



SLOVAK GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL
SLOVENSKÁ RADA PRE ZELENÉ BUDOVY

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2022





Dear SKGBC members, dear friends and supporters of sustainable buildings,

Previous year was a difficult one for all of us, with the pandemic restrictions still in place. The year of 2021 was a turbulent and stressful one for the construction industry, as well. However, we tried to maintain our activity and to increase the attractiveness of construction segment sustainability, as we feel that the topic of sustainability resonates with the general public more and more.

We are one of the most visible and active organisations in our sector. We are getting closer and closer to achieving our vision – to make sure sustainable construction is the new standard in Slovakia. In 2021, we made several important steps towards that vision. We signed a memorandum on cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects and were able to organise meetings with renowned architects and sustainability experts in Slovakia.

We also started a close cooperation with the Office of the President of the Slovak Republic, introducing the project of supporting sustainable renovation of public buildings - Green Seal of the President. We were also part of delegation visiting Denmark with the Slovak president in order to learn from our Danish colleagues and implement their experience in sustainable architecture and constructions in Slovakia.

We also started cooperating more closely with the green building councils in the Visegrad Group countries (Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary).

SKGBC members are actively presenting their current solutions for reduction of the carbon footprint and energy efficiency. We educate others and create forums for specialised discussion in virtual space, as well as at physical events. We also organised the successful and very intense Green Building Week 2021, with the accompanying visit of attractive new sustainable buildings in Bratislava.

We have been on the market for 11 years and have reached a strong footing. The Slovak Green Building Council was registered on 22 November 2010. At its founding meeting in May 2011, it already had 23 members. Today, we support global goals helping fight the climate crisis in the construction industry - with the help of more than 50 members. Among our members, there are construction companies, material producers, architects, planners, as well as LEED, BREEAM, and WELL certification companies. We have welcomed major players in financial and legal sector among our ranks, as well.

I want to thank all of our members for your continuing support, which has been crucial for our success.

Our results are a commitment for us and we undertake to support and promote sustainable construction even more in the years to come. I wish you all the best of luck in reaching this goal.

PAVOL KUKURA
Chairman of Board



KEY EVENTS

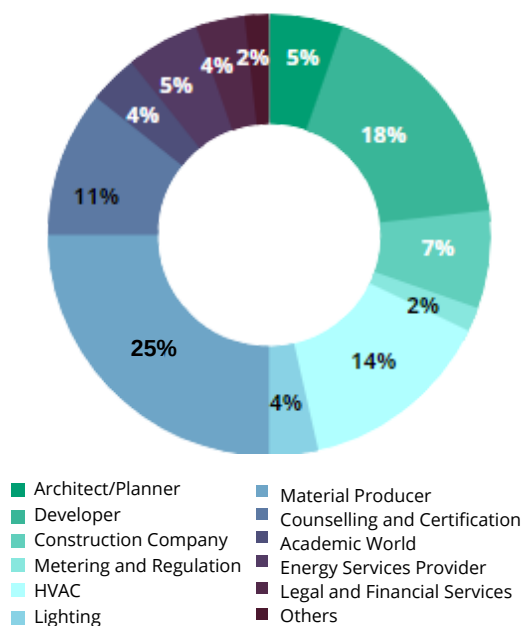
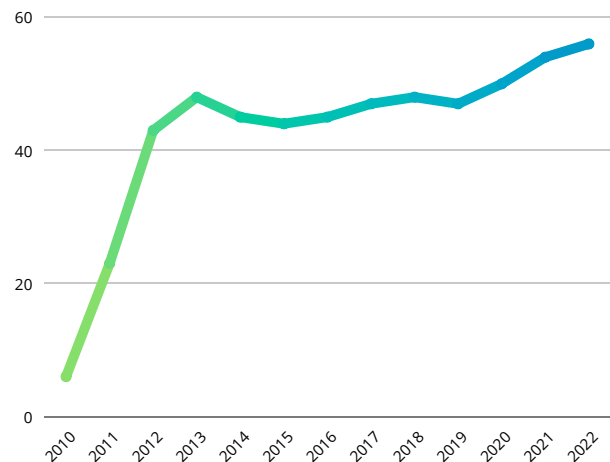
- We promoted the **SKGBC** by participating in all **major events focusing on sustainable constructions** in Slovakia. We were at 26 events in the role of speakers, hosts, organisers, or expert guarantors, 13 of which were organised by the council.
- We signed the **Memorandum on Cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects**, with its members being authorised architects and authorised landscaping architects in Slovakia.
- We and 16 other project partners completed the international project of **Smarter Finance for Families**. The project of **Interreg on Sustainable Buildings** with thousands of middle-school students involved came to a successful completion.
- At the end of September, we organised the **11th annual Green Building Week**, dealing with the topic of **Climate and Its Challenges for Buildings, Society, and Economy**. We welcomed more than 260 experts at four events and we also organised three events as part of the **Green Day for Students** project in Trnava, Trenčín, and Žilina.
- The quality of our events was also praised by state institutions responsible for implementation and execution of the principles of sustainability and carbon neutrality. We have started a close cooperation with the Office of the President of the Slovak Republic, other public institutions, and self-governing regions representatives.

