

Holcim Event

MISSION 2030

WIE **WERDEN** WIR BAUEN?

WIE **WOLLEN** WIR BAUEN?

8. MAI 2025

Reparatur der Zukunft Kreislaufwirtschaft im Bauwesen

Architekt Thomas Romm



ÜBER UNS

Reparatur der Zukunft

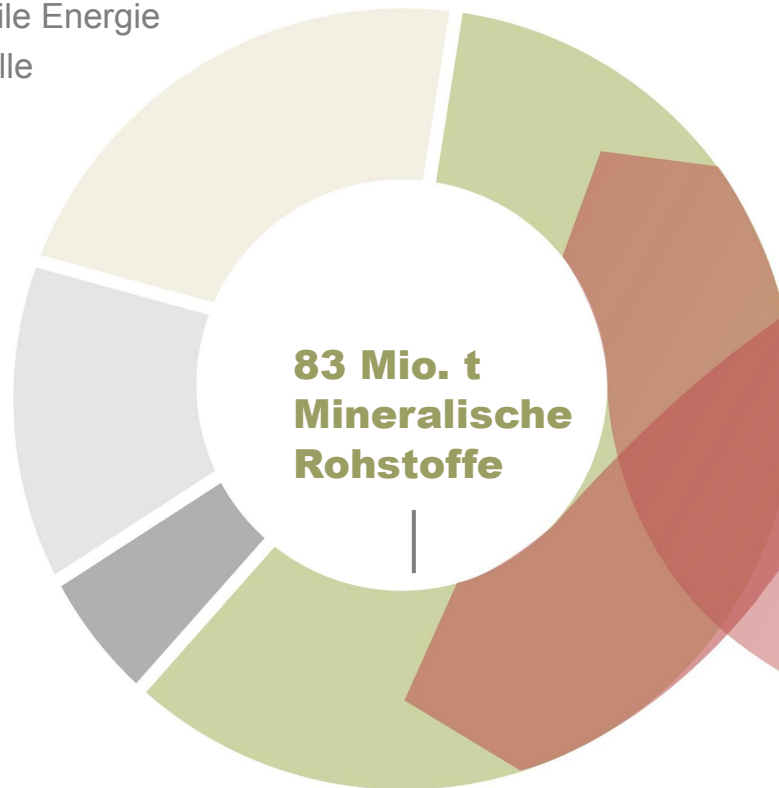
Veränderung beginnt im Kleinen, auch wenn sie das große Ganze im Blick hat. Dieser Satz steht für die Ö1 Initiative Reparatur der Zukunft, die seit 2020 innovativen Ideen eine mediale Plattform gibt.

<https://oe1.orf.at/artikel/681641/Reparatur-der-Zukunft>

KREISLAUFWIRTSCHAFT IN ÖSTERREICH

Rohstoffbedarf

- 54% Mineralische Rohstoffe
- 25% Biomasse
- 14% Fossile Energie
- 7% Metalle



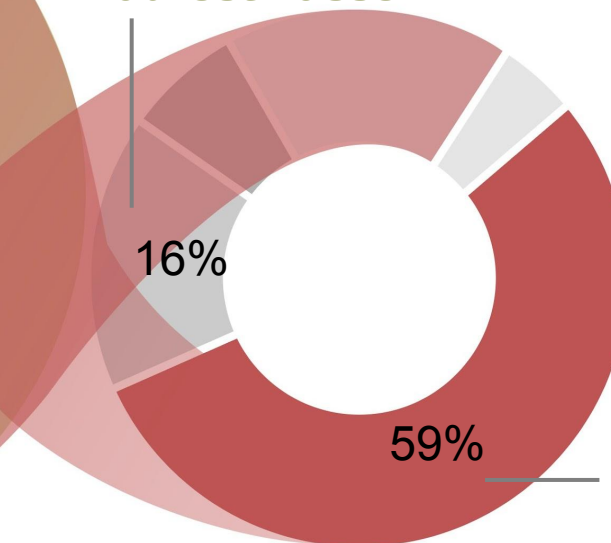
Input: 154 Mio. t/a

Quelle: BMK, Ressourcennutzung in Österreich
2022

Abfallaufkommen

- 59% Aushubmaterialien
- 16% Bau- und Abbruchabfälle
- 6% Siedlungsabfälle aus Haushalten
- 4% Siedlungsabfälle anderer
- Herkunft 4% Sekundärabfälle
- 11% Übrige Abfälle

**12 Mio. t
Baurestmassen**



Output: 74 Mio. t/a

Quelle: BMK, BAWP Statusbericht 2024 für das Jahr
2022

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 Bundesministerium
Land- und Forstwirtschaft,
Klima- und Umweltschutz,
Regionen und Wasserwirtschaft

