

August
2023



GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

Welcome to the August Global Update!

With July having been set to be the world's warmest month on record, we are once again faced with the harsh reality of climate change.

Speaking at UN Headquarters, the Secretary-General António Guterres accentuated the need for global action on emissions, warning us that “the era of global warming has ended” and “the era of global boiling has arrived.” I want this warning to ignite urgency and momentum in our sector, which has a colossus role to play in this climate fight. It's not too late to stop the worst impacts of climate change. But as Guterres said: “to do so we must turn a year of burning heat into a year of burning ambition.” I say, as a network that is growing from strength to strength in terms of solutions, collaboration and innovation — we are ready to accelerate change.

Our network has demonstrated combined efforts to transform the global built environment landscape towards net zero. Through the launch of our fifth [Advancing Net Zero \(ANZ\) Status report](#) on 26 July, Green Building Councils (GBCs), partners and Commitment signatories showcased their game changing achievements in accelerating action at a local, regional and global level towards decarbonising the built environment. With [Earth Overshoot Day](#) on 2 August, we are reminded of the hard work ahead of us, but this report shows that collective action can, and does, make change happen.

Ahead of the World's first Global Stocktake at COP28, Dubai, we continue preparations to represent our mission and network at a number of high level events including the UN General Assembly (UNGA) [SDG Summit](#) (18–19 September 2023), [Climate Week NYC](#) (17–24 September), and of course the UN Climate Change Conference [COP28](#) (30 November–12 December).

Leveraging our collective influence as a green building network we are [#BuildingTheTransition](#) for [World Green Building Week 2023](#). From 11–15 September 2023, we're calling on the global building and construction sector to accelerate the transition to secure an energy efficient, regenerative and just future for all. See our [#WGBW23 events map](#) and [register your own event here](#).

Best wishes,

Cristina Gamboa, CEO, World Green Building Council

Advancing Net Zero Status Report: accelerating a breakthrough to decarbonise the built environment

On 26 July, WorldGBC launched the fifth edition of our annual [Advancing Net Zero \(ANZ\) Status Report](#) that highlights action being taken *now* to decarbonise the built environment from businesses, governments and the global Green Building Council (GBC) network.

WorldGBC's ANZ programme is now engaging more GBCs than ever, with 35 GBCs participating, and the entire network involved in regional ANZ activities. All five WorldGBC regional networks now have ANZ projects aimed at localising solutions and guidance for uptake at scale, including Net Zero Readiness Frameworks being developed in MENA and Americas.



[Download the Advancing Net Zero Status Report here](#)

Campaign resources for #BuildingTheTransition, World Green Building Week 2023

This [World Green Building Week](#) (11–15 September)—**#BuildingTheTransition**— calls on the global building and construction sector to accelerate the transition to secure an **energy efficient, regenerative and just future for all**. Led by a network of over 75 national Green Building Councils (GBCs) and their 46,000 members, the week-long event will show how through systems change thinking, and leveraging local solutions, we can transition to sustainable built environments.

You can view our [campaign resources here](#). You can also [register your event for #WGBW23 here](#) and view the [global map of events here](#).



[Register your #WGBW23 event here](#)

Meet WorldGBC's elected leaders



We are proud to announce the results of our Board elections and the new Executive Committee, effective as of 1 July 2023. We have also selected Chairs and Vice Chairs for our Green Building Council (GBC) CEO Network, Corporate Advisory Board and Regional Leadership.

WorldGBC's [Board of Directors](#) are a group of influential sustainability leaders bringing diversity of expertise to catalyse WorldGBC's mission to lead the transformation to sustainable and decarbonised built environments for everyone, everywhere.

[Find out more](#)

TAKE ACTION

Look for solutions in action: WorldGBC's Case Study Library

Our [Case Study Library](#) features examples of the world's most cutting edge sustainable buildings. Each building in the case study has demonstrated enhanced performance in relation to health benefits and net zero operational carbon, as verified by established certification schemes, rating tools or other verification systems.



[Submit your case study](#)

We're committed to decarbonising the built environment - are you?

[WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#) was developed to recognise and promote advanced climate leadership action from businesses, organisations, cities and sub-national governments in decarbonising the built environment.

The next decade of climate action is crucial. Join our growing community of signatories who are advancing net zero by taking action now to decarbonise our built environment.

[Join the Commitment today](#)

LEARN

More ambitious EU emissions targets needed for 2040

We have responded to the [European Commission's consultation](#) on an emissions target for 2040, calling for the highest level of ambition which addresses and recognises the built environment's full potential in securing a sustainable future.

In a [position paper](#) submitted to the Commission last month, WorldGBC called for this 2040 climate target to be set at over 90%, to bring the EU as closely in alignment as possible with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

[Find out more](#)

NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

GBCs & Partners

GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS

Green Building Council of Australia releases report with Property Council of Australia

The 'Carbon offsets, last but not later' report released by [GBC Australia](#) advises that offsets should be used last in a hierarchy of actions when it comes to carbon mitigation.

[Read the full report here](#)

CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD

Arup releases report on the carbon footprint of the built environment

[Arup](#) have published a new report, 'The Built Environment – Designing for people, place and planet', to demonstrate how, working together with their clients, they are striving to deliver solutions for a sustainable world.

[Read the full report here](#)

Google releases 2023 Environmental Report

Google's [2023 Environmental Report](#) is now available! Learn how their workplace metrics and highlights factor into their operating sustainably pillar. There are many updates on landmark projects, green building certifications, carbon free energy, electrification, refrigerants, food waste, plastics, water, ecology and much more.

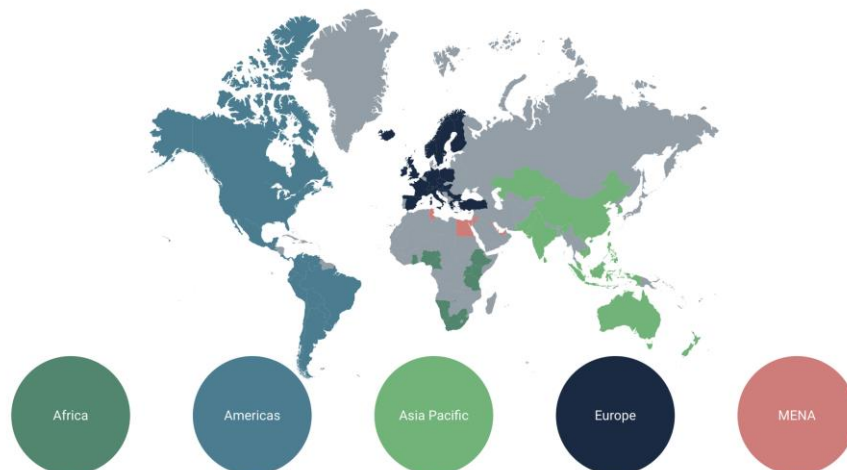
[Read the full report here](#)

Multiplex publishes report on ESG journey

[Multiplex](#) has launched their annual 'Environmental Social Governance (ESG)' Report for Europe. The report covers ESG related activities and headline achievements between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022.

[Read the full report here](#)

Regional Networks



View our global network

Find out more about the Green Building Councils around the world which are part of our network

[View our members page](#)

Our Corporate Advisory Board

ARUP

AkzoNobel



Google

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