

Built by Nature's vision is for our built environment to work in unison with nature.

Our mission is to accelerate the timber building transformation in Europe: radically reducing embodied carbon; safely storing carbon in our buildings for generations; and sequestering carbon by championing forest stewardship and regeneration.





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Cover image: The Hotel Reimar project in Girona, Spain is an example of "Optoppen": vertical extension to create additional space using lightweight timber. Architect: Jordi Tió; construction: Madergia; photo credit: @Madergia/Stora Enso.



# I. Introduction and Overview

#### **BUILT BY NATURE BOARD CHAIR**

After two years of hard work since launching Built by Nature, we remain firmly committed to our proposition of a built environment in unison with nature – a vision which is as valuable and urgent as ever. The crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and housing shortages have converged to generate headlines, yet we are still confronted with barriers to the adoption of biobased materials as a solution.

We know, however, that we are showing good progress on an important journey, and we have many reasons to remain optimistic based on the impact Built by Nature is having in priority areas.

The very first grants awarded in early 2020 are now beginning to show results. Whether through the policy traction gained by the New Model Building playbook, or the direct challenges to misperceptions presented in the Discussing Timber Myths body of research, as two examples, our grantees and networks continue to collaborate to generate, share and implement solutions.

The expansion of our geographic scope through the launch of two new national networks in 2023 enables us to attract new industry Frontrunners, address specific market challenges and leverage knowledge gained across our Pan-European networks; while the launch of the Built by Nature Prize established our intent to explore and promote biobased materials innovation on a global scale.

As we look ahead, we will continue exploring our role in supporting the supply side of the forest and biobased economy value chains, as well as how we can effectively share and amplify our collective learnings and practices through new partnerships and grant-funded opportunities. We have much to look forward to in 2024 and beyond.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to outgoing CEO Amanda Sturgeon for her efforts in launching Built by Nature, and a warm welcome to Paul King to continue with the momentum and growth trajectory we are experiencing. I will also express my deepest appreciation to our Board

members, the entire Built by Nature team, our Frontrunners, partners and donors for their time, commitment and contribution to realising our shared vision of a transformed built environment in unison with nature.

Donald Brenninkmeijer Board Chair, Built by Nature

June 2024





#### **BUILT BY NATURE CEO**

Having advocated for sustainability of the built environment for over 20 years, the role of Built by Nature CEO presented the opportunity to channel my life-long passion for nature and help drive an ambitious movement for a regenerative built environment. Joining this dynamic young organisation, at this exciting time, was a natural step for me.

The second year of Built by Nature was characterised by growth, as our network in the UK grew and strengthened, as did our Mass Madera network in Spain. We launched our network in the Netherlands and identified the Italian Green Building Council as our partner to lead a future presence in Italy. We also began scoping new opportunities in France and Germany.

Financial grant support through the Built by Nature Fund also grew, as did our number of Frontrunners – which quadrupled in one year. This influential cohort of industry leaders convenes to identify shared challenges and barriers and collaborates to explore and amplify solutions.

We witnessed this at the second Built by Nature Annual Summit, where more than 130 Frontrunners and attendees exchanged insights across national boundaries, followed by the launch of the inaugural Built by Nature Prize – a global first to identify scalable, market-ready biobased materials solutions and provide them with profile-raising and networking opportunities for growth.

2023 also saw encouraging momentum on critical policy and regulatory fronts as a result of our networks' consultation with governments and our Built by Naturefunded grant projects – examples of which we detail in this report.

However, despite some progress in the wider battle to tackle global climate change, we are not on track to decarbonise in line with our Paris commitments, especially as we forecast a doubling of the built environment footprint, and its related emissions, by 2060. Clearly, we cannot afford to continue to build in the same ways.

This is the challenge facing us, and all of us at Built by Nature wish to acknowledge our committed and engaged industry Frontrunners and our national network participants – the organisations and individuals at the forefront of a muchneeded transformation of our built environment. I am also truly grateful for the support provided to me by our Board, our founding partner Laudes Foundation, funding partner LTPP Foundation, and the talented and dedicated Built by Nature team, without whom our progress would not have been possible.

Paul King CEO, Built by Nature

# Our Theory of Change

With our mission is to accelerate the timber building transformation in Europe: radically reducing embodied carbon; safely storing carbon in our buildings for generations; and sequestering carbon by championing forest stewardship and regeneration, Built by Nature's Theory of Change is a visual description of how relevant strategies, actions, and conditions will facilitate this vital transformation and achieve desired outcomes.



#### A built environment in unison with nature

2050 2050 2030 2030 New projects use >40% less Timber and biobased materials Cities that are carbon sinks Buildings that are in balance are on a level playing field with embodied carbon compared to with planetary boundaries standard practice in 2020 concrete and steel Building There are Policies There is sector is less Knowledge Supply that remove Hub provides fragmented capacity and incentives barriers standards for single point and husiness transparent and provide best practice bio based models in incentives materials place SYSTEMIC SOLUTIONS Knowledge and Tools and Catalyst Policy Convening Building Innovation Data Projects Clarity on key barriers Coordinated action and and leverage points cross-learning Developers Impactful Funding systemic identified Investors Community Convening frontrunner Dissemination of Asset solutions into market **Amplify** Market-

Accelerating an uptake in demand for mass timber and biobased materials in construction could lead to a 20% reduction in global carbon emissions.

Accessible

knowledge and

solutions inspire

uptake in demand



Cities

Insurers

BIG 6

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

We are exceeding the planetary boundaries and facing a massive climate and biodiversity crisis.



