

# Sustainable Neighborhoods

CESBA MED

## Recommendations for Technical Experts

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Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

# Sustainable Neighborhoods - CESBA MED

## Recommendations for Technical Experts

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This booklet sets its main focus on urban scale / neighborhoods not weighting the building scale approach as less important.



**Willy A. Küchler**  
CESBA President

## A valuable guidance to support decision-makers.

Based on the experiences from former CESBA projects the CESBA MED project built on the work undertaken by CESBA and aimed at developing an innovative decision making model and common metrics for assessing the sustainable built environment in the Mediterranean region.

The CESBA SN-Tool based on the evaluation of test results of several EU project outcomes, a general framework and 8 contextualised assessment tools has been developed together with an application methodology.

Feedbacks exchanges, discussion between stakeholders of various fields are highly valuable to set up consistent policies and projects and to move forward. Within the project CESBA MED a valuable guidance to support decision-makers and managers of public building stocks at neighborhood level has been created and is now ready for broad implementation.

**Iaria Antonio**  
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## The importance of efficient and sustainable buildings

CESBA MED's innovative assessment and decision making tools, for the implementation of more effective energy efficiency plans able to consider public buildings in the context of their surrounding neighborhood, are successful results that will affect the work inside the City of Torino.

Thanks to CESBA Med the City will reinforce the capacities of public administrations in decision making at urban level. CESBA MED tools will support the definition and implementation of actions targeted to improve the sustainability of public buildings in the context of their urban areas.

It means the possibility to identify the most convenient retrofit strategy considering the building in relation with its urban area and verifying the possibility to activate synergies between groups of buildings.

# Introduction CESBA / Project CESBA MED

CESBA (Common European Sustainable Built Environment Assessment) is a bottom-up developed concept aiming at creating a common framework for measuring the sustainability level of the built environment in different areas and at different territorial scales. During the last 20 years, a huge variety of different assessment concepts for the state of the sustainability of the built environment had emerged all over Europe - from buildings to territories. This is why sustainability experts, during the course of a number of meetings and preparatory projects, formed a network creating a common assessment framework based on the experiences on local level.

CESBA MED is a European project, built on the CESBA initiative that has mobilised 12 partners from 7 countries between 2016 and 2019 to develop a common method for assessing the sustainable development of the built environment in the Mediterranean region, with a total budget of 3.20 mio. Euro, out of which 2.70 mio. Euro are co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union.

The core of the CESBA idea is to agree on a set of commonly accepted crucial indicators, the so-called Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which need to be assessed by everybody adopting the CESBA system. CESBA offers certification, training, and service around all aspects of building, starting from defining the goals of the building project, through the design, the planning, the procurement, the implementation, the commissioning and the usage of the building.

For benchmarking purposes, CESBA developed a generic tool. It is based on KPIs and programmed as an easy-to-use excel spreadsheet. Using this tool, both single buildings and neighborhoods may be assessed with regard to their degree of sustainability. The tool was produced in three different mutations, taking into account the differences between new and existing buildings and buildings with cultural heritage value.

Mainstreaming sustainability in the urban environment is crucial to support the much-needed ecological and low-carbon transition in Europe. To meet the EU environmental commitments, and achieve the goals set under the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, there is a need to untap the potential of improvement that lies in existing residential buildings.





## **CESBA MED builds on the work undertaken by the CESBA initiative - A generic tool with commonly accepted indicators**

To improve the sustainability of Europe's existing building stock and without a widespread and common framework for assessing buildings' environmental performance in place, a number of projects and other public or commercial programs and initiatives have surged in recent years. However, these are mainly following a building scale approach, which is not optimal in reaching significant and cost-effective improvements and do not fully exploit the potential for synergies that groups of buildings might offer.

The implementation of energy and sustainability measures at a broader scale (e.g. district heating, mobility and transport, etc.) are clearly showing that a neighborhood level is a more effective approach to scale up results and secure the fulfilment of the European commitments on urban sustainability, energy and climate change.

