

September  
2023



# GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

Welcome to the September Global Update!

Next week marks World Green Building Council's (WorldGBC) 15th annual [World Green Building Week](#). From 11–15 September, 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 through [#BuildingTheTransition](#).

Led by a network of over 75 national Green Building Councils (GBCs) and their 46,000 members, the week-long campaign will show how through systems change thinking, and leveraging local solutions, we can transition to sustainable built environments.

September is a critical month for climate action. Firstly, today the UNFCCC is expected to publish the Global Stocktake synthesis report [on their website](#) demonstrating a comprehensive assessment of global action on climate change to date. This is the result of two years of consultations and inputs from governments, businesses and NGOs.

I am anticipating that the findings of this paper will be a call for us to double down our efforts – which is why we must ensure momentum for sustainability in the built environment snowballs ahead of COP28, in Dubai, UAE.

So on 14 September, WorldGBC alongside GlobalABC will be launching our first [#BuildingToCOP](#) Forum as part of World Green Building Week. Join these Forums for the latest industry intelligence and hear from built environment leaders acting to scale economic, social, and climate resilience. [Register here.](#)

I wish you all a fantastic World Green Building packed with learning, collaboration and action!

Best wishes,

Cristina Gamboa, CEO, World Green Building Council

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## We're #BuildingTheTransition this #WGBW23

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.

Led by a network of over 75 national Green Building Councils (GBCs) and their 46,000 members, the week-long campaign will show how through systems change thinking, and leveraging local solutions, we can transition to sustainable built environments.



[Join us this #WGBW23](#)

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## Striving for a sustainable built environment in the Middle East and North Africa

Our Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regional network is proud to share that Razan Al Mubarak, UN High-Level Climate Champions for COP28, will deliver the keynote speech at our event on 12 September in Abu Dhabi.

This #BuildingTheTransition event will tackle the three transitions essential to accelerate a sustainable built environment in the MENA region.

# What we build today defines our tomorrow



#BuildingTheTransition



#BuildingTheTransition In MENA  
12 September | 11:00 - 17:00 (GMT+4)  
Al-Muntada Knowledge Space by Saint-Gobain, Abu Dhabi, UAE

We need to act now in #BuildingTheTransition in the MENA Region. This event will tackle the three transitions essential to accelerate a sustainable built environment: #EnergyTransition, #RegenerativeTransition, and the #JustTransition.

Razan Al Mubarak, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP28, will deliver the keynote speech at the event.



Join us.  
#BuildingTheTransition  
#WGBW23

[Find out more about the event here](#)

## Three businesses commit to reducing whole life carbon emissions of their building portfolios

We're thrilled to announce two new signatories, [NDY](#) and [Scape](#), to the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, as well as [Hoare Lea](#) which has transitioned to the updated Commitment. These businesses are taking action to decarbonise their building portfolios and advocate for wider emissions reductions across their respective supply chains.

[Read more here](#)

## LEARN

### The time to act is now

September is a fervent and critical month for climate action as we're in the midst of Africa Climate Week, the Delhi G20 Summit, and only a couple of days away from World Green Building Week 2023 and the first #BuildingToCOP28 Forum.

Our global network has its work cut out to put the pressure on, and accelerate a sustainable transition for the building and construction sector.

We must ensure that 2023 is the year in which, following the Global Stocktake, action is taken to reduce emissions, increase ambition of NDCs and start #BuildingTheTransition.

[Read the full article](#)

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## The Spaces That Shape Us



We spend 90% of our time indoors. Buildings play a central role in supporting our health and wellbeing.

But buildings also contribute a staggering 37% of global carbon emissions. Almost three-quarters of these emissions arise from heating, cooling and powering these spaces. And their environmental impact lasts a long time even after the bulldozers have left.

How can we design our spaces to be better for people and less harmful to the planet?

This series [#TheSpacesThatShapeUs](#), produced by [BBC StoryWorks](#) and presented by WorldGBC, shows that long-term thinking can create buildings that help lift people up without letting the planet down.

[Watch the series](#)

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## TAKE ACTION

### Let us know what you'll be doing at COP28

COP28 is fast approaching and WorldGBC and the #BuildingToCOP Coalition would like to know how we can engage with you further. If you would like to work with us please fill out our Engagement Tracker.

[COP28 Engagement](#)

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### 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](#)

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### 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](#)

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## NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

### GBCs & Partners

#### GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS

##### Creating the Africa We Want

WorldGBC's Africa Regional Network took part in Africa Climate Week and the Africa Climate Summit 4–8 September, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya.

Our Africa Regional Chair, Nasra Nanda, participated in two events during the course of the week to discuss the asks of the [Africa Manifesto for Sustainable Cities and the Built Environment](#). The events were 'Building the Africa we want: Advancing sustainable cities and climate finance for Africa's growing population and urban landscape' (5 September) and 'Scaling resilient building solutions for climate action in Africa' (7 September).



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### We want your input

WorldGBC is committed to supporting the growth and success of our global Green Building Council network. [Your input in our 2023 Member Value Survey](#) allows us to shape our priorities and share your success stories.

We look forward to hearing from you!

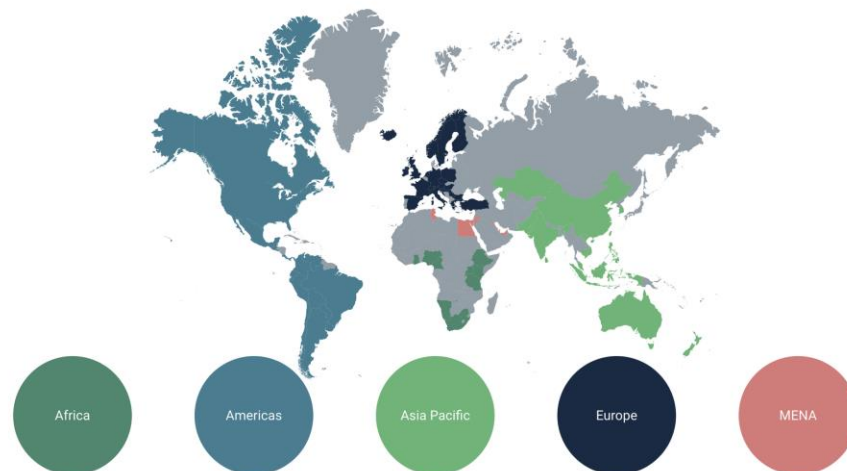
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## CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD

[Carrier has released its 2023 ESG Report](#) that highlights the intelligent climate and energy solutions the business is implementing. Carrier is innovating to address the planet's most urgent challenges while meeting the needs of customers and supporting our communities and our people.

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### 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](#)

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