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THE SRI-FAQ



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D1.2 THE SRI-FAQ

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Authors

Author	Institution	Contact e-mail
Laura Martínez	Cleopa GmbH	lmartinez@cleopa.de
Detlef Olschewski	Cleopa GmbH	dolschewski@cleopa.de

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Work Package Leader	REHVA
Technical Manager	Euphyia
Coordinator	CyRIC

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Deliverable 1.2 “the SRI-FAQ” is part of the Smart² project’s objective to bring the Smart Readiness Indicator closer to European citizens. The deliverable focuses on Task 1.2, which aims to release the SRI-FAQ guide, a resource to simplify knowledge and understanding about SRI. The guide collects (at least) 100 most relevant questions coming from roundtable and digital discussions with ordinary citizens, providing simple answers using laypeople’s terms.

The SRI-FAQ website, hosted under the www.sri-faq.eu domain, serves as a parallel initiative of the project and offers a user-friendly design with responsive features.

Overall, this website development significantly contributes to bridging the gap between SRI and EU citizens, enhancing accessibility to valuable information about the SRI in general, its implementation and methodology.

The website was planned with all participating partners, in order to have a sustainable platform for the questions which were elaborated in the in-person and virtual roundtables.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope and objectives of the deliverable

The Deliverable D1.2 “The SRI-FAQ” is related to Task 1.2 The FAQ Initiative and is part of the WP1 “Collecting the information for bringing the gap between SRI and EU citizens”.

WP1 intends to provide the relevant tools and mechanisms for gathering the necessary information for the delivery of the required tools to allow the SRI uptake and to bridge the gap between the SRI and the EU citizens.

More specifically the objectives of Task 1.2 are:

- Understand the essential needs of ordinary citizens in relation to the procedures for issuing and understanding the SRI certificate.
- Organize roundtable discussions with ordinary citizens of the European Union to collect the most 100 relevant questions to be included in the FAQ guide.
- Provide straightforward answers to the most frequently asked questions using layman’s language.
- Release the FAQ guide, an initiative to simplify knowledge and understanding about SRI, under the www.sri-faq.eu domain.
- Ensure the website remains up-to-date and maintain it beyond the project’s completion.

1.2 Structure of the deliverable

D1.2 The SRI-FAQ guide is structured according to the following sections:

- Section 2 includes the methodology used for the conduction of the roundtable discussions and the collection of questions.
- Section 3 describes the development of the SRI-FAQ website, in terms of structure and content.

1.3 Relation to other tasks and deliverables

The SRI FAQ guide serves not only as a resource for citizens but also contributes to pre-standardisation activities outlined in Task 4.4, which are concerned with SRI-related standards. The guide’s content and outcomes will be considered in these activities, aiming to harmonise and establish standards in the SRI domain. Moreover, it shall serve as an entry point to people curious about SRI to the myriad of resources fostering the SRI uptake that the Smart² project puts forward. For example, the SRI Observatory – Task 1.3, the SRI Virtual Training Centre – Task 5.3, etc.

2. Methodology

2.1 The 5+5 concept for roundtable discussions

This section describes the methodology used for collecting the questions for the FAQ guide and structuring the SRI-FAQ website.

Within the SRI FAQ initiative, the project team has been requested to organize 10 roundtable discussions and 50 digital discussions with ordinary citizens of the European Union. These interactions served as valuable sources of input, helping identify the perception of the society on the SRI and their main concerns and questions related to SRI.

The 5+5 concept, which has been successfully used in other international projects, has been applied for the implementation of the roundtable discussions. The overall aim of this methodology is to have groups of three-four participants with whom discuss about smart homes (first five-minute round) and Smart Readiness Indicator (second five-minute round). The 5+5 concept poses as an inversed interview style, so after a short introduction by the mediator of each organisation, participants are invited to ask questions that come to their minds in regard with those topics. The questions should not have a yes/no answer but must be descriptive and qualitative. The 5+5 concept was a methodology suggested by Cleopa GmbH, based on the fruitful experience coming from other projects. However, each project partner may have adapted it or have used a different methodology according to their needs and resources.

Either way, the roundtables have clearly facilitated open and interactive conversations, allowing participants to share their perspectives, seek clarifications, and raise queries about SRI. The diverse backgrounds and experiences of the participants ensured a broad range of questions and topics covered, creating a comprehensive understanding of the citizens' knowledge gaps and informational needs.

2.2 Roundtables outcomes

A total of 50 roundtable discussions were conducted by nine partners (Arcadis, ASRO, Cleopa GmbH, CyRIC, EnEffect, Euphyia, IsZEB, REHVA, and R2M) as part of the Smart² project. These roundtables served as valuable actions for engaging with ordinary citizens and gathering insights and questions related to the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI). The discussions yielded significant outcomes, with more than 300 questions collected thus far. These outcomes provide important insights into the essential needs and concerns of citizens regarding SRI and contribute to the development of the SRI FAQ guide and website.

The more than 300 questions collected during the roundtables encompass various aspects of SRI, including its definition, benefits, assessment, financial implications, and practical procedures related to SRI certificates, among others. All these questions reflect the interests and concerns of ordinary citizens, showcasing their eagerness to comprehend the complexities of SRI and its implications for responsible and sustainable investment practices. By identifying the most relevant and frequently asked questions, the team can ensure that the guide addresses the citizens' pressing concerns and provides clear, concise, and accessible answers. Therefore, the questions have been carefully reviewed, categorized, and prioritized to develop a comprehensive set of responses. Therefore, the final number of relevant questions (having discarded the repeated or not-so-relevant ones) is around 150.

Below is a list of the number of roundtables organised per project partner:

- Arcadis: 5 roundtables
- ASRO: 6 roundtables
- Cleopa GmbH: 15 roundtables
- CyRIC: 1 roundtable

- EnEffect: 6 roundtables
- Euphyia: 2 roundtables in workshop format with a large group of participants
- IsZEB: 4 roundtables
- REHVA: 5 roundtables
- R2M: 6 roundtables

2.3 Categorisation of questions

As mentioned above, after collecting all the questions from the roundtable discussions, a comprehensive review process was carried out to categorize and refine the collected inquiries. The first step involved identifying questions that were repeated across multiple discussions. These repetitive questions were then merged or combined, consolidating similar queries into a single representative question. This step helped streamline the content and eliminate redundancies, ensuring that the final set of questions covered the essential topics without duplications.

In the next phase of the review process, questions that did not contribute significantly to the overall understanding of SRI or lacked coherence were identified and removed. These questions, which did not make much sense or were unclear, were therefore excluded from the final selection.

Finally, the most relevant and impactful questions were carefully selected. These questions addressed the core aspects of SRI that were of utmost importance to European citizens. By focusing on these questions, the task leader aimed to provide comprehensive and meaningful answers that would facilitate a deeper understanding of SRI and its practical applications.

The categories of questions drawn from this review process are listed below:

- Definition, purpose, and framework
- Benefits
- Obstacles and challenges
- Complexity
- Mandatory
- Calculation
- Assessment
- Assessor
- Methodology
- Users
- Certification
- Building types
- Building performance and energy efficiency
- Climate zones
- Domains
- Programs and incentives
- Availability and implementation in Member States
- Documentation and tools
- Energy companies / other companies
- Devices
- Regulations

3. SRI FAQ website development

3.1 Design

The SRI FAQ is a parallel initiative of the Smart² project and is published under the www.sri-faq.eu domain. It is based on the interaction of the consortium members with plain EU citizens, and it is aimed to bring SRI knowledge to users in a simplified way and using not too technical language.

The categorization and refinement process made in the previous stage ensures that the SRI FAQ website features a well-curated collection of questions that truly represents the concerns and interests of EU citizens. By including them on the FAQ website, citizens that visit the site will have access to a diverse array of relevant and frequently asked questions about SRI.

The SRI-FAQ website has been designed with a user-friendly interface, prioritizing simplicity, and intuitive user experience. Recognizing the diverse audience of the website, including citizens with varying levels of familiarity with SRI, special attention has been given to ensure that the website is accessible and easy to navigate.

The design incorporates clear and concise language, making complex concepts of SRI easily understandable for users and is aligned with the Smart² colour scheme. The website's responsive design allows optimal viewing and interaction across different devices, including desktop, tablets, and smartphones.

3.2 Structure and contents

The SRI-FAQ website incorporates a well-organized structure, intuitive layout, and categorization system so that users can quickly find they information they are looking for, enhancing their overall online experience. Users can find all the categories prominently displayed on the homepage, allowing them to quickly identify the areas of interest they want to explore.

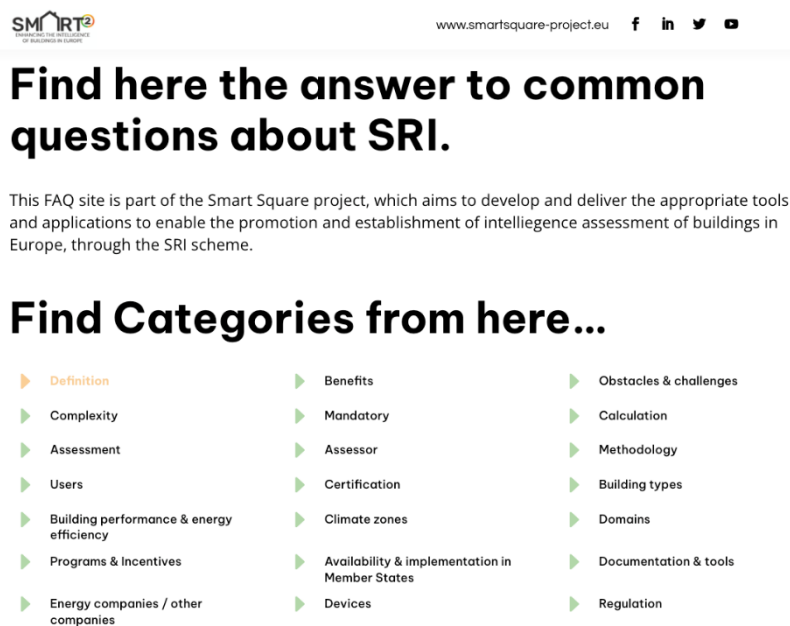


Figure 1: SRI-FAQ Homepage

Additionally, to ensure seamless navigation, each page/section of the website features a clear and accessible menu at the top, enabling users to access the categories from anywhere within the site.

