

February
2022



GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

Welcome to the WorldGBC February Global Update.

2022 marks 20 years of WorldGBC.

Launched in 2002 as a network of five Green Building Councils (GBCs) with one mission, the network today stands at over 70 GBCs and its leaders from every corner of the world.

But it takes a village.

I am proud to stand on the shoulders of the green building giants – our GBCs, the members of GBCs, our past and present board members, our partners and staff. It is a collective effort, and it's our collaboration that has driven our success. It is my privilege to serve this movement in such a critical time.

Although this is a time to celebrate, it's also time for a reality check.

The reality is it's 2022, and 2030 is a line in the sand.

To keep 1.5 degrees within reach, we must halve our built environment's emissions by 2030 and galvanise solutions to completely decarbonise by 2050.

As we celebrate 20 years and look ahead to the next 20, we're announcing three key initiatives to ensure our network advances our 2030 goals:

1. This 27-30 June, we're hosting our first Leadership Summit in London. Bringing together leaders from across the network, we're focusing on 2025 and continuing to progress our strategy [Sustainable Buildings for Everyone, Everywhere](#).
2. We're #BuildingToCOP27. Working with the UN High-Level Climate Champions, the Egyptian and UK governments, GBCs in the region and influential partners, we are doubling down at #COP27 to elevate the potential of the built environment for deep community resilience and advancing net zero. [Watch the highlights from #BuildingToCOP26](#).
3. From the MENA Sustainable Reconstruction Guidelines, Beyond Buildings and Beyond the Business Case Report to #BuildingLife,

we're investing in projects that drive a holistic approach to sustainability in the built environment.

We have eight years to 2030, and we need everyone on board.

I'm humbled to be on this journey and invite you to join us as we accelerate sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

Best wishes,
Cristina Gamboa, CEO, World Green Building Council



WorldGBC marks 20 years of championing the sustainable built environment

The World Green Building Council's global network celebrates its 20 year anniversary.

[Read the story](#)



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors call for nominations and revised election model

The WorldGBC Board of Directors Call for Nominations is open!

Historically, the election and appointment of new Directors has been the remit of the WorldGBC Board, with candidates being nominated by Established Members.

To ensure that our Members are shaping our journey and mission, voting for the appointment of new WorldGBC Board of Directors will be transferred to you, our Members. All Members in good standing will have equal voting rights during the Board elections, irrespective of membership status.

In accordance with WorldGBC's Bylaws, all candidates must be nominated by an Established GBC that is in good standing with WorldGBC. Board nominations are due no later than 31 March 2022.

[Find out more](#)



Join us for the first #BuildingToCOP27 Forum of 2022

Following the success of *Cities, Regions & Built Environment Day* at COP26, WorldGBC is #BuildingToCOP27.

Convening a powerful coalition of stakeholders, the monthly sessions elevate the built environment as a critical climate solution ahead of COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

Join us 24 February, 4:00–5:00 pm GMT, as we reflect on the takeaways from COP26, and look ahead to sustainable development opportunities and finance potential at Africa's COP27.

Key speakers:

- Elizabeth Wangeci Chege, CEO and co-founder, WEB Limited
- Ayaan Adam, CEO, AFC Capital Partners

[Register here](#)



#BuildingLife event on 18 March: The Alliance HQE Net Zero Carbon Renovation project

In the first of our 2022 #BuildingLife webinars, we delve into the Net Zero Carbon (NZC) Renovation project, led by [Alliance HQE](#), the French Green Building Council. The webinar explores the pioneering methodology that Alliance HQE has developed to apply life cycle assessment (LCA) to decarbonisation of existing buildings. The event will be jointly hosted by WorldGBC and Alliance HQE.

[Register here](#)



Middle East & Africa Green Building Congress, 23 & 24 March 2022

Our annual Congress brings together global trends and ambition with regional leadership and opportunities.

Join us virtually as we work collectively to deliver sustainable built environments in the Middle East, Africa, and beyond!