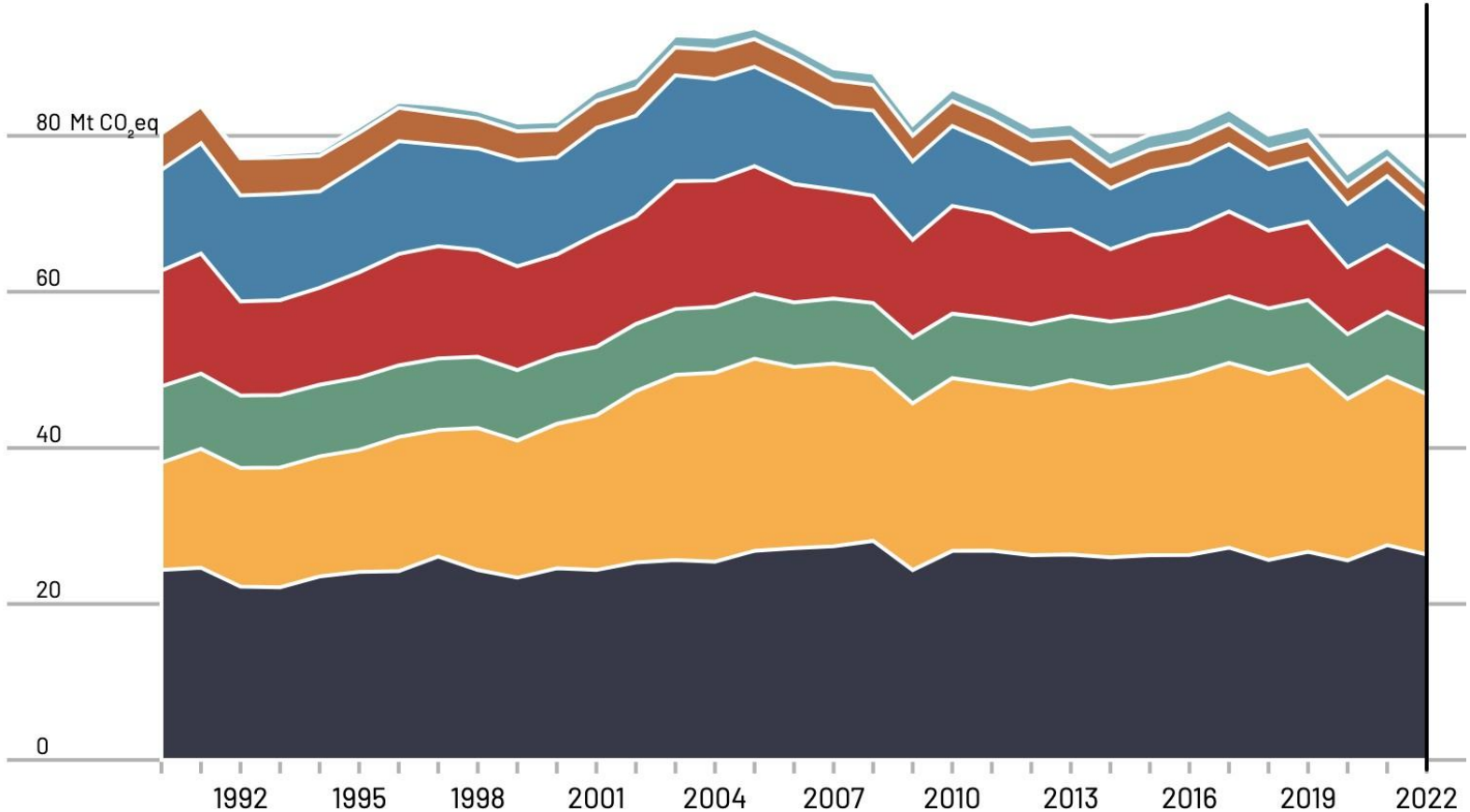
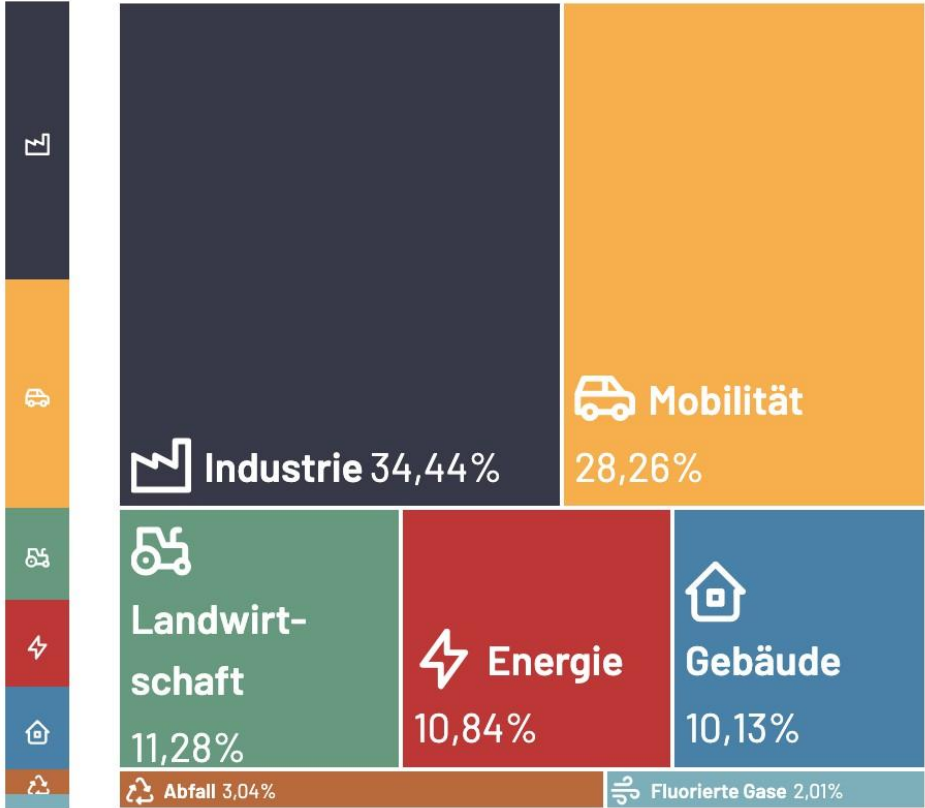
 Bundesministerium
Innovation, Mobilität
und Infrastruktur



