

SKGBC
SLOVAK GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL
SLOVENSKÁ RADA PRE ZELENÉ BUDOVY

ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023



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

2023 was a difficult and turbulent year for the construction industry. There was uncertainty on the global markets, accompanied by numerous legislative changes on the local market and complicated international political and economic situation, having huge impacts on the construction projects.

Despite the uncertainty and turbulences, the SKGBC has been performing its activities and working on increasing the attractiveness of sustainability in the construction sector. The interest of the experts and general public in the topic of sustainability keeps growing – be it because of the EU climate goals, or the more sensitive approach of all of us in terms of energy management and the climate change issues. We are one of the most visible and active associations in the industry, getting closer and closer to reaching our vision of sustainable constructions becoming a standard in Slovakia.

For the first time in history, in 2023, we took part in the UN climate conference as part of the Slovak expert delegation. The 28th annual UN conference on climate change named COP28 held in the United Arab Emirates is proof that the construction industry is interested in implementing sustainable solutions on a large scale. We are happy to be part of this initiative, together with more than 75 green councils from all over the world, headed by the World Green Building Council.

We have continued cooperating more closely with the green building councils in the Visegrad Group countries (Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary). We have also initiated our cooperation plans with the Austrian green building council.

In cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects, we have been able to organize an event for world-known architects and sustainability experts in Slovakia, again. They came over to support the second year of our international conference. I am glad that we were able to make such big event for Central Europe even better last year.

We have also achieved major successes as part of the project of Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions. In cooperation with selected members, other associations and scholars, we continued in the activities of the initiative, with the goal to support wood as a sustainable raw material in modern constructions. By the end of the year, the initiative has had nine partners and 18 supporters.

We have also continued our close cooperation with the Office of the President of the Slovak Republic, focusing on the project of support of sustainable construction of public buildings – the Presidential Green Seal. In the beginning of November, the President Zuzana Čaputová awarded the first Presidential Green Seal to the Emil Belluš Secondary Industrial School of Constructions in Trenčín. After a thorough renovation, the school now consumes only minimum amounts of energy and is a showcase example of enlightened approach to reconstructions of public buildings with the support of EU funds.

In the previous year, we have organised the second year of our education programme – the sustainability academy, as well as the popular event of Green Building Week, which was accompanied by visits to attractive new and reconstructed buildings in Bratislava. Thanks to the new formats of events, we have seen great interest of experts and the general public.

We have been on the market for 13 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 are proud to have more than 70 members and I hope that we will be welcoming new members every year.

I would like to thank all our members for their constant support. Without it, we would not be able to make the progress we have made.

The results achieved are a commitment for us to go on and so we pledge to continue supporting and promoting sustainable and low-carbon constructions. I wish you all the best of luck in reaching this goal.

PAVOL KUKURA
Chairman of Board

KEY EVENTS



- **We have advertised the SKGBC** by participating in **all major events focusing on sustainable constructions** in Slovakia. We participated at **50 events** as speakers, hosts, organisers, or expert guarantors. **17 of the events** were organised by the council itself, welcoming more than 1,500 participants.

- **For the first time in history, we took part in the United Nations climate conference** as part of the Slovak expert delegation, accompanying the President of the Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová.

- In cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects, we organised the second annual **international conference entitled GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2023** on sustainable city districts.

- We have also organised the **second year of sustainability academy entitled GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2023.** There were more than **500** registered **participants** of the 7 modules of the academy.

- We have made great progress with the project of **Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions** and released a more than 70-pages long expert position document. By the end of the year, the initiative has had **9 partners and 18 supporters**.

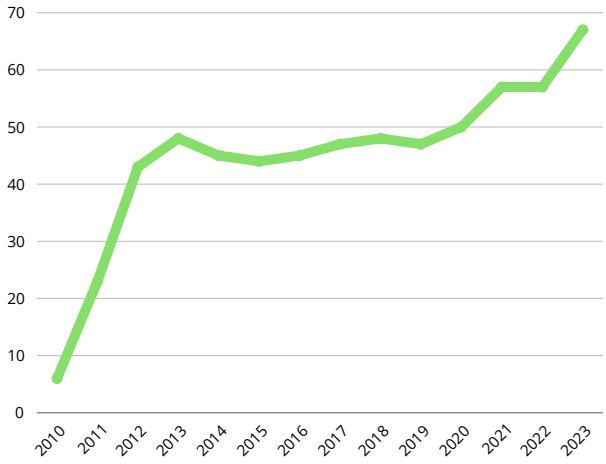
- At the end of September, we hosted **a series of events on sustainable constructions of Green Building Week 2023.** At five events, we welcomed nearly **400 participants** and noticed a significant interest of experts and general public.

