



Australian Government
Australian Research Council



**ADVANCE
TIMBERHUB**

IH220100016 - ARC Industrial Transformation
Research Hub to Advance Timber for
Australia's Future Built Environment

CAPABILITY STATEMENT

31 October 2023 to 30 October 2028

Administered
by



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND**
AUSTRALIA

COALITION ON GREENING CONSTRUCTION WITH SUSTAINABLE WOOD

At the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 28), held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in Nov/Dec 2023 the Forest and Climate Leaders Partnership Coalition on Greening Construction with Sustainable Wood announced that the Australian Government, with 16 other countries committed to increase the use of timber in the built environment by 2030. The signatory countries endorsed 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 greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions, and an increase in stored carbon.

The declaration was signed by: **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.

“This is an important strategic direction for the ARC Advance Timber Hub. The Hub is committed to the future development of sustainable timber buildings and the emerging opportunities and innovations that are needed in manufacture, supply, design and construction. The Hub’s large research team from 13 Australian Universities and 7 International Universities / Research Institutes, in collaboration with our 32 industry partners, can provide expert assistance in making an increased use of sustainable timber in the built environment a reality.”



Professor Keith Crews, Director of the ARC Research Hub to Advance Timber for Australia’s Future Built Environment (ARC Advance Timber Hub).

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Overview

The ARC Research Hub to Advance Timber for Australia's Future Built Environment (ARC Advance Timber Hub) aims to develop the resources, enablers, and drivers to advance sustainable timber, as a natural resource, to be the material of choice, leading towards a net zero future for Australia's built environment. It intends to support the transformation of Australia's timber and construction sectors by:

- stimulating growth in innovation,
- increasing the uptake of sustainable timber products used in buildings, and
- establishing a roadmap for change.

The expected outcomes will kickstart the change process, supported by growth in advanced manufacturing across the value chain. This should provide significant benefits in stimulating an opportunity for regional development and resource diversification whilst helping Australia's timber and construction sectors transition to a circular and net-zero economy.

The ARC Advance Timber Hub is administered by The University of Queensland's School of Civil Engineering and is funded by our partners, with major funding support from the Australian Government through the Australian Research Council.

INDUSTRY PARTNERS



GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES



INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES & RESEARCH INSTITUTES



About the ARC Advance Timber Hub

AIM

The ARC Advance Timber Hub aims to stimulate rapid growth of timber innovation in the ~\$80b per year mid-rise building market¹, which could transform Australia's timber processing sector, construction sector, the experience of building occupants, and even the life of the buildings themselves. Large-scale advanced manufacture of innovative engineered wood products (EWP) and innovative use of light-weight timber framing solutions provides an opportunity for the Australian timber industry to shift production up the value chain, whilst simultaneously being a critical driver for the building construction sector in Australia to significantly reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and to be on the path to net zero by 2050^{2 3}.

The Hub brings together national expertise across the breadth of advanced manufacturing opportunity that EWP innovation makes possible. It will build on successful collaborations that have stimulated new investment in advanced manufacturing efficiency gains⁴, and demonstrated substantial opportunity for greater forestry resource utilisation through value chain optimisation⁵. The scope of research will address the full spectrum of engineering and architectural objectives in decision making along the value chain. It will also tackle a billion-dollar opportunity in construction cost savings if the uptake of prefabrication methods grows to international best practice^{6 7}, integrating advanced prefabrication research capability and leading skills in robots (automotive) for site installation of prefabricated components.

BACKGROUND

The completed (2016 to 2021) *ARC Research Hub for Advanced Solutions to Transform Tall Timber Buildings (ARC Future Timber Hub)* demonstrated the viability of substituting EWP for steel and concrete in mid-rise buildings to drive down construction costs, improve occupant satisfaction and deliver healthy, low-carbon buildings. Extensive stakeholder engagement indicated that a technical research agenda to **motivate manufacturing investment** will not be sufficient to realise the opportunity on offer. It will be just as important to **motivate demand for EWP** in mid-rise buildings, which requires research to demonstrate the benefits to building clients *and* motivate broader social demand for greater use of timber. The latter

¹ <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/industry/building-and-construction/building-activity-australia/mar-2021>

² *Australia's emissions projections 2020* – Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, Australian Government

³ *White Paper: How timber construction supports the economy and contributes to Net Zero by 2050*;

<https://timefortimber.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/05/Time-for-Timber-insurance-industry-white-paper-FINAL.pdf>

⁴ *“Impact of continuous drying on key production and performance criteria of engineered wood structural elements”*

<https://www.hyne.com.au/article/264/hyne-s-continuous-drying-kiln-officially-operating>

⁵ *“The potential for underutilised timber for the built environment”* Mills, H; Baber, K and Gattas, J; *Proceedings Pacific Timber Engineering Conference 2019, Brisbane Australia*

⁶ *AMGC (2020) Prefab Innovation Hub: Feasibility Study*. Australian Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)