Change in

perception

and removal of

The built environment is responsible for up to 40% percent of greenhouse gas emissions.



It is projected that by 2050 over 2/3 of the global population will live in urban areas.

focused

AMPLIFICATION

PARTNERS

Front-

runners

# II. Highlights 2023

Dutch

Network

Launch of the
Built by Nature
network in the
Netherlands

# Prize

**Built by Nature Prize** 

launch, a global campaign focused on biobased materials innovation

€1.62 million
awarded in grants from the Built
by Nature Fund, stimulating
solutions across 14 projects

in 5 countries

#### Italian Network

Foundation established for an Italian network

+000.8

followers on LinkedIn

Doubled on-line presence



Jonas Lencer, Director, dRMM Architects "Thanks to Built by Nature's commitment we have the opportunity to help define what good looks like for timber buildings, providing a scalable method for understanding the carbon and wellbeing benefits of mass timber, and how they can be maximised across national and international development."

# III. The Built by Nature Network

Our network has grown and evolved to become a force behind the timber and biobased materials movement in Europe, with Built by Nature now established at four national network levels. Our presence has had the effect of unifying a movement, creating new collaborations and bringing solutions and new bodies of technical knowledge to the forefront.

Our national networks, Frontrunners and strategic partners identify the barriers to timber and biobased materials adoption, help us set programmatic priorities, and support Built by Nature in facilitating collaborations which generate solutions.

Built by Nature has attracted and connected leaders and pioneers across the forests to buildings value chain with our local network Frontrunners identifying priority barriers, which in turn has sparked collaborations -- both

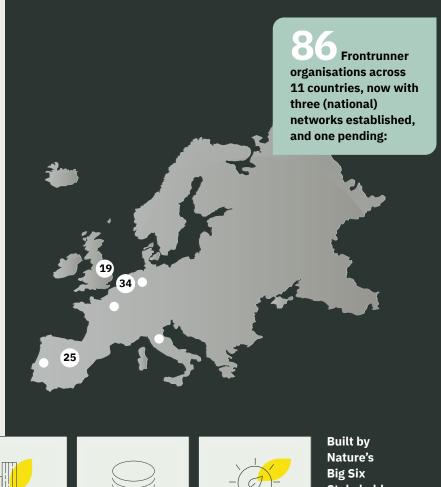
within and across our national networks. Increasingly, we are seeing Pan-European project teams forming to directly confront these barriers, which in turn stimulate solution-oriented grant applications to the Built by Nature Fund.

2023 marked a period of remarkable growth for Built by Nature – through formal establishment of a new national presence in the Netherlands (joining the UK and Spain), the identification of a partner for expansion into Italy, along with the addition with the addition of 65 new Frontrunners to our network. which totalled 86 by the end of the year.

Mass Madera, Built by Nature's Spanish network, launched in late 2022 with 25 Frontrunners, and has since secured the endorsement of the Council of Architects Associations in Spain, and the Spanish Government.

#### **EXPANDING LOCAL NETWORKS ACROSS EUROPE**

Building upon our year one understanding of establishing networks in the UK and Spain,





**Stakeholders** 



In the UK, Built by Nature is witnessing momentum on the policy and regulatory fronts: the **Built by Nature-Funded New Model Building open-source design has** received significant exposure and endorsement in 2023 as a detailed practical methodology for mass timber construction of residential buildings.

Built by Nature launched networks in the Netherlands and identified a strategic partner for expansion into Italy.

The launch of the Netherlands network secured 21 new Frontrunner organisations.

The GBC Italia was identified as the network lead partner in Italy, the first step towards future establishment of a formal Built by Nature network there.

#### **CONVENING OUR NETWORKS**

With our ability to attract and connect leaders and pioneers from our priority Big Six audiences, Built by Nature provides a platform for Frontrunners' success stories as well as amplifying new narratives to broader audiences. For us, to connect and convene is fundamental to creating the conditions for impact on an industry scale.

In 2023, Built by Nature organised two major all-network events: our Symposium in March and the Second Annual Summit in October.

The Spring highlight for our network was the March Built by Nature Symposium, held at the Building Centre in London, with a reception hosted by our Frontrunner Cromwell Property Group. In addition to a Built by Nature progress update, presentations provided overviews of our grant-funded initiatives, including projects with the Centre for Natural Materials Innovation; Elliott Wood; dRMM; Waugh Thistleton, and Dark Matter Labs.

The Second Annual Summit in Amsterdam in October convened the full range of stakeholders from across the value chain and across local networks. to review progress, discuss common barriers, and generate potential solutions.

Common barriers, stories of success and lessons learned were shared across stakeholder groups. The afternoon workshops, which attracted over 50 participants, facilitated group discussions centred around building a collective vision of a future where cities work in unison with nature, and unpacking cost as a primary challenge hindering the acceleration of timber construction.

Built by Nature's content curation and participation at different industry events, coupled with our on-line presence and our input to external media and

general increase of awareness among key audiences have allowed us to disseminate valuable insights and garner support for our mission. Through these channels we've conveyed the urgency and opportunities related to decarbonising the built environment and the role of mass timber and biobased materials in fulfilling this objective.

# UK Network Highlights

The first Built by Nature network to be officially established, our presence in the UK during 2023 was marked by the launch, and culmination, of several noteworthy Built by Nature-funded initiatives, (including the publication of the New Model Building design standard, and launch of the Optoppen vertical extension project – both detailed later in this report) content contribution and moderation of high-profile conferences and events, along with the addition of several new Frontrunners to our UK network.

