

Sustainability Standard Setting Bodies

Relevant Green Bond Market Information on Sustainability Standards Form¹

Forms filled in by standard setters should be sent back to greenbonds@icmagroup.org, for publication on the [Green Bond Principles Resource Centre](#).

Section 1. Basic Information

Organization name: Norwegian Green Building Council/Grønn Byggallianse

Name of sustainability standard:² BREEAM-NOR

Completion date of this form: 02.11.2020

Publication date of the standard:

- BREEAM NOR New Construction 2016 (Previous: 2012)

Section 2. Detailed review

Standard setters are encouraged to provide the information below to the extent possible and use the comment section to explain the scope of their review.

1. Green Bond Principles (GBP) project categories relevant to the standard

Overall comment on section (if applicable):

GBP³ Project categories that the standard applies to (for additional information on the GBP see appendix 1):

- ☒ Renewable energy ☒ Energy efficiency

¹ The Form follows the characterisations of Environmental Labelling and Information Schemes as set out in OECD Environment Working Papers No.62 – A characterisation of Environmental Labelling and Information Schemes

² Use separate forms for each standard if multiple standards are set by the same standard setting body and the criteria of those standards differ significantly from one another

³ <https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/green-bond-principles-gbp/>

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pollution prevention and control | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity conservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean transportation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable water and wastewater management | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate change adaptation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eco-efficient and/or circular economy adapted products, production technologies and processes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Green buildings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | |

If applicable please specify the environmental taxonomy or category, if other than GBPs:

Sustainable Site Management Occupant Health & Wellbeing, Responsible Sourcing of Materials, Construction and Operational Waste Management, Material Durability Design, Social Impact.

2. Alignment with relevant international targets, thresholds and guidelines for sustainability

Please explain how alignment with international targets, thresholds and guidelines for sustainability are built into your governance frameworks and standard setting process. A non-exhaustive list of examples includes: ISEAL code compliant, alignment with EU Taxonomy for sustainable activities, Paris Climate Agreement, UN Global Compact, etc.

Please explain (if applicable):

The BREEAM portfolio (incl HQM and CEEQUAL) assessment frameworks are Internationally applicable and developed to align to, and support the objectives of relevant strategic and technical initiatives through themes such as Carbon, Resilience, Natural Environment, Health and Wellbeing, and Circularity (see our Build Back Better Hub <https://www.breeam.com/building-back-better/>). This ensures alignment with the sector, at a global scale, whilst promoting a consistent, efficient and impactful approach to driving more sustainable, ESG outcomes in the round. Examples include, but are not limited to:

Strategic:

- UNFCCC Paris Climate Agreement (2016)

Technical:

- ISO 14025 Type III – Environmental Product Declarations
- CEN/TC 350 - Sustainability of construction works' standards
- Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)
- ISO 14001:2015 Environmental management systems - Requirements with guidance for use
- ISO 15686-5: 2008 Buildings and constructed assets - Service-life planning — Part 5: Life-cycle costing

3. Main Characteristics (please choose all options that apply to the standard)

Governance

a. Leadership or ownership *(What type of institution runs the standard?)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Public |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid (please provide more details below) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership based |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multistakeholder | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(please specify)</i> : |

b. Standard scheme management

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner has a sustainability-oriented mission or vision | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner has defined and makes publicly available its desired long-term sustainability impacts and strategy for achieving those impacts |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders have an opportunity to provide input on the intended sustainability impacts and possible unintended effects of the standards system | <input type="checkbox"/> On a regular basis, the scheme owner monitors and evaluates progress towards its sustainability impacts and accurately and publicly communicates the results |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner applies adaptive management by using the learning from monitoring and evaluation to improve its standard and supporting strategies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner carries out internal or external audits of its management system and operations at least annually and incorporates the findings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner makes information on the governance structure and income sources or financing structure of the scheme publicly available | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders have the possibility to participate in or provide formal input on the governance of the scheme |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The scheme is registered under ISEAL membership | |

c. Standard-setting characteristics

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documented procedures for the process under which each standard is developed or revised form the basis of the standard setting process | <input type="checkbox"/> Documented procedures for the process under which each standard is developed or revised shall be made available to stakeholders, at a minimum through the organisation's website |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A regular review of the standard setting procedures is conducted (at least every 5 years) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A regular review of the standard is conducted (at least every 5 years) |

☒ Participation in governance bodies making decisions on the content of the standard are constituted by a balance of key stakeholders

☐ Participation in governance bodies making decisions on the content of the standard are limited to members, but the procedure for becoming a member is transparent and non-discriminatory

☐ Participation in governance bodies making decisions on the content of the standard are open to all stakeholders

☒ Other (*Please specify*): The standards are open to all stakeholders through public consultation. The governing body's role is to ensure impartiality within the scheme, and the certification decision process.