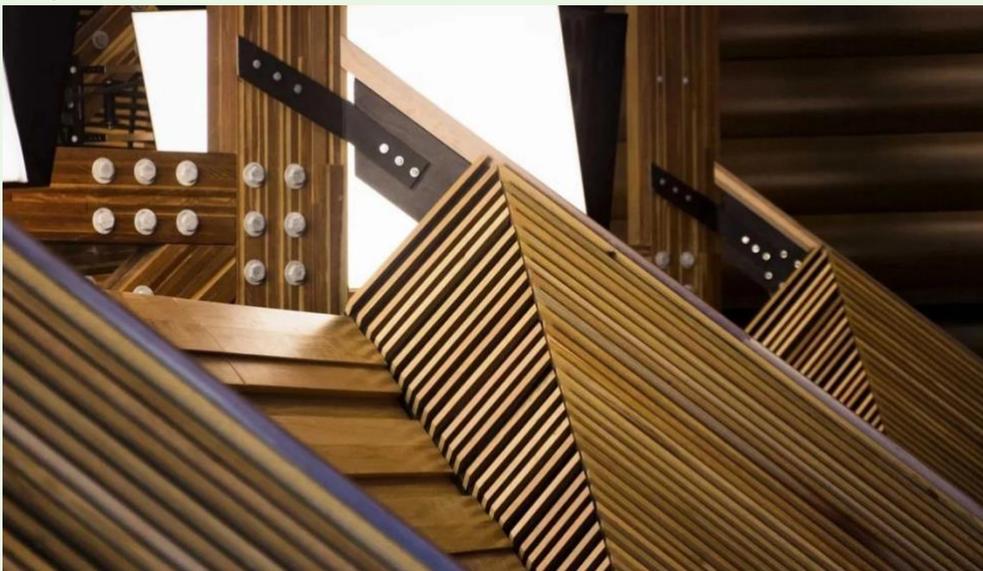
⁷ <https://www.storaenso.com/en/products/wood-products/massive-wood-construction/clt>

is considered necessary to expedite the complex package of policy changes required across the supply chain, from forestry to building design, construction and maintenance.

The ARC Advance Timber Hub will integrate much broader disciplines (engineering and architecture; environmental, behavioural, business and economic sciences) with expertise across the full value chain to overcome systemic constraints to change in the conservative timber and construction sectors. The Hub aims to **motivate (and support) change** through proactive, deep engagement that expedites learning across the spectrum of stakeholders involved.

Our Aim

The ARC Research Hub to Advance Timber for Australia's Future Built Environment (ARC Advance Timber Hub) aims to enable an advanced manufacturing transformation of Australia's timber and construction industries, developing a roadmap to change that unlocks substantial industry and social value.



In order to achieve this aim the Hub leadership have brought together a diverse, cross and multi-disciplinary team of over 140 professionals representing: structural engineering, architecture, building contractors, production and advanced manufacturing of timber based building components and systems, wood and material science, environmental science with specific expertise covering the forestry / timber production sectors and carbon sequestration, psychology, business and policy, economics, socio-economic assessment and macroeconomic modeling.

Our Vision

The ARC Advance Timber Hub’s vision is to transform Australia’s timber and construction sectors by stimulating rapid growth in timber innovation and uptake of use of sustainably produced timber and timber products in buildings.

