

# SNAP

## System for Sustainability Requirements in Architectural Planning Competitions

Initiating architectural competition is of outstanding importance in order to combine sustainability with architectural development early in planning process. Therefore, the „Classification for Sustainability Requirements in Planning Competitions (SNAP)“ was published in 2013 as a result of a research project.

Accordingly the ongoing research project collects and evaluates the practical experience that has been gained in the meantime and is still developing the SNAP methodology. Thus, the „SNAP update“ should help to ensure that sustainability aspects are taken into account as an obvious part of public and private planning competitions.

Theme	No.	Criteria
functionality	01	infrastructure
	02	public accessibility
	03	accessibility
	04	safeness
	05	communication
comfort und cosiness	06	sound insulation
	07	daylight
	08	indoor climate
economics	09	space efficiency
	10	flexibility of use
	11	life cycle costs
resources and energy	12	land take
	13	building materials
	14	energy demand
	15	energy demand coverage

### Determine the direction

- BNB objective agreement and analysis of the central sustainability aspects
- Feasibility check of programme, construction site and objectives
- Selection of competent participants in the competition

### Accentuating impulses

- Clarification of the sustainability requirements

### Comprehensive assessment

- Concise communication of the results of the preliminary reviews
- Consideration of the assessment and sustainability criteria during evaluation rounds
- Written assessment of the shortlist including sustainability qualities and deficits



### Increase hit rate

- Pre-design sustainability requirements as an inherent part of the competition call
- Provision of suitable planning bases („predefined energy concept or renewable energy potentials“)

### Grasp the essentials

- Identifying the relevant sustainability characteristics
- Adjustment of the pre-testing methods (especially energy, LCA, LCC)
- Condensed and graphically plausible sustainability evaluation

### Promoting solutions

- Presentation of the competition objectives and results in form of press release, exhibition and documentation

The 15 pre-design criteria (see table) provide essential guidance. These are defined on the basis of the BNB system, to which further indicators, planning aspects and benchmarks are assigned to. Accordingly, the requirements are formulated in the outline of the competition, evaluated in the preliminary examination and finally explained by the jury by analysing main design characteristics of all submissions.

In addition, the recommendations on the procedure (see chart) clarify which relevant factors or tasks have to be observed in which specific process phase.

The integrated approach of the method ensures that the competition participants consider the following premises:

- Focussing on actual preliminary, design-oriented aspects
- Derivation of the understanding of sustainability based on the BNB system
- Consideration of the entire planning process – from the competition call, through out the preliminary review to the jury meeting
- Involvement of the responsible actors in the respective competition and decision-making process
- Proof of compliance with the sustainability requirements within the framework of regular competitive work
- Definition of phase-specific planning parameters or estimates that can be checked simply in advance
- Graphical clarity of the results in the preliminary assessment report (without weighting or overall score)
- Adaptation of sustainability requirements, preliminary examination methods and presentation of results to the specific procedure

**ee concept**  
gmbh