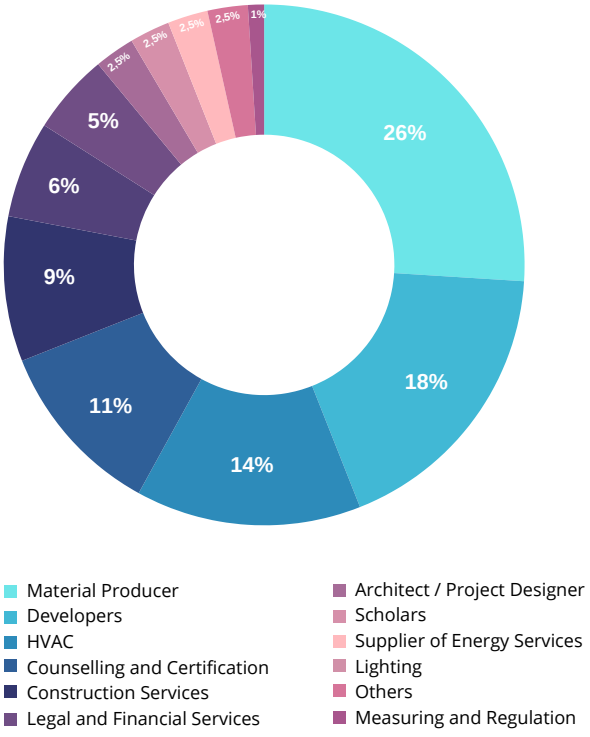
MEMBER BASE DEVELOPMENT

As of 31 December 2023, the Slovak Green Building Council (SKGBC) had **67 member companies**. During the previous year, we welcomed 16 new members. Out of that, there are five exclusive members, 10 founding members, 49 regular members and three associated members.

We are very glad that the number of regular members and exclusive members has grown. The exclusive members group of **Saint-Gobain** and **VÚB banka** was joined by **CTP Invest SK, EcoCocon**, and **Kontrakting stavebné montáže** in 2023.

In the previous years, we awarded **honorary membership** to Mr. **Miloš Blanárik**, Professor **Dušan Petráš** and Professor **Róbert Špaček** for their cooperation and support of our activities.



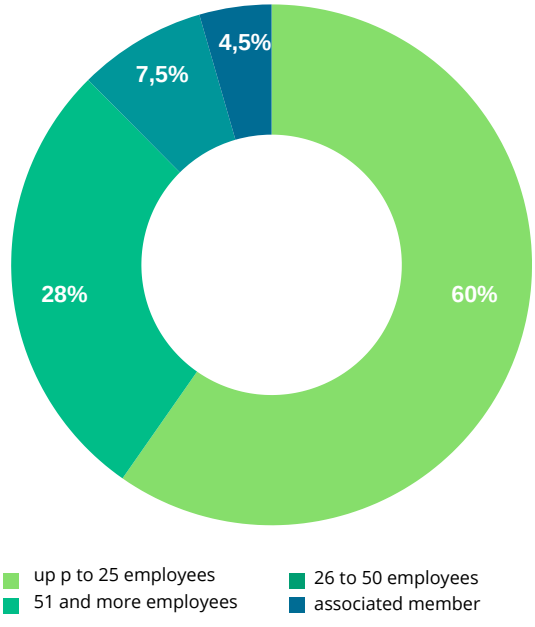


From the perspective of categories, i.e., the **main business activities** of our members, the largest group are material producers (26 %) and developers (18 %).

There are 17 companies in the category of material producers and 12 in the category of developers. They are being followed by the categories of HVAC services (9 companies, 14 % of the base) and 7 companies dealing with counselling and certification (11 %). 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 (60 %, 40 in total).

