

Nordic Climate  
Forum for  
Construction 2024



# Aim and target

## NORDIC CLIMATE FORUM FOR CONSTRUCTION

### Aim

- Promote **Nordic harmonization** of regulation **about climate impact** from buildings
- Provide **an update on decided and upcoming regulations** within the EU and the Nordics regarding the climate impact of buildings
- To meet physically to discuss and **gather comments from the Nordic construction industry** about introduced regulation and upcoming regulation with the Nordic building authorities

### Target

- To **facilitate for the construction industry** to reduce climate impact (apply the regulation) without excessive administrative burden/costs
- Promote **innovation and development**
- Give **input to EU regulations** on the climate impact of buildings

# Program

## **Opening words**

*Kristina Einarsson, Boverket, moderator*

## **Greetings from the Swedish government**

*Andreas Carlsson, Minister for Infrastructure and Housing, video*

## **EU outlook and update about relevant EU policies**

*Phillippe Moseley at European Commission and Luzie Rück at Viegand Maagøe contracted by the European Commission*

**Nordic outlook** *Thomas Johansson at Boverket and Helle Redder Momsen at Nordic Sustainable Construction*

## **Coffee Break**

## **Experiences from decided climate regulation from the authority's**

*Niels Bruus Varming at Danish Authority of Social Services and Housing in Denmark, Ingunn Marton at Norwegian Building Authority and Kristina Einarsson at Boverket in Sweden*

## **Break**

## **Experience from decided climate regulation from the industry**


*Christian Mølholm and Marcus Hedman at NREP in Denmark, Ben Toscher at Norgehus in Norway and Jeanette Sveder Lundin at Skanska in Sweden*

## **More on upcoming regulation**

*Maria Tiainen at Ministry of Environment in Finland, Hannamary Seli at Ministry of Climate in Estonia, Elin Thorolfsdottir at Housing and Construction Authority of Iceland*

## **Lunch break**

**Round table discussions in the afternoon only invite not online**

A tall building under construction, featuring a light-colored wooden facade and a complex metal scaffolding structure. The building is set against a clear blue sky. The scaffolding consists of several vertical towers and horizontal cross-braces, providing structural support during the construction process. The building's facade is composed of large, rectangular wooden panels, some of which have small, dark rectangular openings. The overall scene conveys a sense of modern, sustainable construction.

# Greetings from the Swedish government

*Andreas Carlsson, Minister for  
Infrastructure and Housing in  
Sweden, video*

EU outlook and  
update about  
relevant EU policies



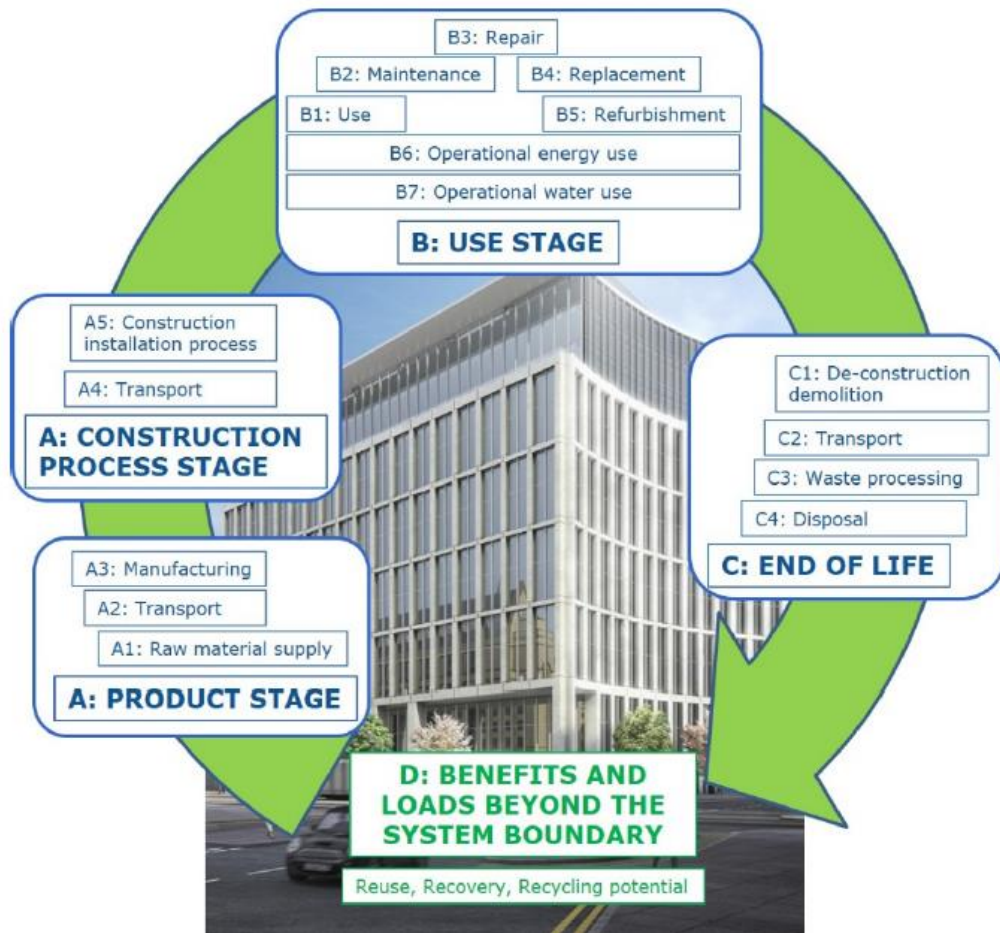


# Whole life carbon, circularity and the Construction Products Regulation

Nordic Climate Forum for Construction  
11 September 2024, Malmö

*Philippe Moseley*

*Team Leader, Sustainable & competitive construction  
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship & SMEs*



## Whole life cycle GHG emissions of buildings

- High priority for industry (expressed in High Level Construction Forum)
- Major part of EU construction policy via Transition Pathway for construction
- Now firmly established in legislation

The stages in a building life cycle, based on EN 15978.

Source: JRC 2021 Level(s)

# Political Guidelines for European Commission 2024-2029



*“I will appoint a Commissioner whose responsibilities will include housing, and I will put forward a first-ever **European Affordable Housing Plan**.*”

*This will address structural drivers, develop a strategy for housing construction, offer technical assistance to cities and Member States and focus on investment.”*





# What is the new Construction Products Regulation?

Harmonised rules for the marketing of construction products

- Single market
- Free movement of products (CE marking)
- Common technical language: functionality, safety and environment
- Digital Product Passport

National Building Codes

- Construction works

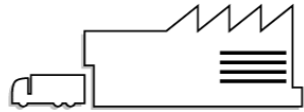
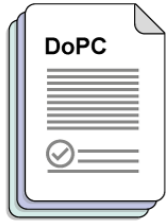
# Construction Products Regulation

Product related regulatory needs

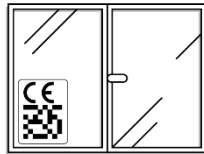
# National construction codes

## Single market for construction products

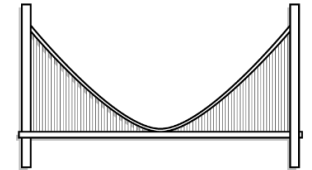
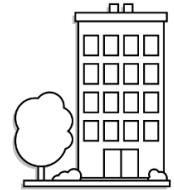
Declaration of performance and conformity



Manufacturer



CE marking



Construction works

Placing on the market

# Scope of the CPR

IN

Key parts of products

Parts or materials intended to be used for products, if the manufacturer of the parts or materials wants it

Products delivered as part of a service (including manufacturing onsite)

