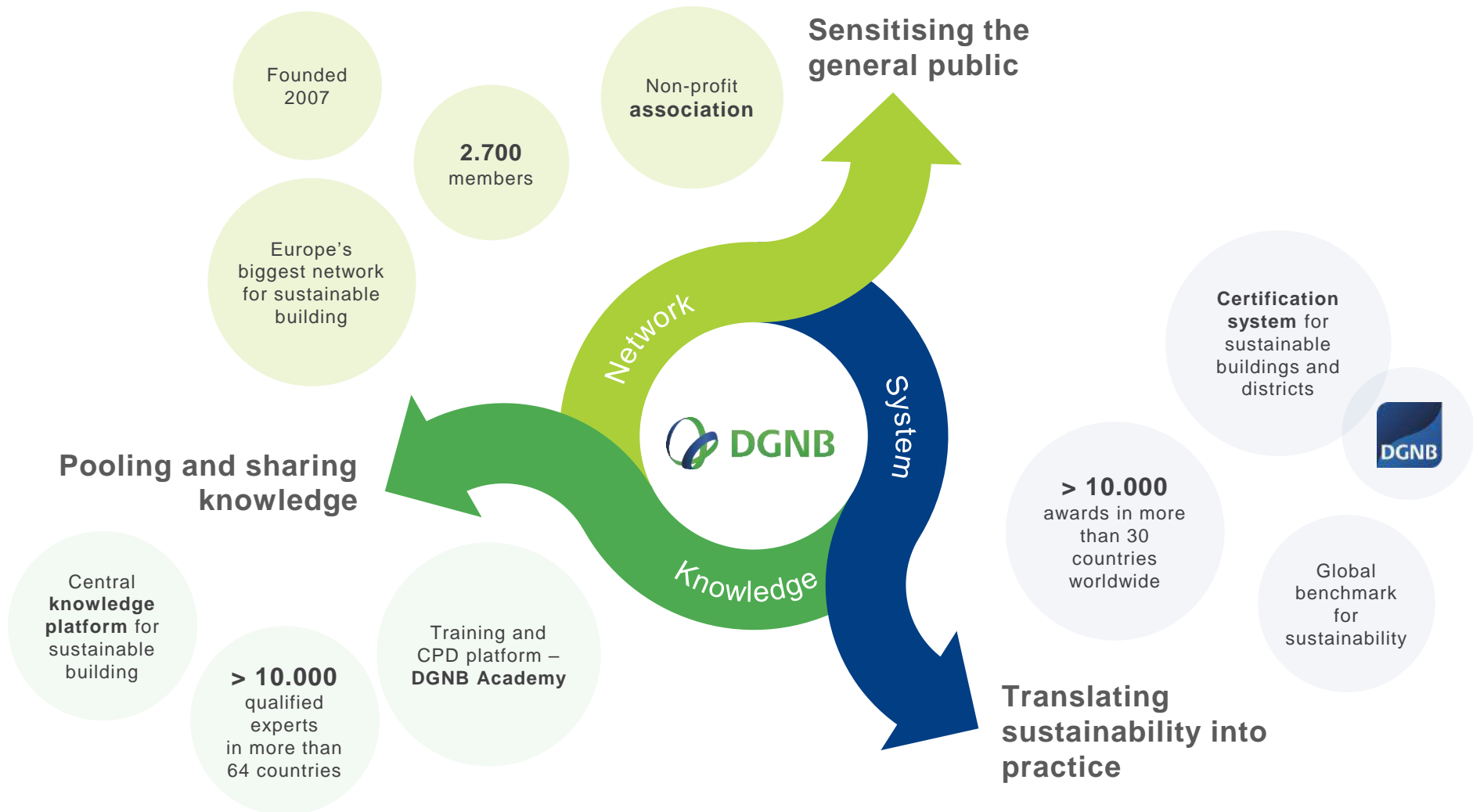




# DGNB in the European and Global Context Potential of Collaboration

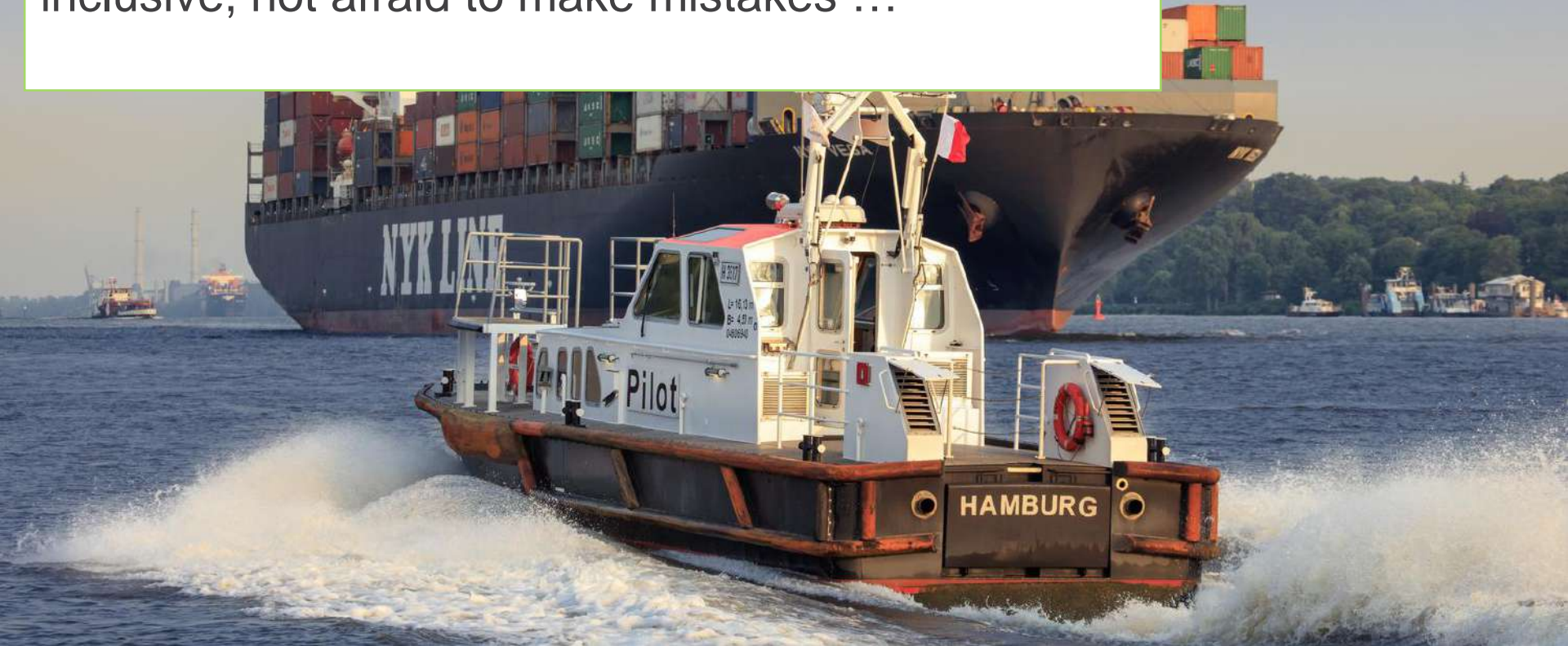
Dr. Christine Lemaitre | January 23rd 2025