Nineteen companies (28 %) have more than 51 employees and the rest are middle-sized companies and associated members.



SKGBC ACTIVITIES











The number of activities of the Slovak council **has grown significantly in 2023**. For **the first time in history, we took part in the United Nations climate conference** as part of the Slovak expert delegation, accompanying the President of the Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová. At all of our activities, we have noticed significant interest of the expert and general public. Obviously, there were many legislative changes and current issues to discuss in 2023.

In 2023, the **SKGBC was represented at 50 events** focusing on sustainable constructions or architecture, out of which **17 were organised by the SKGB**C itself, welcoming more than **1,500 participants**.

Apart from the events organised by the council, we also participated in major **international projects and events organised by our partners**. We took part in **30 partnership events** as speakers, hosts, organisers, or expert guarantors.

In 2023, three events were the main pillars of our activities, again.

In February, we started the second annual sustainability academy of **GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY**. We repeated a series of seven specialised webinars focusing on sustainable constructions, with the goal of educating the general public and experts from sectors outside the construction industry.

At the end of April, we cooperated with the Slovak Chamber of Architects on the second annual international conference of **GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT**, a top event on this topic in Central Europe. The main topic of this year's summit were sustainable city districts.

In September, we organised the traditional 13th annual event series titled **GREEN BUILDING WEEK**. It was a series of five events with various focus, accompanied by commented expert tours of interesting sustainable buildings, as well as the first tour on bikes with commented stops at buildings with sustainability features titled GREEN BUILDING BIKE TOUR.

GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2023

In February 2023, we started a series of specialised seminars dealing with the topic of sustainable construction named **GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2023**. The sustainability academy focuses on education of specialised public, as well as experts outside the construction industry.

During the course of **seven** webinars, 20 experts dealt with various aspects of sustainability in constructions. The modules also dealt with basic definitions and principles of sustainability in constructions, as well as best practices of practical application and stages of construction in terms of sustainability.

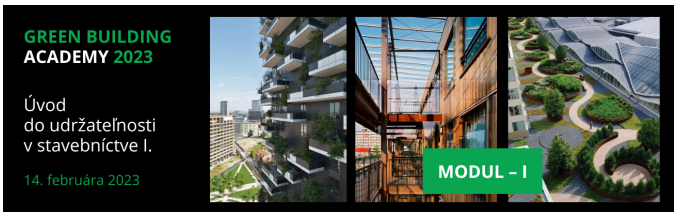
Here were more than **500 registered participants of the 7 modules** of the academy. Media and schools were able to participate in the academy free of charge.

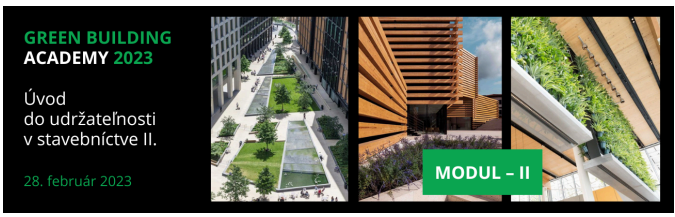
The modules were integrated into the system of Professional Education of Architects of the Slovak Chamber of Architects as Event B, valued by 10 credits, again. It is also part of the life-long education system of the Slovak Chamber of Civil Engineers. Apart from these two institutions, the academy was also supported by our partner, the Technical University in Košice, which provided valuable information to its content.

After the conclusion of the webinars, the participants completing all seven modules received a **CERTIFICATE**.

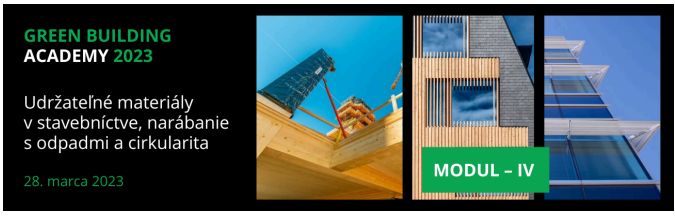
38 graduates completed all seven modules of the academy's first year and **got their CERTIFICATES**.

















GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2023

In 2023, renowned speakers of international architecture studios came to Slovakia, again. In cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects, we organised the 2nd annual international conference of **GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2023**. The event took place on **27 April 2023 i**n the venue of the floating conference premises of Pontoon on the River Danube in Bratislava.

The conference was **the summit event on the topic of sustainable city districts in Central Europe**. The event was organised under the patronage of the President of the Slovak Republic **Zuzana Čaputová** and the Mayor of the City of Bratislava **Matúš Vallo**.

The programme of the conference was structured in a way to stress the **sustainability and the way to sustainable city districts**, and consisted of three theme blocks with presentation, and subsequent discussion panels.

The main topics of the conference were:

- **Green buildings**
- **Timber constructions as a way to carbon neutral solutions**
- **From buildings to city districts**

The goal of the conference was to provide inspiration and case studies on sustainable solutions and experience on how to design and construct sustainable city districts and introduce future trends in architecture and constructions.

We noticed significant interest in the topics presented at the GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2023 conference. It had **nearly 200 participants**.

The conference was a key event with **renowned speakers from Slovakia and abroad.**

As part of the **1st block titled Green Buildings**, the main speaker was Patrick Lüth, partner and executive director of Snøhetta.

In the **2nd block focusing on timber constructions**, we had lectures held by Mads Kaltoft, partner of the studio of Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, and Johannes Rebhahn, international project manager with Wiehag.

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As part of the **3rd block titled From buildings to city districts**, we welcomed the representatives of international studios Philippe Rahm, architect and founder, Ondřej Chybík, partner of the studio of CHYBIK+KRISTOF Associated architects, and Mia Scheel, architect and director of Sweco Architects.

You can find video recordings of all lectures at the **summit website**.









Green Building Week 2023

In 2023, we prepared and organised the 13th annual series of events titled **Green Building Week 2023**.The series consisting of five events on sustainable constructions took place in-person in the last two weeks of September (**18-29th September 2023**).

The last year took place **simultaneously to the World Green Building Week**, organised by the green building councils all over the world, under the umbrella of the World Green Building Council (WGBC). The global motto of the events was **#BuildingTheTransition**.

The series of events was organised under the patronage of the Authority for Spatial Planning and Construction of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Environment Agency.

As part of the Green Building Week, we organised two specialised events named **GREEN BUSINESS BREAKFAST**, accompanied by specialised discussions and a building tour. One event, named **GREEN BUSINESS AFTERNOON**, was held in the premises of the new Eurovea II zone, accompanied by a guided tour. We also introduced a new event format titled **GREEN BUILDING BIKE TOUR**, focusing on the general public and children.

The jewel of the series of specialised events was - as usually – the networking event of **GREEN BUSINESS CLUB** 2023.

As a novelty, we introduced a bike tour with guided stops at buildings with sustainability features, titled **GREEN BUILDING BIKE TOUR** 2023. The route of the first year of the event was approximately 7.5 km long and had seven stops.

The main topics of the Green Building Week 2023 were:

- the way to carbon neutrality
- modularity and life cycle of buildings
- EU taxonomy, ESG and green funding in construction industry

At all our events, we noticed significant interest of experts and the general public. We were glad to see the growing interest in the topic of sustainability, as reflected by the high number of participants from outside the SKGBC member group.

546 people registered for the Green Building Week 2023 events, and the number of event participants reached **388**.

We noticed a slight increase in interest in the SKGBC events, despite having one partner event more to the Green Building Week programme in 2022.

You can find video recordings of the events at **www.skgbc.org**









COOPERATION AND PROJECTS

We implement our mission to educate and connect experts and general public via various projects and by forging partnerships and specialised dialogue on sustainable constructions - locally, as well as internationally. We join forces with renowned expert associations and organisations in the sectors of constructions and architecture, as well as with universities and scholars, or representatives of public administration and self-governing regions. Internationally, we cooperate, in particular, with our sister councils in the Visegrad Region countries and Austria.

The First Presidential Green Seal



In the beginning of November, the President Zuzana Čaputová awarded the **first Presidential Green Seal to the Emil Belluš Secondary Industrial School of Constructions in Trenčín**. After a thorough renovation, the school consumes only minimum amounts of energy and is a showcase example of enlightened approach to reconstructions of public buildings with the support of EU funds.

