

Introduction to the PEFCR “Hotel Accommodation”

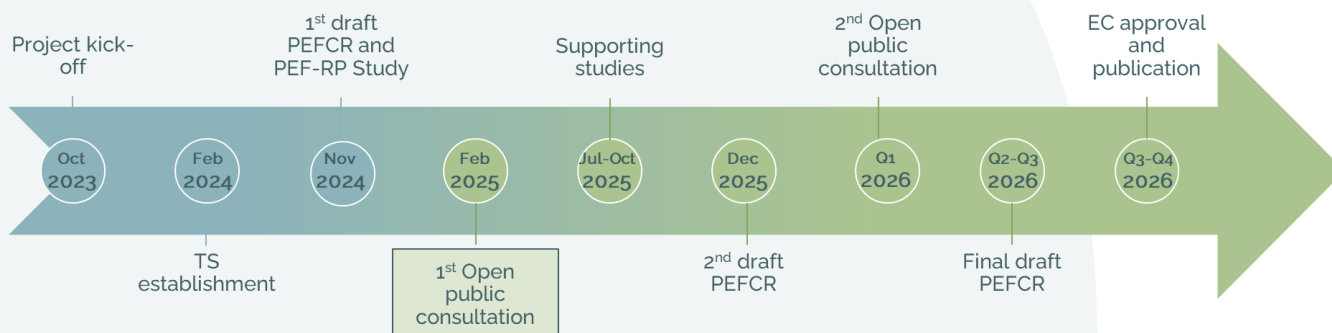
What is a PEFCR, and why it will be beneficial for the sector?

The Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) is the European Commission’s comprehensive Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) method for quantifying the overall environmental impacts of products (goods or services), including carbon footprint, water footprint and a range of others, adopting a life cycle approach, i.e. considering the entire value chain. The PEF is helping companies to calculate the environmental performance of their products, based on robust and verifiable information, for combatting greenwashing and hence for enabling fair and performance-based green claims.

To reach this goal, a set of specific rules needs to be defined for the respective product category, in the form of a PEFCR. **PEFCRs aid companies to implement PEF studies.** They reduce effort and costs by defining what matters most for a specific product category, by tailoring the rules to a specific product category, thereby reducing the need for interpretation and dependency on LCA experts. They provide the complete guidance, from what data to collect, how to model the product system, up to what impacts to declare, and which forms of communication are agreed. PEF studies on specific products (here: hotel room offerings), implemented using the applicable PEFCR, will hence support better-informed decisions by businesses, and consumers. PEF study results are particularly relevant in the context of substantiating green claims (adopted [Directive on Empowering consumers for the Green Transition](#) and upcoming **Fehler! Linkreferenz ungültig.**, the adopted [Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation](#), and others.

What is the timeline for the PEFCR development for hotel accommodation?

The PEFCR for hotel accommodation is being developed in the time period from 2023 to 2026. After the European Commission approves the final the PEFCR, it can be applied by hotel operators in form of PEF studies on specific room type offerings.



What does the governing process look like? What role do public consultations play?

Initiated by the European Commission, this PEFCR development aims to support the EU hotel industry in measuring the life cycle wide environmental performance of its hotel accommodation services. The first draft PEFCR has been developed by the Technical Secretariat, a multi-stakeholder working group, representing more than 51% of the EU hotel market. **HOTREC** – the European Association of Hotels, Restaurants, and Cafés and similar establishments in Europe – **co-chairs the TS**. You can find an overview of all members [here](#). The Technical Secretariat (TS) is pleased to announce the launch of **the first open public consultation on the first draft Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR)** for hotel accommodation in the EU, **running from 3 February 2025 to 16 March 2025**. The first open public consultation is aimed at



collecting relevant feedback and suggestions on the first draft PEFCR for Hotel accommodation and the related documents, to help further improving the PEFCR and complete open points. The consultation is **open to all stakeholders, including industry representatives**, environmental organizations, consumer organizations, policy authorities, and the general public. **Stakeholders are encouraged to participate** actively in the process and contribute their perspectives to help shape the PEFCR in alignment with the needs and goals of the sector.

Scope of the PEFCR for Hotel Accommodation

The PEFCR for Hotel Accommodation provides the rules for calculating the environmental footprint of one overnight stay in a hotel room, evaluated considering the room type (single, double, etc.), the number of night stays sold, and the average number of guests per room. The assessment includes the equipment provided within the room (bed and other furniture, TV, etc.) and all the necessary products (e.g. shampoo, soap) and utilities (energy supply, water etc.) required to provide the accommodation service. The activities of room cleaning and bed-making are included as well.

Other services offered by the hotel, not directly related to the accommodation service, such as food and drink, conference rooms, pools, gym, etc. are not included.

The PEFCR covers the entire life cycle, from cradle-to-grave. For example, the environmental footprint of the bed sheets includes the environmental burdens associated with the production of the raw materials (e.g. cotton), the manufacturing of the product, its transportation, use (i.e. washing) and the end-of-life (disposal, recycling). Hotel operators, however, need to collect exclusively data on their own set up and operations, e.g. number and size of bedsheets, annual power consumption; the life cycle data behind is provided for free use to plug in.

In order to develop the first draft PEFCR, a PEF study of a Representative Product (RP) was carried out. The RP is defined as a virtual service, representing an average accommodation service sold in the EU, considering room types of hotels located in different geographical locations and belonging to different market segments. The results of this first draft PEF-RP study informed the development of the PEFCR, providing the knowledge base for defining the list of relevant, mandatory company-specific data that hotels will have to collect in order to complete their PEF study. In addition, the results of the first draft RP study provided a first indication of the most relevant impact categories, that include: climate change, fossil resources use, particulate matter, use of minerals and metals, acidification and water use. The initially identified most relevant life cycle stages include the supply of durable goods (production of room equipment and building construction) and the hotel operation (including energy and water use, cleaning and bed-making, supply of single-use and refill items).

Key information on the open public consultation

- **Consultation Period: 3 February 2025 to 16 March 2025.**
- **How to Participate:** Stakeholders can access the draft PEFCR [here](#) and submit their comments. If you do not already have the required official ECAS account, please follow the instructions [here](#)
- **Next Steps:** After the consultation period, the Technical Secretariat will review all feedback and make necessary revisions towards a second draft PEFCR. A second open public consultation is planned for the first half of 2026 to aid in finalizing the PEFCR based on additional stakeholder input. The final PEFCR will then be ready towards end of 2026 for application in form of PEF studies.

Where to get more information?

For further information, please also visit <https://pefhotelaccommodation.eu> and https://green-business.ec.europa.eu/environmental-footprint-methods_en