Responding to these challenges, CESBA MED has developed a transnational, harmonized and integrated assessment framework and process of buildings and urban areas which has been implemented in 8 different urban contexts from 7 countries. CESBA MED has also developed an innovative decision making model and common metrics to allow comparability of sustainability performance of neighborhoods in the Mediterranean context. The project has been developed in the context of the CESBA initiative launched in 2011.

## **CESBA MED's main objective is to develop a common method for assessing the sustainable development of the built environment in the Mediterranean region.**

To achieve this main goal, the team of CESBA MED has worked during the period 2016-2019 to fulfil the following specific objectives:

- Reinforcing the capacities of public administrations through the provision of a CESBA MED transnational methodology and a set of tools, coming from the capitalization of several EU projects, able to optimise sustainability planning measures combining the building and urban scale.
- Developing an innovative decision making model to support the definition and implementation of actions targeted to improve the sustainability of buildings in the context of their urban areas.
- Transferring the CESBA MED methodology and tools through training courses, seminars, workshops and publications.

CESBA MED capitalises existing knowledge from 14 previous EU-funded projects, Urban Scale Assessment Tools, and EU Common Framework Initiatives that support the development of energy and sustainability plans for buildings in the context of their surrounding neighborhoods. By doing so, CESBA MED has identified and tested the most affordable, operational and suitable assessment criteria and method for the Mediterranean region at building and neighborhood scales.

# Process of Evolving CESBA Sustainable Neighborhood Tool (CESBA SN-Tool)



Separate tools are used to assess retrofit projects at urban and building scale. To be used, these tools need to be contextualized according to local issues and strategic local policies. The contextualization is needed both at urban and building scales.

In order to provide assessment tools which are both complete and user-friendly, a generic framework has been developed. After the selection of a limited number of the most relevant indicators using the “CESBA MED Generic Framework Tool” (GF tool), the user continues the assessment with a second tool called “CESBA SNTTool”.

The CESBA SN-Tool is based on the evaluation of the test results of several EU project outcomes, a general framework and 8 regionally contextualized versions of the CESBA SN assessment tools (Piemonte, Friuli Venezia Giulia, PACA, Rhône Alpes, Catalonia, Malta, Croatia, Greece) have been developed together with an application methodology.

The tools are intended to support decision-makers and the managers of public building stocks in the

implementation of sustainability retrofitting plans combining the building and the urban scale in order to adapt the tools to their specific contexts, needs and priorities.

## Why assessment tools?

- Provision of objective and reliable information to support decision making processes.
- Possibility to set reliable, measurable and verifiable performance targets for urban areas and buildings, based on quantitative indicators.
- Provision of a reference common framework for stakeholders.
- Easy comparison among urban areas and countries.
- Easy communication among stakeholders.
- Development of a common vocabulary for environmental assessment.

# Contextualization of the CESBA MED Generic Framework to produce the local CESBA MED SNTools

The CESBA MED Generic Framework (CESBA MED GF) is a transnational generic multicriteria assessment system for rating the sustainability performance of urban areas and public buildings.

“Generic” means that the CESBA MED GF needs to be configured to carry out an assessment on a specific urban area or building. The configuration process consists in the contextualization of the CESBA MED GF to local conditions in order to reflect the specific sustainability priorities and practices. The contextualization takes place through the selection of the preferred assessment criteria and the assignment of a weight and a scoring scale to each of them. Local sustainability priorities are set up assigning a regional weight to the assessment criteria.