#### BUILDING PROFILE, AMPLIFYING CONTENT

Premiering in January 2023 at The Building Centre in London, Built by Nature funded the "Homegrown: Building a Post-Carbon Future" Exhibition as a set piece to drive forward discussion about adoption of biobased materials, curated by Material Cultures.

Footprint+ in June of 2023 revealed a packed agenda with Built by Nature, convening the UK network around panel sessions including grant-funded projects and Frontrunners across all three days; our highlight was the Breakfast Briefing hosted by Built by Nature with White Arkitekter; Landsec, and Human Nature.

#### A STRATEGIC ALLIANCE:

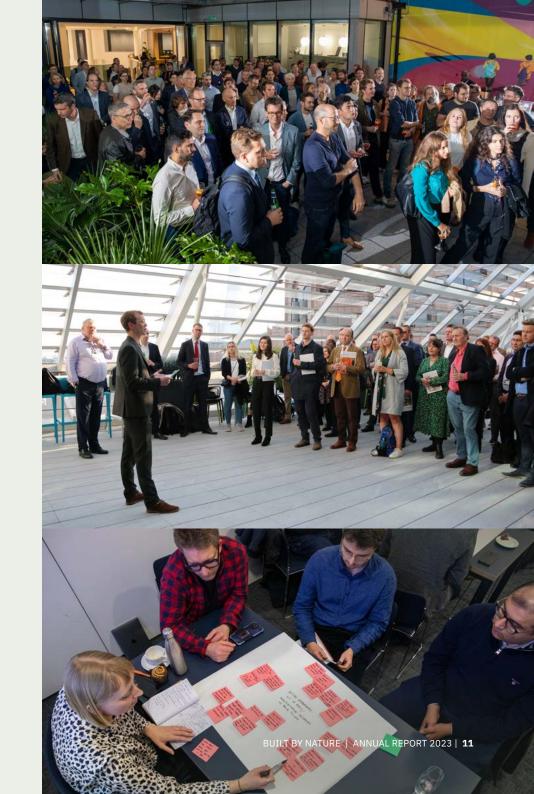
Working with developer Related Argent, Built by Nature co-organised a monthly Developers Timber Forum throughout the year. This knowledge sharing community of pioneering major developers including new and longstanding Frontrunners such as General Projects, Human Nature, Bywater Properties and Lendlease.

Developers in the forum (Hines, Muse, Derwent, Related Argent, Landsec, British Land, Lendlease, BEAM, Stanhope) generously co-funded the Commercial Timber Buildings Guidebook (Elliott Wood), which was initiated in 2023 to create industry designer, developer and insurer consensus around best practice mass timber office design.

#### **INDUSTRY CONFERENCES**

Built by Nature was invited to present at:

- Architects Journal ROCA Gallery talk
- Retrofit Reimagined hosted by WeCanMake in Bristol





- · Net Zero Investment Forum at the London Stock Exchange
- · British Council of Offices Net Zero Conference
- · Material Matters at London Design Festival

## The Netherlands Network Highlights

Over 150 attended the launch of the Built by Nature network in the Netherlands at the annual Houtbouwbeurs event in Den Bosch, during which over 30 Dutch investors, developers and architects signed on as Frontrunners. An Advisory Group of Dutch Frontrunners, with representatives of the Big Six was established, actively supporting the network and helping Built by Nature set key priorities for the Netherlands. These included supporting Dutch policy on timber and biobased materials, capacity building, and valuation of carbon storage.

#### **EVENTS COORDINATION AND CONTRIBUTION... OVER 15 EVENTS INCLUDING:**

· A roundtable: with the Dutch Green Building Council (DGBC) on promoting Construction Stored Carbon on the policy agenda; and with the Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam and C-creators on "Costs of Timber

- Construction", resulting in a new grant project on this topic in 2024.
- Co-organising a Hackathon with the Province of Zuid-Holland, the Municipality of Rotterdam, TNO and the Blue City innovation hub on timber reuse in Cross Laminated Timber (CLT). resulting in a follow-up project in the Province of Zuid-Holland and leads for pilot projects with our Frontrunners.

#### **BUILT BY NATURE'S KNOWLEDGE CONTRIBUTION ACCELERATED:**

- · Contributing to Provada with a presentation for ABN Amro and a panel discussion in collaboration with RABObank.
- · Supporting the Houtbouw XL meeting.
- · Collaborating with the DGBC and social movement Gideons Tribe on a white paper on Whole Life Carbon and CO<sub>2</sub> storage in buildings, with biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> storage now seen as a mandatory environmental performance indicator.
- · Articles on timber and biobased materials in leading trade magazines for sustainability professionals and the timber construction industry.

The Netherlands network also played a key role in contributing to and curating a range of Built by Nature Fund grant projects, including reviewing data for Life Cycle Analyses, and Monitoring the uptake of timber construction relative to goals established by the Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam.

## Spanish Network Highlights

Built by Nature's Spanish network, Mass Madera was launched in late 2022 by the Institute of Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC) with 25 Frontrunner organisations; and during 2023 secured the endorsement of the Council of Architects Associations in Spain, the European Forest Institute and the Spanish government. The number of Frontrunner organisations increased to 40.

The network held six industry roundtables addressing key barriers and opportunities affecting the industry, forestry, regulation, design, promotion and education.

