



World Green Building Council

Board of Directors Role Description

An opportunity to change the world through the built environment.

World Green Building Council

About us

The World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) is a global network of Green Building Councils (GBCs) in almost 70 countries around the world, who are transforming the places we live, work, play, heal and learn. We believe green buildings can and must be at the centre of our lives. Our changing climate means we must reshape the way we grow and build, enabling people to thrive both today and tomorrow. We take action - championing local and global leadership, and empowering our community to drive change.

Together, WorldGBC is greater than the sum of its parts, and commits to green buildings for everyone, everywhere.

Buildings and construction account for 39% of energy related CO₂ emissions and our aim is to decarbonise the industry by 2050 and limit global temperature rise to under 1.5 degrees.

And we're looking for new Board Directors to help us achieve our mission of green buildings for everyone, everywhere!

Let's decarbonise

In 2018, we launched a [Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment](#) at the historic Global Climate Action Summit, with C-suite signatories from business, mayors of cities and governors of states and regions. The 42 founding signatories committed to eliminate the equivalent of 221 million tonnes of carbon emissions (CO₂e). This leadership sends a strong signal that we must change the way we design, build and operate our buildings to reduce energy waste and our reliance on fossil fuels which are causing irreversible damage to our planet.

Making an impact

With offices in London and Toronto we are organised across [five regional networks](#): Africa, the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East & North Africa. China one of the latest additions to our global network. This means we are now in an even stronger position to accelerate worldwide carbon reduction across the entire building sector.

Last year, our Europe Regional Network launched a new [energy efficiency mortgage](#) scheme with over 40 major financial institutions with a combined lending power of over €3 trillion; equal to around 20% of the EU's gross domestic product.

Our [World Green Building Week](#) campaign encouraged homeowners, landlords and builders to take action and green their homes. With over 300 events across the world, the campaign reached over 155 million people.

Influencing leaders

Now in our 10th year of operation, our network of almost 70 GBCs and their 37,000 members have certified 2.65 billion m² of green building space across the world. Working with their national governments, 35 countries benefited from GBC advocacy to adopt enhanced green building policies.

Since inception, we have increased and diversified our revenue to include corporate sponsorship and we have received grant funding from organisations such as the European Commission, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, We Mean Business, P4G Partnerships and The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), as well as establishing strategic partnerships with The Climate Group, C40 and World Resources Institute (WRI). You can read more in our annual report [here](#).

We are now looking for influential and experienced individuals to join our Board of Directors to support us in our next level of impact and growth.

Our legal status

WorldGBC is a non profit corporation registered on the United States of America under the section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, to which WorldGBC is subject as a New York non profit corporation.

Why green buildings?

Today, there has never been a greater case – and urgency – for green building:

- The world's economy must fully decarbonise by the middle of the century to stay within 1.5 degrees of global warming. To achieve this, all buildings must be net zero emissions by 2050
- Increasing evidence demonstrates that green building contributes significantly to improved health and wellbeing, improving sleep at night, cognitive function by day, and reducing sickness
- The push to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals has highlighted the key role that green building can and does play in achieving many of these goals

Green buildings play a key role as a solution for current global challenges. With a solid global foundation, the timing is right to:

.....achieve green buildings for everyone, everywhere.

Our Board

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

This is the role of our Board of Directors, a group of highly experienced professionals who are currently or were historically affiliated with our Green Building Councils, and who hold executive or Board positions within Green Building Councils and/or local and global organisations (profit or non profit) who support the drive towards green building.

We follow best practice governance and elect our Chair and each Board member every two years. Our Board members are nominated by member Green Building Councils, and we ensure diversity: regional, gender, ethnicity, as well as skills and experience.

Role and interests of the Board

The Board's role is to advise and oversee the next phase of WorldGBC's growth, ensuring we are operating effectively as a non profit organisation and delivering on our mission.

It is essential also that Board members represent the best interests of WorldGBC; not their own organisation – including their nominating GBC.

Board members term

The members elected to serve on the Board of Directors shall serve a two-year term from 01 July of the year of election. An elected Board member may serve no more than six consecutive years (unless otherwise authorised by resolution of the Board).

Current Board members

Lisa Bate

Chair of the Board
B+H Architects

Tanya Cox

Vice Chair of the Board
Green Building Council of
Australia

Peter Templeton

Treasurer of the Board
US Green Building Council

Ilari Aho

Secretary of the Board
Uponor

John Alker

Campaign and Policy
Director
UK Green Building Council

Saeed Al Abbar

Director, AESG
Chair, Emirates Green
Building Council

Christine Lemaitre

CEO, German Sustainable
Building Council (DGNB)
Chair, WorldGBC's Europe
Regional Network

Tan Swee Yiw

President, Singapore
Green Building Council

Felipe Faria

CEO, Green Building
Council Brasil
Chair, Americas Regional
Network

Snježana Turalija

Executive Director, Croatia
Green Building Council

Sebastian Dañino Beck

Director, Peru Green
Building Council

Ada Fung

Director, Hong Kong
Green Building Council

Rudolf Pienaar

Director, Growthpoint
Properties Limited

Sundaresan Raghupathy

Deputy Director General,
Confederation of Indian
Industry (IGBC)
Regional Chair, Asia
Pacific Regional Network

