

Glossary of the Institut Bauen und Umwelt (IBU)

Version: 1.0

Introduction

This glossary serves as a reference work for IBU employees, members and interested parties. It contains key terms and abbreviations from the areas of EPDs & sustainable building, standardization, building regulation and digitalization in the construction industry.

Disclaimer

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Overview of terms

Abbreviation	Term	Explanation	References
	Accredited body	Organization that is officially authorized to carry out conformity assessments and issue certifications.	
AVCP 3+	Assessment and Verification of Constancy of Performance System 3+	Conformity assessment system with strict requirements for environmental information.	See BauPVO/CPR
BauPG	Bauproduktengesetz (Construction Products Act)	German law implementing the CPR, which regulates national requirements and sanctions.	
BauPVO	Construction Products Regulation (Bauproduktenverordnung)	European regulation that defines harmonized regulations for the marketing of construction products in the EU.	CPR
BIM	Building Information Modeling	Digital method for the planning, execution and management of buildings using a central 3D model.	
BNB	Assessment system for sustainable building (Bewertungssystem Nachhaltiges Bauen)	German building certification system/assessment system for sustainability in building construction, e.g. for public buildings.	
BWR	Basic Work Requirements	Basic requirements for buildings according to CPR.	
CE	CE marking	Marking indicating that a construction product complies with the applicable requirements of the EU CPR.	

Abbreviation	Term	Explanation	References
CPR	Construction Products Regulation	English name of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), which defines harmonized regulations for construction products.	See BauPVO
CPR Acquis process	CPR Acquis Process	Process for the further development of harmonized specifications under the CPR.	
c-PCR	Complementary Product Category Rules	Rules developed by Product TC and approved by CEN TC 350 for the application of the CPR	
DGNB	German Sustainable Building Council (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen)	German building certification system.	
DPP	Digital Product Passport	Electronic document with comprehensive information on construction products, in particular on environmental performance and recyclability.	ESPR
DoP	Declaration of Performance	Document in which the manufacturer declares the performance of a construction product in relation to its essential characteristics.	
DoPC	Declaration of Performance and Conformity	Extended declaration of performance under the new CPR, which also includes conformity.	See DoP
EAD	European Assessment Document	Document as a basis for a European Technical Assessment (ETA) for construction products without hEN.	
ECO Platform	ECO Platform	European umbrella organization of EPD programme operators for the harmonization and quality assurance of EPDs.	
EED	Energy Efficiency Directive	EU directive to improve energy efficiency in buildings and industry.	
EN	European standard	Standards developed by CEN.	See CEN
EN 15804+A2	European standard for environmental product declarations	Standardized method for creating EPDs for construction products.	
EPBD	Energy Performance of Buildings Directive	EU Directive on the energy efficiency of buildings, relevant in conjunction with the CPR.	

Abbreviation	Term	Explanation	References
EOTA	European Organization for Technical Assessment	European Organization for Technical Assessment.	
EPD	Environmental Product Declaration	Standardized document containing environmental information on a construction product throughout its life cycle in accordance with ISO 14025 and EN 15804.	
ESPR	Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation	EU regulation defining sustainable product requirements.	
GPP	Green Public Procurement	Public procurement with environmental criteria, relevant for sustainable building products.	
GNB	Group of Notified Bodies	EU-wide coordination group for bodies that assess construction products regarding their conformity with the CPR.	
GWP	Global Warming Potential	Measure of the global warming potential of emissions over a certain period.	
hEN	Harmonized European Standard (Harmonized European Standard)	Technical standard listed in the Official Journal of the EU that defines the requirements for construction products covered by the CPR.	
htS	Harmonized Technical Specification (Harmonized Technical Specification)	Collective term for harmonized standards (hEN) and European Assessment Documents (EAD) under the CPR.	
IBU	Institut Bauen und Umwelt e.V.	Program operator for EPDs and central institution for sustainability in the building industry.	
IBU.data	IBU.data	Database for EPDs from IBU in digital format.	https://ibu-epd.com/ibu-data-start
ILCD+EPD	International Life Cycle Data System + Environmental Product Declaration	EU data format for life cycle assessment and EPD data in XML form.	https://github.com/InDataWG
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	International Standards Organization.	
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment	Method for analyzing the environmental impact of a building product over its entire life cycle.	

Abbreviation	Term	Explanation	References
Level(s)	Level(s) Framework	EU initiative to assess the sustainability of buildings using indicators, including life cycle assessment and circular economy.	
MND	Module not declared	Labeling for non-covered life cycle modules in EPDs.	
Notified body	Notified Body	Organization by a notifying body of an EU Member State to assess construction products according to CPR.	
ÖKOBAUDAT	ÖKOBAUDAT	Official German building materials database for life cycle assessment and sustainable building.	https://oekobauda.t.de/
PCF	Product Carbon Footprint	CO ₂ balance of a product over its entire life cycle, measured in CO ₂ equivalents according to ISO 14067	
PCR	Product Category Rules	Regulations with specific requirements for the creation of EPDs for a product group.	
PCR Part A	Product Category Rules - Part A	General specifications for the creation of product category rules (IBU breakdown)	See PCR Part B
PCR Part B	Product Category Rules - Part B	Product-specific requirements for the creation of Product Category Rules. (IBU breakdown)	See PCR Part A
PEF	Product Environmental Footprint	Alternative EU approach to environmental assessment of products could influence EPDs in the future.	
Product-TC	Product Technical Committees	Technical committees for harmonized technical specifications.	
QNG	Sustainable building quality seal (Qualitätssiegel Nachhaltiges Gebäude)	German seal for the sustainability assessment of buildings.	
RSL	Reference Service Life	Reference service life of a building product.	
SVR	Advisory Board (Sachverständigenrat)	Independent expert panel of the IBU for rule monitoring	
TAB	Technical Assessment Body	Notified body in an EU Member State for issuing ETAs for construction products without a harmonized standard	
Taxonomy	EU taxonomy for sustainable economic activities	Classification system for assessing the sustainability of economic activities, including construction products and buildings.	

Abbreviation	Term	Explanation	References
TC	Technical Committee	Technical committee that develops standards.	See CEN
TC 350	Technical Committee 350	Standardization committee for sustainability of buildings, responsible for EN 15804.	
XML	Extensible Markup Language	Format for structured data transmission, e.g. for EPDs.	

Notes on updating

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Please send suggestions for new terms or corrections to marketing@ibu-epd.com.