

## 1.2 Framework

### Credit Performance Categories

Different assessment methods assign their credits under different categories according to the preferences of the tool developer. In BEAM Plus NB v2.0, credits are grouped into the following categories:

- i. Integrated Design and Construction Management (IDCM);
- ii. Sustainable Sites (SS);
- iii. Materials and Waste (MW);
- iv. Energy Use (EU);
- v. Water Use (WU);
- vi. Health and Wellbeing (HWB); and
- vii. Innovations and Additions (IA).

While BEAM Plus NB v2.0 adopts similar categories in other BEAM Plus tools, the number and nature of credits within each category are specific to the context of Hong Kong and new building projects.

### Integrated Design and Construction Management (IDCM)

IDCM focuses on the integration between design and operation, integrated design between design team members and client, and integration throughout the development process from design to construction. The core objectives of IDCM are as follows:

- i. Integrated Design Process;
- ii. Green Construction Practices; and
- iii. Smart Design and Technologies.
- iv. Design for Engagement and Education on Green Buildings

### Sustainable Sites (SS)

SS focuses on the design and planning issues, and the integration of neighbourhood and site location. The core objectives of SS are as follows:

- i. Neighbourhood Integration;
- ii. Biodiversity Enhancement;
- iii. Bioclimatic Design; and
- iv. Climate Resilience and Adaptability.

### Materials and Waste (MW)

MW focuses on the minimisation of operational materials and waste. The core objectives of MW are as follows:

- i. Efficient Use of Materials;
- ii. Selection of Materials; and
- iii. Waste Reduction.

### Energy Use (EU)

EU focuses on the reduction of building operation energy consumption. It is energy performance based and seeks to encourage quality passive design. The core objectives of EU are as follows:

- i. Energy Use Reduction and Control;
- ii. Renewable and Alternative Energy Systems; and
- iii. Energy Efficient Equipment.

**Water Use (WU)** WU focuses on the reduction of water consumption. The core objectives of WU are as follows:

- i. Water Conservation;
- ii. Effluent; and
- iii. Water Harvesting and Recycling.

**Health and Wellbeing (HWB)** HWB focuses on the human environmental quality. It is designed to expand the scope of previous indoor environmental quality (IEQ) category and absorb human centric design elements. The core objectives of HWB are as follows:

- i. Design for Green Living;
- ii. Inclusive Design; and
- iii. Indoor Environmental Quality.

**Innovations and Additions (IA)** IA focuses on promoting and rewarding true innovations. The core objectives of IA are as follows:

- i. Innovation Techniques; and
- ii. Innovation Challenges.

**Credit Allocation** Credits have been broadly allocated to each assessment criterion by taking into account the other internationally recognised green building assessment tools as well as the sensitivity analysis and the comments received during the stakeholder engagement workshops.

**Category Weighting** Having reviewed the local and international assessment schemes and other relevant information, a percentage of weighting for each environmental performance category has been assigned to reflect its importance and the global trends as follows:

Category	Weighting
IDCM	18%
SS	15%
MW	9%
EU	29%
WU	7%
HWB	22%

**Prerequisites** The Applicant must demonstrate that all the pre-requisites are achieved. Otherwise, the project will be graded as “Prerequisite(s) Not Achieved”.

**Bonus Credit & Additional Bonus Credit** The bonus credits and additional bonus credits in NB v2.0 are counted under the corresponding categories. A factor of 1.2 is applied in score calculation for the attainment of bonus credits and additional bonus credits.

Bonus credits are independent from the normal credit(s) under the same credit item. They can be achieved regardless of the success or failure in attaining the normal credit(s). Whereas the additional bonus credits are dependent on the normal credit(s) under the same credit item. The award of normal credit(s) is the prerequisite for attaining the additional bonus credits.

The maximum possible score under each category is 100%.

**IA Credit** The IA credits in NB v2.0 are counted towards the total number of credits qualifying for an award classification. A maximum of 10 IA credits could be submitted for achieving a higher score in the assessment.

**Determination of Overall Grade**

The final certificate grading for projects certified under BEAM Plus NB v2.0 is subject to the following conditions:

- i. Satisfying all pre-requisites;
- ii. Achieving overall score required; and
- iii. Obtaining minimum percentage (%) for each category listed below.

Grade	Minimum Percentage for Each Category	Total Score
Platinum	20%	≥ 75%
Gold	20%	≥ 65%
Silver	20%	≥ 55%
Bronze	20%	≥ 40%

If a project can comply with all the applicable pre-requisites but cannot reach the threshold of Bronze rating, it will be graded as “Pre-requisites Achieved”. In case the project fails to demonstrate compliance with any one of the applicable pre-requisites, it will be graded as “Pre-requisite(s) Not Achieved”.