

QATAR GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL'S PREMIER SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME PROVED A SUCCESS

*Courses Focusing On 'Sustainability Practices During Construction'
Are Highly Sought After In Qatar*

Doha, 12 September 2015: Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), is set to launch a new season of its highly popular premier sustainability education programme.

Aimed at enhancing the quality of green building and sustainability education in Qatar, the first season of the comprehensive professional training programme proved a huge success with more than 800 construction professionals, school teachers, university students, and sustainability activists enrolled on the courses.

Through the sustainability education programme, QGBC supports QF's mission to foster a progressive society, and seeks to support the Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV2030) in creating a vibrant sustainability culture with a special focus on Qatar's booming construction industry.

Sustainability practices during construction has become an essential part of ensuring major construction and infrastructure projects in Qatar keep up-to-date with the existing international sustainability standards, which is the focus of several courses offered as part of the training programme.

Commenting on the launch of the programme's new season, Engineer Meshal Al Shamari, QGBC Director, said: "Education is one of QGBC's main focuses. We also strive to help create a sustainable construction sector in Qatar for the long-term. In order to bring these together, we work with our various local and international partners including the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to design courses tailored to the pressing needs of the Qatari construction and green building sectors.

"Over the last nine months since the launch of the programme, our leading experts and trainers have delivered live and online in-house workshops and training as well as provided support to training modules in major construction conferences in Qatar."

During the previous training sessions, experts at QGBC also worked closely with the Supreme Council of Education in Qatar to create a better understanding of sustainability among teachers and school students. Multiple courses highlighting green building core concepts were delivered to over 70 teachers in Qatar.

Hamoda Youssef, Research Specialist at QGBC, who leads the comprehensive training programme, said: "We take a different and a rather innovative approach to sustainability

education by offering courses for people from all walks of life in Qatar. We believe that achieving a sustainable environment is a collective effort. This approach not only helps the wider industry, but also provides us with a clear understanding of the existing needs.”

Examples of the different training modules featured in the programme include Sustainability Practices During Construction in Qatar, LEED V4 Core Concepts, Green Building Core Concepts For Teachers, Passivhaus Design, Carbon Measuring and Life Cycle Assessment, Green Building Information Modeling, Building Analysis, and Understanding WELL Building Standard.

The new season of the programme is now open for registration with an array of new courses, which have been designed by experts at QGBC during the summer. These courses are available for registration at QGBC’s newly developed website: <http://www.qatargbc.org/courses>.

QGBC is a non-profit, membership-driven organisation dedicated to advocating green building solutions, leading industry research, and promoting sustainable practice in the community. QGBC offers membership opportunities to organisations, individuals and students who demonstrate support for the QNV 2030 and showcase passion for environmental sustainability.

For more information about QGBC, log onto: www.qatargbc.org.

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About Qatar Green Building Council:

Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC) is a non-profit, membership-driven organisation 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 Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser and is helping Qatar on its journey to establish a post-hydrocarbon, knowledge economy and progressive society. Through QGBC, Qatar is part of 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, please visit www.qatargbc.org.

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