# AN INDICATOR SYSTEM FOR EVALUATING ECOLOGICAL PERFORMANCE OF BUILDING PRODUCTS AND STRUCTURES

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## Introduction

Cleaner Building Material Workgroup (TEAM) was established in 1999 in Budapest. Original members were the Hungarian Association of Building-biology, the St. Stephen University - Faculty of Ybl Miklós College - Labor 5, and the Independent Ecological Center (IEC).

The long-run aim of TEAM to introduce regular qualification of building materials from the point of view of building-ecology and building-biology in Hungary. To achieve this aim TEAM would like to work out a qualification method, which has a strong scientific background and is easy to adopt.

To find the adaptable method TEAM does research on international calculation and qualification methods and try work together with research institutes, ministries and trade-corporations.

### Work of TEAM in the frame of CRISP in Hungary

In 2002-2003 some members of TEAM, working together other institutes and experts, in the administration frame of Npc for Quality Control and Innovation in Building (project leader: PhD. Gábor Tiderenczl), worked out a Hungarian National system of constructed related sustainability indicators connected to CRISP ("CRISP conform" system).

Hungarian CRISP system built up 12 group of indicators:

- 1. Healthy buildings and elements of the natural environment
- 2. Energy in buildings
- 3. Waste management and reuse
- 4. Durability, maintenance and adaptability
- 5. Urban environment
- 6. Building
- 7. Housing
- 8. Product
- 9. Construction process
- 10. Quality Assurance in construction; Diagnosticating and Renewing the Building Stock
- 11. Cultural Heritage and Aesthetical Quality in Architecture
- 12. Social and economic conditions of sustainable construction

Each indicator group consist different number of indicators of indicator systems. In our work we developed the 8<sup>th</sup> indicator group dealing with the sustainability indicators of building products and materials. Description of 8<sup>th</sup> indicator group is shown in the Table 1.

Description of indicator						
Name	Evaluating ecological performance of building products and structures					
Descriptipn and aims with keywords	The indicator system evaluate the <b>ecological performance</b> of <b>building products</b> and <b>structures</b> . It summerize the results of 12 indicator.					
Stucture of indicator system	Evaluating ecological performance of building products and R8- structures					
	Local attainability 18-1/2					
	Global attainability 18-1/2					
	CO <sub>2eq</sub> emission – production p. I8-1/3					
	SO <sub>2eq</sub> emission – production p. I8-1/4					
	Primer energy content of product/structure 18-1					
	Energy use of product/structure (operation)					
	Toxic material emission – building p.					
	Toxic material emission – operation p.					
	Toxic material emission – disposal p.					
	Rate of renewable energy content [8-1					
	Primer, not renewable energy content	-1/11				
	Renewable capacity of product/structure 18-	-1/12				
Overall issues						
Unit	"kv" number, to evaluate the environmental load (kv = qualitative, or environmental from the Hungarian terminology)					
Method of						
measuring/evaluation						
acc to Hungarian	$\boxtimes$ 1. Healthy buildings and elements of the natural environment $\boxtimes$ 2. Energy in buildings					
system)	$\boxtimes$ 3. Waste management and reuse					
	4. Durability, maintenance and adaptability					
	5. Urban environment					
	$\square$ 6. Building $\square$ 7. Housing $\square$ 8. Product $\square$ 9. Construction process					
	$\square$ 9. Construction process					
	the Building Stock [] 11. Cultural Heritage and Aesthetical Quality in					
	Architecture					
Sustainable Development						
issues (acc. to CRISP)	Resources     Economic growth /     Accessibility     Controlling					
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	$\Box$ Living environmentfinancing $\Box$ Safe $\Box$ Judicatory $\Box$ Energy $\Box$ Producing / $\Box$ Health / comfort $\Box$ Ethic					
	Contamination, consumption Social, economical Other:					
	Use of land Other:					
	Definition of the definition o					
Construction categories	Urban environment Infrastructure Building					
(acc. to CRISP)	Product Construction process					
Use of indicator, other	r information					
Connecting indicator						
systems:						

References	<ul> <li>Genossenschafts Information Baubiologie: BauBioDataBank</li> <li>Research report called "Cleaner Building Material in Hungary!" to the Ministry of Environment (Projektleader: Medgyasszay Péter; Members of research group: Cserveny Ferenc, Dr. Józsa Zsuzsanna, Dr. Lányi Erzsébet, Medgyasszay Péter, Novák Ágnes, Tiderenczl Gábor)</li> </ul>				
Other information / comments:	<ul> <li>The condition of application is, that from product dates structure database has to made, where each construction layer depending on its mass and localization can influence the result of evaluation.</li> <li>Each indicator of the system is evaluated by "kv" number, and the mathematical medium of "kv" numbers give the summarized evaluation of structures.</li> <li>Meaning of "kv" numbers:</li> <li>3: highly recommended; 2: recommended; 1: not recommended</li> <li>0: neglected; n.j.: not characteristic; n.a.: no data available</li> <li>Depending on different structure types it is necessary to weighted the results of some indicators in the indicator system, which need further research.</li> </ul>				
Attached details	Further information				
Other comments of experts					
Suggested by					
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Table 1.Description of 8th indicator group.

Our indicator system consist 12 indicators, with the similar description. Description of I8-1/5 indicator (Primer energy content of product/structure) is shown in the Table 2.

Description of indicator				
Name	<b>Primer energy content of product/structure /</b> Evaluating ecological performance of building products and structures			
Description and aims with keywords	The indicator shows the <b>non renewable energy need of production</b> of products and structures, its aim <b>to reduce the energy consumption</b> .			
Unit	<b>"kv</b> " number, to evaluate the environmental load ( $kv = qualitative$ , or environmental from the Hungarian terminology); based on primer energy content ( $kWh/m^2a$ )			
Method of measuring/evaluation	□ OBSERVATION □ EXPERIMANTAL MEASURING □ CALCULATION / SIMULATION □ STATISTICAL INTERFERENCE □ EXPERT EVALUATION / ESTIMATION □ OTHER:			
Related indicator groups (acc. to Hungarian system)	<ul> <li>1. Healthy buildings and elements of the natural environment</li> <li>2. Energy in buildings</li> <li>3. Waste management and reuse</li> <li>4. Durability, maintenance and adaptability</li> <li>5. Urban environment</li> <li>6. Building  7. Housing  8. Product</li> <li>9. Construction process</li> <li>10. Quality Assurance in construction; Diagnosticating and Renewing the Building Stock  11. Cultural Heritage and Aesthetical Quality in Architecture</li> </ul>			

	□ 12. Social and economic conditions of sustainable construction				
Sustainable Development issues (acc. to CRISP)	ENVIRONMENTAL     Resources     Living environment     Energy     Contamination,     waste     Use of land     Other:	ECONOMIC     Economic g     financing     Producing /     consumptie     Service     Other:	rowth / on	SOCIAL       INSTITUTIONAL         Accessibility       Controlling         Safe       Judicatory         Health / comfort       Ethic         Social, economical       Other:         welfare       Other:         Other:       Other:	
Construction categories	🗌 Urban environ	ment 🗌 Infr	rastruct	ure 🗌 Building	
(acc. to CRISP)	Product Construction process				
Use of indicator, other in	nformation				
Connecting indicator systems:					
References	see indicator system R8 –1				
Other information / comments:	The method of evaluation: From the available information (international database, statistics, reports of factories, etc.) has to summarize 1 m <sup>2</sup> productional energy demand of structures, and has to divide with the technical lifetime.				
		n	kv umber	Primer energy contant (kWh/m <sup>2</sup> a)	
			3	0 - 4,99	
			2	5,00 - 9,99	
			0	20,00-	
Attached dataila					
Allached details	Further information	n			
Other comments of experts					
Suggested by					
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## Table 2.

Description of indicator named I8-1/5 about Primer energy content of product/structure.

## Summary

- 1) The indicator system has a very strong scientific background both international and national level, so worth to further develop.
- 2) There is a lack of national dates of environment and health load of production and operation of buildings, so further research needed in the mentioned fields.