

November  
2022



# GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,  
Welcome to our November Global Update and build up to COP27.

We are now only a few days away from the 27th [UN Climate Change](#) Conference of the Parties in Egypt.

WorldGBC will be working on the ground at this year's Africa COP, alongside the UN High Level Climate Champions and the [#BuildingToCOP27 Coalition](#), to position the built environment as a critical sector to achieve the needed transition to a resilient and zero emissions future.

We will carry with us examples of inspiring work from our GBCs, partners, and industry leaders to share how not only can our sector deliver the transformative change needed to decarbonise our global economy and deliver increased energy security, resilience and health and well-being.

With over [120 events](#) representing the built environment, the building and construction sector will be visible as a solutions provider to global climate, economic and social challenges. Many of these events will be streamed live, for you to access wherever you are in the world!

## My highlights in the run up to COP27:

- **2030 Breakthrough Agenda**
  - The High Level Climate Action Champions announce their 2030 [Breakthrough Agenda](#) for the Built Environment, with [WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#) recognised as one of 7 levers for change.
  
- **Africa Manifesto for Sustainable Cities and the Built Environment**
  - On 4 November, WorldGBC and its Africa Regional Network will launch the *Africa Manifesto for Sustainable Cities and the Built Environment*. [Watch this space](#).
  
- **The Circular Buildings Coalition launched**

- The [Circular Buildings Coalition](#) aims to cultivate alliances, build a common understanding, and amplify proven solutions to create a circular built environment in Europe.

Stay tuned for live COP27 built environment insights and updates at [buildingtocop.org](https://buildingtocop.org) and following [@WorldGBC](#) and #BuildingToCOP27 on social media. **Find out what events WorldGBC staff are involved with in the attached at-a-glance schedule.**

Best wishes,  
Cristina Gamboa  
CEO, WorldGBC



***“We are now only a few days away from COP27. It’s time to enable the capacity of the built environment to deliver social value and ensure the resilient solutions we need are implemented. And it’s time for impactful policy responses from local and regional leaders, to enable this much needed transformation.”***

**CRISTINA GAMBOA**  
CEO, WorldGBC

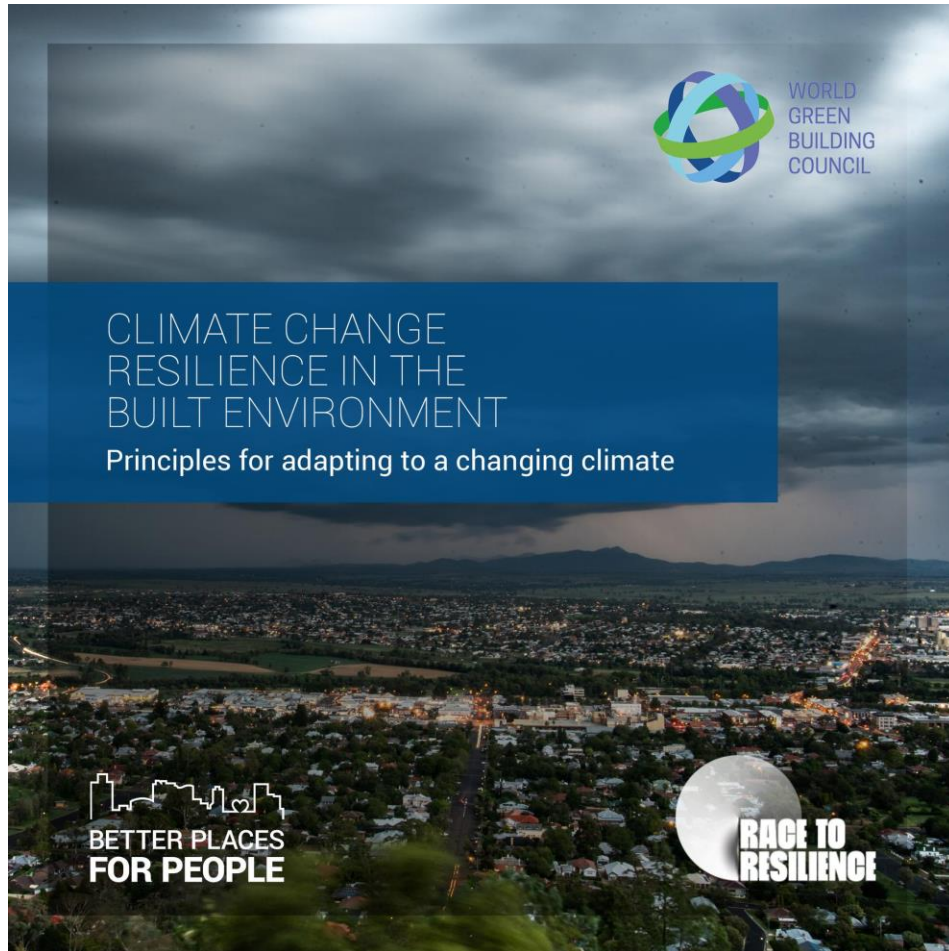
**#BUILDING TO COP27**

**WORLD GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL**

In this thought leadership blog, Cristina Gamboa lays out WorldGBC's call to actions that policymakers and businesses must take at COP27 to enable the transition to resilient and zero emissions built environments. Whether you're an investor, architect, engineer, construction worker or facilities manager — join us!

It's time to scale low carbon, highly resilient and equitable built environment solutions that work for everyone, everywhere.

