BREEAM®

MAKING THE UK MORE SUSTAINABLE

Introduction to BREEAM for Professional Services Firms

WWW.BREEAM.COM

What is BREEAM?

BREEAM is the world's leading science-driven suite of standards for assessing and certifying sustainability in the built environment. Delivered by BRE, a building science organization with a 110-year history, BREEAM provides a transparent, data-driven framework for evaluating performance across the full asset lifecycle — from design and construction to operations and refurbishment — in key areas such as carbon, resilience, biodiversity, and health.

Trusted in over 100 countries for more than three decades, BREEAM helps developers, owners, architects, and investors meet sustainability targets, align with global reporting standards, comply with regulations, and strengthen asset value. By delivering verified performance and supporting resilience against evolving market and climate risks, BREEAM plays a critical role in advancing high-performing, future-ready buildings worldwide.

How BREEAM delivers asset value for real estate

BREEAM transforms sustainability from a compliance requirement into a value creation strategy, providing real estate stakeholders with a trusted framework for measuring, managing, and improving sustainability performance across their portfolios. Its science-driven, third-party certification builds trust and transparency, aligning assets with evolving investor, tenant, and regulatory expectations. Whether applied to a single building or a global portfolio, BREEAM delivers a flexible, data-driven pathway to enhance asset value, improve resilience, and position projects for long-term success in a shifting market landscape.

How BREEAM professionals drive and deliver a more sustainable world

BREEAM professionals bring the expertise needed to turn sustainability goals into real-world results. With deep knowledge of BREEAM standards and market expertise, they help real estate teams optimize performance, navigate certification with confidence, and uncover opportunities for long-term value creation. From reducing carbon and operating costs to enhancing asset resilience and investor appeal, BREEAM professionals bring the insight and rigor needed to lead in a market that rewards strategic, value-add sustainability.

How does it work?

Recognized BREEAM professionals have demonstrated, through training and examinations, that they possess the knowledge, skills and experience needed to support clients in delivering sustainable, healthy, resilient and valuable assets using BREEAM.

BREEAM offers two types of professional recognition: **Assessor** and **Advisory Professional (AP)**.

Assessors ensure the validity of the rating, unlocking the value of certification for current and future owners and users. They possess the competence, authority and independence to assess projects or assets within specific BREEAM programs, determine ratings and apply for certification. Each BREEAM program has specific training and exams an individual must pass to become licensed, which ensures the Assessor's full competence in that standard. Licenses are held by the Assessor’s organization and are recognized service providers.
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Advisory professionals support client teams in decision-making and evidence preparation, unlocking the value of certification for current and future asset owners and users. They have a high level of general knowledge of BREEAM principles, requirements and processes, along with the skills and experience needed to guide and facilitate project teams throughout the BREEAM journey. While not required for certification, APs can facilitate performance optimisation, maximising value and cost-effective outcomes through BREEAM. AP credentials are offered for Design + Site, which addresses design and construction and, in some countries, is also offered for Operations, which addresses assets in-use. AP credentials are held by the individual and provide recognition of knowledge specialization in the application of BREEAM for a specific building life cycle stage.

BREEAM training is delivered exclusively by BRE and our designated training partners to ensure that learners always receive the most current and up-to-date information about BREEAM programs and the highest quality training available.

Why your company should offer BREEAM services

Every day we are asked by clients who they should hire to support them on this journey. Our answer? Look for professionals with a BREEAM AP credential to advise clients or an Assessor license to certify assets under the BREEAM standards.

BREEAM advisory and assessment services compliment the expert services being offered by organizations supporting clients on sustainability in the built environment. Having recognized BREEAM professionals on staff

- confirms to clients the expertise of your staff to deliver competent BREEAM advice and successfully manage the BREEAM assessment
- gets your company and the individuals listed in our global public database of BREEAM professionals, enhancing your organization's ability to win business and expand your service offering
- supports staff on a professional development pathway with global recognition

Working with our partners globally

In some countries, BREEAM standards have been adapted to local conditions, translated into the local language, and aligned with the country's building regulations. Most of these are run by our local partners called National Scheme Operators, or NSOs. The International version of each of the standards applies in all countries except where a local adaptation has been created.

Our NSO partners also operate the BREEAM schemes in those countries and in some cases, require additional training or separate licenses or credentials to be a recognized BREEAM professional for their scheme.

Countries with BREEAM adaptations: Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and the USA. Find out more at www.breeam.com.

Ready to get started?

1 **Select the professional recognition that is right for you: Assessor or AP**
Choose AP if you will just be consulting or Assessor if you will be verifying and certifying assessments on behalf of your company.

2 **Take the course**
All our courses are offered through the BRE Academy. Visit bre.ac/breeam for all the courses offered globally.

3 **Pass the exam**
The exam is proctored online and scheduled at a time that is convenient to the learner. The exam cost is included in the total course fee.

4 **Get recognized**
Once the course and exam have been successfully passed, you are now eligible to become a credentialed AP or your company to become licensed and add you as an Assessor. Fees for the credential or license are separate from the training and due annually to maintain recognition.

BREEAM®

Not sure what might be right for you or your organization?

Speak to one of our experts who can understand your organization's goals and help you find the right path to growth.

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