4. & 5. NOVEMBER 2025 | Palais Niederösterreich, 1010 Wien

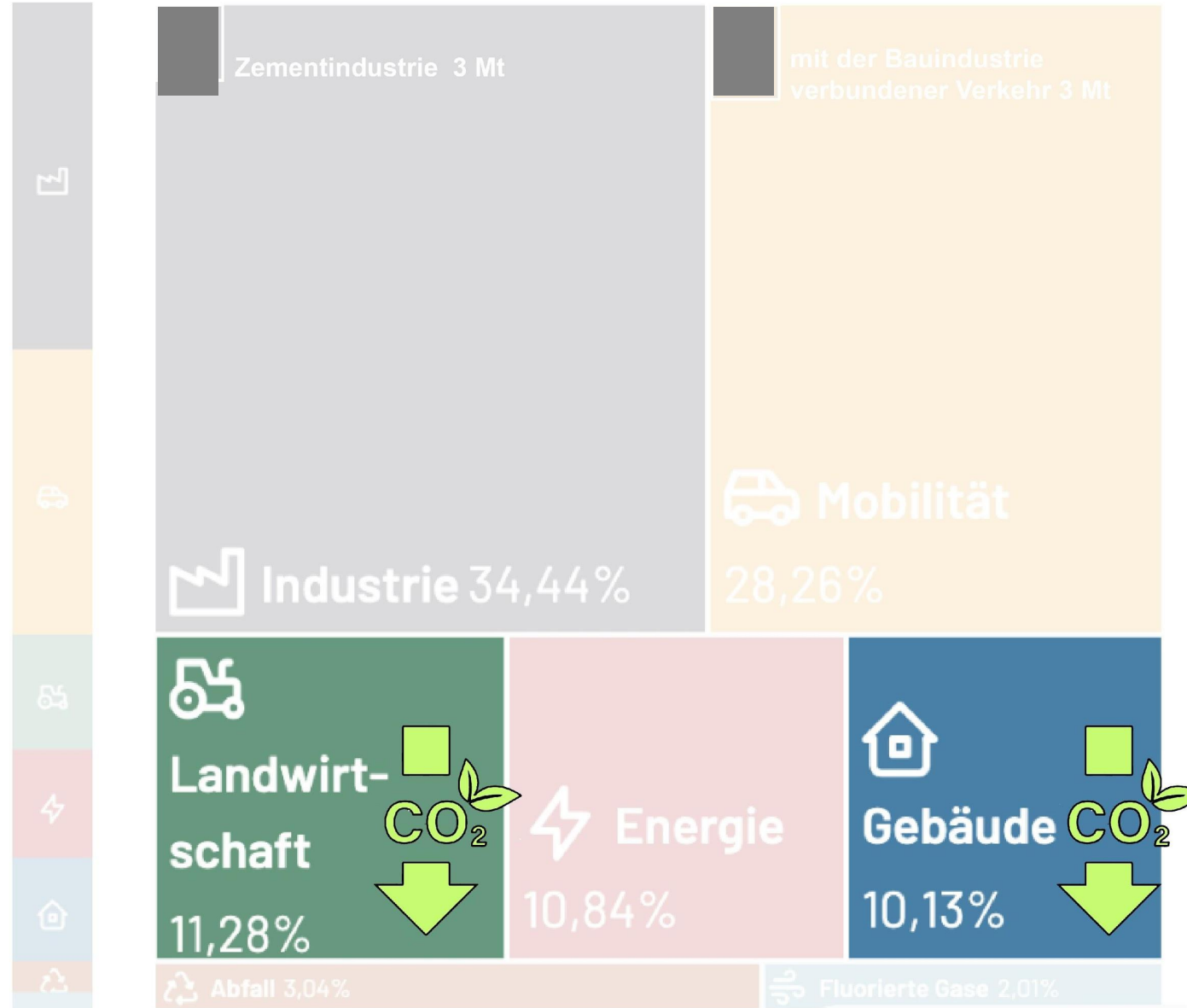


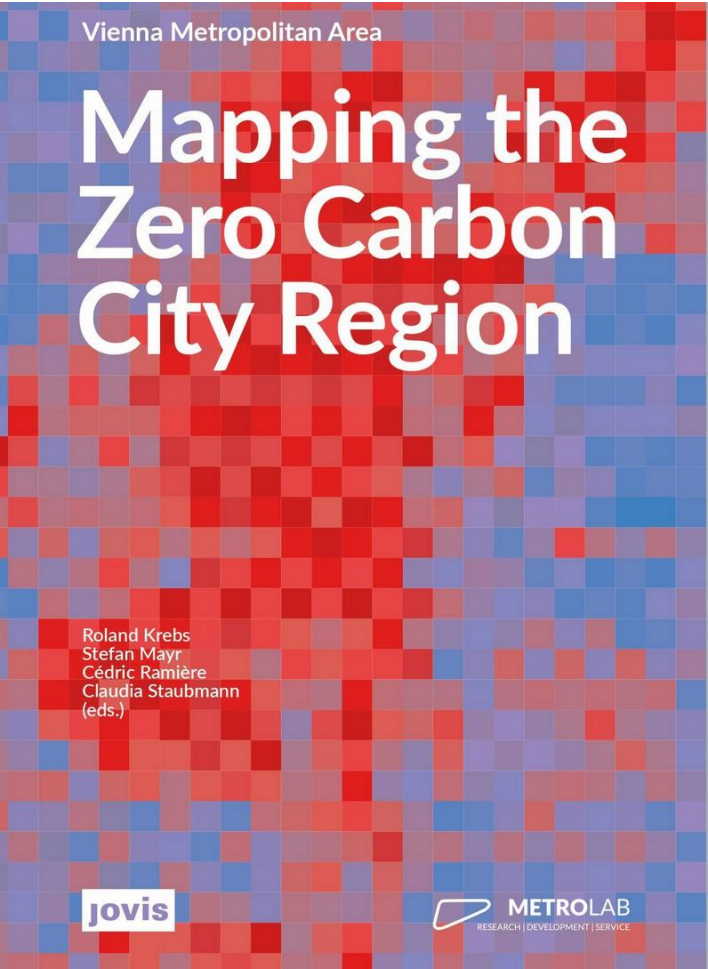
○ Gesamtemissionen 2022 72,84 Mt CO₂eq (100%)