DGNB (GBCs) should be....

flexible, knowledgable, agil, future orientied, holistic,  
inclusive, not afraid to make mistakes ...



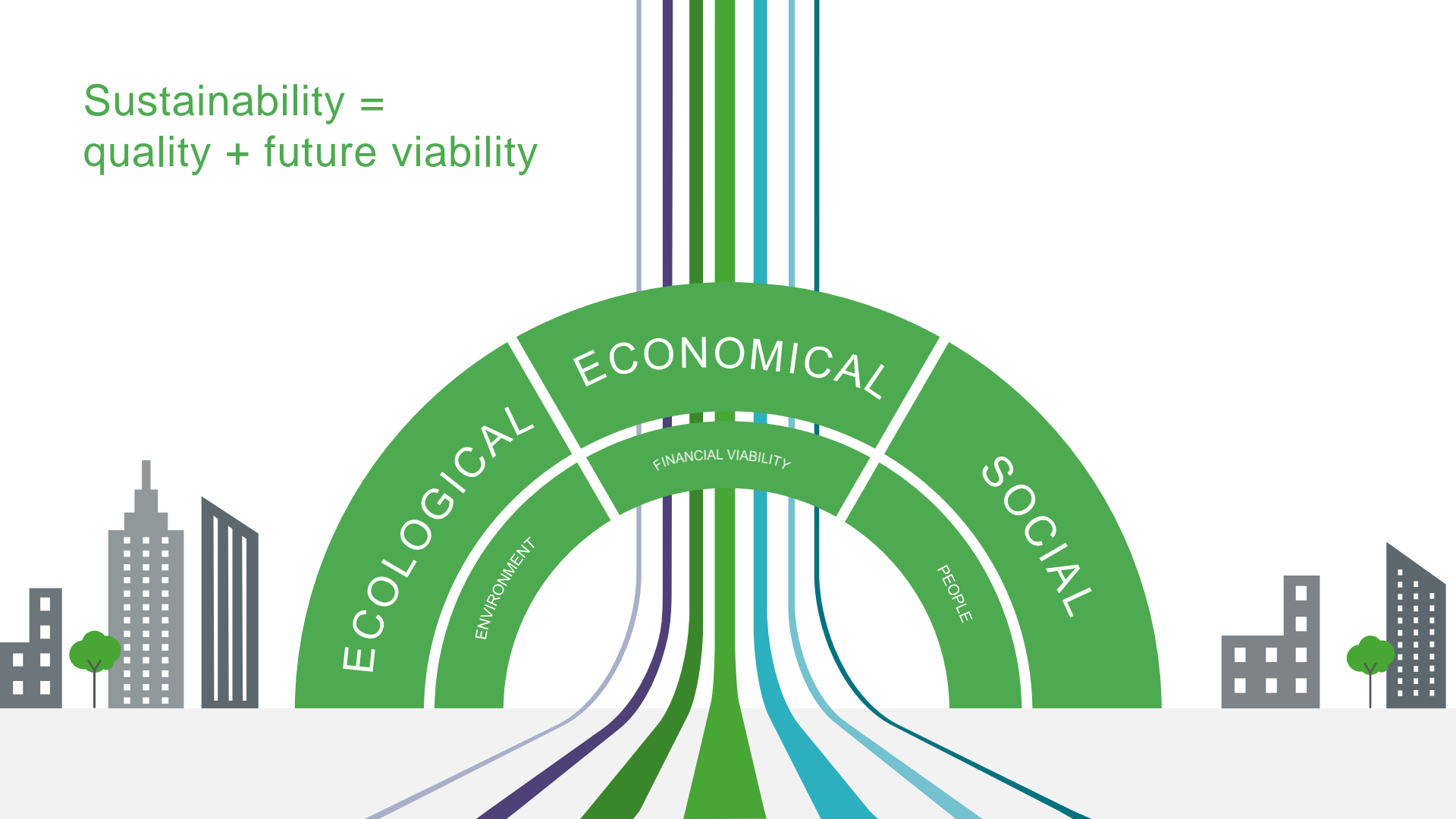
Building changes the world we live in



What sort of world do we want to live in - today and tomorrow



Sustainability =  
quality + future viability



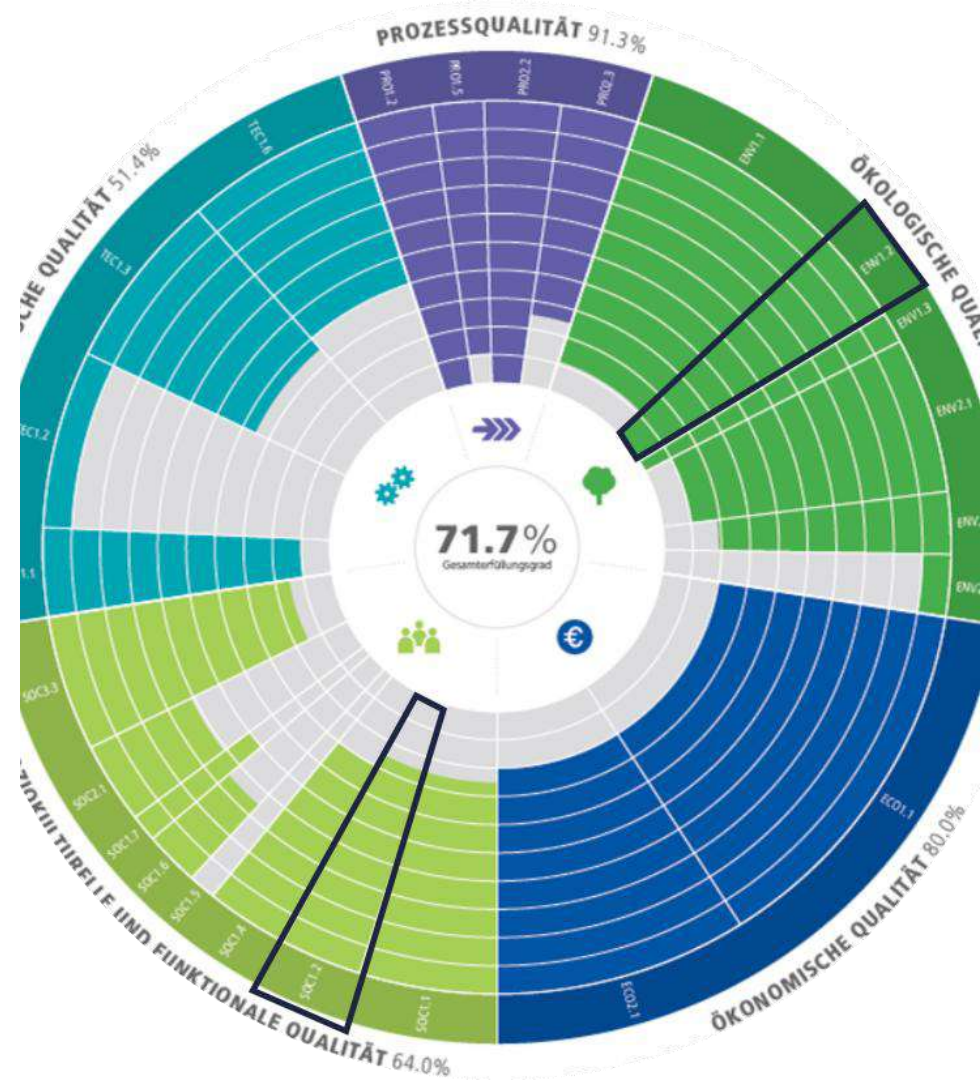




# Sustainability leads to conflicting goals

The DGNB system supports