The consolidation of the network has been strengthened through the development of an Annual Report on the status of mass timber construction in Spain. This report serves to identify the ecosystem, assess potential and challenges, and facilitate communication

Mass Madera will lead the Wood Round Table initiative at the Spanish Ministry of Urban Agenda and Housing to define regulations around building with timber in Spain.

and promotion efforts. Among its key findings is the projection that Spanish timber production capacity is expected to double by 2026.

The initiative has exceeded initial expectations, demonstrating success not only in the enthusiastic response from the pioneers but also in the impact of events and media coverage generated by the network.

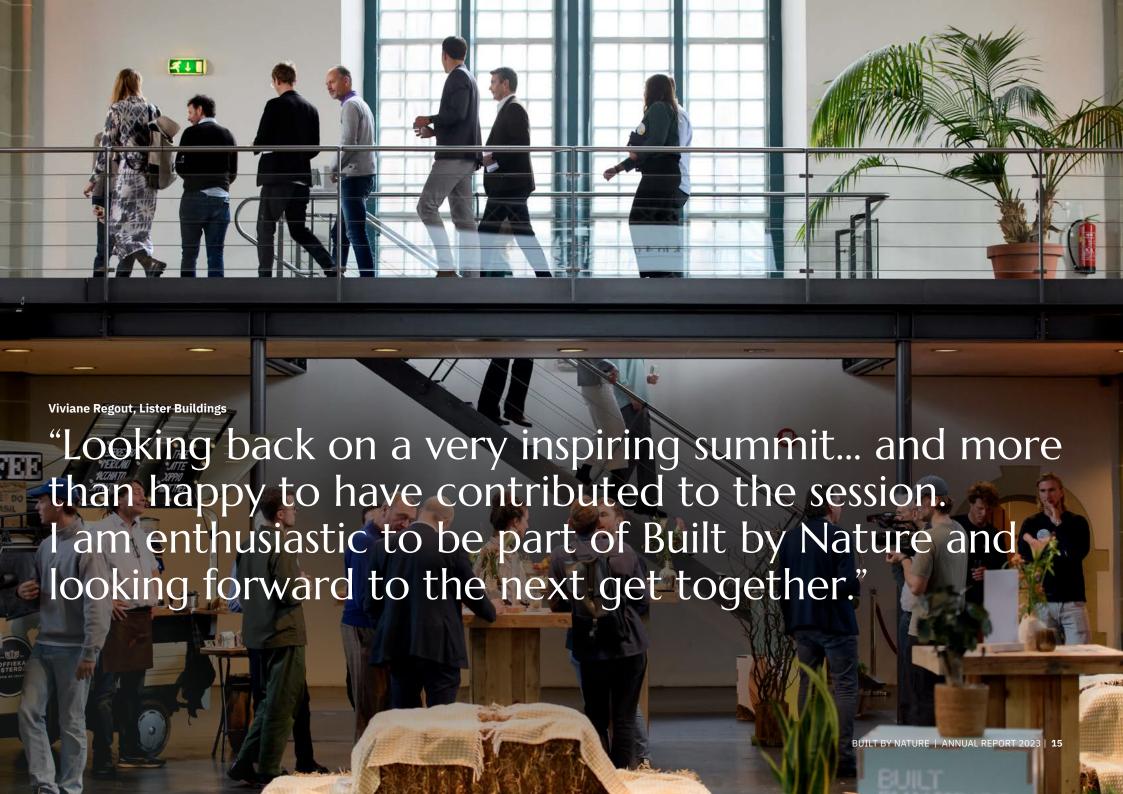
Along with keynote presentations in diverse contexts such as the European Parliament, meeting key stakeholders and collaborating in the design of pavilions and installations, Mass Madera has provided technical support to the Galician Regional Government in the development of legislation that promotes the use of timber in tenders for new public buildings.

In 2023, Mass Madera crafted a report for the Spanish Ministry of Housing and Urban Agenda exploring the possibilities and potential of applying international built environment decarbonisation policies nationally.

Timber structure library Gabriel García Marquez in Barcelona, designed by Mass Madera's Frontrunner SUMA Arquitectura was awarded the Public Library of the year award.







# IV. The Built by Nature Fund

Established to stimulate ideas and team collaboration among our networks to accelerate the timber and biobased building transformation, the Built by Nature Fund supports the innovations and scalable solutions prioritised by our Frontrunners and the field at large.

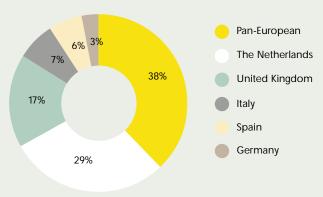
During our second year of operation, the Built by Nature Fund awarded 14 grants totaling over € 1.62 million across five countries in Europe: the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

"We're really excited to be leading this project to help overcome the insurance challenges involved with mass timber construction and unlock the many advantages of building with timber, such as low embodied carbon, sequestering (or storing) carbon, speed of construction, reduced on site noise, dust and vehicle movement."- Simon Corbey, **Director, Alliance for Sustainable Building Products on the Mass Timber Insurance Playbook** 

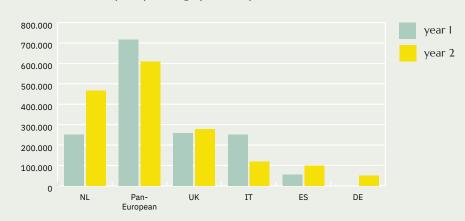
#### IN 2023:

- Built by Nature's first city-scale grant was to C-Creators to establish a monitoring system for upscaling of timber construction in the Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam, measuring progress towards the Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam (MRA) target of 20% timber usage in new residential projects by 2025.
- Initial grant funding in Italy has identified the foundational partner for expansion into Italy
- As market exploration in Germany, the first Built by Nature grant there was towards the Bauhütte 4.0 Association collaboration with DiKieHo and CHORA Berlin, convening a workshop on timber construction in Germany to inform a future Built by Nature presence. Built by Nature has also engaged Bauhaus Erde to conduct an overview and an update on the German market.
- · Built by Nature funding for Years One and Two has mostly addressed policy, technical and perceptual barriers. A list of barriers has been consolidated and is submitted annually to the Frontrunners for review and update.

