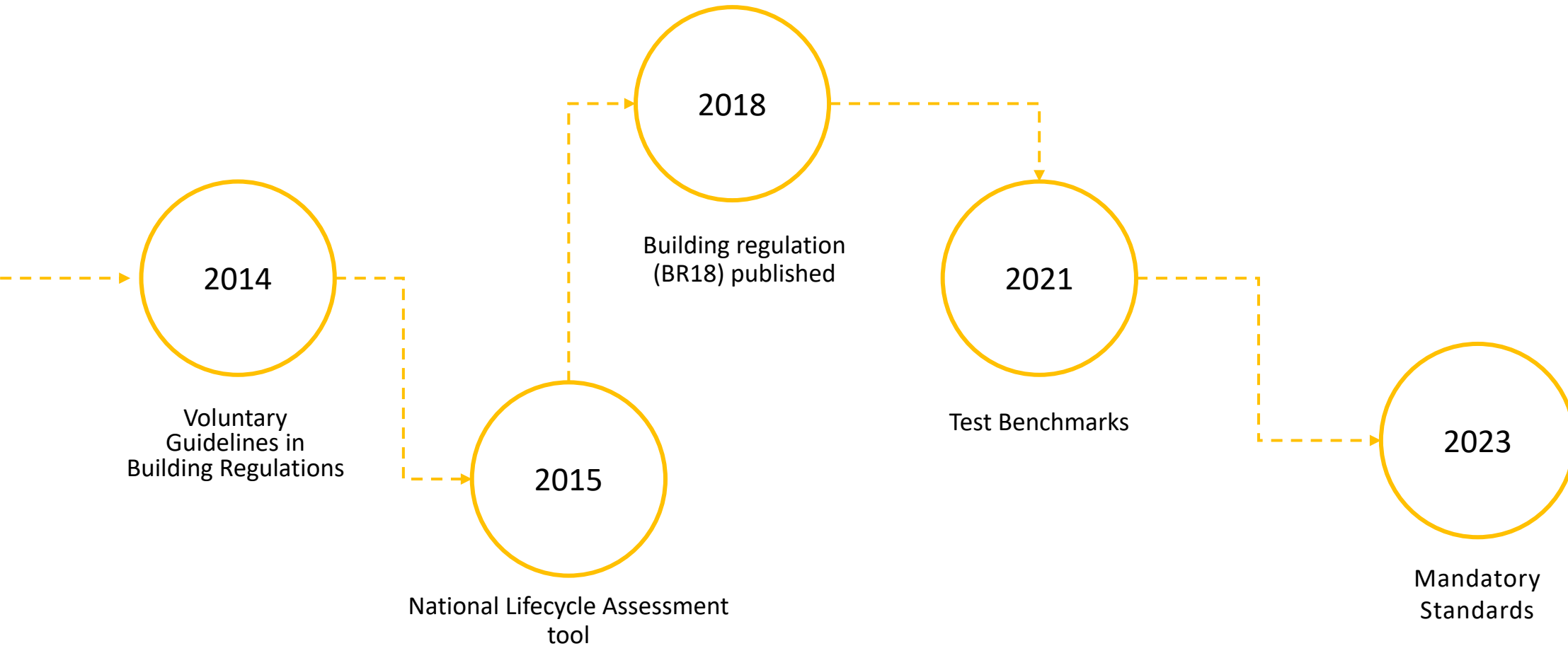
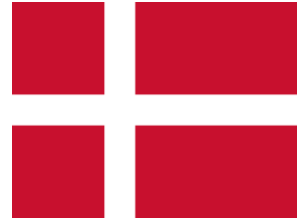
CHAPTER 03

# Reporting Format

**KOSMOS**



# Learning from Denmark Timeline



# Stage 4 - Construction

**5** High Quality data representivity

**2** Lower Quality data representivity

Data Quality	Building Elements					
	Structure	Facade	Interior	MEP	Stuff	Site
Products A1-A3	5	3	2	2	2	4
Construction A4-A5	4	4	2	2	2	3
In Use B1-A5	4	3	2	2	3	3
In Use Energy B6-B7				N?A		
End of Life C	4	2	2	2	2	2
Emissions	623	44	352	620	8	1,647

Score

**66%**

# Carbon Cost

## RIBA Cost Planning Stage

1	Feasibility
2	Brief
3	Concept
4	Development Design
5	Technical Design
6	Construction
7	Handover
8	Use

# Cost plan of works

## Cost Planning Tasks

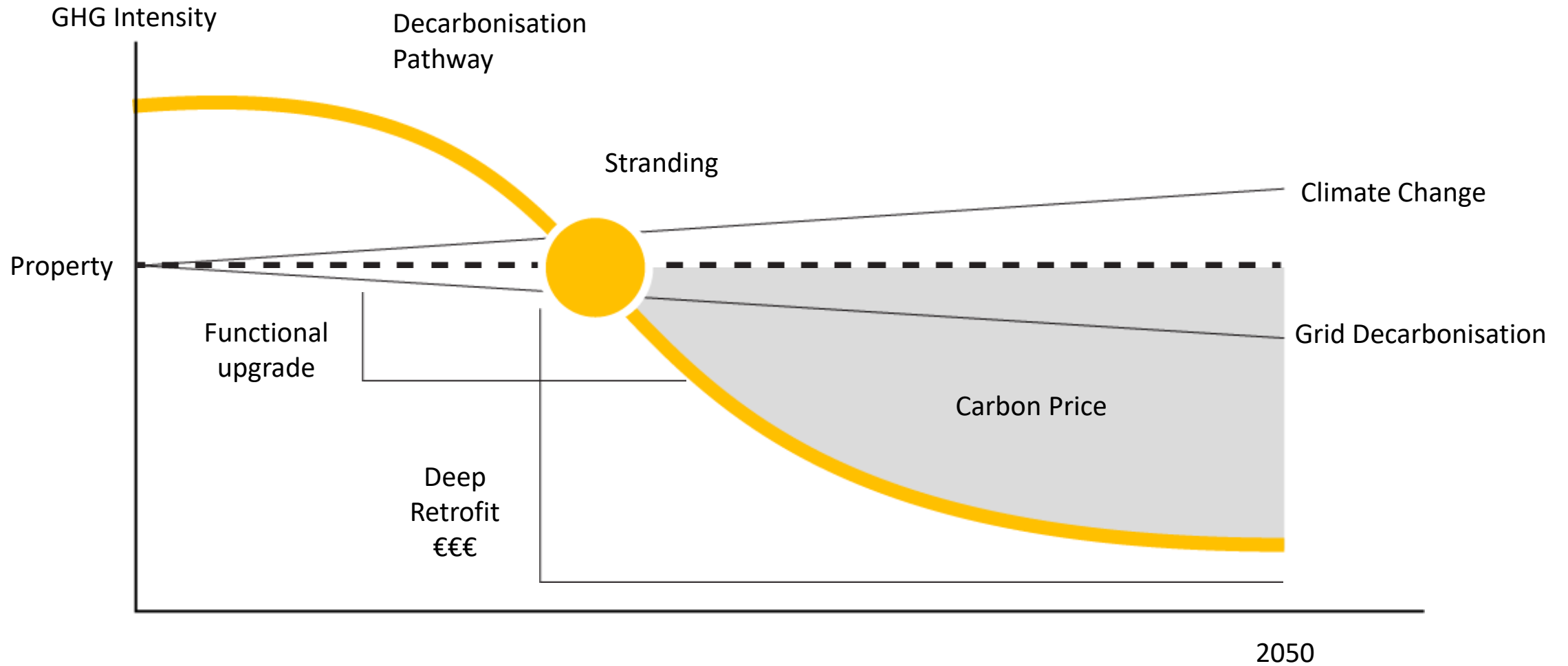
Initial Cost Plan
Establishing budgetary constraints
Preparing initial cost estimates
Preparing detailed cost plan
Schedule of work
Monitor progress against the cost plan
Reconcile final account
Monitoring operational use