Quelle: Klimadashboard. (2025). Produktionsbasierte Emissionen. Klimadashboard Österreich. Abgerufen am 06.05.2025 von <https://klimadashboard.at/emissionen>

○ Gesamtemissionen 2022 72,84 Mt CO₂eq (100%)





Circular Strategies for a Zero Carbon City

Thomas Romm & Sebastian Hafner

Thomas Romm works as a civil engineer and freelance architect with a focus on the environmental effectiveness of planning and construction. He is an expert in circular economy and one of the founders of BauKarussell, a cooperative network of socio-economic companies for the dismantling of building components for reuse, as an employment and qualification project with an environmental policy background.

Sebastian Hafner is part of forsch en planen bauen—Thomas Romm ZT and works on circular mass strategies in urban planning and landscape design. In the context of the research project Trustmaking he was involved in the co-creative development of green infrastructures.

To establish a climate-neutral circular economy, the carbon footprint of the metropolitan region must be reassessed. The sectoral allocation of emitters follows the internationally established 'source-oriented' approach. Allocating the pollutant inventory of emission shares to cross-sector processes such as construction can help to realise the circular economy potential of the metropolitan region's metabolism. The construction industry as a permanent part of production in the city is significant in all emission sectors. At € 9 billion, around one third of the Austrian construction volume is realised in the Vienna metropolitan region (VIBO n.d.).

CONSTRUCTION AND THE URBAN METABOLISM OF THE METROPOLITAN REGION

Precisely because the construction industry is strongly reflected in the metabolism of

the urban environment, it is an important lever for a Zero Carbon city and it is worth looking at the sectors in detail: Around two thirds of heavy goods traffic in Vienna is construction site-related. 75% of all waste is generated by the construction industry in Austria. Excavated soil alone accounts for 40% of excavated soil recorded each year for waste management purposes. 80% goes to landfill (BMK 2023). Dealing with waste streams from construction has become a central problem for metropolitan regions. Landfill space in the east of Austria is becoming increasingly scarce and waste from Vienna is largely transported to the surrounding areas of the capital. At the same time, the majority of resources for the construction industry are extracted in the urban hinterland: The extraction sites for sand and gravel are in competition with other land uses and are moving further and further away as transport distances increase. However,

Soil loss is to be taken literally: 50% of soils classified as A1–1c, suitable for recultivation in agriculture—are landfilled. Unfortunately, this applies to all uncontaminated excavated soil: of 40 million tons of potential secondary raw materials, 22 million tons are landfilled every year.

MATERIAL FLOW MANAGEMENT IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT

This calls for circular economy strategies, especially because urban planning has so far paid little attention to the conditions of its materialisation. Criteria for urban growth have always been decoupled from soil quality. The cause cannot be changed, but the effect can: in the metropolitan region, a circular soil strategy can contribute to a nutrient turnaround. It is precisely in the northern and southern areas surrounding Vienna ('Agricultural Core' and 'Bio Valley') that degraded soils are in agricultural use. With the addition of biochar from emission-free electricity and heat generation, these soils can be improved and scaled up in terms of their function as a CO₂ sink and long-term nutrient store. At the same time, we find the highest quality soils in Austria in the urban development areas. A systematic strategy preserves humus-rich topsoil by ensuring that it is properly recultivated. Recovery and transfer of soil to third parties for the improvement of low-value agricultural land are at the forefront of this. Cooperative and local utilisation paths in the sense of a levelled mass balance for soil in the metropolitan region make a significant contribution to ensuring that its ecosystem functions are not only maintained, but also improved with regard to aspects such as rainwater management, food production or CO₂ sequestration.

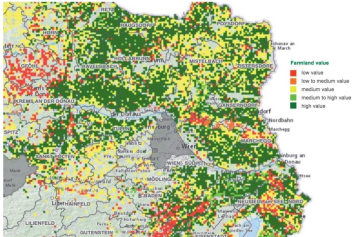
In addition to these climate-relevant strategies for 3 million tons of A1 classified topsoil per year, the circularity of the aforementioned 20 million tons of potential secondary raw materials for construction recycling is another important contribution to the Zero Carbon

City. These are, for example, cohesive soils from deeper layers of soil that are suitable for calcination and should be structurally integrated into brick and cement production. Vienna's underground railway construction, for example, is a suitable starting point for a regionalisation of the construction (materials) industry due to its mass movement in earthworks.



Brick and cement plants © Thomas Romm & Sebastian Hafner

Non-cohesive soils can usually even be processed on site as concrete aggregate. The highest possible quality recycling of secondary resources on site—i.e. where they are produced—is ideal in terms of climate protection and cost factors. The development area in Seestadt Aspern in Vienna is a best practice example. One million tons of gravel produced during the excavation of construction pits and the lake were crushed and used as aggregate for the production of in-situ concrete in addition to the construction of road embankments. The circular use of local resources enabled an environmentally



Soil quality in the Vienna Metropolitan Area (bodenkart.at)

bricks and cement are also still predominantly produced in the metropolitan region and account for a considerable proportion of emissions.