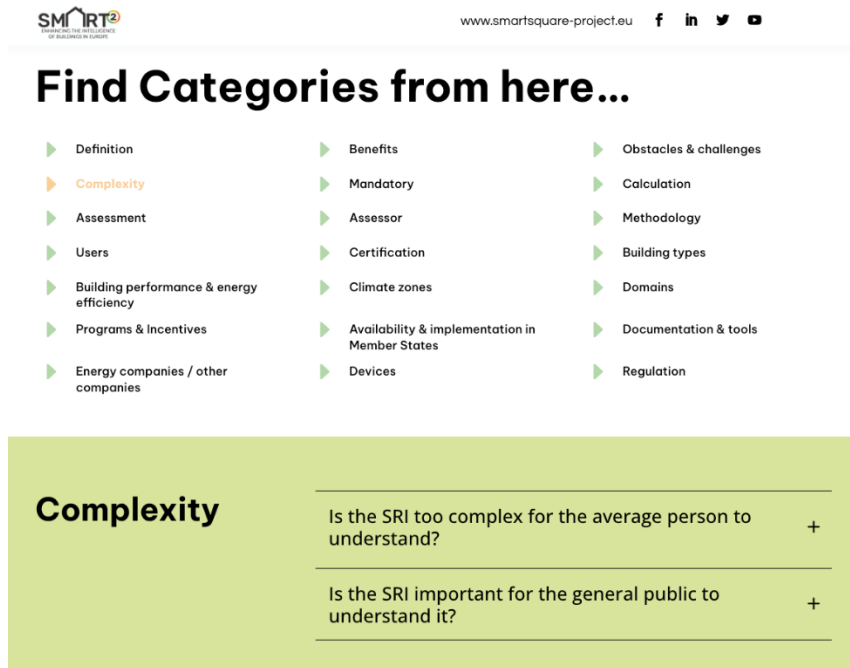


Figure 2: Categories menu

Each category has its dedicated page, which serves as a comprehensive resource for all the questions and answers related to that specific topic. Users can navigate to the desired category page and find a compilation of questions that fall within that particular subject area. This organization ensures that users can quickly locate the information they are looking for, without the need to navigate through unrelated content.

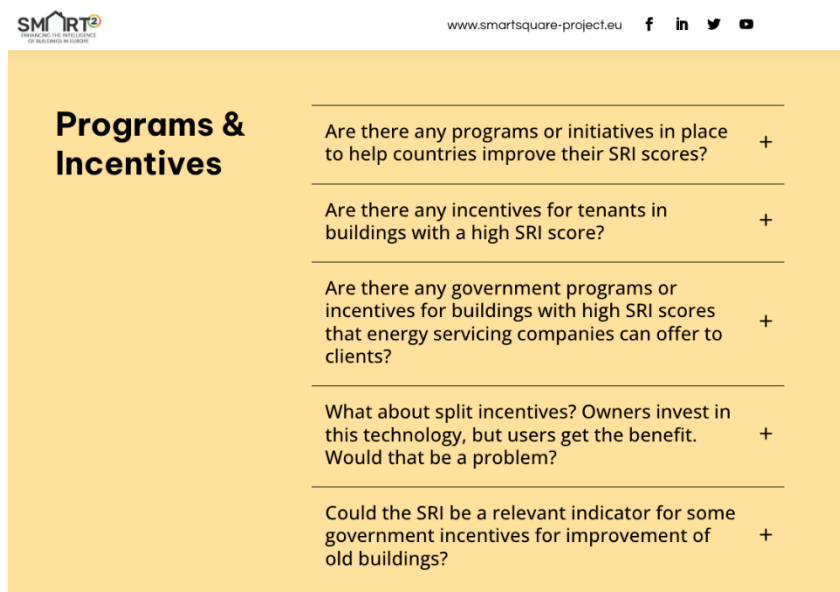


Figure 3: Specific category

The website incorporates a dedicated contact section which provides users with the means to seek further assistance, ask additional questions related to SRI, or provide valuable feedback. Users can utilize the provided contact information to reach out to the project team behind the website.

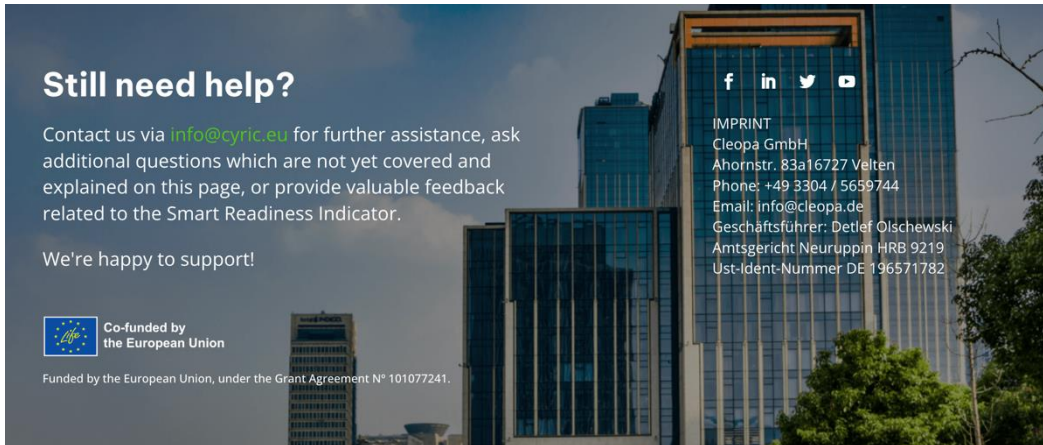


Figure 4: Contact information

4. Conclusions

The completion of Deliverable D1.2, “The SRI-FAQ”, marks a significant milestone in the Smart² project’s objective of bringing the Smart Readiness Indicator closer to European citizens. Through the comprehensive process of organizing roundtable and digital discussions, the project partners successfully gathered valuable insights and questions from ordinary citizens regarding the procedures for issuing and understanding the SRI certification.

The outcome of the roundtables conducted resulted in a refined set of the most relevant concerns and questions that ordinary citizens have about the Smart Readiness Indicator. The SRI FAQ website addresses all these questions and their answers and serves as a tool for further enhancing the dissemination of SRI information. In this way, this platform not only promotes knowledge sharing but also facilitates a continuous dialogue between citizens and the project team, as it is expected to gather user feedback and be updated periodically.

To sum up, D1.2 has successfully achieved its objectives of understanding citizens’ needs, developing the SRI-FAQ guide, and creating a user-friendly website. The SRI-FAQ guide will continue to serve as a valuable resource, promoting awareness, understanding, and engagement of the SRI, even beyond the project’s completion.

Appendix 1

Below is the list of questions and answers obtained (once filtered and categorised) from the roundtables. The current list includes the 100 most relevant questions. However, as the number of questions collected is indeed higher, additional questions will be added throughout the project. Thus, the list will be updated for future releases of the website.

1. Definition, purpose, and framework

What is the Smart Readiness Indicator?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is a tool and methodology developed by the European Union to assess the smart readiness of buildings. The SRI aims to evaluate the capability of a building to effectively use new technologies and services that enhance its energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and overall performance.

What is the SRI needed for?

The SRI is needed for the following purposes:

- Policy development: it assists in developing and implementing policies related to energy efficiency, sustainability, and smart technologies in buildings.
- Building renovation and retrofitting: it helps building owners and managers make informed decisions about integrating smart technologies and systems into existing buildings.
- Market transformation: it promotes the adoption of smart solutions in the construction and real estate sectors, driving innovation and sustainability.
- Consumer information: it provides valuable information to building occupants and potential buyers or renters, helping them make choices based on energy performance and comfort.
- Smart grid integration: it supports the integration of buildings with smart grids and enables demand response programs and energy management initiatives.

What do I need to start with SRI?

To start with the SRI, there are several key elements to be considered:

- SRI guidelines: you can familiarize yourself with the guidelines and documentation provided by the European Union regarding the SRI methodology.
- Technical expertise: building professionals or experts with knowledge in energy efficiency, building systems, and smart technologies play a crucial role in implementing the SRI. They are responsible for assessing the building's technical systems, conduct measurements, and interpret the data to determine its smart readiness.
- Data collection: Collect relevant data about the building's technical systems, energy consumption, and indoor environmental quality. This may involve gathering information on heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) systems, lighting, energy management systems, smart meters, and other relevant equipment. Additionally, data on the building's energy bills, occupancy patterns, and comfort levels may be required.
- Building Audits: Perform comprehensive audits of the building to assess its energy performance, thermal comfort, and indoor air quality. This can include inspections of insulation, HVAC systems, lighting, and control systems. Audits may also involve occupant surveys to understand their needs and preferences.
- Data Analysis: Analyze the collected data and compare it against the SRI criteria and benchmarks. This analysis will help determine the building's current smart readiness level and identify areas for improvement.

- **SRI Assessment Tool:** Utilize an SRI assessment tool, which may be a software application or an online platform, to calculate the SRI score based on the collected data and analysis. The tool will help streamline the assessment process and generate a standardized SRI report.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage with relevant stakeholders, including building owners, occupants, facility managers, and policymakers. Discuss the importance of the SRI, its benefits, and potential actions to enhance the building's smart readiness. Encourage collaboration and knowledge-sharing among stakeholders to drive the adoption of smart technologies and solutions.

Specific requirements and processes may vary depending on the region and local regulations. Therefore, it is essential to refer to the official guidelines and seek guidance from local authorities or experts who are familiar with the SRI implementation in your specific context.

What is the purpose of SRI implementation?

The purpose of implementing the SRI is to assess and enhance the smart readiness of buildings by evaluating various parameters related to energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and technical systems. It aims to:

- **Identify opportunities:** determine areas within a building where the integration of smart technologies and solutions can improve energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and overall performance.
- **Drive energy efficiency:** encourage adoption of energy efficiency practices and technologies in buildings, reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Enhance occupant comfort:** promote comfortable and healthy indoor environments by assessing factors like thermal comfort, air quality, and lighting conditions.
- **Support decision-making:** provide valuable information to building owners, occupants, and policymakers to support decision-making processes related to renovation, retrofitting, and new construction projects.
- **Foster innovation:** encourage the market to invest in smart technologies, creating opportunities for innovation and driving the development of sustainable building solutions.
- **Facilitate smart grid integration:** enable buildings to connect with smart grids and other external systems, supporting energy management strategies like demand response and load shifting.

