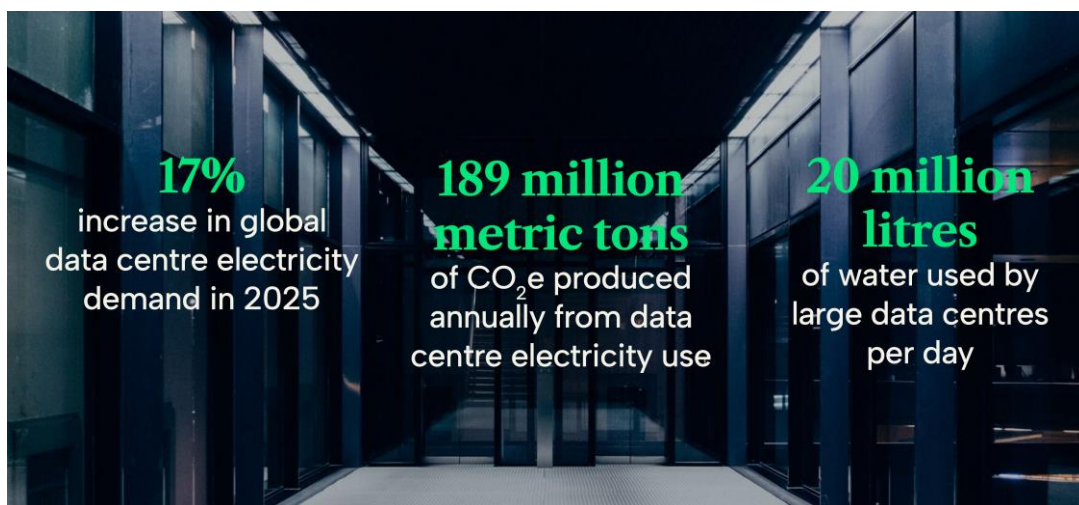


July 2026

Greening Data Centres — policy principles for a sustainable digital future



From AI and cloud computing, to streaming and online services, data centres are the unseen backbone of our digital world. But as demand grows, so does their impact on energy, water, carbon emissions and local communities.

That's why World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) has launched a new resource, ['Greening Data Centres'](#) on 28 July. This brings together expert insights, global examples and practical policy recommendations to help governments, industry and the built environment sector make smarter decisions on everything from site selection and energy use, to biodiversity.

Communities also have a vital role to play in shaping the future of data centres. The resource helps local groups to better understand the potential impacts of proposed developments, ask the right questions and contribute to informed decision-making.

The resource serves as a starting point for the outputs of the [Green Data Centres Coalition](#), launched in April. WorldGBC is one of its founding members, and collaborates with relevant stakeholders to support clear, credible standards for sustainable data centre development.

As digital infrastructure expands at pace, it's time to ensure that data centres are designed not just for performance — but for people and the planet too.

[Explore Greening Data Centres](#)



New Board appointments strengthen global leadership

WorldGBC has welcomed new and returning leaders to our [Board of Directors](#), strengthening our network as we continue to accelerate action towards a more sustainable built environment.

Alongside the Board appointments, new leadership has also been confirmed for the [Corporate Advisory Board \(CAB\)](#) and [Members Steering Group \(MSG\)](#), bringing together expertise from across industry and our global network of over 80 Green Building Councils. Together, these leaders will help shape WorldGBC's strategic direction and accelerate climate action on a global scale. [Read more about our new leadership appointments and governance groups.](#)

Across the regional network



Shaping the future of whole life carbon across Europe

On 10 June 2026, experts from across academia, industry and policy came together in Brussels for the [INDICATE LIFE](#) 'Whole Life Carbon Network Event', held alongside the 'European Whole Life Carbon (WLC) Forum for Buildings and Nordic Sustainable Construction'.

The event explored the future of WLC assessment and regulation across Europe. Participants shared insights on national methodologies, policy development, industry innovation and the importance of robust data to support effective decision making. [See the full event summary and key takeaways.](#)

Meet the experts judging the Asia Pacific Leadership Awards 2026

The WorldGBC Asia Pacific Leadership Awards 2026 are one step closer, with the announcement of this year's distinguished jury.

Bringing together leading experts from across the built environment, finance, policy and sustainability sectors, the panel will recognise the people, organisations and projects which are driving innovation and leadership across the Asia Pacific region. [Meet the 2026 jury and find out more about the Awards.](#)



Learning and events



World Green Building Week is back — are you ready?

