



European  
Commission

# Level(s)

Building sustainability  
performance

#BuildCircular

Environment

# WHAT IS LEVEL(S)?



Level(s) is a voluntary reporting framework that provides a **common "sustainable" language for the buildings sector**: a set of simple metrics for measuring the sustainability performance of buildings throughout their life cycle. Level(s) encourages life cycle thinking at a whole building level; it is a comprehensive **toolkit** for developing, monitoring and operations and supports improvement from design to end of life.

Level(s) uses robust indicators **based on existing tools and standards** and covers energy, materials, water, health and comfort, climate change and life cycle cost and value.

Level(s) is applicable to offices and residential buildings. Sustainability tools and certification schemes can use Level(s) as a module within their products; **Level(s) is open source and freely available.**

Level(s) aims at improving resource efficiency in the construction sector and bringing buildings into the circular economy; a regenerative economic system in which resource and energy consumption are minimised. Level(s) links the individual building's environmental performance with resource priorities at European level.

Level(s) was developed by the European Commission in close co-operation with industry stakeholders including Saint Gobain, Skanska and Sustainable Building Alliance.



# WHY USE LEVEL(S)?

- ↗(s) Level(s) enables building professionals and their clients to identify key areas for better environmental performance. To close the gap between design, as-built and occupied performance, the Level(s) indicators can be applied at different stages of a building project: design stage, completion, commissioning and post-occupancy. It can be also used to compare building performance across portfolios and locations.
  - ↗(s) Level(s) can be used by assessment and certification schemes to make sure that their criteria reflect the most important priorities for circular economy at a European level, and to enable the comparability of data and results across different building performance rating systems. Level(s) can be used as an entry-level reporting tool, with a tiered approach to life cycle assessment.
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## LEVEL(S) IS FOR:

- building developers and investors
- design teams (architects, engineers, quantity surveyors)
- construction companies and contractors
- facilities managers
- asset managers
- building occupants (households or organisations)



# JOIN LEVEL(S)?

- Level(s) focuses attention on the most important aspects of a building's performance, providing a simple entry point to what can be a very complex area. It can help and prepare users to make use of more challenging performance assessment schemes and tools.
- Level(s) is ready for testing from autumn 2017. Companies, associations and public authorities are warmly invited to participate in testing Level(s). The test period will last for two years and the European Commission will provide technical support during this process.
- Participants can test the complete Level(s) framework, or only parts of it. The feedback from test results will help improve Level(s) ahead of its final release, to ensure that the indicators and the user guidelines are robust and ready to market.

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**To learn more** about Level(s)

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/buildings.htm>

**To register** your interest in testing Level(s)

<http://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Levels>