How does the SRI relate to building management?

The SRI provides building managers with valuable information and guidance to optimize building performance, enhance occupant comfort, drive energy efficiency, and support effective management practices.

What information does the SRI provide?

The SRI provides various information related to the smart readiness of a building:

- **Smart Readiness Score:** the SRI assigns a numerical score to the building, indicating its level of smart readiness, which helps assess the building's current status and serves as a benchmark for comparison and improvement.
- **Technical systems assessment:** the SRI assesses the building's technical systems, including heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), lighting, energy management systems, and connectivity infrastructure. It provides information on the performance, efficiency, and integration potential of these systems.

- Energy performance evaluation: the SRI evaluates the energy performance of the building, considering factors such as energy consumption, insulation, renewable energy generation, and efficiency measures.
- Indoor environmental quality: the SRI considers parameters related to indoor environmental quality, such as thermal comfort, air quality, and lighting conditions.
- Smart technologies and services: the SRI examines the availability and potential integration of smart technologies and services in the building, including smart meters, energy storage systems, demand response capabilities, and other innovative solutions.
- Connectivity and integration: the SRI analyses the building's connectivity infrastructure and readiness to integrate with smart grids and other external systems. It identifies the building's ability to participate in demand response programs, load shifting, and other energy management initiatives.

How is the Smart Home concept related to the SRI?

The Smart Home concept is closely related to the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) as both revolve around leveraging technology to enhance the efficiency, comfort, and sustainability of residential buildings. The SRI provides a framework for evaluating the smart readiness of a building, including its technical systems and connectivity infrastructure, which are key components of a smart home. By assessing a building's smart readiness, the SRI helps identify areas where the integration of smart technologies, such as automated lighting, energy management systems, smart appliances, and connected devices, can transform a regular home into a smart, energy-efficient, and technologically advanced living space.

Why is the SRI coming from the EU?

The European Union recognizes the importance of improving energy efficiency and sustainability in buildings as part of its broader environmental and climate goals. The EU aims to drive the transition towards smarter, more sustainable buildings by promoting the adoption of smart technologies and practices. Thus, the SRI serves as a standardized tool and methodology to assess the smart readiness of buildings, enabling policymakers, building owners, and occupants to make informed decisions, prioritize energy-efficient measures, and support the development of a greener and more energy-conscious built environment.

How long has the SRI been around?

The SRI has been introduced relatively recently, with its development and implementation taking place in the last few years. While specific timelines may vary, the SRI framework and guidelines were developed by the European Union in the past decade as part of their efforts to promote energy efficiency and smart technologies in buildings.

How adaptive is the SRI to changes?

The SRI is designed to be adaptable to changes in technology, standards, and best practices. It acknowledges that the field of smart buildings is continuously evolving, and new technologies and approaches emerge over time. The SRI framework can be updated and revised to incorporate advancements in smart building technologies and industry developments. This adaptability ensures that the SRI remains relevant and effective in assessing the smart readiness of buildings, accommodating changing trends and enabling the continuous improvement of energy-efficiency, occupant comfort, and sustainability in the built environment.

Where can I find my current SRI?

The SRI is typically assessed and provided by qualified assessors or experts who evaluate the smart readiness of a building based on the established criteria and methodology. If you are looking for your building's SRI score, you may need to consult with professionals or authorities who have conducted an assessment of your specific buildings. They will be able to provide you with the relevant information regarding your building's SRI.

How do we involve people in the SRI? Do they need awareness on what the SRI is?

To involve people in the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI), it is crucial to raise awareness and provide education about what the SRI is and its significance. Building owners, occupants, and stakeholders need to understand the purpose, benefits, and relevance of the SRI in promoting energy, occupant comfort, and sustainability in buildings. By creating awareness, individuals can actively participate in the assessment process, provide necessary data, and make informed decisions based on the SRI outcomes. Involving people in the SRI requires engaging them in discussions, sharing information, and fostering collaboration to collectively drive the adoption of smart technologies and practices in buildings.

Is there a connection between AI and SRI?

Yes, there is a connection between Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) in the context of smart buildings. AI can be leveraged to enhance the functionality and efficiency of smart technologies within buildings, thereby contributing to their smart readiness. AI algorithms can optimize energy management systems, automate processes, and analyze data to improve energy efficiency and occupant comfort. Additionally, AI can enable predictive maintenance, identify patterns, and provide intelligent recommendations for building management. By incorporating AI technologies, buildings can achieve higher levels of smartness, aligning with the goals of the SRI to drive energy efficiency, sustainability, and enhanced performance.

What are the most common misconceptions about the SRI and how can they be addressed?

- SRI is solely focused on energy efficiency – Emphasize that SRI encompasses various aspects beyond energy efficiency, such as indoor environmental quality, occupant comfort, and the integration of smart technologies. Highlight that the SRI aims to create smarter, more sustainable buildings, considering a holistic approach to building performance.
- SRI is a mandatory certification or regulatory requirement – Clarify that the SRI is not a mandatory certification, but rather a framework and assessment tool to evaluate a building's smart readiness. The SRI provides valuable insights and information to support decision-making processes related to energy efficiency and smart technology integration, but its implementation may vary based on local regulations and policies.
- SRI is only applicable to new buildings – Explain that the SRI can be applied to both new and existing buildings. The assessment helps identify areas for improvement and retrofitting opportunities in existing buildings, supporting the transformation of the built environment towards smart and sustainable spaces.
- SRI is complex and requires extensive technical expertise – Simplify the understanding of the SRI by explaining its core principles and objectives. Encourage collaboration with qualified assessors or experts who can guide building owners through the assessment process. Promote user-friendly tools and resources that facilitate the implementation of the SRI, making it more accessible and manageable for a broader audience.

- SRI is a one-time assessment with fixed results – Emphasize that the SRI is not static but rather a tool for continuous improvement. Buildings can evolve and enhance their smart readiness over time by implementing smart technologies, adopting energy-efficient practices, and considering regular reassessments to track progress and adapt to changing needs.

By addressing the misconceptions through clear communication, education, and providing accurate information, stakeholders can develop a better understanding of the SRI and its value in driving sustainable and intelligent buildings.

2. Benefits

Who can benefit from using SRI?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) offers benefits to various stakeholders within the building sector. Building owners and managers can use the SRI to identify opportunities for improving energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and overall building performance. Policymakers can utilize the SRI to develop effective policies and regulations that promote sustainable and smart buildings. Occupants benefit from improved indoor environmental quality and enhanced comfort. Technology providers and manufacturers can use the SRI as a reference for developing innovative solutions that align with smart building requirements. Ultimately, the SRI serves as a valuable tool for all those involved in the construction, operation, and utilization of buildings, fostering sustainable practices, and driving the adoption of smart technologies.

What are the benefits of using the SRI? / of a building with SRI?

Using the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) or having a building with a high SRI offers several benefits, including:

- **Enhanced energy efficiency:** Buildings with a high SRI are likely to have optimized energy management systems, smart technologies, and energy-efficient features. This results in reduced energy consumption, lower utility bills, and a smaller carbon footprint.
- **Improved occupant comfort:** The SRI takes into account factors such as thermal comfort, air quality, and lighting conditions. Buildings with a high SRI provide a more comfortable and healthier indoor environment for occupants, promoting productivity and well-being.
- **Cost savings:** By improving energy efficiency and optimizing resource usage, buildings with a high SRI can lead to significant cost savings in terms of energy bills and maintenance expenses.
- **Sustainability and environmental impact:** Buildings with a high SRI contribute to sustainable development goals by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving resources, and supporting a greener and more environmentally friendly built environment.
- **Futureproofing:** Investing in a building with a high SRI ensures readiness for future technological advancements and changing regulations. It allows for easier integration with smart grids, renewable energy systems, and emerging smart technologies.
- **Market Value and Appeal:** Buildings with a high SRI often have increased market value and attractiveness to potential buyers or tenants who prioritize energy efficiency, sustainability, and occupant comfort.
- **Compliance and Certification:** A good SRI score can support compliance with energy performance regulations and certification schemes, such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) or BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method).

What are the benefits vs costs of the SRI implementation?

The implementation of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) offers numerous benefits that outweigh the associated costs. The benefits include enhanced energy efficiency, improved occupant comfort, cost savings through reduced energy consumption, sustainability and environmental impact reduction, futureproofing for technological advancements, increased market value, and compliance with regulations and certifications. While there may be upfront costs related to the assessment, implementation of smart technologies, and potential retrofits, the long-term benefits in terms of energy savings, operational efficiency, and occupant satisfaction make the SRI implementation a worthwhile investment for building owners, occupants, and society as a whole.

What benefits do I have, as an owner, if I invest in issuing the SRI certificate? / in assessing the smart readiness of my building?

Owners who invest in the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can have several benefits. Firstly, it enables them to enhance the performance of their building by identifying areas for improvement and optimizing energy efficiency, resulting in costs savings on energy bills and maintenance expenses. Secondly, a high SRI score and certification can increase the market value of the property, making it more attractive to potential buyers or tenants who prioritize sustainability and advanced technological capabilities. Thirdly, compliance with regulations and industry standards demonstrates a commitment to sustainability and can enhance the owner's reputation. Lastly, investing in the SRI ensures futureproofing, allowing seamless integration with emerging technologies and positioning the building for ongoing technological advancements. Overall, the SRI provides tangible benefits in terms of financial savings, market competitiveness, and long-term sustainability.

How does a higher score benefit a country and its citizens?

A high SRI score benefits a country and its citizens in several ways. Firstly, it promotes energy efficiency and reduces energy consumption, leading to reduced dependence on fossil fuels and lower carbon emissions, thus contributing to climate change mitigation efforts. Secondly, a higher SRI score means improved indoor environmental quality, enhancing the health and well-being of citizens. Thirdly, it drives the adoption of smart technologies and innovative solutions, fostering economic growth, job creation, and technological advancements within the country. Furthermore, a higher SRI improves the overall sustainability and attractiveness of the built environment, making the country more competitive globally and attracting investment and talent. Finally, a higher SRI score benefits both the country and its citizens by fostering a more sustainable, efficient, and livable environment.

