

# EMIRATESGBC NEWSLETTER

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## EMIRATES GREEN



### A Letter from the Chairman...

Dear EGBC Members and Industry Supporters,

I am pleased to share with you news that last week EGBC signed a Service Level Agreement with the Dubai Municipality's Dubai Central Laboratory (DCL), further strengthening our partnership with one of Dubai's leading bodies instrumental in the progress of green building practices. With both DCL and EGBC committed to quality and sustainability across the building supply chain, this partnership will serve the industry by utilizing and sharing each organization's unique capabilities and knowledge, and will offer the necessary support for the quality assurance of sustainable construction materials. We look forward to working closely with DCL.

This month, the Council is supporting ESMA, the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology, on an important workshop to discuss approaches to sustainable codes, standards and certifications. We continue to partner with other Emirates' authorities and stakeholders as well as federal bodies, as green buildings and quality continue to take priority across the country.

Lastly, I would like to bring your attention to the EGBC Annual Awards and thank all the organizations who have submitted their entries in the 6 Award Categories. The Annual Awards is a very exciting time for the EGBC. I wish all the applicants the very best, and I look forward to the winners being announced at our Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner evening on 11<sup>th</sup> June. Be sure not to miss this event, and register to attend on the EGBC Awards [website](#). Sponsorship opportunities for the Awards are available and I encourage our members to speak with Lora or Hussam in the EGBC office for more details (04-3468244 or email [info@emiratesgbc.org](mailto:info@emiratesgbc.org)).

Sincerely,  
Saeed Alabbar



### Upcoming Events

- ◆ **5-6 May**  
District Cooling Summit
- ◆ **9-10 May**  
LEED GA Training
- ◆ **13 May**  
EGBC Technical Workshop—  
Lighting Standards
- ◆ **19-21 May**  
FM Expo
- ◆ **28 May**  
Focus day with Dubai Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry
- ◆ **1-5 June**  
CEM Training
- ◆ **11 June**  
EGBC Awards and Gala Dinner

### New Corporate Members

- ◆ National Transport & Contracting  
Company

### New Individual Members

- ◆ Abdul Razak Malik
- ◆ Sunanda Svain

### Fact

One recycled bottle saves enough energy to run a 100-watt bulb for four hours. It also causes 20% less air pollution and 50% less water pollution than does making a new bottle

### Contributed & Edited by:

Aanal Patwari

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### EGBC signed Agreement with Dubai Central Laboratory

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between EGBC and Dubai Central Laboratory (DCL) on 21st April 2014 represented by EGBC Chairman Saeed Al Abbar and Dubai Municipality Asst. Director General Eng. Salem Bin Mesmar. The agreement outlines areas of cooperation and is a positive step in furthering quality and green building materials in Dubai. Following the signing, a building tour was hosted by Dubai Central Laboratory to demonstrate the laboratory capabilities. 45 EGBC members and staff attended. The tour focused on the engineering and material sections of the lab, including the chemical analysis, construction materials and structural units.



### EGBC and MEFMA hosted a successful joint Networking event



EGBC & MEFMA jointly hosted a networking event on 29th April at Radison Blu, Yas Island (a Green Key eco-labelled hotel). The event was well attended with nearly 100 delegates participating. The event hosted two presentations on: 'Manufacturing of a Green Community - in Partnership with Musanada for the Green Mosque' and 'How intelligence, enabled by the Internet of Things, will prevent leakage of revenue and profits for FM customers', by representatives from Khidmah and Intellisense, respectively, which was then followed by a panel session that also included a representative from Philips Lighting. We would like to thank all who attended the event and hope to receive your continuous participation. If you have a topic you would like to hear at future events, please share with us your suggestions at [events@emiratesgbc.org](mailto:events@emiratesgbc.org).

### Thank you for joining us at the April Technical Workshop

After an engaging session last month focusing on Health and Safety at work, the upcoming May Technical Workshop will address the application of the newly released UAE Energy Efficiency Lighting Standards which will become mandatory from July 2014. The workshop will take place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May in the morning and is open to EGBC Members & Partners. The details on the time and content for the workshop will be communicated in the coming days via email. Alternatively you can also look at the [EGBC website](#) for the latest updates. If you are interested to attend, please [RSVP](#) (for EGBC members only).



Visit us at [www.emiratesgbc.org](http://www.emiratesgbc.org)!

EGBC News and Updates

***Sponsor the Annual EGBC Awards 2014!!***

EmiratesGBC is seeking sponsorship for the [2014 EGBC Awards](#). Several sponsorship packages have been developed to offer the most value for money and provide great exposure for the event sponsors. The 2nd Annual EGBC Awards Gala will be held on 11 June at Grosvenor House Dubai. Please contact Hussam Eddin in the EmiratesGBC office for more information at 04-3468244 or alternatively email the [office](#). Special thanks to Jotun Paints and Emrill Services for coming on board early to sponsor the EGBC Annual Awards 2014!