3D Printing of products

Packaging, instructions for use

OUT

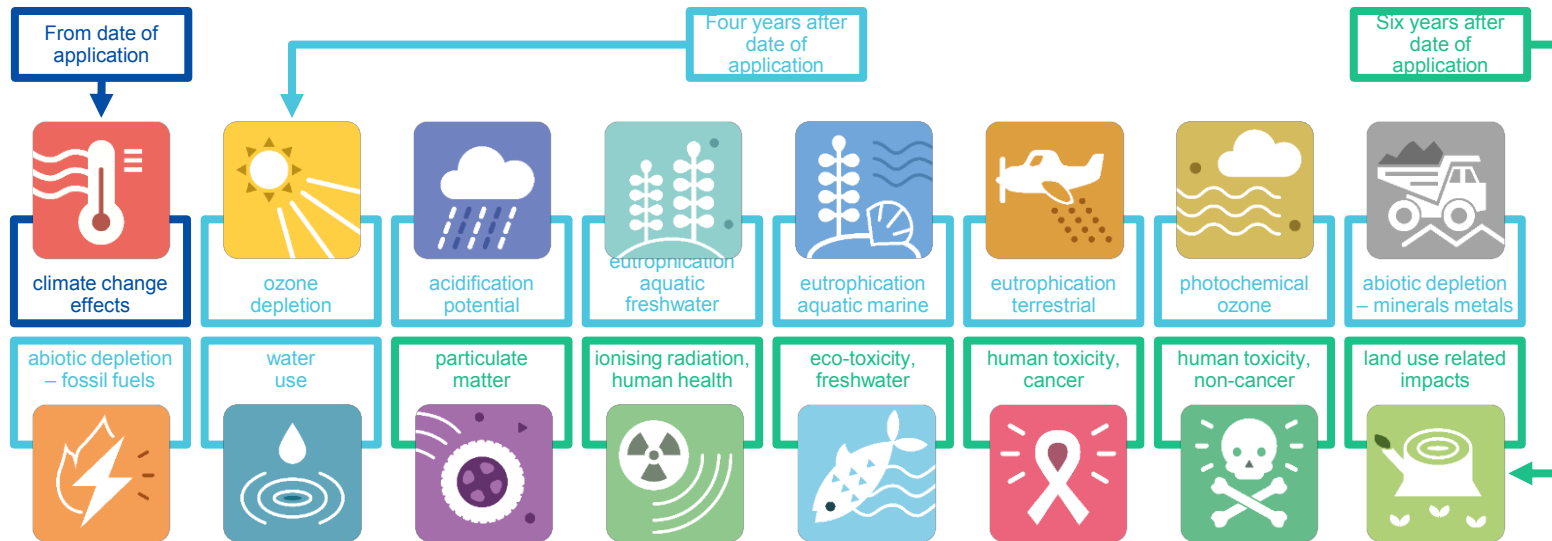
Excluded are lifts, performance assessment and requirements subject to the drinking water directive

Individually manufactured or custom-made products in a non-series process (opt-in possible)

Binding decisions whether an item is covered

# LCA environmental indicators

New CPR establishes by default, mandatory declaration of the following essential characteristics in three steps



# Declarations by different manufacturers

DECLARATION OF PERFORMANCE		unprotected masonry System 2+ EN 771-1:2011+A1:2015 0749
DoP number: 12705430-B1W1725		
Product name: ECO ELIGNIA ARCTICA SNOW		
Identification code of product type is DoP-number		
Intended use in masonry walls, columns and partitions for: Assessment and verification of constancy of performance: Harmonised standard: Notified body/ies:		
Declared performance of a U - masonry unit		
Dimensions and tolerances		
Length:	mm	288 ± 4 5
Width:	mm	65 ± 2 2
Height:	mm	48 ± 2 2
Tolerance:	category	T2
Range:	category	R2
Flatness of bed faces:	mm	NPD
Plane parallelism:	mm	NPD
Configuration		
Group of the unit:	-	1
Volume of all formed voids:	%	NPD
Volume of frogs:	%	NPD
Density		
Gross dry density:	kg/m³	1650
Net dry density:	kg/m³	2050
Tolerance:	category/%	D1 / 10
Compressive strength for Category I product		
Perpendicular to bedface:	N/mm²	20
Perpendicular to header:	N/mm²	NPD
Perpendicular to header 2:	N/mm²	NPD
Bond strength:	N/mm²	NPD
Thermal conductivity $\lambda_{10, dry, calc}$ :	W/(m·K)	0,099 Determination method EN 1745 2012 21
Water vapour permeability:	-	$\mu = 5/10$ tabulated min. and max. value according EN 1745
Durability:	category	F2 According EN 172-22
Water absorption:	%	13 According EN 772-21
Initial rate of water absorption:	kg/m²·min	0,300-2 According EN 772-11
Active soluble salt content:	category	S2 According EN 772-5
Moisture movement:	mm/m	NPD
Reaction to fire:	class	A1 EN 1381-1
Dangerous substances:	-	NPD
The performance of the product identified above is in conformity with the set of declared performances. This declaration of performance is issued, in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 305/2011, under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer identified above. Signed for and on behalf of the manufacturer by:		
2023-03-14 CEO		

Declaration of performance		CE 06 NB 0749 EN 771-1 2011 +A1:2015
Number 310	Reference marking vehicle	
(1) Unique identification code of the product type: 104	(2) System or systems of assessment and verification of constancy of performance of the construction product: 24	
(3) Intended use or use of the construction product: Unprotected masonry walls, columns and partitions.	(4) Notified body: NB 0749 EN 771-1 2011 +A1:2015	
(5) Declared performance: For visible sizes refer to the product sheet and / or website.	(6) Manufacturer: www.mclumber.lv	
Dimensions		
Length	(mm)	M02 180 185 208 209 213 239 239 241 240
Width	(mm)	68 65 100 100 101 72 72 108 70
Height	(mm)	51 64 40 49 65 40 50 73 70
Normalized compressive strength	(N/mm²)	32 25 22 22 25 15 24 26 26
Plain compressive strength	(N/mm²)	30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30
Flatness of bed faces		0/0
Gross dry density	(kg/m³)	1680(2)
Thermal conductivity	(W/(m·K)) (EN 1745)	0,09 (2)
Thermal conductivity	(W/(m·K)) (EN 1745 Annex A)	0,05 (4)
Water vapour permeability		5/10
Active soluble salts		0/0
Dimensional stability: moisture expansion		0/0
Reaction to fire		A1
Tolerance category		T2
Range category		R2
Net dry density	(kg/m³)	2050
Configuration		1
Load strength		0/0
Durability against these threats		F2
Water absorption	(%)	13
Initial water absorption	(kg/m²·min)	0,3
Dangerous substances		0/0
(10) The performance of the product identified in points 1 and 2 is in conformity with the declared performance in point 3. This declaration of performance is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer identified in point 4. Signed for and on behalf of the manufacturer by:		

Declaration of Performance		
DOP/5050246152013		
The performance of the product identified above is in conformity with the declared values, when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and general purpose or lightweight mortars.		
1. Unique identification code of the product type: <b>FULWOOD MULTI CLAY MASONRY UNITS, Unprotected U, Category II</b>		
2. Type, batch or serial number or any other element allowing identification of the construction product as required under Article 11(4). <b>SACFLM16000</b>		
3. Intended use or uses of the construction product, in accordance with the applicable harmonised technical specification, as foreseen by the manufacturer: <b>Unprotected facing and rendered masonry, load bearing or non load bearing masonry structures including internal linings and partitions for building and civil engineering</b>		
4. Name, registered trade name or registered trade mark and contact address of the manufacturer as required under Article 11(5):		
5. System or systems of assessment and verification of constancy of performance of the construction product as set out in Annex V: <b>System 4</b>		
Essential Characteristics	Performance	Harmonised Technical Specification
Dimensions and Dimensional Tolerance	215 x 102,5 x 65mm Tolerance Class T2	EN 771-1: 2011 + A1:2015
Configuration	Vertically Perforated 18-28% Voids Unit as shown in Figure S4 of EN 771-1. Conforms to the requirements of Group I masonry units to EN 1996-1-1	
Compressive Strength	75 N/mm² (tested normal to the bed face of the unit) Cat II	EN 771-1: 2011 + A1:2015
Dimensional Stability	NPD	
Bond Strength	Fixed 0.15 N/mm²	Commission Decision 2000/605/EC
Active Soluble Salts	Class S2	
Reaction to Fire	Class A1	EN 771-1: 2011 + A1:2015
Water Absorption	7 % (external elements)	
Water Vapour Permeability	0/10	EN 771-1: 2011 + A1:2015
Direct Airborne Sound Insulation	Gross Dry Density 1700 kg/m³	
Equivalent Thermal Conductivity	Configuration as above	EN 771-1: 2011 + A1:2015
Durability Against Freeze Thaw	0,78 N/mm² (A10, dry) F2	
Dangerous Substances	NPD	
7. The performance of the product identified in points 1 and 2 is in conformity with the declared performance in point 6. This declaration of performance is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer identified in point 4. Signed for and on behalf of the manufacturer by:		
Quality Manager		23 December 2020

