

PROJECT INFORMATION



Social Indicators for Sustainable Building

Amendment to the FMTBH's Guideline: Sustainable Building

In 2001 the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing (FMTBH) released a "Guideline on Sustainable Building"¹ for planning, construction, management and use regarding buildings and premises in the property of the Federation. The guideline substantiates ecological and economic objectives of sustainable building



in a way that they can be introduced directly into everyday practice. Relevant existing building codes and regulations are referred to in so far as they provide quantitative standards for sustainable building. In the guideline aspects of social sustainability are addressed only vaguely, and if so, mainly reduced on health protection and comfort as more conventional aspects of planning and the use of buildings.

At present the guideline is to be enlarged in scope – to cover issues of refurbishment also - and to be advanced in its contents, paying added attention to social aspects. With this intention social indicators are to be created to support the implementation of social objectives in an equally concrete way as ecological and economic ones. The social indicators are to be used in an analogous way as such indicators based on physical dimensions as temperature or intensity of light defining precisely the necessity of interventions. They shall be based on the internationally accepted social and cultural objectives for sustainable development:

- *gender mainstream*
- *participation*
- *social cohesion*
- *cultural heritage*
- *health, well-being*
- *safety and security*

Additionally the objectives of the ongoing „Initiative for Building Culture“ of FMTBH and the German Federal Chamber of Architects are to be referred to also.

Furthermore a generally acceptable definition of the social aspects of Sustainable Building is to be formulated. It may refer to the definition of „sustainable development“ of the Brundtland report: *"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."*

¹ Bundesministerium für Verkehr-, Bau- und Wohnungswesen (Hrsg.): Leitfaden Nachhaltiges Bauen. Berlin 2001
http://www.bmvbw.de/Anlage/original_8183/Leitfaden-Nachhaltiges-Bauen.pdf

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