

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



WORLD  
GREEN  
BUILDING  
COUNCIL



# WHO WE ARE

## **WORLD GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL**

The World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) catalyses the uptake of sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

Transforming the building and construction sector across three strategic areas – climate action, health & wellbeing, and resources & circularity – we are a global action network of over 70 Green Building Councils around the globe.

As members of the UN Global Compact, we work with businesses, organisations and governments to drive the ambitions of the Paris Agreement and UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development. Through a systems change approach, our network is leading the industry towards a net zero carbon, healthy, equitable and resilient built environment.

[Meet the team](#)

## **GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS**

Green Building Councils are independent, non-profit organisations accelerating the uptake of sustainable built environments.

As members of WorldGBC, they convene businesses and governments to collectively drive environmental, economic and social impact within the built environment on a national, regional and global scale.

[www.worldgbc.org](http://www.worldgbc.org)

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# FOREWORD BY OUR CEO

**CRISTINA GAMBOA**

Warnings from this year's IPCC report were another stark reminder of what we already know. Climate change is not a problem of the future — it's right here right now.

The building and construction sector still lacks the political and financial motivation to limit global heating to 1.5°C. The UN process to deliver enhanced, multilateral action for the sector needs support.

In November 2020, together with nine international organisations, we wrote a letter to COP26 President, Alok Sharma, and were granted a dedicated Built Environment Day at COP26, the United Nations's annual climate summit.

Since then we've formed the #BuildingToCOP26 Coalition. Alongside the UK government, the UN High Level Climate Champions, and a global Coalition of leading organisations, we successfully delivered the agenda for the Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at COP26.

Green Building Councils bring together leaders across the built environment and are key to accelerating climate ambition. Through deep collaboration and a holistic approach to sustainability, we spotlighted the transformational potential Green Building Councils can play in supporting businesses and governments to achieve our shared climate goals.

***But this is just the beginning, we must go further, faster to keep a 1.5°C future within reach. We need everyone onboard to create a lasting legacy of collaboration across the built environment and continue this momentum in COP27 and beyond.***



# FOREWORD BY OUR CHAIR

**TANYA COX**

As the world continues to navigate the impacts of the pandemic, the drive for sustainability accelerates. The built environment, as a system, was more visible and coordinated than it has ever been at COP26, gaining further recognition as a critical climate solution.

And this is down to the “on the ground actions” of our Green Building Council (GBC) network, which is now the strongest it has ever been in terms of market representation and number of Established GBCs.

But we know that our sector, like the rest of the world, has many challenges to overcome.

That is why this year we have continued to focus on WorldGBC's projects and global advocacy to maintain momentum.

In September 2021, our network launched an update to the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment to address embodied carbon; a game-changing development for our sector and its ambition to halve emissions by 2030.

By bridging the gap between buildings and infrastructure, we launched the Beyond Buildings report which called for a systemic approach to increasing sustainability in the built environment. In November at COP26, we launched the Beyond the Business Case report, demonstrating the broader value proposition and risk mitigation opportunities of a sustainable built environment.

***Heading into 2022, the World Green Building Council is committed to continue to promote our movement as a critical part of the climate change solution and develop opportunities across the network to accelerate sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.***

# ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENTS FOR EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE

Our network's holistic approach is driving action across three critical impact areas and accelerating decarbonisation and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals



## CLIMATE ACTION

BUILDUPON<sup>2</sup>

PLANT A SENSOR

#BUILDINGLIFE

## HEALTH & WELLBEING

HEALTH AND WELLBEING FRAMEWORK

## RESOURCES & CIRCULARITY



### OUTCOMES FROM COP26

WORLD GREEN BUILDING WEEK

CO-LEADING BUILT4PEOPLE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO STEER €380 MILLION EU INNOVATION FUNDING

BEYOND BUILDINGS REPORT

LEADING DEVELOPMENT OF EU GREEN TAXONOMY CRITERIA FOR CONSTRUCTION

SUSTAINABLE RECONSTRUCTION IN MENA

BEYOND THE BUSINESS CASE REPORT

CITIES CLIMATE ACTION PROJECT IN THE AMERICAS

AFRICA REGIONAL NETWORK ADVOCACY MANIFESTO

### FUTURE MILESTONES

ELEVATING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AS A CLIMATE SOLUTION AT COP27

# UNITING LEADERS BEHIND ONE AMBITION

## ELEVATING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AS A CRITICAL SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Buildings are responsible for almost **40% of global energy-related carbon emissions** and **50% of all extracted materials**.

By 2050, 1.6 billion urban dwellers will be **regularly exposed to extremely high temperatures** and over 800 million people will be **vulnerable to sea level rise and coastal flooding**.

By 2060, global material use is **expected to more than double** and a third of this rise is attributable to materials used in the **building and construction system**.

By 2060, the world's **building stock will double** and almost **70% of the global population** is projected to live in urban areas.



