

European Commission

European framework for sustainable buildings



Why Level(s)?

Based on a building's full life cycle, the building sector is responsible for:











1/3 of waste generation

Level(s) makes lifecycle performance understandable to professionals in:

Planning and Policy making Design and Execution Financing





What is Level(s)?

- EU assessment and reporting sustainability framework
- Whole Lifecycle a robust approach to measure and improve
- Core indicators tested by the building sector
- Entry-level tool for the mainstream market
- Residential and offices, new construction/ renovation

2015 – Initial development of the Level(s) framework 2017-2019 -Level(s) testing phase involving over 130 projects in 21 EU member states 2019 – Level(s) test survey 2020 – Official Level(s) launch 2021 – Web based material



Common language for full life cycle



Whole life carbon



Resource efficient material flows



Efficient use of water



Health and comfort



Adaptation and resilience to climate change



Life cycle cost and value



Level(s): 3 themes, 6 macro objectives

Macro Objectives	Indicators				
1. Greenhouse gas emissions throughout building life cycle	1.1 Use stage energy performance (kWh/m2/yr)	1.2 Life cycle Global Warming Potential (CO2 eq./m2/yr)			
2. Resource efficient and circular material life cycles	2.1 Bill of quantities, materials and lifespan	2.2 Construction and Demolition waste	2.3 Design for adaptability and renovation	2.4 Design for deconstruction	
3. Efficient use of water resources	3.1 Use stage water consumption (m3/occupant/yr)				
4. Healthy and comfortable spaces	4.1 Indoor air quality	4.2 Time out of thermal comfort range	4.3 Lighting	4.4 Acoustics	
5. Adaption and resilience to climate change	5.1 Life cycle tools: scenarios for projected future climatic conditions	5.2 Increased risk of extreme weather	5.3 Sustainable drainage		
6. Optimised life cycle cost and value	6.1 Life cycle costs (€/m²/yr)	6.2 Value creation and risk factors			





Use Level(s) at 3 different levels



Level 1

Concept stage/qualitative Level 2

Design and construction/ quantitative Level 3

Reality/monitoring, including the handover to the client



Key benefits of Level(s)

- Common language using best practice industry standards
- Tracks performance throughout the life cycle
- Underpins future EU and national policies
- Future-proofing buildings for carbon neutrality
- Enhances dialogue between stakeholders
- Supports sustainability skills and understanding
- Targets mainstream sector
- Brings accountability and investor confidence
- Certification schemes looking to align

Level(s) is for you!



Design and Execution



Planning and Policy making



Financing





Level(s) in the policy context

EU Green Deal, including:

- The EU Circular Economy Action Plan Setting out key sectors
- The EU Renovation Wave Energy and resource efficiency, lifecycle
- New European Bauhaus
 Sustainability, Aesthetics, Inclusion

Level(s) brings minimum numbers of indicators, with maximum leverage to deliver sustainability.







What's next for Level(s)?

Sustainable Finance Delegated Act 2021	Directive ener perform revision 202	rgy nance - ions	Roadmap for Whole Life Carbon reduction in the building sector 2023	
Public Private Partnership Horizon Europe 2021		Green Public Proe 20	curement Crite	eria



Web based learning and calculator







Thank you

Visit https://ec.europa.eu/environment/topics/circular-economy/levels_en

To join the new Level(s) group on LinkedIn, visit https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12501037/

Follow and share developments under #BuildCircular on social media (Twitter, Facebook)