# Declaration of Performance and Conformity


New CPR establishes additional rules for manufacturers in relation to the DoPC

- Section on declared performance
- Section on fulfilment of product requirements - **New**
- Provided together with product information - **Improved**

# Product requirements

- A performance declaration combined with a mandatory threshold is better than establishing a requirement:
  - » Performance allows more ambitious requirements by Member States and manufacturers
  - » Performance allows a more detailed declaration instead of pass/fail

	Approach	Assessment method	Threshold	Declaration in the declaration of performance and conformity
Performance + threshold	Essential characteristic: Recycled content	Defined in a <b>mandatory</b> harmonised standard	EU level: <b>25%</b>	Recycled content: <b>45%</b>
Requirement	Minimum recycled content of the product	Defined in a <b>voluntary</b> harmonised standard	EU level: <b>25%</b>	Fulfill minimum recycled content



# Product requirements

## Functionality

use of specific materials which can be specified also in terms of their chemical composition

specific dimensions and shapes of products or their components

use of certain components which can be specified also in terms of materials, dimensions and shapes

use of certain accessories and requirements for them

ease of installation and deinstallation

ease of maintenance or the lack of maintenance required for the expected life span

characteristics of the product, including its cleanability, scratch resistance and break resistance, under usual operation conditions

## Safety

chemical risks due to leaking or leaching

risk of unbalanced composition in terms of substances resulting in flawed, safety- relevant functioning of products

mechanical risks

mechanical failure

physical failure

risks of electric failure

risks linked to electricity supply breakdown

risks linked to unintended charge or discharge of electricity

risks linked to software failure

risks of software manipulation

risks of incompatibility of substances or materials

risks linked to the incompatibility of different items, at least one of them being a product

risk of not performing as intended, where the performance is safety relevant

risk of misunderstanding instructions for use in a field affecting health and safety

risk of unintended inappropriate installation or use

risk of intended inappropriate use

## Environment

maximising durability and reliability of the product or its components as expressed through a product's technical lifetime indication of real use information on the product, resistance to stress or ageing mechanisms and in terms of the expected average life span, the minimum life span under worst but still realistic conditions, and in terms of the minimum life span requirements and prevention of premature obsolescence

minimising life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions

maximising reused, recycled and by-product content

selection of safe, sustainable-by-design, and environmentally benign substances

energy use and energy efficiency

resource efficiency

modularity

identifying which product or parts thereof and in what quantity can be reused after de-installation (reusability), and in what quantities

upgradability

ease of reparability during the expected life span, including compatibility with commonly available spare parts

ease of maintenance and refurbishment during the expected life span

recyclability and the capability to be remanufactured

capability of different materials or substances to be separated and recovered during dismantling or recycling procedures

sustainable sourcing

minimising the product-to-packaging ratio

amounts of waste generated, notably hazardous waste



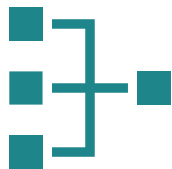
# Product information

- Products are accompanied by general product information, instructions for use and safety information
- CPR Annex applies directly and additional guidance about its implementation is provided in harmonised standards
- A delegated act may establish which information must be provided and how, if needed

# Information aspects to be covered



Safety during transport, installation, deinstallation, maintenance, deconstruction and demolition



Compatibility and integration into systems or kits



Maintenance needs with a view to maintaining the performance of the product during its service life span



Safety during use



Training and other requirements necessarily to be fulfilled for safe use



Risk mitigation



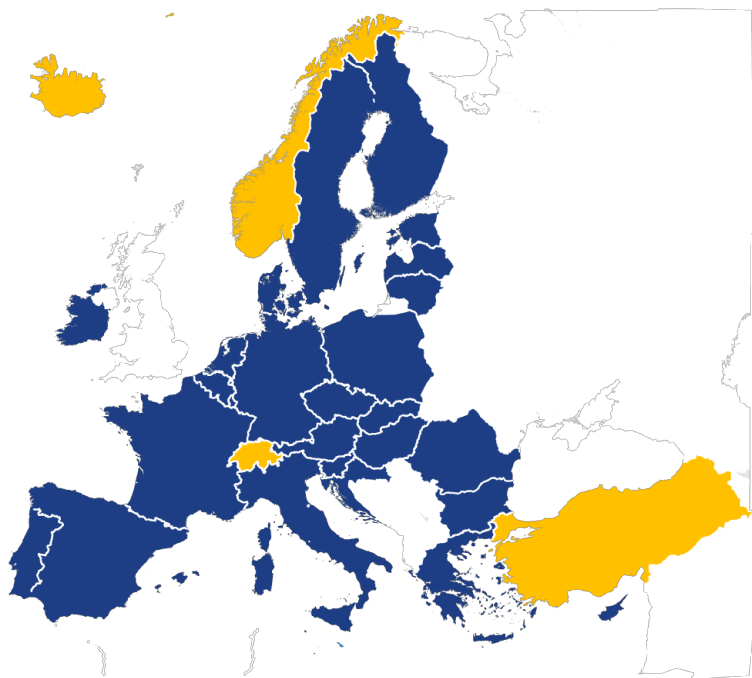
Recommendations for a product's end of life

# Environmental label

- Mandatory label can be established by delegated act
- Based on the environmental performance of the product
- Applicable if
  - » the product is typically chosen or purchased by consumers; and
  - » the product does not have a significantly different overall environmental performance over its life cycle depending on its installation.

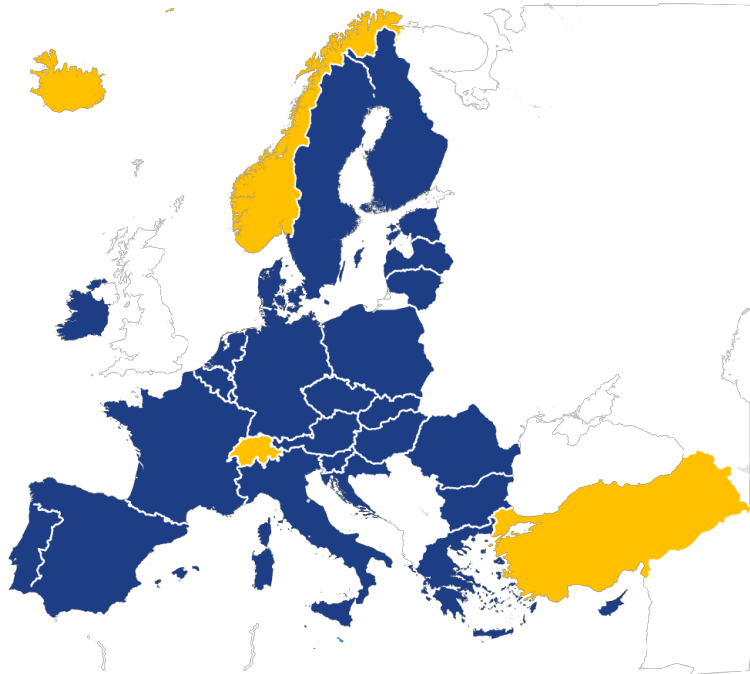


# Member States can...



- Establish minimum performances for all or certain applications
- Require more ambitious performance thresholds
- Establish take back obligations for unused products


# Member States cannot...



- Establish a different assessment method for the declaration
- Demand different third-party tasks to those defined by the CPR
- Require additional essential characteristics not included in the harmonised standard
- Request fulfilment of additional/stricter product requirements