**NOV  
2020**

WorldGBC convenes built environment leaders to write a letter to COP26 President, Alok Sharma, requesting a Built Environment Day at COP26



**JAN  
2021**

COP26 Presidency responds positively and confirms the development of a Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day at COP26



**AUG  
2021**

Working with the UN High Level Climate Champions and the UK government, WorldGBC plays a leading role in uniting ten influential organisations to form the [#BuildingToCOP26 Coalition](#)

In developing economies, efficient buildings are an **investment opportunity worth around \$24.7 trillion by 2030.**

Despite this, **under \$3 of every \$100 spent on new construction goes to efficient buildings.**

**Out of the 186 countries** that have submitted Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), **only 136 countries mention buildings, 53 countries mention building energy efficiency, and 38 specifically call out building energy codes.**

Green Building Councils have **influence over 81% of the world's built up area.**



**SEPT  
2021**

WorldGBC expands the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment to address whole life carbon impacts

**BUILDING  
RESILIENCE**

**SEPT  
2021**

For World Green Building Week 2021, the WorldGBC network demonstrates how a sustainable built environment is #BuildingResilience to climate change for people and economies



**NOV  
2021**

WorldGBC plays a leading role in the development and execution of Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day at COP26

**#BUILDING  
TO COP27**

**DEC  
2021**

WorldGBC to continue driving climate action through the built environment at COP27 in Egypt and COP28 in the United Arab Emirates



## **#BUILDING #TO COP26**

# **ELEVATING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT LIKE NEVER BEFORE**

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**Two groundbreaking report launches:** Beyond Buildings and Beyond the Business Case

**44** businesses join Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment to tackle embodied and operational carbon

**22** events and media engagements at COP26

**67** press mentions

**Over 7 million** social media and press reach

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# CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

## ACCELERATING RESILIENCE

WITH MORE THAN 100 EVENTS ACROSS 37 COUNTRIES, WORLD GREEN BUILDING WEEK REACHES MORE PEOPLE THAN EVER BEFORE.

Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, World Green Building Week (WGBW) united industry leaders from around the world to call for #BuildingResilience – a built environment that fosters resilience to climate change and for people and economies.

### OVER 8 MILLION SOCIAL MEDIA AND PRESS REACH

#BuildingResilience: Our biggest and boldest World Green Building Week reached more people than ever before

## UNITING A GLOBAL COALITION TO SCALE CLIMATE ACTION

The #BuildingToCOP26 Coalition is a group of ten core organisations catalysing climate action in cities, regions and the built environment. The core members of the Coalition are the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, the Resilience Shift, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, C40 Cities and the World Green Building Council.

The Coalition worked closely with the UN High Level Climate Champions and the COP26 Presidency to shape the agenda of the Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day at COP26.

To halve the built environment’s emissions by 2030 and establish the built environment as a major solution provider to the climate crisis, the Coalition continues to collaborate towards COP27 and beyond.



#BUILDINGTOCOP26 COALITION AND THE UN HIGH LEVEL CLIMATE CHAMPIONS TEAM AT COP26



**ELIZABETH WANGECI CHEGE**

MEMBER OF WORLDGBC BOARD AND CHAIR OF AFRICA REGIONAL NETWORK, SPEAKING AT CITIES, REGIONS AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT DAY AT COP26



**JENNIFER LAYKE**

VICE CHAIR OF WORLDGBC BOARD ATTENDING COP26



**ESTHER AN**

MEMBER OF WORLDGBC CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD, SPEAKING AT CITIES, REGIONS AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT DAY AT COP26



**RACHEL SKINNER**

MEMBER OF THE WORLDGBC BOARD ATTENDED COP26

# WGBW 2021 IN NUMBERS

**4.5 million people** reached on social media via the hashtags #WGBW21 and #BuildingResilience

**Potential media reach of 3.9 million** via **128 media mentions**, including publications such as Lexology, Edie and Scottish Construction News

