GlobalABC Newsletter
December 2020

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If you have buildings-related news or events, please feel free to send us by the 13th of each month at global.abc@un.org.

In this newsletter:
1. News from GlobalABC Secretariat: 2020 Buildings-GSR Launch, WA5 Building Passport webinar
2. GlobalABC member & buildings news
3. Upcoming events
4. Calls, initiatives, and funding
5. GlobalABC Flagship products

News from the GlobalABC Secretariat

[DON'T MISS] Join us at the launch event of the 2020 Buildings Global Status Report - 16 December 2020

The Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction is a flagship product of the GlobalABC and provides an annual snapshot of the progress of the sector on a global scale and reviewing the status of policies, finance, technologies, and solutions to monitor whether the sector is aligned with the Paris Agreement goals. This year's report also features chapters on COVID-19 impacts and opportunities, and on materials, health, nature-based solutions, and cooling for resilience. We're also excited to announce a new tool for tracking progress - so stay tuned! The Buildings Global Status Report has become a reference document and this year's fifth edition will be launched in December.

The Buildings-GSR will be officially launched on **Wednesday 16 December 2020 at 3pm CET** via a press conference. For more information and on how to join, contact us at global.abc@un.org.

Register now
GlobalABC WA5] Join the consultation on the GlobalABC Building Passport Practical Guidelines

The GlobalABC Work Area on Building Measurement, Data and Information has developed draft **practical guidelines for the development of Building Passports.** The guidelines are meant to stimulate the debate around the importance of data amongst the built environment community and are designed to support stakeholders by covering core aspects and considerations in developing Building Passports and managing building related data and information in general.

The draft guidelines are open for consultation until 22 December 2020. Please use the following email address for submitting your feedback: ursulahartenberger@gmail.com

Also, make sure to watch the recording of the webinar in the link below

[Watch now]

GlobalABC Member & Buildings News

**From the news:**

**News articles**

- [The construction sector can pave the way for a green economic recovery](#) - WBCSD
- [Decarb Districts podcast](#) - Danfoss
- [Construction21 Green Solution Awards](#) - Construction21
- [MPGCA Net-zero Cooling Pathway](#) - Cool Coalition
- [Presentations of the Sustainable Buildings and Energy Efficient Cooling in Bangladesh](#) - World Bank ESMAP
- [The pandemic may be encouraging people to live in larger groups](#) - The Economist

**Reports:**

- [On the way to a climate-neutral Europe - Contributions from the building sector to a strengthened 2030 climate target](#) - BPIE
- [IEA 2020 Annual Energy Efficiency Report](#) - IEA
- [WorldGBC's Health & Wellbeing Framework](#) - WorldGBC

**Upcoming Events**

[14-15 Dec] IFC
Climate Business Webinar
Climate change has moved from the periphery to the core of corporate strategy. Smart leaders know that change means new opportunities. It means positioning your business at the forefront of innovation—in technology and overall business strategy. The International Finance Corporation and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority are pleased to present the IFC Climate Business Webinar.
Register now

[15 Dec] Invitation to the Mission 2020 closing ceremony
The Mission 2020 campaign, which was convened by Christiana Figueres to accelerate action on climate change after the gavel came down on the Paris Agreement in 2015, is ending as planned on December 31, 2020. Join the closing ceremony which will feature musicians from Benin, a young poet from Nashville, a climate scientist specialising in Polar observation as well as other brilliant voices.
Register now

[16 Dec] Adapting cities to climate change: What practices of urban refreshment?
What are the impacts of climate change in urban areas, more specifically urban overheating? What are the existing practices of African Local Governments to adapt and refresh cities? This webinar will support raising awareness in cities on the importance of adapting, preparing for climate change and making the necessary adjustments in anticipation of it, by considering both the impacts and existing practices to best adapt and be more resilient.

The workshop will focus on how to design, implement, and monitor equitable access to resources for those living in informal settlements. Moreover, the workshop will consider the implications of these measures for inclusivity and civic participation. Experts from the UNECE Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency will participate.
Register now

[23-25 March] Crossing Boundaries 2021
The goal of this conference is make the next step in the framework for enabling circularity in the built environment. The aim is to have a scientific conference on circularity in the built environment. The conference will result in a publication of a selection of best papers, and aims at giving guidance towards a circular built environment.

The conference is a collaboration between Zuyd University of Applied
[16-17 Mar] 7th Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue

The timely theme for 2021 is “Energiewende - towards climate neutrality” and, once again, high-level participants from politics, industry, science and civil society will convene. This year, the event will take place virtually. With the COVID-19 crisis still gripping the world, the discussion has become even more urgent – so please do not miss the chance to be part of BETD 2021.

Calls, Initiatives & Funding

[26 Jan 2021] Accelerating the green transition and energy access Partnership with Africa

The call’s ambition matches the magnitude of the task: its goal is to use research and innovation to kick-start the environmental, social and economic transformations required to tackle the climate challenge, while helping the EU recover from the Covid-19 crisis, and increasing its resilience and capacity to respond to such novel threats in the future. Science, knowledge and evidence – not short-term crisis contingencies – provide the compass for charting the path towards more resilient economies, societies and governance systems, and for designing a new, green growth strategy for the EU, embracing digitisation and enhancing Europe’s competitiveness.

[26 Jan 2021] Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way

With rising focus on the building sector (e.g., the ‘renovation wave’ initiative of the European Green Deal) in view of the full decarbonisation by 2050, the built environment remains a strategic domain for R&I. The priority is the design and construction of new or retrofitting of existing buildings as zero-emission/zero-pollution[1], positive energy-houses in sustainable green neighbourhoods.

[9 Feb 2021] IKI Small Grants

The implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requires the effective participation of all social groups. With the IKI Small Grants scheme, the Federal Ministry for Environment (BMU) specifically commits itself to strengthen small organisations worldwide. IKI Small Grants has been supporting small projects as well as funding institutions in developing and newly industrialising countries since 2019 and promotes their capacity development. IKI Small Grants is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and comprises the two funding lines "Funding Institutions" and "International Calls."
WorldGBC's interactive digital case study library map showcases some of the world’s most cutting-edge sustainable buildings. Launched in November 2019, it recognizes the growing market demand to highlight the ‘best in class’ buildings that excel in key areas of sustainability, and the role of certification schemes to provide third party assurance of performance. Click the button below to learn how to submit a case.

Learn more

Would you like to see your organizations events featured in the next GlobalABC newsletter or on the GlobalABC website? Send us your updates at global.abc@un.org.

GlobalABC Flagship Products

2019 Global Status Report

Executive Summaries in other languages in this link.

Read full report

Regional Roadmaps for Buildings and Construction 2020-2050

The GlobalABC Roadmaps help set pathways to decarbonization of the buildings and construction sector by 2050. It presents a comprehensive approach to emission reductions from the built environment along the full life cycle, towards achieving zero-emission, efficient and resilient buildings and construction by 2050.

Read full report

A Guide for Incorporating Buildings Actions in the NDCs

A first edition designed to address the urgent need for further extending the scope and ambition of building sector actions in NDCs. Developed with and through GlobalABC member countries.

Read full report

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