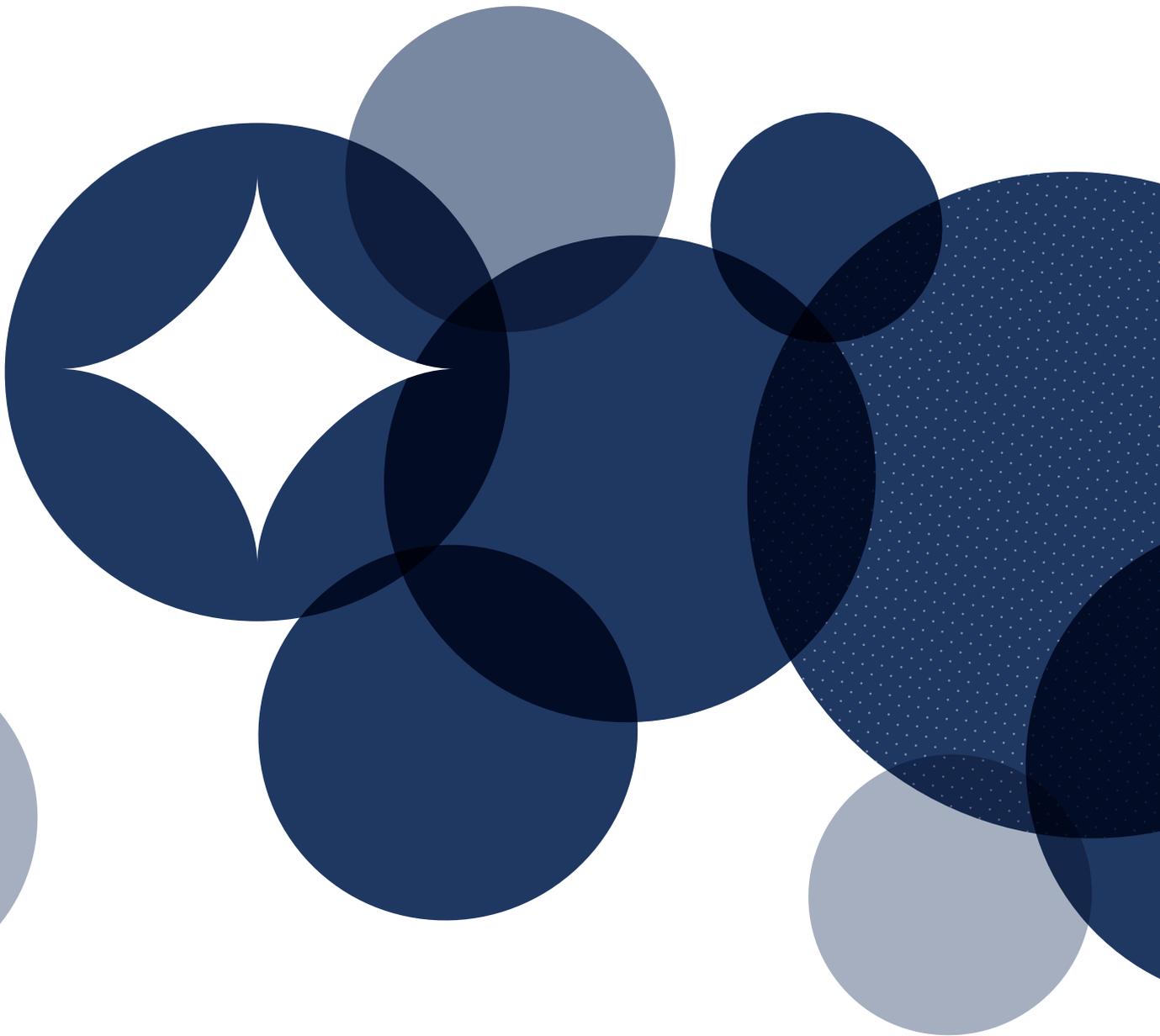




Green Star Future Focus

Summary for Product Manufacturers

Fact sheet: Products, materials, and Green Star Future Focus



National Strategic sponsor



Supporting sponsor



Developed by the
Green Building Council of Australia

The purpose of this fact sheet

This paper seeks to inform product and material suppliers and manufacturers of the proposed changes to Green Star. We seek feedback from you to help us understand your specific challenges and opportunities, and how we can help you address them. For more information on the update, please refer to the summary documents.