# Carbon plan of works

## WLC Assessment Tasks

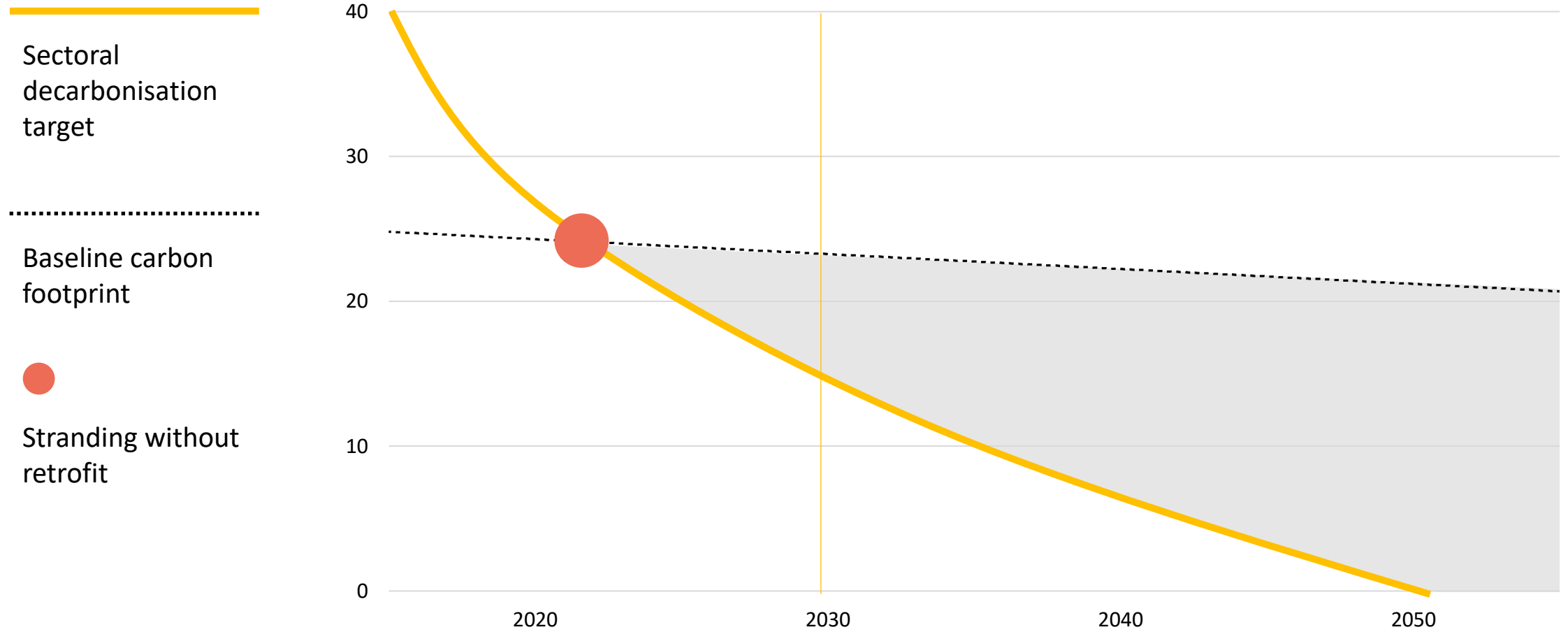
Set carbon reduction targets
Identifying carbon reduction opportunities
Assessing the carbon impact of design options
Refining the design to minimize carbon emissions
Specifying low-carbon materials and systems
Monitoring construction activities to minimize carbon emissions
Ensure carbon performance meets expectations
Monitoring performance and identifying opportunities for improvement

