

# Towards **positive energy** and **low carbon buildings**



The French Experimentation  
for new buildings



**Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion**  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

# Towards **positive energy** and **low carbon** buildings

**From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework**

Technical baselines

Levels to reach – Energy and Carbon footprint

Experimentation and label

Comparison: LEVEL(S) / E+C-

# From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework

## ➤ 1<sup>st</sup> step : Broad consultation of the construction sector

➤ *April 2015 - July 2016*



## ➤ 2<sup>nd</sup> step : National voluntary trial programm for new constructions: residential + office building

➤ *Started in November 2016*

## From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework

**The French Law (Transition Énergétique pour la Croissance Verte LTECV) encourages new buildings to be low energy (positive energy buildings) and low carbon**

### Low energy buildings

- Reduction of the non renewable energy consumption
- Development of efficient solutions (insulation, thermal systems, ...)
- Development of onwn use of renewable energy and its exportation towards the network

### Low carbon buildings

- Reduction of the GHG emissions on the whole life cycle of the building
- Elaboration of an optimal CO2 balance between the impacts of construction products/devices and energy impact

***A challenge for innovation and skills development in the building sector***

# Towards **positive energy** and **low carbon** buildings

From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework

## Technical baseline

**Energy**

**Carbon**

Levels to reach - Energy and Carbon

Experimentation and label

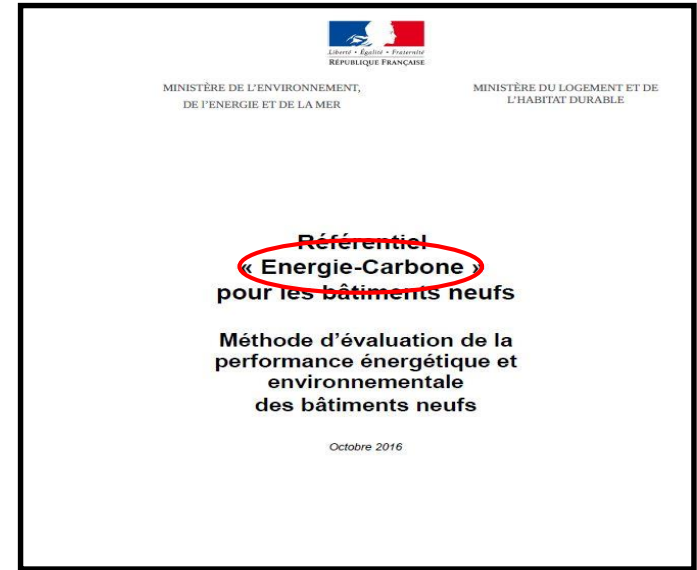
Comparison : LEVEL(S) / E+C-

**Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion**  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

A technical baseline has been established on a shared basis with a large panel of stakeholders

This baseline lays down the rules for

- Energy calculations
- Environmental assessment (definition of assumptions for the LCA of buildings)



Baseline available on  
[www.batiment-energiecarbone.fr](http://www.batiment-energiecarbone.fr)

# Technical baseline – Energy

RT 2012

<b>Bbio</b>	Needs of energy during the operation for the building: heating (air and domestic water), cooling and lighting
<b>Cep</b>	Energy consumption during the operation of the building: heating (air and domestic water), cooling, ventilation and lighting

**BEPOS Balance =**

$\Sigma$

$\text{kWh}_{\text{ep}}/\text{m}^2_{\text{SRT}}/\text{an}$

*All uses of energy are considered  
(=uses other than RT2012 including energy consumed by equipment owned by the occupants)*

Non renewable energy consumption

**Drivers**

- Reduction of energy consumption
- Increase of the onwn use of renewable energy

Exported renewable energy in the network

**Driver**

- Integration in the network of the local production of renewable energy

**Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion**  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

# Technical baseline – Carbon

**Carbon means GHG emissions related to energy use in operation + embodied carbon in construction products and devices during the reference study period**