Register here



Meet your fellow sustainability leaders

Everyday you're driving transformational change – and that's not easy.

But you're not alone.

To mark 20 years of WorldGBC, we're hosting our first Leadership Summit in London, and we have a spot especially for you.

Bringing together leaders from across the network, we're focusing on 2025 and building on our strategy [Sustainable Buildings for Everyone, Everywhere](#).

**This event is open exclusively to GBCs, GBC members, the WorldGBC Corporate Advisory Board and WorldGBC partners.*

Pre-register here

Four new companies take climate action on whole life carbon emissions joining WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment.



WORLD
GREEN
BUILDING
COUNCIL



ADVANCING
NET ZERO



BUILDING
TO COP27



NEXII

TECHNOPOLIS

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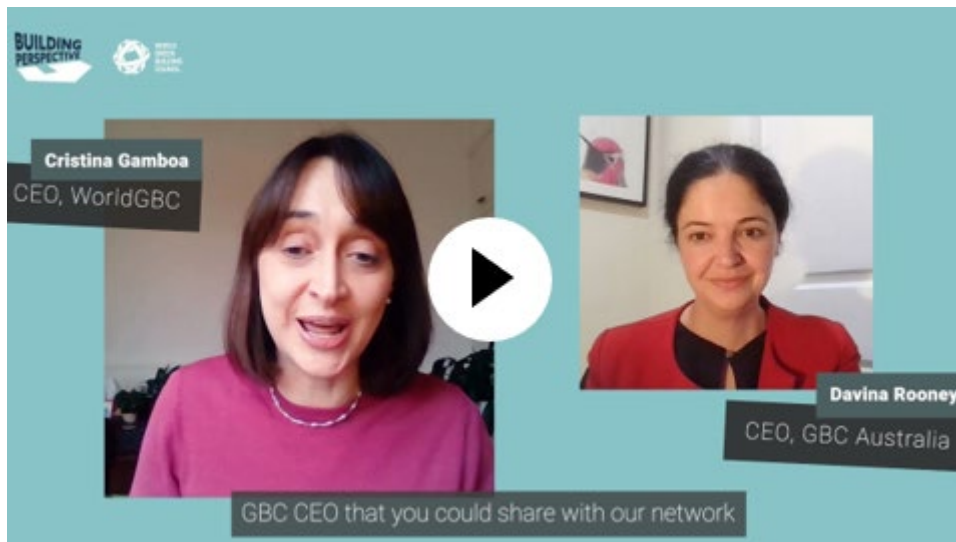
Four new companies take climate action joining WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment

We are proud to welcome four new additions to the updated Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment: LähiTapiola Kiinteistövarainhoito, Nexii Building Solutions Inc., Technopolis, and Veev. These businesses are stepping up their ambition as signatories to the updated Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, taking sector-leading action on whole life carbon emissions.

Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment - Engagement Webinars

[Sign up to our upcoming Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment Engagement Webinars](#) available for both GBCs and GBC members / prospective signatories to learn more about the Commitment requirements, benefits and recruitment process for both GBCs and members.

[Read the story](#)



Driving change through challenging times - our Building Perspective interview with Green Building Council Australia

In our first Asia Pacific region episode of Building Perspective, Davina Rooney, CEO, Green Building Council Australia (GBC Australia), shares with us her leadership learnings from an impressive career in green building.

From life lessons learnt when helping to build an award winning school in the Indian Himalayas, to manoeuvring through the pandemic and devastating wildfires of Australia, Davina talks through her incredible journey to bring sustainable building to the Asia Pacific region.

[Watch the interview](#)



The WorldGBC 2021 Annual Report

The World Green Building Council's (WorldGBC) [Annual Report 2020/21](#) outlines the major achievements of the organisation and our global network of Green Building Councils.