- holistic view
- Life cycle perspective
- Performance approach
- quality assurance
- Independent verification





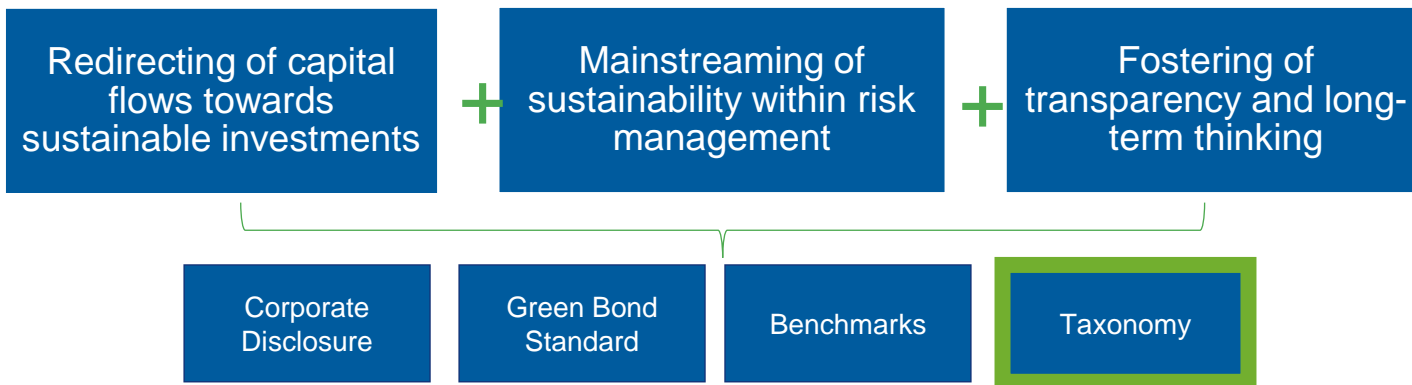
Paris, France

## Paris Agreement

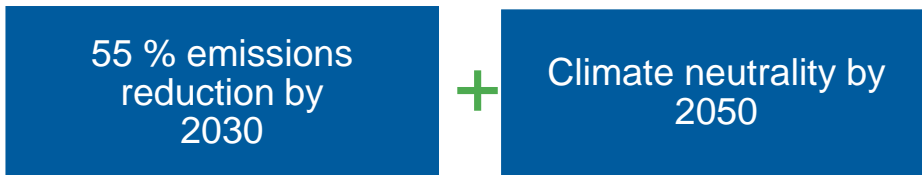
- ... to keep global warming below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to make efforts to limit the temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels ...

