

June
2023



GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

Welcome to the June Global Update!

The growing momentum is palpable as we head into Q3 of this year and ramp up 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](#) (September 17-24), and the UN Climate Change Conference [COP28](#) (30 November - 12 December), looking ahead to the [Global Stocktake](#).

Picking up the drumbeat in the lead-up to these significant moments, on World Environment Day we announced this year's [World Green Building Week campaign — #BuildingTheTransition](#) which calls on all governments around the world and the global building and construction sector to accelerate the transition to secure an energy efficient, regenerative and just future for all.

Earlier this month at the [International Energy Agency's 8th Annual Global Conference](#) on Energy Efficiency, I had the opportunity to highlight that despite the fact that our sector is not yet where it needs to be, our network proves every day that the transition is happening. One of the perks of my job is witnessing this network's determination to enable holistic sustainability goals by 2030 and I believe we have all the answers to the how, we just need deeper collaboration and scale.

In June, our Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Network met with Green Building Councils and partners from across the region to tap into the power of this deep collaboration, leveraging the potential of connections to create a ripple effect of inspired actions across MENA.

I am looking forward to continuing our collaboration with all of you and achieving our shared mission of delivering sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

Best wishes,

Cristina Gamboa, CEO, World Green Building Council

We're #BuildingTheTransition for World Green Building Week 2023

This [World Green Building Week](#) — **#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.



[Read more about our #WGBW23 campaign](#)

We need two billion houses built ≥ over the next 75 years

On 31 May 2023, WorldGBC launched a new report, '[Sustainable and Affordable Housing](#)', spotlighting how sustainable and affordable housing can, and should be, attainable around the world. Featuring case studies from across the WorldGBC network, the report addresses the challenges and opportunities of tackling both the housing and climate crisis across the globe.

If you missed the launch webinars, watch [Session 1](#) and [Session 2](#) by following the links.



The Circular Built Environment Playbook racks up over 40,000

views in the first week of its launch

WorldGBC's Circularity Accelerator Programme has launched [The Circular Built Environment Playbook](#). With over 40,000 views during the first week, this Playbook is increasing awareness of the benefits for all stakeholders of the value chain when implementing the circular economy principles, and calling for deeper collaboration to develop more projects at urban scale.

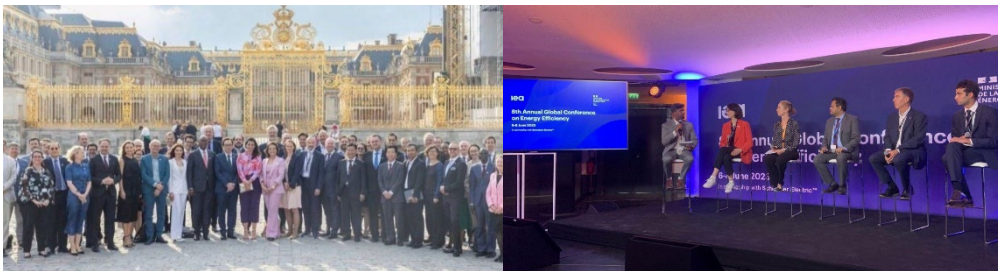
[Download 'The Circular Built Environment Playbook' here](#)

The [Circular Buildings Coalition](#) (CBC) launched the [Towards a Circular Economy in the Built Environment - Overcoming market, finance and ownership challenges](#) report at the World Circular Economy Forum 2023.

To accelerate the transition towards a circular built environment, the CBC invites industry frontrunners—projects and initiatives—to share their ideas on creating demand and overcoming existing barriers. The call is open until 20 July 2023.

[Find out more and submit your application](#)

The net zero transition is one of the biggest business opportunities and the first component is energy efficiency



WorldGBC CEO, Cristina Gamboa attended the opening session of the International Energy Agency's (IEA) 8th Annual Global Conference on Energy Efficiency, in Versailles from 7 - 8 June 2023. It was a hugely valuable opportunity to contribute to the high-level dialogues involving 32 ministers and 50 CEOs. Many of these companies have signed on to World Green Building Council's [Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#) and are delivering frontrunner climate action by 2030.

TAKE ACTION

Science Based Targets Initiative: Public Consultation

[Science Based Targets Initiative \(SBTi\)](#) is developing science-based target setting methodologies, tools and guidance for companies in the building sector and other stakeholders. The aim is to help companies understand and implement the level of climate ambition required to meet the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement.

The consultation is open until 16 July 2023.



[Respond to the consultation](#)

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?

[Sign up to WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#)

[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

Europe not yet on track: one year on since EU Policy Roadmap launch to deliver a climate neutral built environment by 2050

It has been one year since WorldGBC launched a bold new policy plan, the EU Policy Whole Life Carbon Roadmap, in May 2022. The [EU Roadmap](#) sets out a clear plan for how Europe's built environment can support the EU to become the first climate neutral continent and was developed by WorldGBC's flagship [#BuildingLife project](#) with the support of a coalition of 35+ leading industry bodies.

