

# WorldGBC Case Study Library Submission Criteria

## Overview

The World Green Building Council Case Study Library has been developed as the 'go-to' resource for exemplary sustainable buildings globally. Each case study demonstrates enhanced performance in relation to health benefits or achieve net zero operational carbon, as verified by established certification schemes, rating tools or other third-party verification.

## Submission Criteria

The following checklist is the working qualification criteria and will continued to be shaped with input of advisory committee of development partners and managed by WorldGBC team.

### Net Zero

Case studies of buildings and developments that are eligible to feature in library:

- display best practice outcomes in energy efficiency
- are powered by renewable energy
- have been verified and certified as "net zero energy and/or carbon" projects, ie. through GBC certification schemes or other third-party certification schemes related to zero carbon
- or achieves equivalent operational performance and submits third party verified data to demonstrate achieving a net zero energy/carbon annual balance

and/or

- are signatories of WorldGBC's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment ('The Commitment')

Data must be provided to support the case study submission.

### Health

Case studies of buildings and developments that are eligible to feature in library:

- enhance the health and wellbeing (H&W) of their occupants, with details of which areas of health are targeted
- have been verified and certified as "healthy" projects (ie rating schemes that verify outstanding achievement of health element of green building certification, such as LEED, or achieve health-based certification)
  - this could include a 'full' or 'focused' health certification, eg. WELL, FITWEL, RESET or exemplary achievement of health section of wider sustainability certification (eg. exemplary achievement of BREEAM 'Health and Wellbeing' section, or achievement of exemplary Innovation credit relating to health)
- If a Sustainability Certification is being used to demonstrate health performance, details **must** be provided on the level of achievement on health-related credits or sections (eg. 90% 'Health and Wellbeing' section credits achieved). Submissions without detail on health section (eg. BREEAM 'Outstanding') will not be accepted.

Data should be provided to support the case study submission as far as possible.

## Special Pleading

'Special pleading' functionality has been included within both areas of case study submissions, to allow for the submission of case studies that do not explicitly meet the requirements of the above. We expect the majority of these submissions will not have achieved third-party verification but will have pursued healthy and/or net zero status.

Case studies that are not verified will be judged on a bespoke basis through a merit-based approach, on the following factors:

- Does the case study achieve the remaining submission criteria, with the exception of third-party verification? Must demonstrate the same level of performance – keep to operational buildings only for both health and net zero areas
- Are there alternative methods of verifying claims, outside certification? Eg. awards, press coverage, on-site performance testing, (eg. air or water), surveys and occupant satisfaction, academic work
- Most importantly: does the case study represent an outstanding example of sustainability in the built environment? Would the case study library benefit from the inclusion of this submission?

The checklist for the submission and verification of Case Study Library submissions will be utilised by the WorldGBC team for consistent analysis and approval of submitted case studies. WorldGBC Senior Leadership will manage this process.

## Story-telling element

To provide a unique element of our case study library, all submitters are asked to share best practice, lessons learned, etc to provide a personal 'story-telling' element to case studies.

WorldGBC proposes that case studies that meet other criteria but have not provided valuable qualitative content to supplement their submission are not removed from consideration for the Library. If successful in achieving other criteria, WorldGBC will contact these case study submitters and invite them to provide further details to enhance this section of the library.

## Communicating participation in the library

WorldGBC will contact all organisations who have submitted a case study, whether successful or not. All organisations will be invited to continue submitting case studies, and unsuccessful applicants will be reminded the checklist of criteria for inclusion in the case study library. WorldGBC will be unable to liaise with every applicant but will aim to provide feedback where feasible.