

December 2024

A transformative year for our sector

As 2024 draws to a close, I invite you all to reflect with me on the positive progress we have seen to raise the built environment on the global agenda.

Promising steps were taken at the UN Climate Summit COP29, which you can view in our [round-up](#), and include:

- An [agreement](#) to triple finance to developing countries.
- Ministers from several countries [demonstrating their commitment](#) to deliver ambitious climate plans – Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- The [Breakthrough Agenda launching the ‘Baku’ Priority International Actions](#) to accelerate progress on climate change – which the World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) is proud to be [co-leading on Priority Action B1](#).
- The importance of the built environment was recognised in the official COP text under the [Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme](#).
- A new international body, the [ICBC \(Intergovernmental Council on Buildings and Climate\)](#), was officially formalised to facilitate the implementation and review progress of the [Declaration de Chaillot](#) through international cooperation and enhanced policy action.

Great progress – but more is needed to get aligned on 1.5°C, and we can't do that without being bold on buildings.

That's why a fundamental piece of our work next year will include the launch of our updated WorldGBC strategy in February 2025.

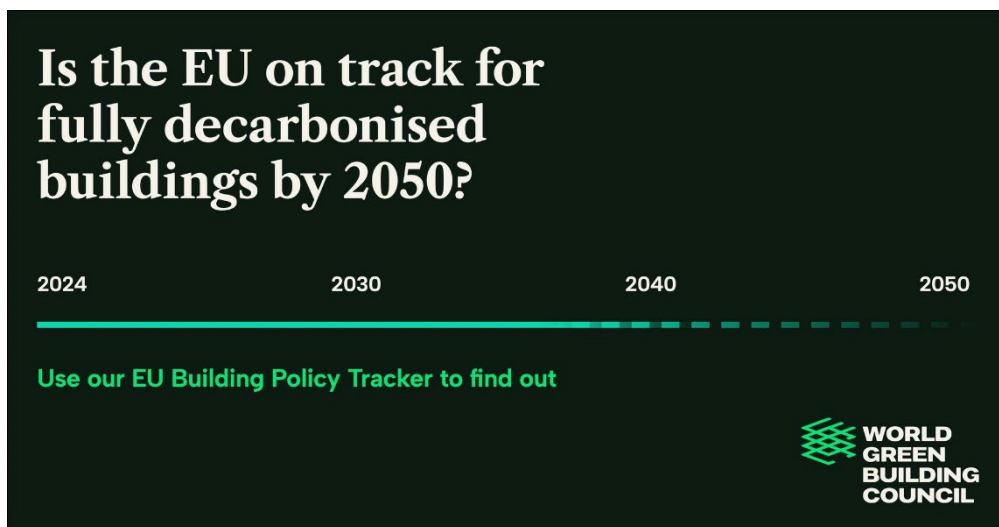
The strategy provides a solid foundation for us to build upon the progress already made to accelerate the sustainable built environment. We will use this to expand our work with Green Building Councils (GBCs) to develop, and implement, national decarbonisation and resilience roadmaps. Plus, we will intensify our global-regional-local advocacy work to help unlock more

investment into sustainable buildings. I look forward to sharing further details in the new year.

We will need every stakeholder at the table to co-create a future where people and planet can thrive. Thank you for all your hard work. I wish you a restful and enjoyable holiday season.

Cristina Gamboa | CEO, World Green Building Council

News from WorldGBC



New EU Building Policy Tracker unveils progress and gaps on Europe's climate goals

WorldGBC has launched a first-of-its-kind digital [EU Building Policy Tracker](#) under the [#BuildingLife](#) project.

Developed alongside the Europe Regional Network of GBCs, the tracker provides a comprehensive overview of the EU's progress on policy. The tool also identifies crucial gaps, which the new European Commission must address to decarbonise the EU's buildings, and help keep the bloc on track to meet long term climate goals for 2040 and 2050.

[Find out more](#)

Across the regions

African GBCs setting an example on NDCs

[Green Building Council Nigeria](#) (GBC Nigeria) and [Egypt Green Building Council](#) (Egypt GBC) are helping develop their country's climate action plan using the WorldGBC NDC Scorecard.