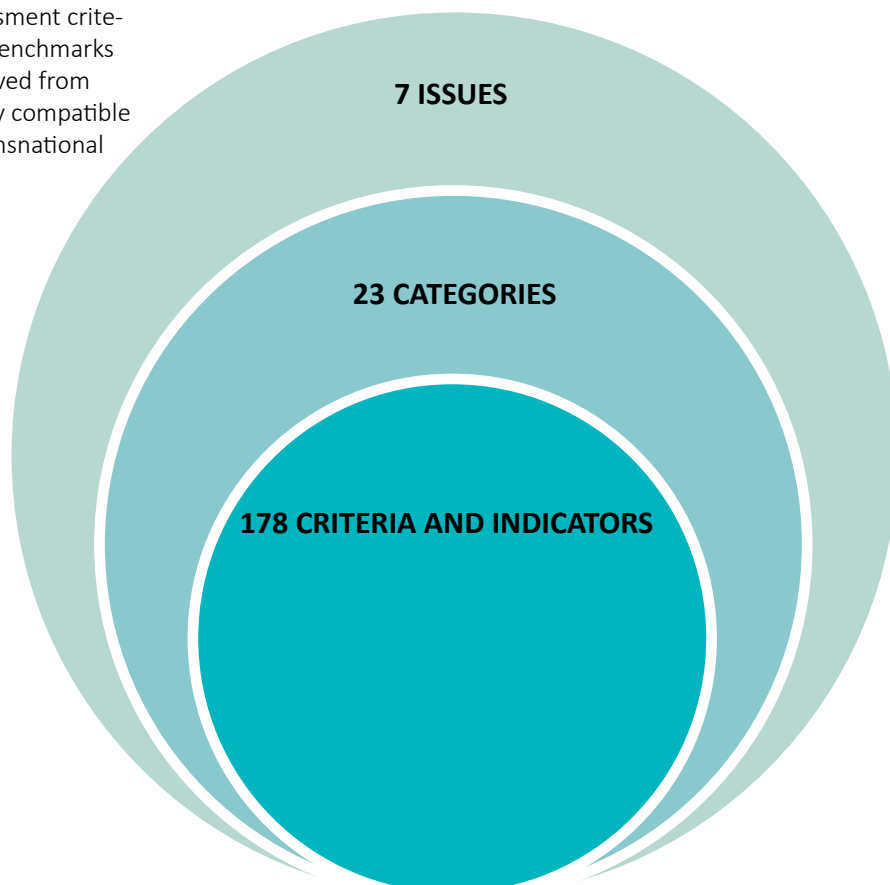
Through the contextualization process, it is possible to produce local assessment tools for rating the sustainability of any urban area or building in the Mediterranean. The local systems derived from the CESBA MED GF are named “CESBA SNTool + city name” (i.e. CESBA SNTool Torino, etc.). The CESBA MED GF is not operational and can’t be used as it is. It always needs to be adapted to local conditions.

The contextualization allows to reflect the local practice, regulations, standards and level of advancement in the sustainability field through the possibility to define a local performance scale for each assessment criterion. Despite the different weights and benchmarks of assessment tools (CESBA SNTool) derived from the CESBA MED GF, the results are totally compatible because they are based on the same transnational methodology.

For sustainable neighborhoods the Urban Scale Generic Framework allows measuring the performance reached by an urban area (neighborhood, block or cluster) with regards to 7 main issues and to give a rating to it. The 7 issues are:

- A- Built Urban System
- B- Economy
- C- Energy
- D- Atmospheric Emissions
- E- Non-Renewable Resources
- F- Environment
- G- Social Aspects

The module contains 178 assessment criteria and relative indicators organized in 23 categories. All criteria measure an objective performance on the base of a specific assessment method. The module allows measuring the actual sustainability of an urban area and its potential future performance on the base of possible scenarios.



# From the CESBA MED Generic Framework to the local CESBA MED SNTools

## Step 1: Select relevant indicators on the „CESBA MED GF Tool“

The user selects among the 178 indicators the ones that are relevant according to the retrofitting project and local issues. Among these 178 indicators the CESBA team selected 16 key performance indicators (KPIs) that should be selected by all users of the tool. They represent a passport through the use of a common and limited set of indicators shared by all CESBA MED assessment tools.