**100+ official events** across **37 countries**

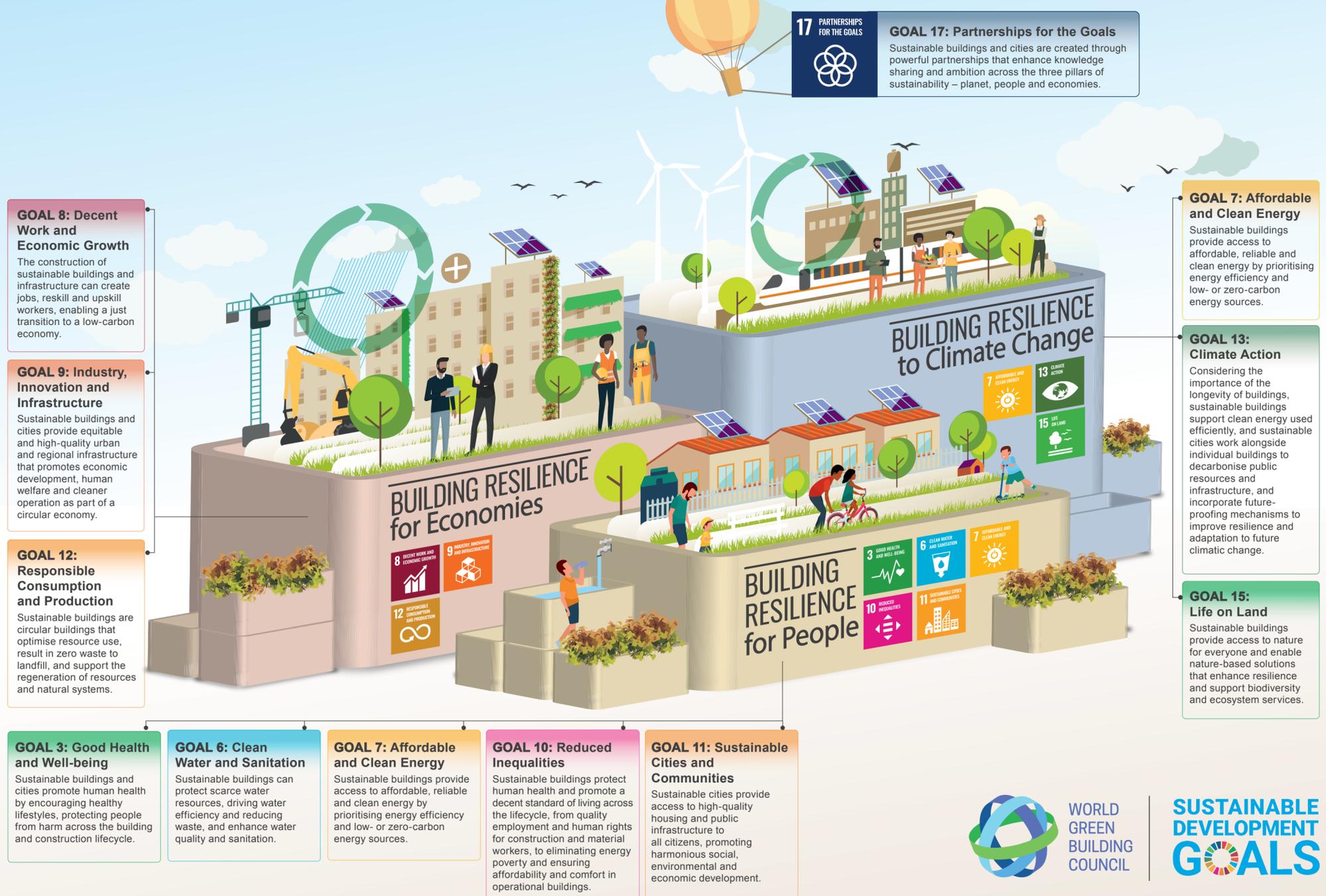
**90% GBCs** actively participated

**61% of our corporate partners** participated



**GBCs AROUND THE WORLD TO CAME TOGETHER TO DELIVER THE WORLD GREEN BUILDING WEEK MESSAGE: #BUILDINGRESILIENCE**

# WGBW 2021: #BUILDINGRESILIENCE



To close the environmental, social and economic gaps and protect our planet, people and economies, **World Green Building Week 2021** showcased the benefits and opportunities of embracing a holistic approach to sustainability.

**Cristina Gamboa, CEO of WorldGBC, outlined** how a sustainable built environment can unlock the Sustainable Development Goals and provide powerful solutions to climate change, improve human health and equity and drive a circular, regenerative economy.



# BUILDING PERSPECTIVE

*This year, we launched a new interview series with leaders across the WorldGBC network called Building Perspective.*

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.



**THOMAS MULLER**  
CEO, CaGBC

**CRISTINA GAMBOA**  
CEO, WORLDGBC



## WITH A NEW IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE, WE ARE EMBEDDING THE HEALTH & WELLBEING FRAMEWORK ACROSS THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Grounded in the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development, the Health & Wellbeing Framework is a comprehensive educational tool spanning six principles. The new Implementation Guide explains how to apply the Framework across the building and construction sector.

## REDEFINING THE VALUE OF SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

Developed through deep collaboration with the WorldGBC global network, the Beyond the Business Case report launched at COP26 in November 2021. Considering both the financial and social value case for action, the report delivers a cutting-edge narrative and value proposition for the global real estate sector to drive investment in sustainable buildings. With evidence-based research and case studies of sustainability innovation around the world, the report tackles the barriers to mass market engagement with climate action and sustainability across the buildings and construction sector.

## GOING BEYOND BUILDINGS

Published by WorldGBC with the support of the Dar Group and its member firms, Integral Group, T.Y. Lin, Perkins&Will and Currie & Brown, Beyond Buildings is a new report focussing on the inter-relationship between buildings and infrastructure in our built environment. Urging the real estate sector and supply chain to consider both buildings and infrastructure together, the report advocates for an integrated approach to sustainability in order to achieve sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

CRISTINA GAMBOA, CEO OF WORLDGBC, PRESENTING THE BEYOND THE BUSINESS CASE AT COP26



**NIGEL TOPPING**  
HIGH-LEVEL CLIMATE ACTION CHAMPION FOR UN CLIMATE TALKS, COP26

To tackle the climate crisis we need to place climate resilience on par with mitigation. How we design, manage and occupy buildings can do both: building communities and economies which can thrive, not just survive the impact of climate change.



**SANJAYA BHATIA**  
HEAD OF OFFICE NORTH-EAST ASIA, UNDRR

Buildings are responsible for 38% of carbon emissions and can increase vulnerability if standards for disaster and climate risk are ignored. By 2050, the world's building stock will double. This is an opportunity to get things right by embracing a holistic approach to sustainable buildings. Buildings should promote resilience – of the environment, of the people and of the local economy.