# Transition Risk- Asset Stranding





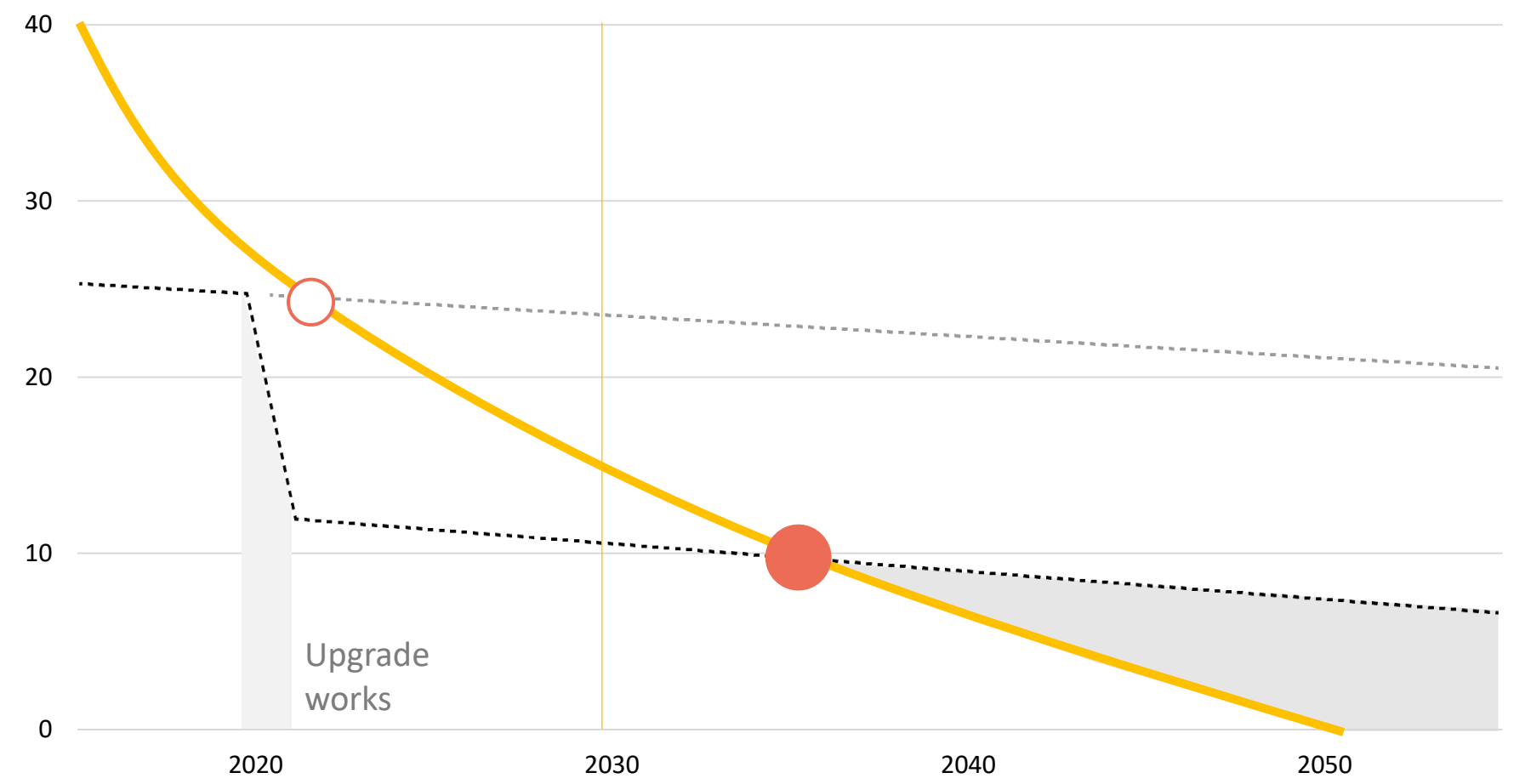
# Carbon Intensity



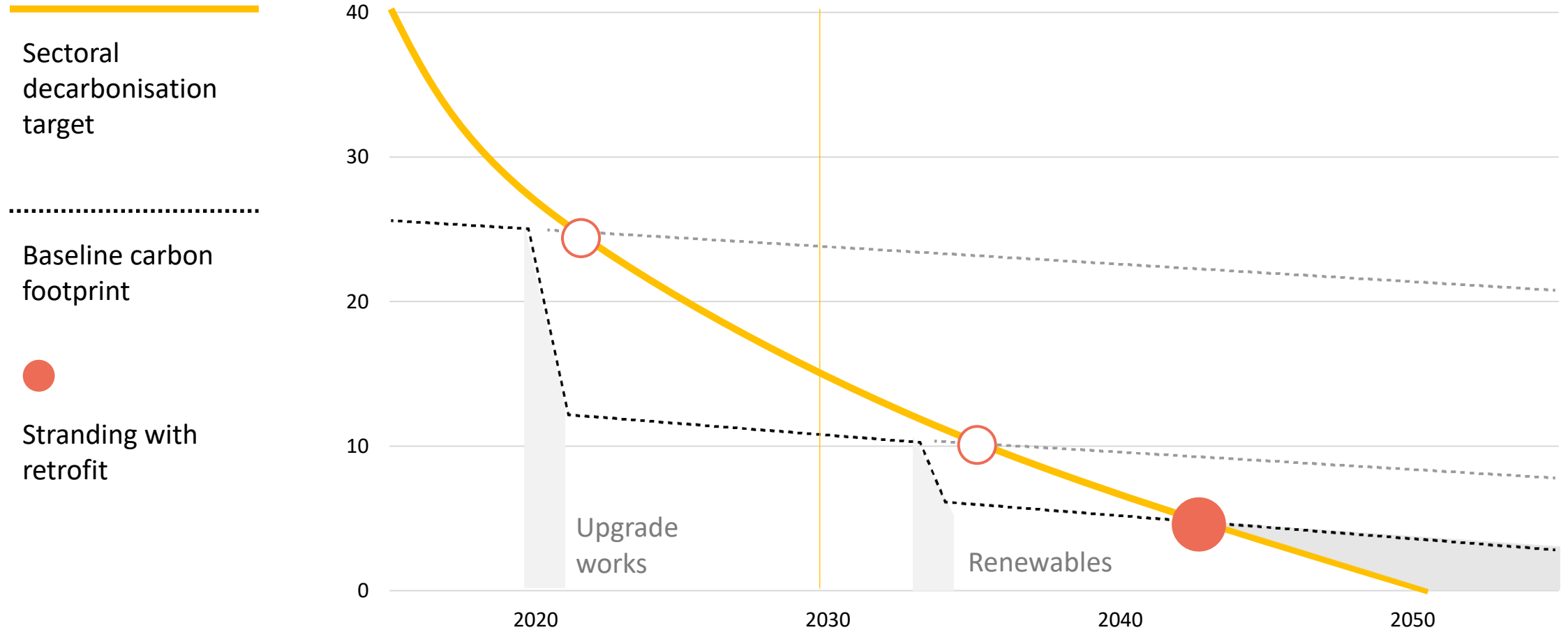
Sectoral decarbonisation target

Baseline carbon footprint

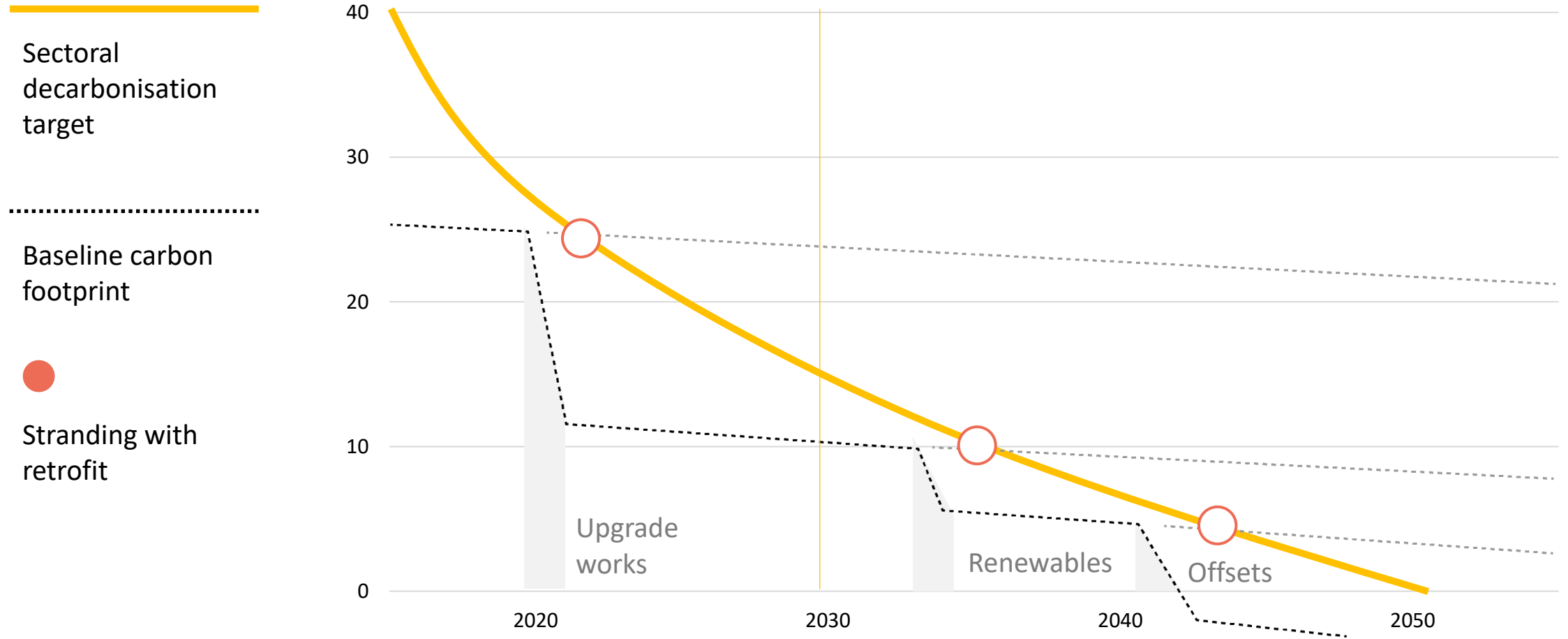
Stranding with retrofit



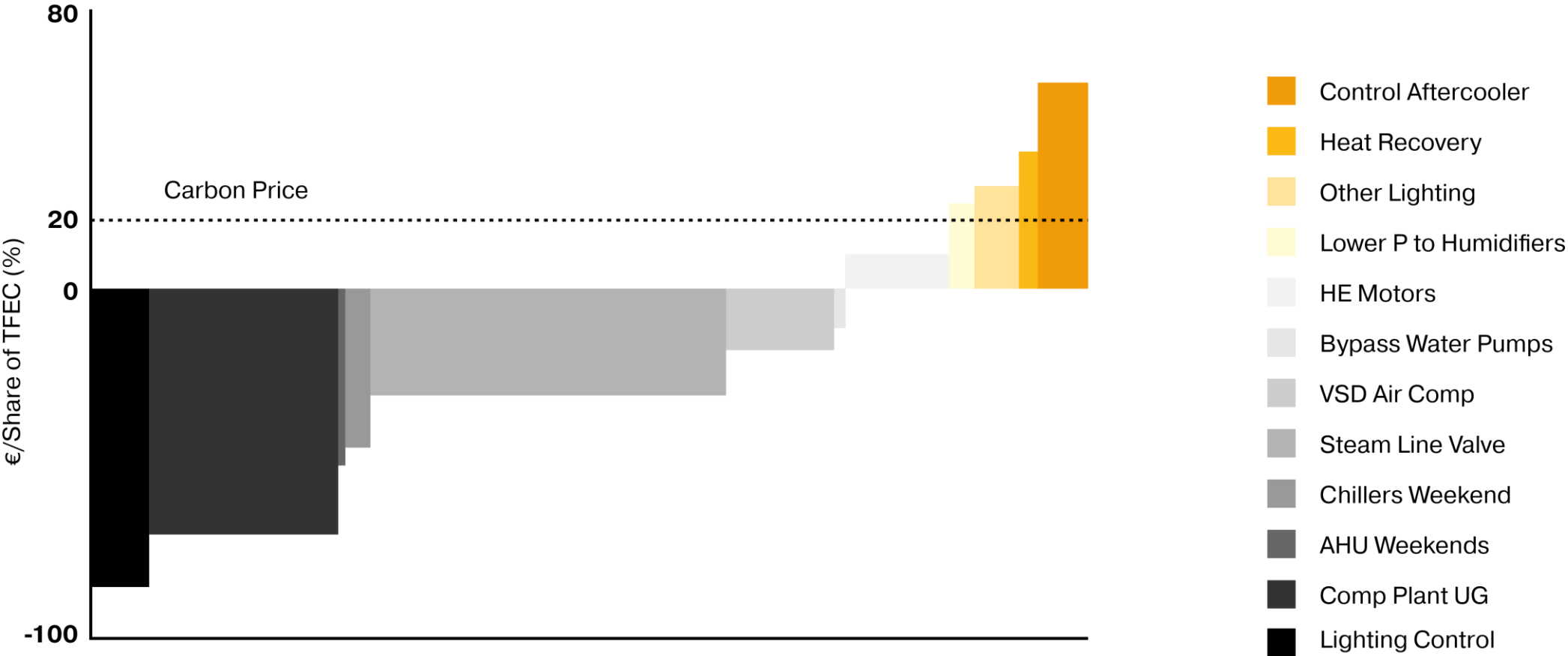
