Assessment System BNB

Application in Architectural Competitions

Guideline Framework SNAP

Since 2013 a guideline framework for sustainability requirements in architectural planning competitions (short title: SNAP) based on the Assessment System BNB is published. It is currently being updated and revised.

The extension of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety office building in Berlin-Mitte is a current lighthouse project to implement the goals of climate protection and sustainable construction in Germany in an exemplary manner.

The sustainability potential was assessed in the architectural competition procedure at the end of 2019 and in the further course of 2020 in order to support the jury and to be able to accompany and ensure the desired implementation of the BNB standard in gold at an early stage.

The sustainability potential of the contributions was derived from 17 sustainability criteria of the Assessment System BNB on the basis of individually selected indicators relevant to the preliminary design. The preliminary assessment was carried out by Division II.5 'Sustainable Building' of the BBSR.

Individual Focus

In order to accentuate the specific nature of the competition – which focuses on a distinctly low-tech strategy – three topics were given priority in addition to the overall consideration: the quantitative determination of the environmental footprint (expressed as the global warming potential), of the indoor air hygiene (expressed as the outdoor air volume flow rate) and of the daylight availability (expressed as the daylight factor).



Layout of the 25 competition entries (with marking of the prize winners and recognitions) source: BBSR Berlin

The results of the preliminary examination were graphically prepared and presented during the jury meeting to illustrate both the distance from the respective target corridor and, above all, the comparability of the competition entries with each other. The observations on sustainability potential were documented in the written appreciation of the prize winners and were an essential part of the decision-making process.