Emissions from industry also include construction machinery, which emits around 0.5 million tons of CO₂e/a. In addition, there are 3 million tons of CO₂e/a from construction-related heavy goods traffic in Austria (Chamber of Labour 2014). When analysing the life cycle of a building, it is assumed that transport accounts for 10% of greenhouse gas emissions during construction. Roughly extrapolated to the construction volume in Austria, this would mean a share of 15 million tons of CO₂e in building construction (55% of the construction volume) and 10 million tons of CO₂ in underground construction (45%) for the construction sector. This would be a third of Austria's total CO₂ emissions and includes raw material extraction, building material

production, construction site emissions and supply chains for supply and disposal. Not included are the reductions in CO₂ sequestration as a result of soil loss."

"A plausibility check of the emissions from cement production (3 million tons of CO₂e/a) and from structural steel (another 3 million of the 12 million tons of CO₂e/a for steel production), as well as from lime, gypsum, magnesite and brick production, makes 12.5 million tons of CO₂e/a of emissions credit for the shell. The shell construction accounts for 50% of the GWP of the construction. The construction industry therefore accounts for 25 million tons of CO₂e/a across all sectors.

friendly construction process that saved over 100,000 heavy goods vehicle journeys and the associated emissions.

The mapping of a zero-carbon city must capture the components of the urban metabolism. Soil is just as much a part of this as traffic, flows, nutrient and food cycles. In addition to avoiding sealing, closing local soil cycles in the case of excavation is an imperative. Excavated soil is an example of what is fundamentally true for material flows in construction: there is a continuous flow of materials and energy between the city and the surrounding area. In Austria in particular, construction is a relatively localized affair due to a good supply of raw materials. Using secondary raw materials for this exchange in the future is the major paradigm shift facing the construction industry.

VISION CIRCULAR CARBON ECONOMY

The high proportion of combustion in our material flows is an obstacle to circularity. Burning material flows generally prevents their re-circulation. Moreover, the circular economy can only make a contribution to climate protection if combustion is also ruled out at the end of technical or biotic life cycles. Circular change therefore cannot avoid comprehensive decarbonisation. A Zero Carbon City also means creating the conditions for a circular carbon economy that aims to close carbon cycles by closing resource cycles. Pyrolysis of biogenic waste streams for the production of technical carbon is a contribution to this. Its application in conjunction with the circular management of material flows in the metropolitan region shows that the built environment, like soil, can be understood as carbon sinks and thus become climate-positive. In contrast, fields of activity such as transport or consumption are at best climate-neutral in their environmental impact through decarbonisation. Metropolitan regions must become aware of their materiality and its metabolism. By conceptually combining the circular economy

Ziehen zum Vergrößern ↕



TOOL-BOX

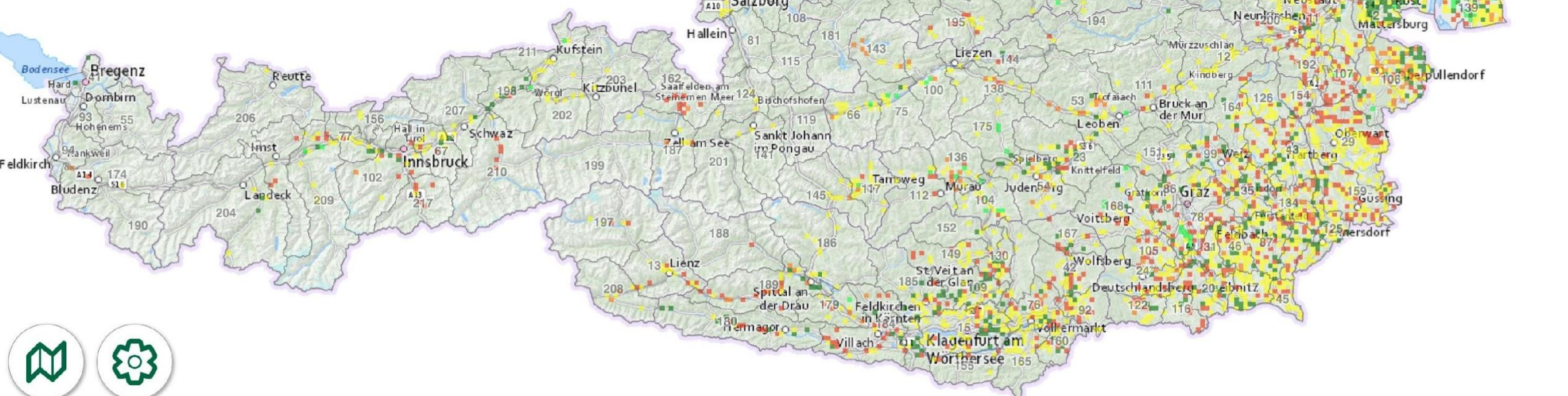
BASEMAP.AT © CC BY 3.0 AT

Legende

Wertigkeit Ackerland:

- geringwertig
- geringwertig bis mittelwertig
- mittelwertig
- mittelwertig bis hochwertig
- hochwertig