# Carbon Intensity



# Carbon Intensity



# Marginal Abatement Cost Curve





# 05 Infrastructure Guidelines

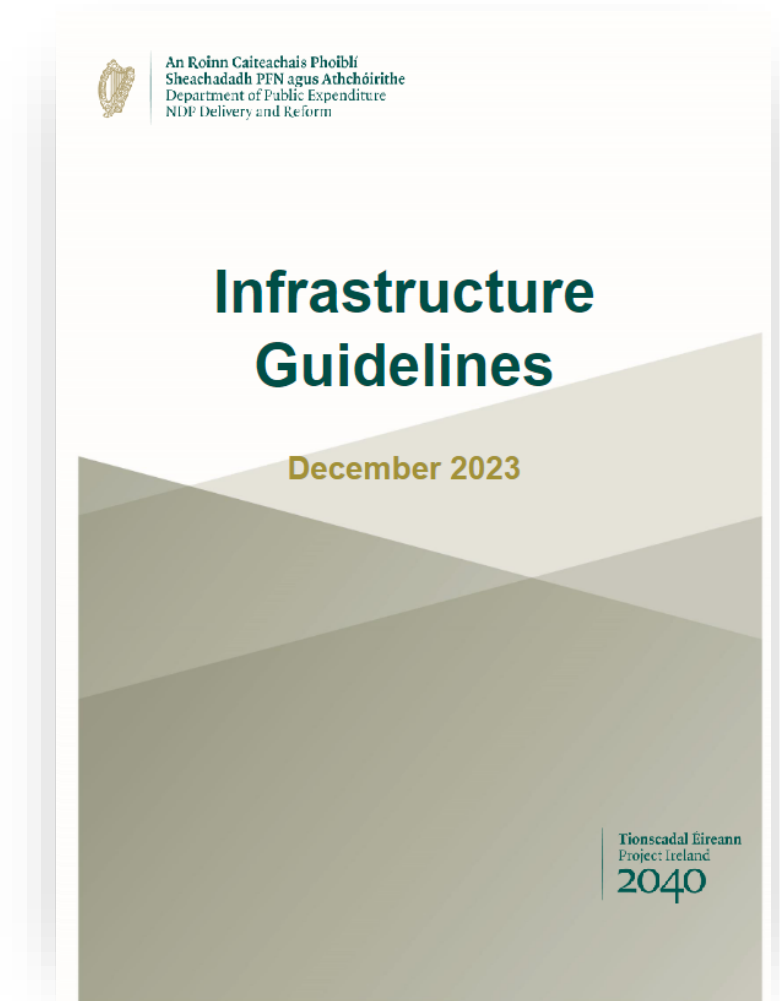
Project Ireland 2040

Replaces the Public Spending Code requirements for capital expenditure

Infrastructure Guidelines set out the value for money calculations

Applies to projects over < € 20m value, With additional requirements for 'Major Projects' defined as over >€200m