The one-year anniversary is aligned with the announcement of #BuildingLife2 — with the project receiving a further €2.8 million of funding from Laudes Foundation following the success of #BuildingLife throughout 2022. In this article, we look back at what has changed and what needs to be taken further since the EU Roadmap launched.

[Read the News Story here](#)

The MENA Region connects and collaborates

At the beginning of the month [WorldGBC's Middle East and North Africa Regional Network](#) and [Emirates Green Building Council](#) hosted a series of events in Dubai, with a community of leaders and changemakers, tapping into the power and possibility of connections to create a ripple effect of inspired actions in MENA.

Bringing together insights and expertise to identify the priorities for advancing Net Zero in the region, this vision will support the development of the MENA Net Zero Readiness Framework. Join us on this journey!

[Net Zero Readiness Framework Expression of Interest](#)



NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

GBCs & Partners

GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS

EmiratesGBC hosted its 12th Annual Congress

[Emirates Green Building Council](#) united policymakers, regulators, industry leaders, and academia around shared climate goals at its 12th Annual Congress to spotlight the role of the built environment as a critical solutions provider for a resilient and zero-emissions future.

Held under the theme, **'Pathway to COP28: The Role of Sustainable Built Environment in Accelerating Climate Action'**, the Congress called for greater collaboration to sharpen accountability and accelerate the transformation of the built environment.



NZGBC launches a net zero rating tool for existing buildings in New Zealand

For building owners and portfolio managers looking for an entry point to demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and a low carbon future, the latest development in low carbon certification for New Zealand's buildings is here. Net Zero™ Buildings certification tracks all major sources of carbon emissions in building operations – energy, water, waste and refrigerants.

[Find out more Net Zero™ Building about here](#)

WorldGBC, SUMè and ADI commit to decarbonising the built environment

WorldGBC, [Sustentabilidad para México](#) (SUMè) and the Association of Real Estate Developers of Mexico (ADI) signed a collaboration agreement to mobilise the Mexican real estate sector towards the decarbonisation of the built environment. The adoption of [WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#) by Mexican signatories to decarbonise operations, measure and disclose progress will provide valuable data for the region.



GBCA releases a practical guide to reducing upfront carbon emissions at scale

The [Green Building Council of Australia and Lendlease](#) released a practical guide to reduce upfront carbon emissions in new buildings and major refurbishments, highlighting that 25% of a typical building's emissions occur

because of the products and materials used during construction, and these emissions can't be undone.

[Download 'A practical guide to upfront carbon reductions'](#)

EgyptGBC hosted the Net Zero International Conference

The Net Zero International Conference was organised by [Egypt Green Building Council](#) and The American University in Cairo. The conference was held at the American University campus in New Cairo from May 26th to 28th, 2023. The main purpose of this conference was to develop a global road map to address climate change through the Net Zero Initiative proposed by the United Nations at COP26 and convert it into an actionable plan.



PARTNERS

CBRE releases its '2022 Corporate Sustainability Report'

CBRE is reimagining the built environment to support a more sustainable future and their net zero goal includes emissions from the business's operations, the properties managed for clients and its supply chain.

[Read the full report here](#)

SOM Launches Whole Life Carbon Accounting

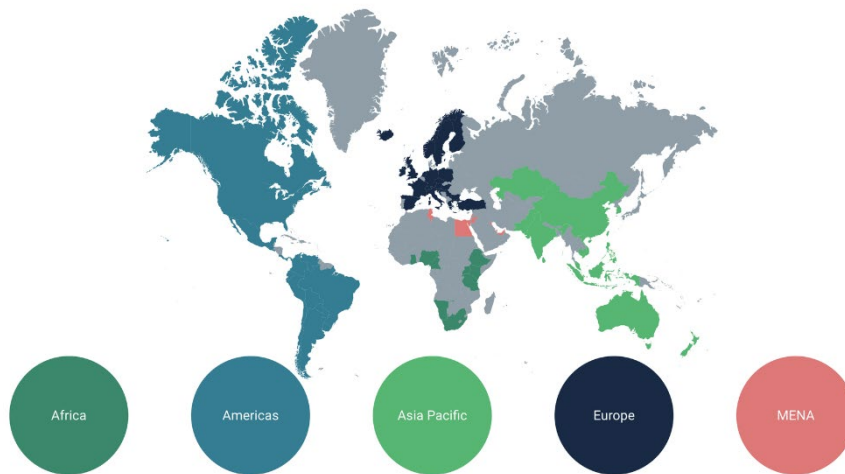
[SOM's Whole Life Carbon Accounting](#) is now available as a service to evaluate any project, even those designed by other firms. It can be applied to different typologies and scales of projects, from a single building to an entire portfolio of assets.

[Read more here](#)

CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD

The world is facing what can be called a trilemma: the concurrent climate, energy, and economic crises. [Switching to LED lighting can have a major impact and Signify's Harry Verhaar](#) explains why you can't afford not to act now.

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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