

Introduction to Estidama

the pearl rating system for estidama

The Pearl Rating System for Estidama aims to address the sustainability of a given development throughout its lifecycle from design through construction to operation. The System provides detailed requirements for rating a building's potential performance in relation to the four pillars of Estidama.

The Pearl Rating System is organized into seven categories that are fundamental to more sustainable development.



Integrated Development Process: Encouraging cross-disciplinary teamwork to deliver environmentally sustainable solutions for the built environment.



Natural Systems: Conserving, preserving and restoring critical natural environments and habitats.



Livable Buildings: Ensuring quality of outdoor and indoor spaces.



Precious Water: Reducing water demand and encouraging alternative water sources.



Resourceful Energy: Promoting energy conservation through passive design measures, energy efficiency and renewable sources.



Stewarding Materials: Reducing the impact of building materials extraction, manufacturing, transportation and disposal.



Innovating Practice: Encouraging innovation and cultural expression in building design and construction to facilitate market and industry transformation.

estidama for buildings

As of September, 2010, all new buildings in Abu Dhabi will have to achieve a minimum 1 Pearl Rating. This means that design teams will have to demonstrate that each of the required credits of the Pearl Building Rating System will be achieved. These required credits are as follows:

IPD-R1: Integrated Development Strategy

IDP-R2: Tenant Fit-Out Design & Construction Guide

IDP-R3: Basic Commissioning

NS-R1: Natural Systems Assessment

NS-R2: Natural Systems Protection

NS-R3: Natural Systems Design & Management Strategy

LBo-R1: Plan 2030

LBo-R2: Urban Systems Assessment

LBo-R3: Outdoor Thermal Comfort Strategy

LBi-R1: Healthy Ventilation Delivery

LBi-R2: Smoking Control

LBi-R3: Legionella Prevention

PW-R1: Minimum Interior Water Use Reduction

PW-R2: Exterior Water Monitoring

RE-R1: Minimum Energy Performance

RE-R2: Energy Monitoring & Reporting

RE-R3: Ozone Impacts of Refrigerants & Fire Suppression Systems

SM-R1: Hazardous Materials Elimination

SM-R2: Basic Construction Waste Management

SM-R3: Basic Operational Waste Management

In addition to the 20 required credits, the Rating System includes 66 optional credits. By pursuing these credits, building development teams can elect to pursue a voluntary rating as high as Five Pearls. Government-funded buildings are required to achieve a minimum 2 Pearl Rating. The detailed requirements of the required and optional credits are listed in the Pearl Building Rating System, available for download at www.estidama.org.

The Pearl Building Rating System applies to all non residential buildings and multi residential buildings of more than three stories above grade.