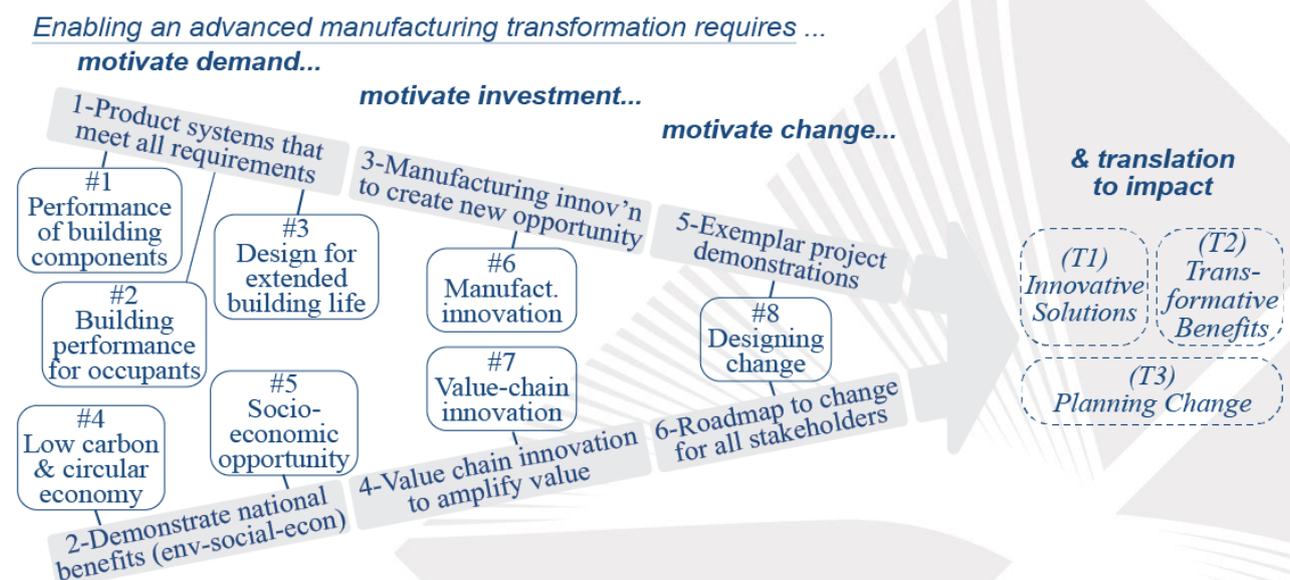
Our Mission & Purpose

The Advance Timber Hub exists to enable an advanced manufacturing transformation of Australia’s timber and construction industries through creation of innovative solutions, and developing a roadmap to change, that unlocks substantial value and transformative benefits for industry, society and the environment.

Our Research Plan

We will achieve this through our Research Plan, which is informed by stakeholder engagement recommendations, aligning with the need to motivate demand, motivate investment and motivate change. There are eight nodes each with a unifying purpose and coordinated set of methodologies. To implement the research impact of each Node, the research plan will focus the agenda using three themes – *Innovative Solutions*, *Transformative Benefits* and *Planning Change*.

HUB RESEARCH STRUCTURE

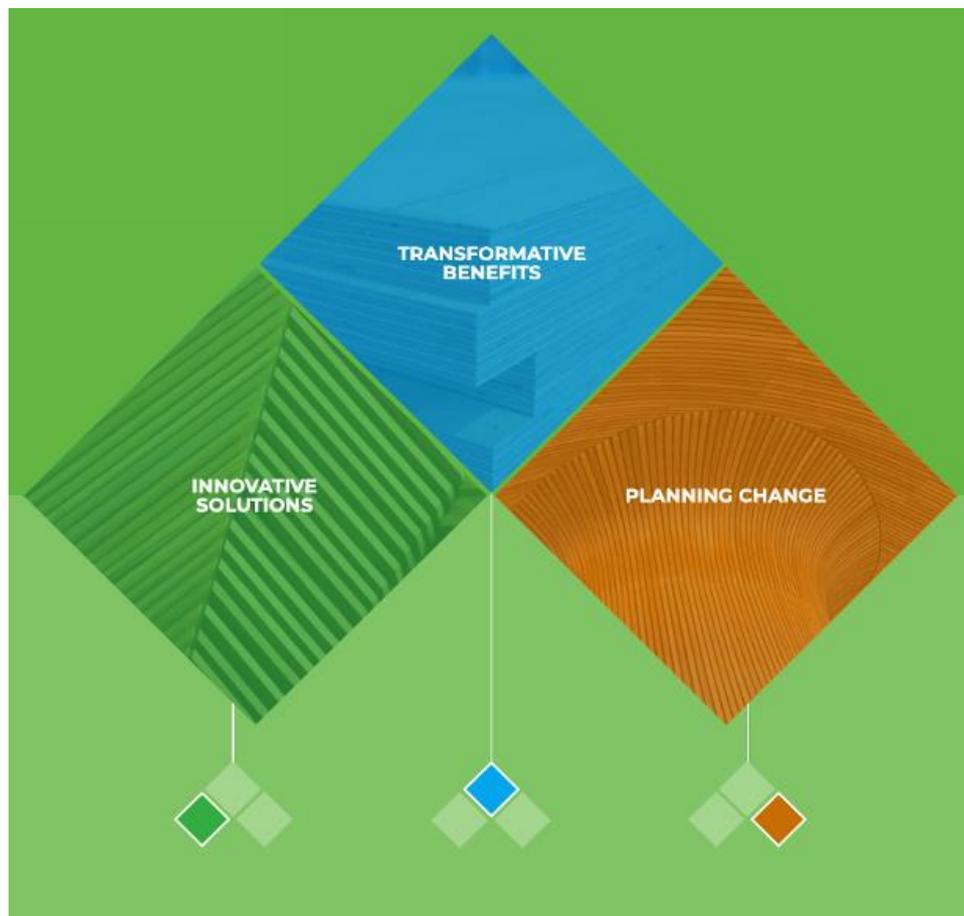


RESEARCH THEMES

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS for timber products to decrease cost and increase the value of mid-rise buildings. Their potential to support major growth of new advanced manufacturing opportunities will be demonstrated, providing existing businesses and new investors with greater knowledge on combinations of products, manufacturing processes and value-chain configurations that will best serve the needs of building sector clients.

TRANSFORMATIVE BENEFITS of a large-scale shift to the use of innovative timber solutions in the built environment. The potential for this to deliver economic, social, and environmental benefits will be demonstrated, for the timber and construction sectors, and for Australia's regions and economy as a whole.

PLANNING CHANGE in the timber and construction sectors and their surrounding policy environment. Engagement with the broad spectrum of industry and policy stakeholders will go well beyond conventional research outreach. Instead, the engagement will be integral to designing and delivering research over the Hub lifespan, co-producing a roadmap to change through the stakeholder partnership.



RESEARCH NODES

Research Projects are listed on the ARC Advance Timber Hub website under each Research Node.