The assessment system was prepared by an **expert group, consisting of experts with the SKGBC, the Slovak Chamber of Architects, the Institute of Circular Economy, Buildings for Future, and Manifest 2020**. Among the members, there are specialists in energy efficiency of buildings, sustainable construction materials, recycling and circularity, water treatment, experts in greenery and biodiversity, interiors of buildings, operation of buildings, aesthetics, and architectural qualities. The expert group also includes representatives of the **Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia** and **the Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia**. You can find more about the project at zelenapecat.sk.

Buildings for Future



Cooperation of the SKGBC on development of legislation towards sustainable and low-carbon constructions went on in 2023 with the **Buildings for Future** platform (**BPB**), with us as its founding member. They also shared their knowledge with the sustainability academy in form of a lecture on legislative requirements on the quality of interiors of buildings.

In the beginning of 2023 - due to the large amount assigned to **reconstruction of hospitals using funds of the Recovery and Resilience Plan of the SR** – we held a meeting with the representatives of the British certification authority of **BRE and the representatives of the Office of the Government of the SR, the Ministry of Health**, and the hospitals involved.

Prefa Goes Creative



In 2023, we supported the first annual competition entitled **Prefa Goes Creative 2022/2023**, announced by our member Peikko Slovakia for students of the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava.

Students competed in order to win valuable prices and recognition of the expert jury. The SKGBC Sustainability Award was given to **Lucia Škotnárová**, who analysed an energy concept of a building, including a vegetation roof, waste water recycling, heat pumps, and geothermal energy and photovoltaic panels energy. The students have responded positively to prefabricates and already in their designs, they have thought about sustainability, as all the projects were presented as hybrid constructions using timber.

Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions

In cooperation with selected members, other associations and scholars, we continued in the **Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions** with the goal to support wood as a sustainable raw material in modern constructions.

The goal of the project is to change the legislation in order to allow construction of timber constructions to the fire height of 22.5 m for all types of constructions, irrespective of the construction type.

2023 was a part of the first phase of a project, planning milestones, like defining strategies and main arguments for communication and project support, establishing an alliance of partners and project supporters, a meeting of project partners in order to communicate the status of the project and planning the next steps. We have organised several support events with many participants in order to achieve the project goals.

An important milestone was the preparation of a 70-page long **Position Document** and start of discussions with the Fire and Rescue Corps of the SR on the required change in legislation. A great success of the project is coming to an **understanding on change of legislation and introduction of expert works on the required change as part of the work group**. The initiative was founded in 2022 and by the end of 2023, it already had **9 partners and 18 supporters**.



Partners as of 31.12.2023

CORWIN

CRESCO REAL ESTATE

IMMOCAP

JTRE

KNAUF INSULATION

peikko

SAINT-GOBAIN

WOODROCK INVESTMENT

YIT

Supporters as of 31.12.2023

- Buildings for Future
- The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the Technical University in Zvolen
- Faculty of Architecture and Design of the STU in Bratislava
- Passive House Institute
- Institute of the Slovak Chamber of Architects
- Kontrakting
- Manifest 2020
- The Metropolitan Institute of Bratislava
- Pokorny architekti
- Poláček & Partners
- R.A.U. - QArtAll atelier
- Siebert + Talaš
- Department of Building Constructions of the STU in Bratislava
- The Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Technical University in Košice
- Staviame z dreva
- VÚB banka
- Zelená stavba
- Union of Wood Processing Companies of the Slovak Republic