MEMBER BASE DEVELOPMENT

Our member base **keeps growing**, despite the extreme impacts of the pandemics on the construction industry. During this period, 9 new companies joined the SKGBC.

The growth of the member base is 4%. As of 31 March 2021, the Slovak Green Building Council had **56 members**. We have two exclusive members, 11 founding members, 39 regular members, three associated members, and one honourable member.

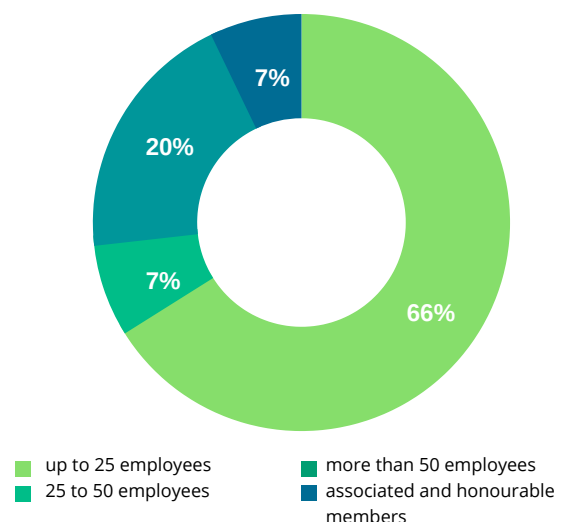
We are very happy that our exclusive member of **Saint-Gobain** was joined in the member base by **VÚB banka** as the first financial institution in 2022. In the previous year, we granted **honourable membership to Miloš Blanárik** for his long cooperation and support of our activities.



Based on the main business focus of the member companies, the largest category is the material production (25%). In this category, there are 14 companies. Then, there are ten developer companies (18%) and eight HVAC companies (14%). The other categories are much smaller.

In terms of **size** of the companies, which is the base for calculation of the membership fee of the Slovak Green Building Council, most of our members are smaller companies with up to 25 employees (66%, 37 in total).

Eleven companies (20%) employ more than 50 employees and the others are medium-sized companies, associated members, and an honourable member.



SKGBC EVENTS

All the events and activities of SKGBC in 2021 were organised in line with the pandemic regulations and most of them moved to the online environment. During the year, we continued in the series of webinars on the energy class of A0, followed by the very successful online seminars named Water Recycling in Buildings as Tool of Climate Crisis Solution and Green Roofs and Facades - Way to Greener Cities with a record-breaking number of registered participants in autumn.

In this time, **SKGBC presented itself at 26 events** dedicated to sustainable constructions or architecture, out of which **13 were organised by the council directly**, with the total number of **1,100 participants**.

In the online environment, we organised specialised seminars and in cooperation with the EUROSTAV publishing house, we organised the conference of **Sustainability in Architecture and Construction**. Thanks to easing of pandemic restrictions, we were able to organise a physical event of the 11th annual Green Building Week. The venue of the event were the new sustainable buildings made accessible to the public during the course of the event. The participants could use a guided tour and had an aesthetic experience there.

Specialised Seminars

During the year, we organised **12 specialised seminars**. Three of which were physical events during the Green Building Week and five were online events. In the spring, we completed a series of webinars dealing with the A0 energy class. At the end of the year, we organised webinars focusing on the very popular topics of water recycling, green roofs and façades, and we started a new sustainability academy in the beginning of this year.

GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2022

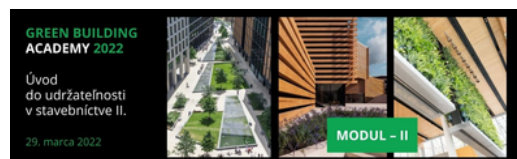
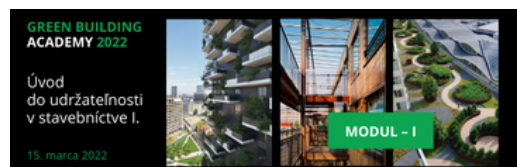
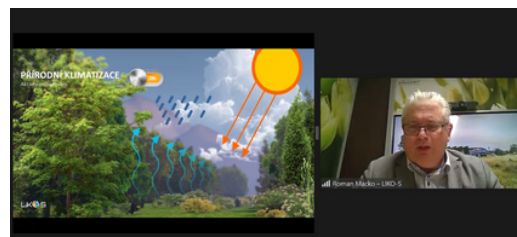
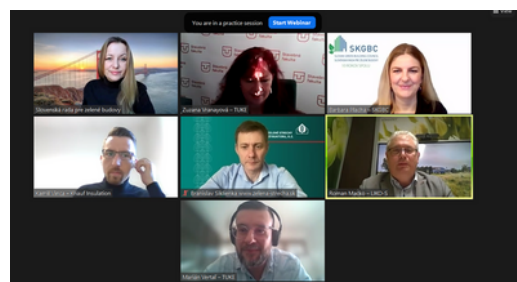
In March 2022, we started a series of specialised seminars dealing with the topic of sustainable construction named **GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2022**. The sustainability academy focuses on education of specialised public, as well as experts outside the construction industry. During the course of seven webinars, our experts deal with various aspects of sustainability in constructions. The individual modules present basic definitions and principles of sustainability in constructions, as well as best practices, the areas, and stages of construction in terms of sustainability.

Conference of Sustainability in Architecture and Construction

The 11th annual international conference of **Sustainability in Architecture and Construction** was held online. Nevertheless, the conference, having the motto of **From Energy Effectiveness to Carbon Neutrality**, was packed with information and interesting guests. At the event, renowned speakers from abroad and Slovakia presented their interesting projects.

VISIO 2020 Award

The laureate of the 10th annual award of the magazine of EUROSTAV VISIO 2020 in the year of 2020/2021 and the winner of public vote on the most significant action in sustainable architecture and constructions is **Pradiareň 1900** by our member company of **YIT Slovakia**.



Green Building Week

Slight easing of pandemic restrictions allowed us to organise the **11th annual Green Building Week** as a physical event. The event was part of the global campaign **to support sustainable and responsible constructions** and was held simultaneously to the World Green Building Week, which is the flagship project of all the green councils in the world.

The main motto of the week was **Climate and Its Challenges for Buildings, Society, and Economy**. The programme was built-up by specialised events, workshops for secondary school students in three cities and a final gala evening, summing up the major outputs of the week. General partners of the event were Saint-Gobain and VÚB banka.

The Green Building Week 2021 was organised with the support of the President of the Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová, the Minister of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic Andrej Doležal, and the Minister of Environment of the Slovak Republic Ján Budaj.

The events were held in the new and exclusive sustainable buildings in Bratislava and offered interesting programme and venue.

The individual events were designed in a way to cover many topics related to solving the climate change. At the same time, they allowed participation of experts and general public, opened discussions, and presented the latest trends in their areas.

Sustainable Buildings and Sustainable Materials

The event focused on **sustainable constructions and increase in effectiveness of construction projects outside the construction site**, with the main focus being the pre-project and project stages. Experts also dealt with optimisation of processes, reduction of carbon footprint, and waste reduction. Apart from circular waste management, **module constructions** are of great importance. Flexibility of the space is one of the main trends of sustainable use of buildings and of the post-Covid reality. The guests could see practical demonstrations of such constructions and take the **Nové Nivy zone guided tour**.

Return to “new reality” – is it just a phrase?

The event focused on **healthy interiors**, as the demand regarding the interior has changed during the pandemics. Experts in several areas dealt with the issue, focusing on office spaces, schools, and public buildings. They could see practical demonstrations and effective solutions, and had the unique opportunity to take a guided tour of the historical building of the former thread production plant of **Pradiareň 1900** and its office spaces.

New trends in finances and law in constructions

The event focused on the topics of **green funding** and investments into sustainable projects and the **EU taxonomy**. The pressure on sustainable behaviour of companies via the **ESG** is growing. The participants learned what the EU taxonomy and ESG strategy is, as well as the results of the screening on how several west-European countries are ready for meeting the EU taxonomy criteria.