1. Performance of Building Components



The overarching aim of Node 1 is to develop proven product systems that meet the Hub objective of engineering performance of building components. It comprises of six projects to pursue optimum solutions for vibration performance of long-span timber floors, connection systems for extended building life, load bearing wood composites, fire safety of open plan timber compartments, moisture monitoring, assessment and management, and wetting regimes on moisture uptake and connector performance. Skilful and knowledgeable teams of researchers and industry partners, with combined expertise in timber-related structural engineering, fire engineering, materials science and durability analysis, will deliver high-quality project outcomes.

Node Leader: [Professor Hong Guan](#) – Griffith University

Projects:

1. [Innovative Long-Span Timber and Wood-Based Hybrid Floors for Vibration Performance and Acoustic Compliance](#)
Project Leader: Associate Professor Hassan Karampour - Griffith University
2. [Connection Systems for Extended Building Life](#)
Project Leader: Dr Liam Ottenhaus – The University of Queensland
3. [New Hybrid Load Bearing System as an Incremental Step Towards the Adoption of Timber in Buildings](#)
Project Leader: Associate Professor Benoit Gilbert - Griffith University
4. [Fire Safety Design of Open Plan Timber Compartments](#)
Project Leader: Associate Professor David Lange – The University of Queensland
5. [Development of Moisture Monitoring, Assessment and Management Systems for the Australian Mass Timber Construction Industry](#)
Project Leader: Dr Maryam Shirmohammadi – Queensland Department of Primary Industries
6. [Role of Moisture in the Long-Term Performance of Mass Timber Building Elements](#)
Project Leader: Professor Tripti Singh – The University of the Sunshine Coast

2. Building Performance for Occupants



Node 2 recognises that for timber buildings to be truly sustainable, they need to provide safe, durable, and comfortable environments. With a focus on hygrothermal, bio-hygrothermal, biophilia and acoustics, research activities will intrinsically explore and analyse how we design and make safe, healthy and comfortable environments. The Hygrothermal and bio-hygrothermal research explores how heat and moisture move through the building envelope with the aim of eliminating moisture and risks of human health affecting interstitial and surface mould growth. The biophilia research will explore the psychological benefits that are experienced and expressed by occupants of timber buildings, whilst the acoustics research will explore methods to improve the acoustic resonance of large span timber floor systems. The node leverages the interdisciplinary background of researchers and industry partners in architectural design, human health and behavioural Sciences, and structural engineering.

Node Leader: [Dr Mark Dewsbury](#) – University of Tasmania

Projects:

1. [The Bio-Hygrothermal Performance of Mid-Rise Non-Residential Timber Framed Façade Systems](#)
Project Leader: Dr Mark Dewsbury – University of Tasmania
2. [Design for Positive Occupant Outcomes in Timber-Rich Environments](#)
Project Leader: Dr Georgia Lindsay – University of Tasmania
3. [Influence of CLT Manufacturing Variables on Vibration and Acoustic Performance](#)
Project Leader: Dr Chandan Kumar / Adam Faircloth – Queensland Department of Primary Industries

3. Design for Extended Building Life



Node 3 strives to keep timber buildings and their components in use for longer by developing mid-rise buildings that can be spatially reconfigured, adapted, and deconstructed in a circular economy framework. The node encompasses three research projects focusing on spatial circular design for disassembly and reuse, reversible connections, and modular envelope systems for extended life of new and existing buildings. The node leverages the interdisciplinary background of researchers and industry partners in architectural design, building hygrothermal performance, life cycle analysis (LCA) and structural engineering.

Node Leaders: [Dr Paola Leardini](#) and [Dr Liam Ottenhaus](#) - The University of Queensland

Projects:

1. [Circular \[Re\]Design to Enable Disassembly and Reuse of Mid-Rise Timber Buildings](#)

Project Leader: Associate Professor Paola Leardini – The University of Queensland

2. [Connection Systems for Extended Building Life – Design Principles](#)

Project Leader: Dr Liam Ottenhaus - The University of Queensland

4. Towards A Low-Carbon & Circular Economy



Node 4 examines how the forest-to-built environment value chain can be better integrated with initiatives such as carbon offsets, climate-risk and nature-risk mitigation activities, or nature-based solutions initiatives. The nodes projects propose to (1) review the current state of standards and methods to estimate embodied carbon across the forest-to-built environment value chain, (2) develop a ‘integrated’ model that can be used to estimate the embodied carbon of materials in various types of buildings and use that to derive case study estimates of optimizing timber use, and (3) assess and develop methods that can be used to estimate ‘dynamic environmental impact measures’ across the forest-timber-built environment. Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics component in this Node is supported by Dr Tyron Venn – Senior Lecturer in Agriculture Resource Economics from The University of Queensland.