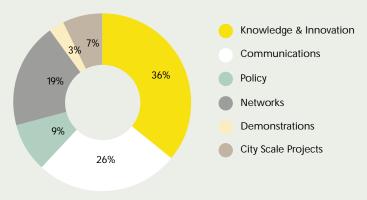
Cumulative commitments per geography 2023 (year 2)



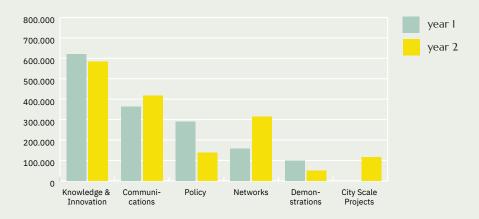
Evolution of Fund Spend per Geographical Scope



#### Cumulative spend and comitments per focus area 2023 (year 2)



#### Evolution of Fund Spend per Focus Area



2023 also saw increased collaboration among our Fund applicants, bringing together new cross-stakeholder coalitions around solutions, and working at a Pan-European level.

"Optoppen: Demonstrating the potential of timber-based vertical building extensions in European cities" A Pan-European consortium of UK, Dutch and Spanish partners developing an open-source web platform on how vertical extension of buildings using lightweight timber unlocks much-needed floor area. create new carbon stores, and extends the life of existing buildings thereby avoiding unnecessary demolition.

"Construction-stored carbon monetisation" Partner-funded with Good Energies Foundation, part of Porticus, to address cost barriers of bio-based construction materials and understand and explore the market value and potential monetisation of construction-stored carbon, with Swiss-based Timber Finance Initiative and Dutch foundation Climate Cleanup developing methodologies, processes and standards.

While Built by Nature awarded 14 grants in 2023 and 14 in 2022, the following

projects are noteworthy for their exploration, guidance, monitoring, and expansion:

"Publication of the Mass Timber Insurance Playbook" Launched across two events at Zurich Insurance headquarters in London, with funding support from Frontrunner Marsh, this document has helped alleviate the primary challenge for mass timber in the UK -- gaining insurance at an equitable rate (with Alliance for Sustainable Building Products, Philip Callow, Mass Timber Risk Consulting and Jim Glockling).

"Strategies and demonstrator for moisture management in wood construction" The Danish Technological Institute and partners are researching moisture management for timber buildings through a two-storey office and living lab demonstrator, sending the insights directly to local insurers and developers.

"Commercial Timber Buildings Guidebook" A diverse UK consortium focused on unlocking the barriers to structural timber through the development of a technical Commercial Timber Guidebook (with Elliott Wood, Waugh Thistleton Architects, OFR Consultants, Lignum Risk Partners).

"Monitoring Upscaling of Timber Construction in Amsterdam" A system to track progress towards the Metropolitan Region of Amsterdam target of 20% timber usage in new residential by 2025. C-Creators is working with partners from both public and private sectors, and academic institutions.

"Creation of a Built by Nature
Italian network" Marking the next
phase of expansion in Europe, this
is a funding grant to the Green
Building Council Italia towards the
development of a demand-side mass
timber network in Italy, branded
TimberForward Italia.

## A MULTIFACETED INITIATIVE: "Improved transparency along biobased construction value chains"

The "From Forest to Frame" Challenge was launched in November of 2022 to increase the transparency around the climate impacts of decisions made along the bio-based construction value chain. Three grantee projects were announced in 2023:

 Research and education consultancy Evolving Forest are producing a series of curated films and media content to enhance

- understanding of different stakeholders' roles within the timber value-chain.
- The Alliance of Sustainable
   Building Products leads
   "Innovative Mapping and
   Processes to Advance Construction Timber Transparency" to
   increase traceability and, and
   research biodiversity impacts,
   across mass timber supply chains.
- W/E consultants' "ToP DATA: from Tree to Panel" proposes new and accurate calculation methods for Product Environmental Footprints (PEFs) and Life Cycle Analyses (LCAs) for better carbon accountability within the European cross-laminated timber value chain.

Certain encouraging signs relating to the Fund emerged during 2023, which Built by Nature will explore further and use to inform programming:

- We are encouraged that grant requests have increased and are exceeding fund capacity.
- We are also reaching new markets and stakeholder groups. 11 out of 14 grants in year two were with new grantees.
- Fund priorities are now set according to local networks' strategic needs – for greater relevance and impact.





# Grant Impacts and Outcomes

After one-and-a-half years of Built by Nature funding, we are beginning to see the outputs and early impacts with new knowledge and guidance being created and through the growth of our network. Since launching, the Built by Nature Fund has supported:

- · Geographic expansion: The scoping and launch of our networks in Spain, the Netherlands and next, Italy - made possible by network grant funding, designed to better align with specific local requirements
- · Creation and dissemination of new knowledge and guidance on mass timber usage in commercial projects, such as the New Model Building; Mass Timber Insurance Playbook; Commercial Timber Buildings Guidebook; Impact scan for timber construction in Europe.
- · Research to identify and confront misperception and build awareness of biobased benefits: studies into water and moisture, fire, insurance, occupant wellbeing.