# CPR Acquis Expert Sub-Groups

Fire	1 Precast normal/ lightweight/ autoclaved aerated concrete products	9 Curtain walling/cladding/structural sealant glazing	17 Masonry and related products - Masonry units, mortars, and ancillaries.	25 Construction adhesives	33 Fixings
	2 Doors, windows, shutters, gates and related building hardware	10 Fixed fire fighting equipment	18 Wastewater engineering products	26 Products related to concrete, mortar and grout	34 Building kits, units, and prefabricated elements
Dangerous substances	3 Membranes, including liquid applied and kits	11 Sanitary appliances	19 Floorings	27 Space heating appliances	35 Fire stopping, sealing and protective products - Fire retardant products
	4 Thermal insulation products - Composite insulating kits/systems	12 Circulation fixtures: road equipment	20 Structural metallic products and ancillaries	28 Pipes-tanks and ancillaries not in contact with water for human consumption	36 Attached ladders
Environmental sustainability	5 Structural bearings - Pins for structural joints	13 Structural timber products/elements and ancillaries	21 Internal & external wall and ceiling finishes. Internal partition kits	29 Construction products in contact with water intended for human consumption	
	6 Chimneys, flues and specific products	14 Wood based panels and elements	22 Roof coverings, roof lights, roof windows, and ancillary products. roof kits	30 Flat glass, profiled glass and glass block products	
	7 Gypsum products	15 Cement, building limes and other hydraulic binders	23 Road construction products	31 Power, control and communication cables	
	8 Geotextiles, geomembranes, and related products	16 Reinforcing and prestressing steel for concrete – Post-tensioning kits	24 Aggregates	32 Sealants for joints	

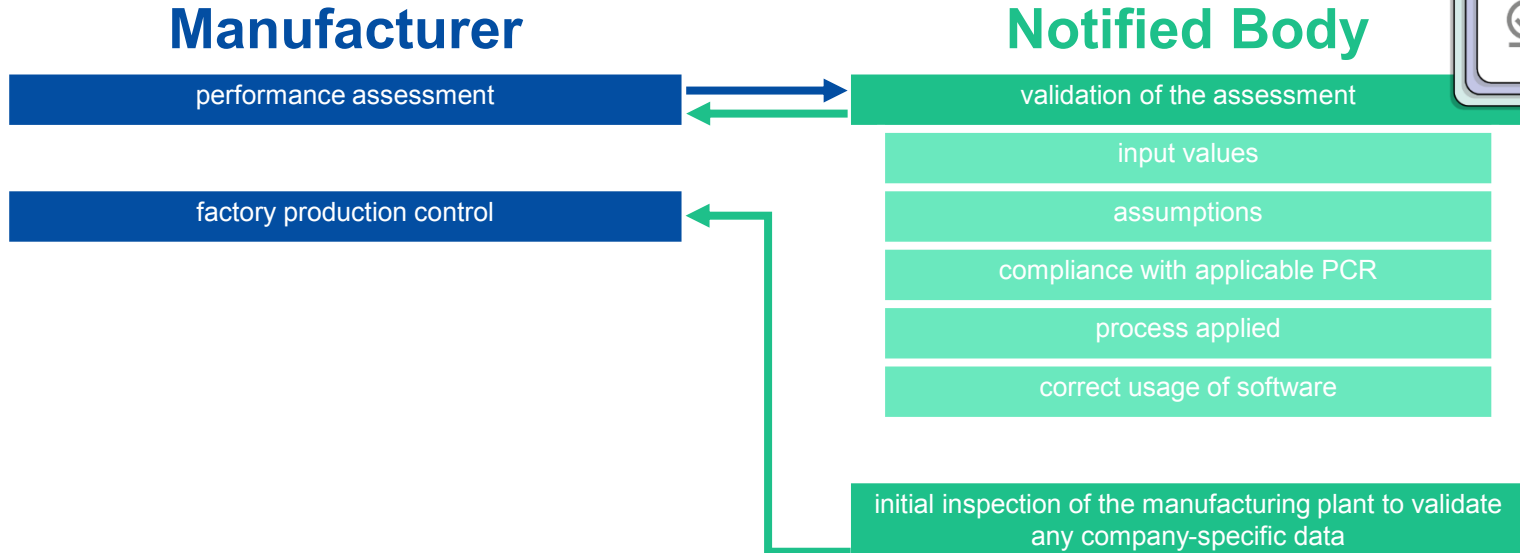
 Horizontal subgroups  
 Product families according Annex VII

# CPR Acquis Expert Groups – current priorities



- Horizontal subgroups
- Standardisation request discussed
- CPR Acquis ongoing work
- Other subgroups Fast track possible
- Other subgroups Fast track not possible
- Fast track ongoing
- Priority

# Assessment and verifications system for environmental sustainability





# Background data collection for future EU end-of-waste criteria of Construction and Demolition Waste

Final Report

## End-of-waste status: construction and demolition waste

- Study Final Report:  
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/89a1cfe5-60fd-11ef-a8ba-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
- 26 September 2024: kick-off  
'Development of EU-wide harmonised  
End-of-Waste criteria for inert  
construction and demolition waste'



# EU Construction & Demolition Waste Management Protocol

including guidelines for  
pre-demolition and pre-renovation audits  
of construction works

Updated edition 2024

New guidance published:

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d63d5a8f-64e8-11ef-a8ba-01aa75ed71a1>

# Thank you! Ta(c)(k)k! Aitäh! Pakka! Kiitos!

[https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/construction\\_en](https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/construction_en)

 EU Construction Ecosystem



Except where otherwise noted, this presentation is © European Union and is licensed under the CC BY 4.0 license.



# Life-cycle GWP

## Article 7(2) and Article 7(5)

Luzie Rück, Viegand Maagøe on behalf of  
DG ENER - Buildings and Products

# Increased consideration of the whole-life-cycle performance of buildings & a circular economy

- Buildings are responsible for greenhouse gas emissions before, during & after their operational lifetime.
- The **2050 vision** for a decarbonised building stock goes beyond the current focus on operational greenhouse gas emissions.
- The **whole-life-cycle emissions** of buildings should therefore progressively be taken into account, starting with new buildings.
- Making good choices about **building design, practices, and materials** can significantly reduce both operational and embodied carbon emissions.

# Overview of relevant provisions for Life-cycle GWP

- **Calculation of LC GWP** from 1-01-2028 for large new buildings & from 01-01-2030 for all new buildings (Art 7.2)
  - ✓ Calculation in accordance with the **main principles of Annex III**, pending the adoption of a DA to set out a **Union framework for the national calculation of GWP** by 31 December 2025 (Art 7.3)
- By 01-01-2027, publication & notification of **national roadmaps** detailing introduction of limit values and set targets (Art 7.5)

# Overview of relevant provisions for Life-cycle GWP



# Calculation & disclosure of the LC GWP

## Article 7(2)

Member States shall ensure that the life-cycle GWP is calculated in accordance with Annex III and disclosed in the energy performance certificate of the building:

- (a) from 1 January 2028, for all new buildings with a useful floor area larger than 1000 m<sup>2</sup>;
- (b) from 1 January 2030, for all new buildings.

- The only possible exemptions to the requirements are mentioned in Article 7(4) for buildings for which applications for building permits or equivalent applications have already been submitted within the deadlines referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.
- ➔ There are no other exemptions from the obligation to calculate the life-cycle GWP of new buildings.



# Calculation & disclosure of the LC GWP

## Article 7(3)

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 32 to amend Annex III to set out a Union framework for the national calculation of life-cycle GWP with a view to achieving climate neutrality. The first such delegated act shall be adopted by 31 December 2025.

- Annex III provides the main principles for the calculation of the GWP & applies until the application of the DA, which will amend Annex III

# Calculation & disclosure of the LC GWP

- Annex III refers to the standard EN 15978:2011 & the EU framework Level(s) & Construction Product Regulation (for data).
- The total life-cycle GWP is expressed as  $\text{kgCO}_2\text{eq}/(\text{m}^2)$  (of useful floor area) calculated over a reference study period of 50 years.
- The scope of building elements and technical equipment is as defined in the Level(s) common EU framework for indicator 1.2.
- Where a national calculation tool or method exists, or is required for making disclosures or for obtaining building permits, that tool or method may be used to provide the required disclosure.
- Other calculation tools or methods may be used if they fulfil the minimum criteria established by the Level(s) common EU framework.

-> **Next steps:** Work will start this autumn jointly with other DGs & the support of EC service contract to define the minimum criteria mentioned in Annex III

# Adoption of a DA to set out a Union framework for the national calculation of GWP

## Article 7(3)

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 32 to amend Annex III to set out a Union framework for the national calculation of life-cycle GWP with a view to achieving climate neutrality. The first such delegated act shall be adopted by 31 December 2025.

