

# Advance Purchasing of Near-Zero Concrete for DOTs

Carbon-Free Buildings  
Low-Embodied Carbon Program



## Speakers



### **Eneida Licaj**

Finance Lead - First Movers  
Coalition (FMC)  
World Economic Forum (WEF)



### **Daniel Boero Vargas**

Industrial Decarbonization  
Lead for Cement &  
Concrete - FMC  
World Economic Forum  
(WEF)



### **Dharma Santos- Santiago**

State Industrial Advocate  
Natural Resources Defense  
Council (NRDC)



### **Anish Tilak**

Manager, Carbon-Free  
Buildings  
RMI





## Agenda

### **Presentations**

- Welcome Remarks
- RMI - Introduction to Advance Purchasing
- First Movers Coalition (FMC) – Insights from Private Sector Demand Initiatives
- NRDC / RMI – Roadmap to Public Sector Advance Purchasing for Low Carbon Concrete

### **Discussion**

- Q&A
- Audience Polling
- Open Discussion
- Closing



## Objectives

1. Learn fundamentals about advance purchasing / advance market commitments (AMCs)
2. Learn key insights from private sector AMC initiatives, such as the FMC
3. Understand public sector opportunities and near-term actions for low-carbon concrete AMCs

# Background – RMI Workshop Series

# Low Carbon Concrete Infrastructure Workshops

## Workshop 1 | June 2023

*Case studies from Buy Clean / EPD program implementation – [recording](#)*

## Workshop 2 | August 2023

*DOT Application of Limestone Calcined Clay Cement (LC3) – [recording](#)*

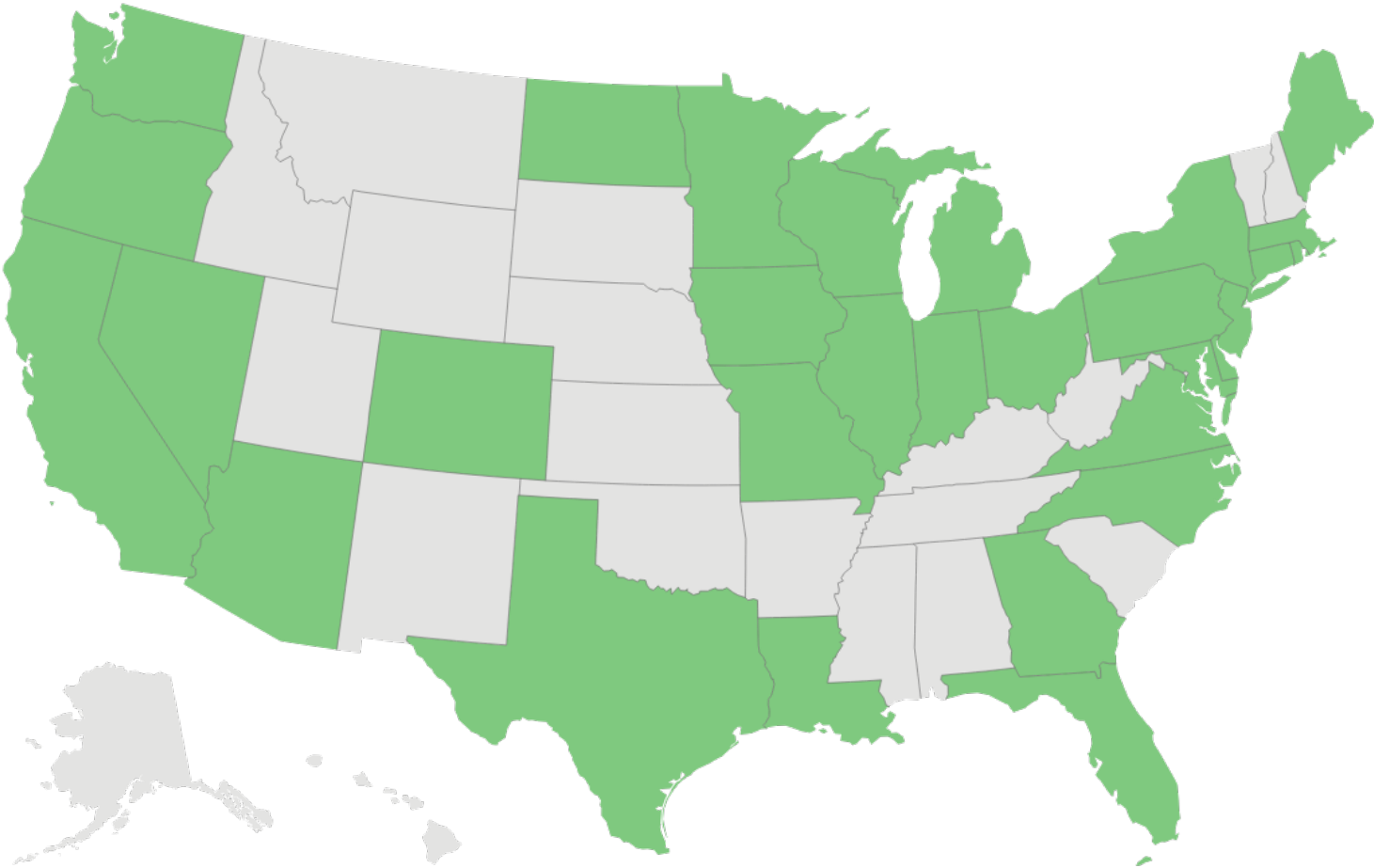
## Workshop 3 | January 2024

*A Deep Dive on Specifications – [recording](#)*

## Workshop 4 | May 2024

*Near Zero and Zero Emissions Concrete – [recording](#)*

# State DOTs Engaged



# Previous Speakers



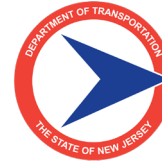
**Thomas Van Dam**  
Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.



**David Dobson**  
Oregon DOT



**Oğulcan Canbek**  
GCP Applied Technologies



**Ryan Rathbun**  
NJ DOT



**Jordan Palmeri**  
Carbon Leadership Forum



**Jacquelyn Wong, Joseph Harline**  
Caltrans



**Hailey Goodale**  
Colorado DOT



**Sabbie Miller**  
UC Davis Department of Civil &  
Environmental Engineering

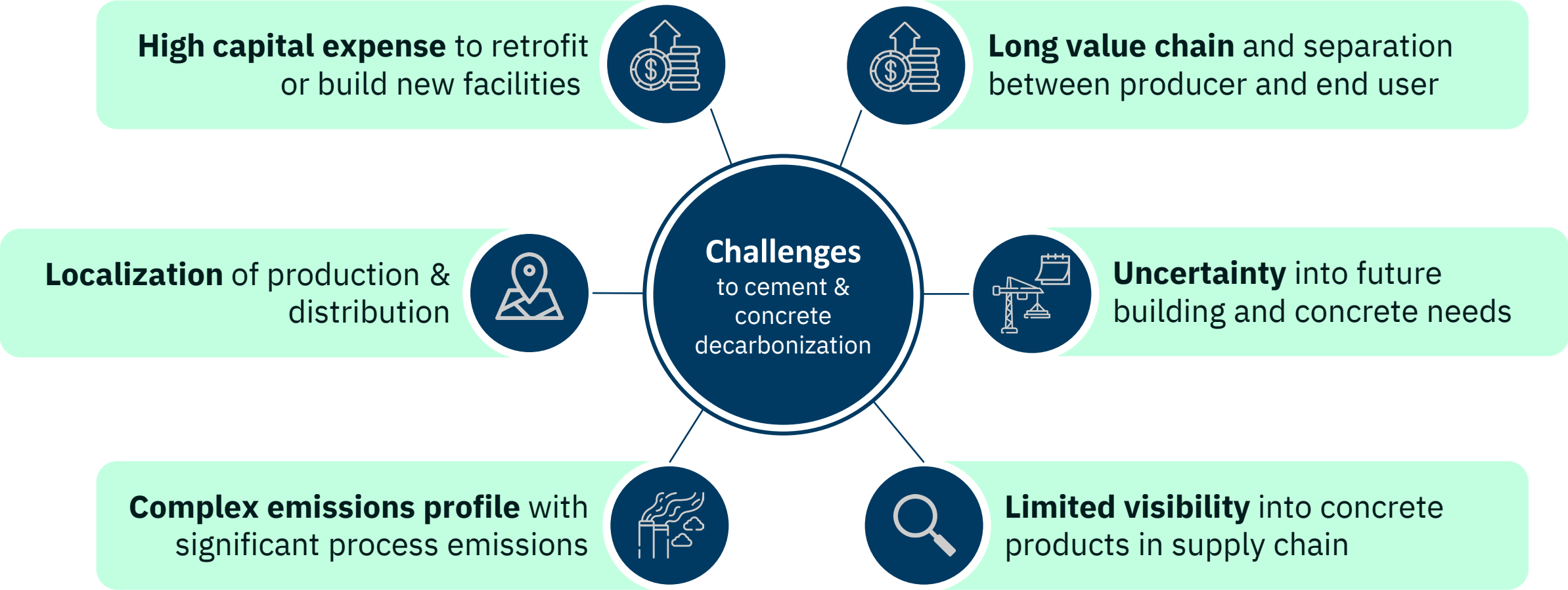


**R. Douglas Hooton**  
University of Toronto



# Fundamentals of Advance Market Commitments (AMCs)

# Builders, developers, and end users face significant barriers to reduce scope 3 emissions from cement and concrete production



# Advance Market Commitments

**Agency identifies innovative, near-zero emissions construction material**

**Agency commits to advanced purchases based on product performance**

**Suppliers receive bankable demand, unlocking investment in production**

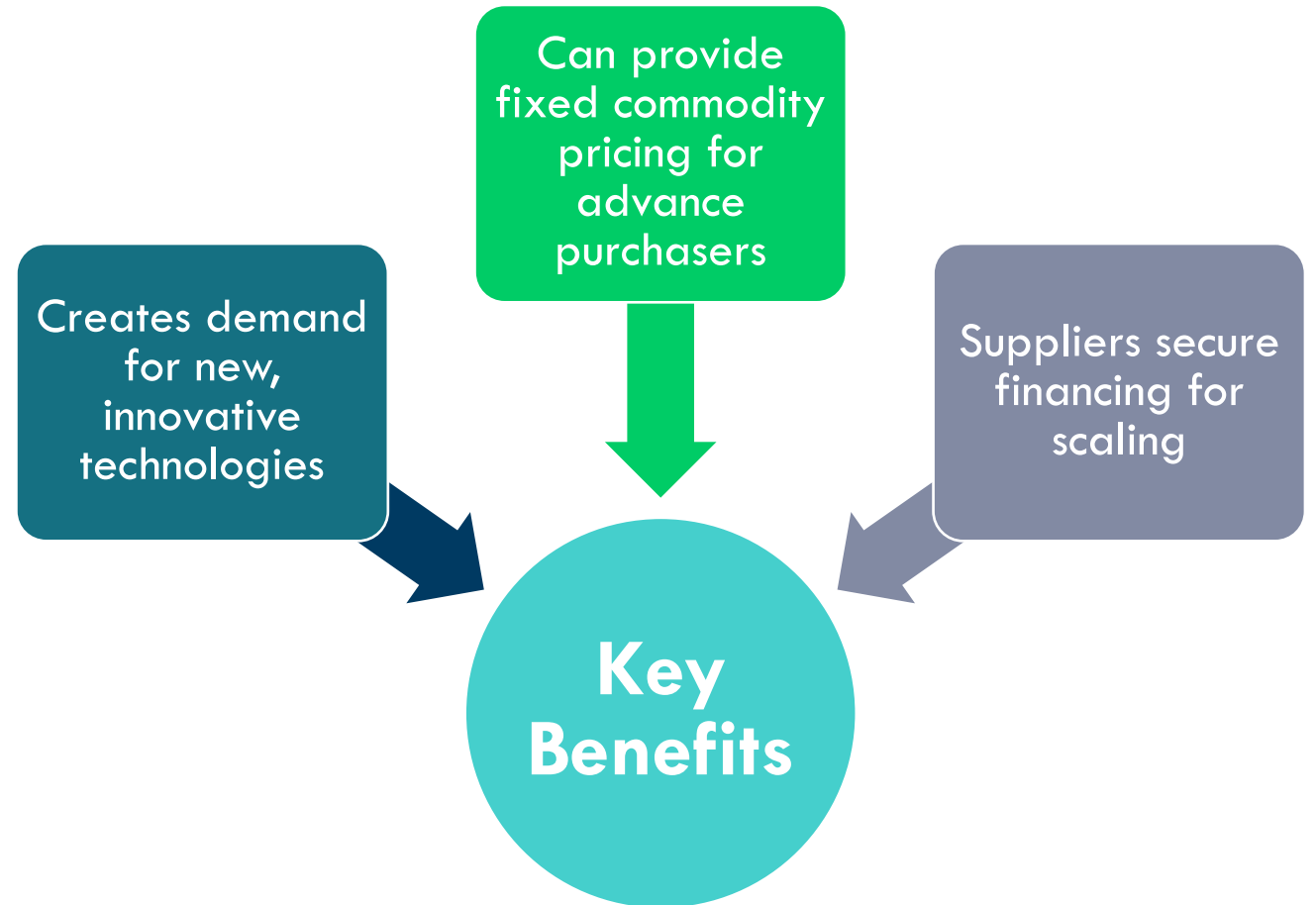
**More consumers buy and utilize low carbon building materials**

# Advance Market Commitments

AMCs are binding legal contracts between purchasers and producers of "yet-to-be-developed" technologies.

## Challenges to Decarbonization

- Early-stage technologies struggle to attract investment and scale commercially
- Lack of clear demand signals from the private sector limits growth.



# How AMCs work



**Agreement:** between purchaser (government, corporations) and producer (cement manufacturers).



**Commitment:** to purchase a defined quantity and specification of a low-carbon product.



**Financing:** for producers by demonstrating demand certainty to investors.



# Successes in the deployment of AMCs

- **Vaccine Development**

- **COVID-19 Vaccines:** The COVAX initiative, leveraging AMCs to ensure rapid and equitable distribution of vaccines globally

The logo for COVAX, featuring the word "COVAX" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

- **Industrial Applications**

- **Frontier AMC (\$1 Billion):** Commitment for permanent carbon removal by 2030.

The logo for Frontier, featuring a stylized icon of four diamonds arranged in a square pattern to the left of the word "Frontier" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.





**First Movers**  
Coalition



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# First Movers Coalition

RMI Workshop: Advance Purchasing of Near-Zero  
Concrete for DOTs

19<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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# I. FMC overview



# First Movers are creating early market demand to bring emerging clean technologies to commercial scale

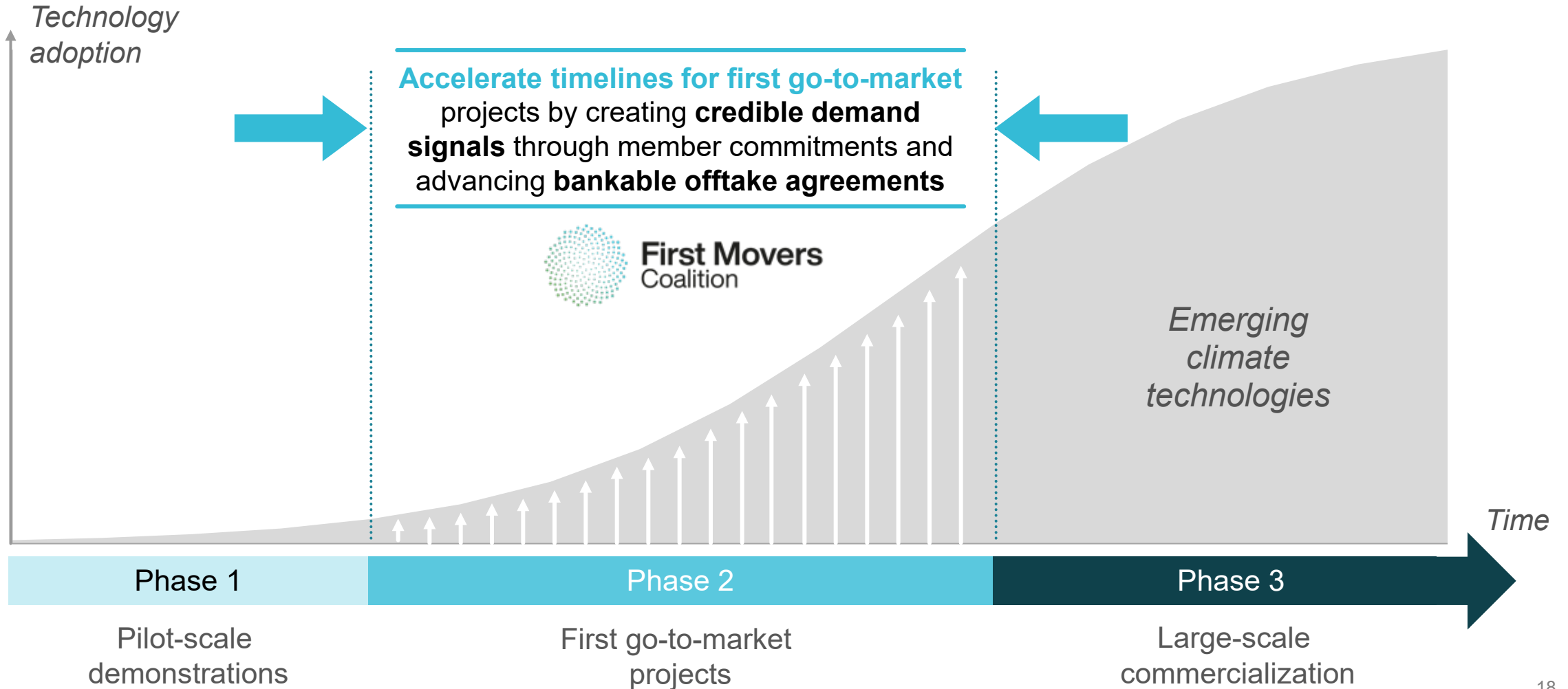
## Vision

The First Movers Coalition (FMC) aims to harness the purchasing power of the world's leading companies to **unlock the untapped potential of emerging technologies needed to decarbonize** the world by 2050.

## Mission

By 2050, 50% of the reductions needed for net-zero emissions must come from technologies not yet available at scale. FMC will **marshal the world's leading companies to apply their purchasing power to create guaranteed early markets for advanced technologies**. Building early demand by 2030 for near-zero-carbon goods and services will help scale the next generation of emission mitigation solutions for carbon-intensive sectors. FMC deploys **a suite of tools and activities to help its members turn commitments into bankable offtake agreements**.

# FMC is the largest coalition of companies looking to scale emerging tech across hard-to-abate sectors through early demand signals





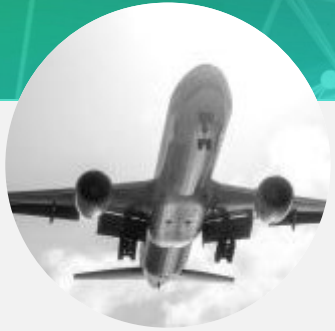
# Eight sectors in scope of the FMC, representing ~25% of global GHG emissions today & newest technology needs

Launched at COP26

Launched at WEF  
Annual Meeting 2022

Launched at COP27

Potential launch in 2025



Aviation



Steel



Aluminum



Cement / Concrete



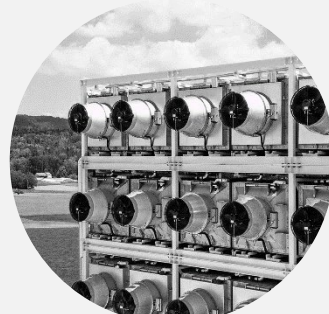
Chemicals  
(Plastics – PET,  
PP and PE)



Shipping



Trucking



Carbon Removal

# FMC priorities for 2024 | Moving from Commitment to Action

## Drive bankable offtake

### Increase credible demand signals

*Recruit new members and report out on member commitment progress*

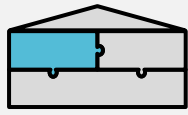
### Surface viable supply

*Engage suppliers to connect them with credible demand*

## Build and leverage an enabling environment

*Work with broader ecosystem of finance, governments and infrastructure; enable cross sector collaboration*





# Increase credible demand | Current members

## AVIATION - 28 members

AIRBUS, GLOBAL BUSINESS TRAVEL, Apple, AUTODESK, AVEVA, BAIN & COMPANY, BANK OF AMERICA, BOEING, BOOM, BCG, CHOPOSE, Deloitte., DELTA, Deutsche Post DHL Group, eni, EY, FedEx, Fortescue., LUFTHANSA GROUP, NOKIA, pwc, QATAR AIRWAYS, RioTinto, salesforce, Schneider Electric, UNITED, MICHEGAN, VATTENFALL

## STEEL - 28 members

AkerSolutions, BHARAT FORGE, ECOLAB, EGUI, enel, ENGIE, Ford, Fortescue., GE VERNOVA, gm, HY STOR, Iberdrola, Invenery, Johnson Controls, mahindra, MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER, MARCEGAGLIA, NORSK STÅL, Orsted, ReNew POWER, SCANIA, TRANE TECHNOLOGIES, VATTENFALL, Vestas, VOLVO, ZF

## ALUMINIUM - 20 members

Apple, Ball, B&B BANG & OLUFSEN, cba, Coca-Cola, Constellium, Danfoss, ELVAL, Ford, gm, GRANGES, Hydro, logitech, Novelis, PEPSICO, speira, Trafigura, VELUX, VOLVO, VOLVO

## SHIPPING - 17 members

MAERSK, Agility, AKER BIOMARINE, amazon, BHP, DP WORLD, Hanwha Ocean, Fortescue., HØEGH AUTOLINERS, lime, logitech, MOL Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, RioTinto, Trafigura, Western Digital, Wallenius Wilhelmsen, YARA

## TRUCKING - 16 members

Agility, CEMEX, Dalmia Bharat, Fortescue., Heidelberg Materials, HOLCIM, nationalgrid, NI Norge Mining, PEPSICO, RioTinto, SCANIA, SSAB, TOLL, VATTENFALL, VOLVO, Wallenius Wilhelmsen

## CARBON REMOVAL 11 members

aes, Google, BCG, Capgemini, drax, EGA, Microsoft, MOL Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, salesforce, Swiss Re, Trafigura

## CEMENT & CONCRETE 7 members

etex, gm, RMZ CORR, VATTENFALL, Orsted, ZGF

# FMC in numbers | Impact to date



101

Leading  
companies

signing **over 125 commitments** to purchase a minimum volume of innovative clean solutions across hard-to-abate sectors by 2030

\$16

Billion in  
demand

for innovative climate technologies and near-zero emission goods and services in 2030

~100

Offtake  
agreements and  
investments

to purchase innovative clean solutions signed by FMC members

31

Million tonnes  
CO<sub>2</sub>e

in expected annual emissions reductions in 2030

13

Government  
Partners

mobilizing demand and supply, and creating an enabling environment in their countries (50% of global GDP)

174

Projects

from **more than 100 companies** covering near-zero emissions final projects or value chain projects in the **First Suppliers Hub**



# Cement and Concrete | Commitment scope



## Construction & Engineering

“ We commit to **purchasing** at least **10%** (by volume) of our cement / concrete per year as **near-zero cement / concrete**<sup>1</sup> inclusive of any SCMs by 2030



## Real Estate / Developers / Advisory

“ We commit to **ensuring / specifying** that at least **10%** (by volume) of the cement / concrete procured for our projects per year is **near-zero carbon cement / concrete**<sup>1</sup> inclusive of any SCMs by 2030

## Breakthrough technological pathways

Procurement of **cement or concrete** produced using breakthrough technologies, including (but not limited to)

- Carbon capture, utilization and storage (**CCUS**) to capture process-related emissions at source
- Clinker substitution using novel **SCMs**
- **Alternative cement chemistries** reliant on raw materials other than limestone



# Cement and Concrete | Detailed commitment

## Subject of demand signal

First Movers will make a commitment for either cement or concrete:

1. **Cement** with embodied carbon below 184 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/ton
2. **Concrete** that meets the embodied carbon limits below

Specified compressive strength (f'c in psi)	Embodied carbon (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>3</sup> )
0 - 2500 psi	70
2501 - 3000 psi	78
3001 - 4000 psi	96
4001 - 5000 psi	117
5001 - 6000 psi	124
6001 - 8000 psi	144

## Technological pathways

Solutions may include (but are not limited to):

- **CCUS**
- **Alternative cement chemistries**
- **Non-fossil-based and novel SCMs**
- **Fuel switching**
- Renewable electricity
- Decarbonated raw materials
- CO<sub>2</sub> mineralization during curing

Out-of-scope:

- Carbon offsets

**Bolded** abatement technologies seen as most critical to meeting FMC targets according to FMC research

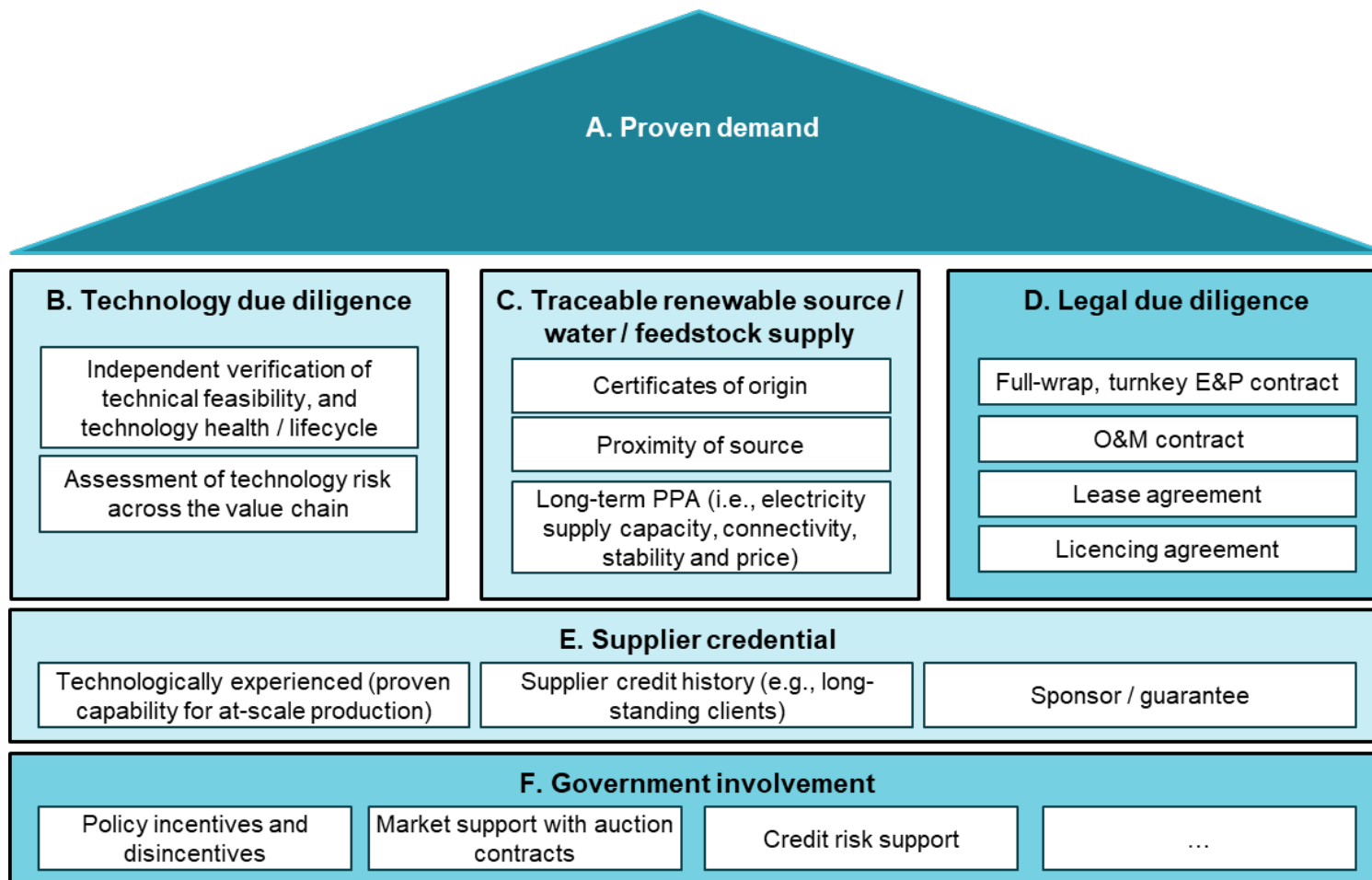


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## II. Importance of the demand signal

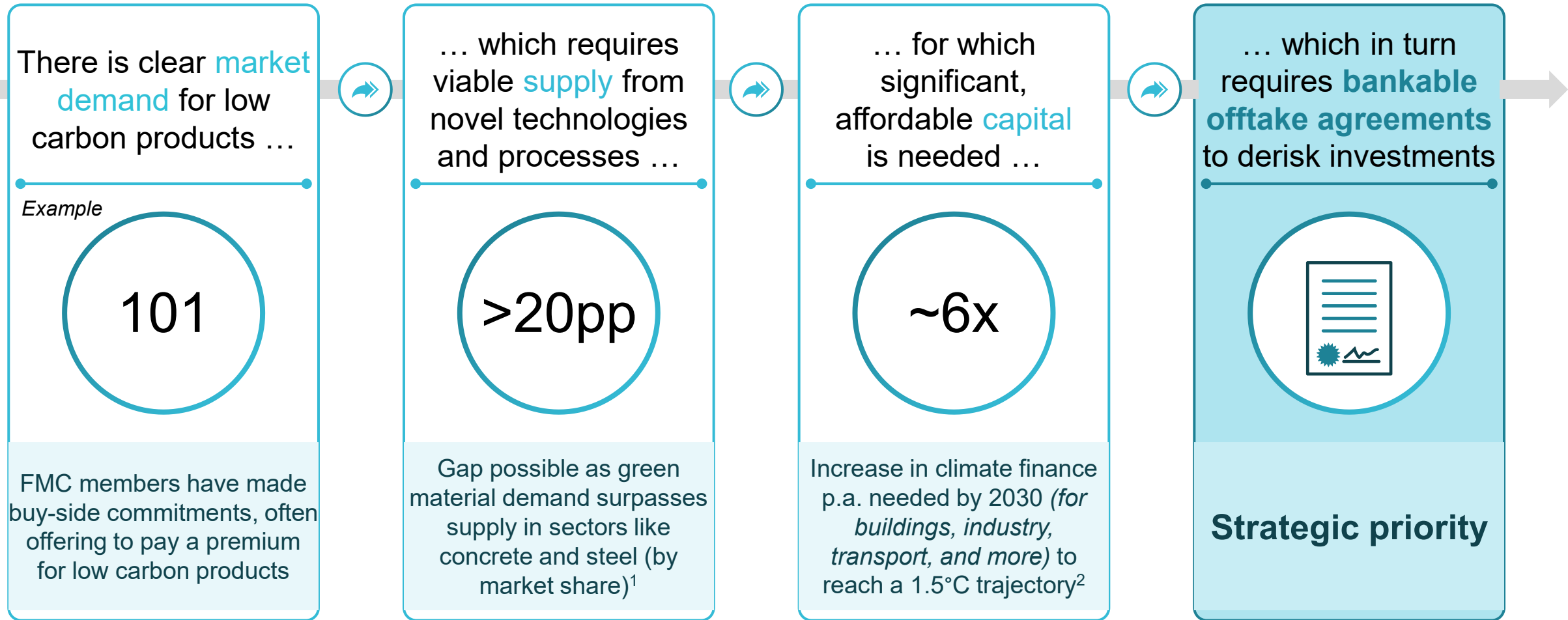


# Bankable Project Framework





# To accelerate the market for emerging climate tech in hard-to-abate sectors, long-term offtake agreements are critical



1. [WEF](#) – this decade; market share of downstream players with science-based decarbonization commitments surpasses share of upstream players who would need to supply green materials to achieve these commitments, which is >20pp in some instances in markets like plastics, chemicals, aluminium, glass, concrete and steel; 2. To USD \$4.3T For the next 26 years; BCG & Global Financial Markets Association climate finance report. <\$0.7T in annual global capital is allocated to climate finance today; which is <15% of the required amount ([link to report](#))

# Offtake agreements are extremely important to accelerate scale-up of cutting edge decarbonization technology, but also face significant challenges

Significant, affordable **capital** is needed to surface viable supply from novel technologies<sup>1</sup> ...



... which in turn requires **bankable offtake agreements** to derisk investments

However, persistent challenges today include



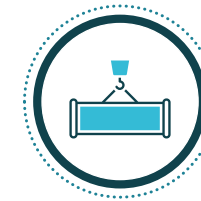
Cost gap



Disconnect with segments willing to pay<sup>2</sup>



Maturity of new supply chains and necessary infrastructure



Technical risk

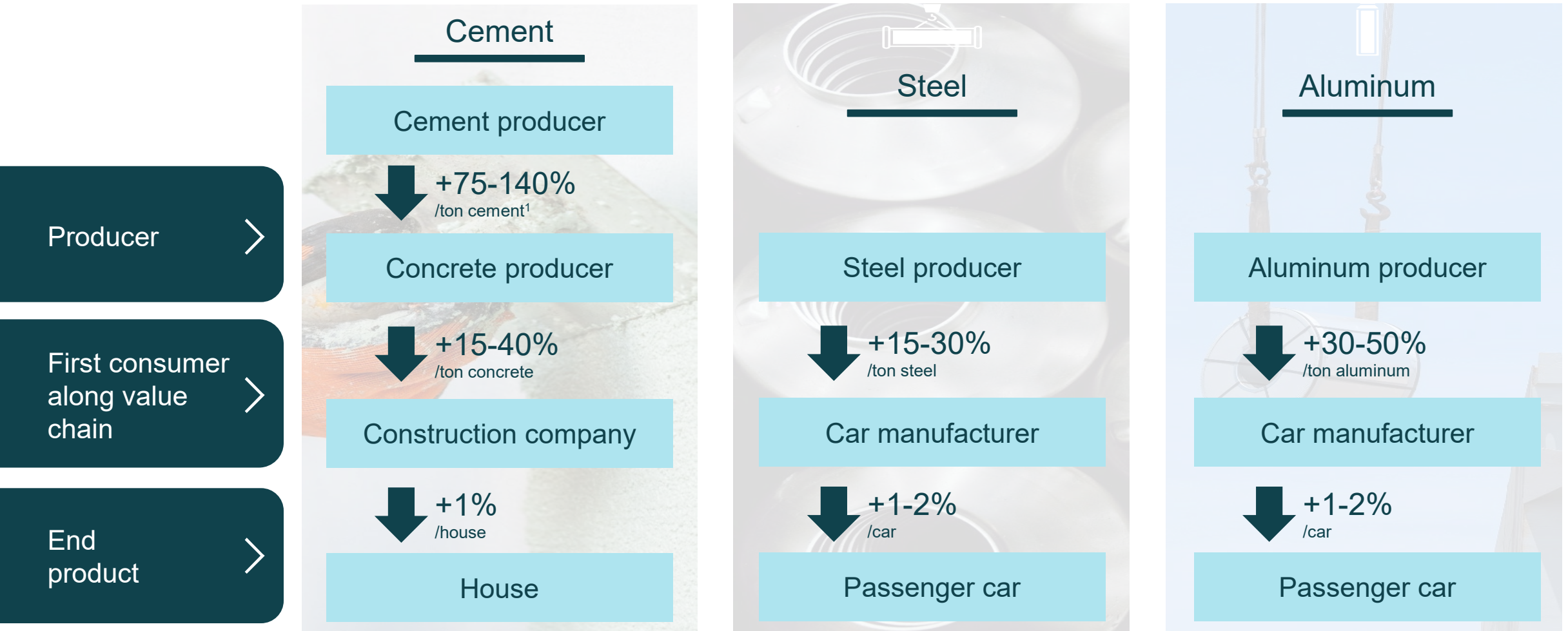


Time horizon of contracting

1. 6x increase in climate finance p.a. needed by 2030 (for buildings, industry, transport, and more) to reach a 1.5°C trajectory; USD \$4.3T For the next 26 years; BCG & Global Financial Markets Association climate finance report. <\$0.7T in annual global capital is allocated to climate finance today; which is <15% of the required amount ([link to report](#)); 2. Due to lack of physical proximity or proximity in value chain; BCG analysis

# Green premium dilution | Full decarbonization has a relatively low impact on prices to end-consumers – this will require coordination across the value chain

Illustrative for material sectors



# Elements of bankable offtake agreements

Through our discussions with financial institutions and corporates, the following important offtake elements have emerged as key to support increased financing

Offtaker credibility	Offtake terms and conditions	Offtake volume	Offtake duration	Offtake pricing and pricing structures
<p>An ideal candidate would be a company with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-standing credit history</li> <li>• Healthy P&amp;L statement</li> <li>• Relevant technological experience</li> <li>• Plans to use the committed volume towards the production of a relatively mature technology (e.g. replacing grey hydrogen with GH2)</li> </ul>	<p>Termination clauses should ideally include the following conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Debt-free condition</li> <li>• Full equity refund (if applicable)</li> <li>• Loss-of-profit refund</li> </ul>	<p>Financiers should aim to have as much of project revenue hedged through purchase agreements, aiming for nearly 100% coverage.</p> <p>However, recognizing challenges with offtake, ideal contracted volume should be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75-80% of output volume secured through offtake, with an aim of 100%</li> </ul>	<p>At the very least, offtakes should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover the tenure of debt financing (typically 8-14 years)</li> <li>• Align with timelines of tax credits and regulatory landscape               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to current regulatory uncertainty and incentives, few offtakes extend beyond 2030</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Prolonging production tax credits can help facilitate 10+ year offtake tenure</li> </ul>	<p>Ideally, offtake pricing should be within the competitive green premium range to mitigate contract breach risks and should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribute project risk between supplier and buyer (such as a cost-plus model with a price cap), in the absence of insurance or guarantees</li> </ul>

# Example: pricing mechanisms for SAF

In use for offtake agreements today

Input costs include feedstock cost, hydrogen cost, variable tolling fee, fixed tolling fee, and other fees

Pricing structure	Flat/fixed pricing	Index-plus	Cost-plus	Take-or-pay	Ownership
<b>Description</b>	Contracts where the price of SAF is locked in for the agreed upon quantities, regardless of change in jet-fuel market price or cost of inputs	Offtakers take the agreed-upon quantities, at the price based on the market index of jet fuel with a green premium	Offtakers take the agreed-upon quantities, at the price of input costs at the time of production, with a margin  Might be subject to price cap	Offtakers pay for the products on a regular basis, whether they take delivery of the products	Offtaker and supplier form a joint venture partnership to produce and sell a product, with the offtaker committing to purchasing a certain quantity of the product at an agreed-upon price
<b>Risks shared by buyers</b>					
Security of supply	[Shaded]				
Feedstock risk		[Shaded]			
Technology risk				[Shaded]	
Operational risk				[Shaded]	
Construction risk					[Shaded]
Return on investment					[Shaded]
<b>Considerations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncommon</li> <li>Risky for supplier</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most common among energy players</li> <li>Expected to grow more challenging as gap widens between HEFA4 feedstock and Jet A indices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common among energy players</li> <li>Less risky for suppliers with feedstock constraints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Too inflexible/high-risk currently for most offtakers, but will likely emerge stronger as markets mature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopted by a few large energy players</li> <li>Unlikely to be adopted by other players at scale due to the capital investment required</li> </ul>

# Considerations for low-carbon cement/concrete

Compared to SAF, the use of low-carbon cement/concrete can be extremely varied between small, short-term and large, long-term infrastructure projects. These varying demand schedules can create a high-degree of revenue uncertainty for suppliers. Implementing appropriate offtake pricing mechanisms can help mitigate this and additional risks.

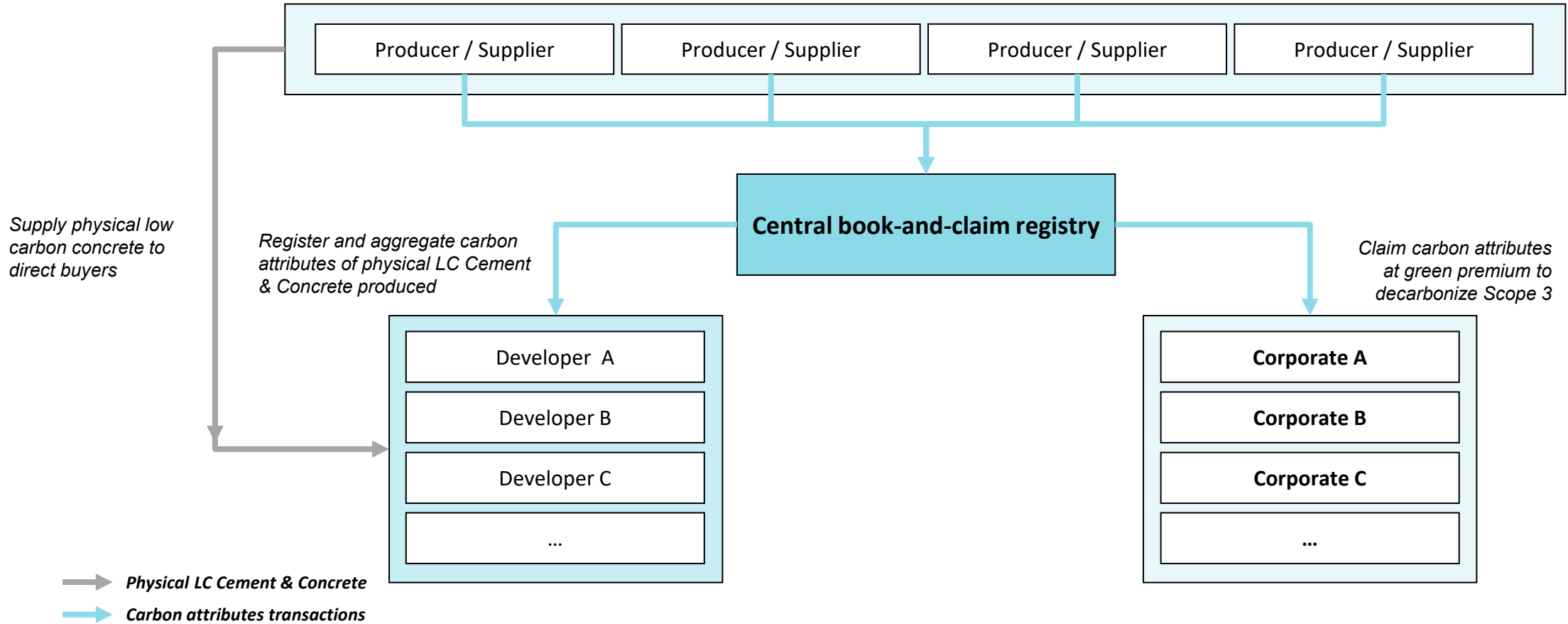
## Considerations for green steel and cement/concrete compared to SAF

Consideration	Potential implications to offtake pricing mechanisms
For large-scale infrastructure projects, demand can be relatively stable.	<i>Offtake agreements can be structured around long-term contracts with <b>Fixed or Indexed Pricing</b> to provide cost stability.</i>
Price stability is crucial due to the nature of the construction bidding process for many projects.	<i><b>Fixed Pricing</b> shields buyers and suppliers from market fluctuations, while <b>Indexed Pricing</b> share the risk of market fluctuations between the buyer and seller.</i>
Supplier supply chain reliability and continuous production are critical to the buyer for maintaining project timelines and ensuring product quality and safety.	<i><b>Prepaid or Take-or-Pay Offtakes</b> ensure suppliers receive necessary funds to sustain operations, reducing the risk of supply disruptions, but may not be feasible for products with complex supply chains and/or bulkier.</i>
Infrastructure projects typically involve the incorporation of various safety, quality, and environmental standards. <sup>1</sup>	<i>Offtake agreements may include <b>clauses ensuring compliance</b> with specific standards to maintain consistency and meet regulatory requirements.</i>

1. Quality and environmental standards in the U.S. include (non-comprehensive) LEED certification, ASTM Standards, EPA regulations, ACI Standards, and Buy Clean California Act ;  
Source: Oliver Wyman analysis



# Book and Claim Chain of Custody Model emerging as an Alternative Tool to Strengthen Demand



**A wholistic, auditable, and clear book and claim system that allows for credit purchase of corporates around the world is key to global demand scaling as offtakes outside of incentivized markets where suppliers are located**

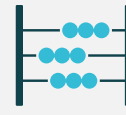
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# III. Cement & Concrete market dynamics

# High-level green cement market challenges to overcome with further development and innovation



Lack of clear, consistent regulation incentivizing low-emissions cement production & purchases



Lack of:

1) Clear carbon accounting guidance

2) Harmonized book-and-claim systems & registries to overcome cement & concrete's geographical limitations



Procurement tends to be short-term deals due to uncertainty of projects



1) High prices vs. conventional cement, in segments with traditionally low margins (e.g., construction)

2) Difficulty in passing costs along the value chain and people in the middle of the value chain may not get credit for paying a premium



Lack of performance-based standards which are needed for novel solutions like alternative cement chemistries



Low supply of low emissions cement and high supplier project risks, despite variety of tech pathways to create green cement

# Despite market challenges, FMC members are making progress

## North America

**ZGF** Agreement with **local concrete suppliers** to increase use of SCMs in two recent projects

Targeting the integration of **10% green concrete in civil and mechanical projects**, replacing traditional cement with eco-friendlier SCMs such as GGBS and fly ash.

## Middle East



## Europe

**VATTENFALL**  Agreement with **CemVision** for development and supply of near-zero emission cement



# FMC US Workshop, July 2024: Cement & Concrete Sector Summary

## The opportunity:

- In the context of the US Dept of Energy's **Industrial Demonstrations Program** providing \$1.6bn to cement & concrete suppliers with promising decarbonization projects, offtake of near-zero emissions cement & concrete can de-risk investment and unlock further capital.
- **The solutions for achieving a net-zero cement & concrete industry by 2050 already exist** but scaling these and achieving a **manageable green premium** for decarbonized products remain important open questions.

## Key barriers & challenges:

- Companies with a **willingness to pay a green premium** may operate far down the value chain from the production of near-zero emissions cement, or far geographically
- This makes it **harder to pay a green premium at the physical offtake stage**.

## Key solutions:

Technologies, including:

- **Carbon capture** solutions
- Using **alternative raw materials**
- Employing **alternative cement chemistries**.

Value chain collaboration to pass on the green premium appropriately down the value chain was also flagged as a key component in achieving offtake.

**New chain of custody models**, such as book & claim, to separate the purchasing of green attributes and the physical product could help downstream buyers bridge the green premium. Collaboration with auditors and standard setters, and alignment with existing systems and protocols such as Environmental Product Declarations, SBTi and GHG Protocol, are likely to be crucial factors for success.

# What the public sector is uniquely positioned to do

## Purchasing

- Implement Federal or State **Buy Clean programs**
- **Set example** to private companies of buying significant quantities of new, low-carbon materials to reduce market skepticism
- **Set example** of purchasing cement/concrete in a long-term advanced market commitment deal to de-risk suppliers' investments in low-carbon cement/concrete
- Along with corporates, leverage a **book-and-claim system** for purchasing low-carbon materials

## Wider activities

- Building code revision to move to **performance-based standards**
- Work with **innovation/research labs** to invest in promising technologies

# **RMI & NRDC Presentation**

## **A Roadmap to Public Sector Advance Purchasing of Near-Zero Emissions Concrete**

# Background - low-carbon concrete for DOTs



# Low-Carbon Concrete for Infrastructure Projects

**I. Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) Integration**

**II. Specification Adjustments**

**III. Performance Engineered Mixture (PEM) Demonstration Projects**

**IV. Innovative, Emerging Low-Carbon Materials**

Today: Low Carbon



Future: Zero Carbon

# Low-Carbon Concrete for Infrastructure Projects

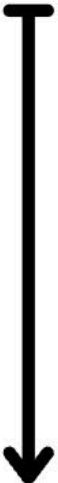
**I. Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) Integration**

**II. Specification Adjustments**

**III. Performance Engineered Mixture (PEM) Demonstration Projects**

**IV. Innovative, Emerging Low-Carbon Materials**

Today: Low Carbon



Future: Zero Carbon

# Medium to Low EC OPC Alternatives



## Existing



## Emerging

Non-Portland cement – alternative binders  
Traditional SCMs

Carbon-sequestering aggregates  
Carbon injection

Alternative raw materials  
Alternative SCMs (e.g. calcined clay)

Performance enhancing admixtures  
Carbonation curing

Alternative cement processes / chemistries  
Biocement  
CCUS

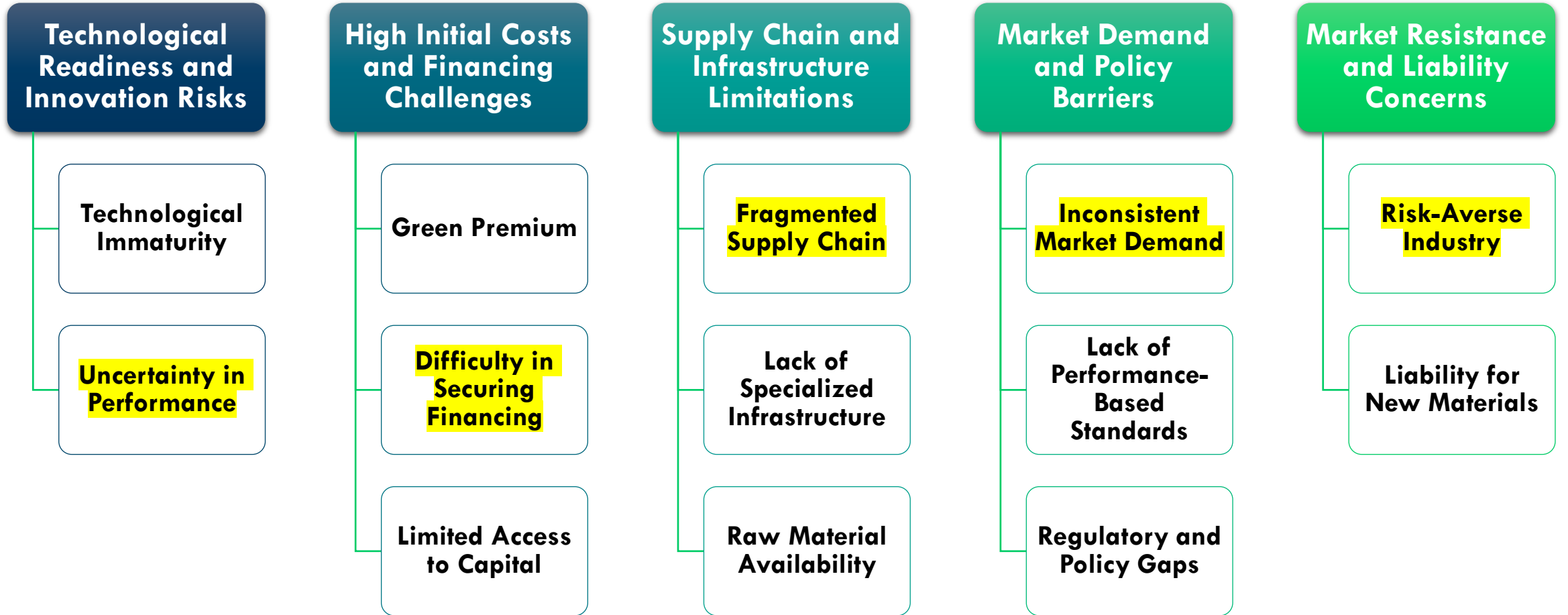


10-50%  
reduction

30-60%  
reduction

Beyond 60%  
reduction

# Barriers to Adoption of Emerging Tech



# Why does the public sector matter?

# Why are public sector AMCs important?

## Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

Transportation Electricity Industry Commercial & Residential  
Agriculture Concrete

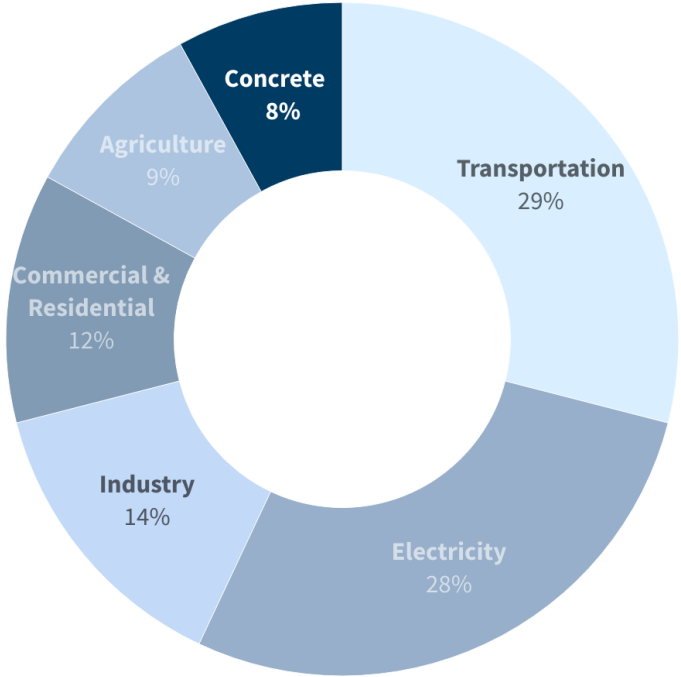
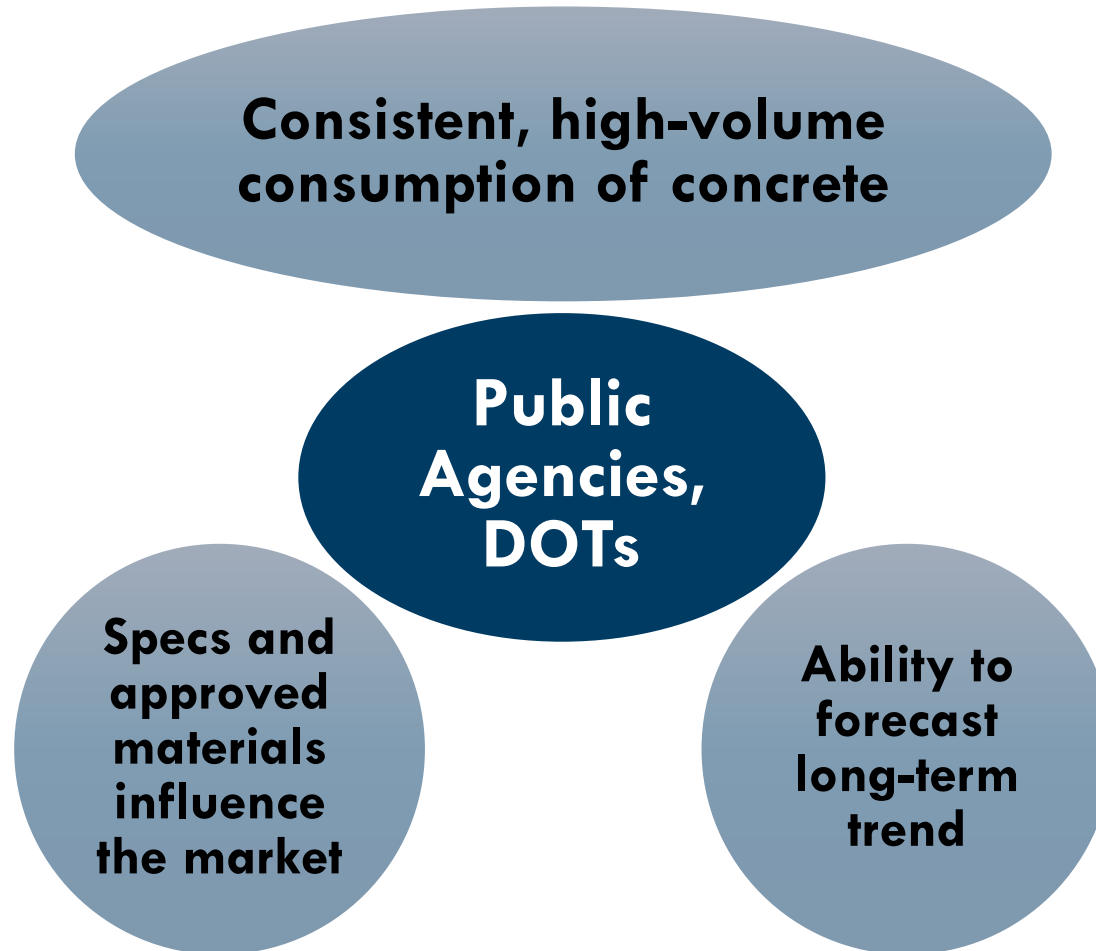


Chart: RMI • Source: Princeton University



**50% of U.S. concrete demand comes from public procurement, giving the government substantial influence to drive change.**

# Public sector concrete AMCs are critical



# Implementation strategies for AMCs

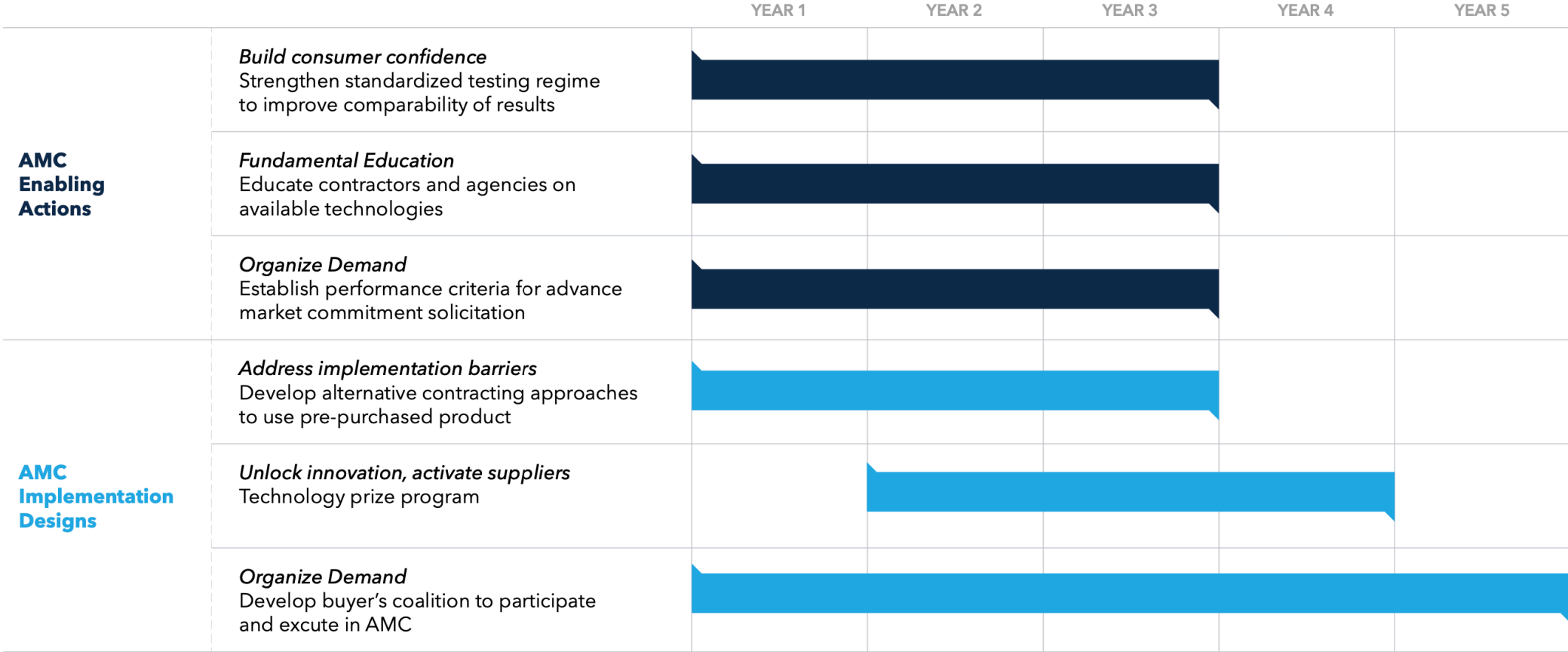


# The hard truth: public sector advance purchasing is a difficult, if not impossible, task today

## Barriers

- Common construction contract models preclude use of pre-purchased products
- Lack of performance-based specification and contracting for concrete construction
- Technical application of emerging near-zero carbon concrete requires behavioral change
- Fragmented value chain with many stakeholders to educate

# Near-term steps to unlock advance purchasing



# 1. Build consumer confidence

## Objective

- Strengthen standardized testing regime to improve comparability of results

### Demonstrate performance-based standards

- Prescriptive-based standards have historically limited the menu of materials available
- Alternatively, performance-based standards can:
  - Increase the flexibility of qualifying materials
  - Accommodate the entry of novel low-carbon blended cements e.g., ASTM C1157

### Strengthen state testing regimes

- DOTs play a major role in setting norms in the concrete market.
- DOTs can improve the applicability of their testing results nationwide by:
  - Creating a database to share concrete mix testing
  - Additional resource sharing

### Expand state testing regimes

- Testing facilities can go beyond pavement testing and include different concrete applications.
- State DOTs may consider launching their own testing facilities.
  - e.g., MnRoad, Lab-to-Slab Initiative at the UC Davis Pavement Research Center
- DOTs can work with DOE's IDP awardees to test emerging low carbon concrete products.

### Case Study: Supporting Legislation

- Concrete and Asphalt Innovation Act of 2023

# 2. Provide fundamental education

## Objective

- Raised understanding of, and confidence in available cement and concrete technologies

### Knowledge Sharing Platforms

- Providing a platform that promotes collaboration and dissemination of critical performance data and essential technical skills
- Allows organizations to quickly adapt to market changes.

### Industry Training

- Live or on-demand training programs support skills development in industry.
- Improves understanding and accelerating the adoption of new technologies.

### Industry Led Collaboration Groups

- Connecting experts and industry leaders directly with contractors and agencies.
- Provides a centralized forum for propagating best practices, optimizing knowledge exchange and promoting collaboration.

### Case Study: Supporting Legislation

- Concrete Industry adoption of Portland Limestone Cement (PLC)

# 3. Identify key criteria for an advance purchase

## Objective

- Establish a detailed set of material and business performance criteria

### Material Criteria

- Material criteria must be developed and met to initiate AMCs between buyers and suppliers.
- Criteria will focus on durability, strength, workability, and environmental impact, specifically greenhouse gas reductions vs. Baseline.
- Material performance must be demonstrated via appropriate testing.

### Business Criteria

- Business criteria must be developed and met to ensure that the product developed will meet market demand. E.g., target price, business plan, production growth plan
- Milestone payments may be distributed on a staged basis as certain business performance criteria are met including R&D completion, manufacturing capacity and scaling requirements.

### Contract Drafting

- When an agency is ready to develop template contracts for an AMC agreement, the agency may refer to other AMCs that have already been made, partner with other interested agencies, and reference publicly available agreements.
- A contract would include the necessary terms, conditions, pricing, and geographic considerations for successful procurement.

### Case Study

- Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment
- NASA Commercial Orbital Transportation Services (COTS) program

# 4. Demonstrate alternative contracting models

## Objective

- Align supply chain structure and market actors to incentivize innovation in low-carbon cement and concrete production, while reducing market fragmentation.

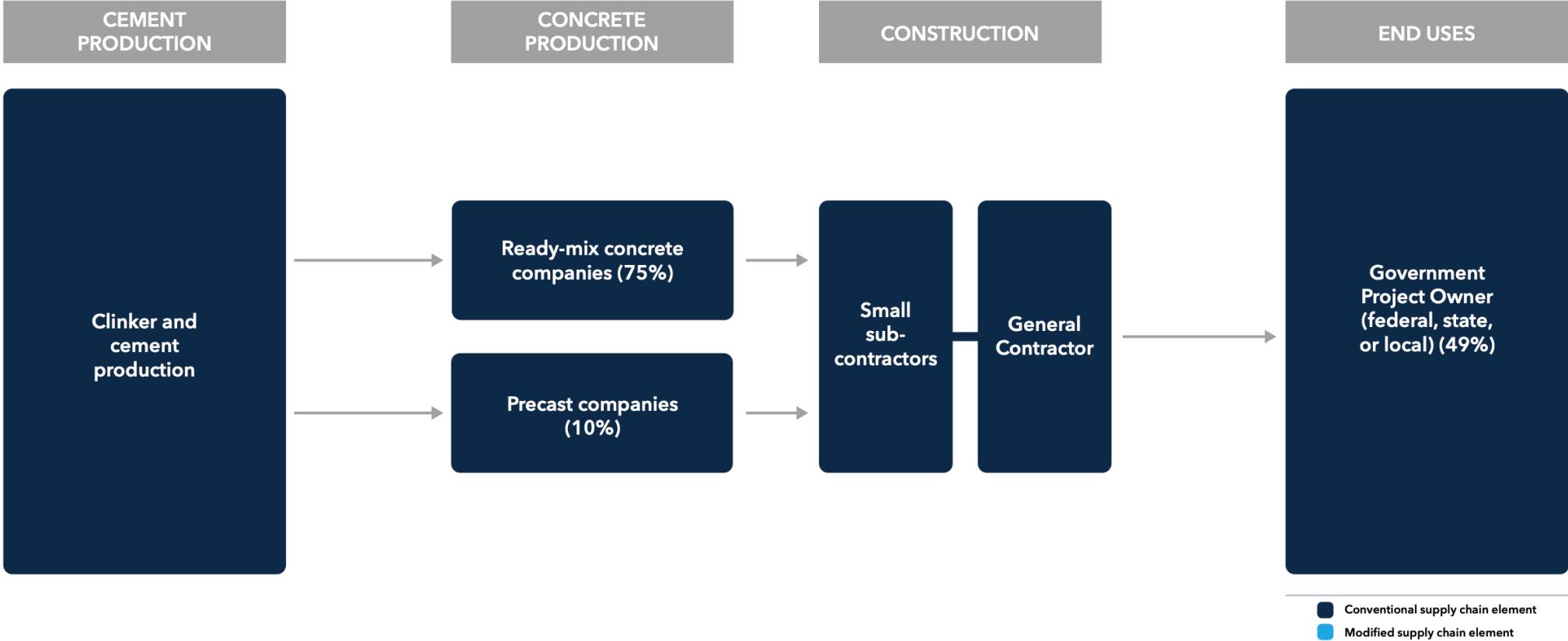
### Liability Concerns

- Risk adverse construction industry
- Owners limited from prescribing specific pre-purchased products.

### Alternative Contract Models

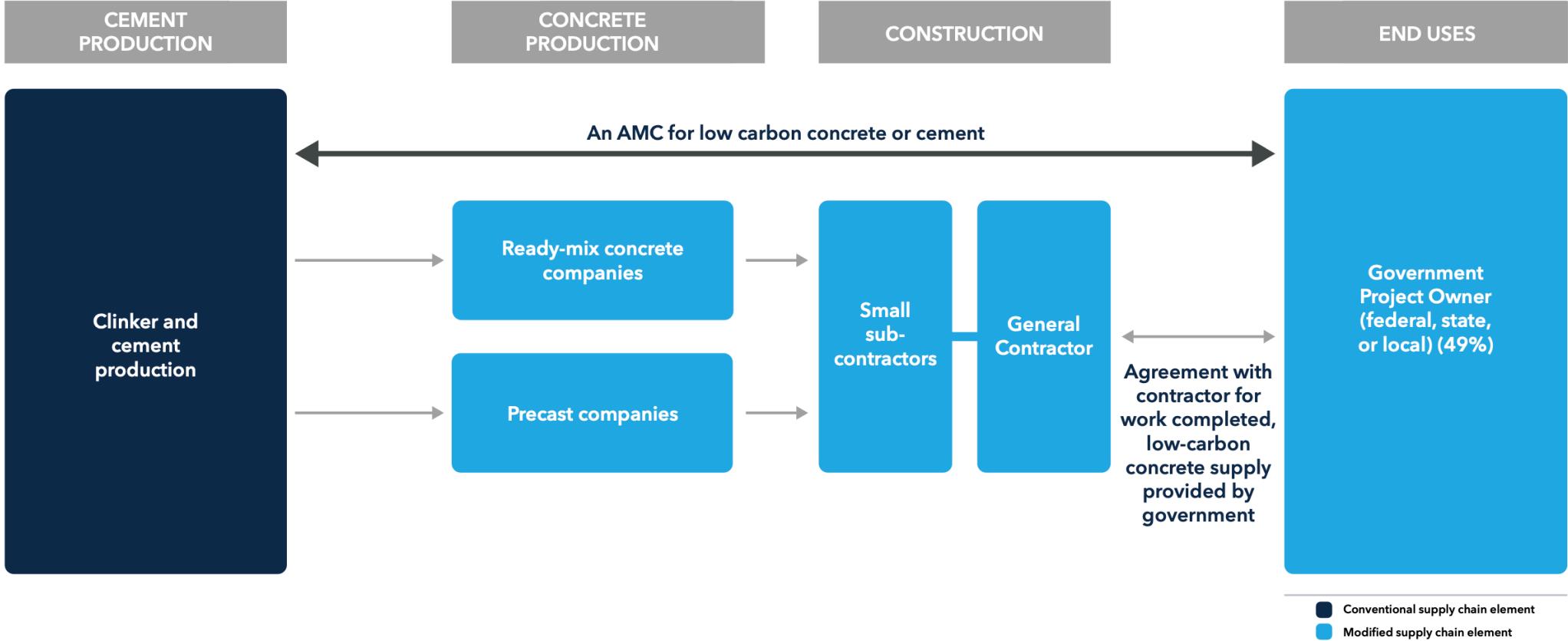
- Direct Contractor-Cement Supplier Agreements
- Mandated Use of Approved Low-Carbon Materials

# Conventional Supply Chain Model

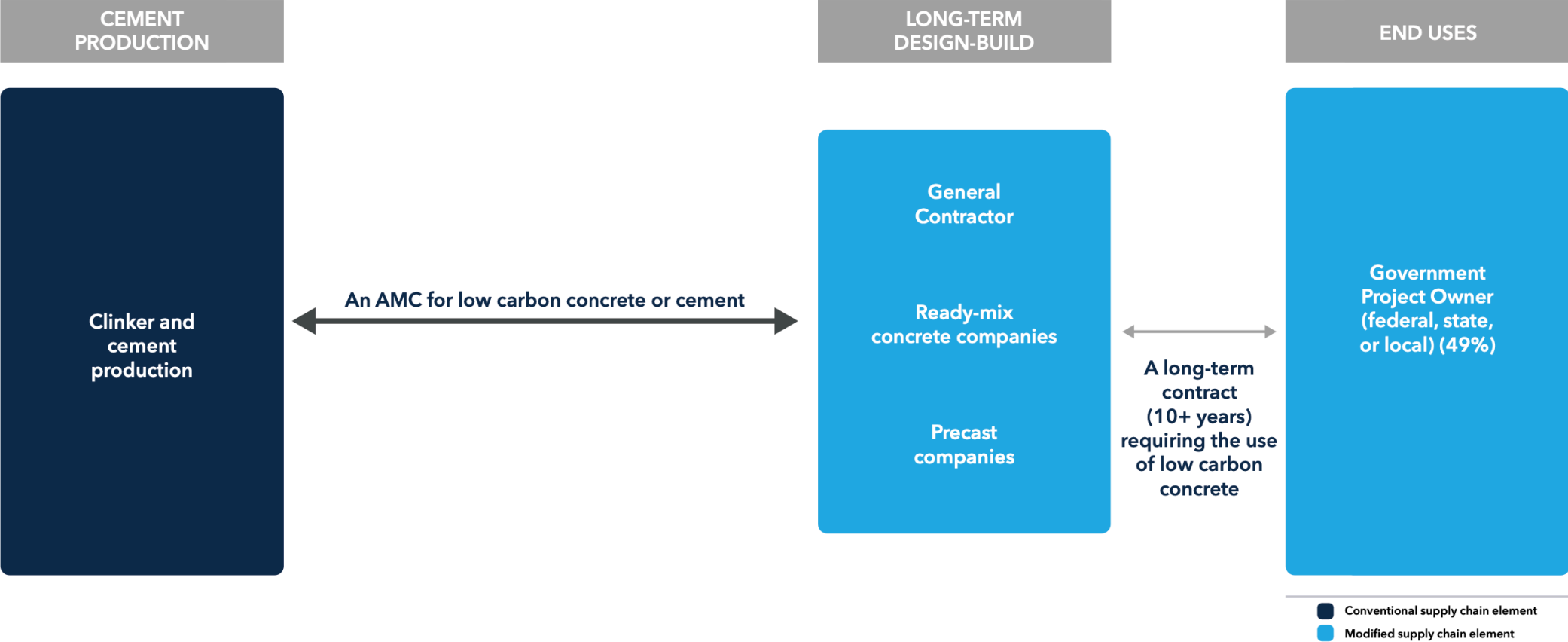




# Alternative Supply Chain Model



# Alternative Supply Chain Model



# 5. Unlock innovation with a prize program

## Objectives

- Stimulate innovation in low-carbon concrete technologies by launching a technology prize program that encourages competition and activates suppliers.
- Provide platform to pilot these technologies and beta-test advance purchase

### Incentivize Lowest Carbon Concrete

- **Goal:** Encourage suppliers to compete on cost and carbon emissions reduction.
- **Outcome:** The winning technology will undergo beta testing in real project applications.

### Establish Standards & Guidelines

- **Material Standards** define performance criteria to ensure new technologies are suitable for current concrete applications.
- **Carbon Footprint Guidelines** set specific production emissions requirements to ensure significant reductions.
- **Demonstration projects** provides real-world testing, building confidence for AMC deployment.

### Case Study: Global Cooling Prize

- **Technology-Agnostic Approach:** Allowed access to various solutions, focusing on affordability, scalability and performance under real-world conditions.
- **Impact:** Enabled leading manufacturers and startups to advance prototypes through rigorous testing, setting a model for incentivizing climate-focused technology.

# 6. Coordinate with other buyers

## Objectives

- Provide producers assurance to make larger investments than would be possible through individual engagements
- Send a clear demand signal for additional low-carbon products through purchases from end user customers

### Connecting Suppliers & Buyers

- Convene a group of committed buyers
- Enable direct interaction between cement producers and buyers to streamline AMC agreements
- Create flexible contracting models suitable for both public and private buyers.

### Explore certificate models to unlock demand

- Mechanisms such as book & claim can unlock geographical limitations to demand and support offtake agreements

### Case Study: Sustainable Aviation Buyers Alliance

- **Strategy:** Pooled buyer demand drove SAF production, also offering technical resources and support.
- **Impact:** Demonstrates the power of organized buyer demand and reducing costs.

# Power of Demand Aggregation

## RMI and Center for Green Market Activation (GMA) are developing a book & claim certificate to unlock demand



**Demonstrate stronger demand signal** for low-carbon cement and concrete to help grow the market



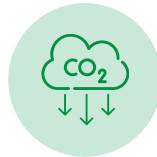
**Secure better deal terms** through purchasing EACs in bulk and engaging with multiple off takers at once



**Provide bankable assurance** to producers to make investments via longer-term market signals



**Benefit from peer-to-peer learning** while navigating complex, new markets



**Ensure environmental integrity** by leveraging alliance sustainability frameworks and collective action



# Q & A

# Interactive Polling Session

# Open Discussion



## Conclusion

1. Public sector demand is key to unlocking a climate-aligned concrete industry
2. Near term steps can set the stage for public sector AMCs
3. Demonstration projects, specification adjustments, alternative contracting models, and prize programs are key steps

The event recording and other resources  
will be posted on this page within 24 hours



Carbon-Free Buildings  
Low-Embodied Carbon Program



# Thank you!

For more information visit  
[rmi.org/buildings](http://rmi.org/buildings)