## Based on a LCA environmental assessment

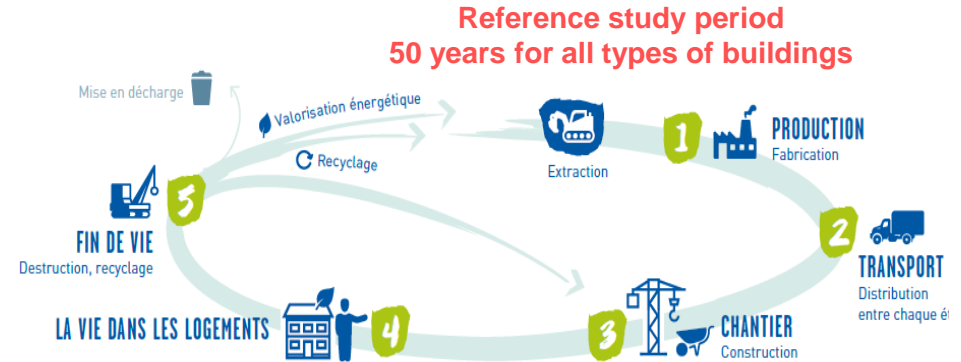
- All environmental impacts are calculated (multi-criteria assessment – NF EN 15804+A1 / PEP 3rd edition and NF EN 15978)
- For each step of the life cycle of the building (multi-steps assessment)

### Objectives

- Limit the transfer of impacts between the various steps of the LCA
- Identify drivers to reduce environmental impacts (optimization)

### Prerequisites

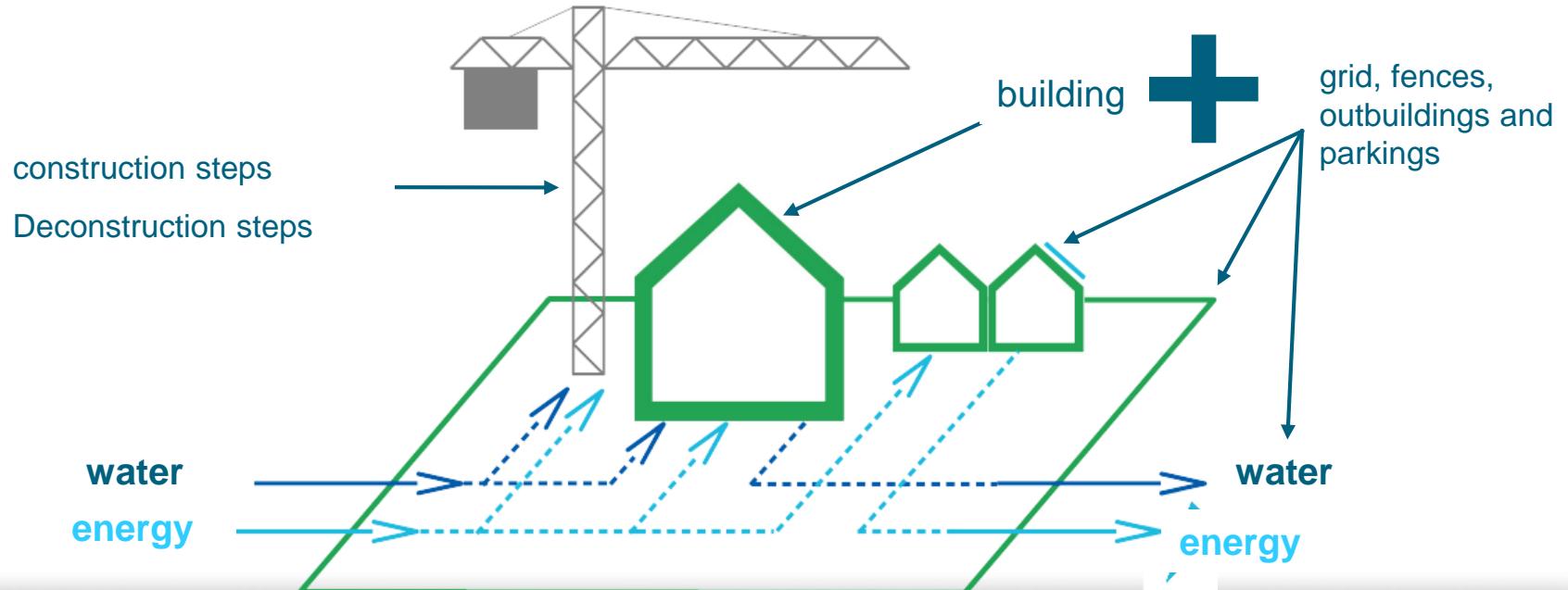
- A repeatable assessment
- An operating/quick and reliable assessment



**Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion**  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes



## Which boundaries for the environmental assessment?



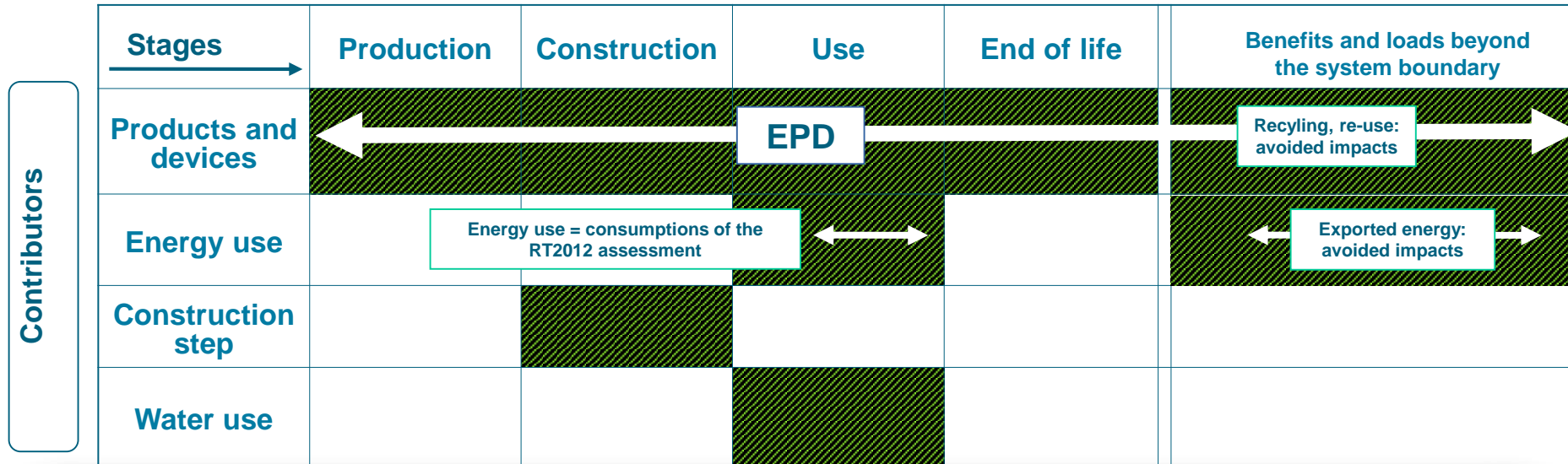
Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

# Technical baseline - Carbon

Computed stage

## Building LCA

Reference study period = 50 years



Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
 Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

## Comprehensive building description

### A comprehensive method

- Using EPD for 1 to 13

1. External works (works sections, includings roads, distribution and collective service or utilities plus landscaping)
2. Foundations and infrastructure
3. Superstructure - Masonry
4. Roofing - Framing - Zinc works
5. Partitioning - Lining - Suspended ceilings - Interior woodwork
6. Facades and exterior joinery
7. Floor, walls and ceilings coverings - Screed -Paintings - Decorative Products
8. HVAC (Heating - Ventilation - Cooling - DHW)
9. Sanitary facilities
10. Electrical and communications power systems (high current and low current)
11. Safety of people and buildings
12. Lifts
13. Equipment of local electricity generation

## Which indicators are calculated?

**CO<sub>2</sub>  
indicators**

- **Eges** measures GHG emissions of the whole building during the reference service life period
- **Eges<sub>PCE</sub>** construction products and equipments (CPE) => measures GHG emissions of products and equipment