- The upcoming DA will amend Annex III and for its preparation we will draw on the experience of countries having established good practices.
- > **Next steps:** Work will start this autumn jointly with other DGs & the support of EC service contract – see the next slide for considerations

# Specify the minimum criteria mentioned in Annex III

- The overall goal is to cover the whole LCGWP of buildings, however, until Member States are ready a common denominator approach shall be used as a minimum.
- Common denominator approach
  - A minimum coverage of the scope of modules
  - A minimum coverage of the scope of buildings elements
  - Clarify and describe the minimum approach of the scenarios
- Traceability to the common denominator approach.
- Other clarifications for the DA
  - What stage(s) in a building project the assessment should be done
  - Clearly defined area

# National roadmaps

## Article 7(5)

By 1 January 2027 Member States shall publish and notify to the Commission a roadmap detailing the introduction of limit values on the total cumulative life-cycle GWP of all new buildings and set targets for new buildings from 2030, considering a progressive downward trend, as well as maximum limit values, detailed for different climatic zones and building typologies.

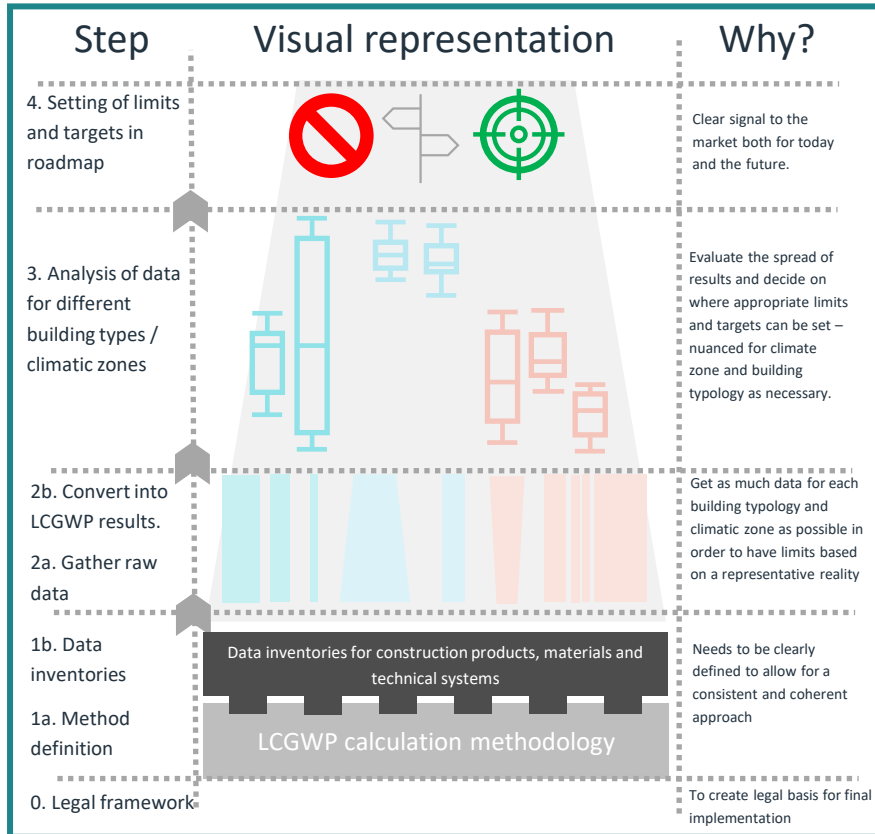
Those maximum limit values shall be in line with the Union's objective of achieving climate neutrality.

The Commission shall issue guidance, share evidence on existing national policies and offer technical support to Member States, at their request.

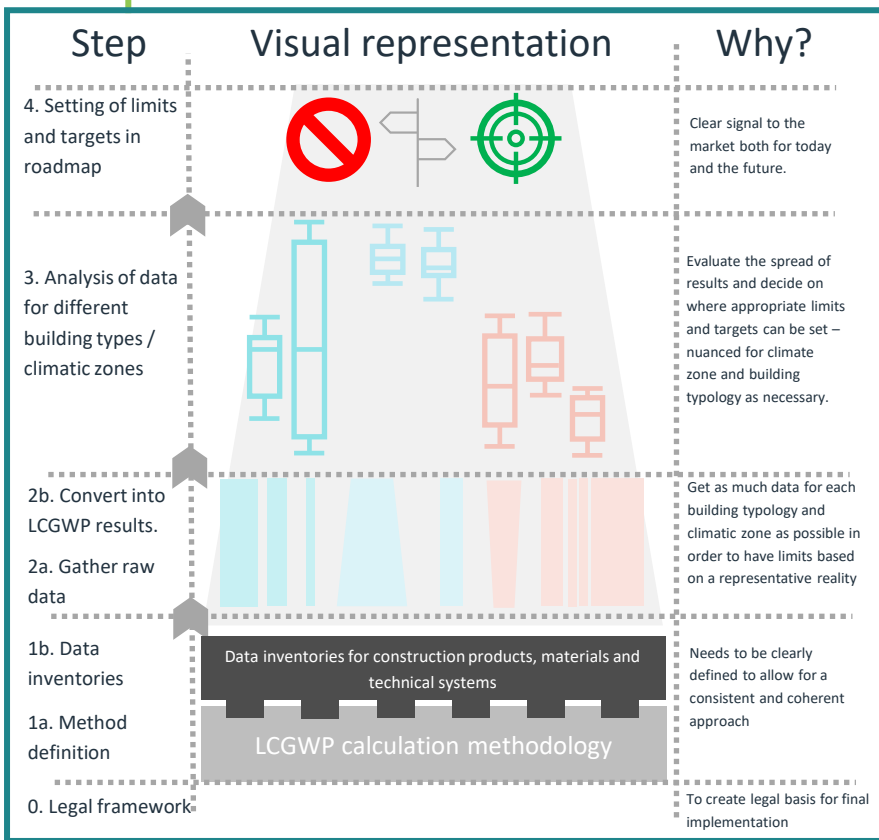
## Next steps:

- Guidance to be developed in close cooperation with Member States, and Member States will later this year be able to provide official comments
- Tentative timeline: 1st half - mid 2025

# National Roadmaps - *Detailed breakdown*



# National roadmaps



## Expected content of the guidance material for the roadmap?

- Guidance on the development of a national-level strategic document (roadmap) based on well established benchmarks (limit and target values)
  - Including methodology, data, analysis etc.
- Downward trend of limit values
- Definition of roles and responsibilities
- Information system for storing LCGWP data for new buildings as time passes

## Which elements do you need in the guidance?

# The support project

- Follow the support project here: <https://www.wlc-epbd-guidance.eu/>
- Stakeholder meeting in October; register online on the web page to get an invitation to the event;
  - Possibility to give input – both to the DA and the Roadmap
  - Member States have also the possibility to give inputs at the EPBD Committee and Concerted Actions
- Feel free to contact us through the web page if you have any questions or input





**Thank you**

Nordic outlook



An aerial photograph of a coastal city, likely Copenhagen, showing a large harbor with several ships, a suspension bridge, and dense urban development with colorful buildings. The sky is filled with soft, grey clouds.

# Nordic outlook

Nordic Regulations and news from  
Nordic Sustainable Construction

Thomas Johansson (SWE)  
Helle Redder Momsen (DK)  
11 09 2024

Nordic Sustainable  
Construction



# Nordic collaboration since 2018

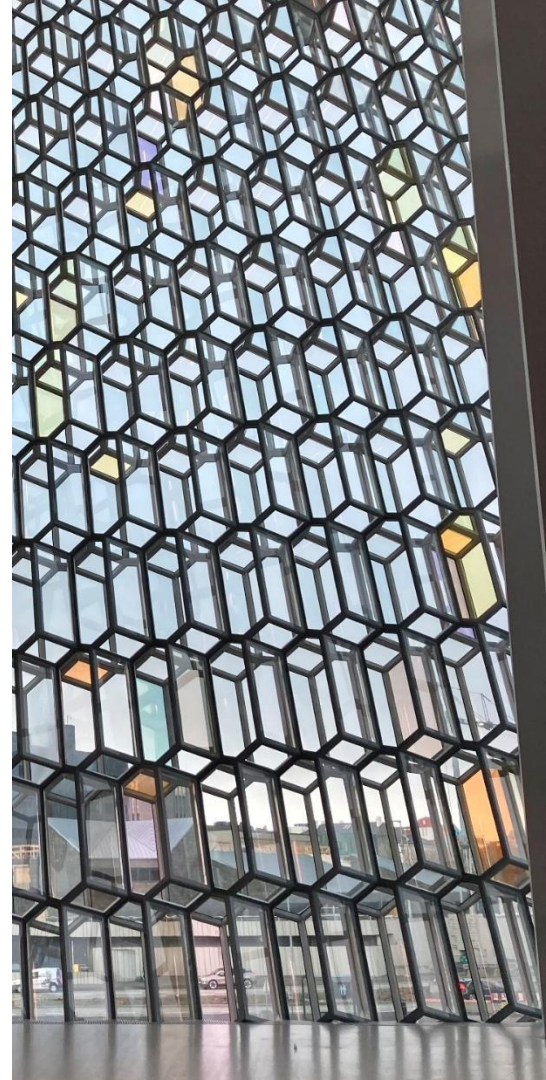
- Nordic harmonisation of regulation about climate emissions from buildings. Collaboration with the Nordic building authorities.
- Declaration by Nordic Ministers of Housing and Construction on facilitating work towards Low Carbon Construction and Circular Principles in the Construction Sector ([2018](#), [2019](#), [2023](#)).
- Yearly presentations of the work at [Nordic Climate Forum for Construction](#).