**DAVID SYMONS**  
UK DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY, WSP

From zero carbon offices in London and climate-ready schools in Lagos, to well-ventilated homes in Vancouver and healthy hospitals in Victoria – the case for green, healthy buildings is clear across the world.



**RICHARD PALMER**  
DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY, INTEGRAL GROUP

The built environment is such an important part of addressing both the causes and impacts of climate change. The Beyond Buildings report highlights the opportunities between buildings and infrastructure to accelerate climate action at the scale and speed demanded by science.

# ACCELERATING A 1.5°C FUTURE

## CATALYSING LEADERSHIP ON WHOLE LIFE CARBON

### 44 SIGNATORIES ANNOUNCED FOR NET ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS COMMITMENT TACKLING WHOLE LIFE CARBON

44 businesses signed up to the market-leading, whole life carbon requirements of the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, pledging to take increased action to decarbonise the built environment across their portfolios and business activities, representing an annual turnover of \$85 billion. The updated Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment expands the scope of the climate action required by its signatories, mandating a reduction first approach in tackling both operational and embodied carbon.

By introducing requirements on embodied carbon, the Commitment and its signatories represent a leadership position within the sector, advancing a whole life carbon approach to decarbonising our built environment.

### ESTABLISHING BEST PRACTICE FOR CARBON OFFSETTING

'Advancing Net Zero Whole Life Carbon: Offsetting Residual Emissions from the Building and Construction Sector' outlines WorldGBC's recommendations for when, how, and why offsetting may be used to advance net zero carbon emissions in the built environment.

### CITIES, REGIONS & BUILT ENVIRONMENT DAY AT COP26

With more than 130 events and a series of Presidency sessions with frontrunner Ministers, Mayors and CEOs, the global building and construction industry showcased the ambition, action and deep collaboration across the entire value chain at Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day at COP26. This demonstration of a common vision and collective action helps support the call for more enhanced country-level climate commitments, or Nationally Determined Contributions, and policy frameworks to address emissions from the built environment.

### ADVANCING NET ZERO ACROSS THE WORLD

The [Advancing Net Zero \(ANZ\) Status Report 2021](#) highlights leadership action from GBCs and the building and construction sector towards achieving total sector decarbonisation.

Featuring 27 GBCs participating in WorldGBC's Global Advancing Net Zero programme, as well as signatories to the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, the report outlines net zero trends, innovation on legislative and technological levels, and a myth buster section that addresses common misconceptions about net zero buildings.

### ASIA PACIFIC NET ZERO READINESS FRAMEWORK

Our Framework has been developed by GBCs in the Asia Pacific region to support industry on their journey to net zero emissions by 2050.

The Asia Pacific region makes up 60% of the world's population, with more than 2 billion people living in urban areas. The next 10 years are critical.

The Framework will break down the key elements needed and deliver guidance on how to achieve a decarbonised built environment. In addition, it will signpost where the different markets are leading in this field, or those which are at an earlier stage of their net zero transition.

## JORGE CHAPA

HEAD OF MARKET TRANSFORMATION, GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL AUSTRALIA



The latest IPCC report was clear: we need to go faster, eliminate future emissions, and compensate for current and past emissions. The cost of inaction is monumental. WorldGBC's Advancing Net Zero Commitment shows us how to get there by 2030.

## YVONNE SOH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SINGAPORE GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL



The Net Zero Readiness Framework is a useful first step to help distil the critical success factors and understand the contributory elements that will lead to a successful outcome. This timely framework will enable organisations to map out their own pathways to going zero, identify partners and prepare the necessary resources before embarking on the Net Zero goal.

# ADVANCING BETTER POLICY

## #BuildingLife: Tackling embodied carbon in Europe

### THREE EUROPEAN WHOLE LIFE CARBON POLICY ROAD MAPS

GBC Finland, Polish GBC and UKGBC have released national roadmaps. More national roadmaps and a EU level roadmap are set to be released in 2022.

### #BUILDINGLIFE

#BuildingLife is a multi-year campaign led by the Europe Regional Network (ERN) that will help to ensure Europe's built environment sector delivers on the ambitions of the EU Green Deal. #BuildingLife is powered by the generous support of the IKEA Foundation and the Laudes Foundation.

Spearheaded by ten European Green Building Councils — Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the UK, the project catalyses a shift in Europe's building policy to tackle the total environmental impacts — both carbon and resource-related — across the entire lifecycle of a building.

## Driving the Renovation Wave and tackling energy poverty

### OVER 30 CITIES ACCELERATE RENOVATION ACROSS EUROPE

Through a Coalition of eight European Green Building Councils, 32 cities and regions are using or building capacity to implement the BUILD UPON<sup>2</sup> Framework.

### RENOVATION IMPACT FRAMEWORK

The Framework allows local authorities to track the impact of their renovation schemes and to scale up best practice from the municipal level upwards. It is a crucial tool to deliver the EU's Renovation

Wave, an ambitious plan to at least double the bloc's renovation rate by 2030, on the local level. In this way, participant cities can help meet the EU Green Deal's goal of climate neutrality by 2050.

## Cities Climate Action Project: scaling better energy efficiency policy in Latin America

### FOUR NEW BUILDING EFFICIENCY POLICIES IN COLOMBIA AND MEXICO

Through WorldGBC's Cities Climate Action Project, four new building resource and energy efficiency policies were implemented in Colombia and Mexico. Bringing together 90 government officials to collaborate with over 100 partners across Latin

America, more building efficiency policies are in development across countries such as Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala.

