



The Middle East & Africa Green Building Congress

(22–23 March 2021, Online)

Monday 22 March - Day 1

Thematic Area(s): Advancing Net Zero

Topics: Net Zero, Net positive buildings, Embodied Carbon & Retrofitting of Existing Buildings.

Time: 12:00 - 15:00 GMT

Location: Online

Time	Session & Description	Speakers, Panellists & Moderators
12:00 – 12:20	Opening Remarks	Introduction, Cristina Gamboa , CEO, World Green Building Council Opening speech, Patron, Rt. Hon. (Eng.) Raila Amolo Odinga , The Africa Union High Level Representative for Infrastructure Development and Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya
12:20 – 12:40	Title: The future of sustainable building Description: <i>The IPCC tells us that we have until 2050 to decarbonise our way of life to limit global warming to less than 1.5 degrees, beyond which the repercussions on our planet and everything that we do will be disastrous.</i> <i>Operating at net zero, tackling embodied carbon or aiming towards net positive, are essential components in the evolution of our industry. In this session our distinguished speaker will set the scene</i>	Ibrahim Al Zubi , Chief Sustainability Officer, Majid Al Futtaim Holdings



	<p><i>on the scale of the transition required to achieve our climate and SDG targets.</i></p> <p>Mode: A keynote & a visionary session</p>	
12:40 – 13:15	<p>Title: How can retrofitting bring net zero buildings upfront?</p> <p>Description: <i>Renovating an existing building can generate significantly less emissions than constructing a new one, in many cases. But how can renovation and retrofitting enhance existing buildings' performance towards reducing their carbon footprint to achieve a net zero status? And what technologies and material can be integrated into the renovation process?</i></p> <p>Mode: Panel Discussion</p>	<p>Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Chairperson & Co-founder, Emirates Environmental Group & Treasurer and Board Member of Emirates Green Building Council</p> <p>Ismael Al-Hinti, President - Al Hussein Technical University & Ex - Vice Chair of Jordan GBC</p> <p>Farah Yassine, Vice Chair - Emirates Green Building Council and Sustainable Resource Management Lead - Environment & Sustainability, Middle East, WSP</p> <p>Rabih El Fadel, Director Zef Concepts Limited</p> <p>Ahmad Almusa, Green Retrofit Programs Associate, Jordan GBC</p>
13:15 – 13:25	Stretch break	
13:25 – 13:50	<p>Title: Is net zero embodied carbon within reach?</p> <p>Description: <i>Embodied carbon in buildings has a substantial and lasting environmental impact, especially since buildings are currently responsible for 39% of global energy related carbon emissions 11% of which is embodied. In this panel, we lead a conversation around the value of embodied carbon, & what are the systemic changes needed to create & stimulate market demand for transparency, improvements, & verification towards decarbonisation across the buildings sector in MEA.</i></p>	<p>Vere Shaba, WorldGBC Africa Outreach Committee</p> <p>Esther Obonyo, Director of the Global Building Network and Associate Professor of Engineering Design and Architectural Engineering, Pennsylvania State University</p> <p>Mina Hasman, Associate Director (Sustainability Lead), Skidmore, Owings & Merrill</p> <p>Folashade Ambrose-Medebem, Communications, Public Affairs and Sustainable Development Director, Lafarge Africa</p>



	Mode: Panel Discussion	
13:50 – 14:20	<p>Title: Fueling a net positive revolution</p> <p>Description: <i>While Net Zero is considered to be today's benchmark of best practice, it is Net Positive that will play an increasingly crucial role in the future to limit carbon emissions. In this session we will be able to introduce main Net Positive concepts and its impact across carbon, water, resource use and socio-economic impacts.</i></p> <p>Mode: Panel Discussion</p>	<p>Glada Lahn, Senior Research Fellow, Energy, Environment & Resources, Chatham House</p> <p>Maysoon Al-Khurissat, Founder and Senior Sustainable Architecture Consultant, Adaa - sustainable development consultants</p> <p>Raji Hattar, Chief sustainability Officer, Aramex</p> <p>Sandra Draskovic, General Manager, KuwaitGBC</p> <p>Michelle M. Farrell, Senior Operations Officer, EDGE Green Building Market Transformation Program, Climate Business Department, IFC</p>
14:20 – 14:35	Q&A	Glada Lahn , Chatham House
14:35 – 14:55	<p>Title: The Power of Data: Accelerating to Net Zero</p> <p>Description: <i>As the market & industry join the race towards net-zero emissions; great opportunities are expected to result as a consequence. In this session we shed light on some effective and practical technologies and design approaches to demonstrate transferable models. This session also tackles the digitalisation of data for building systems and how tracking and measuring emissions are critical to achieving our net zero targets.</i></p> <p>Mode: Case Study</p>	Bala Jayaraman , Head of Energy & Performance Services, Middle East & Asia Pacific Region, Siemens
14:55 – 15:25	Special announcement by Majid Al Futtaim Holdings	Ibrahim Al Zubi , Chief Sustainability Officer, Majid Al Futtaim Holdings



		Khalifa Bin Braik , Hotels Managing Director, Majid Al Futtaim Holdings
15:25 – 15:30	Closing Remarks	Ibrahim Al Zubi , Chief Sustainability Officer, Majid Al Futtaim Holdings

Tuesday 23 March - Day 2

Thematic Area(s): Sustainable Cities & Better Places for People

Topics: A focus on 'Sustainable reconstruction and regeneration guidelines', Climate Resilience and 'Health and wellbeing Framework'.

