





57th LCA Discussion Forum

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT IN THE BUILDING SECTOR: ANALYTICAL TOOLS, ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION AND LABELS

December 2, 2014, ETH Zürich, Alumni Pavillon

Situation in Europe – selected examples from Germany, Austria and France



57th LCA Discussion Forum

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT IN THE BUILDING SECTOR: ANALYTICAL TOOLS, ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION AND LABELS

December 2, 2014, ETH Zürich, Alumni Pavillon

Environmental assessment of buildings in Germany as part of an overall sustainability assessment approach

Thomas Lützkendorf

Department of economics and business engineering - Chair for sustainable management of housing and real estate



http://www.naturallywood.com/sites/default/files/content_files/lca_0.jpg



www.oew.kit.edu

Main questions



- How is the sustainability assessment of buildings fitted into the context of national sustainability strategy?
- What are the requirements placed by the current state of the European standardization?
- How is the sustainability assessment of buildings structured in Germany?
- What assessment criteria are taken into account for the environmental performance?
- What are the databases and tools available for the assessment of environmental performance?
- What advice and recommendations can be given?



Foundations



Foundations for the sustainability assessment of buildings in Germany are the:

- targets of the national sustainability strategy
- generally acknowledged areas of protection and protection goals
- state of the international and European standardization
- state of the development of methods (LCA und LCC)
- availability of **data** (including LCA data)



Targets of the national sustainability strategy (example)









Uniform concept, rules, assessment criteria, data, tools, system boundaries

Both **public and private sector** use the sustainability assessment method developed and shared by BMUB and DGNB to evaluate building's sustainability.

The assessment system focuses on the entire life cycle.

ÖÖW

Development in Germany (BNB)

- introduced 2001
- since 2013 mandatory for all federal buildings
- sets principles
- describes requirements and assessment criteria
- identifies benchmarks and aims
- offers tools and supporting documents

Part A: Principles for Sustainable Building Part B: Sustainable Building Projects Part C: Recommendations for Use and Operation Part D: Refurbishment of Buildings





7

Müller, BBSR





The current state of sustainability assessment in Germany is guided, among others, by the following standards:

- ISO 15392
- EN 15643-1
- EN 15643-2
- ISO 21929-1
- ISO 21931-1
- EN 15878

Sustainability assessment principles



| | | Ecology | Economy | Socio-cultural aspects | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| sbo | Sustainability in general | Natural resources Natural environment | Capital/assets Economic performance | Human health Social and cultural values | | |
| Protective goo | Sustainable building | Natural resources Global and local environment | Capital/assets Economic performance Social and cultural values Health User satisfaction Functionality Cultural value Reduction of life cycle costs Reduction of subsidy volume Reduction of subsidy volume Reduction of responsible entrepreneurship Creation of sustainable consumption patterns Creation of dynamic and co-operative international economic conditions Fight against poverty Education/training Equal rights Integration | | | |
| ts | Sustainability in general | Protection of natural resources/ sustainable use and management of natural resources Efficiency improvement Reduction of pollution exposure/ environmental influences Protection of atmosphere, soil, groundwater and waters Promotion of environmentally compatible production | Reduction of life cycle costs Reduction of subsidy volume Reduction of debt Promotion of responsible entrepreneurship Creation of sustainable consumption patterns Creation of dynamic and co-operative international economic conditions | Protection and promotion of human health Reinforcing inclusion and solidarity Protection of cultural assets and values Equal opportunities Protection of capacity to work and jobs Fight against poverty Education/training Equal rights Integration Safety/liveable environment | | |
| Protective targe | Sustainable building | Protection of natural resources Protection of the ecosystem | Minimising life cycle costs Improvement of economic efficiency Protection of capital/assets | Protection of health, safety and comfort Maintenance of functionality Protection of aesthetic and urban development quality | | |

The principles and criteria for the sustainability assessment are based on the "areas of protection" (protective goods) and "protection goals" (protective targets)

In the area of environment, these are:

- natural resources
- global environment
- Iocal environment

The system follows a topdown approach.