Are there recommended values of the SRI rating to guarantee us maximum benefits or we should aim for 100%?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) does not have a specific recommended value or target rating that guarantees maximum benefits. The rating scale can vary depending on the specific methodology or certification system used. While aiming for a higher SRI score is generally beneficial, the specific target or threshold may depend on local regulations, building type, and regional considerations. It is important to understand that achieving a high SRI score should be viewed as a continuous improvement process, with incremental steps taken to enhance the smart readiness of the building over the time.

What are the incentives for organisations to work with the SRI tool next to other certification schemes?

Organisations have incentives to work with the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) tool alongside other certification schemes due to several reasons. Firstly, the SRI provides a standardized framework for assessing the smart readiness of buildings, offering a comprehensive evaluation of technical systems, energy efficiency and connectivity. By utilizing the SRI tool, organisations can gain valuable insights into the specific smart features and technologies of their buildings, enabling targeted improvements and optimisation. Secondly, integrating the SRI with other certification schemes such as LEED or BREEAM enhances the overall sustainability profile of the building. It demonstrates a commitment to both energy efficiency and advanced smart technologies, providing a holistic and comprehensive evaluation. Lastly, by incorporating the SRI, organisations can stay ahead of emerging trends in the building industry, adapt to changing regulations, and demonstrate their dedication to creating intelligent, sustainable, and futureproofing buildings, thus enhancing their market competitiveness and reputation.

What is the value proposition of the SRI?

The value proposition of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) lies in its ability to provide a comprehensive assessment of a building's smart readiness, considering energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and connectivity infrastructure. Unlike other certification schemes, the SRI is adaptable, compatible with various building standards and regulations, and supported by the European Union (EU), offering credibility and recognition at a European level. By working with the SRI, organisations can stay at the forefront of smart building trends, enhance market competitiveness, and contribute to the development of a common language and methodology for evaluating smart readiness.

In what ways can big real estate managers with international portfolios benefit from using the SRI as a common reference?

Big real estate managers with international portfolios can benefit from using the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) as a common reference in several ways. Firstly, the SRI provides a standardized assessment methodology that can be applied across different countries and regions, allowing for consistent evaluation of the smart readiness of buildings within their portfolio. This common reference enables comparisons, benchmarking, and identification of best practices across different markets. Secondly, by adopting the SRI as a common reference, real estate managers can demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and smart building practices, enhancing their reputation and attracting environmentally conscious investors and tenants. Thirdly, the SRI serves as a guide for decision-making and investment strategies, facilitating the prioritization of retrofitting and improvement projects based on the smart readiness indicators. It enables real estate managers to strategically allocate resources and prioritize investments that enhance energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and long-term value across their international portfolio. Ultimately, using the SRI as a common reference empowers real estate managers to optimize their portfolio's performance, align with global sustainability goals, and capitalize on the growing demand for smart and sustainable buildings.

Who can benefit from using the SRI as a useful tool, particularly in the context of building facility management?

Building facility managers can greatly benefit from using the SRI as it provides them with valuable insights into the smart readiness of a building, allowing to make informed decisions regarding energy efficiency measures, technology integration, and overall building management. The SRI act as a roadmap guiding

facility managers in implementing smart technologies, monitoring building performance, and ensuring efficient operation and maintenance practices. Additionally, the SRI assists facility managers in complying with regulations and certifications related to energy efficiency and sustainability.

How can the SRI be of added value for the public housing sector?

The Smart Readiness Indicator holds significant added value for the public housing sector. By leveraging the SRI, public housing authorities can assess the smart readiness of their housing stock, enabling them to prioritize retrofitting projects, optimize energy efficiency, and improve living conditions for residents. The SRI serves as a valuable tool for identifying opportunities to integrate smart technologies, enhance connectivity, and implement energy-efficient solutions within public housing developments. This can lead to reduced energy consumption, lower utility costs for residents, and improved indoor environmental quality. Furthermore, the SRI can support the development of sustainable housing strategies, inform policy decisions, and foster collaborations with technology providers and stakeholders in the public housing sector.

3. Obstacles & challenges

What are the potential obstacles to fulfilling smart building requirements and implementing the SRI?

The cost can be a significant barrier, as the adoption of smart technologies and infrastructure upgrades can involve substantial upfront investment. Building owners and managers may face financial challenges in retrofitting existing buildings or incorporating smart features into new constructions.

Interoperability and compatibility issues can arise when integrating various smart systems, devices, and protocols. Ensuring seamless communication and integration between different technologies can be complex and may require standardized protocols and robust technical solutions.

Additionally, a lack of awareness and knowledge about the benefits and implementation of smart building concepts can impede progress. Stakeholders, including building owners, managers, and occupants, may require education and training to understand the value proposition of smart buildings and the SRI.

Finally, regulatory barriers and outdated policies may not adequately support or incentivize the adoption of smart technologies and the implementation of the SRI. Overcoming these obstacles requires addressing financial considerations through incentives and financing mechanisms, promoting standardization and interoperability, raising awareness, and providing education, and updating policies and regulations to support the integration of smart building requirements and the SRI into the mainstream construction and facility management processes.

What concerns have been raised regarding the overlap and subjectivity of impact criteria in the SRI?

One concern is the potential overlap or redundancy of certain criteria, where multiple indicators may assess similar aspects of a building's smart readiness, leading to unnecessary complexity and potential confusion during the evaluation process. This could result in subjective interpretations and inconsistent results across assessments. Additionally, the subjectivity of impact criteria could introduce variations in the scoring process, as different assessors or certification schemes may assign different weights or interpretations to these criteria. This subjectivity raises questions about the objectivity and reliability of the SRI scores, as well as the comparability of assessments across different regions or certification schemes. Addressing these concerns requires refining the impact criteria, providing clearer guidance for

assessors, and establishing standardized methodologies to enhance the consistency and reliability of the SRI evaluations.

How can the SRI be used as a checklist for addressing different capabilities?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can be used as a checklist for addressing different capabilities by providing a structured framework for evaluating a building's smart readiness. The SRI encompasses various criteria and indicators that cover different aspects of smart capabilities, such as energy efficiency, connectivity, and functionality. By going through the SRI checklist, building owners, managers, and assessors can systematically assess and address each capability area. The checklist format allows for a comprehensive evaluation of the building's current status and helps identify areas for improvement. It serves as a roadmap, guiding stakeholders in implementing specific measures and technologies to enhance the building's smart readiness. By using the SRI as a checklist, organizations can ensure that they consider and address all relevant capabilities systematically, fostering a holistic approach to smart building implementation.

What challenges exist in implementing the SRI assessment in Germany due to the lack of certified EPC professionals? And how can they be addressed?

The shortage of certified professionals can lead to delays, limited availability, and increased costs for conducting SRI assessments as they play crucial roles in evaluating and providing energy performance certificates for buildings. To address these challenges, several measures can be taken:

- Promoting and incentivizing training programs for EPC professionals can help increase their numbers. Offering subsidies, grants, or specialized training courses can encourage professionals to acquire the necessary certification.
- Streamlining the certification process and reducing administrative burdens can attract more professionals to the field. Simplifying and standardizing the certification requirements, as well as improving the efficiency of certification process, can make it more accessible and appealing.
- Collaboration between industry stakeholders, government bodies, and educational institutions can facilitate the training and certification of EPC professionals. Partnering with universities and vocational training centers to develop relevant curricula and offer targeted programs can help meet the demand for certified professionals.

Overall, the shortage of certified EPC professionals requires a multi-faceted approach. By increasing the pool of certified professionals, the implementations of SRI assessments in Germany can be expedited and conducted more effectively.

What are the potential risks of negative public reception and barriers to adoption if the SRI implementation is not carefully planned?

One risk is the perception of the SRI as a burdensome and costly requirement. If the implementation lacks clear communication and fails to highlight the benefits and long-term value of the SRI, building owners, managers, and occupants may perceive it as an additional bureaucratic process or financial burden, leading to resistance and reluctance to participate.

Another risk is the potential for unequal implementation and impact across different building types and socioeconomic groups. If the SRI implementation does not consider the diverse range of buildings, including older or lower-income housing, there is a risk of exacerbating inequalities. The cost and feasibility of retrofitting certain buildings to meet SRI criteria may be higher, which can result in a lack of participation and hinder the overall adoption of the SRI.

Furthermore, inadequate stakeholder engagement and involvement can be a barrier to adoption. If key stakeholders are not engaged early in the process and their concerns, needs, and perspectives are not adequately considered, there may be resistance to implementing the SRI. Lack of awareness, education, and participation can lead to misconceptions, mistrust, and ultimately hinder the successful adoption of the SRI.

To mitigate these risks, careful planning and effective communication are crucial. Engaging stakeholders throughout the process, providing clear information on the benefits of the SRI, and addressing concerns and barriers can help build trust and foster adoption. Additionally, considering the diversity of building types and socioeconomic factors, and developing tailored approaches and incentives for different contexts, can promote a more inclusive and equitable implementation.

What challenges would arise in merging the EPC and SRI assessments?

- **Complexity:** combining the EPC and SRI assessments can increase the complexity of the evaluation process. The SRI assessment considers additional factors beyond energy performance, such as connectivity and smart features. Integrating these aspects into a single assessment framework requires careful consideration and standardization of evaluation methodologies.
- **Expertise and training:** the merged assessment would require assessors to have expertise in both energy performance evaluation and smart technologies. Ensuring an adequate number of qualified professionals with the necessary knowledge and skills to conduct comprehensive assessments can be a challenge. Additional training and certification programs may be needed to bridge the knowledge gap and ensure competent assessors.
- **Data and information:** the merged assessment would require access to comprehensive and reliable data related to both energy performance and smart features. Gathering accurate data on smart technology installations, connectivity infrastructure, and operational performance may be challenging, particularly for existing buildings where such information may not be readily available.
- **Standardization and consistency:** harmonizing the assessment criteria and methodologies between the EPC and SRI frameworks is essential to ensure consistent and comparable results. Achieving standardization across different regions and certification schemes can be a complex task, as different countries may have unique approaches to energy performance evaluation and smart building requirements.
- **Costs and resources:** merging the assessments may require additional resources, including time and financial investments. Conducting comprehensive assessments that cover both energy performance and smart readiness aspects could increase the overall costs associated with evaluation processes. Adequate funding and support will be necessary to facilitate the adoption and implementation of the merged assessment approach.