# Taxonomy: EU political context

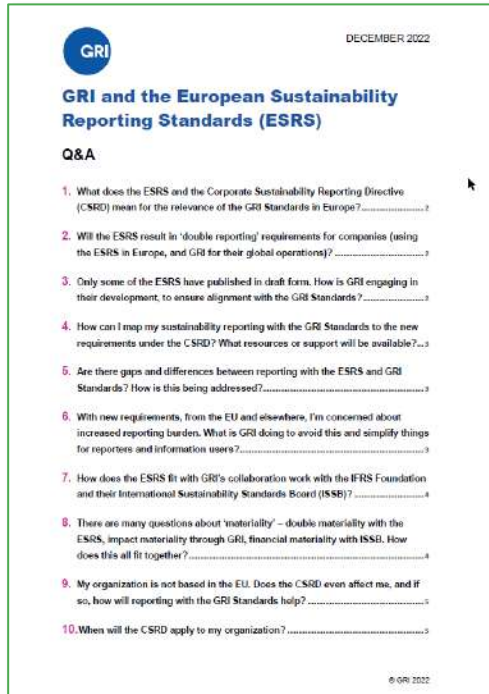
## EU Action Plan for Sustainable Finance (March 2018)



## EU Green Deal (December 2019)



# Interoperability between instruments and regulatory obligations



Utilise interoperability between reporting, rating and certification tools to meet regulatory obligations

For example:

- ✓ Linkage between GRI and ESRS
- ✓ Linkage between DGNB System and EU taxonomy requirements



High quality ambitious sustainability Certification according to DGNB System

Provision of cross-border market insights and practical solutions



Enhanced data availability regarding Taxonomy technical screening criteria

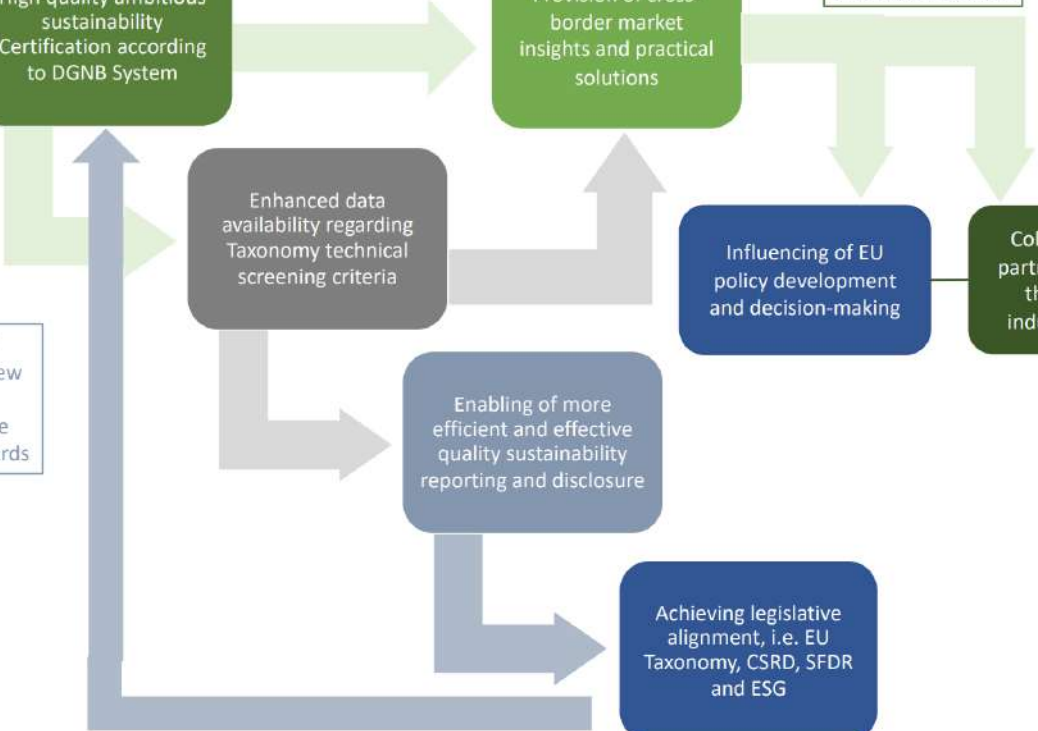
Influencing of EU policy development and decision-making

Collaboration and partnering regarding the creation of industry standards

Regular alignment of certification criteria to new EU regulatory reporting and disclosure requirements and standards

Enabling of more efficient and effective quality sustainability reporting and disclosure

