

# The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI)

for rating smart readiness of the European building stock

## BACKGROUND AND VISION

Digital innovations, such as the Internet of Things, are reshaping the society and economy we live in. We spend most of our time in buildings. They are at the core of our society, and they are crucial for the energy transition. Our buildings must be fit for the challenges and opportunities triggered by digital transformation technologies. The SRI is a key step forward in this direction.

## POLICY CONTEXT

- With the **European Green Deal** and the **Renovation Wave**, the EU promotes the upgrade of the building stock
- The potential of smart technologies in the building sector was heavily emphasised in the 2018 revision of the **European Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)** and the SRI was introduced, followed by two legal acts [1] [2] in 2020 which establish the SRI as an official EU instrument.
- The proposal for a revision of the EPBD adopted in 2021 foresees further strengthening the SRI to ensure its **widespread application in large non-residential buildings**.

## WHAT IS THE SRI?

The SRI is a common EU scheme for rating the smart readiness of buildings.

The SRI assesses how smart a building is in terms of:

1. responding to the needs of the occupant (e.g. health, comfort, well-being, etc.)
2. using energy efficient control strategies
3. interacting with energy grids (energy flexibility / demand response and system integration)



## WHY IS IT RELEVANT?

Using smart technologies in buildings can be a cost-effective way to assist in creating healthier and more comfortable buildings with lower energy use and carbon emissions.

For instance:

1. Digital technologies such as smart thermostats and lighting control can pay back within 2 years.
2. Smart technologies, such as automated sun shading control or ventilation control based on air-quality sensors, can also improve health, well-being and comfort.
3. Intelligent scheduling of energy consumption (white goods, electric vehicles, etc.) can result in significant energy savings, and at the same time it contributes to grid balancing.

The SRI provides a common language for building stakeholders (owners, designers, solution providers, policy actors, etc.) to discuss how to make buildings smarter, and what benefits this will bring.

## WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS?

At building scale, an **average 30% savings** of final energy can be obtained when implementing an advanced package of smart building technologies. Some of the single optimisation measures are easy to implement with a short payback period (e.g. exchange of thermostatic valves, boiler and pump adjustments, night setbacks, etc.).

Depending on how it is implemented across the EU by 2040, the SRI has the potential to save annually up to: 160 TWh in primary energy consumption, 23 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, €12.5bn in consumer energy costs and €1.4bn in energy system costs. In addition, it could deliver annual health and wellbeing benefits valued at €6.5bn and help create 76 thousand jobs [3].



## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

### EU Member States

- EU countries, through national and local authorities, (energy agencies, etc.), are invited to **implement or launch a test phase of the SRI scheme**.
- The Commission provides support and guidance to committed Member States through a **dedicated SRI helpdesk**.

### Building owners, manufacturers, sustainability professionals

- Request the SRI assessment package which includes a **SRI calculation sheet** and a **practical guide** to get started.
- A **training package** explains how to conduct an SRI assessment and **training webinars** are organised to facilitate the understanding of the SRI methodology.

Email your questions to the **SRI support team** at [support@smartreadinessindicator.eu](mailto:support@smartreadinessindicator.eu)

## FOLLOW US AND CONTACT US!

- SRI website, newsletter, FAQ and resources: <https://ec.europa.eu/smart-readiness-indicator>
- European Commission Contact: Brigitte Jacquemont | [ENER-BUILDINGS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ENER-BUILDINGS@ec.europa.eu)
- Twitter: @Energy4Europe #SmartReadinessIndicator

Several projects are developing Research & Innovation activities around the SRI. Stay updated by joining the European Smart Buildings Innovation Community at: <https://smartbuilt4eu.eu/join-our-community/>

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- [1] Implementing regulation on optional scheme for rating smart readiness of buildings | C(2020) 6929  
 [2] Delegated regulation on optional scheme for rating smart readiness of buildings | C(2020) 6930  
 [3] Final report on the technical support to the development of a smart readiness indicator for buildings | doi:10.2833/41100



European  
Commission

**SMART READINESS INDICATOR (SRI)**