***What would you like to hear at the EGBC Congress 2014?***

The theme for this year's Annual Congress will be "**Sustainable Cities for the Future**". Active participation and input from the industry is always appreciated, and as development of the program for the EGBC Congress is underway, we reach out to you to get your opinion on topics you would like to hear about. Tell us what subject matter you are interested in relevant to the congress theme, and we will take it into consideration for incorporating it into the 2-day program. The 2014 EGBC Congress will be held on 20th and 21st October. Kindly email us with your suggestions at [events@emiratesgbc.org](mailto:events@emiratesgbc.org) or reach us at 04-3468244.

***EGBC and Dubai Chamber to jointly host a Focus day in May***

With the need and demand to retrofit and refurbish the existing buildings in UAE, EGBC and Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry will jointly host a focus day on 28th May titled "**Challenges and Opportunities to Green Existing Buildings**". The event will provide a stage for discussion on how the new green building regulations will apply to the existing stock of buildings and also talk about the new ESCO guidelines for energy efficiency improvement. Representatives from Etihad ESCO and Emirates Standardization Meteorology Authority along with the CEO of Dubai Chamber will be the main speakers for the event. We welcome you all to be a part of this meaningful and engaging discussion on 28th May at Dubai Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Dubai from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Kindly register with [events@emiratesgbc.org](mailto:events@emiratesgbc.org) to reserve a seat!! Member and non-member delegate rates will apply. We look forward to welcoming you to the event!

***Get Involved in the Hospitality Program***

EGBC is looking for volunteers to actively participate in its Hospitality Program, which aims to raise awareness and reduce the UAE hotels' carbon footprint through training sessions and benchmarking activities. We have identified deliverables and objectives and are ready to get to work! If you are interested, please contact the EGBC [office](#) at 04-3468244. Ask for Lora or Marie, and they will gladly share with you more details and invite you to the next task force meeting.

***Technical Guidelines to Green the Existing Buildings***

Over the past months, EGBC has been working on Technical Guidelines to Green Existing Buildings to provide "ready-to-use" solutions and support the energy efficiency and retrofit movement in the UAE. The editing process for the first draft is soon coming to an end, and we will need your technical expertise to peer-review the articles. Those who are already part of the Taskforce will be contacted shortly, but if you believe that you have the relevant skills to support the technical review of chapters on energy, water, materials and other topics, please contact Marie at the EGBC [office](#) to receive further details (for EGBC members only).

***Are you aware of the EGBC website's Academy Section?***

EGBC has been compiling technical papers and other information relevant to the built environment (regulations, rating systems, case studies, etc) on the [Academy section](#) of its website. EGBC Technical resources, such as the [compilation of the Technical Workshops' briefs](#) for the second half of 2013 are also available. If you have data, case studies, or reports worth sharing to support knowledge and awareness in the industry, the EGBC office gladly welcomes your contribution!

***Certified Energy Manager—Training Course in June***

Industry professionals in the UAE now have the opportunity to distinguish themselves in energy management by becoming a Certified Energy Manager (CEM). EGBC with British University in Dubai (BUiD) and in association with the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) are offering CEM Training and exam to gain CEM qualification. The qualification is geared towards engineers and architects working in energy engineering or energy management. The training course, after a successful participation in 2013 and early 2014, will be held on **1–5 June 2014** at the British University in Dubai. For more details or to register your interest, please contact BUiD at [training.pdu@buid.ac.ae](mailto:training.pdu@buid.ac.ae).

***Well done!!***

Congratulations and thank you to EGBC Management and Board Members for representing the Council at the forefront of various sustainable initiatives and events taking place across the region. Jeffrey Willis and Sarfraz Dairkee, EGBC Vice Chairman and Secretary respectively, are representing the Council at the FM Expo which will take place from 19th—21st May in Dubai. Amelie Zegmout, EmiratesGBC Board Member and Champion of the Hospitality Program will participate at the Hotelier Middle East Summit 2014 on 20th May in Dubai. Saeed Alabbar, EmiratesGBC Chairman participated at the Smart Skyscrapers Summit 2014 which will be held at Sofitel, Palm Jumeriah, Dubai.

We would like to thank them all for their continuous and dedicated efforts in the UAE Sustainability Movement!!



## Local News:

### ***Abu Dhabi's Journey towards Sustainable Development Highlighted at the World Urban Forum in Columbia***

The Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) recently participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum (WUF), which took place April 5-11 in Medellín, Colombia. WUF is considered the largest event on Sustainable Urban Development in the world and is organised bi-annually by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, also known as UN-Habitat. Attended by around 13,000 international delegates representing 160 countries, this year's theme focused on *Urban Equity in Development - Cities for Life* and highlighted the importance of sustainable and equitable urban development in cities. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Green Cities Reflect UAE Vision 2021***

UAE Environment and Water Minister Dr. Rashid Ahmed bin Fahd has stressed that the green cities enjoy huge support nationwide, as they reflect clearly the UAE Vision 2021, National Agenda and the UAE Strategy for Green Development, as well as endorsed local and federal strategic visions and plans. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***World Green Economy Summit closes with clear pathway to making Dubai Capital of the Green Economy by 2021***