For students

The purpose of the project of **“Preparing Students for Practical Life in Area of Sustainable Buildings”** is the support of interest in sustainable, healthy, and high-quality constructions. The Czech and Slovak collaboration project of Passive House Centre, Slovak Green Building Council and the platform of Buildings for Future focuses on education in high-quality and sustainable constructions with the topical interconnection of students, researches, teachers, and experts in practical applications. In the past year, we have organised **education activities focusing on sustainable constructions at Czech universities and Slovak secondary schools**. The goal was to increase the practical preparedness and motivation of students, while increasing the awareness on sustainable and high-quality constructions. We launched the project in November 2019.

We intermediated and organised **117 online lectures** dealing with the basic principles of sustainable constructions for Slovak secondary schools. Council members and partners actively joined the further education. We organised **130 lectures and 8 interactive field trips with workshops**. All of them together had around **3,100 participants**.

Two surveys were also part of the project. The first one focused on awareness on sustainable constructions among the students of the participating schools. The second survey focused on renovations of houses in the border regions of the Czech and Slovak Republics.

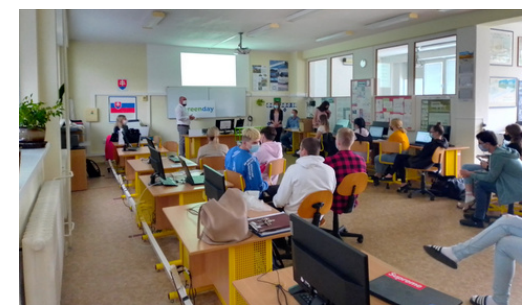
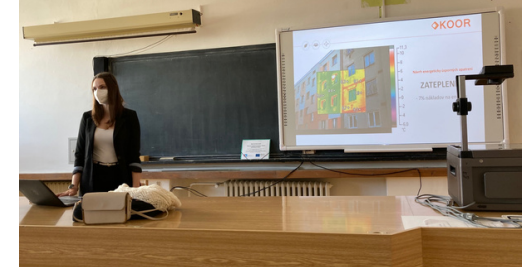
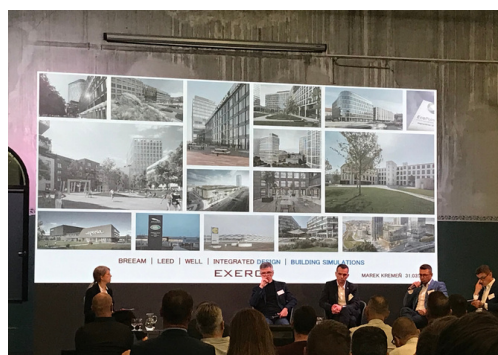
The project was co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund - Together without Borders “Preparation of Students for Practical Life in Area of Sustainable Buildings” as part of the Operational Programme of Cross-Border Cooperation, 304000- Interreg V-A SK – CZ 2014-2020, www.sk-cz.eu, www.europa.eu, /NFP application code: NFP304010U332.



Partnerships

O Apart from the events organised by the SKGBC, we also participated in major international projects and events organised by our partners.

We were at **26 events** in the role of speakers, hosts, organisers, or expert guarantors.



COOPERATION AND PROJECTS

Visiting Denmark with the President

The President Zuzana Čaputová went for a two-day official trip to the Kingdom of Denmark. Apart from the Minister of Transportation and Construction Andrej Doležal, representatives of the Slovak Green Building Council and the organisation of Buildings for Future were part of the delegation. The objective of the visit was to point to the innovative solutions in the area of green transformation in Denmark, which can serve as an inspiration for Slovakia. The President and her delegation visited the offices of the agency of State of Green, which is under the patronage of the Crown Prince Frederik, as well as the European Environment Agency.

The Slovak delegation also visited the city district of Nordhavn, which has had high standards in sustainability since the early construction stage. It is not only about the sustainability of buildings, but also about the social and economic sustainability.



Green Seal of the President

In the beginning of the year, the President of Slovakia Zuzana Čaputová introduced the project of the Green Seal of the President, supported by the Members of Board of the Slovak Green Building Council **Pavol Kukura, Martin Stohl, and Marek Kremeň.**

The objective of the project is to motivate officials, organisations, and institutions to become inspired by the Green Office of the President and adopt **the standards of green institutions and focus on renovation of their buildings and their operation, taking into account their sustainability.** The Green Seal of the President is to be awarded for **above-standard renovation of public buildings.** Funding from EU funds and the Recovery Plan are designed for this. The main target group of the project are owners of public buildings. The Green Seal of the President applicants must meet 10 criteria prepared by experts in construction sustainability with the Slovak Green Building Council, Institute for Circular Economy, platform of Buildings for Future, and Slovak Chamber of Architects. The project was prepared in cooperation with ZMOS and the Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia



Platform of Buildings for Future

The SKGBC continues to cooperate with the platform of Buildings for Future (BPB) (SKGBC being its founding member) in developing legislation in regards of sustainable and low-carbon construction.

