

The Genesis Centre

Origins, activities to date and the
future

Origins – what and why?

What?

- HNC student project
- ConstructionSkills/SWRDA/LSC
- Regional Resource Centre
- Education and training

Origins – what and why?

Why?

- To turn words into something tangible
- Demonstrate application of new materials and technologies
- Provide information on existing regional resources
- Work with existing and help establish new networks/partnerships
- Provide up-skilling

Activities to Date

- Regional SC skills audit
- Site tours during construction
- Technical tours post construction
- Construction data sheets
- CPD activities/advice and guidance
- Conference and seminar events
- Network building
- Schools and communities events

Philosophy

- Presenting the big picture
- Encouraging ‘better than regulation’
- Promoting ‘natural’ materials
- Promoting simplification and resource efficiency

Difficulties/Problems

- Being first!
- Perceived threat in niche area
- Lack of industry incentive
- Small team
- Generating consistent income
- Identifying and communicating brand
- Meeting expectation

Current Position

- Good, well established networks and working relationships
- Clearly identified education and training needs
- CPD for students and industry
- Funding to deliver a three year Knowledge Exchange project
- Strong schools and communities links and programme of activities

Sustainable Construction

Addressing the knowledge and
skills gaps

Education and Training

Drivers for change:

- CSH and BREEAM
- Low/zero carbon new build
- Low Carbon Transition – existing homes
- ZCH Fabric Energy Efficiency Standard
- PassivHaus
- Alternative, sustainable, materials/technologies
- **Climate Change Adaptation**

Education and Training

Skills and knowledge required:

- Airtight building fabrics
- Thermal bridging
- Insulation installation (internal/external)
- Breathability in buildings
- Site waste management
- **Integrating mitigation and adaptation strategies**

Education and Training

Skills and knowledge required:

- Prefabricated, modular construction
- Ziegel block (type) construction
- Hempcrete construction
- Alternative finishes – lime/limewash, clay, eco paints
- **Renewable energy awareness and installation**

Plugging Gaps

Work with local partners:

- Development of site based education and training package(s)
- Rural housing enabler, sustainable developer, District Council, National Park Authority and education and training provider
- Funded development and provision (?)
- Links to other local and European projects

HE Provision

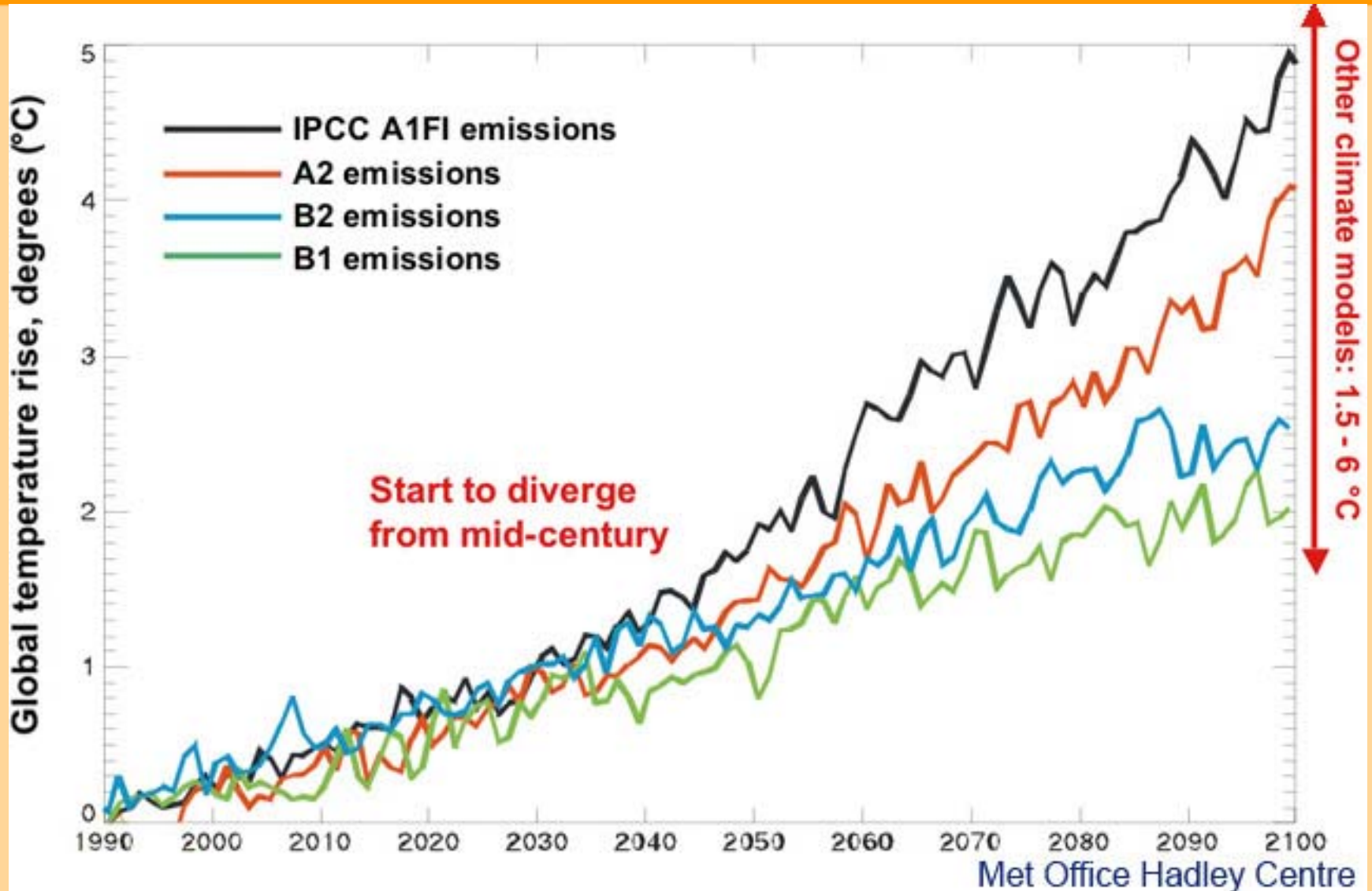
Distance learning/e-learning Introductory module:

- Ten gateway low-rise building project
- Environmental pressures through to low rise building
- Wide range of learner backgrounds

Courses for 2010/11

- Construction Crafts
- Introduction to Micro Renewables
- Energy Efficiency Refurbishment
- Professions Introduction to Sustainable Construction
- Professions Biomass Site Assessors Course
- Professions Low to Zero Carbon Construction
- Professions Adapting Buildings for Climate Change

Adaptation



ABI Guidance

We recommend that developers:

- Follow National Planning Policy Statements
- Provide buyers with information on climate risks and how they are managed
- Develop publicly available standards or kitemarks that certify enhanced resilience to climate change impacts

Source: ABI Climate Adaptation
Guidance on Insurance Issues for New Developments