Achieving legislative alignment, i.e. EU Taxonomy, CSRD, SFDR and ESG





# Level(s): EU framework for buildings



Grafikquelle: © EU Kommission



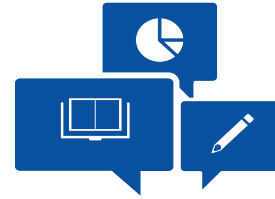
Standardised, voluntary reporting



Sustainability indicators



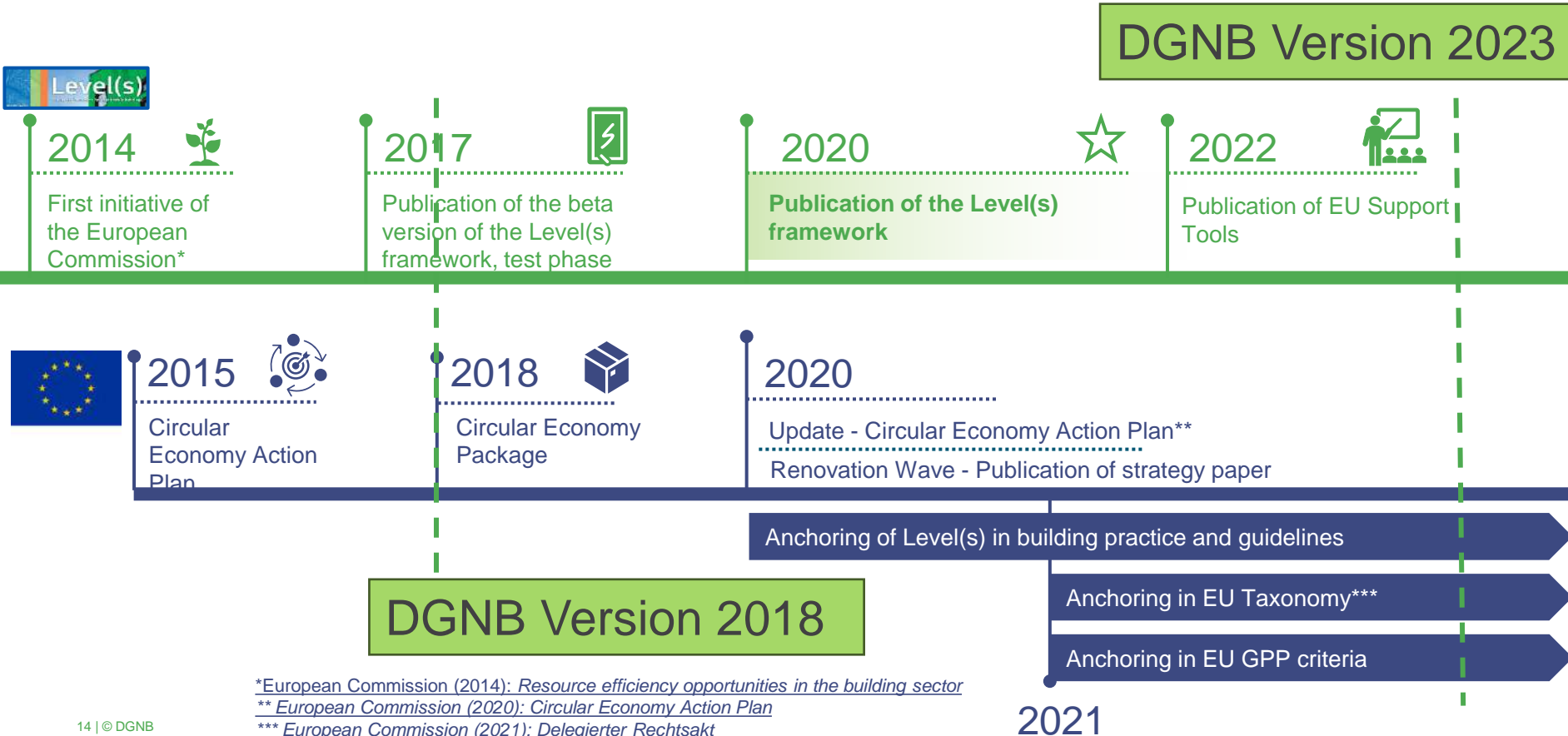
Standardised benchmarks along the life cycle



A standardised European language & methodology for reporting on sustainability in the building sector along the life cycle

Within the EU-Taxonomy regulation, Level(s) is the referenced methodology

# Development of level(s) and supporting EU initiatives



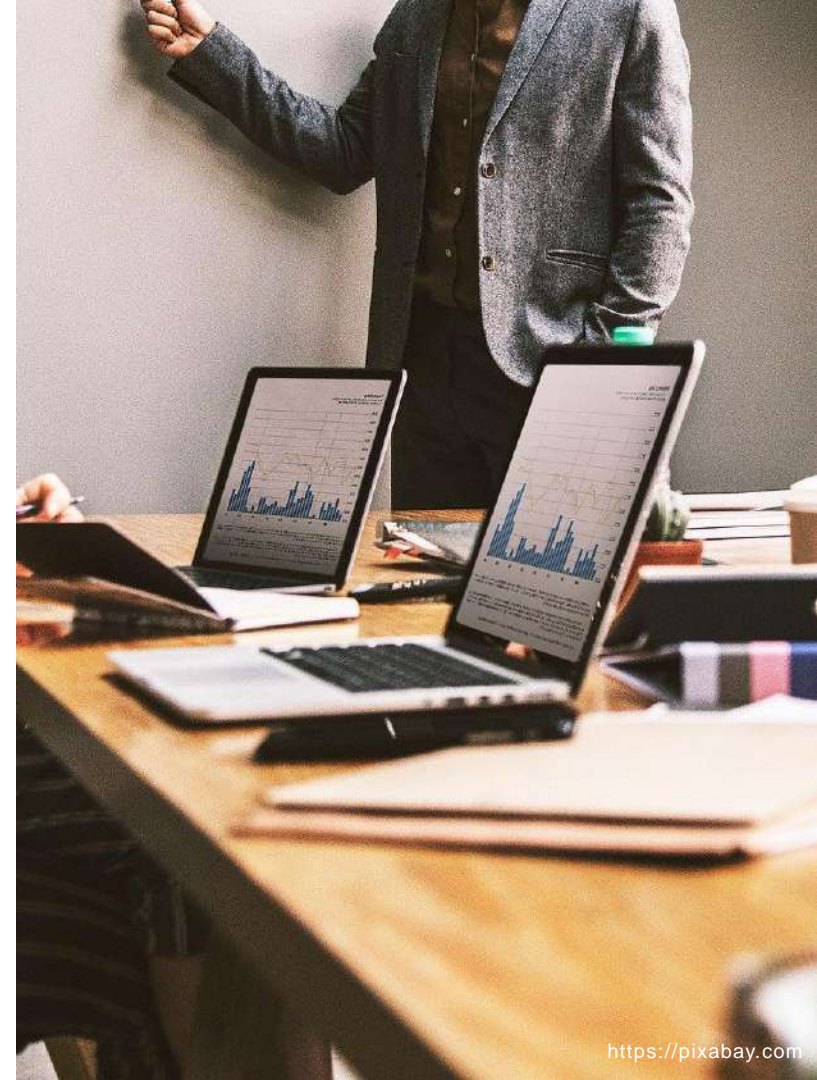
\*European Commission (2014): *Resource efficiency opportunities in the building sector*