## Step 2: Rating the level of priority of all 7 issues on the „CESBA MED GF Tool“

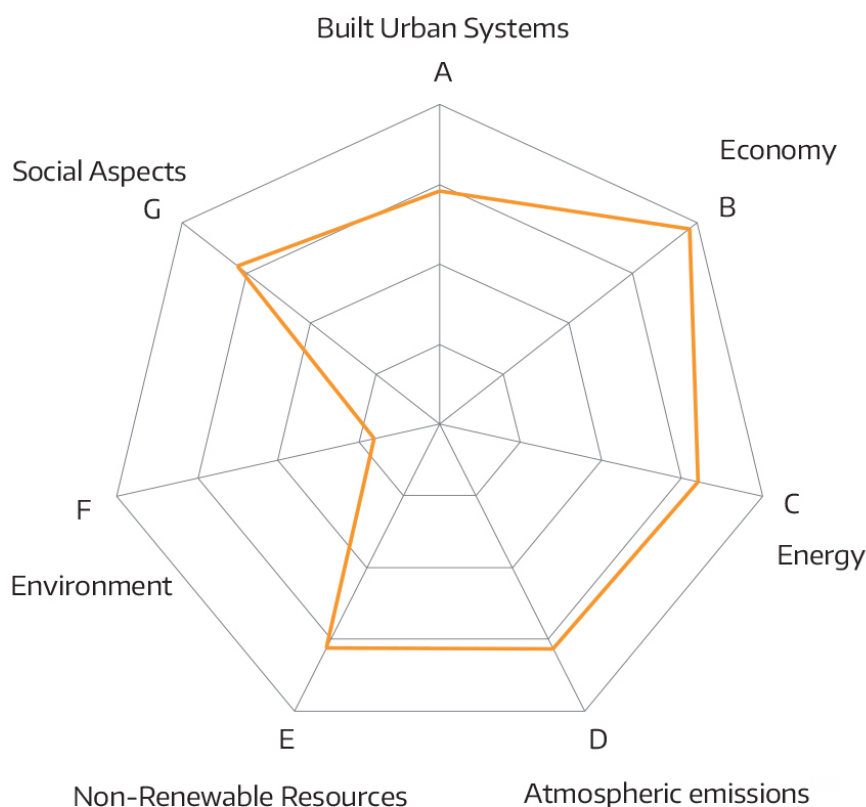
For each of the 7 issues, the user sets the level of priority from 1 (less important) to 3 (more relevant).

## Step 3: Benchmark of all selected indicators using the „CESBA MED GF Tool“

For each selected indicator, the user provides 3 values representing the local best practice, the local minimum practice and the local non acceptable practice. Thanks to these values, it is possible to benchmark the retrofitting project for each indicator with local practice. Thanks to this benchmark, it is also possible to get a value without unit for each indicator on a 1 to 5 points scale. Then scores of indicators belonging to the same issue can be added to get an aggregated score for the whole issue.

## Step 4: Rating the level of priority of all selected indicators using the „CESBA MED GF Tool“

Finally, each selected indicator is weighted according to 4 additional factors: Primary issue or system affected (rating using a 1 to 3 points scale); Impact of potential effect (rating using a 1 to 3 points scale); Extent of potential effect (rating using a 1 to 5 points scale); Duration of potential effect (rating using a 1 to 5 points scale).



# CESBA MED Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are those criteria that are mandatory or at least recommended to be assessed in order to make the results of the assessment comparable to each other. For comparability, it is important to agree on a short and operative list of criteria that is manageable for data collection, calculation and feasible to be assessed. As all project partners have to deal with a huge variety of indicators both on urban and on building scale the CESBA MED project partners agreed on a set of 16 KPIs on urban scale and on 13 KPIs on building scale.

## Urban Scale KPIs:

### A - Built Urban System

#### A1.7: Conservation of Land

*To determine the proportion of land, considered to be of value for ecological or agricultural purposes, that remains undeveloped.*

Most urban areas exist in a state of continuous development and re-development, with the building stock and infrastructure undergoing concurrent construction, operation, renovation and demolition activities. In many cases development or re-development is inefficient in terms of the use of land that would otherwise be valuable for ecological or agricultural purpose. In this context, the amount of such land that remains undeveloped is useful information in developing strategies to ensure efficient urban development, while ensuring the integrity of ecological and agricultural services.

