



**CEEQUAL**

Sustainability Assessment and Awards for  
Civil Engineering, Infrastructure, Landscaping & the Public Realm

Introduction &  
What's new in Version 5?

[www.ceequal.com](http://www.ceequal.com)

## WHAT IS CEEQUAL?

CEEQUAL is the evidence-based Assessment and Awards Scheme for improving sustainability in civil engineering. With a very broad view of 'civil engineering' in covering all infrastructure for modern life, landscaping and the public realm, CEEQUAL has the longest track record of sustainability rating systems for such work.



Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor – New Wear Crossing over the River Wear.

The Scheme celebrates the commitment of the civil engineering industry in achieving – and demonstrating – high environmental quality, economic and social performance.

CEEQUAL is available in three forms:

- CEEQUAL for UK & Ireland Projects
- CEEQUAL for International Projects
- CEEQUAL for Term Contracts.

CEEQUAL rewards project and contract teams in which clients, designers and contractors go beyond the legal and environmental minima to achieve distinctive environmental and social performance in their work.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Scheme is evidence-based and externally verified, and rigorously assesses performance across a wide range of questions on strategy, management, and environmental and social concern (see page 3 for details).

It provides a sustainability rating system for project and contract teams. Using extensive industry experience, the Scheme has been weighted to reflect both the contribution of performance in each section of a CEEQUAL Assessment to overall performance, and weighted to reflect the relative importance of the questions within their section. Questions in the Assessment are scoped-out where the issues they cover are irrelevant to a particular project.

*“CEEQUAL not only covers environmental aspects, but broadens out into the wider sustainability agenda. The whole project team develops a good team ethos and makes you more competitive between contracts.” - Nigel Sagar  
Senior Sustainability Manager | Skanska*

A CEEQUAL score indicates how far a project is between minimum legal compliance and pinnacle best practice. The Award thresholds, based on the maximum possible score for the project or contract, are:

- ✓ more than 25% - Pass
- ✓ more than 40% - Good
- ✓ more than 60% - Very Good
- ✓ more than 75% - Excellent.

*It is not possible to achieve a 100% score due to conflicting issues in the Assessment.*

## CEEQUAL FOR PROJECTS

Available in two forms:

- CEEQUAL for UK & Ireland Projects
- CEEQUAL for International Projects.

The CEEQUAL Project Assessment process is applicable to all types of civil engineering, infrastructure, landscaping and public realm projects, including the infrastructure associated with building developments, whether the project is located in the UK & Ireland or anywhere else in the world.

For Projects, five types of Award are available:

- **Whole Project Award (WPA)** – the normal Award, applied for jointly by the client, designer and principal contractor(s)
- **Client & Design Award** – for a joint application by the client and designer
- **Design Award** – only for principal designers
- **Design & Build Award** – for a joint application by the contractor and the designer
- **Construction Award** – only for principal contractors.

In addition, the Client & (Outline) Design Award is available as an integrated **Interim Award** en route to a Whole Project Award (WPA plus Client & Design as an Interim Award).

*“CEEQUAL is a way of demonstrating what sustainability actually means.”* - Paul De Jong  
Safety & Sustainability Manager | National Grid

## CEEQUAL FOR TERM CONTRACTS

CEEQUAL for Term Contracts has been specifically created for the assessment of civil engineering and public realm works that are undertaken through contracts over a number of years and in a geographical or operational area.

Example contracts may include highway, rail or sewer maintenance, regular interventions in rivers or drainage channels to maintain channel capacity, and a series of minor new works such as road junction remodelling, track renewals and minor realignments, all undertaken through what we call ‘*term contracts*’.



*Princess Royal Square (Weston-Super-Mare).*

With multiple works orders for the individual jobs within the contract, not only is the nature of the work often different from projects, but its procurement and management are also normally different.

For Term Contracts, just **one type of Award** is available to recognise the achievement of the whole contract team, with Awards in the first and last years of the contract and at least every other year in between.

## TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABILITY

Version 5 is the latest version of the CEEQUAL Methodology and completes CEEQUAL's transition from environmental assessment and awards to a sustainability assessment and awards scheme.