Addressing these challenges requires collaboration between relevant stakeholders, including assessors, policymakers, and industry experts. Developing unified assessment guidelines, providing training programs, establishing data-sharing mechanisms, and ensuring standardized evaluation methodologies can help overcome the challenges associated with merging the EPC and SRI assessments.

Will the SRI alone drive the demand for smartness in the market?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) alone may not drive the demand for smartness in the market. While the SRI serves as a valuable tool for assessing the smart readiness of buildings, its implementation does not guarantee automatic market demand for smart technologies. The adoption of smart features depends on various factors, including cost-effectiveness, occupant needs, regulatory incentives, and market

trends. The SRI can contribute to creating awareness and providing a standardized framework for evaluating smart capabilities, but additional efforts such as financial incentives, awareness campaigns, and supportive policies are needed to foster market demand for smart technologies and drive their widespread adoption.

4. Complexity

Is the SRI too complex for the average person to understand?

The complexity of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can vary depending on the level of technical knowledge and familiarity with smart building concepts. For the average person without a background in the field, the SRI may involve technical terms and criteria that could be challenging to grasp fully. However, efforts can be made to simplify the presentation of the SRI to make it more accessible and understandable for a broader audience. Clear communication, user-friendly interfaces, and informative materials can help bridge the gap and enable the average person to comprehend the purpose and basic principles of the SRI. By providing educational resources and engaging in public awareness campaigns, the understanding and appreciation of the SRI can be enhanced among the general public.

Is the SRI important for the general public to understand it?

While it is not essential for the general public to have an in-depth understanding of the technical intricacies of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI), it is still important for them to have a basic understanding of its purpose and implications. The general public can benefit from knowing that the SRI helps identify buildings that are equipped with advanced technologies and features, which can lead to energy savings, improved indoor environments, and reduced environmental impact. Understanding the importance of the SRI can empower individuals to make informed choices when it comes to renting, purchasing, or occupying buildings, and it can also encourage them to support initiatives and policies that promote smart and sustainable buildings.

5. Mandatory

Is the SRI voluntary or mandatory?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is not mandatory but voluntary in the European Union (EU). The EU has developed the SRI as a voluntary tool to assess and promote the smart readiness of buildings. It is intended to provide valuable information for building owners, occupants, and policymakers to make informed decisions related to energy efficiency and smart technologies. However, it's important to note that the regulatory landscape can change over time, and new policies or regulations may be introduced that could potentially make the SRI mandatory in certain regions or for specific building types. It's advisable to consult the latest regulations and guidelines in your specific jurisdiction to determine the current status of the SRI and any obligations associated with it.

Is the SRI mandatory for building owners?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is not mandatory for building owners across all countries or regions. However, it is important to note that the SRI's mandatory status can change over time as new regulations

and policies are introduced. Building owners should stay informed about the requirements and regulations applicable in their specific jurisdiction to determine if the SRI is mandatory for their buildings.

Will SRI be a mandatory element of building energy audits?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is not a mandatory element of building energy audits. Building energy audits typically focus on assessing and analyzing the energy performance of a building, identifying potential energy-saving measures, and providing recommendations for improvement. While the SRI provides valuable information on the smart readiness of buildings, its integration into mandatory building energy audits may vary depending on local regulations and policies. Some regions or countries may choose to incorporate the SRI as part of their energy audit requirements, while others may not. It's important to consult the specific regulations and guidelines in your jurisdiction to determine if the SRI is a mandatory element of building energy audits.

Is there a plan to introduce the obligation of the SRI certificate when buying/selling/renting a house?

There are no widespread plans at the European Union (EU) level to introduce an obligation of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) certificate when buying, selling, or renting a house. The SRI is primarily designed as a voluntary tool to assess the smart readiness of buildings and provide information to various stakeholders. It's advisable to stay updated with local regulations and consult relevant authorities or real estate professionals to understand any obligations or requirements associated with the SRI certificate in specific buying, selling, or renting scenarios.

Will it be mandatory to prepare a document for the commissioning of new buildings?

At the moment there are no specific requirements for the SRI to be included as a mandatory document for the commissioning of new buildings.

What would the rollout of the SRI look like? Mandatory for all buildings from the beginning? Or when properties are bought and sold?

The rollout of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can vary depending on the specific regulations and policies implemented in different regions or countries. The implementation of the SRI can follow different approaches. Some regions may choose to gradually introduce the SRI, starting with specific building types or sizes, or focusing on new construction projects. Others may opt for a phased rollout, where the SRI becomes mandatory for certain buildings over time. Additionally, there may be considerations for incorporating the SRI requirement during real estate transactions, such as when properties are bought and sold. Some regions may explore the integration of the SRI as a mandatory document or requirement during these transactions to provide potential buyers or renters with information about the smart readiness of the building. Stay informed about the regulations and guidelines in your specific region or consult relevant authorities to get the most accurate and up-to-date information on the rollout of the SRI in your context.

6. Calculation

How is the SRI calculated?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) calculation involves assessing various parameters related to a building's smart features and connectivity. These parameters can include the availability of smart systems,

sensors, control devices, energy management systems, and the quality of connectivity infrastructure. The SRI calculation takes into account factors like the level of automation, integration of renewable energy sources, demand response capabilities, and user interface functionalities. The assessment process considers both the hardware and software components of the building's smart systems and assigns scores based on predefined criteria. The overall SRI score is derived from the weighted combination of individual scores for different parameters, providing an indication of the building's smart readiness level.

How long does it take to calculate the SRI for a building?

The time required to calculate the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) for a building can vary depending on several factors, such as the complexity of the building, the availability and quality of data, the assessment methodology used, and the expertise of the assessors. The calculation process typically involves evaluating various parameters, assessing the presence and functionality of smart systems and features, and assigning scores based on predefined criteria.

For simpler buildings with well-documented smart features and readily available data, the SRI calculation process may be relatively quick and straightforward, taking a matter of days or weeks. However, for larger or more complex buildings where data collection and analysis are more extensive, the calculation process can take longer, potentially several weeks or even months. It also depends on the efficiency and resources of the assessing team.

It's important to note that the SRI calculation is not a one-time process, as the indicator may need to be recalculated periodically to account for changes in building systems, upgrades, or the addition of new smart features.

How does the SRI measure a country's level of readiness for smart energy technologies?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) does not directly measure a country's level of readiness for smart energy technologies. Instead, the SRI focuses on assessing individual buildings' smart readiness and providing information on their capabilities regarding energy efficiency and smart technologies.

However, the aggregated data and information collected from SRI assessments across buildings within a country can provide insights into the overall readiness for smart energy technologies at a broader level. By analyzing the SRI results from a large number of buildings, policymakers and stakeholders can gain an understanding of the existing smart infrastructure, the prevalence of energy-efficient technologies, and the potential for further adoption of smart energy solutions within the country. This information can inform national strategies, policies, and initiatives aimed at promoting the development and deployment of smart energy technologies across the country.

What factors are considered when calculating a country's SRI score?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) score is calculated at the building level rather than the country level. The SRI assesses the smart readiness of individual buildings based on various factors. These factors can include:

- **Smart Systems and Devices:** The presence and functionality of smart systems, sensors, automation devices, control systems, and energy management systems within the building.
- **Connectivity Infrastructure:** The quality and availability of connectivity infrastructure, including internet connectivity, network coverage, and data transmission capabilities.

- **Energy Efficiency Features:** The integration of energy-efficient technologies, such as smart lighting systems, HVAC controls, and energy monitoring devices, that contribute to reducing energy consumption.
- **Demand Response Capabilities:** The building's ability to participate in demand response programs and dynamically adjust energy consumption based on grid signals or pricing incentives.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:** The utilization of renewable energy sources, such as solar panels or wind turbines, to generate electricity and reduce reliance on traditional grid energy.
- **User Interface and Interoperability:** The presence of user-friendly interfaces, mobile applications, and interoperability among different smart devices and systems, enhancing user control and engagement.

These factors are evaluated based on predefined criteria and scoring systems, and the individual scores are then combined and weighted to determine the overall SRI score for a specific building. It's important to note that these factors may vary slightly depending on the specific SRI methodology or framework used in different regions or countries.

How to calculate the financial payback of SRI improvement measures?

The calculation of financial payback for SRI improvement measures involves assessing the costs associated with implementing those measures and quantifying the resulting financial benefits over time. Here are the general steps to calculate the financial payback:

- **Identify improvement measures:** determine the specific SRI improvement measures you plan to implement in the building, such as installing energy-efficient equipment, upgrading smart systems, or implementing demand response strategies.
- **Cost estimation:** estimate the upfront costs associated with implementing the improvement measures, including equipment purchase, installation, labor, and any necessary infrastructure upgrades or modifications.
- **Energy savings calculation:** estimate the potential energy savings resulting from the implemented measures. This can be based on historical data, simulation models, or industry benchmarks. Consider factors like reduced energy consumption, improved efficiency, and optimized energy management.
- **Financial benefits assessment:** translate the energy savings into financial benefits. Calculate the monetary value of the energy savings based on prevailing energy prices and the projected duration of the savings. Consider factors like energy tariffs, utility rates, and any incentives or rebates available.
- **Payback period calculation:** calculate the payback period by dividing the upfront costs by the annual financial benefits. This indicates how long it will take to recover the initial investment through energy savings.
- **Lifecycle analysis:** consider the lifespan of the improvement measures and their associated maintenance and operational costs over time. This analysis helps evaluate the long-term financial viability of the implemented measures.

It is important to consider that financial payback calculations may also take into account other factors like potential non-energy benefits (e.g., improved comfort, increased property value, etc.) and the specific financial objectives and constraints of the building owner.

How can comfort be measured when evaluating for SRI?

