

SRI platform plenary meeting #1: Report

Introduction

This report summarises the topics and questions that were covered during the inaugural SRI platform plenary meeting. It briefly describes the main content that was presented and the most important discussion topics. Readers can access the full webinar recording via [this link](#).

Time indications from the recording are included in the report at the end of the title of each subject according to the agenda of the call.

Number of participants

A total of 237 people participated in the webinar.

Stijn Verbeke [VITO/EnergyVille]: Opening of the session (00:01:00)

Stijn opens the session with an overview of the agenda.

Stijn announced that the inaugural SRI platform session is being recorded and therefore those who do not agree with being recorded and having the recordings published afterwards should leave the meeting.

Stefan Moser [DG ENER Head of Unit]: Welcome (00:04:35)

Stefan welcomed the audience, presented the policy context, gave a brief overview of the introduction of the SRI in the evolution of EPBD and recent revisions, the latest provision proposal of the EPBD in which the SRI is further supported. He emphasized the importance of the implementation of the SRI, the role of the SRI consortium, the SRI platform and the support that is foreseen for Member States. He remarked that the European Green Deal will not work without smart buildings and that the green and digital transitions work hand in hand. He expressed gratitude to all Member States that have expressed interest in the SRI as there is a need to move forward, and especially to the frontrunner Member States that have already engaged in the testing phase: Austria, Denmark and France.

Introduction to the SRI

Summary of the previous SRI development work [Stijn Verbeke; VITO/EnergyVille] (00:15:05)

Stijn gave an overview of the history and content of the previous SRI development work including a brief introduction to the SRI methodology. He provided directions to further information sources on the SRI methodology (the SRI website; the final reports of the previous SRI technical support studies; the SRI training package; the SRI training webinar; the SRI calculation spreadsheet and guidelines, etc.). Finally, the conclusions of the previous technical studies were presented.

What is in the EPBD and delegated/implementing acts? [Brigitte Jacquemont; DG ENER] (00:20:34)

Brigitte presented an overview of the main objectives of the European Green Deal initiative, the Renovation Wave and the Clean Energy for all Europeans package and stresses the importance of the SRI for building energy efficiency and wellbeing of people. She clarified the history of the EPBD and the role of the SRI within this context. Furthermore, Brigitte explained the provisions in the related regulations that are in force i.e. of the Delegated and Implementing acts for the SRI. To conclude, the launch of the official SRI testing phases was presented with a brief explanation of the role of Member States and other stakeholders that would want to be involved within the regulatory framework.

Tasks and planning of the SRI consortium [Stijn Verbeke; VITO/EnergyVille] (00:28:00)

Stijn presented the consortium conducting the SRI support contract, the duration of the contract and gave a brief overview of the tasks: Task 1: support for testing and implementation of the SRI; Task 2: Establish the SRI Platform; Task 3: Technical assistance for the preparation of EU Guidance; Task 4: Investigation of additional EU support for the roll-out of the SRI and Task 5: awareness raising and dissemination.

Testing and implementation of the SRI in the EU

SRI testing programmes – Summary of the current status [Sophie Dourlens-Quaranta; R2M] (00:32:57)

Sophie explained the activities in Task 1 of the SRI3 service contract, which is to provide ongoing support for testing and implementation of the SRI via: web resources, an SRI helpdesk, the provision of training and materials as well as adapted support to Member States for SRI implementation and testing. She further provided an overview of the actions to gain insight on stakeholder interest in the SRI, of which a strong interest has been expressed. Several Member States have shown their interest in the SRI. There have been informal exchanges with around 10 Member States. It is known that several Member States are favourable to testing the SRI. For instance, in Italy research has already taken place, but there is no final decision yet on whether and how to proceed with the implementation of the SRI. Austria, Denmark and France have officially launched a test phase. Sophie invited all other Member States to express their interest and to join the frontrunners in the coming months.

Member States' presentation on local SRI testing activities

Member States' testimonial of testing phase in Austria [Robert Stadler; OIB] (00:37:21)

Robert provided an overview of the motivation and context of testing in Austria and shares experiences so far on the use of the SRI calculation methodology. The most important aspect of the SRI for Austria is related to energy flexibility, because of the potential of buildings to be used as energy storage, which is of central interest to energy suppliers and energy utility companies. For Austria, it is thus important to have the partial indicators on the 3 key functionalities included separately. Austria also acknowledges the two other main purposes, namely energy efficiency and user convenience.

The test phase is organised including involvement of a large variety of stakeholders including the regions and the federal government, research and knowledge institutions. It includes as many public buildings as possible. It started already in September 2021 and is expected to last for 2-3 years. Robert explained that different calculation methods will be used and evaluated. To conclude, Robert invited stakeholders to participate in the SRI test phase in Austria.