**All other NF EN 15804+A1 / PEP 3rd edition and NF EN 15978 indicators**

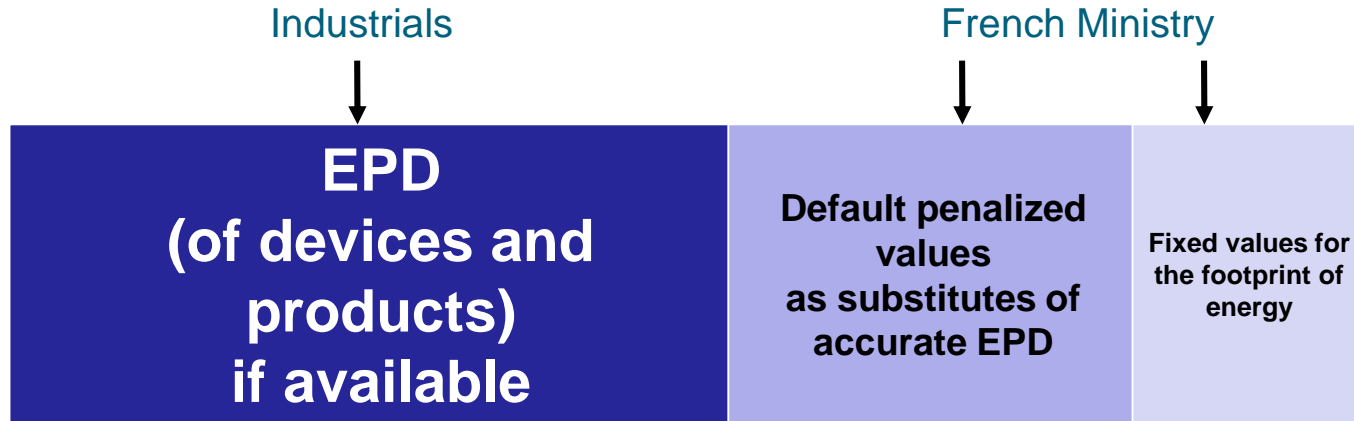


**27 calculated indicators**

**Expression of  
results**

by m<sup>2</sup>floor (SPD) and for  
50 years

## Which input data for the environmental assessment?



### 2 goals of the French authorities

- **Increase** the amount of **EPD** (NF EN 15804+A1 / PEP 3rd edition with an independent third party review) provided by industrials
- **Improve** the **quality** of those data and their **consistency** with the methodology of the environmental assessment of buildings

Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

## Which database for the assessment ?



Environmental and health  
reference data for  
building

<http://www.inies.fr/home/>



Geographical  
representativeness

The INIES database is run by the **supervisory board** and the **technical committee**

- The **supervisory board**, chaired by the French Ministry ensures that the database operates ethically and professionally
- The **technical committee** oversees the collection and processing of data as well as database content updates

1 database – 2 reviewing programs

- INIES for FDES (EPD of products)
- PEP ecopassport (EPD of equipments)

EPD are verified by an independant third party reviewer

### Quality?

- 1) A procedure exists to control reviewers competences (managed by INIES SC)
  - Professional experience (professional 4 years, construction sector 2 years, LCA practice, EPD, critical review, verification in construction sector...)
  - Profeciency testing
  - Renewal every 3 years
- 2) INIES committees may arbitrate verification conflicts

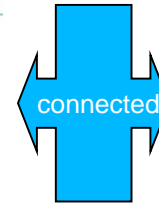
Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

## Digitalisation of data and web services for operating LCA

### INIES Database - EPD in XML format

The screenshot shows the INIES Database interface. At the top, the logo 'inies' is displayed with the tagline 'Les données environnementales et sanitaires de référence pour le bâtiment'. Below this is a navigation bar with links: 'CATALOGUE DE LA BASE', 'RECHERCHE D'UN PRODUIT', 'INVENTAIRE DU CYCLE DE VIE', and 'ESPACE DECLARATION'. The main content area is titled 'Données environnementales par famille' and lists various building product categories with their respective counts. A sidebar on the right shows 'Données environnementales par organisme déclarant' with a list of companies like ACOME, AGC FRANCE SAS, and ALTOR INDUSTRIE. The main list on the right shows specific product data, including '04/12 - TA-C45 Trunking alucolor coated (v.1.2)' and '04/12 - ROCKBARDAGE NU Lèvre Droite 140 mm (v.1.1)'.

