

Bio-minded society for net-zero carbon construction.

Registration: <https://Biominded.eventbrite.co.uk>

Biobased and bioinspired solutions present a unique opportunity to achieve a net-zero and biodiverse built environment that improves the health and wellbeing of building users and supports local businesses and communities worldwide.

This one-day event focuses on the factors enabling a 'bio-minded society' that embraces biobased solutions in new and retrofitted buildings for a healthier, inclusive and net-zero built environment.

The event is open to all stakeholders in the industry, academics and building-users and it will involve active discussions, a co-creation workshop, talks by experts and demonstrations of the work undertaken at UWE as part of the ongoing research project titled "Smart Biobased Construction" or SmartBioC (www.smartbioc.com).

Date: 17th July 2024

Time: 9:30 am to 4pm

Location: [UWE Frenchay Campus, Room 2R001](#)

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Project Background

This community engagement and knowledge transfer project aims to enable an inclusive and participative space for discussing the factors enabling the use of biobased solutions in the built environment which can help in building a sustainable future and achieving net-zero carbon goals.

The construction industry needs to rapidly transform to achieve a 50% reduction in GHG emissions, become 50% quicker and 33% cheaper. These are key targets set by the UK Government Construction Strategy 2025 (DBIS, 2013). Conversely, the UK Green Building Council (UKGBC) 2030's sector ambition statement sets biobased solutions in all building and infrastructure as a priority for the industry (UKGBC, 2019). However, at present, biobased materials (a.k.a. biogenic) and sustainable construction and/or green building technologies face several technical, commercial, and social barriers, which hinder their rapid and cost-effective uptake in construction applications.

As such, this project studies interconnected barriers to the adoption of biobased building solutions including: 1) Stakeholders' reluctance to change; 2) Limited knowledge, information, and awareness; 3) Higher cost compared to conventional technologies; 4) Market and financial constraints; and 5) Technological risk and obstacles (as grouped by Chan et al., (2017).

Alongside surveys and engagement with participants and project partners, this event aims to:

1. Listen, discuss and record the views and experiences from a diverse group of participants;
2. Inspire participants and share knowledge;
3. Transfer SmartBioC's research findings and approach to enabling widespread use of biobased solutions;
4. Establish and promote networks for future community participation and collaboration; and
5. Generate actions/pledges for a white paper outlining the enablers for building a sustainable future and achieving net-zero carbon goals.

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Event Programme	
Time	Activity
9:30 am	Participants' arrival, registration & coffee
10:00 am	Welcome & Housekeeping
10:05 am	Project Introduction & Background: SmartBioC & Biominded
10:10 am	Designing with Nature Dr Lidia Badarnah
10:25 am	SmartBioC Research Dr Hector Archila
10:35 am	Activity 1 – SmartBioC's five Capitals
11:00 am	Talks invited Speakers (7 mins): - Three Speakers
11:30 am	Activity 2 – SmartBioC's Top Trumps
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm	Talks invited Speakers (7 mins): - Three Speakers Business/Guests Pitches (3 mins) - Three pitches
2:00 pm	Panel Discussion
3:30 pm	Closing remarks and wrap-up & networking
4:00 pm	Event finishes
	Post-event Networking and Drinks