GBC Nigeria has been hosting workshops with industry stakeholders to gather insights, and analyse and refine the plans using the NDC Scorecard tool. Egypt GBC hosted a conference for over 200 participants from across built environment groups in the region, with a discussion panel on NDCs.

[More about our NDC Scorecard](#)

How the Americas are using the ZCCRRF to drive regional change

The WorldGBC network has developed the Zero Carbon and Climate Resilience Readiness Framework (ZCCRRF) to support the journey to decarbonising the built environment – but there's no one solution that will work for everyone.

That's why the [Americas Regional Network](#) have been using the Framework to guide national-level discussion between private, public and financial sectors to identify the priority areas relevant for their countries.

[Find out more](#)



New guidance for EU in disclosing life cycle global warming potential (GWP)

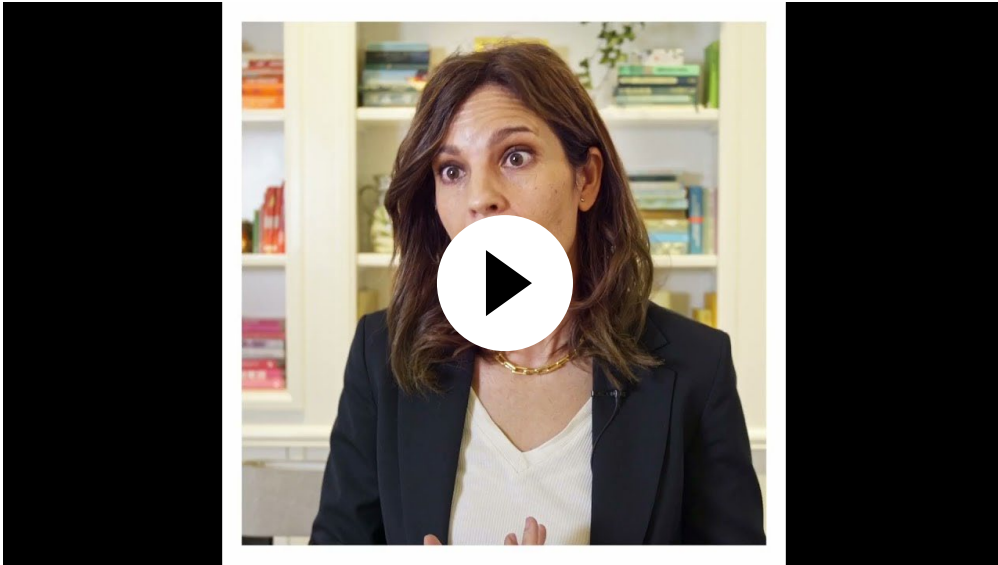
By 2030, EU countries must disclose whole life carbon (WLC) or life cycle global warming potential (GWP) of new buildings.

Our new factsheet, launched on 5 December, aims to support governments in implementing this requirement, as outlined in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).