### CITIES CLIMATE ACTION PROJECT

The Cities Climate Action Project is a collaboration of businesses, NGOs and policymakers from across

Latin America to accelerate the transition towards decarbonisation. The project was funded by P4G and builds on the Building Efficiency Accelerator (BEA) platform coordinated by the World Resources Institute (WRI).



#BuildingLife is led by WorldGBC and delivered by ten European Green Building Councils in Croatia

TANYA COX, CHAIR OF WORLDGBC BOARD, PRESENTING #BUILDINGLIFE AT COP26

**THE GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS SPEARHEADING THE #BUILDINGLIFE PROJECT ARE CROATIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, IRELAND, ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS, POLAND, SPAIN AND THE UK.**

# EU TAXONOMY ON SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITIES



**STEPHEN RICHARDSON, DIRECTOR,  
EUROPE REGIONAL NETWORK, WORLDGBC**

A key priority for the European Commission, the EU Taxonomy aims to develop a European financial system which can accelerate a transition towards a sustainable economy.

WorldGBC is one of 50 cross-sector experts appointed to the European Platform for Sustainable Finance to help implement the EU Taxonomy.

Experts from across the Europe Regional Network have drafted proposals for criteria on circular economy and biodiversity. When finalised, these targets will support the financial sector in contributing to environmental objectives through taxonomy-based activities. These targets will be critical in taking the sector forward in sustainability.

WorldGBC is committed to working with other members of the [Sustainable Finance Platform](#) to ensure that the Taxonomy supports the total decarbonisation of the built environment and unlocks the power of the financial sector to help make sustainable built environments available for everyone everywhere.



Accelerating industry, regulators and investors towards a net-zero carbon built environment is critical - and we must tackle emissions across the whole building life cycle if we're serious about it. Laudes Foundation is proud to support the World Green Building Council's pioneering work: developing clear roadmaps with industry, shifting policies to tackle embodied carbon, and accelerating investor action on this agenda.

**JAMES DRINKWATER, HEAD OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT, LAUDES FOUNDATION**



The WorldGBC Cities Climate Action Project is a true example of what partnerships can achieve. It demonstrates that when the governments and the private sector collaborate towards a common goal, in this case an energy efficient built environment which will sustain our way of life, revolutionary change can happen.

We are proud supporters of the Cities Climate Action Project and the BEA platform. The next step for this partnership is creating green finance products and institutionalising GBCs and codes into not only energy efficient buildings but also net zero homes. There is a huge opportunity to create the radical change we need to achieve sustainable cities.

**IAN DE CRUZ, GLOBAL DIRECTOR, P4G (PARTNERING FOR GREEN GROWTH AND GLOBAL GOALS 2030)**



Green and sustainable buildings could solve 50% of resource efficiency and 40% of climate challenge and ensure better living conditions. Let's do it!

**SIRPA PIETIKÄINEN, MEP,  
EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY  
GROUP, FINLAND**



Our buildings can contribute a lot to our common decarbonisation journey. To get the full picture and to do what's needed, we have to embrace a whole life cycle approach. We support #BuildingLife because it can help change gears when it comes to EU buildings policies.

**PIERRE-ANDRÉ DE CHALENDAR,  
CHAIRMAN & FORMER CEO,  
SAINT-GOBAIN**



I am delighted to support the #BuildingLife campaign. A sustainable future in line with the #EUGreenDeal demands more EU action at EU level to tackle total carbon and resource impacts.

**CIARAN CUFFE, MEP, GROUP OF  
THE GREENS/EUROPEAN FREE  
ALLIANCE, IRELAND**

# OUR INFLUENCE 2020-2021

Over 2,300  
press mentions

**Forbes** [Link](#)

**The  
Guardian** [Link](#)

**Bloomberg  
Green** [Link](#)

FINANCIAL TIMES [Link](#)

Over 190  
speaking events



**CRISTINA GAMBOA AT  
DAVOS DIALOGUES 2021  
“BUILDING NET ZERO CITIES”**

Over 7 million

**# BUILDING  
# TO COP26**

**SOCIAL MEDIA AND  
PRESS REACH**

Over 8 million

**WORLD GREEN**

**BUILDING WEEK**

**20-24 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**SOCIAL MEDIA AND  
PRESS REACH**

# OUR GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS

## ESTABLISHED - OUR HIGHEST CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP



## EMERGING



## PROSPECTIVE



## AFFILIATE PARTNERS



# OUR GBCs IN NUMBERS

**71** members and two affiliates

**1000+** staff at GBCs

Approximately **36,000** members

**48,176** people trained in 2020

**175,896** people attended GBC events in 2020

**477,448** newsletter subscribers

**33** countries have had government policy or regulation changed in the past 12 months as a result of their GBCs involvement

**4.2** billion m<sup>2</sup> of green building space certified cumulatively

All figures are based on responses from the 2021 Member Value and Impact survey completed by GBCs in September 2021 and cover the time span of a year unless noted otherwise.