\*\* European Commission (2020): *Circular Economy Action Plan*

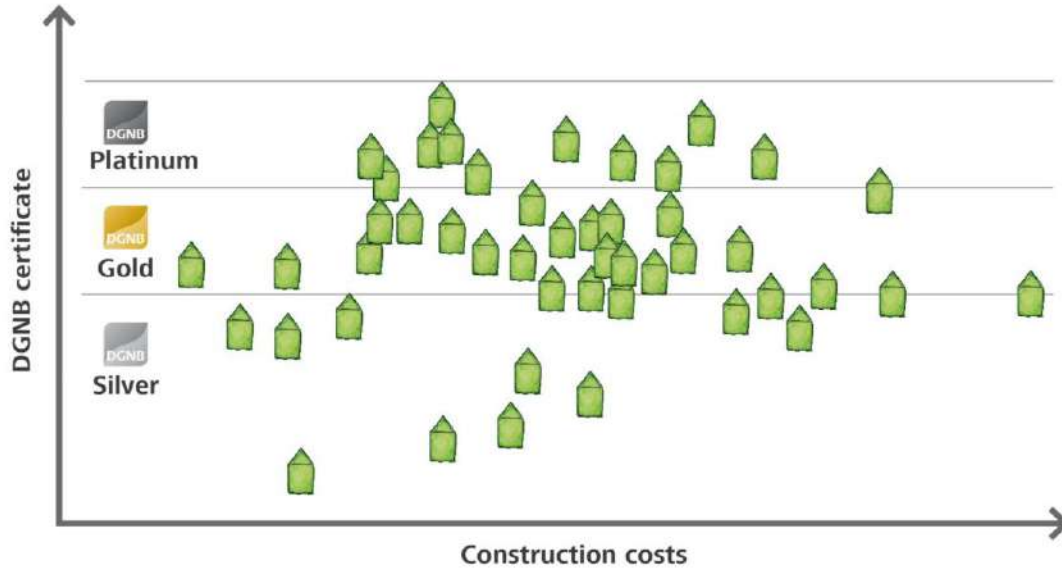
\*\*\* European Commission (2021): *Delegierter Rechtsakt*

# Role of DGNB (GBCs) in relation to EU and globally

- **Actual Data and knowledge**
- **3<sup>rd</sup>-party verification**
- **Proximity to the real economy:** market support in implementing regulation and feedback to regulators of difficulties in implementation
- **Experience in certification:** Methodologies used within certification are being tested
- **Guidance to the market** on what comes next or cannot be left out
- **Capacity building**
- **Established processes for assessing projects**



# The Truth about the Costs



**There is no relation between sustainability and construction costs!**



# The Truth of the Costs

## The Incremental Cost of Green is Minimal



South Africa  
International Housing  
Solutions  
\$270 per unit

Annual utility savings  
equal one month's rent



Mexico  
Vinte's Real Granada  
\$330 per unit

57% Energy Savings  
37% Water Savings  
63% Less Embodied  
Energy in Material



Vietnam  
Capital House

25% Energy Savings  
36% Water Savings  
32% Less Embodied  
Energy in Materials



Indonesia  
Ciputra

30% Energy Savings  
26% Water Savings  
60% Less Embodied  
Energy in Materials

Source: IFC Green Buildings Report

Green, affordable housing solutions are available across developing and industrialized countries.

# Goals for the DGNB

- **DGNB as a european team player**
- DGNB Certifications and Taxonomy Verifications as the guidance instrument that provides credibility, future proofness and supports risk management



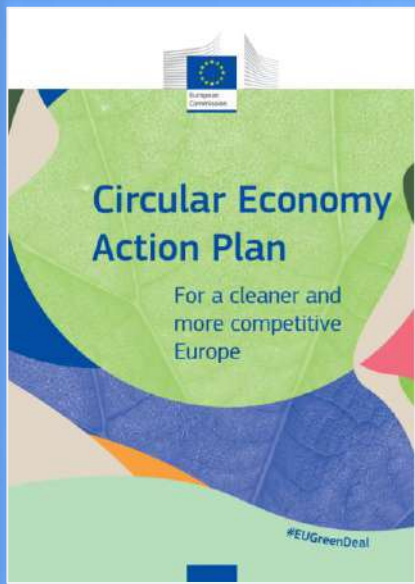
Built environment that is divers, safe, healthy and CO2 cautious!