Time: 12:00 - 15:00 GMT

Location: Online

Time	Description	Speakers
12:00 – 12:05	Opening Remarks <i>Description: Short opening remarks, with a summary of the first day proceedings and conclusions Followed by pointing out the topics on agenda of the day.</i>	WorldGBC Team Tanya Cox , Chair of the Board, WorldGBC
12:05 – 12:45	Title: Envisioning the city of tomorrow <i>Description: Cities must ensure creating safe and affordable housing, building resilient societies while advancing economic opportunities. Within this session, we will take you on a journey to the future and attempt to envision how tomorrow's cities can become more impactful, more sustainable and more human-centric, and by doing so, they can maximize opportunities for citizens, businesses and the planet.</i>	Mohammad Asfour , Head, MENA & Africa Regional Networks, World Green Building Council Loiuse Lambert , Head of Happiness Research and Policy Design and Professor, United Arab Emirates University Karim Elgendy , Founder of Carboun Clay Nesler , Chief Advisor, Buildings and Energy, World Resources Institute



	<p>Mode: Panel Discussion</p>	
<p>12:45 – 13:15</p>	<p>Title: Fostering collective climate action and city resilience</p> <p>Description: <i>Cities and human settlements are facing major climate-related challenges. What type of climate action can be made on a city scale? And how can our cities foster resilience to adapt to the repercussions of climate change. Finally, what is the role the building and construction industry play to support this transition?</i></p> <p>Mode: Panel Discussion</p>	<p>Elizabeth Wangeci Chege, CEO, WEB Limited & Vice Chairperson- World Green Building Council: Africa Regional Network</p> <p>Yaser Abunnasr, Associate professor of landscape architecture and planning at AUB and head of the Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management Department.</p> <p>Alexander Hadzhiivanov, Associated Director, Green Economy Specialist, Environmental and Sustainability Department, EBRD</p> <p>Martina Otto, Head of Cities and Lifestyles at United Nations Environment</p> <p>Sharon Gil, Senior Programme Officer, United Nations Environment Programme</p> <p>Donovan Storey, Head of Global Policy and Influence, REALL</p>
<p>13:15 – 13:30</p>	<p>Title: Greening the path to recovery</p> <p>Description: <i>When natural disasters or conflicts strike communities, they must be rebuilt effectively or face greater risks in the future. Rebuilding cities as a whole, requires the integration of multi layered components to ensure they are healthy, affordable, resilient and sustainable. This session will highlight the joint effort between the WorldGBC's MENA Network and UN Habitat to guide the process.</i></p> <p>Mode: Presentation & dialogue</p>	<p>Mohammad Asfour, Head, MENA & Africa Regional Networks, World Green Building Council</p> <p>Ghazi Majali, Technical Project Coordinator on the Guideline for Sustainable Reconstruction & City Regeneration Project</p> <p>Yasmine Mostafa, Knowledge Management and Reporting Officer, Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)</p>
<p>13:30 – 13:45</p>	<p>Stretch break</p>	



<p>13:45 – 14:25</p>	<p>Title: Upscaling health and wellbeing principles to a city level</p> <p>Description: <i>Back in 2020 the WorldGBC launched its Global Health & Wellbeing Framework based on six principles that highlight the importance of giving attention to health and wellbeing within buildings. Is it possible to scale up and effectively integrate these principles to a community and city level and how?</i></p> <p>Mode: Panel Discussion</p>	<p>Hamoda Youssef, Head of Technical Affairs, QatarGBC</p> <p>Pascal Eveillard, Director for Sustainable Business Development, Saint-Gobain</p> <p>Jessica Verdon, Senior Social Sustainability Manager, Multiplex</p> <p>Nathalie Roebbel, Head, Urban Health, World Health Organization</p>
<p>14:25 – 14:45</p>	<p>Title: Building for health. How can our buildings protect us?</p> <p>Description: <i>The COVID-19 outbreak has disrupted our lives. It helped us re-establish the connection between our health and the built environment. During this session, we will highlight the role healthy buildings could play in protecting us from the extended effects of this pandemic outbreak by examining lessons and takeaways from the current situations.</i></p> <p>Mode: Presentation</p>	<p>Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah, CEO, Bahrain Airport Company and Chair of Bahrain GBC</p>
<p>14:45 – 15:00</p>	<p>Closing Remarks</p>	<p>Lisa Reynolds, CEO, Green Building Council South Africa</p>