

Summary

The Building for Ecologically Responsive Design Excellence (BERDE) green building rating system is a tool to measure, verify and monitor performance of buildings above and beyond existing mandatory building and environmental regulations and standards. The rating tool is consensus driven and is achieved through a multi-stakeholder consultation and collaboration process.

Certifying body: Philippines Green Building Council

Applicable sectors					Award types				
General civil	Transport only	Buildings	Public realm	Community / precinct	Design	As built	Operation	Planning	Other

Country	Philippines	Sustainability criteria The new construction assessment consists of 11 categories. The distribution of marks are the same throughout all BERDE Green Building Rating Schemes (maximum points shown in brackets) : 1. Management (14) 2. Land use and ecology (20) 3. Water (7) 4. Energy (9) 5. Transportation (18) 6. Indoor environment quality (7) 7. Materials (6) 8. Emissions (4) 9. Waste (11) 10. Heritage conservation (4) 11. Innovation (10) Total points: 100 + 10 innovation points. The maximum number of points attainable is 100 points.
Deployment & developments	First launched in 2007. BERDE was introduced to the Philippine building industry as it was conceptualized in 2007. The launch of the first BERDE Green Building Rating Schemes was in 2010 for BERDE for New Construction (NC), and 2011 for BERDE for Existing Buildings (which is now superseded by BERDE for Retrofit and Renovations (RR) and BERDE for Operations (Ops)). Within the three scheme types there are assessments for commercial, residential and educational buildings. There are 12 BERDE-Registered projects, one of which is BERDE Design-Recognized. The projects range from commercial buildings, office buildings, high-rise residential buildings, townhouses, mixed-use buildings, and school buildings.	
Applicants	A project owner can apply under any of the BERDE green building rating schemes, although a range of stakeholders will have interest: developers, contractors, project managers, engineers, architects, designers, facility/building managers, suppliers, manufacturers, EMS practitioners, consultants, trainers, educators.	
Government endorsement	Supported by the Department of Energy, but use is voluntary.	
Tailoring	There are minimum requirements that must be met, then points obtained for other aspects will determine the award level. There is no project-specific tailoring. The tailoring of BERDE is through the different green building schemes developed per building type. Parameters are developed according to the different needs of the specific building types.	
		Assessment: scoring, performance levels, evidence collection There are five levels of award ranging from "1 Star" to "5 Star". There are mandatory criteria then point-scoring criteria. Pursuing projects must comply with the mandatory parameters. These parameters (marked RQ, e.g. MN-RQ-1) embody the mandatory minimum requirements set by Philippine laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and internationally-accepted standards. Non-compliance with the requirements immediately disqualify the project from pursuing BERDE Certification. The point parameters in the BERDE Green Building Rating Schemes are to be complied with voluntarily by pursuing projects. They signify attainable points that, in total, have an equivalent BERDE Star rating. The BERDE Assessment and Certification process requires two types of evidence according to the assessment phase the project is in. Evidence basically consist of design, as-built, and operations documentation (such as plans, photographs, and reports). The as-built assessment phase, however, requires an actual site visit by the Assessment Team to verify the submissions.

Support to applicants

Online resources include: various versions of rating scheme technical guides, describing criteria and potential points of innovation; "New Construction" and "Existing Buildings" rating tool software in the form of excel sheets; an energy rating tool in an excel sheet.

A technical manual for the BERDE Green Building Rating Schemes will be released during the last quarter of 2013. Documents for project registration are also available on the website, in the Resources page. All other resources used during the project assessment and certification process are with the third-party certification body, TÜV Rheinland Philippines, Inc.

Fee

The BERDE Assessment and Certification Fee for BERDE NC and RR is calculated separately from the registration fee. The registration fee for an assessment is Php50,000. This covers the process including both BERDE Design Recognition and the final BERDE Certificate. The assessment and certification fee is dependent on the projects' Gross Floor Area (GFA) and is calculated using a "manday" table to determine the appropriate man-days needed on a project basis. PHILGBC Members receive a 20% discount. As an example (using a large project with GFA = 60,000 sqm), the NC design assessment was calculated at Php540,000 (member rate) and NC on-site assessment = Php500,000 (member rate).

The rate for an operations assessment is currently under development.

Case study

Project name: First Balfour Corporate Office, company office of First Balfour, Inc.

Location: Sucat, Parañaque

Applicants / proponent: First Balfour, Inc.

Award: BERDE 1-Star Design Recognition, awarded July 2012

Brief project description: First Balfour Corporate Office in Sucat, Parañaque is the first building in the Philippines to be awarded BERDE Design Recognition. It is located in a lot formerly owned by Sunward Technologies, which First Balfour bought in October 2010. The existing buildings in the old manufacturing site was retrofitted and redesigned as the company's corporate office. The project was originally filed for application under BERDE for Existing Buildings, but was finally registered under BERDE for New Construction version 1.0.0.

The company's decision to pursue BERDE certification was from the strong push from their own management, their strong environment culture and corporate responsibility, and their desire to be the first building in the Philippines to earn a BERDE Star.

Challenges shared by the company in their pursuit of BERDE certification included: site constraints, energy and environmental implications of the design, and interpretation requirements, among others.

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*project description taken from the company presentation delivered by Levi Agoncillo during the Building Green Conference 2012, December 2012.



View of the Balfour Corporate Office