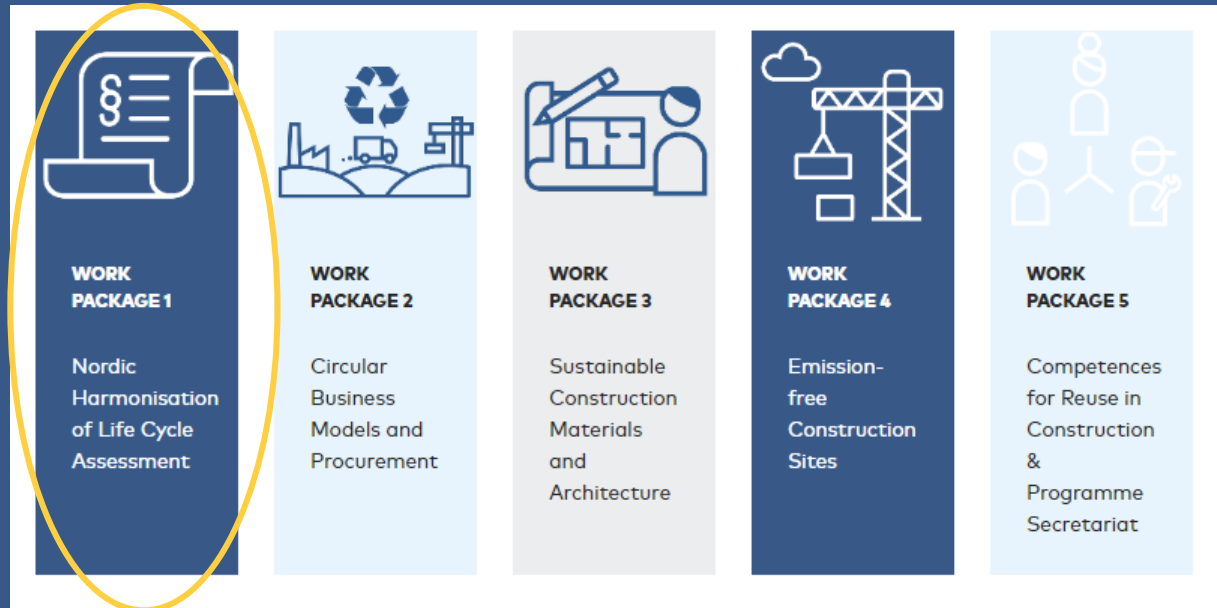
Participants at the Nordic Climate Forum for Construction in Malmö October 2019

# Current state

- The Nordic region is a pioneer for climate impact assessment of construction in Europe
- A legal framework is planned to be introduced in all Nordic countries by 2026
- The Nordic regions can provide recommendations for implementations of such policies in other countries
- The strategies adopted by Nordic countries in the implementation of limit values differ in several respects



# Nordic collaboration to support declarations





## Work Package 1

# Nordic Harmonisation of Life Cycle Assessments



Task

1

**Analysis of Nordic LCA Practices**

2 reports:

- Nordic feasibility study on harmonisation of building LCA (June 2022-internal)
- [Roadmap for Harmonising Nordic LCA regulation](#) (Sep. 2023)

Task

2

**Data for LCA**

1 big report: [Nordic view on data needs and scenarios settings for full life cycle building environmental assessment](#) (June 2024)

Strengthen collaboration between Nordic data LCA experts

2 webinars

5 workshops

Task

3

**BIM for LCA - Calculating the Climate Impact of Buildings Through Digitalisation**

2 reports:

- [The operating environment of building LCA and BIM in the Nordics and Estonia](#) (Dec. 2023)
- BIM-based building LCA - instructions for material inventory for climate declarations (Sep 2024)

2 webinars (one coming)

+30 BIM models (Sep 2024)

8 short e-learning videos on how to use the BIM models (Sep 2024)

Task

4

**Limit Values and Monitoring the Decarbonisation of the Nordic Building Stock**

3 reports:

- [Process for Monitoring the Decarbonization of the Building Stock](#) (Jan. 2024)
- [Harmonising limit values for buildings across the Nordics](#) (March 2024)
- [Decarbonization of the building stock \(Sep 2024\)](#)

2 webinars

Task

5

**Acceleration Programme: Knowledge Sharing Clinics and Best Practice Catalogues**

The acceleration programme to speed up decarbonisation of the building and construction sector

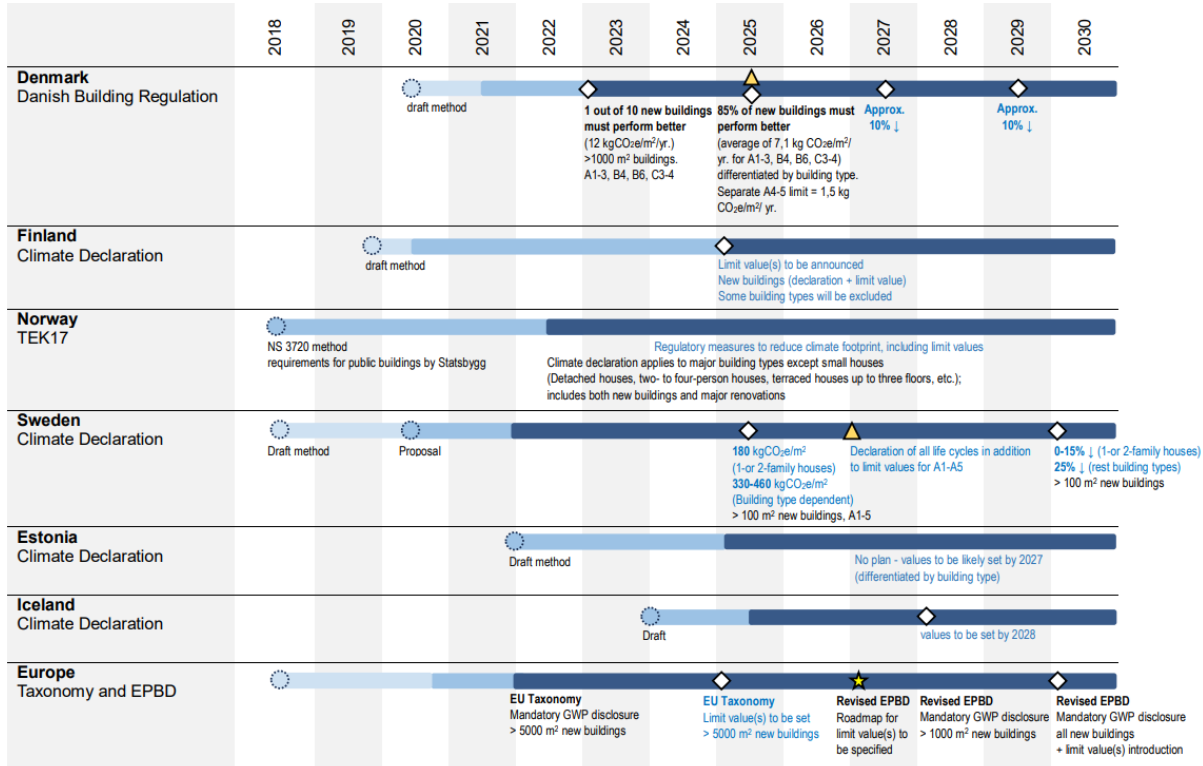
1 launch webinar

1 workshop and tailor made consultancy (Sep. 2024)

Report: Nordic Low Carbon Building Catalogue (Dec 2024).