# REGIONAL NETWORKS

## CHAIR

## VICE CHAIR



**Maria Fernanda Aguirre**  
Chile Green Building Council



**Pamela Castellan**  
Guatemala Green Building Council



**Cary Chan**  
Hong Kong Green Building Council



**Anand Muthukrishnan**  
Indian Green Building Council



**Alicja Kuczera**  
Polish Green Building Council



**Marco Caffi**  
Green Building Council Italia



**Raji Hattar**  
Jordan Green Building Council



**Dr. Ali Aljassim**  
Emirates Green Building Council



**Elizabeth Wangeci Chege**  
Kenya Green Building Society



**Lisa Reynolds**  
Green Building Council South Africa

# ESTABLISHED GBC CEO NETWORK

Our Established GBC CEO Network convenes nearly 40 CEOs to share the leadership insight driving our network's achievements and strategy.



**Guillermo Simon-Prados, CEO**  
Argentina Green Building Council



**Peter Engert, CEO**  
Austrian Green Building Council



**Thomas Mueller, President**  
Canada Green Building Council



**Maria Fernanda, CEO**  
Chile Green Building Council



**Viviana Valdivieso, CEO**  
Colombia Green Building Council



**Dean Smolar, CEO**  
Croatia Green Building Council



**Annmarie van Doorn, CEO**  
Dutch Green Building Council



**Dr. Waleed Yagoub, Operations Director**  
Emirates Green Building Council



**Estelle Réveillard, CEO**  
France Green Building Council



**Christine Lemaitre, CEO**  
German Sustainable Building Council



**Davina Rooney, CEO**  
Green Building Council Australia



**Felipe Faria, CEO**  
Green Building Council Brasil



**Nicolas Ramirez, CEO**  
Green Building Council Costa Rica



**Dolores Huerta, CEO**  
Green Building Council Espana



**Mikko Nousiainen, CEO**  
Green Building Council Finland



**Surendro, CEO**  
Green Building Council Indonesia



**Marco Caffi, COO**  
Green Building Council Italia



**Lisa Reynolds, CEO**  
Green Building Council South Africa



**Pamela Castellan, CEO**  
Guatemala Green Building Council



**Cary Chan, Executive Director**  
Hong Kong Green Building Council



**Henrietta Budai, Executive Director**  
Hungary Green Building Council



**Anand Muthukrishnan, Deputy Director  
General, Indian Green Building Council**



**Pat Barry, Executive Director**  
Irish Green Building Council



**Hind Hadidi, Team Leader**  
Jordan Green Building Council



**SoYeon Kang, General Director**  
Korea Green Building Council



**Chee Khoay Tang, CEO**  
Malaysia Green Building Council



**Andrew Eagles, CEO**  
New Zealand Green Building Council



**Katharina Bramslev, CEO**  
Norwegian Green Building Council



**Aqrab Ali Rana, CEO**  
Pakistan Green Building Council



**Francesca Mayer, CEO**  
Peru Green Building Council



**Christopher De La Cruz, CEO**  
Philippine Green Building Council



**Alicja Kuczera, CEO**  
Polish Green Building Council



**Yvonne Soh, Executive Director**  
Singapore Green Building Council



**Lotta Werner Flyborg, CEO**  
Sweden Green Building Council



**Chenyi Justin, Sec-Gen (CEO)**  
Taiwan Green Building Council



**Engin Isiltan, Executive Director**  
Turkish Green Building Council



**Julie Hirigoyen, CEO**  
UK Green Building Council



**Taryn Holowka, SVP Marketing, Communications  
& Advocacy, US Green Building Council**

# OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

WorldGBC would like to say a huge thank you to all our partners from around the world for their ongoing commitment to our work, generous financial support and shared expertise.

With your support, you ensure that we accelerate sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

## GRANT PROVIDERS



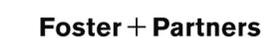
## CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD



## GLOBAL PROJECT & REGIONAL PARTNERS



## ACTIVITY PARTNERS



# OUR GOVERNANCE



**TANYA COX**  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD  
NOMINATED BY GBCA (AUSTRALIA)



**JENNIFER LAYKE**  
VICE CHAIR  
GLOBAL DIRECTOR, ENERGY PROGRAM, WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE  
NOMINATED BY CCCS (COLOMBIA GBC)



**ELIZABETH WANGECI CHEGE**  
VICE CHAIR  
CEO AND CO-FOUNDER OF WEB LIMITED  
CHAIR OF AFRICA REGIONAL NETWORK  
NOMINATED BY KENYA GBS



**MICHAEL BROOKS**  
TREASURER  
CEO, REALPAC  
NOMINATED BY CAGBC (CANADA)



**ILARI AHO**  
SECRETARY  
VICE PRESIDENT, SUSTAINABILITY & REGULATORY AFFAIRS AT UPONOR CORPORATION  
NOMINATED BY FIGBC (FINLAND)



**HABIBA AL MAR'ASHI**  
DIRECTOR  
PRESIDENT OF ARABIA CSR NETWORK, CO-FOUNDER AND CHAIRPERSON OF EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP (EEG)  
NOMINATED BY EMIRATES GBC



**HASTINGS CHIKOKO**  
DIRECTOR  
MANAGING DIRECTOR, REGIONS & MAYORAL ENGAGEMENT & REGIONAL  
DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA, C40 CITIES CLIMATE LEADERSHIP GROUP  
NOMINATED BY FRANCE GBC