We also see movement on policy fronts related to Built by Nature funding of targeted regulatory and policy initiatives, working alongside national networks activity, as outlined in the following section.

### Regulatory and Policy Momentum

Built by Nature, our Frontrunners and allies have recognised from the outset that a key barrier to the adoption of timber and biobased materials has been resistance, lack of clarity and uncertainty across national and local policy and regulatory levels. We are seeing progress, however, as the policy momentum around the use of sustainable timber and other biobased materials to decarbonise the built environment and protect forests is growing. Built by Nature is encouraged that our national network presence and activity in 2023 have registered in the policy and regulatory realm:

- Built by Nature is represented on the UK Government's Timber in Construction Policy Working Group.
   In 2023, the Timber in Construction Roadmap was published during COP 28, with Built by Nature's UK network Lead playing an active part in the development of the Roadmap.
- As a result of Mass Madera's political advocacy, the network will lead the Wood Round Table initiative at the Spanish Ministry of Urban Agenda and Housing to define regulations around building with timber in Spain. Mass Madera has played a significant role

in the development of the regional directive of Galicia, which requires 20% of new public buildings to be built with timber. In 2023, Mass Madera crafted a report for the Spanish Ministry of Housing and Urban Agenda exploring the possibilities and potential of applying international built environment decarbonisation policies nationally.

We also see signs of progress on multiple policy fronts related to Built by Nature's funding of targeted regulatory initiatives:

- · The UK launch of the Built by Nature-Funded New Model Building (NMB) from Frontrunners Waugh Thistleton has resulted in positive policy signals in London – the Greater London Authority have been collaborating with Built by Nature and Waugh Thistleton on how the New Model Building could be adopted by Local Authorities across the capital. Waugh Thistleton Architects have also received a "Letter of Comfort" from the national warranty provider National House Building Council (NHBC). Additionally, the NMB has been shared with our networks in Spain and Italy, and even presented to the Government of Bhutan who are exploring a new regenerative timberbased building economy.
- Built by Nature Frontrunner ECOS received funding to deploy their technical advocacy towards standards, policies, and the EU climate finance





sphere with the goal to strengthen their timber evaluations: European Green Finance Taxonomy, standards on forestry, the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and the Construction Products Regulation. ECOS has undertaken regular interaction with the DG CLIMA, key EU parliamentary commissions, and has been assigned as one of the few NGOs on the EU Expert Group on Carbon Removals.

Built by Nature has also witnessed policy commitments emerging across a range of countries along with other notable policy developments announced at COP 28 in Dubai:

· UNEP/GlobalABC launched the Buildings Breakthrough for nearzero and resilient buildings by 2030, supported by 28 country governments and the European Commission, and Built by Nature became one of the official supporting initiatives that will contribute to its implementation over the coming months and years. The Buildings Breakthrough emphasises the importance of tackling whole life carbon, creating greater opportunities for the take-up of low-carbon wood and biobased materials.

At COP 28 UAE, The Forest & **Climate Leaders Partnership** (FCLP), in close liaison with the **Global Alliance for Buildings** and Construction (Global ABC), issued the following statement: "Recognising that wood from sustainably managed forests provides climate solutions within the construction sector, we commit to, by 2030, advancing policies and approaches that support low carbon construction and increase the use of wood from sustainably managed forests in the built environment. Such policies and approaches will result in reduced GHG emissions. and an increase in stored carbon." This was endorsed by a coaltion of 17 countries: Commonwealth of Australia. Canada, Republic of Congo, Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of Fiji, Republic of Finland, Republic of France, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Ghana, Japan, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kingdom of Norway, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Kingdom of Sweden, **United Kingdom of Great Britain** and Northern Ireland, United States of America.



# V. The Built by Nature Prize

November 2023 saw the launch of our inaugural Built by Nature Prize -- the world's first awards programme focused on biobased construction materials. This global prize totalling €500,000, was designed to identify and recognise innovation and support the scaling in use of biobased materials such as timber, bamboo, hemp, straw, algae, and fungi in construction.

Supported by Laudes Foundation and LTPP Foundation, the Built by Nature Prize was created to identify and attract biobased construction material manufacturers and their market-ready innovations from all regions and help those producers overcome barriers to mainstream market entry.

To reflect the global scope of the Prize, the judging panel is comprised of leading experts from the built environment, architecture, finance, social value, and biomaterials from around the world. Dr Yasmeen Lari, Pakistan's first female architect and renowned for her leadership at the intersection of architecture and social justice, is serving as Honorary Advisor to the Built by Nature Prize.

To raise awareness of the Prize, and elicit interest and submissions, Built by Nature deployed a global online and traditional earned media campaign, generating over 70,000 media impressions and securing targeted coverage across 55 countries in our priority regions of Europe, Africa, Asia, North and South America.

Perhaps as importantly, this Prize is enabling Built by Nature to connect with thought leaders and market innovators across our biobased economy value chains. Prize winners will be announced in June 2024.