Node Leader: [Professor Paul Dargusch](#) – Monash University

Projects:

1. [New ‘Green’ Methods to Support Forest and Wood Products Advocacy in the Built Environment](#)

Project Leaders: Prof Paul Dargusch – Monash University & Assoc Prof Joe Gattas – The University of Queensland

2. [The Development of Strategies to have the Carbon Savings and Broader Environmental Benefits of Growing Forests and Using Timber in the Built Environment Appropriately Recognised](#)

Project Leaders: Professor Paul Dargusch – Monash University & Professor Robert Crawford – University of Melbourne

5. Socio-Economic Opportunity



The overriding objective of Node 5 is to deliver all node areas and hub participants with economic modelling services that support the aim of the hub. The node encompasses three research projects focusing on the audit of the industry of current state and potential future of the industry, market opportunity studies in the engineered wood products (EWP) industry, and integration of economic modelling tools to more accurately value sustainable future industries and support decision making through superior and world leading scenario modelling. These projects will develop enhanced capacity in the industry and government to understand the real value of the EWP and future opportunities based on various scenarios. It will also contribute to the emerging academic and applied state of the art on methods to value sustainable future industries.

Node Leader: [Dr Cristyn Meath](#) – The University of Queensland

Projects:

[a\) Economic Modelling of Timber Industry and Synergy](#)

[b\) Interaction with Systems Dynamic Model & EWP Industry Audit](#)

[c\) Economic Scenario Modelling \(Alignment with Supply Chain Modelling Tool\)](#)

Project Leaders: Dr Cristyn Meath & Emeritus Professor John Mangan – The University of Queensland

6. Manufacturing Innovation



Node 6 drives innovation in timber manufacturing through a focus on prefabrication, manufacturing digitization, and process automation. Three research projects on prefabrication aim to improve fibre efficiency and construction supply by utilizing a wider range of feedstocks and reducing material waste. Two research projects on manufacturing digitization aims to improve fabrication efficiency by developing novel computer vision and augmented reality tools to extend existing quality assurance and semi-automated production processes. Three research projects on process automation investigate how new robotic technologies can increase automation for both offsite and onsite construction, as well as streamline coordination between these stages.

Node Leaders: [Associate Professor Joe Gattas](#) – The University of Queensland and [Professor Priyan Mendis](#) – University of Melbourne

Projects:

1. [Improving Resource Availability and Utilisation for Residential Timber Manufacturing and Construction](#)
Project Leader: Associate Professor Benoit Gilbert - Griffith University
2. [Digital and Physical Systems Design for Optimised Design-to-Delivery of Prefabricated Timber Housing](#)
Project Leaders: Dr Tharaka Gunawardena - University of Melbourne & Dr Nic Bao – RMIT
3. [Autonomous Screw-Fixing Robots for CLT Panel Building Assembly](#)
Project Leader: Dr Dikai Liu / University of Technology, Sydney
4. [Collaborative Robots For Resource-Adaptive Timber Construction Using Variable, Out-Of-Grade Timber Feedstocks](#)
Project Leader: Professor Tim Schork - Queensland University of Technology
5. [Automatic Timber Property Assessment for Variable Fibre Feedstocks](#)
Project Leader: Dr Dan Luo - The University of Queensland
6. [Performance-Based Architectural Design and Optimization Using Biomaterial and AR-Assisted Discrete Assemblies](#)
Project Leader: Dr Nic Bao - RMIT

7. Value-Chain Innovation



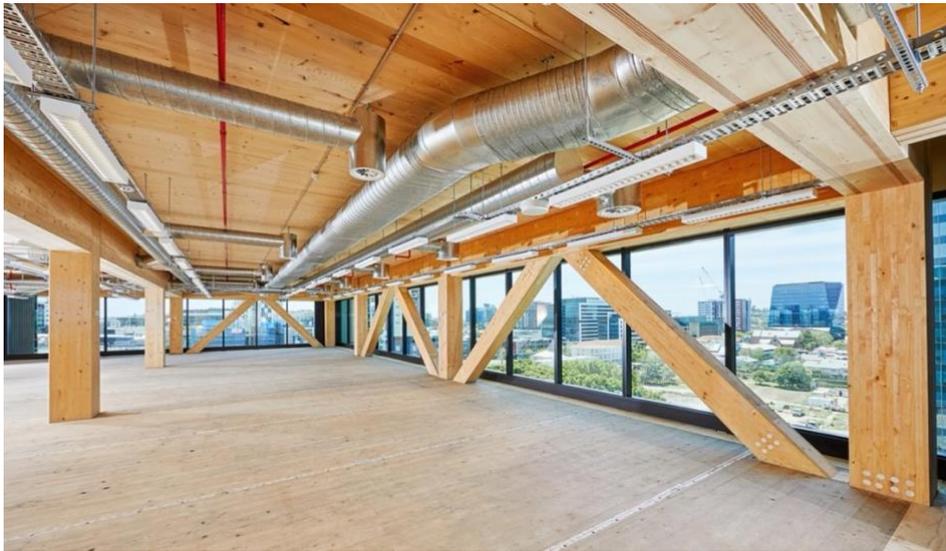
Node 7 focuses on value chain innovation to enhance resource utilization throughout the forest-to-building timber value chain. Two research projects aim to increase the diversity of timber resources utilised as construction supply, including for example utilisation of low-value wood fibre, hardwood plantation thinnings, and small logs. Two research projects aim to enhance the value-add and visibility of Australian timber products, including through development of new engineered wood products and a web-based material tracking framework for forest-to-building value chain mapping.

