

April
2021



GLOBAL UPDATE

Dear GBCs, partners and sustainable building advocates,

2021 is the year of [COP26](#).

It is our opportunity to demonstrate our sector's contribution to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement through the official Cities and Built Environment Day at COP26.

As part of WorldGBC's coordinating role to support the delivery of a successful Cities and Built Environment Day, we will be hosting a series of events across the year called the #BuildingToCOP26 Forum. [You can register your interest to attend here.](#)

Other highlights from this month:

- [Join the #RaceToZero](#)
- [WorldGBC launches Building Perspective interview series](#)
- [#BuildingLife Ambassador Spotlight Series](#)

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



As part of WorldGBC's coordinating role to support the delivery of a successful Cities and Built Environment Day, we are working closely with the COP26 High-Level Climate Champions Team and the COP26 Presidency.

To build a united voice for our network, we will host a series of events across the year called the #BuildingToCOP26 Forum to:

- Align our campaign messaging
- Profile our sector's contributions to accelerating climate action
- Coordinate marketing and communications opportunities

If you would like to join the first session, please register your interest on this [Google Form](#).

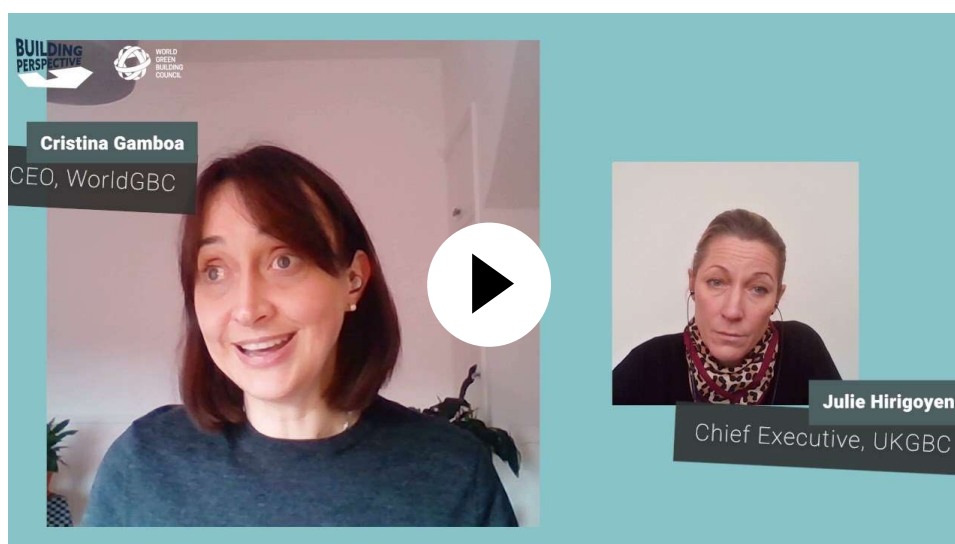


Join the #RaceToZero

We encourage your organisation and wider networks to join the [Race To Zero](#) — a global campaign to build momentum around the shift to a decarbonised economy ahead of COP26.

This will send governments a resounding signal that our combined leadership is united to achieve the Paris goals for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery.

[See the full list of ways to join the #RaceToZero](#)



WorldGBC launches Building Perspective interview series.

Hosted by Cristina Gamboa, CEO, WorldGBC, the conversations showcase global sustainability leadership in the built environment, as well as the human stories behind the success.

Watch the first episode of Building Perspective with [Julie Hirigoyen](#), Chief Executive of [UK Green Building Council](#) (UKGBC).

[Find out more about Building Perspective and Subscribe](#)



"I'm also convinced that whole life carbon is the right approach because it closes the equation and puts the emphasis on the right combination of operational and embodied carbon."

Check out the second Q&A of our #BuildingLife Ambassador Spotlight Series with David Ducarme, Chief Operating Officer of Knauf Insulation, and Vincent Briard, Director of Sustainability of Knauf Insulation.

[Read the interview](#)



forbo
FLOORING SYSTEMS



LafargeHolcim

**FORBO FLOORING
SYSTEMS &
LAFARGEHOLCIM**

*Join WorldGBC
Corporate Advisory Board*



We are delighted to announce that Edo Rem, [Forbo Flooring Systems](#) and Magali Anderson, [LafargeHolcim](#) have joined our [Corporate Advisory Board \(CAB\)](#).

The two new CAB members join a group of global sustainability leaders, whose expertise and knowledge guides our strategy and activities to accelerate the sustainable building movement.