Fig. A2: Protective goods and targets in general and for the construction area in particular

Job-sharing: Guideline & Assessment System



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

Guideline for Sustainable Building



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

Assessment System for Sustainable Building

Administration Buildings



Job-sharing: Guideline & Assessment System



· Guideline for Guideline for Sentainabl Beilding Assessment System for Sustainable Building Sustainable Building Nachhaltiges Rauen Part A: Principles of Sustainable Building "New Construction" BNB-module Part B: e.g. office/administration buildings BNB_BN Sustainable Building Projects Part C: "Use and Operation" BNB-module Recommendations for the Sustainable e.g. office/administration buildings BNB_BB Use and Operation of Buildings Part D: "Refurbishment" BNB-module Refurbishment of Buildings e.g. office/administration buildings BNB_BN

Fig. 3: Interaction between the Guideline for Sustainable Building and the Assessment System for Sustainable Building





Lehrstuhl Ökonomie und Ökologie des Wohnungsbaus





According to an accepted convention in Germany, the environmental, economic, social and technical performance are considered **simultaneously and treated equally** in the sustainability assessment. Therefore, an **identical weighting factor** is applied.

Life cycle model(s) for construction works





Presentation of assessment results





Overall assessment result





The assessment result may be expressed as

- degree of fulfillment
- score
- medal

In any case, the description of the functional equivalent and a detailed documentation must be provided.

Overall degree of fulfilment

16

Assessment of environmental performance





The assessment of environmental performance (ecological quality) is a component of a comprehensive assessment of the sustainability and the overall performance of buildings.

Issues such as indoor air quality, thermal comfort and user satisfaction can be assigned to the **social performance**.

The environmental situation at the location/site is considered separately.

Assessment criteria of the environmental performance



| | Overview of Criteria | | Relevant life phase | Assessment method | Verification management | Time of documentation | Factor of relevance | Percentage share | 01 0461 011 1 69 011 | |
|-----|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|------|
| | 1. | Ecological Quality | | | | | | | | |
| | 1.1 | Effects on Global and Local Environment | | | | | | | | |
| LCA | 1.1.1 | Global Warming Potential | Ģ | → | Ε | | 3 | 3,375% | | |
| LCA | 1.1.2 | Ozone Depletion Potential | Ģ | \rightarrow | Ε | DE | 1 | 1,125% | | |
| LCA | 1.1.3 | Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential | Ģ | \rightarrow | Ε | | 1 | 1,125% | | |
| LCA | 1.1.4 | Acidification Potential | G | \rightarrow | Ε | | 1 | 1,125% | | |
| LCA | 1.1.5 | Eutrophication Potential | G | → | Ε | DE | 1 | 1,125% | 2% | |
| | 1.1.6 | Risks to the Local Environment | 1 | Ъ | Ρ | ТР | 3 | 3,375% | 22, | |
| | 1.1.7 | Sustainable Logging / Wood | 1 | Ъ | Ρ | ТР | 1 | 1,125% | | |
| | 1.2 | Demand of Resources | | | | | | | | |
| LCA | 1.2.1 | Primary Energy Demand Not Renewable (PE_{nre}) | G | → | Ε | | 3 | 3,375% | | |
| LCA | 1.2.2 | Total Primary Demand (PE_{tot}) and Amount of PE_{re} | G | → | Ε | DE | 2 | 2,250% | | |
| | 1.2.3 | Fresh Water Demand and Quantity of Wastewater | | \rightarrow | Ρ | | 2 | 2,250% | | |
| | 1.2.4 | Demand of Space | | \checkmark | С | PD | 2 | 2,250% | | BMUB |



| PHASE ALLO | CATION | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------|----------------------|--------|-------------------|--------------|---|--|
| | | | Phases acc. to RBBau | | | | | |
| Criteria group | Description | ES – Bau | Competition | EW-Bau | Final planning | Construction | Comissioning and building documentation | |
| ECOLOGICA | LQUALITY | | | | | | | |
| | 1.1.1 Global Warming Potential (GWP) | | | * | | - 620 | 0 | |
| | 1.1.2 Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP) | | | * | | | 0 | |
| Effects on | 1.1.3 Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential (POCP) | | atio | * | | | 0 | |
| the global | 1.1.4 Acidification Potential (AP) | | lend | * | | | 0 | |
| environment | 1.1.5 Eutrophication Potential (EP) | | mm | * | | | 0 | |
| | 1.1.6 Risks to the Local Environment | | reco | × | | × | 0 | |
| | 1.1.7 Sustainable Logging/Wood | | rate | | × | × | 0 | |
| | 1.2.1 Primary Energy Demand, Non-Renewable (PEne) | × * | sepa | * | | | 0 | |
| Demand of | 1.2.2 Total Primary Energy Demand and Share of Renewable Primary Energy (PE _e) | × * | * See | * | | | 0 | |
| resources | 1.2.3 Fresh Water Demand and Wastewater Volume | × * | | × * | control - | rolo - | 0 | |
| | 1.2.4 Demand of Space | × * | | × | | | 0 | |