#### A3.3 Use stage energy cost for public buildings

*To assess the cost of energy services for public buildings.*

The annual operating energy costs are usually a significant part of the total operating costs. This criterion provides information on the actual energy costs of public buildings in the urban area.





## C - Energy

### C1.1 Total final thermal energy consumption for building operations

*To estimate urban thermal energy consumption for building operations.*

The criterion allows to understand the buildings' final thermal energy consumption in the use stage. Use stage energy consumptions are in general responsible for most of life cycle energy use in the case of buildings constructed before the turn of the millennium.

### C1.4 Total final electric energy consumption for building operations

*To estimate urban electric energy consumption for building operations.*

The criterion allows to understand the buildings' final electric energy consumption in the use stage. Use stage energy consumptions are in general responsible for most of the life cycle energy use in the case of buildings constructed before the turn of the millennium.

### C1.7 Total primary energy demand for building operations

*To reduce the need of primary energy for building operations.*

The criterion allows to understand the buildings' primary energy consumption in the area. "Primary energy" means energy from renewable and non-renewable sources which has not undergone any conversion or transformation process.

### C2.1 Share of renewable energy on-site, relative to total final thermal energy consumption for building operations

*To incentive the consumption and production of renewable energy.*

The criterion assesses the share of renewable thermal energy in final thermal energy consumptions and, by implication, the degree to which renewable fuels have substituted fossil and/or nuclear fuels and therefore contributed to the decarbonisation of the Mediterranean area economy. It also shows the progress towards Europe 2020 target for renewable energies.

### C2.7 Share of renewable energy on-site, on final electric energy consumptions

*To incentive the consumption and production of renewable energy.*

The criterion assesses the share of renewable electric energy in final electric energy consumptions and, by implication, the degree to which renewable fuels have substituted fossil and/or nuclear fuels and therefore contributed to the decarbonisation of the Mediterranean area economy. It also shows the progress towards Europe 2020 target for renewable energies.

## D - Atmospheric Emissions

### D1.2 Total GHG Emissions from primary energy used in building operations

*To minimise the total greenhouse gas emissions from buildings' operations.*

The criterion measures the contribution of the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with the building's operational phase on the earth's global warming or climate change. The Global Warming Potential (GWP) was developed to allow the comparison of the impact on global warming caused by different gases. Specifically, it is a relative measure of how much energy can be trapped in the atmosphere over a set time horizon by a mass of gas in comparison with the same mass of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). A higher GWP means a larger warming effect in that period of time.

## E- Non-Renewable Resources

### E1.6 Consumption of potable water for residential population

*Make efficient use of water resources.*

The criterion measures the potable water consumption of sanitary fittings/devices and water consuming appliances by residential population.

### E1.7 Consumption of potable water for public non-residential building systems

*Make efficient use of water resources.*

The criterion measures the potable water consumption of sanitary fittings/devices and water consuming appliances by non-residential public buildings.

## F - Environment

### F1.3 Recharge of groundwater through permeable paving or landscaping

*To improve the permeability of the area.*

Permeability of land is the capacity to transmit water to soil. It is a very important issue connected to the water recharging of aquifers and the reduction of effluents. Soil sealing- the covering of the ground by an impermeable material – is one of the main causes of soil degradation in the EU. Soil sealing often affects and increases the risk of flooding and water scarcity and contributes to global warming.

### F2.3 Ambient air quality with respect to particulates <10µm (PM<sub>10</sub>) over a one year period

*To assess the long-term ambient air quality with respect to particulates <10 µm (PM<sub>10</sub>) in the local area.*

Particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) pollution consists of very small liquid and solid particles floating in the air. PM<sub>10</sub> is a mixture of materials that can include smoke, soot, dust, salt, acids, and metals. Particulate matter also forms when gases emitted from motor vehicles and industry undergo chemical reactions in the atmosphere. PM<sub>10</sub> is among the most harmful of all air pollutants. When inhaled these particles evade the respiratory system's natural defences and lodge deep in the lungs. The criterion allows to evaluate the level of exposition of inhabitants to PM<sub>10</sub> in the urban area.