What you need to know

- 1** We are updating all Green Star rating tools. We will release them from 2020 onwards. The new rating tools are likely to become mandatory for Green Star projects from 2021 onwards.
- 2** We are proposing an increased focus on the environmental and social impacts of products and materials. This focus is in line with our vision of healthy, resilient, and positive places for people and the natural environment.
- 3** All Green Star rated assets would be required to meet greenhouse gas emissions targets in line with the 1.5C target set out in the Paris Agreement. Because of this, we propose to address embodied carbon in Green Star.
- 4** World leading assets would be required to meet an embodied carbon reduction target of at least 10% and offset the rest. All other assets would be encouraged to show a reduction in embodied carbon.
- 5** We propose introducing recognition for the use of carbon neutral certified products, materials, and services.
- 6** We also propose to reward and recognise the social sustainability of the supply chain. We would be introducing criteria that rewards supply chain transparency. Manufacturing and supply companies for major materials used will also be encouraged to report and disclose commitments to address human rights violations in the supply chain to builders, developers, and owners.
- 7** We need your support by providing feedback, sponsorship, and/or by helping us distribute this paper to relevant stakeholders. We also want your help. If you'd like to be involved, please let us know.
- 8** There are other issues that will be addressed by the proposed update to Green Star. If you want more information about these, we recommend you review the Green Star Future Focus Summary Report.

What this means for you

These proposed changes provide an opportunity to showcase your leadership to future clients, and demonstrate your contribution to a sustainable built environment. The proposed changes mean that the market will be seeking the following from you:



A product specific Environmental Product Declaration (EPD). The EPD must be in accordance with ISO14025 or EN15804. The EPD will help your clients accurately measure the life cycle impacts of your product in their Life Cycle Impact calculations. The EPD will also allow you to calculate the embodied carbon content of your product or material.



Carbon neutral certification, either from the Australian Government's Carbon Neutral Certified program, or from other recognised bodies. An EPD will help you achieve carbon neutral certification.



A holistic certificate for your product. At the very least, ensure you have an environmental product certification. Some certificates cover issues beyond environmental impacts. Certifications that address social and health impacts will be more valued.



A public commitment to addressing human rights issues in your supply chain.

Why update Green Star?

Global megatrends are rapidly reshaping our industry and the built environment. These include climate and demographic change, urbanisation, big data, artificial intelligence and technological innovation driving an increasing focus on our cities, health and well-being, human rights, equity and resilience. These drivers are accelerating.

In 2015, the world signed on to the Paris Climate Change Agreement. More broadly, the urgency of climate action started to become clear across the globe.

In 2016, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was set by the United Nations supported by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The built environment is now seen as key to improving people's health and well-being. Affordability, social cohesion, community engagement, mobility and connection to nature are all issues that the modern built environment must address.

In 2017, investors, lenders, insurers, and stakeholders are seeking to reduce their exposure to risk through investments in assets that are low carbon and resilient to the shocks and stresses of climate change. Organisations are now responding to increasing scrutiny and pressure to prevent human rights abuse, and to measure, report and act to reduce their impact on people, cities and the natural environment.

The delivery of the Green Building Council of Australia's vision for healthy, resilient, and positive places for people and the natural environment demands that we respond to these megatrends and emerging challenges.

In parallel Green Star must also evolve and adapt to meet our expectations of what a sustainable built environment should deliver.

Development program

The GBCA is undertaking an extensive program of works to develop the new rating tools in conjunction with our stakeholders. The program of works will be carried out in the stages shown in the figure below.



How to get involved

We will be setting up a specific expert reference panel for product and materials suppliers and manufacturers. If you would like to be involved please do so by following this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GreenStarERP>

In addition, we will hold at least one session with product and materials suppliers and manufacturers to discuss the potential benefits and challenges these changes will present. We also aim to discuss with you the opportunity to develop additional advocacy positions that GBCA can take to the relevant authorities to assist in achieving the goals set by the proposed changes.

Get in touch

We want to get your feedback. If you would like to discuss the changes to Green Star, provide your feedback or have one of our staff members brief your team, get in touch with our Market Engagement team:

Market.Development@gbca.org.au