ECONOMICAL RESULTS FOR 2023

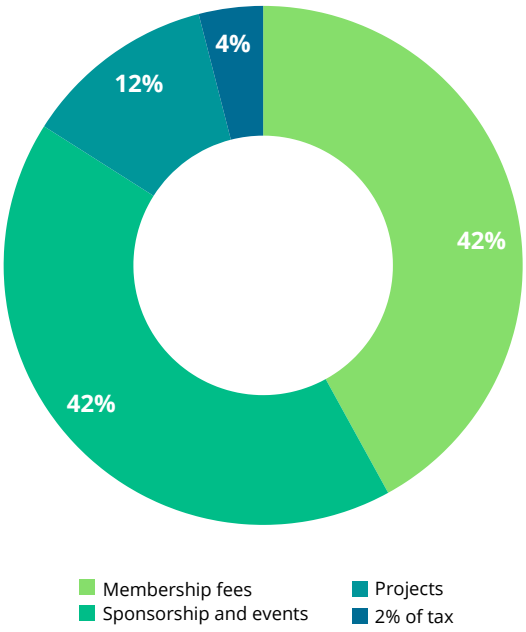
Income

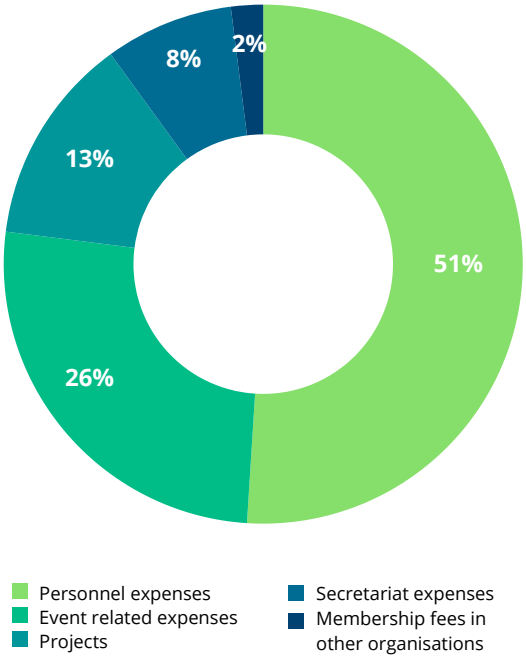
In 2023, the **Slovak Green Building Council** received income mainly from sponsorship and events, as well as membership fees. There was also some income from projects and income of 2% of the tax.

Income of sponsorship and events of the SKGBC in 2023 reached 42 % of the total income, representing 107,997 euros.

Nearly the same portion of income was the membership fee, amounting to 107,900 euros. The rest was the income of projects amounting to 31,500 euros and the 2% of the income tax (9,807 euros).

In total, the income of 2023 was **257,204 euros**.





Expenses

In 2023, the largest group of the SKGBC expenses were personnel expenses amounting to 132,482 euros and event related expenses of 69,022 euros.

We used 34,036 euros for projects and 21,030 euros to cover the operation of the office.

As the founding member of the Buildings for Future platform, the council paid the membership fee of 5,000 euros (2 % of its overall expenses).

The total expenses 2023 amounted to **261,571 euros.**

The economic result of the SKGBC from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 was 4,367 euros.

The **account balance** at the end of the year was 38,393 euros.

On 1 July 2022, the Slovak Green Building Council became a value added tax (VAT) payer.

BOARD



Pavol Kukura
Chairman of Board
Chairman of Supervisory Board
Woodrock



Marek Kremeň
Vice-Chairman of Board
CEO
EXERGY



Rastislav Badalík
Member of Board and Treasurer
CEO
Teichmann&Compagnons



Branislav Bošák
Member of Board
Technical Product Manager
YIT Slovakia (since 30.03.2023)



Pavol Praženica
Member of Board
Business Manager
SIEMENS



Peter Robl
Vice-Chairman of Board
Public Affairs Manager Eastern Europe
KNAUF INSULATION (till 29.03.2023)



Martin Stohl
Member of Board
ESG Manager
J&T REAL ESTATE (since 30.03.2023)



Michal Široký
Member of Board
Marketing Manager
Saint-Gobain Slovensko

TEAM MEMBERS



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Executive Director
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Henrieta Kiššová
Marketing Manager
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Veronika Nemčeková
Office Manager
office@skgbc.org
since 15.08.2023



Patrícia Vlková
Office Manager
till 30.06.2023

Thanks for the great cooperation and continuous support to all member companies, as well as active members of the SKGBC Board.

CONTACTS

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Slovak Green Building Council
SKGBC – Slovak Green Building Council
www.skgbc.org

SKGBC MEMBERS AS OF 31.12.2023

EXCLUSIVE MEMBERS

FOUNDING MEMBERS

REGULAR MEMBERS

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS