Training for Sustainable Building

Vocational Training Modules for the

Natural Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (NEES) Project

DOCUMENT SUMMARY

























This document contains a summary and index of the materials contained in the NEES training modules and training manual.

Contents

In	troduction and overview of the NEES vocational training modules	5
Secti	on A: Principles of Sustainable Design	6
In	troduction	6
Re	commended generic principles for sustainable development	8
	Ensuring sustainability through design	8
	2. Mitigate and reduce the causes of climate change and adapt to its effects	8
	3. Promote equality and ethical standards	8
	4. Encourage a sustainable culture and behavioural change through education	9
	5. Sustainable development is rooted in place	9
	6. Plan for sustainable neighbourhoods	9
	7. Protect biodiversity	10
	8. Integrate landscape and infrastructure	11
	9. Encourage urban agriculture and urban forestry	11
	10. Prioritise sustainable development in land use	11
	11. Re-use vacant sites	13
	12. Sustainable transport	13
	13. Sustainable water use	13
	14. Reduce energy usage	14
	15. Assess the sustainability of biomass and bio-fuels	14
	16. Renovate and Re-Use Buildings	15
	17. Protect the built heritage and encourage good designs so that new buildings are valued and become the future heritage.	15
	18. Make new buildings flexible in use	16
	19. Put fabric first	16
	20. Use passive solar design and shading	16
	21. Prioritise indoor air quality	16
	22. Reduce emissions from building fabric	18
	23. Select sustainable building materials	19
	24. Take account of embodied energy	20
	25. Use renewable and natural low impact materials	21
	26. Conserve and reuse materials.	22
	27. Design for demolition and re-use	22
	28. Take sustainable development as far as possible	23
Secti	on B: Defining and Identifying renewable and non-renewable materials	24
Lo	w impact materials	24
	Synthetic Materials	24

	Limitations of synthetic and recycled materials	25
	Resource Consumption	28
	Renewable materials – Insulation	29
Ch	naracteristics of Renewable Materials compared with synthetics	32
Re	newable Materials	32
	Hemp and Hemp 'concrete'	33
	Flax	34
	Straw, Strawbale and Straw composite boards	34
	Cork	35
	Wood:	35
	Wood fibre	36
	Solid timber	37
Lo	w Impact and recycled Materials	38
	Earth	38
	Lime	38
	Cellulose – Recycled newsprint and paper	39
Ar	guments used against the use of bio based natural materials	40
	Cost	11
As	sessment and labelling of natural materials	12
Re	eferences:	43
Mod	ule 1: General Principles of holistic building and construction design	16
M	odule 1 learning outcomes	46
Mod	ule 2: Housing Construction Methods and principles	17
M	odule 2 learning outcomes	17
Mod	ule 3: House envelope 1 Roofs and Earth construction	18
M	odule 3 learning outcomes	18
Mod	ule 4: House envelope 2 Windows and Natural Insulation	19
M	odule 4 learning outcomes	19
Mod	ule 5: Certification and accreditation	50
M	odule 5 learning outcomes	50
Mod	ule 6: Energy and Water Usage	51
М	odule 6 learning outcomes	51

Introduction and overview of the NEES vocational training modules.

The NEES vocational training package consists of set of training modules that address the various aspects of Natural, Energy Efficient and Sustainable (NEES) building practices.

The package is made up of six modules; Module 1 General principles, Module 2 Construction Methods, Module 3 Envelope 1 Roofs and earth construction, Module 4 Envelope 2 Windows and insulation, Module 5 Accreditation and certification and Module 6 Energy and water usage.

The modules are designed to be stand alone and each module can be delivered individually or as part of the series. Each module consists of a PowerPoint slide presentation which contains notes and images.

Module 6 is designed as a support module and covers some of the fundamental building energy principles.

This manual contains additional training support material that can be used to aid delivery of the modules and a list of the headings from each module and the intended learning outcomes.