In this year's report, we reflect on our involvement in the historic Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day at COP26 in Glasgow, along with the progress we have made collectively as a network in leading the industry towards catalysing sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

[Read the report](#)



An integrated approach to a sustainable built environment: the co-benefits of health, wellbeing & social value

Our new blog series takes a deep dive into the key findings of our flagship Beyond Buildings report, launched by our global network in 2021. In the latest edition, we explore the additional co-benefits for taking a broader approach to advancing health, wellbeing and social value in the built environment.

[Read the blog](#)



BBCStoryWorks - Helsinki's Energy Renaissance

In the last of our [#BuildingABetterFuture](#) BBCStoryWorks series, we follow the journey of Helsinki's energy renaissance, as the city council draws up

stringent efficiency standards for new buildings and plans to retrofit existing homes and offices.

Watch the film



22 reasons for hope in 2022

The Ikea Foundation has published a retrospective look at the incredible achievements of their partners through 2021, including the work of the WorldGBC network in updated [Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#).

Read 22 reasons for hope

WorldGBC team announcements



We are delighted to welcome two new members of staff to the WorldGBC team. [Vere Shaba](#) (pictured left) joined us in October 2021 as the Programmes Head for our Africa Region, focusing on delivering programmes to catalyse the uptake of a sustainable built environment on the continent with our regional partners, including the African Union. Vere works part time with WorldGBC while also co-leading [Greendesign Africa](#) – an engineering consulting firm specialising in the design, construction, commissioning, operations and certification of green buildings.

[Amira Ayoub](#) (pictured right) joined us in January 2022 as the Programmes Head for our Middle East & North Africa (MENA) Region. Amira is passionate about changing the world and creating a regenerative future for generations to come. She is an Architect, a Sustainable and Healthy Building Consultant, and USGBC® LEED & WELL Accredited Professional & Faculty. Amira is also a Technical Advisor at Egypt Green Building Council. The UNFCCC nominated her with 100 visionary thinkers and interdisciplinary thought leaders worldwide as an advisor to join the Resilience Frontier Initiative, and co-create visions of desirable climate-resilience futures beyond 2030.

Meet the WorldGBC team

**WORLDGBC GLOBAL
CALENDAR**
SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS

Submit your industry and Green Building events to our [online events calendar](#).

Please contact Rebecca Moir, rmoir@worldgbc.org for your event to be considered for inclusion.

NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

GBCs AND PARTNERS

GBCs

- [USGBC](#) and [Green Schoolyards for Healthy Communities](#) at the Children and Nature Network are aligned in efforts to support green schools and schoolyards. To help them capture a picture of activity, they have released [a survey aimed at all organisations](#) working on connecting children to nature through schools to help them create a picture of activity around the world.
- As a part of the Zero Carbon Building Accelerator in Colombia, a multilevel steering committee and nine long-term working groups were created to gather diverse perspectives across sectors and inform the national building decarbonisation roadmap and local action planning processes. In this one-hour webinar World Resources Institute and its partners Consejo Colombiano de Construcción Sostenible (CCCS), will share lessons learned about stakeholder engagement in the road mapping process and how aligning local and national actors promotes a holistic approach to building decarbonisation. [Register for 'Zero Carbon Building Accelerator: Stakeholder Engagement in Colombia' - 23 February 2022](#).
- On 25 January, [USGBC](#) and [GBCI Europe](#) published "[LEED and the EU Taxonomy](#)", a white paper discussing how LEED aligns with the European classification framework.

Partners

- During an interactive event hosted by the [World Resources Institute](#), an overview was given on 'How Stakeholder Working Groups Are

Advancing the Zero Carbon Building Accelerator in Colombia'. [Read the findings here](#)

- WorldGBC has featured in the [AirRated report](#), a retrospective look at air quality in 2021.
- Johnson Controls (NYSE: JCI) has [announced](#) it has appointed Rita Rodriguez as Vice President and General Manager, Building Solutions, Latin America, effective 1 January 2022.
- On 2 February the European Commission launched a new eLearning package, helping buildings professionals to prepare for proposed changes to the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). [Find out more about the the Level\(s\) eLearning course and calculator tool.](#)

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