

BREEAM Fact Sheet

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The certification system

Headquarters	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method & BRE Global Ltd Bucknalls Lane London Watford WD25 9XX, Great Britain
Green Building Council	United Kingdom Green Building Council
Market launch	1990 Great Britain 1998 International
Website	www.breeam.org www.bre.co.uk

System description

The British system BREEAM was developed by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) in 1988, and launched in 1990 in Great Britain and in 1998 on the international market. The system focus of the voluntary procedure is primarily on the area of the environmental impact of buildings, which are assessed on the basis of the CIBSE or British Standards. An adjustment to national standards is also possible. Within the assessment, points can be achieved in 9 categories, leading to a certification in the levels "Unclassified" to "Outstanding".

Facts and figures

Since the market launch, more than 2.2 million buildings have been registered and more than 530,000 certified. The system is currently present in 71 countries, in the form of the individual national representatives, and is also separately represented by 5 "National Scheme Operators" (NSOs) for the regions specified below. Depending on the usage profile, various minimum requirements exist which have to be satisfied for a certification. The awarding of credits for innovations is also possible.

Current usage profiles* and National Scheme Operators (NSOs)

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|---|---|
| – BREEAM Communities | – BRE Global: GB and General International Projects |
| – BREEAM UK/International New Construction | – DIFNI: Germany & Austria (BREEAM DE/BREEAM AT) |
| – BREEAM New Construction Infrastructure | – Dutch Green Building Council: Netherlands (BREEAM NL) |
| – Home Quality Mark | – Instituto Tecnológica de Galicia: Spain (BREEAM ES) |
| – Code for Sustainable Homes | – Norwegian Green Building Council: Norway (BREEAM NOR) |
| – BREEAM UK/International Refurbishment and Fit-out | – Swedish Green Building Council: Sweden (BREEAM SE) |
| – BREEAM Refurbishment Domestic Buildings | |
| – BREEAM In-Use International | |

* Versions in dependency between UK, international and launch

Category weighting (depending on region and usage profile)

– Management:	12.0 %		– Materials:	12.5 %	
– Health and Wellbeing:	15.0 %		– Waste:	7.5 %	
– Energy:	19.0 %		– Land Use and Ecology:	10.0 %	
– Transport:	8.0 %		– Pollution:	10.0 %	
– Water:	6.0 %		– Innovation: separate assessment		

Certification levels

General subdivision:	– Unclassified	< 30 %	– Very good	≥ 55 %
	– Pass	≥ 30 %	– Excellent	≥ 70 %
	– Good	≥ 45 %	– Outstanding	≥ 85 %
Subdivision for BREEAM In-Use and BREEAM DE Existing Buildings:	– Unclassified	< 10 %	– Very good	≥ 55 %
	– Acceptable	≥ 10 %	– Excellent	≥ 70 %
Existing Buildings:	– Pass	≥ 25 %	– Outstanding	≥ 85 %
	– Good	≥ 40 %		

Validities and special features

- New Construction: Unlimited validity for the same building use
- Existing Building: Part 1 & 2: Recertification every 1-3 years depending on building/operational changes
Part 3: Annual recertification necessary