Understanding Decision-Making Processes to Meet or Exceed BASIX Requirements

New residential buildings will be a major part of our housing stock for the next 50-100 years.

The Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) is a sustainability planning measure to improve energy and water efficiency for all new residential buildings in NSW.

The decision to meet or exceed BASIX minimum standards is usually made by builders and supply chain actors in the design-construction process. These minimum standards are sometimes seen as the ‘ceiling’ rather than the ‘floor’, resulting in a lack of motivation for builders and home buyers to go beyond minimum standards.

There is a need to understand how decisions are made throughout the building process and who the key actors are that can influence and drive positive outcomes.

The NSW Government understands the key role it must play in driving carbon reductions for all new residential buildings in the future. To support this, we are investigating the decision-making processes and key influential factors throughout the building process to inform government interventions.

Project activities include:
• Identifying key market segments
• Conducting case studies across each market segment
• Mapping decision-making processes and key influencers throughout the building process
• Identifying barriers, drivers, norms and opportunities
• Generating insights for potential intervention options

The impact of action

Our research will:
• Improve decision-making by all relevant actors in the residential building sector to increase efficiency.
• Enable evidence-based government interventions to encourage these actors to go beyond the minimum BASIX requirements.

Increased efficiency for all new residential buildings will enable significant reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from the residential sector.
Research outcomes

Our research will deliver an understanding of:

- The characteristics and attributes of key market segments across the residential building sector from design to construction.

- The factors that drive decisions to achieve or exceed BASIX requirements throughout the building process, and the opportunities and effective decision points for interventions.

- The intervention options that will encourage all relevant actors to exceed BASIX requirements and remove any barriers to achieving minimum standards.

Steps

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 2018</th>
<th>October 2018</th>
<th>February 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature review</td>
<td>Map decision-making processes, and key actors and influencers throughout the building cycle</td>
<td>Identify barriers, drivers, norms &amp; opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify key market segments and case studies</td>
<td>Provide recommendations for potential intervention options to exceed BASIX requirements and to remove barriers to meeting minimum requirements</td>
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What excites us

We will understand what motivates and influences the decisions of designers, builders and developers to meet or go beyond the minimum BASIX requirements. We will understand how and where these decisions are made throughout the whole building process.

The findings will inform the NSW Government’s intervention to enable a significant increase of energy efficiency in the residential sector.