Bruno Sauer

CEO, Green Building
Council España

Board Committees

The WorldGBC Board has the following Board Committees and we are seeking Board members who will join and provide expertise to **at least two** of these Board Committees:

- **Executive Committee:** comprising the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Treasurer, and the Secretary, the Executive Committee supports the CEO in ongoing decision making and stands in for the Board for approvals in between Board meetings
- **Remunerations Committee:** a subset of the Executive Committee also forms the Remuneration Committee to decide the CEO's and key employee's salary as well as oversee the CEO's performance and succession plan

- **Business Development Committee:** tasked with fundraising and enhancing the sponsorship and value offering of the WorldGBC and its members to ensure continued financial growth for the WorldGBC
- **Audit Committee:** oversees the financial health of the organisation, including monitoring financial reporting, supporting and overseeing the annual audit, and providing guidance on key strategic issues
- **Governance Committee:** provides guidance into best practice governance for the organisation, ensuring the right division between governance and management
- **Membership Committee:** monitors the health and impact of our member Green Building Councils; approves new Members; and oversees new policies governing membership

Board members responsibility and commitment

As established in the WorldGBC Code of Ethics and Conducts: *“Nomination to the Board is an expression of confidence by the nominee’s member council, and election to the Board is an expression of confidence by the members of WorldGBC. By virtue of their election, Board members assume responsibility for leadership, thoughtful judgment, and advancement of WorldGBC programs and activities. A position on the Board is not an honorary post. It is a position with inherent duties and responsibilities to serve as a fiduciary for the organisation, and promote WorldGBC’s effectiveness in carrying out its mission and achieving its prioritised Strategic Plan goals.*

Board members must perform their duties honestly, in good faith, and with a reasonable amount of diligence, professionalism and care.”

As per the New York Non profit Corporation Law best practices, Board members have three fundamental areas of legal and fiduciary responsibility, often referred to as the duties of care, loyalty, and obedience.

Board members must be willing to commit to:

- **Attendance:** Board members are required to attend at least three quarters of all Board and Committee meetings. WorldGBC normally holds three Board meetings at year, two in person and one over the phone
- **Participation in Committees:** each Board member is expected to actively participate in at least two Board Committees where, on average, each committee meets four times a year
- **Travel:** Board members are required to do two international trips a year for Board meetings
- **Code of Ethics:** Board members are expected to adhere to the WorldGBC Code of Ethics and Conduct and continuously act in the best interest of the World Green Building Council
- **Reading time:** WorldGBC Board members are required to carefully read the material prepared for Board and Committee meetings prior and after the meetings

- **Time:** overall, in order to fulfil the above duties, it is expected that Board members will need to dedicate an estimated two to three days per month to their Board member's role

Board members remuneration

Board members shall not be entitled to any compensation for their service on the Board of Directors. Travel expenses for Board members may be reimbursed by the nominating GBC or the Board members may cover their own travel cost.

Person specification

The following criteria are considered when electing nominees to a role on the WorldGBC Board of Directors:

1. The composition of the Board (which should reflect the diversity and global spread of its members)
 - Wherever possible, geographic diversity should be sought, one representative from each WorldGBC Region providing suitable candidates can be found
 - Gender diversity should be sought
2. The relative standing of the nominee's Green Building Council, according to its age, impact and influence globally
3. That the nominating Green Building Council is in good standing and able to pay for the Board candidate's travel to meetings (if candidate requires)
4. That the individual has the networks, skills and credibility that will add to the current make up of the Board
 - Nominees are currently or have been in the past active at a senior level in the GBC (Executive, Chair, Board, active member)
 - Nominees should have good business knowledge and a significant level of influence in their country
 - As a base, nominees would ideally exhibit the following skills:
 - Knowledge of business or marketing
 - Accounting, legal or other business skills
 - Expertise in sustainability
 - Expertise in governance
 - Experience in small business development
 - Specifically, in 2019, WorldGBC is seeking Board members with particular expertise in:
 - Fundraising with a focus on large grants, corporate sponsorship, and high net worth individuals
 - Accounting and finance experience

- Strategic planning and impact assessment and monitoring
- Significant CEO/Director/Chair level experience inside and outside of the GBC community, with domestic, regional or large multinational companies or not-for-profits
- Nominees should be active and visible in the country of the nominating GBC, and ideally outside of their home country also

Nominations process

A World Green Building Council Board member must be nominated by an Established Green Building Council. Each Established Green Building Council is encouraged to put forward between one and four candidates; however, only one candidate per Green Building Council will be eligible to join the Board.

For a full list of our Established Green Building Councils, please see our Member Director and select 'Established': <http://www.worldgbc.org/member-directory>

Nominees must submit the following to WorldGBC by 31 March 2019.

- **A letter of reference:** from an influential individual or organisation either from the candidate's home country or elsewhere
- **The nomination form:** including a manifesto; signature of GBC supporters; the skills matrix and confirmation of the source of funding for travel
- **The candidate's CV:** with a particular focus on past Chair or Board experience

Nominations will be reviewed by a Nominations Committee and then presented to the current Board for voting. Short listed candidates will be interviewed.

Nominees will be notified by June of the outcome of the nomination, and members that are elected to the Board of Directors will serve a two year term starting from 01 July 2019.

For further information or assistance, please contact Alexis Dangel at adangel@worldgbc.org.