





#BuildCircular

Test Level(s) – Josefina Lindblom



Agenda

- Level(s) test phase
- Objectives and Scope
- What, how, why and who?



INTRODUCING LEVEL(S)

Level(s) is a voluntary reporting framework to improve the sustainability of buildings. Using existing standards, Level(s) provides a common EU approach to the assessment of environmental performance in the built environment.

The buildings sector is one of the most resource consuming sectors in Europe, accounting for approximately half of all extracted materials, half of total energy consumption, one third of water consumption and one third of waste generation. That's why the buildings sector is a key target in the European Commission's policy for circular economy; a regenerative economic system in which resource and energy consumption are minimized.

Level(s) is a sustainability framework of the circular economy, and offers a tiered approach to life cycle assessment.

The Level(s) common framework of core indicators aims at:

- (s) Raising awareness of, and demand for, better buildings

 arriong the general public, developers and public procurement offices;
- (s) Improving knowledge of resource efficiency in the built environment to support better decision making on the part of designers, architects, developers, construction companies, construction product manufacturers, investors, and building owners.

For each indicator, a 'graduated' approach is possible, enabling users to move from simple through to more complex and precise calculation methods and extended reporting.

WHAT DO THE INDICATORS COVER?

Within the framework, each indicator is designed to link the individual building's impact with the priorities for sustainability at the European level.

THESE PRIORITIES ARE:

- → Greenhouse gas emissions throughout the building's life cycle
- → Resource efficient and circular material life cycles
- → Efficient use of water resources
- → Healthy and comfortable spaces
- → Adaptation and resilience to climate change
- → Life cycle cost and value

STEP BY STEP

Each indicator within Level(s) can be used for different types of performance assessment, from a basic level through to a full Life Cycle Assessment (LCA).

The entry point to Level(s) is through the common performance metrics: the simplest and most accessible use of each indicator. Level(s) sets out common units of measurement and basic calculation methodologies, which





Testing Objectives

- Ready for market in 2 years, with robust indicators and guidance for all three levels
- Efforts needed to work with Level(s)
- Necessary support mechanisms for its implementation
- Suitable policy initiatives



Testing - scope

A good range concerning

- geography
- residential and offices
- new built and renovation
- involved building professionals



Testing – what?

- Ongoing or finalised project
- Office or residential
- New built of major renovation



Testing - what?

Test robustness of indicators and suitability of guidance on ongoing or finalised projects on at least:

- 1.1 Use stage energy consumption
- 2.3 Construction and demolition waste and materials
- 3.1 Use stage water consumption
- 4.1 Indoor air quality (at Level 1)
- 4.2 Time out of thermal comfort range (at Level 1)



Testing – how?

- Agree with EC to...
 - ...provide feedback
 - on indicators via common reporting format
 - on general experience via specific survey
 - ... and access support (for testers only!)
 - common reporting format, technical helpdesk
 - regular webinars
 - platform for information exchange



Website

How can you participate? 🗯

- Register to take active part in testing Level(s)
- Register your interest in following the Level(s) test period.

Supporting documents for testing Level(s)

- Guide to new reporting framework for sustainable buildings
- FAQ
- Protocol
- Guidance and rules for selecting indicators
- Level(s) common reporting format
- Commitment



Testing – why?

- Develop knowledge and skills in emerging policy areas.
- Improving business development acumen and understanding of green building tools.
- Assure that buildings are helping to deliver on global and regional priorities.
- Key role in shaping the development of Europe's first policy for environmental performance of buildings, and perhaps national policy.



Testing - who?

- Any organisation managing or taking part in a building project
- Willing to provide feedback
- No selection of projects!
- Supply or demand side can initiate testing