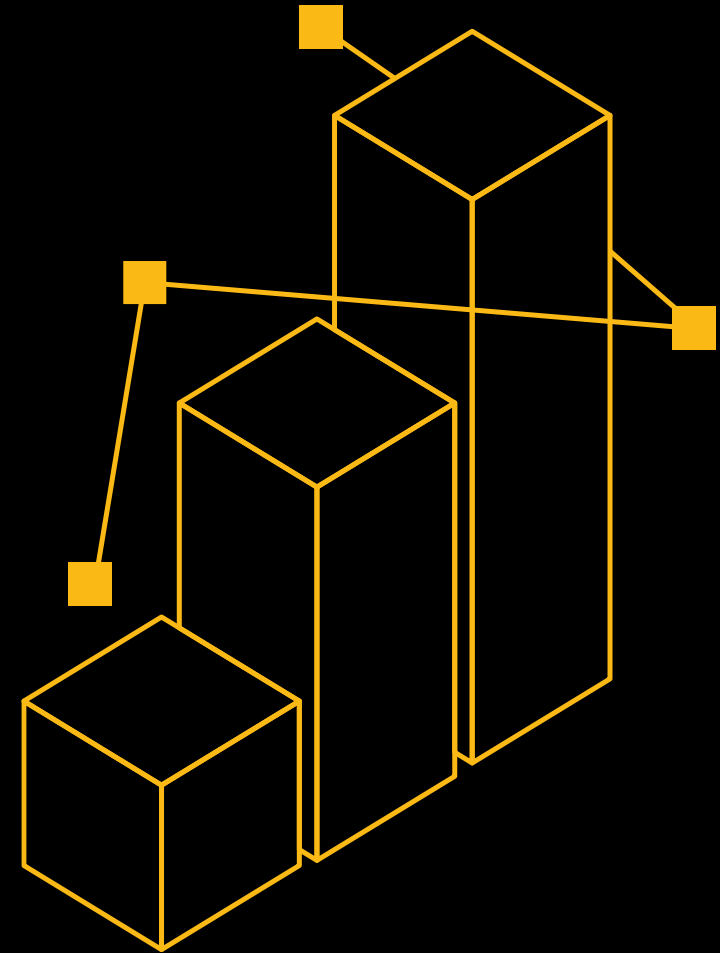
[069538a6-4474-4d5e-8821-43a0852bfd0b.pdf \(www.gov.ie\)](#)



# BIM requirements in Capital Works Framework January 2024

International Cost Management Standards (ICMS3).

Cost and carbon reporting templates are mandated for use from the 1st January 2024 in the National Development Plan 2024-2040 (NDP).



