



1. October 2024 – 2. October 2024

CRESTIMB InCREased Service life of innovative TIMber Building systems (JC2023)

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VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd

CRESTIMB

InCREased Service life of innovative TIMber Building systems

- **ForestValue theme: Sustainable Building Systems**
- **Duration:** 1.4.2024-31.3.2027
- **Coordinator:** VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd (Stefania Fortino)
- **16 partners from 7 countries**
 - *8 European RTOs*
 - *1 third country partner from Australia*
 - *7 European industries*

1. VTT TECHNICAL RESEARCH CENTRE OF FINLAND LTD (Finland)
2. NORWEGIAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Norway)
3. UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY (Ireland)
4. TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN (Ireland)
5. UNIVERSITY OF L'AQUILA (Italy)
6. UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA (Slovenia)
7. ŁUKASIEWICZ RESEARCH NETWORK - POZNAŃ INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (Ł-PIT, Poland)
8. ŁUKASIEWICZ RESEARCH NETWORK – ITECH INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (Ł-ITECH, Poland)
9. UNSW Sydney (UNSW, Australia)
10. PUUTUOTETEOLLISUUS RY (Finland)
11. MOELVEN LIMTRE AS (Norway)
12. COILLTE (Ireland)
13. MEDITE SMARTPLY (Ireland)
14. Lamel legno Srl (Italy)
15. Rothoblaas Srl (Italy)
16. HARCO Ltd (Slovenia)

Kick-off meeting at VTT, Espoo, Finland, 23-24.5.2024



Gaps of knowledge

- *Need to design innovative timber systems suitable for buildings with open spaces and increased service life*
- *Need to develop accurate models for creep in wood and lack of experimental and computational research on hardwood materials*
- *Need of a bridge between advanced scientific research and wood engineering practice*
- *Wood and wood-based products service life for the carbon footprinting regulations in EU Member States (current standards under revision until 2027)*

CRESTIMB objectives

- CRESTIMB aims to develop an **innovative timber system** suitable for **multi-storey buildings with open spaces**
- The long-term behaviour of the system components will be investigated with an **advanced numerical model for wood rheology** under variable indoor climates to ensure an **increased service life and the possibility of reuse**. The numerical analyses will be assisted by **experiments on softwood and hardwood** samples, as well as full size tests
- The analysis results will be made accessible through a **Data interface** by using the **VTT Modelling Factory environment** and applied in environmental assessment studies including **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)**
- The **collaboration with CRESTIMB industrial partners** will help to deliver **guidelines** for innovative building systems both feasible and cost-effective

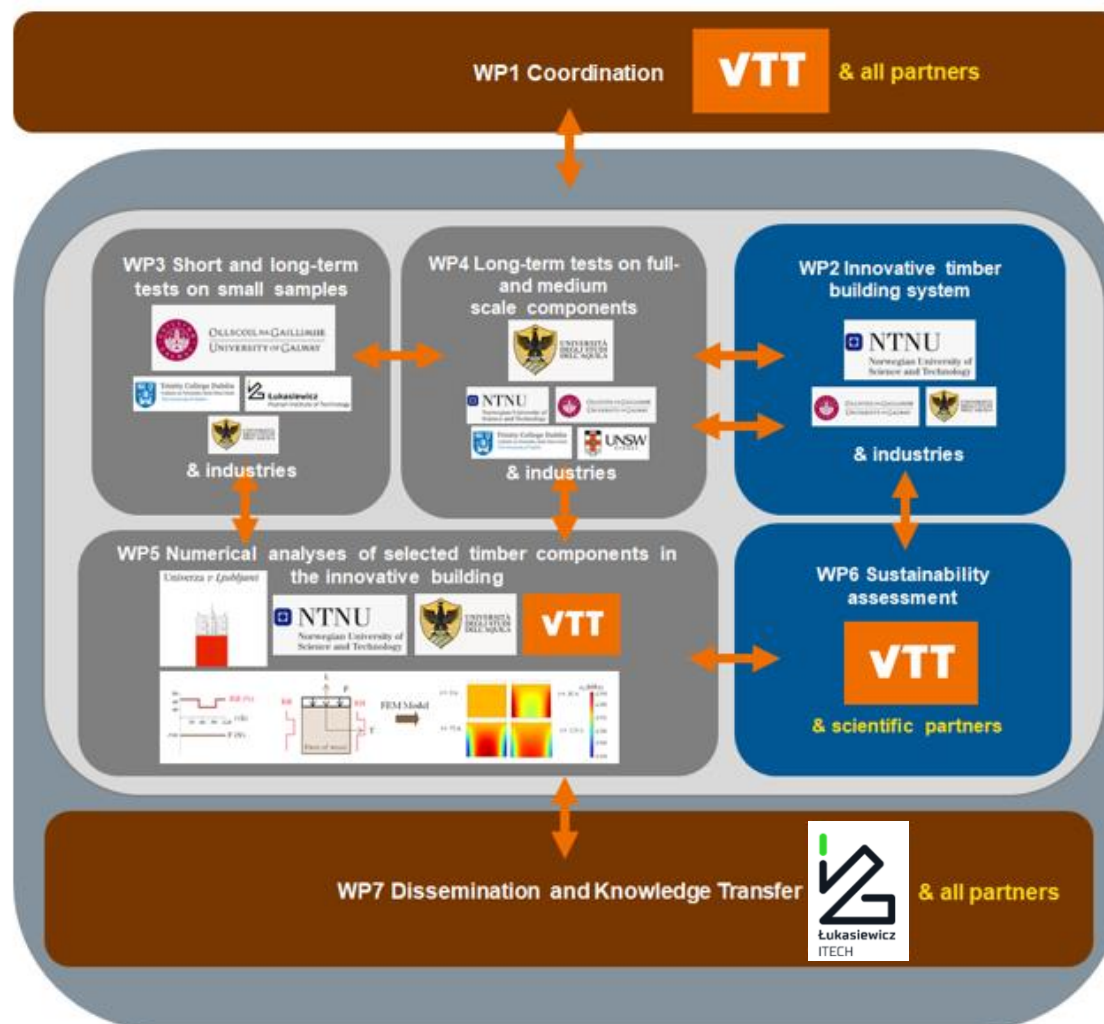
CRESTIMB WPs



No.	Work package title	WP Leader (Person, Organisation)	Partners involved
WP1	Coordination	Stefania Fortino, VTT	ALL
WP2	Innovative timber building system	Haris Stamatopoulos, NTNU (Deputy: F.Mirko Massaro, NTNU)	Galway, UNIVAQ, Moelven Limtre, Lamel legno, Rothoblaas, Coillte
WP3	Short and long term tests on small scale wood samples	Patrick McGetrick, Galway	Trinity, UNIVAQ, Ł-PIT, Lamel legno, Coillte, Medite Smartply
WP4	Long-term tests on full- and medium-scale components	Massimo Fragiaco, UNIVAQ (Deputy: M. Sciomenta, UNIVAQ)	NTNU, Galway, UNSW, Coillte, Lamel legno, Moelven Limtre, Trinity
WP5	Numerical analyses of selected timber components in the innovative building	Tomaž Hozjan, Ljubljana (Deputy: Sabina Huč, Ljubljana)	VTT, NTNU, Galway
WP6	Sustainability assessment	Petr Hradil, VTT	Scientific partners
WP7	Dissemination and knowledge transfer	Dariusz Łukaszewski, Ł-ITECH	ALL



Collaboration among CRESTIMB WPs



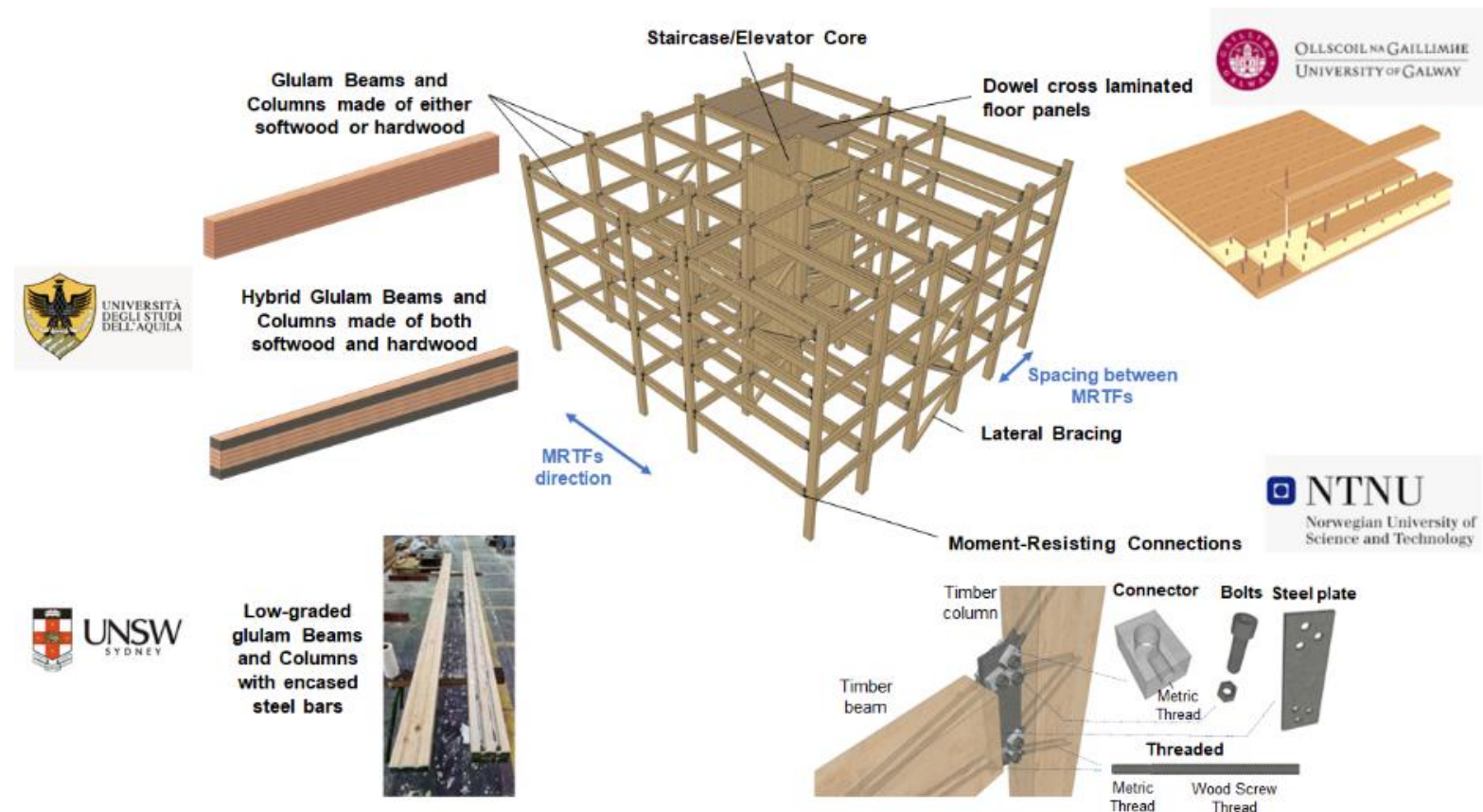
Transnational cooperation

- Some partners (UNIVAQ, NTNU, ...) works in European expert groups for the development of **Eurocode 5 (CEN/TC250/SC5)**
- Some of the partners (VTT, NTNU, UNIVAQ, Ljubljana, ...) carried out past activities on computational models for wood and development of timber buildings within several **Cost actions (E55, FP1402, CA20139, ...)**
- Some of the partners (VTT, NTNU, Galway, ...) carried out past activities in WoodWisdom-Net and/or ForestValue1 projects (**WWNet ImprovedMoisture, WWNet+ DuraTB, ForestValue1 ClickDesign, ...**)
- **Mobility and younger researcher training** is promoted in CRESTIMB utilising mechanisms such as the IRG travel bursary scheme, focused COST short term scientific missions (STSM), Erasmus+ and Ad futura programmes for international mobility.
- **CRESTIMB will offer an important career support for emerging academics** (e.g., associate professor Francesco Mirko Massaro, assistant professors Martina Sciomenta etc.).
 - At least 3-4 master students per year (NTNU), 5 doctoral and post-doctoral researchers (UNIVAQ, Galway) will work on the project.
- **WCTE 2025 conference in Brisbane, Australia**

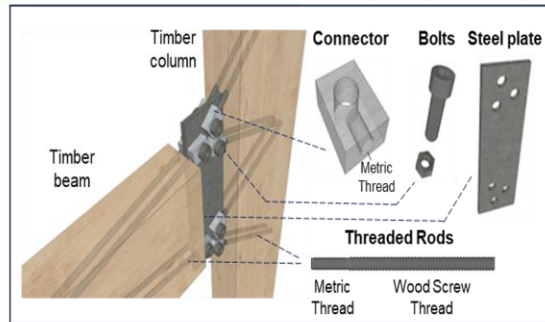
Proposed innovative timber building system

Moment-resisting frames made of **softwood or hardwood glue-laminated timber** with:

- **innovative beam-to-column connections**
- **dowel cross laminated floor panels**

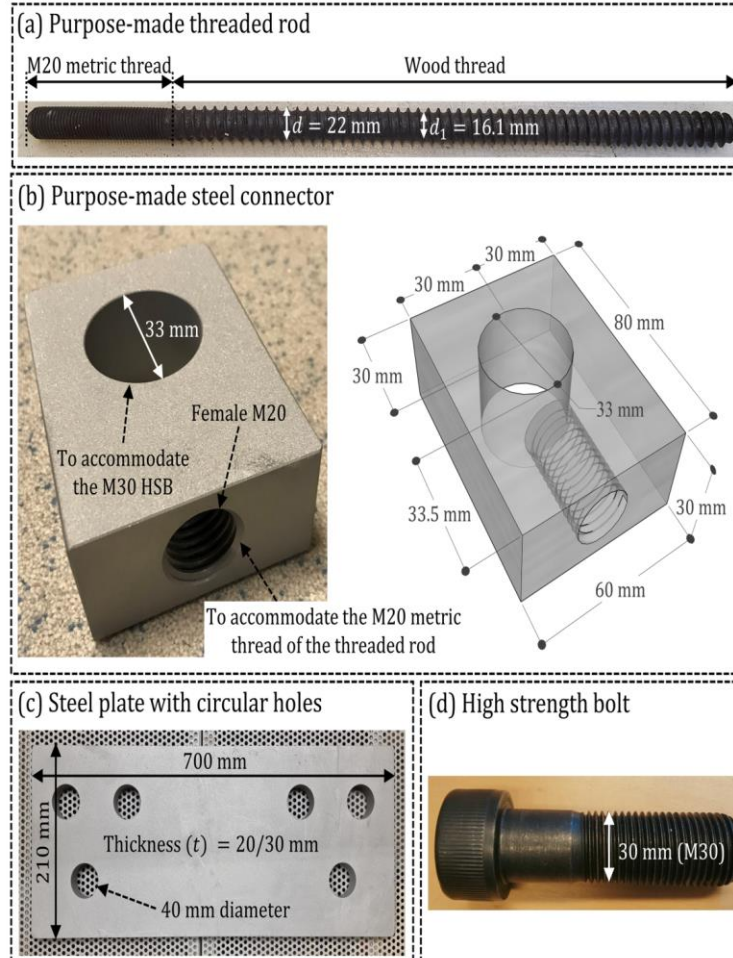


Innovative timber building system (WP 2)



**Moment-resisting connection with
screwed-in threaded rods**

Details of the innovative connection



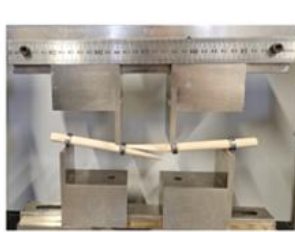
Short and long term tests (WPs 3, 4)



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



Tests on small scale wood samples



(a) Bending



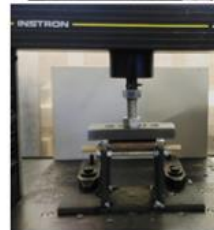
(b) Shear



(c) Withdrawal



(d) Compression parallel and perpendicular to the grain

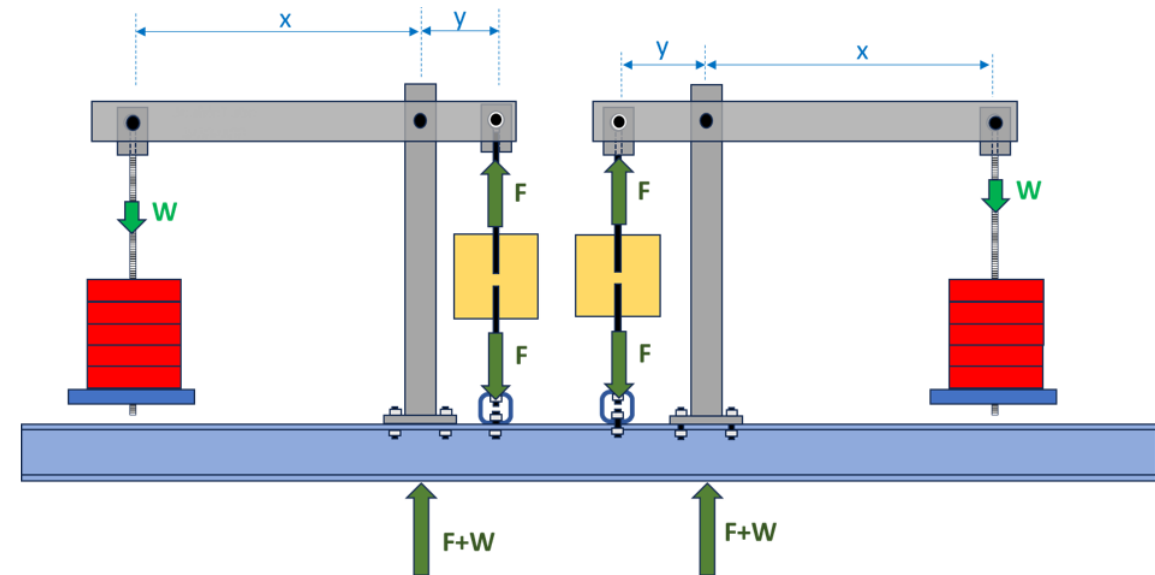


(e) Tension



(f) Embedment

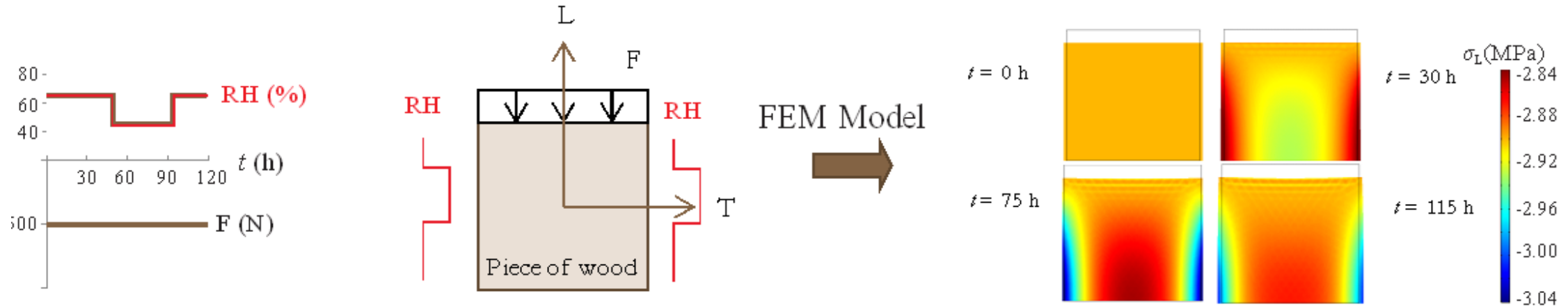
Long-term test of medium-size wooden components: concept for testing



<https://forestvalue.org/>

Numerical analyses of timber components (WP5)

The new rheological model for predicting the long-term behaviour of timber members in changing indoor conditions will include a mathematically correct description of irreversible (plastic) deformations in compression and tension in three anatomical directions. Shear deformations will also be accounted for.



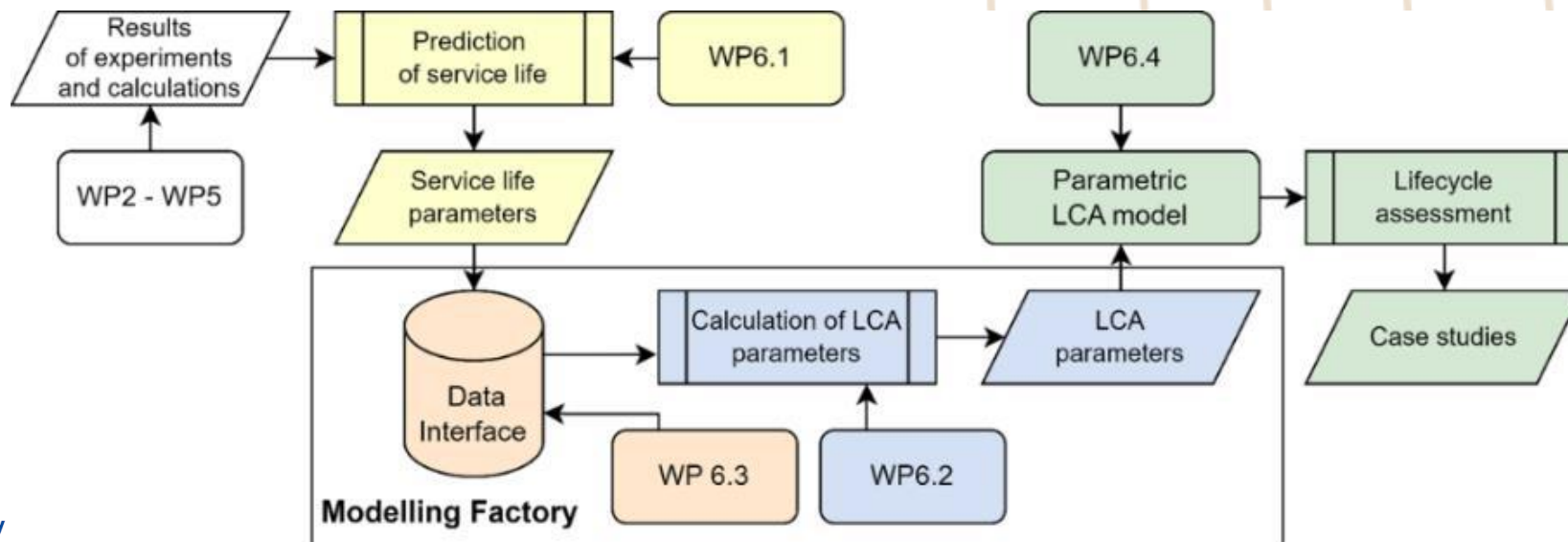
Sustainability assessment (WP6)

Studying effect of accumulated stresses and strains on the product service life

Implementing the service life concept in the environmental assessment

Providing data interface for the service life datasets

Creating LCA case studies



Dissemination and knowledge transfer (WP7)

www.crestimb.com

**Website publicly
accessible
by September 30th, 2024**

**Participation in
workshops on open
science**



Vision

CRESTIMB envisions a groundbreaking timber system designed for multi-storey buildings with expansive open spaces. This innovative system will feature moment-resisting frames crafted from softwood or hardwood glue-laminated timber, complemented by state-of-the-art beam-to-column connections and dowel cross-laminated floor panels. Our goal is to create a sustainable and reusable building solution by thoroughly investigating the long-term behaviour of these components using advanced numerical models that account for wood rheology in varying indoor climates.

Excellence

The CRESTIMB project will combine cutting-edge numerical analyses with extensive experimental testing on both softwood and hardwood samples, including full-size tests. The results, encompassing creep deformations, moisture-induced stresses, and associated crack risks, will be accessible. This data will be integral to environmental assessment studies, including Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), ensuring that our innovative timber system meets the highest standards of durability and environmental sustainability.

Consortium

The CRESTIMB consortium brings together partners with diverse and complementary expertise, creating a well-balanced team of researchers and technical professionals. Each member has a strong and proven background in the research and technical domains relevant to this project, ensuring comprehensive and robust collaboration.

OVERVIEW >

CONSORTIUM >

DISSEMINATION >

NEWS >

CONTACT >



Thank you!

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