## G - Social Aspects

### G2.1 Public transport service

*To determine the performance of the public transportation system.*

Most urban areas are serviced by a public transportation service, but the quality of service, including the density of the route network, scheduling to suit the needs of the local population and affordable fares, vary widely.

### G2.4 Quality of pedestrian and bicycle network

*To promote cycling and walking as an alternative to vehicle use by providing a safe and efficient mobility network.*

Travelling by bicycle or by foot means less cars on the roads which reduces traffic congestion. Efficient alternative and environmentally-friendly modes of transport are key to not only improve mobility but the quality of life as well. Increasing zero emission mobility is crucial to lower the carbon footprint of human activities.

### G4.2 Availability and proximity of key services

*To determine the accessibility and proximity of key services for local residents (e.g. schools, sports facilities, supermarket, community buildings, etc.).*

Convenient locations of key services for access by residents is a major factor in reducing the use of private vehicles and in ensuring that residents can obtain access to the services they need.

### G6.3 Community involvement in urban planning activities

*To raise the level of community involvement in planning through the redistribution of power. The assessment is therefore about:*

- *How much citizens (inhabitants and users) are integrated to the planning process?*
- *How much their opinion is taken into consideration?*
- *How much they drive the planning agenda?*
- *Are people “planned for” by external experts or are they part of the decision-making process?*
- *Is there a dichotomy between the planners holding power (and supposedly knowledge) and citizens?*

The Arnstein ladder, built by Sherry Arnstein (SA), is the reference for community planning assessment. Her work remains the basis of current research on citizen involvement in planning. The proposed assessment process is therefore based on the SA ladder and further development from Hélène Chelzen and Anne Jégou in 2015 which tends to take into consideration recent evolution in practices.





## Building Scale KPIs

The buildings scale KPIs were developed in coordination with DG environment und LEVEL(s) (a EU voluntary reporting framework to improve the sustainability of buildings).

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| B1.1 Primary energy demand  | B4.5 Potable water consumption for indoor uses |
| B1.2 Delivered thermal energy demand                                    | C1.3 Global Warming potential                  |
| B1.3 Delivered electric energy demand                                   | C3.2 Solid waste from building operation       |
| B1.5 Energy from renewable sources in total thermal energy consumption  | D1.10 Ventilation rate                         |
| B1.6 Energy from renewable sources in total electric energy consumption | D2.2 Thermal comfort index                     |
| B1.11 Embodied non-renewable primary energy                             | G1.4 Use stage energy cost                     |
|   | G1.5 Use stage water cost                      |

# CESBA MED Passport

The CESBA MED passport is transnational document including a set of common criteria, indicators and metrics developed by the project CESBA MED. The passport allows the comparison of the performance reached by public buildings and urban areas in the different Mediterranean regions and allows a common way to display the results identified. The CESBA MED Passport is available in two versions: one for buildings and one for neighborhoods.

## Comparing the performance of buildings on transnational level

The score produced by a rating system is valid only for the geographical area where the building is realized, as it reflects the local priorities and construction practice. Therefore, it is impossible to set common performance benchmarks between regions. To be able to compare the performance of buildings at transnational level, it is necessary to use indicators expressed in absolute values, not scores. This is the key principle of the CESBA Passport.

## Functionality of CESBA Building Passport

Beyond the usual score typical of each rating system reported on the certificate, the CESBA Building Passport informs about the performance of the construction by providing the absolute values of the CESBA Key Performance Indicators KPIs (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>, kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>, m<sup>3</sup>, etc.). In this way it becomes possible to compare the performance of buildings assessed by different certification systems in different geographical areas. In all CESBA harmonized systems, the CESBA KPIs have to be adopted and included in the certification system. This means that they will be calculated as part of the performance assessment of the building, and then be, on one hand, normalized with the other criteria to produce the building's rating score, and on the other, used in the CESBA Building Passport. The certificates issued by the different CESBA harmonized systems will have to include a transnational section with a common format to illustrate the CESBA Building Passport: to do so, the values of the quantitative and qualitative KPIs will be listed in the common CESBA part of the building certificate issued by the specific rating system. The results of the quantitative indicators will also be graphically represented on a radar chart.