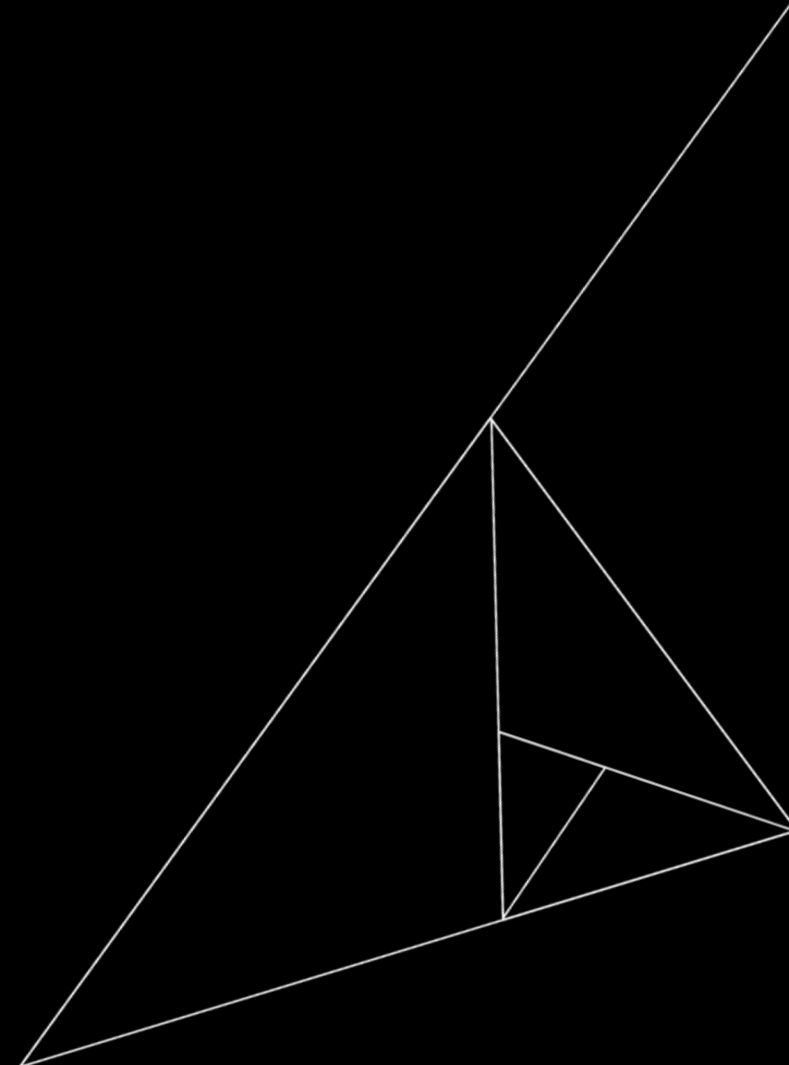


Delivery



Delivery

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[Event Website](#)  
[Program](#)  
[Past event teaser](#)

# Case Study - Henning Larsen tops Danish sewage works with park

[Henning Larsen tops Danish sewage works with park \(dezeen.com\)](http://dezeen.com)





# Managing Transition Risk in Real Estate:

Aligning to the Paris  
Climate Accord

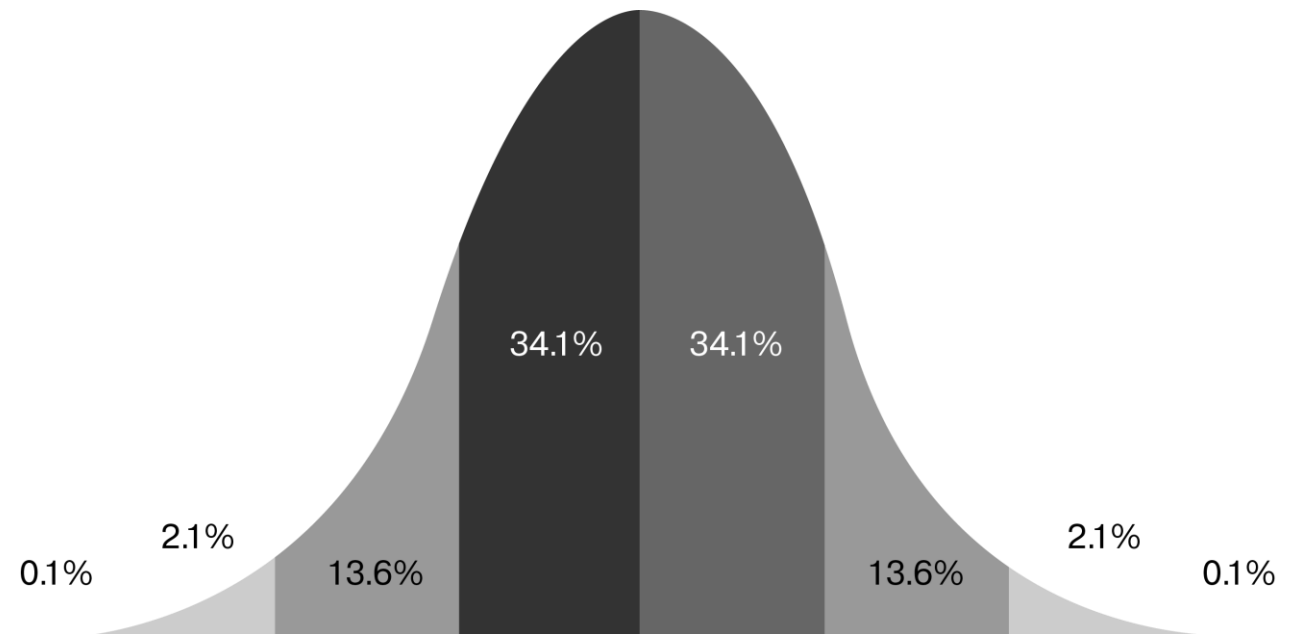
March 2022

# Lessons from Denmark



## Risk Modelling

- Use Data to Quantify Carbon Transition Risk.
- Manage uncertainty by allocating contingency to climate related targets
- Generate and update an Opportunity Register
- Adjust contingency budget dynamic risk scoring
- Track risk through project and use opportunities to balance risk.