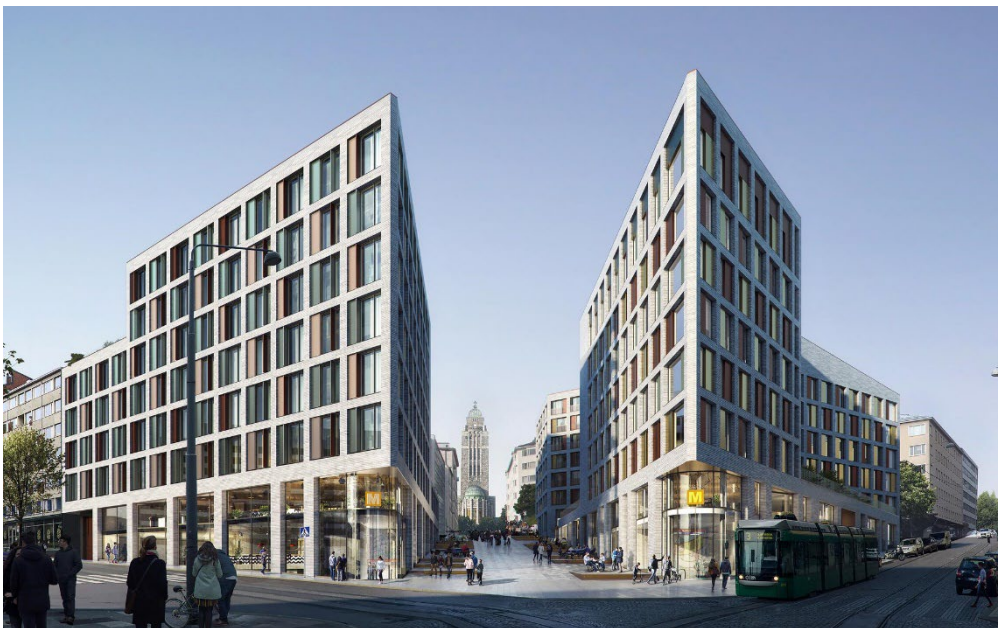
[Find out more](#)

How buildings can help protect our planet

Watch how #BuildingLife can shape the future of Europe's built environment, supported by funders which include the IKEA Foundation.



Take action



From Commitment to Action – Finnish company Ylva finds something they didn't expect in 2023 sustainability report

In our latest [‘From Commitment to Action’ series](#), we spotlight the work of businesses to transform the building and construction sector.

Ylva, a Finnish company focussing on real estate investment and the restaurant industry, released its sustainability report in 2023, and have [challenged themselves to explore a key finding](#) – that they, and the industry, weren’t being as sustainably responsible as they had thought.

You can also view our [November Net Zero Carbon Buildings \(NZCB\) Commitment Roundup](#) to learn how companies such as Hibernia Real Estate Group Ltd, Africa Logistics Properties, Colliers, Arup, the Crown Estate and ISPT are leading the way, from insights into how the real estate industry can embrace sustainability, to global retrofit projects.

Learn

Find the latest sustainable building events

Visit our [calendar](#) for sustainability and building events from across WorldGBC and the global GBC network, partners and more.

If you missed any of our past events, check out our [YouTube channel](#) for webinar recordings.

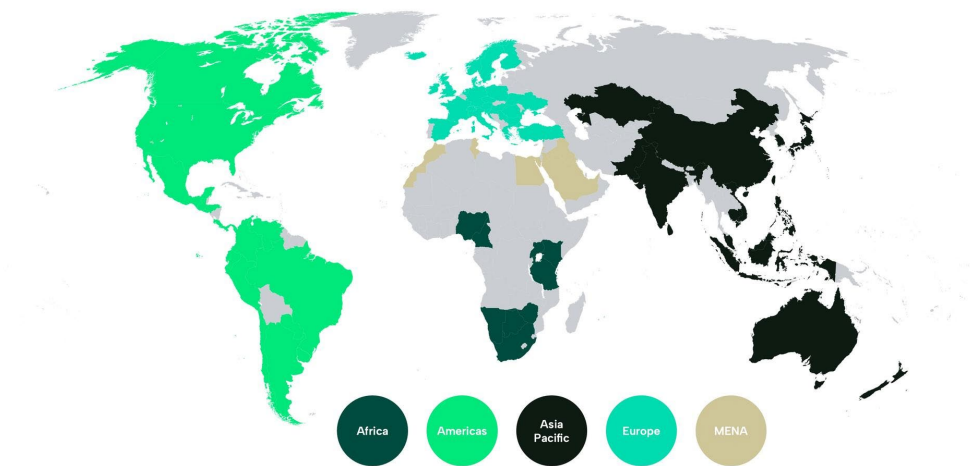
[View our events page](#)



WorldGBC office hours during the holiday season

The WorldGBC offices will be closed between 24 December 2024 and 1 January 2025 for the holidays. If you have any queries, please contact us at office@worldgbc.org and our team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Global network



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

[View our members](#)

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