John Scahill & Tom Woolley ©

The NEES training materials consist of the following

This training manual on the principles of sustainable design and defining and identifying renewable materials and;

6 Vocational Training modules.

Module 1 General Principles of holistic design

Module 2 Housing Construction Methods and principles

Module 3 House Envelope 1 Roofs and Earth construction

Module 4 House Envelope 2 Windows and natural Insulation

Module 5 Certification and accreditation

Module 6 Energy and Water usage

Module 1: General Principles of holistic building and construction design.

- 1.0 Introduction
- 1.1 NEES principles and criteria
- 1.2 Sustainable Materials Principles
- 1.3 **Embodied Energy**
- 1.4 Carbon Footprint
- 1.5 Natural Materials
- 1.6 **Health Issues**
- 1.7 Life cycle disposal and durability
- 1.8 Performance and energy efficiency issues

Module 1 learning outcomes

- 1. List and describe the principles of holistic building design.
- 2. Appreciate the role and importance of embodied energy and carbon in relation to the specification of building products and materials.
- 3. Be familiar with the characteristics of natural and renewable material and their role in construction

Module 2: Housing Construction Methods and principles.

- 2.0 Introduction
- 2.1 Conventional Construction
- 2.2 Thermal performance principles
- 2.3 Airtightness
- 2.4 Foundations
- 2.5 Timber frame construction
- 2.6 **Engineered timber products**
- 2.7 Solid Timber Construction
- 2.8 Hemp-Lime Hempcrete

Module 2 learning outcomes

- 1. Aware of the importance of thermal performance of materials and detailing in relation to low energy buildings.
- 2. Be familiar with a range of low impact construction principles.
- 3. Be familiar with a range of natural and renewable construction materials and their application in the built environment..

Module 3: House envelope 1 Roofs and Earth construction.

- 3.1 Green Roofs
- 3.2 **Earth Construction**
- 3.3 Retrofit Methods and Material

Module 3 learning outcomes

- 1. Be familiar with the principles and application of green roofs
- 2. Be familiar with range of low impact construction techniques and materials including, cob and earth, strawbale and timber frame building techniques.
- 3. Aware of the principles of retrofit techniques and the technical challenges associated with low energy retrofitting.
- 4. Understand the concept of breathability in relation to building materials.

Module 4: House envelope 2 Windows and Natural Insulation

- 4.1 Windows
- 4.2 Passive Solar Design
- 4.3 **Insulation types**
- 4.4 **Cellulose**
- 4.5 **Sheeps Wool**
- 4.6 **Hemp**
- 4.7 Wood Fibre Insulation
- 4.8 IBO Catalogue Data
- 4.9 **Comparative case study**
- 4.10 Insulation products

Module 4 learning outcomes

- 1. Be familiar with the concept of passive solar design.
- 2. List and describe the properties of a range of natural insulation materials
- 3. Be aware of a range of innovative low impact insulation materials.

Module 5: Certification and accreditation.

- 5.0 Introduction
- 5.1 CE marking
- 5.2 Construction Products Directive (CPD)
- 5.3 Agrément Certification
- 5.4 Carbon Offsetting
- 5.5 Natureplus Certification
- 5.6 REACH
- 5.7 COSHH
- 5.8 Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)
- 5.9 Life Cycle Assessment LCA
- 5.10 **ASBP**
- **5.11 LEED**
- 5.12 Living Building Challenge
- 5.13 Cellulose case study

Module 5 learning outcomes

- 1. Be familiar with certification and accreditation as it applies to construction products. .
- 2. Understand the role and importance of certification and accreditation in relation to the specification of low impact products and materials for construction projects.

Module 6: Energy and Water Usage

- 6.0 **Introduction**
- 6.1 Energy usage and definitions
- 6.2 **Building heat loss**
- 6.3 Low energy lighting
- 6.4 Renewable Energy options
- 6.5 **Energy Efficient appliances**
- 6.6 Water usage and treatment

Module 6 learning outcomes.

- 1. Be familiar with the principles of power and energy measurement
- 2. Understand the basic principles of building heat loss.
- 3. Be familiar with a range of building energy usage reduction strategies
- 4. Be aware of ways to reduce water usage in buildings.