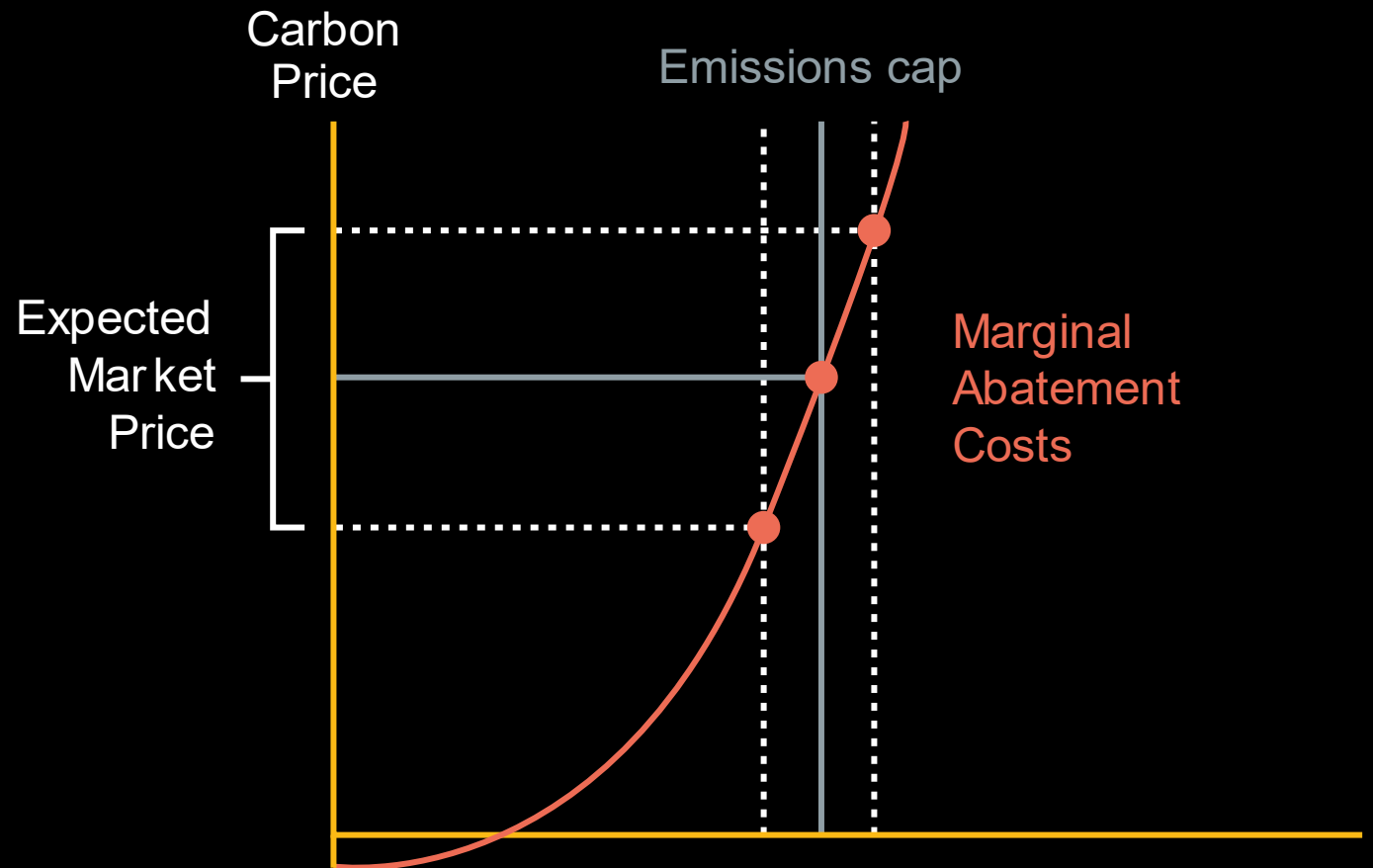


# Lessons from Denmark

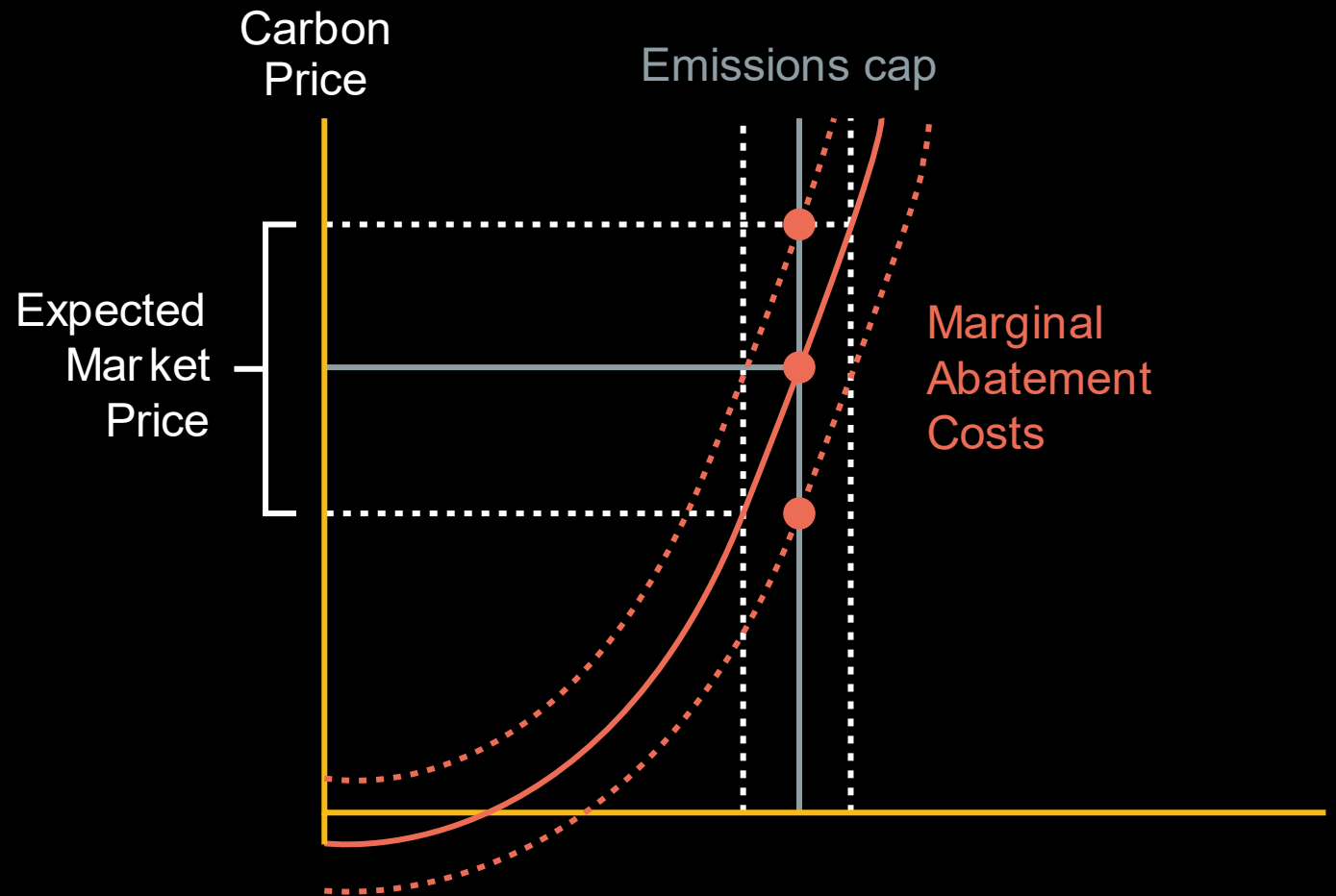


Prioritisation	1. Detailed Climate criteria in Tenders and weighted to reflect urgency
Level playing field	2. Consistency – creating a detailed evaluation system to measure on a like for like basis.
Value for money	3. Value focused approach that can consider cost, practicality and carbon
Targets	4. Metrics based approach to communicate to carbon and climate targets for each project using a national tool (LCCbyk)
Risk	5. Consider a Risk based approach to climate targets

# Valuing Carbon in Infrastructure Projects



# Valuing Carbon in Infrastructure Projects



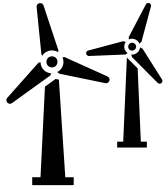


# Economic Appraisal – Business case for Carbon emission reduction



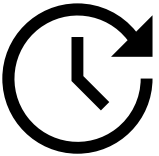
Establish a base case  
Do-nothing Scenario

Do minimum Scenario,  
current default strategy



Identify Measures that can  
Reduce Carbon emissions

Explore climate risk hot-spots and  
opportunities  