Node Leaders: [Associate Professor Joe Gattas](#) and [Dr Dan Luo](#) – The University of Queensland

Projects:

1. [Adaptive Building Forms for Inventory-Constrained Utilisation of Low Value Fibre](#)
Project Leader: A/Prof Kim Baber – Bond University
2. [Establishing Viable Product and Market Solutions for Hardwood Plantation Thinnings and Small Diameter Logs](#)
Project Leader: Dr Chandan Kumar – QLD Department of Primary Industries
3. [EWPs to Maximise Australian Wood Fibre Recovery and Utilisation](#)
Project Leader: Dr Rob McGavin – QLD Department of Primary Industries
4. [An Open-Data Framework for Forest-to-Building Value Chain Mapping](#)
Project Leader: A/Prof Joe Gattas – The University of Queensland

8. Interventions for Change



Node 8 aims to investigate the status, influences and support interventions sought of EWP supply chains in Australia. This information will assist each research node to target research and interventions, sourcing critical insights beyond the ARC Advance Timber Hub members. In addition, the Node will provide a unique data set enabling measurement of the impact of the ARC Advance Timber Hub activities and other stakeholder initiatives to support the acceleration of sustainable timber supply chains in Australia.

Node Leader: [Dr Cristyn Meath](#) – The University of Queensland

Projects:

1. [EWP Industry Supply Chain Modelling Tool \(alignment with Economic Scenario Modelling\)](#)
2. [Status, Perceptions and Priorities of EWP Industry in Australia](#)
3. [Evaluation of the ARC Advance Timber Hub](#)

Project Leader: Dr Cristyn Meath – The University of Queensland

Our Values

Our core values inform how we function as a vibrant, healthy, creative culture that promotes and celebrates excellence and diversity, and embrace a well-developed sense of social responsibility, ethics and equity, and a commitment to work together for the success of the Hub.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Operate with Integrity and Transparency:

- Be direct and honest in feedback and discussions.
- Accept responsibility; each person owns your comments.
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality.
- Seek consensus / agreement on what gets communicated and when / how communication happens.
- Commitment to a “team based” approach to all activities, with clearly defined and transparent processes that define how each team functions and how decisions are made.

2. Create a safe culture, where people are honoured and valued:

- Openness to listen; seeking first to understand then be understood.
- Practice inclusivity, acceptance and respect; honour one another.
- Maintain a safe, “no blame” culture, where each person is honoured, valued, accepts appropriate responsibility, does not “hide mistakes” so that together, we celebrate successes and learn from mistakes.
- Empower and mentor those we lead.

3. Be courageous, seek wisdom to lead well and pursue excellence:

- Trust, mutual accountability and commitment to one another, whilst valuing and esteeming the contribution each person has to make.
- Pursuit of creativity, innovation, excellence and the highest standards of ethical behaviour and professionalism in delivery of services.
- Lead from a place of vulnerability and personal integrity.

Expected Outcomes

The ARC Advance Timber Hub has brought together interdisciplinary experts from industry, government, and academia with expertise in understanding innovative technology solutions, national transformative benefits, and the processes of change. The organisation of Hub scope and teams, across research disciplines, partner expertise, industry and policy stakeholders, is designed to enable the multi-faceted engagement that will be required to deliver on the ARC Advance Timber Hub Objectives.

OBJECTIVE 1

Develop proven product systems that meet the complex mix of performance objectives required to grow and sustain client demand for timber innovation in mid-rise timber buildings.

- new composite and hybrid elements
- timber building performance for occupants.
- performance of timber building components
- circular design principles for repurposing and extending the life of timber buildings.

OBJECTIVE 2

Demonstrate the social, environmental, and economic benefits of large-scale increases in timber use in the built environment, at both regional and national scales.

- long-term, macro-scale benefits
- value adding for regional development.
- carbon reduction across the life cycle of mid-rise timber buildings – address life-cycle-analysis and greenhouse-gas criteria

OBJECTIVE 3

Demonstrate that manufacturing innovation across the supply chain creates new value opportunities.

- advanced manufacture of timber components and systems
- digital design tools for prefabrication & construction automation
- high value engineered wood products from low value fibre

OBJECTIVE 4

Demonstrate that connected and innovative value chains can amplify value for all stakeholders.

- tools for product optimisation
- smart manufacture of timber building systems

OBJECTIVE 5

Develop a roadmap to change that is embraced by industry and policy makers.

- policy development
- identify barriers, enablers, and motivator.

OBJECTIVE 6

Incorporate timber innovation into exemplar projects, showcasing the commercial and regulatory feasibility of undertaking the exemplars.

Research Impact

The Hub's Executive Management Team combines demonstrated experience at managing large, complex interdisciplinary research projects, with expertise in understanding innovative technology solutions, national transformative benefits, and the processes of change. Building and safe-guarding trust with stakeholders is critical, in order for the Team to guide the research agenda to deliver on its six objectives, as listed under [Expected Outcomes](#). Its impact will also be measured more broadly by three defined key success measures:

1. The ARC Advance Timber Hub aims to create strong recognition amongst industry and policy makers, of the benefits available through greatly increased use of innovative timber solutions; such that timber is accepted and seen as the material of choice for mid-rise building construction;
2. The ARC Advance Timber Hub aims to generate confidence for government and prospective investors that the benefits of manufacturing and using innovative timber solutions will be appropriately valued for the direct benefits to construction and building clients and the broader environmental and regional socioeconomic benefits that they deliver; and
3. The ARC Advance Timber Hub aims to provide all stakeholders with confidence that the roadmap to change is clear and tractable, with the design and implementation of showcase construction projects demonstrating the commercial and regulatory feasibility of large-scale use of innovative timber solutions.

RESEARCH IMPACT PATHWAY

The Australian Research Council defines Research Impact as “the contribution that research makes to the economy, society, environment, or culture, beyond the contribution to academic research.”

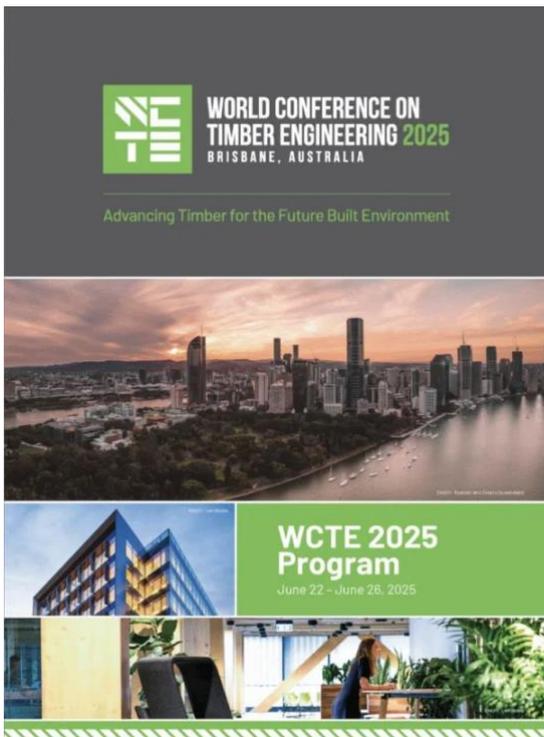
It is imperative that the Hub captures and reports on the impact of our research program throughout the Hub’s life and developed the Research Impact Pathway as a framework for this process.

ARC Advance Timber Hub Research Impact Pathway				
Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research income Staff Background and industry IP Infrastructure Industry in-kind and funding Additional industry in-kind and funding for new projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research work and training Outreach and tech transfer Workshops/conferences and industry engagement events Facility use Industry, community and stakeholder engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publications including E-publications, industry guides, standards and codes New practice and/or improved process New IP: Patents and Inventions Industry briefings Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial products, licences, and revenue Industry adoption Upskilling industry Increased market or market access opportunities Job creation Citations Integration into policy or industry practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic, health, social, cultural and environmental benefits Secure and higher quality workforce Job creation Increased industry viability Increased market Risk reduction in decision making and industry practice

Research Translation

The Executive Management Team will ensure a comprehensive education and outreach program is delivered, working with UQ media units and the Hub’s Partner Organisations to develop communications material that is well-positioned for a variety of stakeholders, including industry-based magazines, mainstream media and social media forums. A priority will be to ensure that dissemination and promotion of research priorities and findings reach all key stakeholder groups across the timber, construction and other built environment sectors, policy makers and the wider community. Outreach activities will include media releases and interviews, public lectures, social media channels, and thought-piece forums.

Hub research will be disseminated to the academic community through publication in leading peer-reviewed journals and conferences, subject to any IP constraints.



The cross-disciplinary nature of the Hub activities will be exploited to ensure that publications are targeted at quality journals across each relevant domain and will include industry relevant reports and guidelines published either as monographs or through Wood Solutions Technical Design / Construction Guides.

A major event for communication will be the biennial **World Conference for Timber Engineering (WCTE)**, which The University of Queensland / ARC Advance Timber Hub proudly hosted in Brisbane in June 2025 – WCTE 2025. The next conference (WCTE 2027) will be held in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