Both Assessment Manuals for Projects have been reviewed, revised and updated by CEEQUAL's panel of experts to reflect current industry best practice.

## VERSION 5 PROJECTS MANUAL SECTIONS

Below are the revised sections with example issues assessed in the Manual:

- 1. NEW Project Strategy - OPTIONAL**  
Sustainable development & pathway to sustainable living | Economic, social & environmental impacts and benefits | Resource strategy | Construction management strategy
- 2. Project Management**  
Environmental management systems | Training | Environmental performance | Procurement
- 3. People and Communities**  
Effects on neighbours, users & the workforce | Relations with the local community & other stakeholders
- 4. Land use and Landscape**  
Contaminated land | Flood risk | Use of land & seabed | Landscape issues

### 5. Historic Environment

Baseline study of area | Planning guidance | Conservation & enhancement | Public information & access

### 6. Ecology and Biodiversity

Biodiversity conservation & enhancement | Habitat creation | Monitoring & maintenance

### 7. Water Environment (fresh & marine)

Protection of ground & surface water | Marine environment | Enhancement

### 8. Physical Resources

Embodied impacts & life-cycle analysis | Material choice & sourcing | Energy & carbon | Waste management & minimisation | Water resources | Recycling | Future de-construction

### 9. Transport

Operational transport | Construction transport | Minimising nuisance & disruption | Workforce travel.

Download all the Manuals from: [www.ceequal.com/downloads.htm](http://www.ceequal.com/downloads.htm). Term contracts will be upgraded to Version 5 during summer 2012.



Glenkerie wind farm located on the Scottish Borders. Estimated to prevent the emission of up to 66,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year and generate the equivalent of the average annual electricity use of around 16,000 households.

## 'PROJECT STRATEGY' SECTION IN DEPTH

The new 'Project Strategy' Section has been developed to enable CEEQUAL to widen the scope of the Assessment beyond whether project teams are performing well from a sustainability perspective to whether a project contributes (or will contribute) to moving society on a pathway towards more-sustainable living.

The new Section provides project teams with questions that encourage them to consider wider aspects of sustainability, that prompt analyses and processes that will lead to better projects. This is achieved through questions that assess implementation of the core principles of sustainability in design and construction.

This section includes specific questions on issues such as:

- adoption of sustainable development principles;
- economic, social and environmental impacts undertaken on a wider scope than just the project owner's interest;
- coping with the predicted effects of climate change and/or helping society to cope with those predicted changes;
- resource strategy, including energy;
- whether, overall, the project delivers to the community it serves the ability to move forward on a pathway to more-sustainable living.

In Version 5, use of the new Section is optional. If users include this section, the CEEQUAL Assessment will lead to a sustainable project award; confining your Assessment to the other eight sections

of CEEQUAL will lead to a sustainability performance award.

## OTHER MAJOR UPGRADES IN VERSION 5

Other main Version 5 upgrades include:

- The **amended question set and scoping-out requirements** make it much easier to apply CEEQUAL to marine and offshore projects (e.g. harbours, pipelines, and offshore wind farms and offshore oil and gas projects).
- The **previous twelve Sections have been re-arranged, refined and consolidated to reflect two changes of emphasis in the civil engineering industry and profession** – the increasing importance of community engagement and social impacts, and in the more-integrated approach to use and management of all the physical resources deployed.
- Wherever possible, we have sought to ease the Assessment process by **improving the consistency of how questions on related topics are asked, and in improving how questions and guidance in the Manual are presented.**

## VERSION 4 UPDATES

Finally, for all those project teams still working on Assessments to CEEQUAL Version 4, we are producing an updated Manual (Version 4.2) which includes all the revisions made to Version 5 that also apply to Version 4. The questions and scores in Version 4 remain as before.

## ONLINE SYSTEM & UPGRADES

CEEQUAL's Assessor & Verifier community are supported with a range of facilities hosted at [www.ceequalonline.com](http://www.ceequalonline.com). One of the key elements of that support is the Online Assessment Tool, the system for recording Assessments and verifications, including scoping out, scoring and evidence commentary by both Assessor & Verifier. Version 5 will see many new changes to the Online Assessment Tool:

- **NEW Central document location** – Assessors will be able to upload evidence documents relevant to a number of different questions once and then cross-reference them. Therefore, the same document will not have to be uploaded multiple times
- **NEW 'Read-only' log-in** – for clients and/ or other interested parties that wish to see how an Assessment is progressing, but cannot enter scores or comments
- **NEW Assessment Report** – when required, a pdf document containing the question scoring and commentary can be downloaded, especially useful on completion of the Assessment for reporting the result to the project team.

