LCANZ Position Statement

LCANZ welcomes MBIE's programme to reduce the carbon emissions of buildings in their whole-of-life, while improving their indoor environmental qualities.

For the programme to be successful, LCANZ recommends:

- Metrics:
    - Consider metrics beyond carbon, as there might be trade-offs between environmental impacts. For example, signal the addition of caps on embodied water, even if those will be applied in the long term.
    - Make modules A4 (Transport to customer) and A5 (Construction/Installation) of EPDs mandatory in the assessment. This would ensure, environmental impacts from imported products are quantified.
    - Create national approach and estimated data to quantify environmental impact of modules A4 (Transport to customer) and A5 (Construction/Installation) for imported products.
- Data:
    - Create a national data format standard based on international best practices. LCANZ's Best practice working group can assist.
    - Support a national digital database of environmental impacts that can be used by multiple user interfaces, especially BIM and LCA software.
- Skills
    - Support the training and development of LCA specialists to make this discipline mainstream. This could be via dedicated professional training and/or part of tertiary education system with specific courses.
    - Recognise LCA accreditation.
    - Start training, well before the implementation of the programme, to make sure skills are not a bottleneck. Solutions could include subsidised placement of LCA specialists in architectural and construction businesses. This would add a resource and develop LCA knowledge in the businesses ahead of time.