Trees Water Timber Metals Animals

| Primary Energy Demand, Non-Renewable | BNB 1.2.1 ⁷ LCA | Protection of limited fossil fuels | Coal Birds | Oil Fish Trees |
|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Primary Energy Demand, Renewable | BNB 1.2.2 LCA | Increasing coverage rate through renewables | Oceans Energy | Timb Meta |
| Fresh Water Demand and Quantity of Wastewater | BNB 1.2.3 | Reducing fresh water pollution resulting from fresh water and sewage treatment | Minerals Natural Gas | Oxygen Fossil Fuels |
| Demand of Space | BNB 1.2.4 | Minimising additional soil sealing and measures to re-expose sealed surfaces | | |
| Sustainable Logging/Wood | BNB 1.1.7 | Threats to tropical, sub-tropical and boreal forest regions | | |
| Abiotic Resource Depletion | Set aside (LCA) | Protection of limited raw material resources | | |

Table A1: Criteria serving to protect natural resources



| Global Warming Potential (GWP) | BNB 1.1.1 LCA | Global warming |
|--|------------------|---|
| Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP) | BNB 1.1.2 LCA | Ozone layer depletion |
| Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential (POCP) | BNB 1.1.3 LCA | Creation of ground-level ozone as summer smog |
| Acidification Potential (AP) | BNB 1.1.4 LCA | Acidification of soils, waters and rain |
| Eutrophication Potential (EP) | BNB 1.1.5 LCA | Waters, ground water and soils |

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT CATEGORIES



Table A2: Global impact on the environment



| Risks to the Local Environment | BNB 1.1.6 | Potential risks to water, soil, air resulting from the processing of materials at the construction site or due to weather exposure during the use phase |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Microclimate | Set aside in BNB | Building-specific heat island effects of urban structures compared to the surrounding areas, and reduction or avoidance of such effects |



Table A3: Local impact on the environment



| Characteristic | Situation in Deutschland |
|----------------------------|---|
| Methods | mainly LCA |
| LCA-Data base | national database Ökobaudat |
| LCA-System boundary | entire lifecycle |
| LCA-Reference study period | 50 years |
| LCA-Tools | z.B. eLCA, LEGEP, bauloop, |
| LCA-Modules | A-D |
| Benchmarks | Limit-, reference- and target values Based on generic or reference building approach |

Data base "Ökobaudat"



Webpage www.oekobaudat.de and Online Database ÖKOBAUDAT Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, ÖKOBAU DAT **Rau und Reaktornicherheit** Informationsportal Nachhaltiges Bauen Home Datenbank Archiv Info Links → Browser ÖKOBAU.DAT Datenbank Suche 1 → Suche Data base - Search → Aufnahme von Daten Name 0 → Hilfe Description 0 Structure No. 0 Online data base **ÖKOBAUDAT** Anzeigen Search and filter functions Bitte füllen Sie mindestes ein Feld aus!

- Basis for LCA on building level
- generic data and product specific data
- publicly available, free of charge
- compulsory within BNB
- data format conform to EN 15804
- Quality of data (verification, EPD-programmes)
- Import of data from other countries possible

LCA-database Ökobaudat (public available)



Prozess-Information
 Modellierung und Validierung
 Administrative Information
 Umweltindikatoren

Parameter zur Beschreibung des Ressourceneinsatzes und sonstige Umweltinformationen

| | Einheit ≎ | Produktion A1-A3 | Einbau A5 | Abfall | Abfallbehandlung C3 | | eitigung C4 | Moc | lul | |
|---|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|----------|--|
| | kg Sb-Äqv. | 0.0009389 | 4.667E-9 | | 5.211E-10 | | 2.133E-7 | -1. | 372E-7 | |
| | kg R11-Äqv. | 2.839E-8 | 3.694E-11 | | 2.1E-12 | | 5.4E-10 | | 33E-12 | |
| kg SO2-Äqv. | | 0.03972 | 0.00005444 | | 0.00000 | 5356 | 0.003667 | | -0.01228 | |
| kg Phosphat-Äqv. | | 0.005367 | 0.00001067 | | 0.000001133 | | 0.0006611 | | -0.001 | |
| kg CO2-Äqv. | | 21.26 | 0.5056 | | 0.1 | | 2.994 | | -3.5 | |
| MJ | | 313 | 0.1444 | | 0.01111 | | 7.978 | | -42.21 | |
| | kg Ethen-Äqv. | hen-Äqv. 0.004867 0.00003406 6.333 | | 3E-7 | 0.001044 | -0. | 001839 | | | |
| Abbau Potential der Stratosphänschen Ozonschichter | | | ka 902 Äav | 0.03972 | 0.00005444 | 0.00006356 | 0.003667 | 0.0001 12 | | |
| Versauerungspotenzial von boden und wasser (AP) | | | kg <u>SO2-Aqv.</u> | 0.005367 | 0.00003444 | 0.000005558 | 0.003667 | -0.01220 | | |
| Globales Erwärmungspotenzial (GWP) | | | ka CO2-Äav. | 21.26 | 0.5056 | 0.1 | 2.994 | -3.5 | | |
| Potenzial für den abiotischen Abbau fossiler Brennstoffe (ADPF) | | | MJ | 313 | 0.1444 | 0.01111 | 7.978 | -42.21 | | |
| Bildungspotential für troposphärisches Ozon (POCP) | | | kg Ethen-Äqv. | 0.004867 | 0.000003406 | 6.333E-7 | 0.001044 | -0.001839 | | |

The calculation tool "eLCA"





Dynamic graph – visual check of input parameters



Dynamic graph – better analysis of results

- Directly linked to ÖKOBAUDAT
- Conformity with BNB (i.e. calculation method, life cycle, reference service life; configuration production/endof-life)
- Integrated examples for building elements (building materials)
- Dynamic (visual) construction of building elements
- Graphs and visual analysis of results
- Modular system, flexible for other applications
- Transparent
- Basis for benchmarks of BNB
- Administration planning and project phases (ES-Bau, EW-Bau)

Online Product Information System WECOBIS





- Information about construction product groups, independent from industry
- Which materials hold environmental and health risks? (life cycle)
- Are there alternative materials?
- How to regard this in tenderings?
- Where to find product specific information an data?
- Which product groups for certain quality standards of BNB? (criteria 1.1.6)

Current activities (in the field of LCA)

Salking

- Development / tightening of the LCA-benchmarks
- Adaptation of the LCA-benchmarks to specific building types and types of use
- Discussion on the introduction of ADP
- Discussion on consequences of PEF
- Discussion on the interpretation of Module D
- Discussion on the duration of the reference study period (How can the durability of structures be adequately taken into account?)
- Discussion on the responsibility of designers
- Discussion on the integration into design goals
- Discussion on system boundaries of net-zero- and net-positive buildings (energy or emission related)



ÖÖW

Conclusions and recommendations (in the field of LCA)

- In the current situation, database, calculation tool and benchmarks must form a unit
- The transparency in the presentation of data bases and building descriptions must be improved
- The presentation of results must follow as required by the standards – a modular approach (A-D).
- The development of system boundaries and accounting rules for net-zero and net-positive buildings provide an opportunity for cooperation in Europe or between D-A-CH
- The question of the use of data both in early and late design phases needs further discussion.
- The assessment of the environmental performance can not be limited to LCA. Also other environmental impacts (shading, glare, risks, contribution to heat islands, etc.) must be considered.





Tools, instruments, sources of information (overview)



www.nachhaltigesbauen.de



ÖÖW





www.nachhaltigesbauen.de

Information Platform on Sustainable Building Activities (BNB) by the Federal Government

www.bauteileditor.de Life Cycle Assessment Tool eLCA

www.oekobaudat.de Building Materials Online Database for LCA in Sustainable Construction

www.wecobis.de Webpage, Information Platform on Environmental and Health relevant Aspects of Building Materials

"Merci vielmal"