**FELIPE FARIA**  
DIRECTOR  
CEO, GBC BRAZIL



**DARIO IBARGÜENGOITIA**  
DIRECTOR  
DIRECTOR, AMBIENTE REGENERATIVO INTEGRAL  
NOMINATED BY SUME (MEXICO GBC)



**BRUNO SAUER**  
DIRECTOR  
CEO, GBC ESPANA



**RACHEL SKINNER**  
DIRECTOR  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WSP AND PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS UK  
NOMINATED BY CHILEGBC



**TAN SWEE YIOW**  
DIRECTOR  
SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, KEPPEL CORPORATION LIMITED  
NOMINATED BY SINGAPORE GBC



**PETER TEMPLETON**  
DIRECTOR  
PRESIDENT AND CEO, U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL



**JOHANNES KREISSIG**  
DIRECTOR  
CEO, DGNB (GERMANY)

We believe in strong governance and accountability – to our mission, to the green building movement, and to our member Green Building Councils.

And this is the role of our Board of Directors, a group of highly experienced building industry professionals who are closely affiliated with our Established members or hold senior positions on their staff or Boards.

On June 1, 2021, five new Directors joined our Board - Habiba Al Marashi, Elizabeth Wangeci Chege, Michael Brooks, Rachel Skinner and Hastings Chikoko.

# ACCELERATING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



**CRISTINA GAMBOA,**  
**CEO, WORLD GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL**

As proud members of the United Nations Global Compact, our strategy is deeply aligned with the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and the ten principles of the Global Compact.

Through the work of our global and regional projects, implemented by our 71 national Green Building Councils and two Affiliates, we accelerate on-the-ground action to accelerate sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere.

Our work is in full alignment with the four themes of the Global Compact Principles – Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption – and we express our continued commitment to the Global Compact on behalf of the WorldGBC network.

## How WorldGBC’s ambition aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals

The WorldGBC network will be publicly reporting progress as a member of the UN Global Compact. Our tiered goals show the areas that our global network will focus on to enable a profound shift towards sustainable development.



**Advanced Goals** Sustainability areas with key role for the built environment sector to act upon. Global projects run by WorldGBC, and Established national GBC action.



**Progressive Goals** Sustainability areas substantially impacted by the built environment. Prioritised action in some GBC network areas. WorldGBC aims to progress.



**Growth Targets** Sustainability areas with contributory role for the built environment. WorldGBC aims to progress work in partnership with key stakeholders.



## WE SUPPORT



## HUMAN RIGHTS

### Global Compact Principles 1 & 2

We advocate for the support and respect of the protection of human rights through the buildings and construction lifecycle through our members and the wider industry. Equity is a core theme in our strategy, and we call for advancing worker welfare and human rights as described within

WorldGBC’s Health & Wellbeing Framework (see Principle 5). Within this work, we also present our commitment to principles 4-6, through specific calls for the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour, child labour, and discrimination across the built environment industry.

In our Beyond the Business Case report, we present social value as an essential component of the value proposition for investors and stakeholders in the real estate sector.

## LABOUR

### Global Compact Principles 3, 4, 5 & 6

Across our network of Green Building Councils and partners, we uphold the freedom of association through a collaborative membership model, encouraging integration, communication and deep collaboration for all actors across the value chain.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Global Compact Principles 7, 8 & 9

Through the WorldGBC Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, 44 businesses committed to reducing both operational and embodied carbon. This action is actively encouraging the development and dissemination of environmentally friendly technologies and accelerating decarbonisation across the built environment.

A precautionary approach, as advocated by Global Compact Principle 7, underpins all research and thought leadership released across the WorldGBC network. Our Beyond Buildings report calls for a widening of this approach to sustainability to consider infrastructure alongside our buildings.

## ANTI-CORRUPTION

### Global Compact Principles 10

Through robust governance by WorldGBC’s Board, a comprehensive membership model and strict requirements for both members and partners, we actively work against corruption in all forms – in both our own activities, but also across the diverse sectors of the built environment, real estate and construction supply chains.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Despite a challenging year for the global economy, WorldGBC experienced one of its best years in 2020, due to resilient financial management, programmatic innovation and successful grant fundraising.

The increase in grant revenue enabled WorldGBC to support member GBCs through direct funding and provided much needed flexibility and space to focus on programmatic work and strategic objectives. WorldGBC was able to increase its investment in its programme services creating value for our network and supporting members through enhanced delivery for our community via global and regional projects, regional networks and campaigns.

## FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

In 2020 WorldGBC's revenue totalled US\$4.85 million, a figure that represents a growth of 78.2% compared to 2019. Revenue from grants grew +200% to US\$3.2 million and the organisation was able to maintain corporate sponsorship and membership fees revenue comparable to 2019.

In that same year, the organisation's expenditure increased by 44% over 2019 to US\$3.96 million. Our resources were mainly dedicated to support our members through programme services like global and regional projects, and through our diverse networks. 47.2% of total expenses (US\$1.87 million) were funds on-granted to GBCs participating in the #BuildingLife project and the Cities Climate Action project and supporting regional network meetings.