Comfort is an important aspect to consider when evaluating the SRI of a building. While comfort is subjective and can vary among individuals, there are several parameters and metrics that can be used to assess and measure comfort levels:

- Indoor temperature: monitoring and maintaining appropriate indoor temperature levels within comfort ranges, typically using temperature sensors and control systems.
- Indoor air quality (IAQ): assessing factors like ventilation rates, pollutant levels, and humidity levels to ensure a healthy and comfortable indoor environment.
- Lighting quality: evaluating the quality of lighting systems, including factors such as illumination levels, color rendering, and glare control, to create visually comfortable spaces.
- Acoustic comfort: assessing noise levels and controlling sound transmission to provide a comfortable and quiet indoor environment.
- Thermal comfort: evaluating factors like air temperature, humidity, air velocity, and radiant heat to ensure occupants feel thermally comfortable within the space.
- Occupant feedback: incorporating occupant feedback through surveys, questionnaires, or interviews to gather subjective opinions and perceptions of comfort.

These comfort parameters can be measured using various sensors, monitoring equipment, and subjective feedback from building occupants. Integrating comfort assessment within the SRI evaluation provides valuable insights into the overall occupant experience and satisfaction. It helps identify areas where improvements may be needed to enhance comfort levels within the building.

How is the SRI determined in case one of the 9 domains is not relevant (e.g., cooling)?

In the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) framework, if a specific domain is not relevant or applicable to a building, it is not included in the assessment. The SRI calculation is designed to consider the domains that are applicable to the building under evaluation. This ensures that the assessment is tailored to the specific characteristics and features of the building.

Is the energy saving based on calculations or real energy use?

The energy savings considered in the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment can be based on both calculations and real energy use, depending on the available data and the assessment methodology used. Here are two approaches commonly used:

- Calculations and simulations: In some cases, energy savings are estimated through calculations and simulations using building energy models. These models take into account factors such as building characteristics, occupancy patterns, equipment efficiencies, and weather data to estimate the energy consumption of the building with and without the proposed smart measures. The energy savings are then determined by comparing the baseline energy consumption to the estimated consumption after implementing the smart measures.
- Real energy monitoring: In situations where real energy use data is available, actual energy consumption measurements can be used to quantify the energy savings resulting from the implemented smart measures. This approach involves comparing the energy consumption before and after the implementation of the measures, taking into account any external factors that may impact energy use, such as weather variations or occupancy changes.

While calculations and simulations provide a theoretical estimation of energy savings, real energy monitoring offers more accurate insights based on actual performance. The availability of data and resources, as well as the specific goals of the SRI assessment, will influence the approach chosen.

It's important to note that the accuracy of energy savings estimates may vary, and periodic monitoring and verification of actual energy performance can help ensure that the expected savings are realized over time.

7. Assessment

How is the SRI assessment carried out?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment is typically carried out through a systematic process that involves evaluating various parameters and criteria to determine the smart readiness of a building. While the specific details may vary depending on the SRI framework or methodology used, here is a general overview of how the assessment is conducted:

- **Data collection:** Gathering relevant information about the building, its systems, and its energy performance. This may include architectural plans, technical specifications, energy bills, equipment data, and occupant feedback.
- **Assessment framework:** Applying the predefined SRI assessment framework, which outlines the domains, criteria, and indicators to be evaluated. This framework may include aspects such as energy efficiency, smart systems, connectivity, user interface, and renewable energy integration.
- **On-site inspections:** Conducting on-site inspections to verify the presence and functionality of smart systems, sensors, and equipment. This involves visually inspecting the building, its installations, and its control systems.
- **Data analysis:** Analyzing the collected data and conducting calculations or simulations to assess the building's performance against the defined criteria. This may involve energy modeling, performance benchmarks, or specialized software tools.
- **Scoring and rating:** Assigning scores or ratings to different aspects and indicators based on the assessment results. These scores may be combined and weighted to calculate an overall SRI score for the building.
- **Reporting and recommendations:** Documenting the assessment findings, including strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations for improving the building's smart readiness. This information can be used by building owners, policymakers, and stakeholders to make informed decisions regarding energy efficiency and smart technology investments.

It's important to note that the SRI assessment may involve collaboration between different professionals, such as energy auditors, technical experts, and assessors, who possess the necessary knowledge and expertise to evaluate the building's smart readiness effectively.

Will the SRI assessment affect my home's tax assessment?

The impact of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment on a home's tax assessment will depend on the specific policies and regulations of the country or region in which the home is located. Currently, there is no universal rule or standard stating that the SRI assessment directly affects tax assessments. However, some jurisdictions may offer tax incentives, rebates, or exemptions for buildings that meet certain energy efficiency or sustainability criteria, which could be related to the SRI assessment.

It's important to consult local laws and regulations or seek guidance from relevant authorities to understand how the SRI assessment or energy efficiency measures in general might impact your home's tax assessment.

How often should the smart readiness assessment be done, once a year, every 5 years...?

The frequency of conducting the Smart Readiness Assessment may vary depending on several factors, including the specific requirements of local regulations, the characteristics of the building, and the rate of technological advancements in the smart building industry. While there is no universally prescribed timeframe, it is generally recommended to reassess the smart readiness of a building periodically, such as every few years, to account for changes in technology, energy management practices, and occupant needs. This allows for the identification of potential improvements, updates, and optimizations to maintain or enhance the building's smart capabilities over time. Regular assessments help ensure that the building remains efficient, up-to-date, and aligned with evolving standards and best practices in smart building technologies.

Will the SRI assessment be part of the energy audits and, accordingly, the certificates for the energy performance of the buildings?

The integration of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment into energy audits and energy performance certificates may vary depending on the specific regulations and policies of each country or region. While the SRI assessment and energy performance assessments share a common goal of promoting energy efficiency and sustainability, their implementation and requirements may be separate or interconnected.

In some jurisdictions, the SRI assessment may be incorporated as a complementary component of energy audits or energy performance certificates, providing additional insights into the building's smart readiness and potential for advanced energy technologies. This integration can offer a more comprehensive evaluation of the building's energy performance and smart capabilities. It is advisable to consult the relevant authorities, energy efficiency programs, or building certification bodies in your region to understand the specific requirements and guidelines regarding the SRI assessment and its connection to energy audits and certificates.

Are there minimum requirements to assess the smart readiness of a building?

The specific minimum requirements for assessing the smart readiness of a building can vary depending on the framework or guidelines being used for the assessment. While there may not be universal minimum requirements applicable to all contexts, there are certain common aspects that are often considered:

- **Basic infrastructure:** The building should have a minimum level of infrastructure in place to support smart technologies, such as electrical wiring, network connectivity, and communication systems.
- **Sensor and control systems:** The presence of sensors, meters, and control systems that enable monitoring, automation, and optimization of energy usage and indoor environmental conditions.
- **Connectivity:** Adequate connectivity infrastructure, including internet access and network connectivity, to facilitate the integration and communication of smart devices and systems.

- Energy efficiency measures: Implementation of energy efficiency measures, such as insulation, efficient lighting, and optimized heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.
- Data management and security: Consideration of data management and security protocols to protect privacy, ensure data integrity, and comply with relevant regulations.

How much does the SRI assessment cost?

The cost of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment can vary depending on various factors, including the size and complexity of the building, the scope of the assessment, the qualifications and expertise of the professionals involved, and the specific requirements and guidelines of the assessment framework being used.

Since the SRI assessment may involve activities such as data collection, on-site inspections, analysis, and reporting, the cost can encompass expenses related to labor, expertise, equipment, and any necessary third-party certifications or verifications.

As the SRI assessment is a relatively new concept and the market for such assessments is still evolving, it is challenging to provide an exact cost range. The best approach is to consult with qualified professionals, energy auditors, or organizations that specialize in smart building assessments to obtain cost estimates specific to your building and location.

Additionally, it is worth considering that investing in an SRI assessment can potentially yield long-term benefits by identifying energy-saving opportunities, optimizing building performance, and enhancing the value and marketability of the building. Therefore, the cost of the assessment should be viewed in the context of the potential return on investment and the overall goals and priorities of the building owner or stakeholders.

How does the SRI score correlate with needed investments?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) score can provide insights into the needed investments for improving a building's smart readiness. Generally, a higher SRI score indicates a higher level of existing smart technologies, infrastructure, and energy efficiency measures within the building. A higher score suggests that the building may require relatively less investment to further enhance its smart capabilities. On the other hand, a lower SRI score implies a lower level of existing smart features, potentially requiring more substantial investments to incorporate smart technologies and improve energy efficiency. The SRI score serves as a valuable tool for building owners, facility managers, and policymakers to prioritize investments and allocate resources effectively based on the current state of smart readiness and the desired level of improvement. It helps identify areas where targeted investments can yield the most significant impact in terms of energy savings, comfort, and overall building performance.

How does the SRI assessment correlate with other assessments (i.e., EPC) and inspections (i.e., installing smart meter)?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment correlates with other assessments and inspections, such as Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) and the installation of smart meters, but each serves a distinct purpose. While an EPC primarily focuses on evaluating the energy efficiency of a building and providing information on its energy performance, the SRI assessment goes beyond energy efficiency to assess the building's smart readiness across various domains. The SRI assessment takes into account factors such as connectivity, smart systems, user interface, and renewable energy integration. Smart meter installations, on the other hand, primarily focus on monitoring and measuring energy consumption in real-time. While

there may be overlaps and synergies between these assessments, they serve different objectives and provide complementary information. The SRI assessment can provide a more comprehensive understanding of a building's potential for smart technologies and its readiness to adopt advanced energy management systems, going beyond the scope of traditional energy performance evaluations and smart meter installations.

When do you need to do an EPC and when an SRI?

An Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) is typically required when a building is constructed, sold, or rented out. It provides information on the energy efficiency and environmental impact of the building, helping potential buyers or tenants make informed decisions. On the other hand, the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) assessment focuses on evaluating the smart readiness of a building, considering factors like connectivity, smart systems, and user interface. The SRI assessment is not currently a mandatory requirement for building transactions like the EPC, but it can provide valuable insights for building owners, policymakers, and stakeholders regarding the building's potential for smart technologies and energy management.

Is the fact that the assessment is carried out by in-house consultants crucial for the successful uptake of the SRI?