Cultural and climate sensitive Buildings and Architecture

# EU as a Pacemaker and the global context...

## EU Green Deal



CE Action Plan



Renovation Wave



Sustainable Finance / Taxonomie



Berichtsrahmen Level(s), Förderprogramme und Green Public Procurement









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©: transsolar





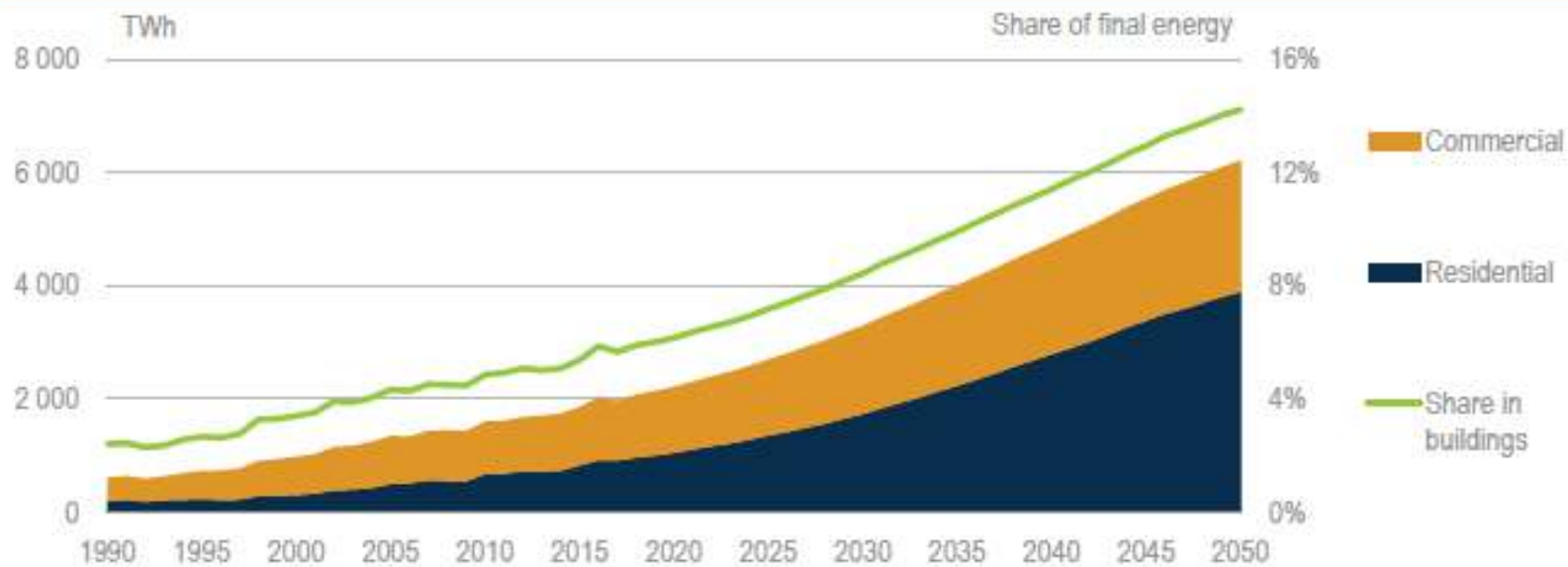
**Mira Optician**  
Latest spectacles, Goggles & Contact lenses  
श्रीराम ऑप्टिकलिनियम

॥ श्री गणेशाय नमः ॥ ॥ श्री गणेशाय नमः ॥ ॥ श्री गणेशाय नमः ॥  
**पाटील ज्यूस सेंटर**  
**PATIL JUICE CENTRE**  
ए गेट भराडा  
श्री होम डिलिव्हरी Tel.: 2362 0719, M. 92702 31415, 96193 66119, 92241 20790

**PEARL PLAZA** लक्ष्मी  
LUCKY  
३४ अ. पार्ल प्लाझा, टाटा रोड

मीरा  
ऑप्टिशियन

**Figure 3.5 • World energy use for space cooling by subsector in the Baseline Scenario**

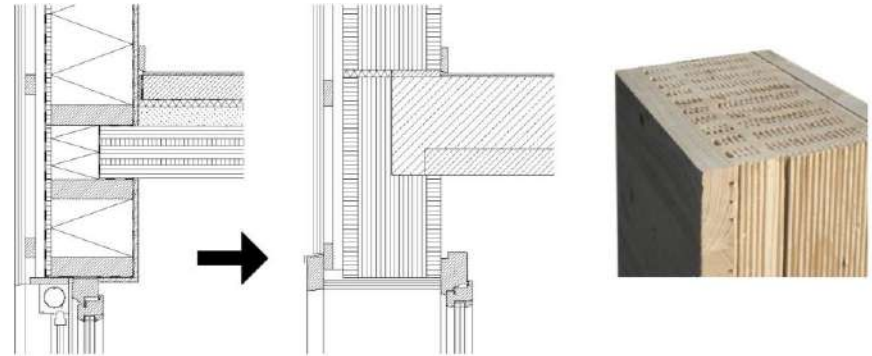
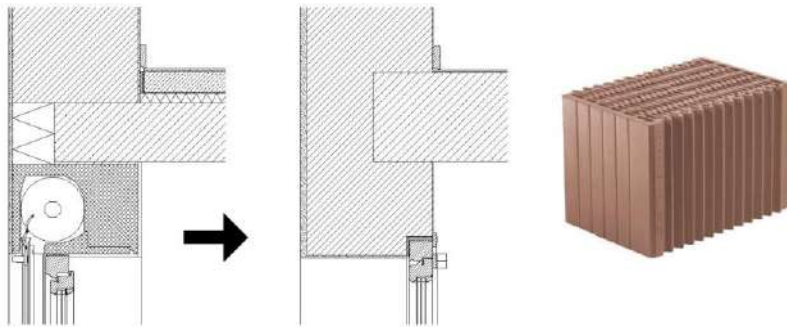
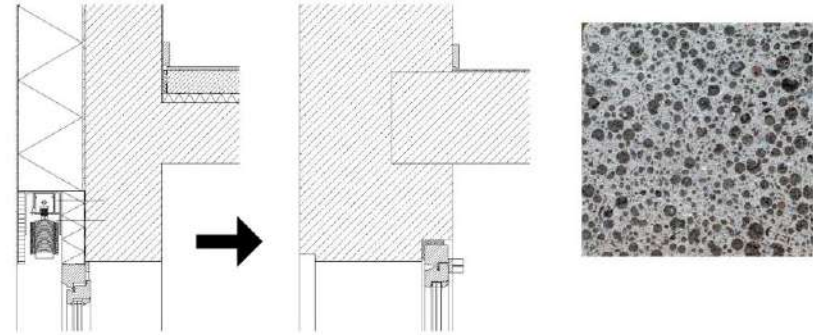






