

# Ongoing EPBD implementation and the use of the set of EPB standards in various EU countries



**JAAP HOGELING**

Editor-in-Chief  
REHVA Journal

REHVA Journal asked several persons informed about the developments in their country on the use of the EPB standards, about their personal observation regarding the status of the implementation of the EPBD (Energy Performance Buildings Directive) and in connection to this the use of the set of EPB standards.

**T**he EPBD doesn't require EU Member States to use the EPB standards. The national EPB assessment procedures have to meet the requirements included in the Directive. The set of EPB standards developed under Mandate 480 given to CEN meets the requirements of the EPBD. If MS's use these standards it is quite easy to demonstrate that they follow the EPBD requirements.

As published in earlier articles in this journal, the way the EPB standards are developed and set up offers the MS's the required flexibility needed to apply these EPB standards throughout Europe. All EPB standards include an Annex B with default values and choices. MS regulators can use these default values of Annex B or adapt them to their national wishes according annex A of these standards.

## Transposition measures and recommendations<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with EPBD Annex I, 'Member States must describe their national/regional calculation methodologies following the national annexes to the overarching standards'. Member States will have to meet this requirement at the latest by the transposition deadline, i.e. 10 March 2020. Member States have several options for notifying compliance with this obligation. One straightforward option is to include the filled-in annexes to the overarching standards when officially notifying the Commission of national measures trans-

<sup>1</sup> See: COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (EU) 2019/786 of 8 May 2019 on building renovation (notified under document C(2019) 3352) clause 3.2.3. Transposition measures and recommendations.

posing the EPBD. In order to facilitate transparency and improve comparability, it is recommended that Member States make the description of their calculation methodologies publicly available, e.g. by uploading the filled-in templates to a website or annexing them to their building codes, etc. In such cases, they may notify the Commission of the publicly available source to prove that they have fulfilled the obligation.

Making the calculation methodology publicly available will also help Member States fulfil the requirement to ensure that 'the methodology applied for the determination of the energy performance of a building shall be transparent...' in Annex I (Point 1, second paragraph) to the EPBD. Where a Member State adopts an EPB standard in full in national law (i.e. it uses the standard (as is) as part of its building regulations implementing the EPBD), it can choose:

- (a) to ask its national standardisation body to develop a national annex based on the Annex A template — in that case, it could be considered to have fulfilled

- the obligation in Annex I to the EPBD in respect of that standard by publishing the national annex together with the national regulations requiring use of the standard in question; or
- (b) to publish the filled-in Annex A as a national data sheet:
  - (i) as a separate document referred to by the building regulations; or
  - (ii) as an integral part of the building regulation implementing the EPBD.

The national annex or data sheet is then used to meet the requirements of the EPBD and facilitate the use of the standard at national level. When EPB standards are not adopted in full by a Member State, then the Annex A of the standard should be used as a template to describe the national calculation methodology and national choices, ensuring compliance with the EPBD.

The various personal observations on what is happening in their countries illustrate the hard work that is going on in the different EU countries to have the revised national EP assessment methods timely in place. ■

## REHVA 3E EUROPEAN GUIDEBOOKS

### GB 30: Hygiene in Potable Water Installations in Buildings – Requirements for design, deployment, operation and maintenance

The interrelationships between water quality, health and the well-being of users require that all parties involved have a specific responsibility for aspects of hygiene in specifying the requirements for potable water installations in buildings. This guidebook gives an overview about the fundamentals of hygiene and water quality and contains main information's on the design, installation, start-up, use, operation and maintenance of potable water installations in buildings. It gives also suggestions for the practical work (maintenance, effects on microbiology, potential causes and measures in practical work, checklists).

Orders at eSHOP

