

February
2021



GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

Welcome to the WorldGBC's February Global Update, and our first newsletter of 2021.

Although COVID-19 defined 2020, we begin the year reinvigorated and focused on catalysing sustainable buildings for everyone, everywhere.

Here are the highlights from this month's update:

- United towards a [COP26 Built Environment and Cities Day](#)
- We're looking for [ambassadors to join our #BuildingLife campaign](#)
- Join us in March for the [Middle East and Africa Green Building Congress](#)

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

UNITED TOWARDS A COP26
BUILT ENVIRONMENT DAY



At the end of 2020, we were thrilled to receive the news that we will be helping to make the COP26 'Built Environment and Cities Day' a reality.

We will be working closely with the UN Climate Change Conference President-Designate, Alok Sharma, High-Level Climate Champions, and our consortium of partners to give the built environment the platform it deserves as a solution to climate change.

[Read the COP26 Response Letter](#)



2021 MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA
GREEN BUILDING CONGRESS

LEARN, INNOVATE AND ACTIVATE
SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

ONLINE | 22 - 23 MARCH 2021
events@worldgbc.org

[#MEAGreenBuildings2021](#)

AFRICA REGIONAL NETWORK

MENA REGIONAL NETWORK



Join us for the Middle East and Africa Green Building Congress 2021.

Learn from best practices and regional case studies in our effort to collectively respond to climate challenges facing the region, for people, planet and our economies.

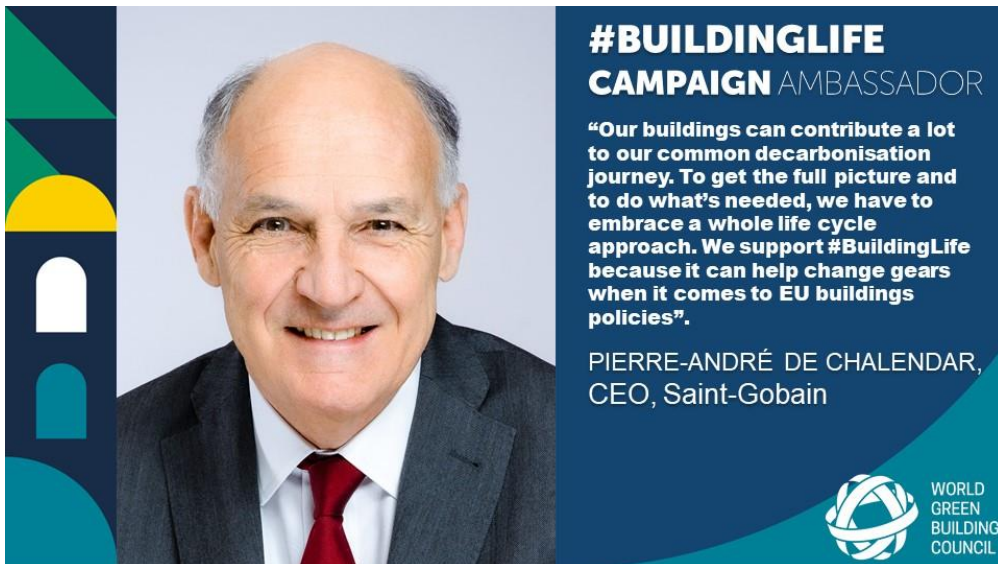
When: 22 & 23 March 2021

Time: 12:00 - 15:00 UTC

WorldGBC would like to say a special thank you to our partner, Majid Al Futtaim, for their generous support and making this event possible.

**Discounted ticket rates are available for GBC members. Please contact events@worldgbc.org for further information.*

[Register for this event](#)



Following a successful launch in December 2020, we are continuing the rollout of activities for our [#BuildingLife](#) project, which aims to deliver the [EU Green Deal](#) by driving decarbonisation of the building sector through private sector action and public sector policy.

A key project on the road to COP26, #BuildingLife brings together a coalition of ten European Green Building Councils.

A parallel communications campaign is recruiting #BuildingLife ambassadors from a variety of built environment and political backgrounds.

[Find out more](#)

THE Paris... CLIMATE 10 years PLEDGE Early

Co-founded by Amazon and Global Optimism, The Climate Pledge is a cross-sector community of companies, organisations, individuals, and partners, working together to solve the challenges of decarbonising our economy. Bringing together those that are prepared to run the furthest and fastest, The Climate Pledge calls on signatories to reach net zero-carbon emissions by 2040—10 years ahead of the Paris Agreement.

WorldGBC is proud to be a part of this collaborative effort to recruit companies to The Climate Pledge, as it is aligned with our mission and complementary to the leadership action of the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment.

[Find out more](#)



Introducing the BUILDUPON² Cities Series — where WorldGBC's Director of Europe, [Stephen Richardson](#), speaks to the eight pilot cities involved in [BUILD UPON²](#) — the world's largest collaborative project on building renovation.

In this first feature, WorldGBC spotlights the city of Padova, which is developing a ground-breaking new renovation framework that allows municipalities to measure the holistic benefits of building renovation.

WorldGBC speaks with [GBC Italia](#) and the Municipality of Padova about some of the successes and challenges of testing the framework.

[Read the full article](#)



WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM DAVOS AGENDA

Monday 25 January 10:00 – 10:30 CET



WorldGBC CEO, Cristina Gamboa, took part in the World Economic Forum Davos Agenda 2021, facilitating a conversation with an expert panel on 'Building Net-Zero Cities'.

[Watch the session here](#)



Produced for WorldGBC by BBC StoryWorks Commercial Productions, [Building a Better Future](#) is a series of films and articles showcasing what the construction sector is doing across the world to become more sustainable.

The latest video in the series explores an Australian art museum, setting new standards for sustainable design.

Watch the latest video

WorldGBC Team Announcements



Catriona Brady has recently started her new role as **Director of Strategy and Development**.

Her work will be focused on the development and implementation of WorldGBC's global and regional projects and programmes.

Laura Pallares joins WorldGBC as **Head of European Projects**.

Laura oversees the strategic delivery of WorldGBC's Europe Regional Network (ERN) projects. She represents WorldGBC in Brussels, ensuring that our priorities are reflected in key EU initiatives.

Tessa Eydmann-Peel has joined WorldGBC as **Communications and PR Coordinator**.

In this role, Tessa will oversee the communications for projects such as #BuildingLife and Better Places for People.

NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

GBCs AND PARTNERS

Green Building Councils

- Canada Green Building Council launches a new series of [Zero Carbon Training](#)

- Green Building Council Australia hosts its 3rd [annual TRANSFORM conference](#), tackling the big issues facing our industry
- Singapore Green Building Council February Webinars, [Securing Health & Wellbeing: A New Era of Building Design & Operation](#)

Sector News

- Architecture 2030s recordings are available for its [CarbonPositive RESET! 1.5°C Global Teach-In](#)

Corporate Advisory Board

- Ibrahim Al Zubi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Majid Al Futtaim, shares his [annual Sustainability Letter](#)

Our Corporate Advisory Board