+ alternative energy technologies,  
+ lower embodied carbon materials  
+ i.e. GGBS in concrete mix



Factor longer-term variables -  
electricity, carbon and  
time **escalation costs**.

Include the time cost of finance and  
discount rate of 4%



Monetise carbon emissions  
With 10-30 year projections.

2019 projected price of carbon.  
replaced by 2024 Social Cost of  
Carbon. €100 per ton €280 per ton



**Cost benefit, net value  
presented in present tense**

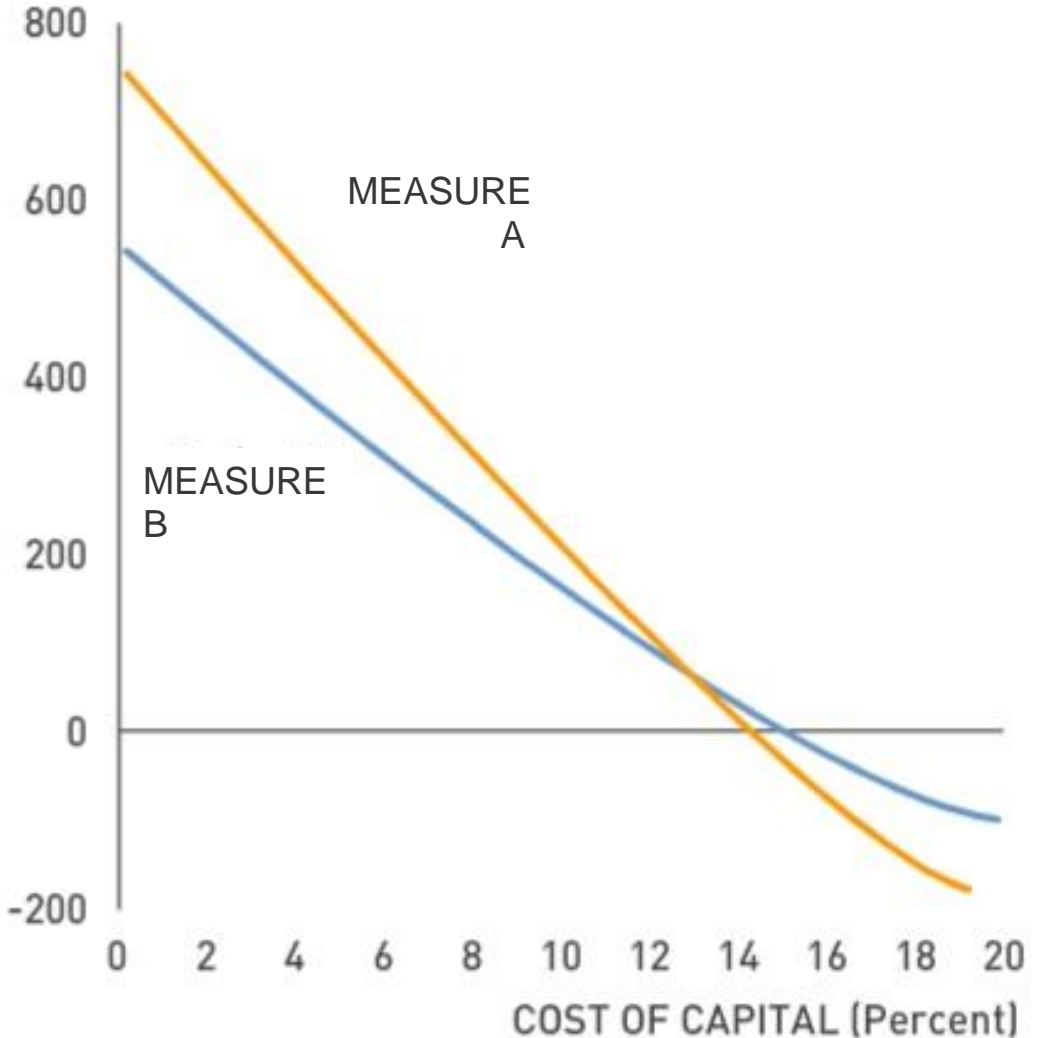
Full Lifecycle cost of a measured over  
30 years including O+M and future  
hypothetical cost of carbon established

Economic Appraisal

Business case for Carbon emission reduction

Cost benefit, net present value

Net Present Cost and benefit



## Key Takeaways

1. Align ambition & capability
2. Integrate Cost & Carbon budgets
3. Risk Assessment to manage uncertainty
4. Communicate targets to contractors
5. Track with NRM2 & ICMS3

*Archie O'Donnell – 07 September 2023*



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