[World Green Building Week](#) returns on 7–11 September, bringing together our global network to champion the buildings that are preparing us for a more resilient, efficient and successful future.

This year's theme, **#BuildItReady**, explores how investing in better buildings today can help businesses and communities to reduce risk, unlock opportunity and thrive in a rapidly changing world.

The [global events map is now open](#) — register your event today and showcase how you're helping build a more sustainable future.

[Find out more](#)

[Register your event](#)

55% of concrete
reported by

ConcreteZero members now
meets the low-carbon definition



ConcreteZero analysis signals momentum towards lower carbon concrete

A new milestone from [Climate Group's](#) ConcreteZero initiative highlights momentum towards lower-carbon concrete, with 55% of reported concrete from member companies now meeting the initiative's low carbon standard.

This progress demonstrates that market transformation is underway. As a partner of ConcreteZero, WorldGBC is encouraged to see many participating organisations — also signatories to our [Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#) — turn ambitious commitments into measurable action, accelerating progress on reducing embodied carbon and moving towards a zero emission built environment. [Read the analysis](#).

**Final thought from Cristina Gamboa, CEO,
WorldGBC**



As we move into the second half of the year, I'm reminded that some of our greatest achievements happen when we come together with a shared purpose. This was very clear during the WorldGBC Leadership Summit 2026, and you can [watch the highlights here](#).

I've also been reflecting on the role buildings must play in the global energy transition. [In my latest post, I share why Europe's new Electrification Action Plan](#) is an important step towards greater energy security, affordability and competitiveness, and why improving the performance of our buildings must go hand in hand with electrification if we are to deliver lasting impact.

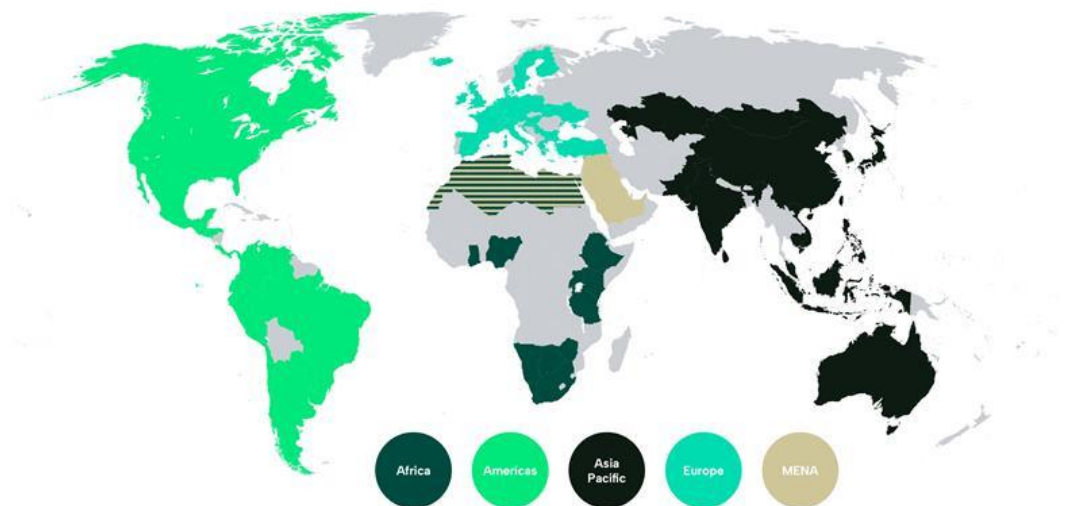
Now, in just a few weeks time our global network will unite again for [World Green Building Week \(WGBW\)](#), 7–11 September 2026, under this year's theme, #BuildItReady. We will showcase as a collective how better buildings are helping businesses, communities and cities to become more resilient, efficient and ready for the future. It is a chance to demonstrate not only what's possible, but what's already happening across our network every day.

With more than 80 Green Building Councils and 51,000 members, WGBW is a powerful reminder that real progress comes through action.

By sharing our stories with one voice, we can inspire confidence, accelerate change and demonstrate the value of sustainable buildings to policymakers, businesses and communities around the world.

As we continue on the road to [COP31](#) in November, our collective leadership has never mattered more. The transition is already underway — and now is the time to scale what works, to strengthen our partnerships and show the world what we can achieve together. I look forward to celebrating WGBW with you all.

Global network



Find out more about our global network of Green Building Councils around the world.

Our Corporate Advisory Board

AkzoNobel

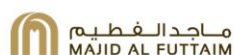
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