Yes, the possibility of carrying out an assessment by in-house consultants is crucial for the successful uptake of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) for several reasons. Firstly, in-house consultants have a deep understanding of the organization's specific needs, goals, and operational context, which enables them to tailor the assessment process accordingly. They are familiar with the building's systems, infrastructure, and energy management practices, allowing for a more accurate evaluation of smart readiness. Additionally, in-house consultants can facilitate better communication and coordination within the organization, ensuring that all relevant stakeholders are involved and informed throughout the assessment process. They can also assist in implementing the recommended improvements, leveraging their knowledge of the organization's resources and constraints. This internal expertise promotes ownership, engagement, and the integration of smart readiness principles into the organization's overall strategy and operations. Overall, in-house consultants play a critical role in maximizing the effectiveness and sustainability of SRI implementation within an organization.

8. Assessor

Who performs the SRI certification?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) certification is typically performed by qualified assessors or certification bodies that specialize in building assessments and energy efficiency. These professionals have the expertise and knowledge to conduct the necessary evaluations and provide accurate SRI scores and certificates for buildings.

What specialist should I look for if I want an SRI assessment of my home, an energy auditor or an engineer?

When seeking an SRI assessment for your home, it is advisable to look for professionals who have expertise in both energy auditing and building engineering. Ideally, you should seek out certified energy

auditors or engineers who specialize in building performance assessments and have knowledge of smart technologies and energy efficiency measures.

Since the assessment covers different technical areas, can a single expert do the assessment or is a team of experts with different specialties needed?

The assessment of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) typically requires expertise in different technical areas. While it is possible for a single expert with a diverse skill set to conduct the assessment, in certain cases, a team of experts with different specialties may be beneficial. Having a multidisciplinary team of experts allows for a comprehensive evaluation of each domain, ensuring a thorough and accurate assessment. This team may consist of energy auditors, engineers, building automation specialists, HVAC technicians, lighting designers, and other relevant professionals.

9. Methodology

Is there a methodology used to determine the SRI of a building?

The methodology for calculating the SRI is described in detail in Directorate-General for Energy (European Commission) 2020 and summarized in Fig. 1. The final SRI rating depends on the examined buildings ability to facilitate “smart-ready” services, which are included in a “smart-ready service catalogue”, addressing nine (9) technical domains, namely 1) Heating, 2) Domestic hot water (DHW), 3) Cooling, 4) Ventilation, 5) Lighting, 6) Dynamic building envelope, 7) Electricity, 8) Electric vehicle charging and 9) Monitoring and control. With a view to provide flexibility on the evaluation process depending on the building typology and resources available, the following three methods to assess the SRI are suggested: A) Simplified method, B) Expert SRI assessment.

Method A

Lists a limited, simplified catalogue of 27 services.

Residential and small non-residential (<500m²)

Checklist approach, online self-assessment by end-user (no certification) or on-site third-party assessment (formal certification)

Method B

Lists full catalogue of 54 services.

Non-residential buildings (residential if desired)

Checklist approach, online self-assessment by end-user (no certification) or on-site third-party assessment (formal certification)

Will a uniform evaluation methodology be followed in the different countries, or will it be tailored to local specifics?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) framework provides a common basis for assessing the smart readiness of buildings across the European Union (EU). However, there is flexibility for countries to adapt the methodology to their specific local context and requirements. Therefore, it is helpful to have a unique approach as in Method A and Method B, but in a later stage there could be national / regional specifications. This flexibility allows for the consideration of local specifics, such as climate conditions, building regulations, and available technologies, ensuring that the SRI assessment remains relevant and effective in each country.

Does the SRI differentiate for different usages?

Yes, the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can differentiate for different building usages or types. The SRI assessment takes into account the specific characteristics and requirements of different building sectors, such as residential, commercial, or public buildings. The criteria used to evaluate smart readiness may vary based on the intended usage of the building. For example, a residential building may prioritize factors like energy efficiency, indoor comfort, and user-friendly interfaces, while a commercial building may focus on aspects like automation, occupancy monitoring, and energy management systems. By considering the specific needs and priorities of different building usages, the SRI assessment can provide more targeted insights and recommendations for improving the smart readiness of buildings across various sectors.

Is it possible to use the SRI as a tool for the “Design stage”?

The SRI is very helpful to be used already in the design phase, because the existing listing in the EBDB will be relevant for all building and also funding programs.

10. Users

What is the role of occupants in the SRI?

The role of occupants in the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is to actively engage with and utilize the smart technologies and features present in the building, thereby maximizing their benefits and contributing to the overall smart readiness and energy efficiency of the building.

How can tenants contribute to improving the SRI score of their building?

Tenants can contribute to improving the SRI score of their building by adopting energy-efficient behaviors, utilizing smart technologies effectively, and providing feedback to building management on any issues or opportunities for improvement, thereby enhancing the overall smart readiness and energy performance of the building.

How might end-users react if their building scores low on the SRI?

End-users might react with concern or dissatisfaction if their building scores low on the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI). They may question the performance and functionality of the building's systems, express frustration with any discomfort or inefficiencies experienced, and expect the building management to take necessary actions to improve the SRI score and address any identified shortcomings.

11. Certification

Is an SRI certified house implicitly a sustainable house?

While a Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) certified house demonstrates its level of readiness for smart technologies and systems, it does not automatically imply that the house is sustainable. Sustainability can be one of the considerations within the assessment, but it is not the sole determinant as it encompasses a broader set of factors, including energy efficiency, renewable energy integration, resource efficiency, water management, and environmental impact. The SRI index is a status description on a scale from 0 - 100%, so a scale value of 1 has only little sustainability and smart readiness. This is indeed a low sustainable rating.

What information is included in the SRI certificate?

An SRI certificate typically includes the following information – although the exact format and details of the certificate may vary:

- **Building Information:** Details about the building, such as its address, type (residential, commercial, etc.), and size.
- **SRI score:** The SRI certificate usually displays the building's SRI score, indicating its level of smart readiness. The score can be presented on a numerical scale or in the form of a rating or classification.
- **Assessment summary:** A summary of the assessment process, including the domains evaluated, key findings, and areas of improvement identified.
- **Recommendations:** The certificate may include recommendations or suggestions for enhancing the building's smart readiness.
- **Validity and certification body:** The certificate typically includes information about its validity period, specifying the duration for which the certification remains valid. It also mentions the certification body or organization that conducted the assessment.

Furthermore, The SRI is calculated in three methods (A, B and not yet available C). The certificate will show the total value of the SRI rating. As the data is collected per domain these values can be available.

How much does the SRI certification cost? Is the expense paid by the owner?

The cost of obtaining SRI certification can vary depending on several factors, including the size and complexity of the building, the scope of the assessment, the qualifications and expertise of the assessors, and the specific requirements set by regulatory bodies or certification programs. Since the SRI certification is not mandatory in most cases, the expense is typically borne by the owner or the entity requesting the certification. The cost may include expenses related to data collection, on-site inspections, analysis and calculations, report generation, and the involvement of qualified professionals.

The lowest cost is for a method A certification, executed e.g., by the owner. Then the cost would be none. Of course, the higher the requirements, the higher will be also the cost. Currently there is no specific cost ownership described.

12. Building types

What type of buildings can the SRI be used for?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can be used for various types of buildings, including residential, commercial, and public buildings, regardless of their size or function.

Does the SRI only apply to new buildings?

No, the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is not limited to new buildings. It can be applied to both new constructions and existing buildings. The SRI serves as a tool to assess and improve the smart readiness of buildings, regardless of their age or construction date.

Can the SRI be evaluated/calculated for an apartment in a building or is it an indicator for the entire building?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can be evaluated and calculated for both individual apartments within a building and for the entire building as a whole. The assessment can be performed at the apartment level

to evaluate the smart readiness and energy efficiency of specific units, considering factors such as energy systems, lighting, connectivity, and more. Additionally, the SRI can be applied to the entire building, taking into account shared systems, common areas, and overall building performance.

13. Building performance & energy efficiency

How can I use the SRI to make my home more energy efficient? / How can I save energy with SRI in my house?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can be a valuable tool for making your home more energy efficient. By assessing your home's smart readiness, the SRI can identify areas where you can implement energy-saving measures and improve overall energy efficiency. The assessment may highlight opportunities to upgrade to smart appliances, install energy management systems, improve insulation, or optimize heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. Additionally, the SRI may provide recommendations for enhancing connectivity and automation, enabling better control and monitoring of energy usage. By following the SRI's recommendations, you can take concrete steps to save energy in your house, reduce utility bills, and contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly living environment.

Does the SRI consider the environmental impact of building's materials and construction?

The SRI is the indicator to express the smart readiness as the flexibility of the building. The building's materials are not part of the calculation.

However, it is important to note that there are other certifications and assessments, such as green building certifications or life cycle assessments, specifically designed to evaluate the environmental impact of buildings' materials and construction processes.

Can the SRI be used to measure the impact of retrofits or renovations on building performance?

Yes, the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can be used to measure the impact of retrofits or renovations on building performance. When a building undergoes retrofitting or renovation, it often involves implementing smart technologies, improving energy efficiency, or upgrading systems. By conducting an SRI assessment before and after the retrofit, it is possible to evaluate the change in the building's smart readiness and its impact on performance. The SRI assessment can help quantify the improvements achieved in terms of energy efficiency, indoor comfort, connectivity, and other relevant factors. This information can be valuable in determining the effectiveness of the retrofit measures and guiding future renovation strategies for optimal building performance.

Does the SRI consider the financial feasibility of implementing energy efficient technologies?

As the SRI is an indicator to describe the current status it can be compared towards another status level, e.g., after investments being done. This is no financial feasibility calculation though.

How does the SRI score correlate with concrete savings?

As the SRI is an indicator to describe the current status it can be compared towards another status level, e.g., after investments being done. This is no score to savings correlation yet available.

14. Climate zones

Is the SRI applicable to buildings in different climate zones?

Yes, the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is applicable to buildings in different climate zones. The assessment takes into account the specific characteristics and challenges of each climate zone, considering factors such as heating and cooling demands, insulation requirements, and energy management systems tailored to the local climate conditions.

15. Domains

The SRI include 9 domains. Are these easily understood by the general public, or should more details be provided?