Sustainability Claims and Communications

a. Communication Channel (*Who is using the standard to communicate, and who is the target of that communication?*)

Communication from:

- ☒ Business (excluding financial institutions)
- ☒ Government
- ☒ Bank
- ☒ Insurance Company
- ☐ Development Bank
- ☒ Investor
- ☒ Asset owner (e.g. Building)
- ☒ NGO
- ☒ Other (*please specify*): Developers, Tenants, Occupiers/Building Users,

Communication to:

- ☒ Business (excluding financial institutions)
- ☒ Government
- ☒ Bank
- ☒ Insurance Company
- ☐ Development Bank
- ☒ Investor
- ☒ Asset manager (e.g. Building)
- ☒ Consumer
- ☒ Other (*please specify*): Developers, Tenants, Occupiers/Building Users,

b. Means of communication (*What is the mode of communication to the target audience?*)

- ☐ Seal(logo)
- ☐ Declaration
- ☒ Certificate

- ☐ Trademark
- ☐ Exception
- ☐ Other (*please specify*):

c. Communication scope (*What activities are covered by the communication?*)

- ☐ Agriculture and food
- ☐ Furniture
- ☐ Timber forest products
- ☐ Non-timber forest products (rubber, cork, bamboo)
- ☐ Paper, packaging
- ☐ Cleaning products
- ☐ Biofuels
- ☐ Electronics
- ☐ Cosmetics
- ☒ Building materials

- ☐ Textile products
- ☒ Energy
- ☒ Transportation
- ☐ Tourism
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Tourism
- ☐ Luxury Products
- ☒ Sustainable Sites & Locations
- ☒ Water
- ☒ Indoor Air Quality/Health

☒ Waste

☐ Other (please specify): Pollution,
Construction/Building Management,
Resilience, Ecology

☒ Ecosystem Services

Standard Characteristics

a. Monitoring and auditing⁴ (Who has the ability to determine whether the standard is met and what degree of independence exists?)

☐ Standard setter

☐ External certifier

☐ Self-assessment

☒ Second party verifier

☒ Accredited third party certifier/verifier

☐ Other (please specify):

b. Adoption of the standard (To what extent are relevant organizations required to apply the standard?)

☒ Voluntary

☒ Mandatory (please explain): Our scheme is
often mandated through government policies.

☐ Other (please specify):

c. Sustainability characteristics

☒ Environmental outcomes are clearly and
explicitly defined in the standards

☒ The standard exceeds regulatory requirements

☒ The standard references relevant, existing
national and/or international laws and
regulations

☐ Other (please specify):

d. Transparency (To what extent is relevant information publicly available?)

☒ Final versions of the standard available to the
public

☒ Draft version of the standard available to the
public

☐ Public disclosure on standard setting process

☒ Public disclosure on assessments of compliance
with the standard

☒ Public disclosure of compliance by standard
user

☒ Public disclosure on those complying with the
standard (organizations and the level/type of
compliance achieved)

☒ Final versions of the standard in additional
languages are available to the public

☐ Other (please specify):

⁴ Whom has the ability to determine whether the standard is applied?

e. Methods of environmental assessment *(How comprehensive is the standard in accounting for environmental impact?)*

☒ Life cycle approach (please specify which environmental goals)

Life Cycle Costing

Building Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

Circular Economy

- Use of recycled aggregates from construction waste
- Design for disassembly and adaptability

☒ Performance based or impact approach (please specify which environmental goals)

Indoor Air Quality

Thermal Comfort

Acoustic Performance

Energy Efficiency

Carbon Reduction

Sustainable Water and Wastewater Use

Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)

Construction and Operational Waste Reduction

Pollution Prevention and Control

☒ Operating/process/practice approach (please specify which environmental goals):

Integrated Design Approach

Robust Stakeholder Engagement

Responsible Construction Practices

Commissioning

Handover & Aftercare

Active Travel

Local Transport Assessment

Responsible Sourcing of Materials

Designing for Durability and Resilience

Construction Product Efficiency

Construction and Operational Waste Management

Adaption to Climate Change

Sustainable Land Use

Ecological Enhancement

☐ Other (please specify method and which environmental goals it applies to):

Please explain any requirements to embed mechanisms/tools for future reporting, requirements to report on selected criteria and reporting scope, as well as the environmental goals being assessed:

Through our BREEAM In-Use schemes, assets are required to use our online platform to provide data on all goals, which is then remeasured/recertified every 3 years, or sooner if there are significant changes to the asset.

Our New Construction, Refurbishment and Fit Out, and Communities scheme have different stages of certification (i.e. Design and Post Construction). At Post Construction projects are required to provide evidence on all goals that what has been suggested at Design Stage has been implemented into the building in order to retain the credits.

f. Resolving complaints

☒ The standard-setting organization shall make impartial and documented efforts to resolve procedural complaints related to standard-

☒ The standard-setting organization shall disclose, at least to interested parties, decisions taken on procedural complaints

setting, based on a publicly document complaints resolution mechanism

☐ Other (*please specify*):

g. Standard focus (*To what type of processes do the standards apply?*)

☐ Product related process and production methods (*please specify*):

☐ Services (*please specify*):

☒ Non product related processes and production methods (*please specify*): Certification of the process of undertaking the building assessment against ISO17065.

☐ Other (*please specify*):

h. Standard scope:

☐ International

☒ National

☐ Regional

☐ Jurisdictional

☐ Other (*Please specify*):

i. Activities beyond certification:

☒ Platform for discussion and collaboration amongst members and certified entities

☒ Platform for discussion and collaboration amongst other standards addressing the same sector/activity/topic

4. Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (please choose all options that apply to the standard)

Overall comment on section (*please rank the SDGs by level of contribution of the standard and specify the scale of contribution to each of the relevant SDGs*):

Significant contribution to SDGs 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 15. Some contribution to SDGs 1, 4, 8, 10 and 17.

☒ SDG 1

☒ SDG 3

☐ SDG 5

☒ SDG 7

☒ SDG 9

☒ SDG 11

☒ SDG 13

☒ SDG 15

☒ SDG 17

☐ SDG 2

☒ SDG 4

☒ SDG 6

☒ SDG 8

☒ SDG 10

☒ SDG 12

☐ SDG 14

☐ SDG 16

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