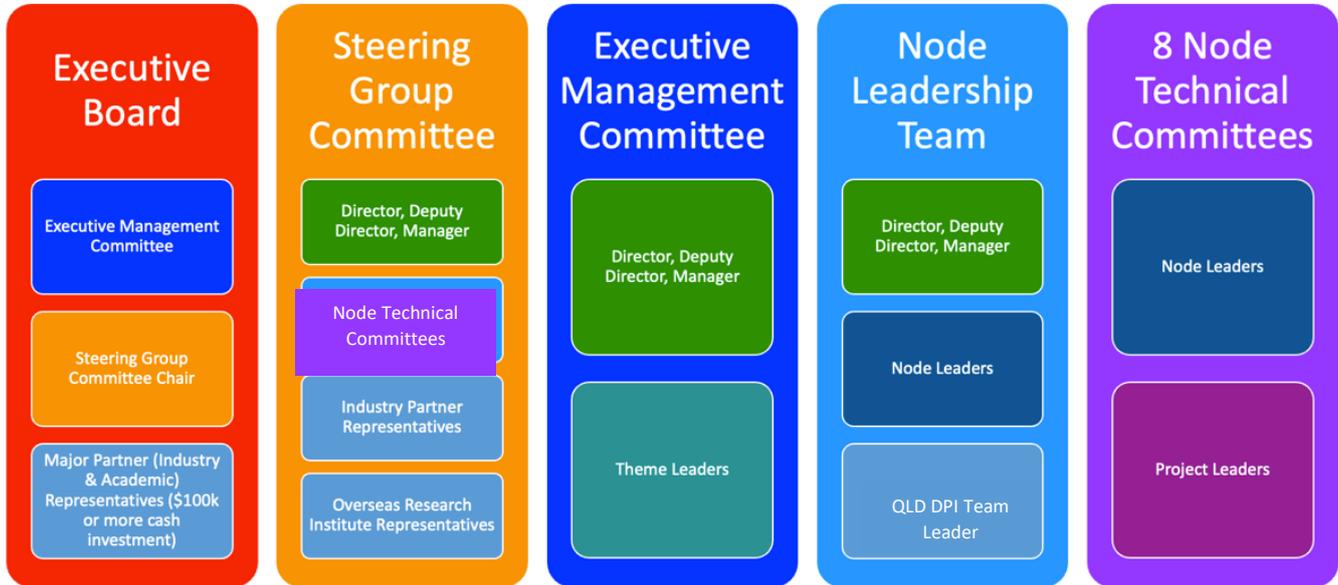
This conference provides a priority opportunity to showcase Hub outputs to a large, international audience. For more information, please see: www.wcte2025.org



Chair, QLD Primary Industries and Resources Committee: Stephen Bennet MP, WCTE 2025 Chair: Professor Keith Crews, WCTE 2025 MC/Keynote Speaker: Jodie Bricout and WCTE 2025 Keynote Speaker: Philipp Deitsch

Structure, Roles and Responsibilities

HUB GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



Executive Board

Executive Management Committee

Director / Chair	Professor Keith Crews	Deputy Director	Prof Paul Dargusch (observer)	Manager	Kelly Rischmiller (observer)
Theme 1 – Innovative Solutions	A/Prof Joe Gattas (observer)	Theme 2 – Transformative Benefits	Dr Fabiano Ximenes (observer)	Theme 3 – Planning Change	Dr Cristyn Meath (observer)

Steering Group Committee Chair	Toby Hodsdon (Arup) (observer)	QLD Department of Primary Industries	Lynne Turner	QLD Department of Primary Industries	Dr Tim Smith
AKD Rep	Mateo Gutierrez	Aurecon Rep	Ralph Belperio	EWPA Rep	Gavin Matthew
FWPA Rep	Ian Blanden	Griffith University Rep	Professor Hong Guan	Hyne Rep	Katie Fowden

The Executive Board will provide on-going executive function of the Hub operations, partner engagement and Research Program.

Steering Group Committee

The Steering Group Committee will:

- provide Node performance advice to the Executive Board;
- act as a forum for keeping all Participating Organisations participating in a Project informed on the progress of the Nodes and any individual Project; and
- ensure there is sufficient transfer of information and expertise across the Nodes required to ensure the overall Hub Objectives are met.

Executive Management Committee

The Executive Management Committee will support the executive function of the Hub and will lead the strategy for communicating and translating research to industry and stakeholders.

The Hub Director, Deputy Director and Manager will provide the daily operational, administrative duties for the Hub to function efficiently.

Node Leadership Team

Performance of Building Components Professor Hong Guan	Building Performance for Occupants Dr Mark Dewsbury	Design for Extended Building Life Dr Paola Leardini, Dr Liam Ottenhaus
Manufacturing Innovation Professor Priyan Mendis, A/Prof Joe Gattas	Value-Chain Innovation A/Prof Joe Gattas, Dr Dan Luo	Towards A Low-Carbon & Circular Economy Professor Paul Dargusch
Socio-Economic Opportunity Dr Cristyn Meath	Interventions for Change Dr Cristyn Meath	QLD DPI – Forest Product Innovations Team Leader Adam Faircloth

The Node Leadership Team will:

- ensure the operational activities, milestones and KPI's of the Hub are met;
- ensure a comprehensive education and outreach program is delivered; and
- organise opportunities for networking and external engagements for Students and early career researchers.

Node Technical Committees x 8

The Node Technical Committee will:

- manage and report on progress on Projects against agreed KPIs and Milestones;
- participate and contribute to a Hub progress workshop once a year to demonstrate research programs and outputs;
- identify any Project risks and report these to the Hub Director; and
- contribute to the Hub Progress Workshops as required.

Main Contacts

ARC Advance Timber Hub Director

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List and contact details of all Hub Investigators:

<https://www.advance-timber-hub.org/people/>

Website: www.advance-timber-hub.org



END