HONORY ADVISOR DR YASMEEN LARI

LIZ OGBU



ARIEL SHTARKMAN



STIG HESSELLUNG

#### THE PRIZE JURY

- ANA BELIZARIO IS HEAD OF BUSINESS
   DEVELOPMENT AT BRAZILIAN MASS TIMBER
   PRODUCER URBEM.
- ARIEF RABIK CHAIR AND FOUNDER OF BAMBOO VILLAGE TRUST, AND FOUNDER AND CEO OF PT INDOBAMBOO LESTARI IN INDONESIA.
- ARIEL SHTARKMAN MANAGING PARTNER
   OF UNDIVIDED VENTURES, CO-FOUNDER
   AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ATOM
   ASSETS
- LIZ OGBU, DESIGNER AND FOUNDER OF THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY INNOVATION STUDIO STUDIO O. AND LECTURER AT UC BERKELEY.
- MAE-LING LOKKO, FROM GHANA AND THE PHILIPPINES, IS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT YALE UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, SPECIALISING IN AGROWASTE AND BIOBASED MATERIALS.
- STIG HESSELLUND ARCHITECT AND PROJECT MANAGER WITH REALDANIA, WITH A PRIMARY FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.





1AE-LING LOKKO

# VI. Looking Forward: 2024 and Beyond

"Alongside the decarbonisation of concrete and steel, we need to mainstream the use of timber and biobased materials -- natural, renewable materials that absorb carbon as they grow, and can store carbon in buildings for many years - if they did not exist, we would have to invent them.

- Paul King, CEO Built by Nature

Our immediate priorities remain to grow and strengthen Built by Nature by attracting more Frontrunners to our national networks and enhance our engagement within these networks by sharing knowledge and stimulating cooperation and creating opportunities for the sharing of ideas and solutions across national boundaries.

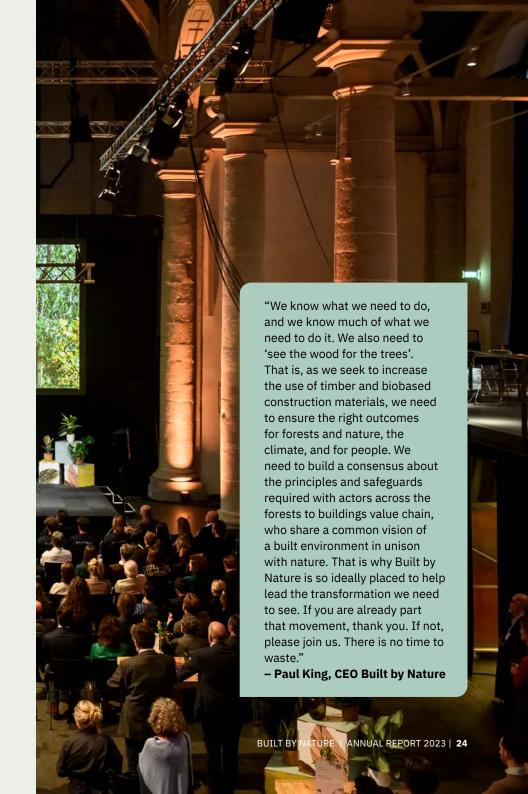
Our Built by Nature Fund is well-positioned to support this – it provides an established, credible vehicle for the creation of partnerships and consortia to address challenges and present possibilities. We look forward to providing continued funding of €1.8 million in 2024 to the teams

and solutions that can accelerate transformation of a sector.

Through our network grant processes, we'll explore new markets and evaluate the viability of network growth in Germany and France – while nurturing the launch of our Italian network. We'll continue to leverage our new key learnings about the success of targeted network grants, creating a template for network development.

Exploration of new materials will mark a key milestone for 2024, as we look forward to the Built by Nature Prize announcements in June 2024 – the first round of winners who have demonstrated innovation and commercialisation potential of their innovative biobased materials solutions. This is Built by Nature's first exploration of the potential of biobased construction materials on a global basis.

We look forward to hosting our networks, partners and allies at our Third Annual Summit on 7th November 2024 in Amsterdam.



# VII. Supporters and Partners

Built by Nature is deeply grateful for the commitment, knowledge and action of our Strategic Partners, Frontrunners, and the support of our Founding Partner Laudes Foundation and our Funding Partner LTPP Foundation.

#### **PARTNERS**

- Bauhaus der Erde
- Cities4Forests
- CSFEP
- EIT Climate-KIC
- Climate Neutral Cities Alliance
- Centre for Natural Material Innovation

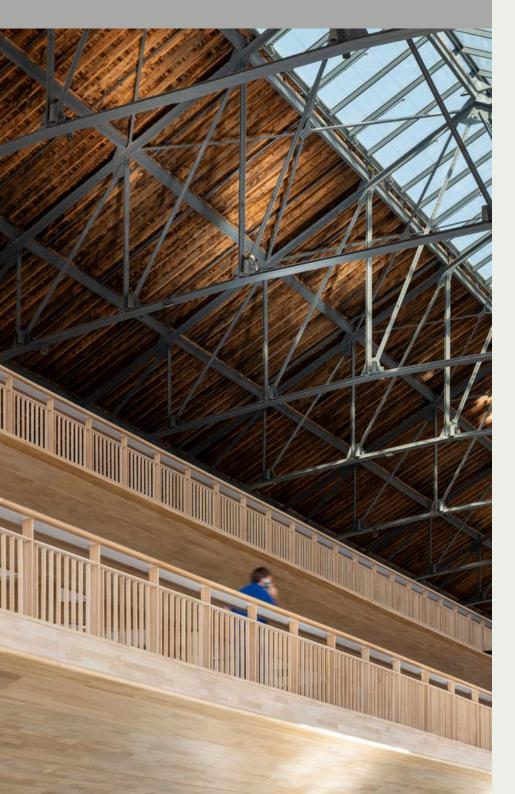
#### **FRONTRUNNERS**

- 011h
- · ACCIONA CONSTRUCCION
- ACCIONA IMMOBILIARIA
- · Achmea Real Estate
- Achterbosch
- AJUNTAMENT BARCELONA
- Alliantie
- Architype
- AREA METROPOLITANA BARCELONA
- · Arthur J. Gallagher
- Arup
- ASN Bank
- Automated Architecture (AUAR)

