

December  
2020



# GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

As we close the year, I would like to thank you for your support in this truly unprecedented year.

With the arrival of 2021 we bring COP26 to the top of our agenda, and we must all continue to learn and adapt to deliver our mission.

As you'll see in GlobalABC's [Global Status Report for Building and Construction](#), our work is just beginning. Together with you, we will continue our work to catalyse *Sustainable Buildings for Everyone Everywhere*.

Here are this month's highlights:

- WorldGBC signs [a letter to COP26 President, Alok Sharma](#), requesting a Built Environment Day at the 2021 climate summit
- WorldGBC launches [#BuildingLife](#)
- [18 organisations](#) join the WorldGBC Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment
- WorldGBC publishes its [2019/2020 Annual Report](#)

Best wishes and happy holidays,  
Cristina Gamboa, CEO, World Green Building Council

*\*Please note the WorldGBC office will be closed from the 24 December - 10 January.*

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WorldGBC launches #BuildingLife project to deliver EU Green Deal.

European Green Building Councils will develop 10 national roadmaps and an EU policy roadmap to decarbonise the built environment across the whole lifecycle.

[Join #BuildingLife](#)

## UNITED TOWARDS A COP26 BUILT ENVIRONMENT DAY

*Read our letter to the COP26 President requesting a historic Built Environment Day*



WorldGBC joins nine international organisations to [sign a letter to COP26 President, Alok Sharma](#), requesting a Built Environment Day at the climate summit in November 2021.

[Read the letter](#)



# 18 ORGANISATIONS

JOIN THE NET ZERO CARBON  
BUILDINGS COMMITMENT



On the fifth anniversary of the Paris Agreement, Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitments spike to reach 128 total signatories, with businesses and organisations covering over 5 million (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) of portfolio emissions.

[Find out more](#)



The World Green Building Council's Annual Report 2019/2020 outlines the major achievements of the organisation and our global network of Green Building Councils.

[Explore our Annual Report](#)



WorldGBC celebrates sustainability leadership in Asia with the 2020 'Asia Pacific Leadership in Green Building Awards'.

[Read about this year's winners](#)



#### News from partner GlobalABC

- WorldGBC is re-elected to the Steering Committee of GlobalABC after an open election! WorldGBC harnesses this privilege to represent all of our GBCs and their collective voice.

Read more about [GlobalABC's Steering Committee](#).

- GlobalABC launch their 2020 [Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction](#).



Together with GlobalABC, UNEP’s Economy Division, and WBCSD, WorldGBC convened the *Race to Zero Dialogue: Building to Net Zero* event.

Watch the session recordings:

- [Session 1](#)
- [Session 2](#)
- [Session 4](#)
- [Built Environment Dialogues Summary](#)

Visit the [Race to Zero campaign website](#) for further information about the coalition of leading net zero initiatives.



The WorldGBC Case Study Library is a growing collection of best practice globally in sustainable buildings.

We want to showcase buildings that have enhanced performance in relation to health benefits and net zero operational carbon that have been verified by established certification schemes, rating tools or other verification systems.

[Submit your case study.](#)

For more information, contact: [mblack@worldgbc.org](mailto:mblack@worldgbc.org)

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Last month WorldGBC successfully launched our groundbreaking Health & Wellbeing Framework — a comprehensive educational tool for a healthy and equitable built environment.

The live launch was attended by close to 1000 people and the campaign reached close to 2 million people on social media.

[Explore the digital tool and Executive Report](#)

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## **WORLDGBC'S 2021 PLANS**

*NEWS FOR GBCs AND CAB*

[Read more about our 2021 plans through Basecamp](#)

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# NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

## *GBCs AND PARTNERS*

### GBCs

- Kenya Green Building Society [receives Established Green Building status](#)
- HuGBC has been selected among the [TOP 5 professional organisations in the real estate market in Hungary](#) by the recognised Portfolio online business portal (article in Hungarian)
- GBC España doubles its CEOs, [welcomes Dolores Huerta](#)
- USGCB announces new equity program, [All In](#)

### Partners

- Architecture 2030's Carbon Positive Reset! 1.5°C Global Teach-In [recordings are available](#)
  - In Fifth Wall's [Building to Zero](#), Cristina Gamboa, CEO, WorldGBC, explains how businesses and governments can drive the ambitions of the Paris Agreement
  - HeidelbergCement believes concrete has the potential to become [the most sustainable building material](#)
  - ChemSec explore the shift from linear to circular, keeping [harmful chemicals out of construction materials](#)
  - [How the best climate practices can make great business sense](#) with thoughts from Ibrahim Al Zubi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Majid Al Futtaim
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# NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

## CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD

### Accomplishments from our CAB:

- **AkzoNobel**: Learn about their innovative World Green Building Week 2020 [activities](#)
- **Carrier** releases its 2020 ESG [Report](#)
- **CDL** publishes their [2020 Integrated Sustainability Report](#): Changing the Climate, Changing the Future, listing WorldGBC as its partner
- **Google** announces its [Carbon-free Pledge](#)
- **JLL** announces with WorldGBC the next phase of its sustainability programme by committing to achieve [net zero carbon emissions across all JLL-occupied buildings by 2030](#)
- **Majid Al Futtaim**: Ibrahim Al-Zubi published a thought leadership paper: [Understanding Embodied Carbon](#)
- **Multiplex** released a series of reports that detail the [positive impacts of its operations](#) across Canada, Europe and the Middle East
- **JPMorgan** announced its Paris-Aligned Financing Commitment, which includes helping clients invest [sustainably](#)
- **Saint-Gobain** released its CO2 Roadmap Towards Carbon Neutrality by [2050](#). Visit the CAB Basecamp for more.
- **Shaw Contract** [release a new Sustainability Report](#). Visit this [link](#) to see how WorldGBC adds value to their work.
- **Siemens** committed to ensuring that its operations will be CO2-neutral by 2030, and by 2020 to halve its CO2 footprint.



Read more here in their [position paper on decarbonisation and climate change](#).

- **Signify** achieved [carbon neutrality](#) in Q3 2020 and has set on a course to [double its positive impact](#) on the environment and society. The company also received a [UNFCCC 2020 global action award](#). And has been active in [developing UV-C disinfection strategies](#) in the fight against COVID-19.
- **Surbana Jurong** announced it has added Atelier Ten to its organisation to step up its sustainability [focus](#)
- **Volvo Group** announced:
  1. A [commitment to the Science-Based Targets Initiative](#) and plans to establish targets and roadmaps during 2021 towards being a net-zero emissions company by 2050
  2. A release of a [green financial framework](#)
  3. Plans to offer a [complete heavy-duty range with electric drivelines](#) starting in Europe in 2021, which will be a massive drive towards electrification and fossil fuel-free transport.

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## Our Corporate Advisory Board