Another feature to [ceequalonline.com](http://ceequalonline.com) is the **NEW Discussion forum** which Assessors & Verifiers can use to share best practice and take part in discussions about the CEEQUAL Methodology.

*All Assessors are given log-in details to [ceequalonline.com](http://ceequalonline.com) on completion of their Assessor Training Course.*

## ASSESSOR TRAINING

Anyone new to CEEQUAL has to become a CEEQUAL-trained Assessor before they are allowed to undertake a formal verified CEEQUAL Assessment.



*CEEQUAL Assessor Training Course, London.*

Assessor Training Courses are 2-days long. Participants do not necessarily have to be exclusively experienced in civil engineering or environmental management.

A 1-day Extension Course is required for Project Trained Assessors to undertake a Term Contract Assessment, or vice versa.

*All training courses are listed at [www.ceequal.com/courses.htm](http://www.ceequal.com/courses.htm)*

## VERSION 5 ASSESSOR COURSE UPGRADES

Assessors Trained under Version 4 or below will have to complete either a free Version 5 upgrade module online or attend a *free* half-day upgrade course in order to undertake a Version 5 Assessment.

*Contact Melanie Manton (Tel [020 3137 2379](tel:02031372379) or [melanie.manton@ceequal.com](mailto:melanie.manton@ceequal.com)) for more about Assessor Training Courses.*

## BENEFITS OF A CEEQUAL AWARD

Participants in CEEQUAL Assessments report a range of benefits from using CEEQUAL as a driver for improvement and having their project or contract assessed. These include:

- **Reputation-building and good PR** – including delivery of the participants’ environmental, sustainability and/or corporate social responsibility policies
- **Improvements to projects and maintenance work, and implementation of best practice** – ranging from whole-life costing, waste minimisation, resource efficiency (materials, water, energy), to reducing complaints and environmental incidents
- **Demonstrating commitment to the environmental agenda** – to clients, within the team and the organisations involved, and to the industry as a whole
- **Enhanced team spirit** – developing a positive “we must score well here” attitude and rewarding project or contract teams that have ‘gone the extra mile’
- **Cost savings** – projects have reported cost savings through the use of the CEEQUAL Scheme. One project team reported their project cost 3.3% (£5 million) less than originally planned due in part to the use of CEEQUAL.

Visit [www.ceequal.com](http://www.ceequal.com) for CEEQUAL project case studies.

## MORE INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to:

- apply for an Award
- find out more about CEEQUAL
- ask a technical question about the Scheme

please contact the CEEQUAL Scheme Management Team at: *6 Electric Parade, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 5NT, UK.*

Tel +44 (0)20 3137 2379  
 Fax +44 (0)20 8399 1650  
[support@ceequal.com](mailto:support@ceequal.com)

Or if you would like to:

- purchase a copy of the CEEQUAL Scheme Manuals
- register for an Assessor Training Course

please contact the CEEQUAL Scheme Management Team at: *Classic House, 174–180 Old Street, London EC1V 9BP UK.*

Tel +44 (0)20 7549 3302  
 Fax +44 (0)20 7253 0523  
[enquiries@ceequal.com](mailto:enquiries@ceequal.com)

Alternatively, visit the CEEQUAL website [www.ceequal.com](http://www.ceequal.com) or follow us on Twitter for the latest news as it happens.

 [@CEEQUALnews](https://twitter.com/CEEQUALnews)



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*CEEQUAL was developed by a team led by the Institution of Civil Engineers, supported by the Institution's Research & Development Enabling Fund and the UK Government. The Scheme is now operated through CEEQUAL Ltd, which is owned by a group of fourteen organisations actively involved in the Scheme or in the project that developed it, including the ICE, ACE, CIWEM and CECA.*

[www.ceequal.com](http://www.ceequal.com)