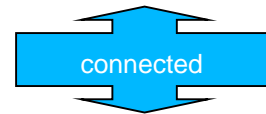
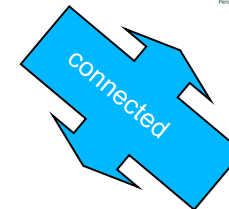
Industrial softwares for data – to adapt EPD to specific data settings



BET*ie*  
Béton et Impacts Environnementaux

SAVE  
SOLUTIONS ACIER  
VALEURS ENVIRONNEMENTALES

DEbois  
Personnalisez vos Déclarations Environnementales de produits de construction Bois



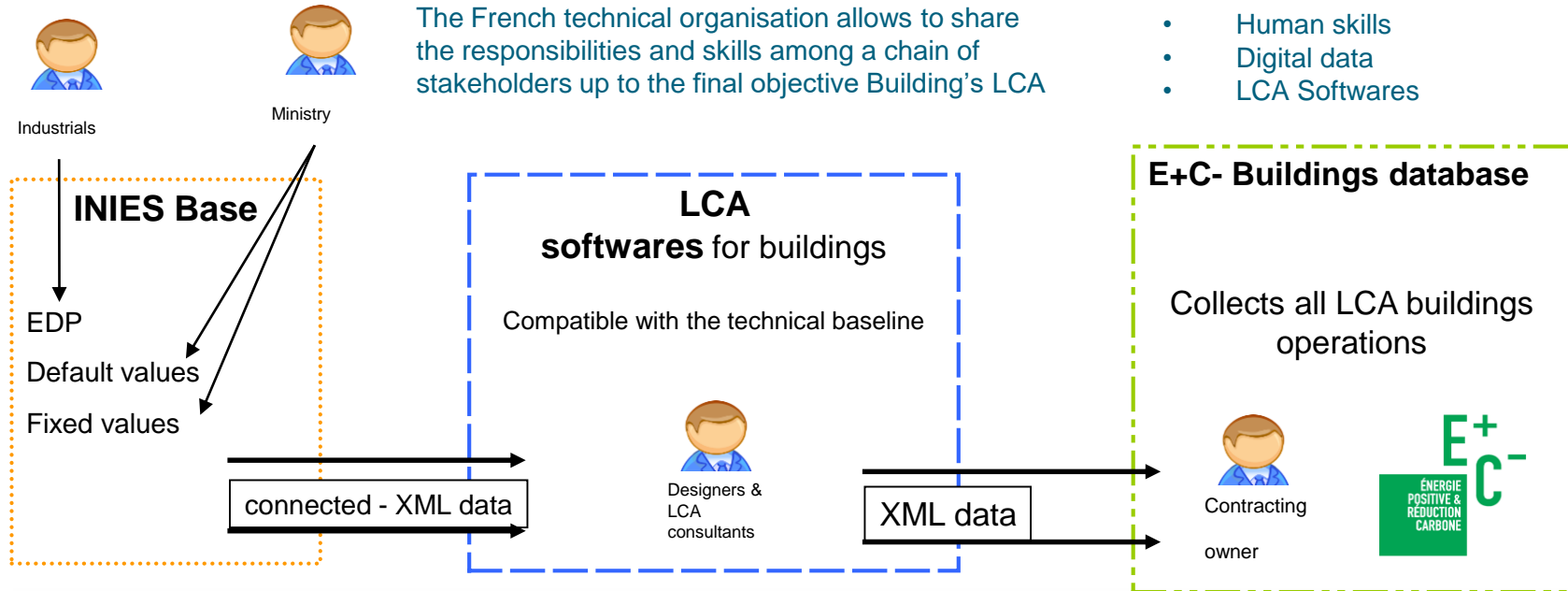
LCA softwares validated by the Ministry for the E+C- assessment



Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

# Technical baseline - Carbon

## How to use these digital EPD for building LCA ?



Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes



# Towards **positive energy** and **low carbon** buildings

From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework

Technical baseline

**Levels to reach – Energy and Carbon**

Experimentation and label

Comparison : LEVEL(S) / E+C-

## Energy

Energy 1  
Energy 2

**Reduce energy consumption  
AND/OR  
use renewable energy**

- **Housing buildings**  
Between -5% and -10% of non renewable energy compared to current RT2012 regulation
- **Office buildings**  
Between -15% and -30%

Energy 3

**Reduce energy consumption  
AND  
use renewable energy**

- **Housing buildings**  
-20% of non renewable energy  
and +20 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>an of renewable energy
- **Office buildings**  
-40% and +40 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>an of renewable energy

Energy 4

**Positive energy target**

Renewable energy production compensates all uses of non renewable energy consumption (the indicator “BEPOS Balance” is < 0)