# Timeline of carbon declaration and limit values integration



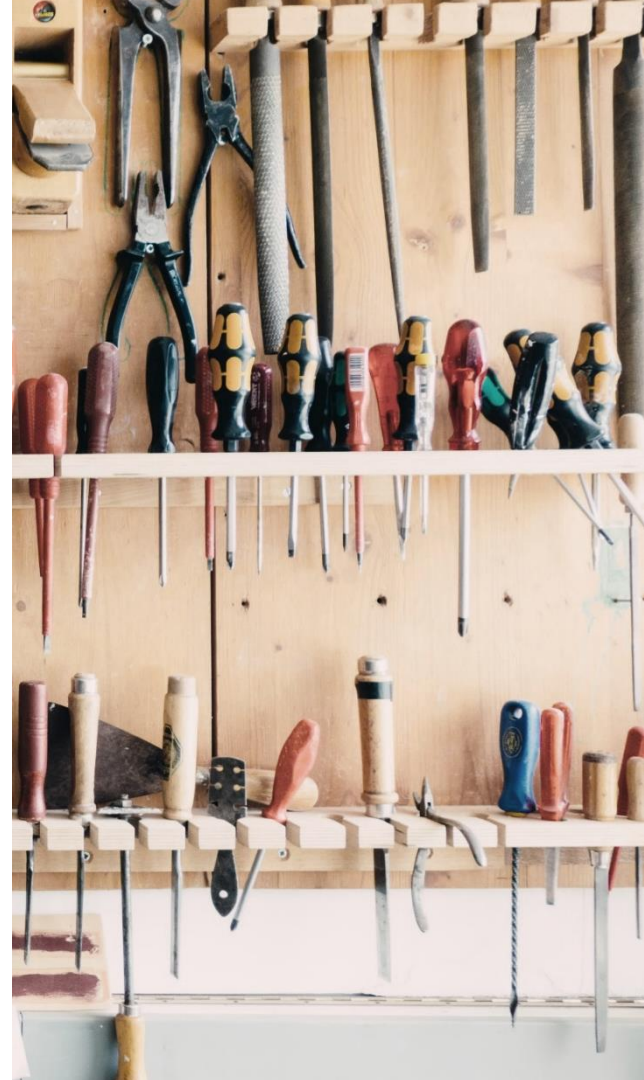
- Integration in national legislation
  - Test phase of coming regulation
  - Preliminary method development
  - ◆ Limit values (to be) integrated
  - Draft method publication
  - ★ Roadmap
  - ▲ Declaration scope extension
- "Blue" indicates proposals, not final decisions





# Significant differences between the Nordic countries

- What buildings to include in the regulation?
- What area and building parts to regulate?
- What scope to include in the limit value calculation?
- When in the building process to declare?
- How to report the LCA data?
- Etc....



# Building uses and sizes covered



limit value



carbon declaration

✓ = included in limit value(s)

✓ = included in declaration

○ = suggested or planned inclusion in future limit value(s)

○ = suggested or planned inclusion in future declaration

1. Sweden provides detailed requirements on which buildings are exempted from declarations and are independent of the building type, such as temporary building constructions, buildings built by private.

2. It can be assumed that the same building types included in the 2022 climate declaration will also be subject to the limit values proposed for July 2025.

3. when a building permit is needed according to a building regulation definition (and according to further exemption rules in Sweden)

4. included when they are in blocks.

5. called "leisure homes" in Norway.

6. Member states may decide not to set or apply the requirements to buildings owned by the armed forces or related government buildings, as well as temporary and agricultural building.

7. Socially critical buildings are exempted from the 2025 limit value, but not from the carbon declaration requirements.

8. Some public authorities are exempted.

9. It can be assumed that the same building types included in the 2025 carbon declaration will also be subject to the limit values proposed to be introduced by 2028









Building TYPE	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Iceland <sup>9</sup>	Norway	Sweden	Europe (EPBD)
Single-family homes	✓			✓		✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Other residential buildings	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Office	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Retail and restaurant	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
School and daycare	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Laboratory	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Hospital and health	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Sports facilities	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Cultural and other public buildings	✓	○	○	✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2,8</sup>	✓ <sup>6</sup>
Religious	✓			✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	
Industrial	✓			✓	✓		✓ <sup>6</sup>
Holiday cottages <sup>5</sup>	from 2025				✓ <sup>4</sup>	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓
Other	✓ <sup>7</sup>	○		✓	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓ <sup>6</sup>
Renovation projects				✓	✓	○ <sup>3</sup>	
Size of buildings	<b>2023-2025:</b> > 1,000 m <sup>2</sup> <b>From 2025:</b> > 50 m <sup>2</sup> for unheated buildings; > 250 m <sup>2</sup> for extensions of single family, terraced and holiday houses	unspecified	no size requirement, except for warehouses, transport and communications buildings, indoor swimming pools and indoor ice rinks (> 1,000 m <sup>2</sup> )	unspecified, buildings under scope classes 2 and 3 in Building Regulation	no size requirement, just building type	> 100 m <sup>2</sup>	<b>2028:</b> > 1,000 m <sup>2</sup>  <b>From 2030:</b> > 50 m <sup>2</sup>





# Methodological choices in Nordic regulation

## Notable differences:















- Definitions of building reference area (gross, heated, etc)
- Limit value scope full life cycle, or only upfront carbon (A1-A5)
- Biogenic carbon in definitions of Global Warming Potential
- Building parts included

Methodological choices in Nordic regulation		Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Iceland <sup>9</sup>	Norway	Sweden	Europe	
		 2023/ 2025	 2022	 2023	 2025	 2022	 2022	 2025	 2024 (EPBD)
General	Reference unit definition	GFA for embodied HFA for operational	HFA	HFA	GFA	GFA	GFA	GFA	UFA
	GWP indicator	GWP-total	GWP-fossil and GWP-total (most likely)	GWP-total	GWP-total	GWP-GHG	GWP-GHG	GWP-GHG	GWP-total <sup>5</sup>
	Handling of biogenic carbon	-1/+1 method not handled separately yet	0/0 and -1/+1 methods not handled separately yet	-1/+1 method also separately (GWPbio) and in carbon handprint (D4)	-1/+1 method also separately as per EN 15804+A2 (GWPbio)	0/0 method not handled separately yet	0/0 method not handled separately yet	0/0 method not handled separately yet	-1/+1 method, temporary carbon storage may be reported (Annex V)
Assessment scope	Life cycle modules considered	2023: A1-3, B4, B6.1, C3-4; D1 & D2 separate declaration 2025: A4-5 added individually	A1-3, A4, A5, B4, B6.1, C3-4; D1 & D2 separately	A1-3, A4, A5, B4, B6.1, C1, C2, C3-4; carbon handprint separately	A1-3, A4, A5, B4, B6.1, B6.2, C1, C2, C3-4; D1 separately	A1-3, A4, A5 (only waste), B2, B4	A1-3, A4, A5	A1-3, A4, A5 (planned to include B2, B4, C1-4 from 2027 in carbon declaration)	full life cycle scope; the Delegated Act will specify the minimum modules required
	Building model parts included	Substructure (piling; allowance for exclusion) Superstructure Building services (without electricity and firefighting systems) External works (partly)	Substructure Superstructure Building services	Substructure (foundations: only declaration or excluded) Superstructure Building services Furnishing (only fixed)	Substructure Superstructure Building services	Substructure (only pile and shallow foundation) Superstructure (without stairs, ramps and balconies)	Substructure Superstructure PV panels	Substructure (piling; only declaration from 2027) Superstructure Building services (for some building types; PV panels; only declaration from 2025) Furnishing (only fixed, for some building types)	EPBD refers to LEVEL(s): Substructure Superstructure Building services External works <sup>3</sup> Furnishing