Ziehen zum Vergrößern



KARTEN-
STEUERUNG

TOOL-
BOX

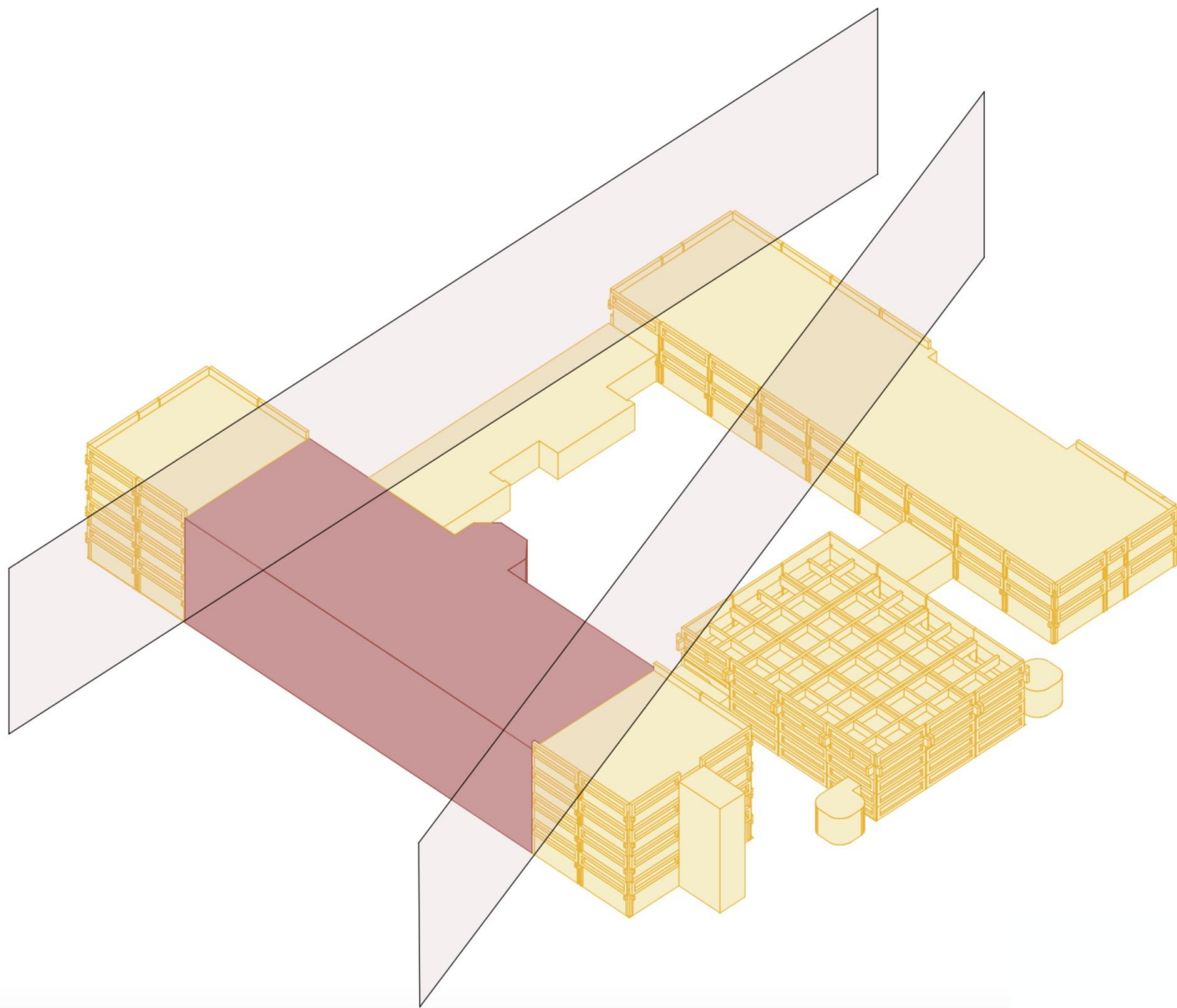


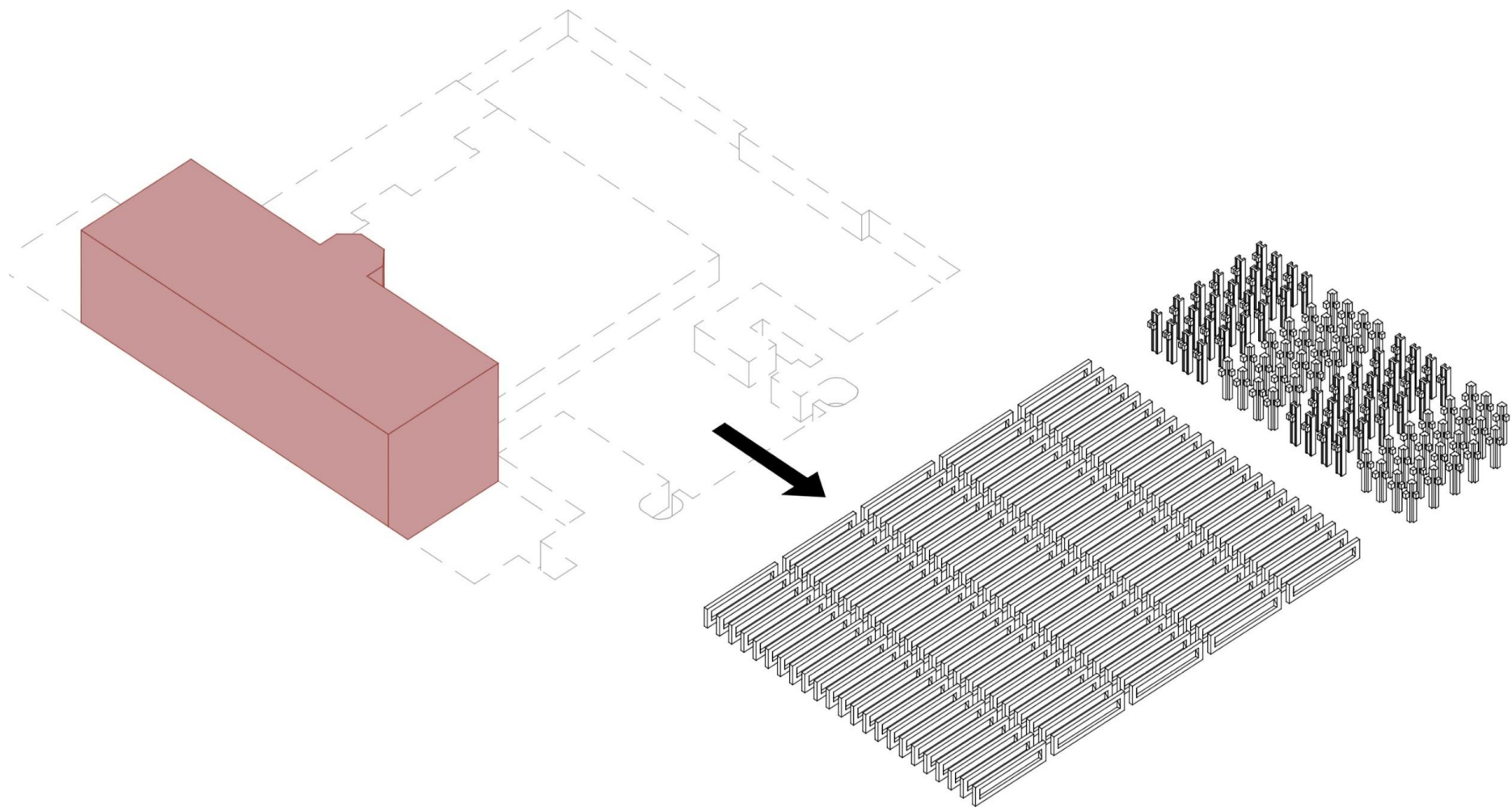


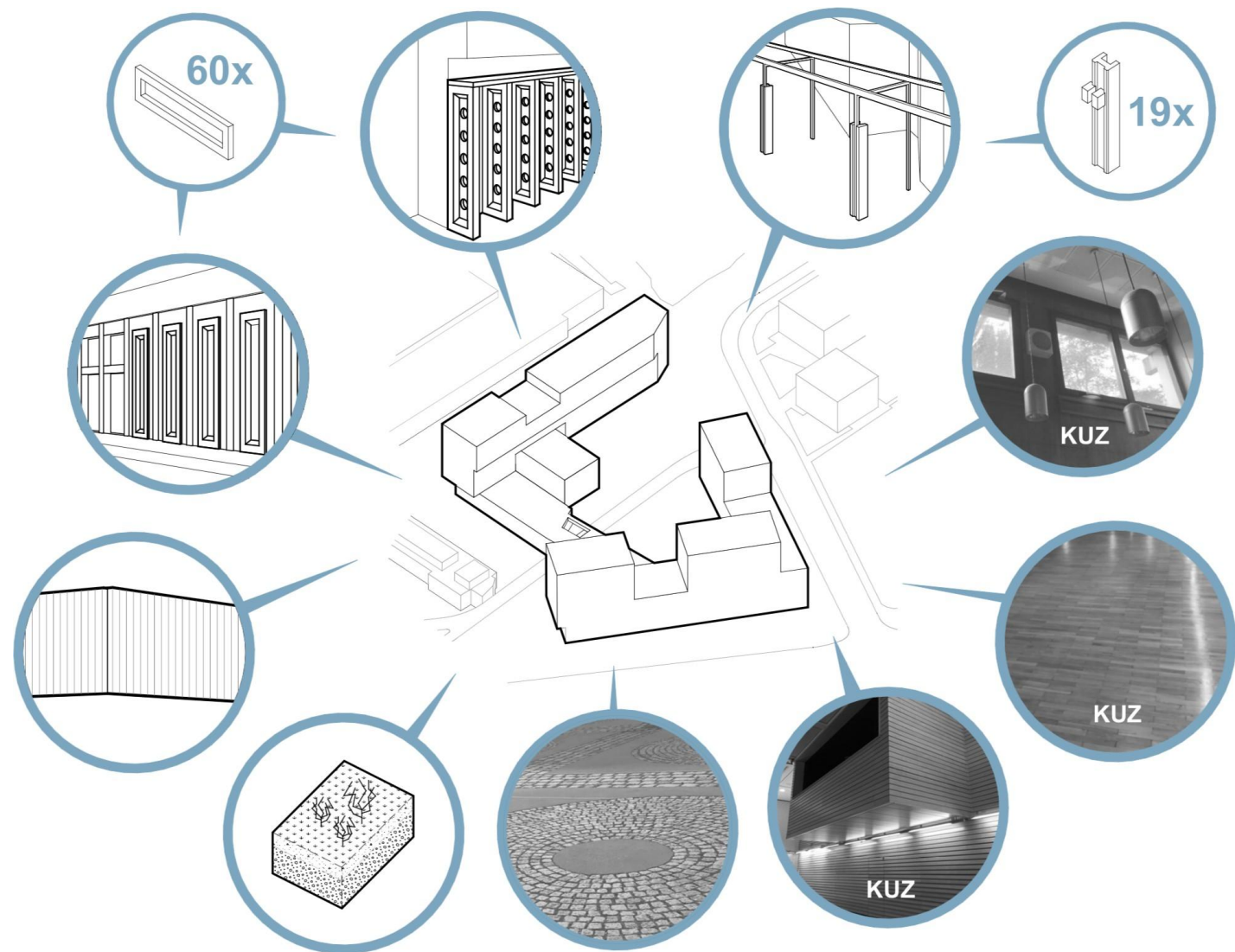


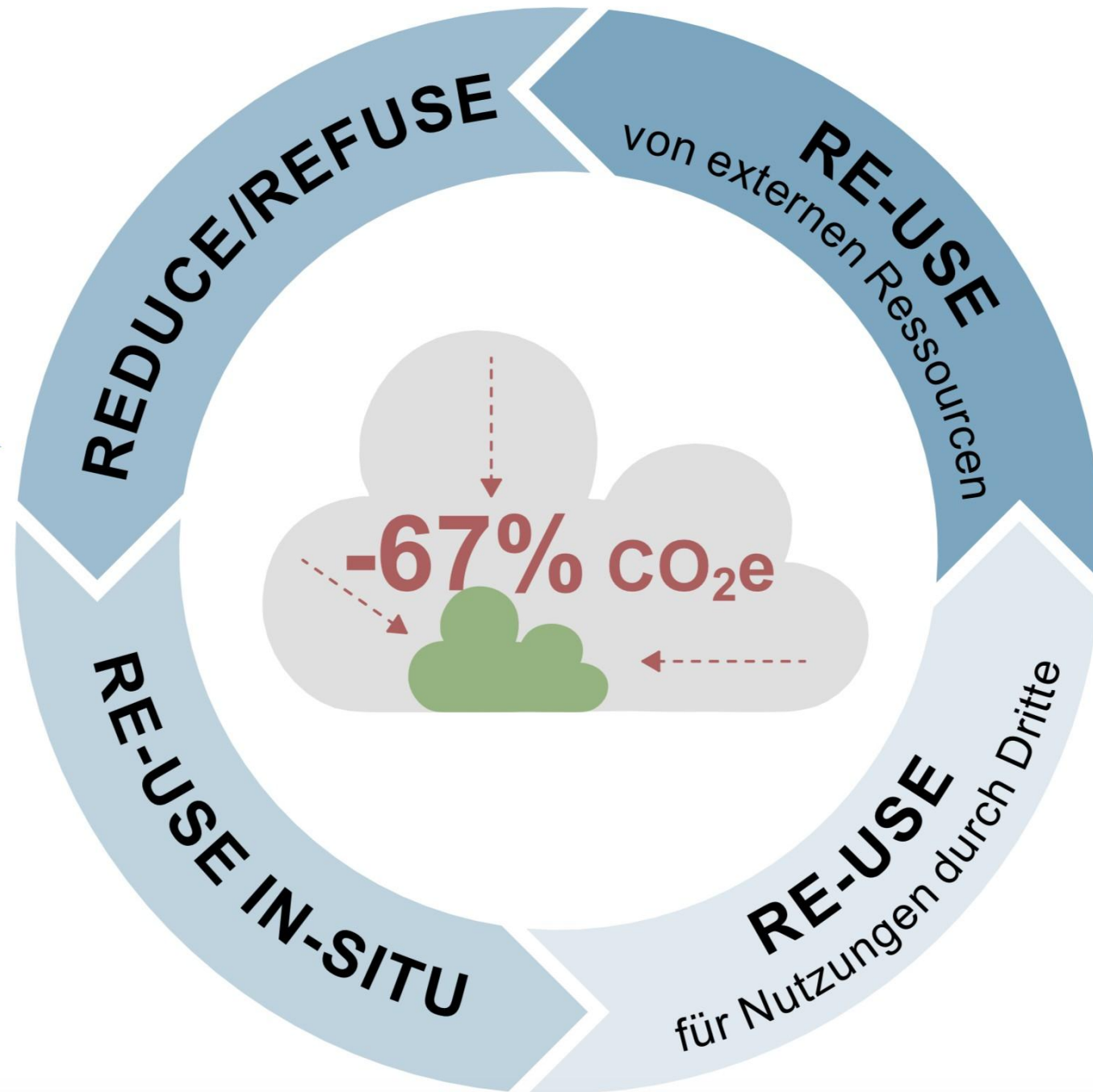












GW_R-Klassen: Betonbau auf dem Niveau von Holzbau

CO ₂ -Klassen	Hochbau							
	X0 ²	C16/20	C20/25	C25/30	C30/37	C35/45	C40/50	C50/60
GW _{R0}	91 - 100	163 - 180	189 - 209	214 - 237	226 - 250	248 - 275	265 - 294	284 - 314
