

QATAR GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

‘Qatar Green Building Conference’ To Take Place In Doha In April

Doha, Qatar 01 February 2015: Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), has announced its upcoming inaugural annual conference.

The two-day event will take place on 27-28 April 2015 at QF’s Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC).

The Qatar Green Building Conference will take a lead in the debate on sustainability challenges and highlight research and industry best practice. It will help the construction and sustainable development sector to deliver green building solutions to environmental challenges in Qatar, the region and the world.

Since its establishment in 2009, QGBC has supported QF’s commitment to foster sustainable development by promoting environmentally-friendly practices for building design and development. In addition, QGBC’s promotion of long-term sustainable development assists Qatar’s economic diversification to a knowledge-based economy.

The conference aims to generate innovative and practical solutions to facilitate the delivery of the Qatar National Vision 2030 and will be themed around the most pressing sustainability needs of Qatar and the region.

Participating academics and industry practitioners will share their expertise in discussions around four key themes of relevance to Qatar and the Gulf region.

Upcoming needs for growing metropolitan areas will be addressed by the ‘Future Sustainable Cities’ sessions, and maximising use of existing buildings under the ‘Retrofitting Doha’ theme. Cutting edge sustainable technology will be the focus of discussion in the ‘Passivhaus in the MENA Region’ session, with ‘Carbon Footprint and Qatar’s National Vision’ presenting a valuable examination of tackling emissions.

Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of Qatar Foundation, highlighted QF’s role in fostering sustainability in Qatar, by saying: “Qatar Foundation is committed to supporting delivery of the sustainability goals set out in the Qatar National Vision 2030 by raising awareness and promoting best practices in Qatar’s green building sector.

“Qatar Green Building Conference will set the benchmark for green building and sustainability research in Qatar and the region, which is an addition to Qatar Foundation’s

thorough efforts to help the nation meet its sustainability challenges. I look forward to the conference's productive outcomes providing solutions to the environmental challenges of the years ahead."

Commenting on the announcement of the Qatar Green Building Conference, Engineer Meshal Al Shamari, QGBC Director, said: "QGBC provides leadership and encourages collaboration to promote environmentally sustainable practices for green building design and development in Qatar. The Qatar Green Building Conference will bring together leading academics, researchers and green building practitioners to conduct in-depth studies of the green building and sustainability sector in Qatar and beyond.

"QGBC welcomes stakeholders operating in Qatar's green building sector to use this conference as an opportunity to share their knowledge and experience with the broader community to move steps closer to helping Qatar establish a more advanced green building culture" added Eng Al Shamari.

Academic researchers and industry practitioners, including property consultants, urban planners and landscape architects from Qatar and beyond are encouraged to attend the conference which will be addressed by leading national and international sustainability and green buildings experts.

QGBC is a non-profit, membership-driven organisation dedicated to advocating green building solutions, leading industry research, as well as promoting sustainable practice in the community. Through QGBC, Qatar has joined a network of 80 different countries that run active national green building councils under the umbrella of the World Green Building Council.

For details about the Qatar Green Building Conference, please visit: www.qgbconference.com

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About Qatar Green Building Council

Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC) is a non-profit, membership-driven organization providing leadership and encouraging collaboration in conducting environmentally sustainable practices for green building design and development in Qatar. QGBC also aims to support the overall health and sustainability of the environment, the people, and

economic security in Qatar for generations to come. The council, a member of Qatar Foundation, was formally established in 2009 by a decree signed by H.H. Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser and is helping Qatar on its journey to establish a post-hydrocarbon, knowledge economy and progressive society. Through QGBC, Qatar joins a network of 80 countries that run active national green building councils under the umbrella of the World Green Building Council.

QGBC's members include, representatives from government, real estate developers, investors, facilities managers, consultants, constructors, manufacturers & suppliers, oil & gas, professional firms, financial services, telecom/technology, academia, NGOs & media.

QGBC is setting up operations from its HQ, organising awareness events, knowledge seminars, training, forums, and networking sessions with the like-minded. To learn more visit www.qatargbc.org.