 Legislation  Limit value  Proposal



# Methodological choices in Nordic regulation (continues)










Methodological choices in Nordic regulation		Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Iceland <sup>9</sup>	Norway	Sweden	Europe	
		  2023/ 2025	 2022	  2023	 2025	 2022	 2022	  2025	 2024 (EPBD)
Other	Exported energy calculation	Inclusion of max. 25 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /year renewable energy (embodied + operation) <sup>2</sup>	To be clarified	Exported energy is part of D3	To be clarified	Not applicable	Not applicable	Exclusion of solar cells (embodied + operation) in the 2025 limit value, and only separate reporting	prEN 15978 proposes two approaches <sup>4</sup> ; The Delegated Act may require a specific approach
	Handling of long-term carbon removals	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	Must be addressed, no further specification of a method yet (Article 7)
	Template to use when reporting the LCA	Voluntary template to help more uniform submissions (the 2.0 Standard format for LCA delivery) (BR18 - Byggningsreglementet, 2021)	Not yet specified	Not yet specified	online reporting format	No specific format	mandatory data reporting format prepared by Boverket	requires a digital logbook (no specification yet)	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>together with the foundations, it is also investigated whether site preparation and external areas will be only declared or fully excluded.</li> <li>no distinction between self-consumed and exported renewable energy.</li> <li>While LEVEL(s) includes external works, EPBD directive only covers the building, it may be assumed that external works are excluded from the inventory scope of the EPBD carbon declaration.</li> <li>Approach A where embodied impacts of energy-generating systems are fully allocated to the building (exported energy is shown in module D2 as emissions-free) and Approach B where a proportional allocation takes place.</li> <li>Level(s) requests for detailed subdivision as per 15804+A2</li> </ol>									
 Legislation  Limit value  Proposal									



# Generic data, scenarios and standard values in Nordic regulation











## Notable findings:

- Decarbonisation scenarios for energy supply (B6) are used in some Nordic countries, but not for other scenario-based modules
- Conservative factors are defined differently in conservative generic values for construction products used in Nordic countries

Generic data and scenarios in Nordic regulation		Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Iceland <sup>9</sup>	Norway	Sweden	Europe
		 2023/ 2025	 2022	 2023	 2025	 2022	 2022/  2025	 2021/  2024
Decarbonisation scenarios	Energy decarbonisation scenario for B6 (operation)	<b>Yes</b> 2023: Danish national policy scenario (2020) 2025: new national policy scenario <sup>1</sup>	<b>Yes</b> Estonian national policy scenario (2023)	<b>Yes</b> Finnish national policy scenario (to be updated 2024/Q3)	<b>No</b> Iceland already has 99% renewables and district heating	<b>Not relevant</b> B6 is excluded from the scope.	<b>Not relevant</b> B6 is excluded from the scope. May become relevant from 2027 where carbon declaration is planned to include B6.	<b>Yes</b> Level(s) chooses EU PRIMES model (EU Reference scenario)
	Decarbonisation scenarios for B/C modules (embodied) <sup>2</sup>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Generic emission factors	Data source (base)	Table 7 in Appendix 2 of BR18, §297	Approved national generic data expected in 2024	<a href="https://co2data.fi">CO2data.fi</a>	no national generic database for building products yet, EPDs or other generic databases are used	no national generic database for building products, EPDs are used	Boverket's climate database	No specific plans for development of a common European database
	Conservative emission factors	New generic data for specific product types are based on the 75% percentile of related EPD Denmark values <sup>3</sup>	1.2	1.2 but not for energy and fuels emission data	1.25 added only if not already included	1.25 added only if not already included	1.25 but not for energy and fuels emission data	No specific proposal



# Generic data, scenarios and standard values in Nordic regulation (continues)

Generic data and scenarios in Nordic regulations		Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Iceland	Norway	Sweden	Europe
		 2023/2025	 2022	 2023	 2025	 2022	 2022 /2025	 2021/2024
Standard values	Building elements <sup>4</sup> (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )	<b>Building services</b> (for A1-3, C3-4: 33-62 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ; range due to differences per building type)	<b>Building services</b> (for A1-3: 42-125 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ; for B4: 61-141 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ; range due to differences per building type)  As a rule, CO <sub>2</sub> data.fi also includes C3, D, but not for the broad standard values for building services available per type of building		<b>Building services</b> (for A1-3: 56-94 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ; range due to differences per building type)	Not relevant	<b>2022: No</b> <b>2025:</b> <b>Building services</b> (for A1-S: 12-60 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )  <b>Internal finishes and furnishing</b> (for A1-S: 22-53 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )	No specific proposal
	Life cycle modules <sup>5</sup>	No	Under investigation	<b>A4, C2</b> (20,4 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ) <b>A5</b> (43-59 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ) <b>C1</b> (10 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )	<b>A4</b> (19.8 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ) <b>A5</b> (42.5 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ) <b>C1-C4</b> (43.75 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ) <b>B6:</b> average data on energy consumption	No <sup>5</sup>	Yes, derived from a study, but only provided as a guide, project-specific values must be used.	No specific proposal
<p>1. the new scenario reflects 2022-2050 projections by the Danish Energy Agency (DEA), which also incorporate political objectives and not just approved investments (frozen policies); this results in factors being reduced by nearly 40%, 80% and 45% for electricity, district heating and gas, respectively (Nilsson, Heibye, &amp; Maagaard, 2023)</p> <p>2. Although this aspect is not currently integrated into any of the mandatory methods in Nordic countries and Estonia, it is part of some national voluntary methods such as the FutureBuilt Zero method in Norway. This method follows a simplified approach, where: (a) a technology factor of 0.33 is assumed for the production of PV systems in year 30; (b) for other material-related processes (production, transport and waste incineration) a 1% annual technology development is used, which is based on historical development in Norwegian industry. Such considerations are also seen in the new draft DGNB method in Denmark which applies an 1% annual technological improvement factor (on top of a time factor), (Green Building Council Denmark, 2024)</p> <p>3. see: Kragh, J., &amp; Birgisdottir, H. (2023). Udvikling af dansk generisk LCA-data. (1 ed.). BUILD Report 2023:16</p> <p>4. standard values for building elements are usually provided per building type and life cycle module. The sources of the provided values (building elements and life cycle modules) and other values from recent studies done in Sweden and Denmark can be found in Appendix B.</p> <p>5. A5 can be given as a% of A1-4 and varies per material type. Standard values in terms of transport distance and other parameters can be used for A4.</p>								
 Legislation  Limit value  Proposal								



# Influential variables for limit values

## Inventory scope:

Differences represent a large source of variability

In particular the inclusion of deep foundations, external works, building services, interior finishes and refrigerants.

## Reference area:

Differences influence whether basements and balconies are seen as advantageous

For buildings with very low embodied emissions, basements and balconies might be detrimental regardless.

## Scenarios in modules B and C:

The choice considerably influences the results

Scenarios for replacement and waste treatment should be implemented without break the -1/+1 balance of biogenic carbon.

## Generic emission factors:

Differences in national databases can be considerable

This can lead to differences of about 25% for a given building, and above 70% for specific materials.

There are actual differences between products found on each national market, but also methodological differences.

## Composition of case basis:

Archetypes or a representative building sample may be used to set the limit value

Ex: set the limit so that x % of buildings in a representative sample would not meet it (Denmark).

The composition of the building sample is highly important.



# Find details in Nordic knowledge centre

## **Life Cycle Assessments**

Dive into life cycle assessments: current and upcoming regulations on emissions from buildings

## **Competences for Reuse in Construction**

Discover mapping of educational material to reuse construction materials and an overview of policies enabling reuse.

## **Circular Economy in Construction**

Tools and materials on circular economy and circular business models in construction companies.

## **Emission-free Construction Sites**

What's new in the road towards emission-free construction sites?

Read reports, watch videos and increase your knowledge.

## **Debates and Articles on Sustainable Construction Materials and Architecture**

See debates, read articles and gather knowledge





# More information

[Sign up to our Newsletter](#)

Follow us on LinkedIn [www.linkedin.com/company/nordicsustainableconstruction](https://www.linkedin.com/company/nordicsustainableconstruction)  
and on X [www.twitter.com/NordSustConstr](https://www.twitter.com/NordSustConstr)

Visit our website [www.nordicsustainableconstruction.com](https://www.nordicsustainableconstruction.com)



# Thank you



Ministry of the  
Environment Finland



Nordic  
Innovation

Form  
Design  
Center



Government of Iceland  
Ministry of Infrastructure



Danish Authority of  
Social Services and Housing