GW _{R1}	81 - 90	145 - 162	168 - 188	190 - 213	201 - 225	221 - 247	236 - 264	252 - 283
GW _{R2}	71 - 80	127 - 144	147 - 167	167 - 189	176 - 200	194 - 220	207 - 235	221 - 251
GW _{R3}	61 - 70	109 - 126	126 - 146	143 - 166	151 - 175	166 - 193	177 - 206	190 - 220
GW _{R4}	51 - 60	91 - 108	105 - 125	119 - 142	126 - 150	139 - 165	148 - 176	158 - 189
GW _{R5}	41 - 50	73 - 90	84 - 104	96 - 118	101 - 125	111 - 138	118 - 147	127 - 157
GW _{R6}	31 - 40	55 - 72	64 - 83	72 - 95	76 - 100	84 - 110	89 - 117	95 - 126
GW _{R7}	21 - 30	37 - 54	43 - 63	48 - 71	51 - 75	56 - 83	60 - 88	64 - 94
GW _{R8}	11 - 20	19 - 36	22 - 42	25 - 47	26 - 50	29 - 55	30 - 59	32 - 63
GW _{R9}	0 - 10	0 - 18	0 - 21	0 - 24	0 - 25	0 - 28	0 - 29	0 - 31

Legende: Grün = weitgehend verfügbar, Gelb = eingeschränkt verfügbar, Rot = in der Regel nicht verfügbar