- Ballast Nedam Development
- BAUMAD
- Bennetts Associates
- BLOC BV
- BLOG MADERA Y CONSTRUCCION
- BoKlok
- Boom Builds
- · Buro Happold
- · Bywater Properties
- · Circle Wood
- CREE Buildings
- Cromwell Property Group
- CSCAE
- Dasos Capital
- de Nijs
- dRMM Studios
- FCO+BOUW
- FGOIN
- Fkowood
- Elliott Wood
- · Ergodomus Timber Engineering
- · Finch Buildings
- Gardiner & Theobald
- · General Projects
- Guallart Architects
- Human Nature
- · Kiss House
- Lendlease
- Lingotto

- Lister Buildings
- Maatworks
- MADERGIA
- Marsh
- Meerhout (Waal)
- MEI architecten
- Miguel Nevado
- MITMA
- Narrativa
- NASUVINSA
- Natrufied
- NEMETOMA
- Nice Developers
- ORGA architects
- Oslotre
- Paul de Ruiter
- Ramboll
- Redevco
- Respace
- Rhomberg
- SATT ARQUITECTURA
- SeARCH
- Sfääri
- SORIOUE IMMOBLIARIA
- Startblock
- SUMA ARQUITECTURA
- Sustainer
- Synchroon
- Team V

- TERRA GREEN LIVING
- Timber Finance Inititative (TFI)
- TOCA MADERA
- Treetek
- Urban Climate Architects
- URBAN FOREST INNOVATION LAB
- URBANITREE
- Velima system
- Venhoeven CS
- Waugh Thistleton Architects (WTA)
- · Whitby Wood
- White Arkitekter
- WOODEA
- · Woody Building Concepts
- ZUBI CITIES



# VIII. Governance

#### **LEGAL STRUCTURE**

Built by Nature is incorporated in the Netherlands as a foundation with ANBI status (non-profit), seated in Amsterdam with Kvk registration number 83326901 and its administration office at Singel 542. of its objects and the delivery of its activities. Employees will be employed under written contract of employment specifying their terms and conditions, work period, location, pay and eligible benefits.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Donald Brenninkmeijer, Chair
- · Leslie Johnston. Vice Chair
- Bob van der Zande (replacing Katy Hartley as Secretary, who served until March 2023)
- Amol Mehra, Treasurer
- Pablo van der Lugt, Board Member

#### **BOARD EXPENSES**

The Board Members will not receive any remuneration for the performance of their board-related duties. They will however be entitled to reimbursement of reasonable costs made by them in the performance of their duties and nonexcessive attendance fees according to the guidelines established by the foundation. The foundation will employ salaried employees for the pursuit

#### **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

- Amanda Sturgeon, replaced by Paul King, CEO (September 2023)
- Tamara Streefland, Head of networks
- Karianne Kraaiiestein. **Head of Communications**
- Jeroen Beek, Head of Operations In 2023, Built by Nature increased its staff headcount from eight to 13.

Built by Nature purchased 39 tonnes of Gold Standard accredited Verified Emission Reductions (VERs) to offset our travel-related emissions for 2023. These credits were generated by the Betulia Energy and Biodiversity Restoration Project in Honduras, which saw 11,000 trees planted around a run-of-river small hydro generation plant as a contribution to the local community and to support local biodiversity.



# IX. Financial Statements

#### **BENEFITS**

BENEFITS	2023	<b>Budget 2023</b>	2022	
	€	€	€	
Benefits				
Total sum of benefits	1.003.100	996.000	10.340.052	
Expenses				
Salaries	1.171.601	1.520.548	556.728	
Depreciation costs of other fixed operating assets	2.005	-	349	
Staff travel	97.730	145.100	54.553	
Networks	28.907	68.300	52.470	
Board costs	605	11.000	1.666	
Office costs	82.334	111.000	44.012	
Finance cost	56.243	49.000	35.968	
Communications	150.706	144.700	74.164	
IT	24.364	29.500	7.376	
Prize	170.907	-	-	
Total of sum of expenses	1.785.402	2.079.148	827.286	
	-782.302	-1.083.148	9.512.766	
Awarded Grants Acceleration Fund	-1.621.853	-2.000.000	-1.529.725	
Total of net result	-2.404.155	-3.083.148	7.983.041	

Appropriation of result	2023	2022	
	€	€	
Accelerator Fund	-1.291.853	3.527.275	
Operational Fund	-1.101.395	3.295.766	
Prize Fund	-10.907	1.160.000	
	-2.404.155	7.983.041	

#### **ASSETS**

ASSETS	2023		2022	
	€		€	
Fixed Assets				
Other tangible fixed assets	9.495		8.766	
			0	
Current assets				
Receivables	977.176		5.354.136	
Cash and cash equivalents	5.398.273		3.477.355	
	6.384.944		8.840.257	
Equity and liabilities				
Designated funds	5.578.886		7.983.041	
Current liabilities, accruals and deferred income	806.058		857.216	
	6.384.944		8.840.257	

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