#buildingsenow

# Infraleichtbeton

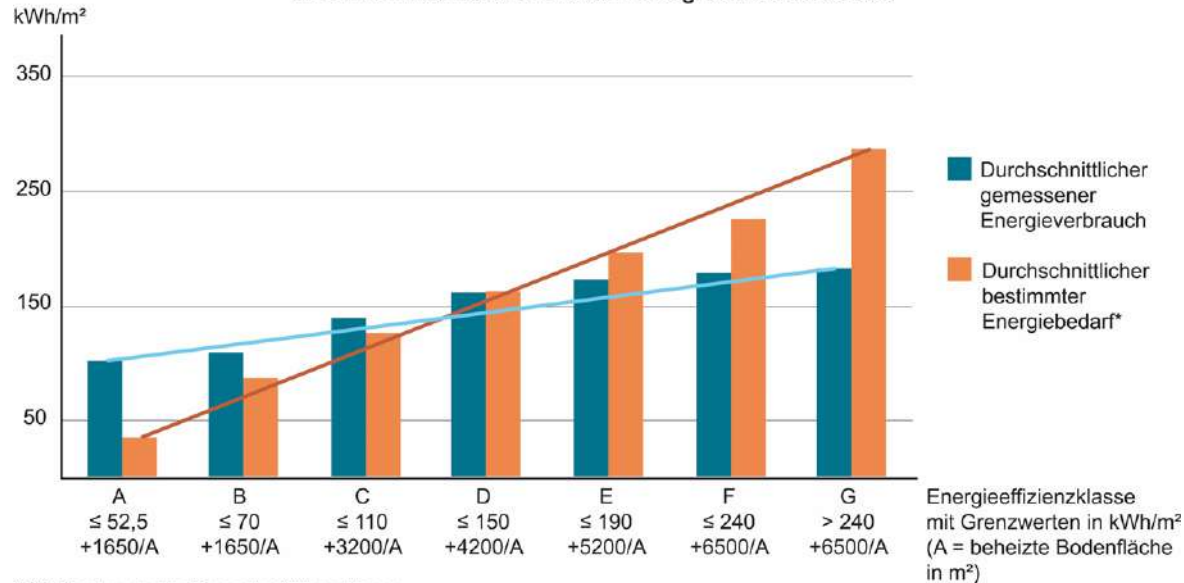






# Measuring and Monitoring is key to true Sustainability!

Tatsächlicher und berechneter Energieverbrauch pro m<sup>2</sup> Wohnfläche  
in Einfamilienhäusern nach Energieeffizienzklasse



\*Bei Nachweis der Energieeffizienzklasse

Quelle: In Anlehnung an Gram-Hanssen and Hansen, FORSKELLEN MELLEMLT OG BEREGNET ENERGIFORBRUG TIL OPVARMNING AF PARCELHUSE, 2016



# Sufficiency as a Key Strategy for Sustainable Buildings and Districts



## Creating more value with less - the case for sufficiency in the built environment

30 & 31 January, 2025

Maison de la Poste, Tour & Taxis, Brussels, Belgium

### Workshop Programme Day 1

13:30-14:00:	<b>Registration</b>
14:00-14:05:	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Christine Lemaitre, CEO DGNB and CPEA Chair</i>
14:05-14:20:	<b>Why are we here?</b> <i>Ursula Hartenberger, Secretary General, CPEA</i>
14:20-14:35:	<b>Doing more with less - an introduction to sufficiency</b> <i>Zsolt Toth, Team Leader, Buildings Performance Institute Europe</i>
14:35-15:05:	<b>EU Policy perspective on sufficiency</b> <i>Josefina Lindblom, Senior Policy Officer, DG Environment, European Commission</i>
15:05-15:30:	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
15:30-16:00:	<b>Tea &amp; Coffee Networking Break</b>
16:00-16:10:	<b>What is stopping you from integrating and implementing sufficiency-based design principles on projects?</b> <i>Online poll exercise</i>
16:10-16:30:	<b>A sufficient and sustainable built environment through systems change</b> <i>Ursula Hartenberger, Secretary General, CPEA</i>
16:30-17:15:	<b>Interactive group exercise Part 1: Articulating the value of sufficiency through systems mapping - Challenges</b> <i>(Group work, facilitated by a moderator; each group to focus on different aspects and/or stakeholder groups: policy, market practices, value and supply chain, investment and finance, social/ethical)</i>



We can build the future today!



# NO MORE EXCUSES



Sustainable is the new normal  
11 years of experience at the DGNB. An overview.

## The DGNB and the DGNB System (Status: June 2018)

- More than 3,600 awards bestowed on projects
- Certificates granted in more than 20 countries
- Three further Green Building Councils in Austria, Switzerland and Denmark have actively decided to adopt the DGNB System
- More than 120 members in the DGNB expert pool
- The DGNB System is revised approx. every 3 years
- More than 550 suggestions or comments from members were edited for the latest revision of the DGNB System
- More than 1200 member organisations with over 2 million employees
- 63 partners in the DGNB university alliance
- 0 secrets in terms of how sustainability requirements are defined

## Why certification is so important

"Sure, we do all that – but we don't need a certificate." We hear things like this all the time. But certifying a building or urban district isn't about needing something or having to do something. It's about changing people's attitudes towards buildings. Each and every project is unique, so it to be assessed in its own climatic or cultural context. We are convinced that this is the right way to do things. Our fundamental principle at the DGNB. Our aim is to understand of quality within the extremely diverse nature of this highly non-transparent and different understanding of a culture that deals with buildings constructively.