The nine (9) technical domains, namely 1) Heating, 2) Domestic hot water (DHW), 3) Cooling, 4) Ventilation, 5) Lighting, 6) Dynamic building envelope, 7) Electricity, 8) Electric vehicle charging and 9) Monitoring and control. The domains and calculation is easy to try for every citizen. There is a question, e.g., on lighting and then answers with different ratings. This makes the calculation transparent and easy to understand.

The European Union has developed factsheets that offer detailed information on the functioning of the SRI for each technical domain of buildings. These factsheets provide insights into the specific criteria, metrics, and considerations within each domain, helping individuals gain a more comprehensive understanding of the SRI assessment process. By referring to these resources, the general public can access the necessary information to better comprehend the different domains and their relevance to building performance and smart readiness.

Find the factsheets following this link: https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/smart-readiness-indicator/sri-implementation-tools_en

Which is the methodology and parameters used to monitor the KPIs of the 9 SRI technical domain?

The specific methodology and parameters used to monitor the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) within the nine technical domains of the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) can vary depending on the certification program or regulatory framework being implemented. The SRI typically defines KPIs for each domain, which serve as measurable indicators of the building's performance within that area. The methodology and parameters for monitoring these KPIs can involve various techniques, such as data collection through sensors, meters, or monitoring systems, analysis of energy consumption patterns, user feedback, and benchmarking against established standards or reference buildings. The precise details of the methodology and parameters for monitoring the KPIs are typically outlined in the assessment guidelines or technical documentation provided by the SRI certification program or regulatory body.

16. Programs & incentives

Are there any programs or initiatives in place to help countries improve their SRI scores?

Yes, there are various programs and initiatives in place to help countries improve their Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) scores. The European Union, for instance, has been actively promoting the adoption and enhancement of the SRI through policies, funding programs, and research initiatives. These efforts aim to

support member states in implementing energy-efficient measures, integrating smart technologies, and fostering the development of sustainable and smart buildings. Additionally, national, and local governments may introduce incentives, grants, or funding schemes to encourage building owners and stakeholders to improve their SRI scores and enhance the smart readiness of their buildings.

What about split incentives? Owners invest in this technology, but users get the benefit. Would that be a problem?

The issue of split incentives, where building owners invest in smart technologies, but tenants or users benefit from the energy savings, can be a challenge in some cases. This misalignment of incentives can create a barrier to implementing energy-efficient measures and smart technologies in buildings. However, it can be addressed through various mechanisms such as lease agreements that allocate savings between owners and tenants, providing incentives or subsidies to building owners to encourage investment in energy-efficient upgrades, or implementing innovative financing models that share the costs and benefits between owners and users. Clear communication, collaboration, and policy frameworks that promote shared benefits and incentives can help overcome the split incentive challenge and drive the adoption of smart technologies for the mutual benefit of owners and users.

Could the SRI be a relevant indicator for some government incentives for improvement of old buildings?

Yes, the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) could be a relevant indicator for government incentives aimed at improving old buildings. By assessing the smart readiness and energy efficiency of existing buildings, the SRI can help identify areas for improvement and guide the allocation of incentives to encourage retrofits, upgrades, and the adoption of smart technologies in order to enhance the energy performance and sustainability of older buildings.

17. Availability & implementation in Member States

Are there any countries where SRI is already implemented?

The SRI is not mandatory in any EU country. The SRI is already available for calculation to all European citizens. Support for the calculation, e.g., for a calculation on Method A can be found on this website.

Is the SRI recognized by international organizations?

The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) is primarily developed and promoted by the European Union (EU) as a tool for assessing the smart readiness of buildings. While the SRI is not specifically recognized by international organizations in a formal or official capacity, its principles and objectives align with broader global initiatives focused on energy efficiency, sustainability, and smart technologies in the built environment. International organizations such as the United Nations (UN), International Energy Agency (IEA), and International Standards Organization (ISO) have their own frameworks, guidelines, and programs related to energy efficiency and sustainability in buildings. While the SRI may not be explicitly recognized, its concepts and methodologies can complement and contribute to the broader global efforts toward creating smarter and more sustainable buildings. It is advisable to refer to the latest developments and collaborations between the EU and international organizations for any updates on the recognition or integration of the SRI within broader international frameworks.

What about countries where energy demand flexibility is not possible?

The SRI has a transparent calculation. For the specific aspect of demand flexibility this addresses only one domain. If such aspect is not given in a specific country, then likely all building SRIs will have not this rating for the domain. The rating for all remaining eight domains is still possible.

Where can I find examples of SRI assessments of buildings in different countries?

The SRI is not mandatory in any EU country. So currently there is also no assessment database. The coordinators of this website will update this info as soon as it is available.

18. Documentation & tools

Where is the SRI available as an App?

There is no specific standalone mobile app dedicated solely to the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI)

Is there an association about SRI or a law to read up on?

There is no specific association dedicated solely to the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI). However, the SRI is a concept and framework developed by the European Union (EU) as part of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). The EPBD sets the legal framework and requirements for energy performance and efficiency in buildings across EU member states.

To read up on the SRI, you can refer to the official documents and legal texts related to the EPBD. You can also find relevant information on the websites of the European Commission, the EU's Directorate-General for Energy, or national authorities responsible for implementing the EPBD in your country.

How/where do I learn more about the SRI?

- European Union resources: official EU websites, such as the European Commission's Energy Efficiency webpage or the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) webpage. These platforms often provide detailed information, guidelines, and official documents related to the SRI.
- National Energy Agencies: they may provide country-specific information, implementation guidelines, and resources related to the SRI.
- Research papers and publications: from reputable sources that delve into the SRI concept, methodology and its applications.
- Industry organisations and associations: related to energy efficiency, sustainable buildings, and smart technologies. They may offer guides, case studies, and best practices regarding the SRI.
- Workshops and webinars: stay updated on workshops, seminars, conferences, or training sessions organized by relevant industry experts, professional associations, or research institutions.

19. Energy companies / other companies

What is the impact of SRI on energy services?

The ESCOs (energy servicing companies) have a strong cost impact driven business model. A higher SRI rating could be a good distinction in the service description. A higher SRI rating also shows a future readiness of a building service.

How can energy servicing companies use the SRI to differentiate themselves from other service providers in the market?

Energy servicing companies can leverage the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) to differentiate themselves from other service providers in the market in several ways:

- **Expertise and Knowledge:** Energy servicing companies can demonstrate their expertise and knowledge in smart building technologies and energy optimization by using the SRI as a foundation for offering comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and solutions tailored to improving a building's smart readiness.
- **Value-added services:** By incorporating the SRI into their offerings, energy servicing companies can provide value-added services to their clients. They can conduct SRI assessments, identify areas of improvement, and develop customized strategies to enhance a building's smart readiness.
- **Performance benchmarking:** Energy servicing companies can use the SRI as a benchmarking tool to evaluate a building's performance compared to industry standards and best practices. They can help clients understand their SRI scores, interpret the results, and develop action plans to improve their scores over time.
- **Market Differentiation:** Emphasizing the SRI in marketing and promotional materials can set energy servicing companies apart from competitors. Highlighting their ability to assess, optimize, and enhance a building's smart readiness can attract clients who prioritize energy efficiency, sustainability, and the integration of smart technologies in their buildings.

What implications does the SRI have for the retail and wholesale sector?

At this level the SRI is a status description of the smart readiness in the nine domains. As the calculation is done transparent and the different point collection is described it would be an added value for retail and wholesale sector if devices could be rated e.g., as “Domain5 +3 level”. This is subject to expert evaluations already.

Why would the SRI be of interest for the retail and wholesale sector?

At this level the SRI is a status description of the smart readiness in the nine domains. As the calculation is done transparent and the different point collection is described it would be an added value for retail and wholesale sector if devices could be rated e.g., as “Domain5 +3 level”. This is subject to expert evaluations already. This could lead to additional sales and services for the retail and wholesale sector.

20. Devices

What do you do if you do not have a lot of smart home components? No e-car, no PV, no smart meter?

If you do not have many smart home components such as an electric car, photovoltaic (PV) system, or smart meter, you can still benefit from the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) by focusing on other aspects of building smart readiness. You can explore improvements in areas like energy-efficient lighting, HVAC controls, insulation, ventilation, and the use of energy-efficient appliances and devices. The SRI is designed to assess overall smart readiness, so even without specific components, there are still opportunities to enhance the energy efficiency and performance of your building.

Where can I find devices that are SRI compatible?

To find devices that are Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) compatible, you can explore various sources such as smart home technology providers, manufacturers, retailers, and online marketplaces that specialize in

smart home devices. Look for products that adhere to recognized standards and protocols such as Zigbee, Z-Wave, or Wi-Fi, as these are commonly used for interoperability in smart homes and are likely to be compatible with the SRI requirements.

Who own the devices/appliances that are part of the SRI scheme? – How is the procedure if there are multiple owners, e.g., landlord, tenant, third party?

Ownership of devices/appliances that are part of the SRI scheme can vary depending on the specific situation and agreements between the parties involved. In cases where there are multiple owners, such as landlords, tenants, or third parties, it is important to establish clear agreements regarding ownership, responsibilities, and access to the devices. This may involve negotiations, contractual arrangements, or collaborative decision-making to ensure proper installation, maintenance, and utilization of the devices in line with the goals of the SRI scheme.

21. Regulations

Will the SRI affect in the long term the regulation for the design and implementation of building systems?

The SRI will be able to monitor many buildings across the EU. This will help to find better improvement plans for residential and non-residential buildings. Of course, these results can be adapted to improve the building stock. Still there is no mandatory aspect of the SRI adaption currently existing.

Could the SRI be integrated with the GRI standard in order to bring it into line with a formally recognized international standard (at least for “European customers”)?

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is a leading reporting standard. Much information from the SRI can be integrated into a GRI reporting. This is an additional potential value of the SRI.

Among the objectives, there is or there will be the willing to make the SRI become a standard/tool that allows you to get recognition from ESG rating agencies, especially for business purposes?

The SRI is mentioned in the EBDB 2018 but not mandatory yet. There are many tests and evaluations ongoing, and it would be another added value if results from the SRI rating could be included into other applications as ESG ratings.