

December
2022



GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

Welcome to the WorldGBC December Global Update.

As 2022 draws to a close, our network has a lot to celebrate!

Building on the hard earned momentum from the last 20 years of work, we are now truly seeing our shared mission permeating public discourse and entering global action agendas at the highest level.

In our [2022 Annual Report](#) you will see the major achievements of our movement this year and how we are leading the transformation to sustainable and decarbonised built environments for everyone, everywhere.

Below you will also find my reflections of COP27, news and updates from around the network and events to look forward to in 2023.

I wish you all good health and happiness ahead of the holiday season, and I'm looking forward to continuing to champion sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere, together in 2023!

Best wishes,

Cristina Gamboa, CEO, World Green Building Council

Please note that WorldGBC offices will be closed for the winter holiday season from 23 December 2022 up to 2 January 2023.



Ilari Aho, Chair of the Board, WorldGBC 2022 Annual Report

"As the COVID-19, cost-of-living, energy and the climate crises continue to create social distress and economic and political uncertainty, there is certainty in the potential force for good coming from a sustainable built environment.

The number and capabilities of our Green Building Councils continue to grow. Policymakers are recognising the impacts and solutions from the built environment.

But we need to go bolder and go faster. Future generations depend on it."

[Read the WorldGBC 2022 Annual Report](#)



People Power: Building Progress at COP27

Reflections from Cristina Gamboa, CEO, WorldGBC

During the two week of COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, together we have once again elevated buildings and construction as a critical sector for the transition to a resilient and zero emissions future.

- 200+ built environment events, of which WorldGBC was involved in more than 20%
- Over 4.5 million press and social media reach
- New WorldGBC publication launched: [Climate Change Resilience in the Built Environment guide](#)
- Two new initiatives from WorldGBC's Africa Regional Network
 - 1) [Africa Manifesto for Sustainable Cities in the Built Environment](#)
 - 2) [African Alliance for Sustainable Cities and the Built Environment](#)

Read COP27 reflections from Cristina Gamboa



World Green Building Council to launch new series produced by BBC StoryWorks Commercial Productions in 2023

The new series will focus on the connection between people and buildings, examining the spaces around us with a new curiosity and creating demand for a healthier, more equitable, and greener built environment. Members of the World Green Building Council network are invited to share their stories for consideration for the project.

[Find out how you can get involved](#)



At COP27 we launched the African Alliance for Sustainable Cities and Built Environments

Cities and businesses in Africa need to commit to drastically reducing their emissions before 2050, but a net zero transition cannot happen without the mobilisation of the workforce of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). The Alliance will serve as a regional platform to enable collaboration and knowledge sharing for the built environment across the continent.

[Find out more](#)



#BuildingLife Roadmap

Earlier this year, WorldGBC launched a bold new policy plan for the European Union as part of #BuildingLife.

[Dr Stephen Richardson](#), Director of the European Regional Network, WorldGBC, [explains how this roadmap](#) can be used by European policy makers and industry leaders to take Europe forward into becoming the first carbon neutral continent.



Botswana
**Green Building
Council**



Welcome to the Network!

Last month two new African Green Building Councils (GBCs) joined our global network. We are delighted to welcome both [Botswana Green Building Council](#) and [Green Building Council Zimbabwe](#), whose leadership and collaboration will help to scale sustainable building practices on the African continent to benefit people and planet.

[Read more about Botswana GBC](#)

[Read more about GBC Zimbabwe](#)



Winners of the Asia Pacific Leadership in Green Building Award

On 23 November 2022, we announced the winners of the prestigious WorldGBC Asia Pacific Leadership in Green Building Awards, which were celebrated in Bali, Indonesia.

These awards showcase the businesses and innovators leading the way in sustainable buildings.

[Find out more](#)



These Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment signatories are taking accelerated action to decarbonise their building portfolios, today.

Read more on their latest Advancing Net Zero developments.

[Learn more](#)

SAVE THE DATE: 19 JANUARY 2023

*Knowledge Exchange Forum,
Cities Climate Action*

19 January 2023, 10:00–12:00 (GMT-6 Mexico City time)

The WorldGBC Americas Regional Network together with [World Resources Institute](#) and regional partners [Johnson Controls](#) and [Daikin](#), will hold the Knowledge Exchange Forum between cities belonging to the Cities Climate Action initiative supported by the [Building Efficiency Accelerator](#) (BEA).

The Forum will focus on sharing best practices to select, design, and implement roadmaps/action plans to achieve a net zero built environment.

[Find out more](#)

NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

GBCs AND PARTNERS

GBCs

- [Join Green Building Council España for their annual event, Sustainability XL](#), Friday 16 December. Here GBCe will present their 2022 report addressing the emergencies of the building sector, and their updated #BuildingLife Roadmap.

- Green Building Council Finland publish guidelines for a carbon-neutral building. The FIGBC guidelines refers to the carbon neutrality of the building throughout its entire life cycle, regardless of at which stage in the life cycle the climate effects occur or who causes them. [Find out more.](#)

Partners

- [November News Roundup](#) from our Net Zero Carbon Building Commitment Signatories .
- Thought Leadership from Foster + Partners: [Why we must adopt circularity in the built environment to achieve a regenerative balance](#)
- The [EVORA Global](#) EVOLVE ESG Training Academy is running free training sessions until 15 December, which are accessible to professionals working in the real asset sector but also to whoever is curious to know more about sustainability. [Find out more.](#)
- Lendlease Europe has just published two Sustainability reports: [Mission Zero Progress Report](#) highlighting Lendlease's promising progress towards their carbon targets, and [Thriving Communities](#) outlining Lendlease's approach and track-record in creating positive social impacts for the residents and businesses neighbouring their projects.

Corporate Advisory Board

- [Majid Al Futtaim announce that they have successfully signed their second Sustainability-Linked Loan \(SLL\)](#) for \$1.25 bn, taking them one step closer to reaching their target of reaching a [#NetPositive](#) business model by 2040.
- [Value chain partners have joined forces with AkzoNobel](#) in the fields of circular solutions, process efficiency, and solvent reduction in a determined effort to collectively reduce carbon emissions in the paints and coatings value chain.
- [CDL pledges to support COP27 action declaration](#) to strengthen climate policy engagement.
- [Holcim upgrades its 2030 climate targets](#) in line with SBTi's 1.5°C framework
- [Signify receives the best industry score in S&P sustainability assessment](#)
- [Swire Properties](#) recently raised their global ranking to No.4 (from No.7 in 2021) in the latest Dow Jones Sustainability World Index, among 500+ companies assessed in the Real Estate Industry, and ranked No.1 in Asia for the second consecutive year. They also scored No.2 globally in the 'Environmental Dimension'. [Find out more.](#)
- [JLL's strategic technology services enable future of work and sustainability](#)

Our Corporate Advisory Board



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