Member States' testimonial of testing phase in Denmark [Allan Hansen; DEA] (00:44:52)

Allan explained that the overall purpose of the Danish testing project is to investigate the potentials and opportunities of the SRI in the Danish context. The stakeholders involved include all key stakeholder groups and they have indicated that it is important to get better acquainted with the SRI. The 25 to 30 test buildings in Denmark include old as well as new buildings of different building category types and different energy supplies. Tests will be conducted by testers from DTI. The assessment package material will be tested and building owners' understanding of the tests and labelling will be assessed via interviews. A proposal for how the method can or should be adapted within the Danish context will be prepared. Allan provided an overview of the timing, indicating that the project has only recently started and is expected to be finalised in mid-2022.

Member States' testimonial of testing phase in France [Annabelle Walgraffe; Ministry for Housing / Nicolas Cabassud; CEREMA] (00:49:43)

Annabelle explained the context in France on the EPBD and the role and acknowledged importance of the SRI within it, justifying the motivation of France to engage in the testing phase. Nicolas gave an overview of the previous involvement in the SRI: in the previous working groups A and B to participate in the development of the SRI method (2018) and in a public test in 2019 including 7 French buildings with associated results.

France will engage in a testing phase led by the Ministry for Housing and CEREMA that includes key stakeholder groups to ensure exchange with the sector and relevant actors. France will first focus on the methodology, including a large sample of buildings. France will apply the SRI methodology (both method A and B with definition of the scope of both) with only minor adaptations. France aims to bring together SRI and EPC in a consistent manner. For EPCs France uses a calculation method based on thermal dynamic simulation, taking into account the physical reality of the building on aspects related to the energy performance. This will be used for energy related rating only. France will use EPC assessors for the SRI assessment and also allow the possibility of self-assessment by building owners or building managers (without official status) to increase access and visibility of the SRI.

Annabelle provided insight over the next steps up until the beginning of the national test phase from the second quarter of 2022. At this stage decisions about the SRI's implementation have not yet been taken.

01:01:34

The SRI support team explained that there are choices to be made in the common methodology by Member States or the national implementing bodies so that there is a common understanding of the SRI methodology amongst all assessors in a specific national or regional setting. The assessment package allows for such choices within the methodology, for instance to make some technical domains mandatory or to adjust some of the weighting factors to account for specific local contextual factors such as climatic conditions. The SRI support team receives a lot of questions on this and that is why Member States need to be in charge of the testing and/or implementation phases.

Break

The SRI Platform

Presentation on the structure and operation of the SRI platform and invitation for membership of the SRI platform Working Groups [Paul Waide; WSEE] (01:19:47)

Paul explained the key organisational groups of the SRI platform: the SRI platform plenary meetings, the SRI working groups and the SRI platform secretariat. He further explained the functions of all key organisational groups and the scope of the working groups. The topic of potential evolutions of data-driven methodologies for the SRI is part of the scope of Taskforce 3 of the H2020 project Smartbuilt4EU. To join the work conducted in Task Force 3 of SmartBuilt4EU, people can register via: <https://smartbuilt4eu.eu/join-our-community/>.

The SRI platform management and operational rules were explained. The number of membership positions per working group will be limited to ensure a balanced composition and to allow in-depth collaboration. Only members may participate in the working group meetings, but contributions are open to all.

Organisations are kindly invited to apply for membership of one or more of the working groups, via the SRI Working Groups Application form accessible through the following link: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SRI-WG-Application-Form>. Rules of the platform will be uploaded shortly after this inaugural SRI platform plenary meeting.

Q&A (questions via chat) (0:29:27)

The audience were able to ask questions via the chat. The SRI consortium received many questions, mainly on the following topics;

- SRI as a driver for renovation rates
- SRI methodology and possibilities for customisation; the service catalogues, functionality levels and ranking
- Design of the SRI certificate, including the survey for feedback on that topic (<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SRISurvey>) and the elaboration of a template
- Budget for the Member States
- Other relevant questions on: upscaling to district level, interoperability, open communication and grid interactivity, harmonisation and standardisation.

The reader is referred to the recording of the call to find answers on the specific questions related to these topics.



SRI Platform

Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI)

PLENARY MEETING #1 REPORT

Close of meeting [Brigitte Jacquemont; DG ENER] (02:03:30)

Brigitte closed the inaugural SRI platform plenary meeting by thanking the support team, the frontrunner Member States and the audience. She explained the next steps and invited stakeholders to be involved in the SRI platform.