## FINANCIAL POSITION

WorldGBC ended 2020 with US\$1,334,732 in unrestricted net assets, a figure that increased by US\$409,974 compared to 2019 and represents 33.7% of total

expenses. WorldGBC remained compliant with the Cash Management Policy which requires that the organisation should retain at least the equivalent of a minimum of 33% of its annual expenses in unrestricted net assets to cover for risks.

From the grants side of the operation, WorldGBC had a total of US\$604,130 in temporarily restricted assets at the end of 2020, which represents an increase of US\$487,133 (or 416.4%) compared to 2019.

## AUDITOR'S OPINION AND FURTHER INFORMATION

KPMG, WorldGBC's auditor, issued an unqualified opinion on WorldGBC's 2020 audited financial statements on 16 June, 2021. Our members can obtain copies of the complete audited financial statements by contacting the WorldGBC team.

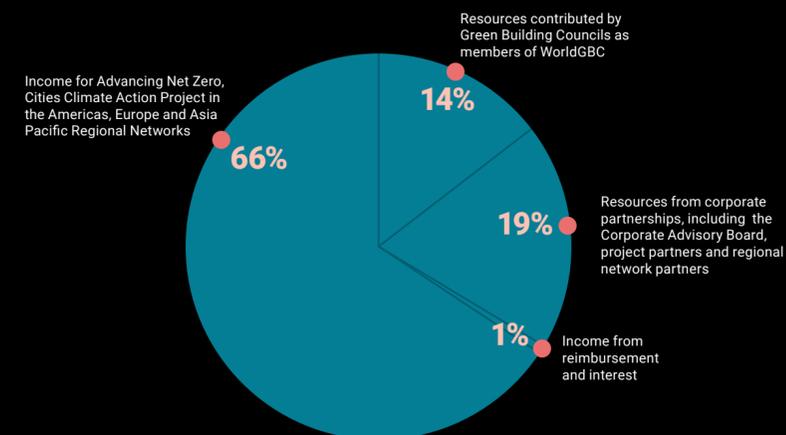
The financial information presented in this annual report has been derived, by WorldGBC management, from those audited financial statements.

2020	Category	
Revenue	Membership	\$694,750
	Resources contributed by Green Building Councils as members of WorldGBC	
	Partnerships	\$938,250
	Resources from corporate partnerships, including the Corporate Advisory Board, project partners and regional network partners	
	Grants	\$3,200,109
	Income for Advancing Net Zero, Cities Climate Action Project in the Americas, Europe and Asia Pacific Regional Networks	
	Other	\$19,069
	Income from reimbursement and interest	

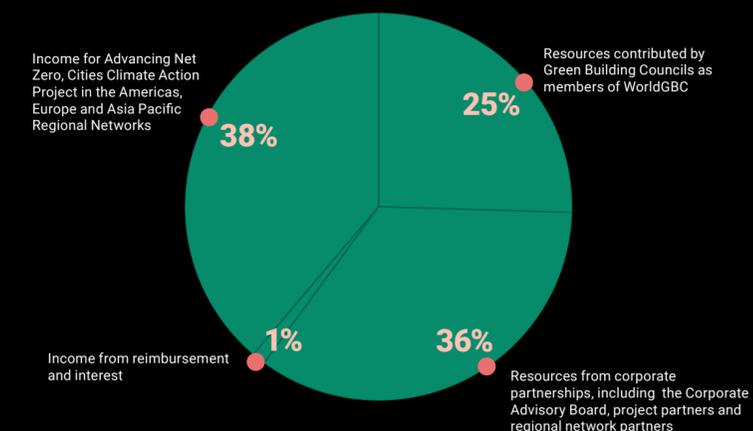
2019	Category	
Revenue	Membership	\$688,625
	Partnerships	\$984,501
	Grants	\$1,021,905
	Other	\$28,341

2020	Category	
Expenses	Programme services	\$3,484,409
	Focused on serving our GBCs	
	Fundraising	\$24,948
	Investments to continue diversifying our revenue stream and that of our GBCs	
	Supporting services	\$445,715
	Administration and operations, communications and marketing	

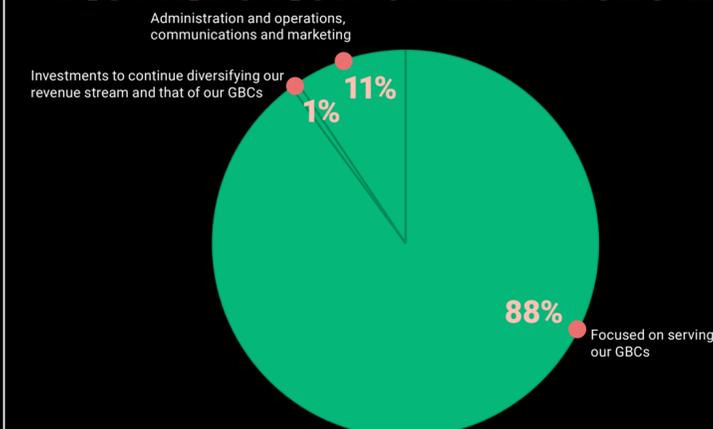
## DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUE 2020



## DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUE 2019



## DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES 2020



# **JOIN US IN CATALYSING SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENTS FOR EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE**

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WORLD  
GREEN  
BUILDING  
COUNCIL