# CESBA MED Decision Making Process Model

CESBA MED has designed a model of decision-making process intended to support the public administrations in the definition of the best sustainable retrofit scenarios for small urban areas and buildings in the context of their urban environment. This decision-making process is articulated in 6 phases.



## Get the right people around the table

Make sure that the following stakeholders are involved:

- Project managers, planning and design teams
- End-users and external parties

## Adapt the CESBA MED tools to your specific context

- Contextualize the CESBA MED tools by prioritizing criteria
- Find accurate information sources for the selected criteria

## Evaluate the level of sustainability of your building or your urban area

- Get the current picture of your building or your urban area using the contextualized Sustainable Neighbourhood (SN) tool

## Identify constraints and set targets

- Set ambitious but achievable targets for each selected indicator
- List global and local constraints

## Build and rank scenarios

- Use the SN tool to compare various scenarios
- Rank them using a quantitative methodology

## Transform the selected scenario into a concrete project

- Illustrate the strategies
- Specify the performance improvement
- Provide a cost/benefit analysis

# Learnings and Recommendations in implementing CESBA MED Assessment Tools



The CESBA MED methodology and tools have been piloted and implemented in 8 different urban contexts in 7 countries from the Mediterranean region. To capitalise these results an integrated group of actions has been put in place and several learnings and conclusions can be drawn:

- Using harmonised assessment systems fosters the reach of greater sustainability standards in the built environment. These systems facilitate the adequate measurement of sustainability performance, allowing regular monitoring and proper comparability of results against other scenarios and/or urban areas.
- Having access to reliable data and information is essential to adequately assess the sustainability performance of the urban environment. Ensuring regular access to data and information allows the adoption of good monitoring practices, resulting in better policy formulation and implementation.
- Using the neighbourhood scale is optimal to reach significant and cost-effective sustainability improvements. Between the building and the district scales, neighbourhoods allow the full exploitation of the existing potential synergies between the different urban scales.
- Each urban area has its own unique characteristics. For this reason, it is important to use disaggregated data and information and assessment systems that can be well adapted to the specific contexts, needs and priorities of the areas to be assessed.
- Consulting, dialoguing and involving citizens in the assessment of the built environment is key to ensure that local knowledge and priorities are adequately considered and integrated. This ensures an adequate adaptation of the assessment process to the local conditions.

## Promoting a new culture of the built environment in Europe

Based on the learnings of the CESBA MED project, a series of recommendations have been formulated to optimise sustainability planning measures in the built environment and aim at promoting a new culture of the built environment in Europe, with special attention to the Mediterranean region.

### CESBA MED recommendations:

- Ensure the mainstreaming of sustainability in urban planning and management.
- Promote the use of harmonised assessment tools to measure, monitor and compare the sustainability of the urban environment.
- Make environmental data accessible to public administrations.
- Seek alternative schemes to fund sustainable urban initiatives, specially at local level.
- Promote the harmonisation of assessment systems, labels or certificates as instruments to reach greater sustainability standards in the built environment.
- Integrate the economic and social dimensions in all urban project interventions.
- Regularly involve citizens and stakeholders on sustainable urban development.
- Organise regular training to better equip professionals and public officers in the field of sustainable urban development.

# “Working together, learning from each other, going further”

## CESBA MED Training System

The CESBA MED Training System is crucial to ensure a correct use of the CESBA MED tools and methodology by the main target groups and the widest transferring in the MED area. To develop an appropriate training system to be tested during project implementation and continuation after its conclusion will ensure a balanced and sustainable development of MED area urban districts through the improvement of local policies. A roadmap approach demands constant learning, follow-up and continuous improvement in order to adjust to new conditions. The training system is basically targeted to tools users (technical profile) and decision-makers (political, management profile). The system includes programs, training materials and an e-learning platform.