In 2021, BPB activities focused on preparing analytical documents as regards quality of interiors, as well as preparing the Recovery and Resilience Plan, with a significant section dedicated to buildings, and also the support and development of construction legislation, including breakthrough legislation proposals to be implemented on the Slovak and EU level.



ECONOMICAL RESULTS – 2021

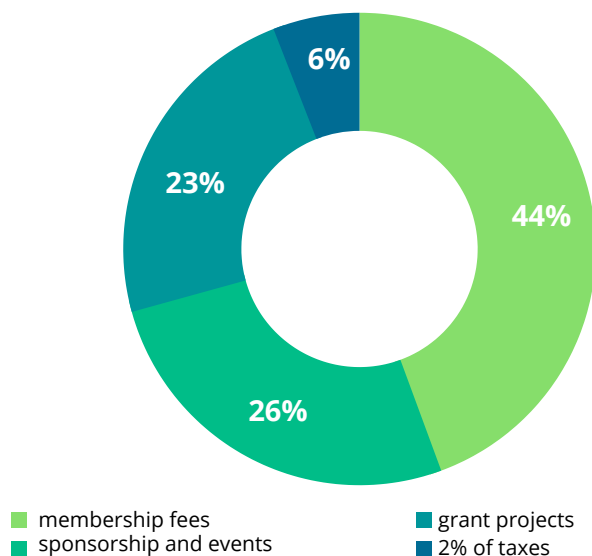
Income

In the fiscal year of 2021, the Slovak Green Building Council had mainly income of membership fee, grant projects, income of sponsorship donations, and events.

The membership fee represented 44 % of the council income (EUR 69,174). The membership fee is calculated pro rata.

Among the income, there are also grant project donations (EUR 41,038). The rest is made of sponsorship donations and other SKGBC event activities (EUR 36,414) and the 2 % of the taxes (EUR 9,244).

The total income amounted to **EUR 155,870**.



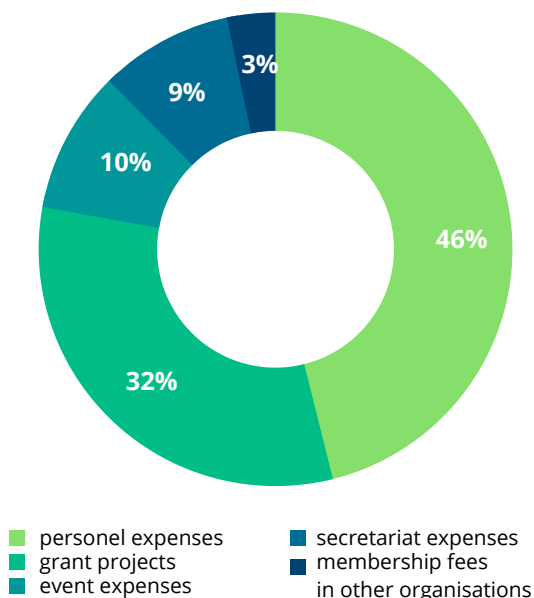
Expenses

The majority of the expenses amounting to a total of **EUR 151,229** were personnel expenses (EUR 69,722).

The expenses of grant projects (SMARTER, EU-GUGLE, and project of Practical Preparation of Students in Area of Sustainable Buildings) amounted to EUR 48,026.

The events organised in 2021 cost EUR 14,728. We used EUR 13,753 to run our office.

As the founding member of the Buildings for Future platform, the council paid the annual membership fee of EUR 5 000



Economic Result of SKGBC for the period from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021 was **EUR 4,640**. The current account balance at the end of the fiscal year was EUR 20,154.

BOARD



Pavol Kukura

Chairman of Board
CEO of TAW



Peter Robl

Vice-Chairman of Board
Public Affairs Manager Eastern
Europe of KNAUF INSULATION



Rastislav Badalík

Member of Board and Treasurer
CEO of Teichmann&Compagnons
Property Networks Slovakia



Marek Kremeň

Member of Board
CEO of EXERGY



Pavol Praženica

Member of Board
Business Manager of SIEMENS



Michal Široký

Member of Board
Marketing Manager of Saint-Gobain
Slovensko



Martin Stohl

Member of Board
Sustainability & Wellbeing Specialist
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EXCLUSIVE MEMBERS



FOUNDING MEMBERS



REGULAR MEMBERS



ASSOCIATED MEMBERS