YE QING DEMONSTRATES WOMEN TAKING THE LEAD IN GREEN BUILDINGS

Ye Qing talks to us about winning WorldGBC's 'Women in Green Building Leadership Award'



Ms Ye Qing talks to us about winning WorldGBC's Women in Green Building Leadership Award at the [2020 Asia Pacific Leadership in Green Building Awards](#).

Ye Qing, Chairwoman of Shenzhen Institute of Building Research Co., Ltd. and Deputy Director of China Green Building Council, delves into the challenges and highlights of her career.

In a traditionally male-dominated industry, she reveals the pivotal role women play in delivering positive change for the planet and communities.

[Read Ye Qing's Story](#)

"Light is as fundamental to life as food, water and air."

In the first of our Better Places for People leadership series, Signify, a global leader in lighting and member of the WorldGBC Corporate Advisory Board, talks to us about going back to nature with lighting innovation NatureConnect.

Inge van de Wouw

Segment & Marketing Manager,
NatureConnect, Signify



HEALTH & WELLBEING
FRAMEWORK LAUNCH

#BETTERPLACES
FORPEOPLE



Welcome to the launch of our new Better Places for People leadership series.

Throughout the year, we will profile organisations leading the transition towards a healthier and more equitable built environment.

In our first article, Signify, a global leader in lighting and member of the WorldGBC Corporate Advisory Board, talks to us about [NatureConnect](#) and how it aligns to the [Health & Wellbeing Framework](#).

[Signify: Bringing the benefits of natural light indoors](#)



Clean energy hub in the desert

In the middle of the desert in Abu Dhabi, you will find Masdar which aims to be the world's most sustainable city. It's also the home of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). Designed by Woods Bagot, the huge clean energy hub is a blueprint for building in a challenging climate.

Watch the latest video in our [#BuildingABetterFuture](#) series!

[Clean energy hub in the desert - Building A Better Future](#)

WorldGBC Team Announcements



Joy Esther Gai Jiazi, **Asia Pacific Programmes Head (Net Zero)**

Joy works part time with WorldGBC while also leading the [Joy of Sustainability LLP](#). — helping clients to identify their true sustainability goals.

Joy brings to the role technical expertise as a principal engineer and project leader, delivering many first-of-its-kind sustainability projects.

Carolina Montano Owen, **Project and Grants Officer, European Regional Network**

Previously, Carolina was the Technical Manager of the Colombia Green Building Council, leading the research and development of green building guidelines, policies and certification schemes.

Carolina has a background in Civil Engineering and a Doctorate in Engineering.



Eddie Watson, **Global Advocacy Project Officer**

Eddie works with WorldGBC's Senior Leadership Team to deliver the 'Cities & Built Environment Day' at COP26.

In 2020 Eddie completed an MSc in 'Global Urban Development & Planning' at the University of Manchester.

Ahmad Al-Musa, **Advancing Net Zero Project Officer**

Ahmad works with WorldGBC's Advancing Net Zero team. In this role, he works across the project's various global and regional activities.

Ahmad started his career as a Civil Engineer in Jordan, later moving on to work for Jordan Green Building Council as a Project Manager and Consultant.

Previously, Eddie has worked for Arup, as part of their 'Foresight, Research & Innovation' teams.

Ahmad is currently studying at the University of Toronto for a Masters of Engineering: Cities Engineering and Management.

NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

GBCs AND PARTNERS

GBCs

- Hong Kong Green Building Council launches “Advancing Net Zero” Ideas Competition. The Competition invites international industry stakeholders, designers, academia, and technology experts to contribute ideas on how to move Hong Kong’s building sector towards carbon neutrality. Winners and shortlisted candidates will be eligible for a total of HK\$1.2 million in prize money. [Find out more.](#)
- UKGBC publishes new guidance on the procurement of high-quality renewable energy and carbon offsets for net zero buildings in the UK. [Read the Guidance here.](#)
- Study by EmiratesGBC and Saint-Gobain UAE Recommends Measures to Enhance Indoor Environmental Quality of Schools in the UAE. [Find out more.](#)

Partners

- [EVORA Global training webinar 20 April](#), focusing on unique, indoor environment challenges as a result of the pandemic. WorldGBC's Catriona Brady will be speaking on our [Health & Wellbeing Framework](#).

Our Corporate Advisory Board

AkzoNobel



ماجد الفطيم
MAJID AL FUTTAIM

SIEMENS



signify

SJ SURBANA
JURONG

 **SWIRE PROPERTIES**



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Google

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forbo
FLOORING SYSTEMS

MULTIPLEX



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