## Dedicated training material, toolkit and e-courses available in 7 languages

In 2019, 17 pilot courses with a total of 266 professionals have been trained to the tool in Europe.

Online courses for policy makers and technicians are available to get familiar with the CESBA MED assessment tools. All the materials (training material for understanding and customising the tool, calculating indicators, including presentations) and a toolkit for implementation, are available online in the different partners languages (English, French, Italian, Croatian, Spanish, Greek and Maltese) on our e-learning platform. Register for free on the e-platform of the University of Malta: <https://cesba-med.research.um.edu.mt>



# Further Project Results

## CESBA Sprintworkshops

At European level, 2 CESBA Sprintworkshops (Bezau/Vorarlberg and Malta) gathered professionals from all over the continent for a 3days workshop to discuss sustainability issues, to develop new agendas and tackle upcoming challenges. Moderators guided the participants through the thematic topics such as latest challenges in the built environment, capacity to act, energy renovation in buildings, pooling resources, tools & indicators, circular economy and CESBA City Network. Creative methods of dialogue were implemented to bring out inputs, to develop joint solutions for a continuous improvement of buildings, neighborhoods and spatial planning and to give birth to collective statements. Watch the Sprint Workshop Videos on: <https://www.cesba.eu/sprint-workshop> Contact CESBA to be informed on the next Sprintworkshop: [office@cesba.eu](mailto:office@cesba.eu)

## CESBA Neighborhood Award

CESBA MED has been actively supporting and promoting the CESBA Neighbourhood Award (CNA) during the project implementation. The CNA communicates the CESBA MED methodology, promotes regional retrofit projects and is an official recognition created to showcase and acknowledge best practices of good neighbourhood developments. The Award is a European section of the Global Urban Challenge 2020 of the Sustainable Built Environment series. The CNA fosters a competitive challenge for urban areas in three main categories. The winners of the 2019 CNA Edition were the following:

- Category New Developments: Zac Castellane (Sathonay-Camp, Auvergne Rhône-Alpes, France).
- Category Areas under a planned or project phase retrofitting: El Cabanyal (Valencia, Comunidad Valenciana, Spain) and Schnifis (Vorarlberg, Austria).
- Category Existing retrofitted areas: Strubergasse (Salzburg, Austria).



## CESBA MED Policy Paper

The CESBA MED policy paper is a relevant document to disseminate the project's main contributions and recommendations in the field of urban sustainable development. This document is intended to provide valuable inputs to policy-makers and key decision-makers at various levels (local/regional, national and at EU-level) concerning energy and sustainability retrofit plans, programs and actions for the built environment.

## CESBA MED Guide

The CESBA MED Guide is a methodological document whose main objective is to facilitate the implementation of the results of the CESBA MED project, thus guaranteeing their durability, in policies, plans and regulations for the improvement of sustainability in the built environment. It aims to support public administrations in the definition of the best sustainability scenarios for small urban areas and buildings in the context of their urban environment.

The CESBA MED guide is a useful resource for the sustainable management of building stocks, for the formulation, revision and assessment of public policies related to the urban environment, and for the inclusion of sustainability principles in urban design and planning.

## CESBA MED Cities Network

The Cities Network is a formal network of cities in the context of the CESBA initiative to support the dissemination and adoption of the project's outcomes. It allows increasing the number of building stock owners/managers adopting the CESBA MED tools and methodology. The activities of the network are facilitated by a policy paper and a methodological guideline.



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The project CESBA MED is supported by the Interreg Mediterranean Programme.

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# CESBA MED -

## Sustainable Neighborhoods

### Recommendations for Technical Experts

October 2019

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Common European Sustainable Built Environment Assessment (CESBA)

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Project co-financed by the European  
Regional Development Fund