## Greenhouse gas emissions

- One threshold for all the contributors: use phase, products and devices, water consumption, construction
- One threshold for the contributor “construction products and devices” in order to ensure a minimum effort for this contributor

### Carbon 1

- Enable efforts between the energy consumption and the building process
- None constructive way is excluded

### Carbon 2

- Strengthen CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by optimizing choices related both to the use phase (energy consumption) and the building process

# Towards **positive energy** and **low carbon** buildings

From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework

Technical baseline

Levels to reach – Energy and Carbon

**Experimentation and label**

Comparison : LEVEL(S) / E+C-

# An *in situ* Experimentation and label

## 3 tools to ensure the deployment of buildings LCA, data quality and repeteability

Technical  
baseline +  
levels



Label



Database +  
stakeholders  
community



Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

## Assessment of the technical and economical feasibility of the methodology and the performance levels

- Apply the methodology on real cases
- Fix the “cost optimal” targets
- Calibrate relevant performance levels able to promote innovation without excluding constructive modes and energy vectors
- Expect learning of the LCA concept applied to the building sector (LCA of products and devices, LCA of buildings, development of software, ...)

### How ?

- Capitalize on building operations (representative of the building sector) thanks to an observatory and a data basis
- Collect studies about the relevancy of the methodology and targets (various working groups are launched)
- Involvement of stakeholders in the governance of the Experimentation

# An *in situ* Experimentation and label

## Objectives

- Guarantee the quality
- Represent a control
- Promote the best building solutions



## Requirements

- Both energy consumption and GHG emissions are assessed
- Gradual requirements
- Specific thresholds adjusted to each kind of building, localization, ...
- Six certifying bodies have contracted with the French State

**Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion**  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

# An *in situ* Experimentation and label



Bâtiment à  
**Énergie Positive**  
& **Réduction Carbone**



L'EXPÉRIMENTATION  
EN BREF

S'INFORMER

MÉTHODE D'ÉVALUATION

NIVEAUX DE  
PERFORMANCE & LABEL

LES BÂTIMENTS  
EXEMPLAIRES

JE PARTICIPE À  
L'EXPÉRIMENTATION



Démarche engagée dans le cadre de la loi de transition énergétique pour la croissance verte, l'expérimentation de la performance environnementale des bâtiments ambitionne d'élaborer, avec les acteurs, les standards des bâtiments de demain, via :

- La généralisation des bâtiments à énergie positive



## Les Dernières Actualités

Le colloque du Conseil supérieur de la construction et de l'efficacité énergétique se tiendra le Jeudi 17 novembre 2016

De la COP 21 à la COP 22

Application de la loi de transition énergétique : Ségolène Royal fixe les critères donnant droit au bonus de constructibilité.

[Toutes les actualités >](#)

[Foire aux questions](#)

[www.batiment-energiecarbone.fr](http://www.batiment-energiecarbone.fr)

**Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion**  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes



# Towards **positive energy** and **low carbon** buildings

From a thermal to an environmental regulation framework

Technical baseline

Levels to reach – Energy and Carbon

Experimentation and label

**Consistency LEVEL(S) / E+C-**

# Global overview of Level(s) - Macro-objectives

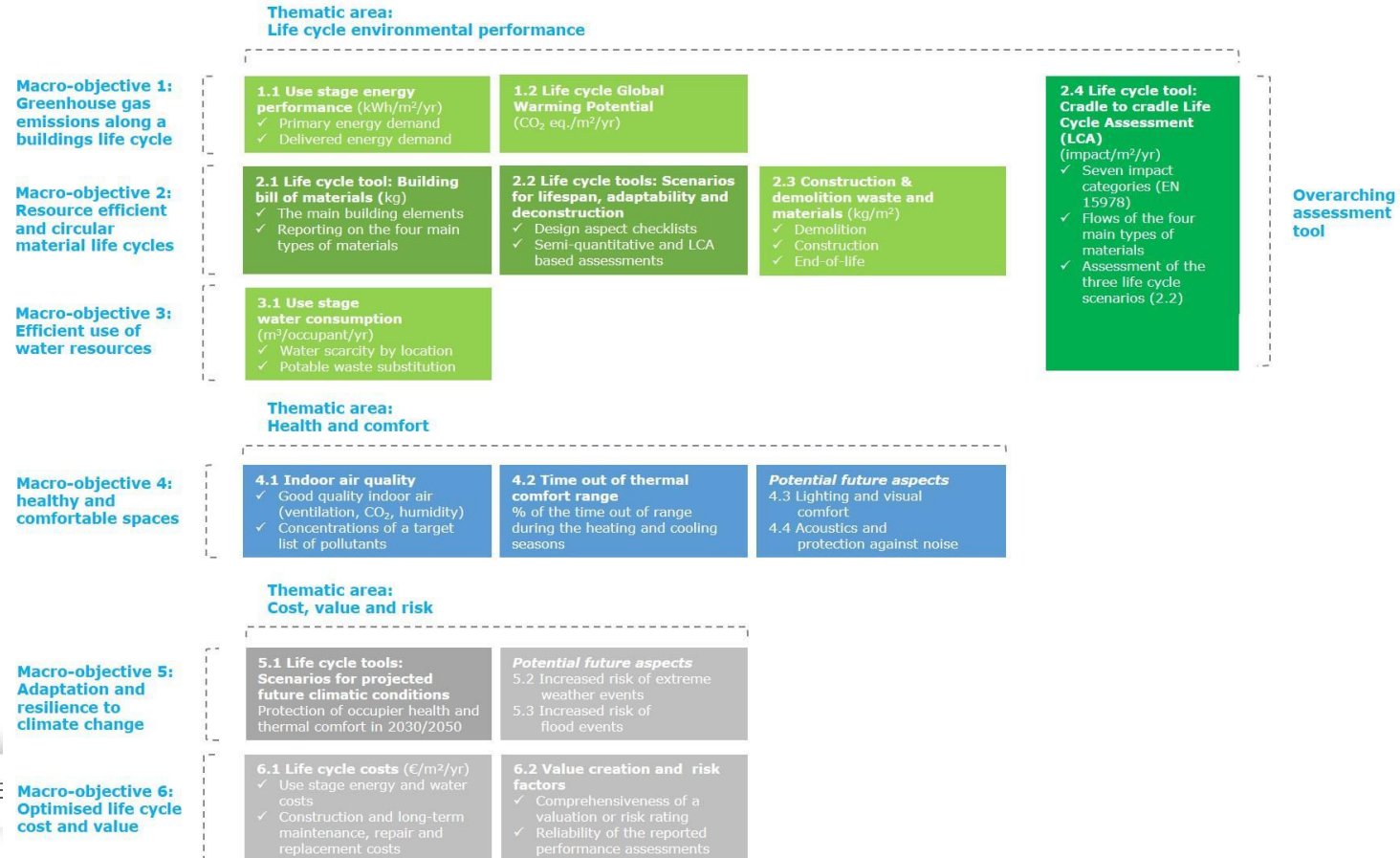


Figure 2.1 Overview of the Level(s) framework

## Macro-objective 1: Use stage energy performance (operating stage)

LEVEL(S)	E+C-
<p><b>Unit:</b> kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/an</p> <p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Primary energy demand over 5 conventional energy uses Separate quantification of renewable exported energy</p> <p><b>Indicator 2:</b> Final energy demand</p> <p><b>Static or dynamic method</b></p> <p><b>Complementary requirements:</b> air permeability measurement, network tightness, infrared monitoring, ...</p> <p><b>Surface:</b> useful internal floor area from international IPMS</p>	<p><b>Unit:</b> kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/an</p> <p><b>RT2012 indicators:</b> Bbio, Cep (primary energy demand over 5 uses), ...</p> <p><b>BEPOS Balance:</b> primary non-renewable and renewable demand over all uses</p> <p>Towards a <b>dynamic method</b></p> <p><b>Surface:</b> SHON-RT2012 (necessity to clarify the difference with IPMS)</p>

## Macro-objective 1: Life cycle global warming

LEVEL(S)	E+C-
<b>Quantification of global warming potential</b> according to EN15978 over the whole life cycle	<b>Quantification of all LCA indicators</b> of EN15978 over the whole life cycle
<b>Cradle to grave approach</b>	<b>Cradle to grave approach</b> + module D
<b>Reference study period:</b> 60 years	<b>Reference study period:</b> 50 years <b>Perimeter:</b> building + plot
Discrete replacement rate of equipments/products	Decimal replacement rate of equipments/products
<b>Limited number of GHGs</b> taken into account	<b>Exhaustive number of GHGs</b> taken into account
<b>Generic data</b> (not contextualized)	<b>Specific data</b> provided by the industrials (FR EN 15084 + CN for products and PEP Ed. 3 for equipments). Contextualization to the French context.