[Read the article here](#)



WorldGBC partnered with the UN High Level Climate Champions and C40 Cities to release the industry guide to 'Climate Change Resilience in the Built Environment'. This guide provides effective and practical steps that can be taken on a building, community and city scale to adapt and build resilience for everyone, everywhere.

[Read the full Resilience Guide here](#)

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This decade is an urgent opportunity to transform the built environment sector, enhance collaboration of all stakeholders and accelerate broader [#ClimateAction](#).

To achieve the 2030 Breakthrough Outcome for the built environment, we need near-term action across all levers for systems change, from supply to demand to policy implementation.

Visit the [High Level Climate Action Champions'](#) Built Environment webpage to help the sector address both operational and embodied carbon.

[View the Built Environment webpage here](#)

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Together with [WBCSD](#), [Arup](#) and the [Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#), the [Circular Buildings Coalition](#) aims to cultivate alliances, build a common understanding, and amplify proven solutions to create a circular built environment in Europe.

[Read about the Circular Buildings Coalition](#)

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Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment (the Commitment) signatories are taking accelerated action to [#decarbonise](#) their building portfolios and our built environment.

The Commitment calls on the building and construction sector to take action to decarbonise the built environment, inspire others to take similar action and remove barriers to implementation. If you have local solutions for this global crisis, then [join](#) this global movement today.

[Read about this frontrunner action](#)



The Asia Pacific Network Awards finalists have been announced! These awards celebrate iconic green buildings, up-and-coming innovators, and continue to inspire companies to drive change throughout the region.

[View the APN Finalists here](#)



[Korea Green Building Council](#) (KGBC), [Kenya Green Building Society](#) (KGBS), [Turkish Green Building Council](#) (ÇEDBiK) and [Hungary Green Building Council](#) (HuGBC) have joined the Advancing Net Zero programme. These GBCs have identified activities within their work streams to advance the uptake of net zero buildings within their local market and beyond.

[Read the article here](#)

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[The Sustainable Innovation Forum 2022](#) returns to COP27 for the 13th year under the theme Bold Leadership, Brave Action. Together with heads of state, ministers, CEOs, investors, UN and multilateral dignitaries to help accelerate the effective development, deployment and uptake of climate solutions by facilitating cross sector collaboration and catalysing innovation.

[Claim your Guest Pass](#)

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[The Climate Pledge](#) calls on businesses and organisations to take collective action on the world's greatest crisis and to work together to build a safe and healthy planet for the next generations. Join the world's top companies - and take action now to reach net-zero carbon by 2040.

[Join The Climate Pledge today](#)

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# NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

## *GBCs AND PARTNERS*

### GBCs

- [Green Building Council Australia](#) (GBCA) celebrates 20 years of transforming the built environment! [Davina Rooney](#), CEO of GBCA, reflects on her years in the construction industry and the progress the sector has made over the years.
- [India Green Building Council](#) celebrated their [20th Annual Green Building Congress](#) which was held in Hyderabad with the theme: "Advancing Net Zero - Buildings and the Built Environment"
- [US Green Building Council](#) shares their thoughts on what to expect at COP27, market trends keeping 1.5oC alive, and how they are participating

### Partners

- WorldGBC would like to thank Ibrahim Al-Zu'bi for his 15+ years of leadership in the green building movement. He has made a great impact in

the MENA region and beyond. We are particularly grateful for his service as Chair of our Corporate Advisory Board in the last few years. As he has stepped down from his position at [Majid Al Futtaim Holdings](#), we wish him the very best as he dedicates himself to championing climate change, sustainability and energy transition serving at a high-level position in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). We also welcome Esther An (Chief Sustainability Officer) at [City Developments Limited](#) as WorldGBC's new Chair of our Corporate Advisory Board.

- **Signify believes energy efficiency is no longer a nice-to-have**  
Lighting accounts for 13% of all electricity usage worldwide. By moving to energy-efficient LED lighting, lighting-related energy consumption could drop to 8% globally by 2030. [Read Signify's article here to find out more.](#)
- **Google is accelerating climate action and beyond**  
Sustainability has always been at the core of what Google does. But now the business is taking it a step further and making it easier for everyone using their products to live more sustainably. [Find out how this industry giant is driving change.](#)
- **Swire Properties is accelerating towards net zero**  
Swire Properties' vision is to reduce carbon emissions throughout the whole building lifecycle. This real estate business is doing what it can to reach net zero throughout its portfolio. [Read the full article here.](#)
- **We Mean Business is getting down to business**  
Ahead of COP27, the Coalition and partners [identified priorities within the three COP27 themes](#) – mitigation, adaptation and finance – to increase ambition and accelerate collaboration between business and government in pursuit of our shared climate goals. [Read all about what We Mean Business has to say here.](#)
- **JLL: Decarbonisation needs to be a priority at Africa's COP**  
Africa's population accounts for 17% of the world's population but only 4% of global carbon emissions. The real estate sector to deliver solutions for a more sustainable built environment across the continent and the Global South. [Read more in JLL's article.](#)
- **Siemens is going to Tokenize the energy transition**  
This global giant understands the need for a marketplace that brings together innovators, visionaries, engineers and entrepreneurs. [Find out more about the Siemens Smart Infrastructure Challenge here.](#)



**Upcoming Events**

- [\*\*SBEfin2022 Emerging Concepts for Sustainable Built Environment Virtual Conference\*\*](#) 23-25 November presenting novel concepts on inclusive and resilient cities, circular neighbourhoods, responsibly sourced materials, construction value chain and calls for new skills and new businesses.
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**OUR CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF  
WORLDGBC IS POWERED BY OUR**

PLATINUM PARTNER



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**Our Corporate Advisory Board**



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