The World Green Economy Summit ("WGES"), the first Summit focused on "green business" in the region, concluded with a closing session which provided a platform for determining the way for Dubai to become capital of the world's green economy in line with the goals of the UAE's Vision 2021. Dubai will provide support to top international organizations for the World Green Economy. The World Green Economy Summit received the support of prestigious organizations like IRENA, UNDP, and UNFCCC. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Plastic Waste turns a death trap for Animals in UAE***

Deaths of wild animals caused by their ingesting discarded waste, especially plastics, is increasing in the UAE's deserts as the discarded rubbish is reaching epidemic proportions, underlining the need for more deterrent measures, according to prominent UAE-based scientist, Dr. Ulli Wernery. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***First Eco Fashion show in the Region Launched***

The distinctive Eco Fashion of the UAE Green Festival has been launched at Abu Dhabi Mall in the presence of Arab celebrity Dima Aljundi, where renowned designers showcased their latest eco-friendly designs which have been produced according to sustainable standards using recyclable materials. The first-of-its-kind event in the region runs for four successive days and hosts leading eco-friendly fashion brands enabling visitors to enjoy a "green" shopping experience through a set of sustainable designs for men, women and children. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Carbon Emissions in UAE set to fall by 2021***

Air quality in the UAE is set to become healthier by 2021 as authorities are carrying out a number of initiatives to reduce its ranking from being one of the highest emitters of carbon dioxide per capita. By 2030, Dubai will use five per cent renewable energy through using solar power and, according to Dubai's strategic plan for 2030, aim to reduce demand for power by 30 per cent at a cost of Dh55 billion, which is now being carried out by converting buildings into green ones that save energy. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Bee'ah to make Sharjah No-Waste place by first quarter of next year***

Bee'ah manages the Middle East's largest Material Recovery Facility at a capacity to process 500,000 tonnes of waste per year. As far as Bee'ah is concerned, it's well on track to make Sharjah a no-waste place by the first quarter of next year. The residential programme helped the diversion rate by 5 per cent to 10 per cent, allowing the company to advance closer towards its long-term goal of 100 per cent diversion rate from landfill by 2015. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***UAE's Household Air Quality is the best in the World***

The UAE's household air quality ranks No. 1 in the world according to a Yale University study that assessed 178 nations on various parameters for its 2014 Environmental Performance Index. [Click here](#) to read more.

## Regional News:

### ***Promoting green initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint in Qatar***

Stenden University Qatar (SUQ) is embarking on the first phase of a QR856,000 research project funded by National Priorities Research Program (NPRP), the flagship funding program of Qatar Foundation's Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF), to promote a sustainable and positive legacy for Qatar's FIFA World Cup in 2022. The focus will be on promoting healthy, active lifestyles and green initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint in Qatar. Recycling and low carbon use are among these as well as increased physical activity and sports participation, all of which will help create a positive legacy for the 2022 World Cup. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Green Mind Award Season 2 Ceremony rewarded 9 finalists***

The Green Mind Award Season 2 Ceremony took place at the Casino Du Liban Theater - Lebanon on Thursday April 3rd, 2014 and marked the end of the competition that started in August 2013. The event toured the MENA region in search of the top green achievements in the fields of sustainability and protection of the environment. For the first time in Lebanon and in the MENA region, the Green Carpet witnessed the arrival of celebrities, VIPs and numerous guests in "Eco-friendly Outfits", each in his own special way. The guests were supporting the reduction of the carbon footprint of the evening in all possible ways. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Jordan to select four companies to build solar-run power plants***

The government will choose four companies out of 45 qualified local and international firms to build 50-megawatt (MW) solar-run power plants as part of efforts to boost reliance on clean energy. Jordan, which consumed around 16.7 gigawatts of electricity in 2013 -- a 7 per cent rise compared with 2012 -- is keen to diversify its energy resources and boost reliance on local resources. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Clean Power and Renewable Energy Growth in MENA Region***

## International News:

### ***EU green light for UK carbon capture and storage project***

A UK project to capture CO2 and bury it under the North Sea looks set to receive a 300m-euro boost from the EU. Climate scientists believe CCS has a key role to play in reducing future CO2 emissions. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***US EPA finds the most energy efficient buildings in top 10 cities***

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its sixth annual list of the 25 U.S. metropolitan areas with the most ENERGY STAR certified buildings in 2013. The list demonstrates economic and environmental benefits achieved by facility owners and managers in America's leading cities when they apply a proven approach to energy efficiency to their buildings. Leading the list are Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, New York. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Filipino vulnerability***

According to the Center for Global Development, the Philippines is the world's fourth most vulnerable country to the direct impacts of extreme weather events. Averaging 20 tropical cyclones a year, it may be the world's most storm-exposed nation. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ***Cisco and Amsterdam's plan to make a green city smart***

Cisco signed an agreement with the city of Amsterdam "to foster smarter and greener innovation" by working to shape the city as an "Internet of Everything 'lighthouse city'" — one of Cisco's showcase metropolises. Part of the new initiative is to create an open platform for city projects. About 60 percent of the projects are expected to come from global companies. [Click here](#) to read more.