Ministry for an Ecological and Solidarity Transition - Ministry of Territory Cohesion  
Directorate of Buildings, Urban Planning and Landscapes

## Macro-objective 2: Resource efficient and circular material life cycles

LEVEL(S)	E+C-
<b>Life cycle tool: Building bill of materials (BoM)</b>  Reporting on the Bill of quantities for the building, as well as for the four main types of materials used	<b>All physical building description (quantities)</b>  <b>EPD : FDES (NF EN 15804+CN) and PEP (XPC-08-100-1 / 3rd edition)</b>
<b>Construction and demolition waste and materials</b>  kg waste and materials per m2 of total useful floor area (per life cycle and project stage reported on)	<b>LCA waste indicators (kg/m2SDP for 50 years) : cradle to grave (EN15978)</b>  Hazardous  Non hazardous
<b>Overarching assessment tool: Cradle to grave Life Cycle Assessment</b>  7 environmental impact category indicators / per m2 / per year  Reference service life : 60 years	<b>All LCA indicators of EN15978 (indicators / per m2 SDP for 50 years)</b>  Reference service life: 50 years

## Macro-objective 3: Efficient use of Water resources

LEVEL(S)	E+C-
<p><b>Total water consumption (m3/occupant/yr)</b></p> <p>Focus on common sanitary devices/fittings and water consuming appliances (<u>default values possible</u>)</p> <p>Usage factors and default occupancy rates (irrigation <u>excluded</u>)</p> <p>Defined baseline scenarios (total/potable/non potable)</p>	<p><b>Contributor « Water use » = all uses of water during the service life of the building (consumption and reject)</b></p> <p>Focus on common sanitary devices/fittings and water consuming appliances (default values <u>and correction values for water reducing consumptions devices</u>)</p> <p>Usage factors and default occupancy rates (irrigation <u>included</u>)</p> <p>Defined baseline scenarios (total/potable/non potable)</p> <p><b>2) LCA indicator on water use (EN15978)</b></p>

## Macro-objective 4: Healthy and comfortable spaces

LEVEL(S)	E+C-
<p><b>Indicator of indoor air quality</b></p> <p>Good quality indoor air: Parameters for ventilation (rate), CO2, humidity, benzene, PM, radon, mould</p> <p>Target list of pollutants: Emissions from construction products and external air intake. (VOCs, LCI, F)</p>	<p><b>French regulations on :</b></p> <p>Ventilation systems and rates</p> <p>Asbestos, lead, radon and carbon monoxide</p> <p>Indoor air emissions from products</p>
<p><b>Time outside of thermal comfort range</b></p> <p>% of the time out of range of defined maximum and minimum temperatures during the heating and cooling seasons</p>	<p><b>French regulation RT2012 : thermal comfort indicator (Tic)</b></p>

### Consistency

- Voluntary test phase (1.5 - 2 years)
- Common language to track the levels of sustainability performances over the whole life cycle
- Quantification of multiple indicators (not only GHG emissions)
- Making the business starts with a good basis, transfers of practices
- Basis of existing standards
- Possible use at different stages of a building project

### E+C- specifics

- Regulatory framework/baseline (RT2012)
- Levels for both Energy and Carbon
- Global costs assessment
- Massification: support of a future rule, needs of stability in methods and data

**-Overall consistency for the Energy and assessment of LCA indicators**

**-Easy transfer of E+C- buildings in Levels with some adjustments (bridges)**

**-Opportunity of sharing feedbacks**



## Macro-objective 6: Optimised life cycle cost and value

LEVEL(S)	E+C-
<b>Indicator of life cycle costs</b>  Euros per square metre of useable floor area per year (€/m <sup>2</sup> /yr)  (LCC ISO 15686-5, study period of 50 years)  Type of costs by life cycle stage	<b>Request form on costs from project master (test phase)</b>  Overall cost