



ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2024



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

the previous year was a difficult one for the construction industry. We had to deal with uncertainty on the global markets, growing inflation, and new legislative changes on the domestic market, in combination with a difficult situation on the geopolitical and economic level. Despite that, the SKGBC has been conducting its activities and working on increasing the attractiveness of sustainability in construction sector.

As usually, we have focused on the education activities, promotion of sustainable construction, and individual projects supporting sustainability in construction and architecture. In the area of education, we hosted our third annual education programme of Sustainability Academy, and we also organised a very challenging Green Building Week. We have added guided sightseeing and a bike tour around several sustainable buildings in the capital city to our programme.

In cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects, we have welcomed several prominent architects and sustainability experts in Slovakia, presenting at our traditional event of GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT. We have continued cooperating closely with the green building councils in the Visegrad Group countries (Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary), too. In the area of projects, we have focused on areas of sustainable constructions where we have been falling short in Slovakia. Those are, in particular, renovation of public buildings and use of timber as a sustainable raw material.

In the field of reconstruction of public buildings, we have continued in the successful project of the Green Seal of the President, awarding two new Green Seals with the President of the Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová near the end of her term in office. One of them was awarded to the reconstructed indoor swimming pool of the town of Stará Ľubovňa. It is the second public building holding a special certificate for public buildings which had undergone a significant reconstruction. The second seal went to the historic building of Szápáry Manor in Čunovo. The Bratislava Self-Governing Region was able to transform a ruin of a manor house to a unique eco centre, resulting in a fully renovated cultural monument with an interior filled with interactive educative expositions, and a garden holding flora secrets of the Danube River forests. The renovated manor is an example of enlightened approach to reconstruction of a historic building with the support of European funding.

We have signed two memorandums of understanding and cooperation in the area of renovation of public buildings – one with the association representing the eight self-governing regions and the other one with the representatives of towns and communities. I believe that it is a start of a focused cooperation, aiming at speeding up the renovation of public buildings and supporting sustainable solutions, which will – in the long term – lead to savings in budgets and introduce a higher standard of buildings owned by the self-governing regions, town and municipalities.

As part of the Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions project, we continued in our activities and are now in the second stage of the project. In the second half of the previous year, we had to revisit and change our strategy of the project, being inspired by a successful project in the Czech Republic. They have nearly completed the process of adopting new legislation, allowing construction of higher buildings made of timber.

We are one of the most active associations in the industry, getting closer and closer to reaching our vision of sustainable constructions becoming a standard in Slovakia. We have been on the market for 14 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 80 members and I hope that we will be seeing 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

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- **We have promoted the SKGBC** by participating in all **major events focusing on sustainable constructions** in Slovakia. We participated **at 46 events** as speakers, hosts, organisers, or expert guarantors. **15 of the events** were organised by the council itself, welcoming more than **1,200 participants**.
 - Together with the President of the Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová, we have awarded **two Green Seals of the President**. Two public buildings were awarded a special certificate for public buildings last year – one of which is a national cultural heritage and a historical building.
 - Together with the Slovak Chamber of Architects, we have organised **the third annual international conference of GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT**, which highlighted circularity as a pathway to a sustainable future.
 - We have also organised the **third year of the online educational program GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY**, with more than 370 participants registered across its four modules.
 - We have also moved forward with the **Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions** project, finding inspiration in Czech legislation, which could also be implemented back here in Slovakia.
 - At the end of September, we hosted **a series of events on sustainable constructions entitled Green Building Week 2024**. At five events, we welcomed more than **400 participants** and noticed a significant interest of experts and general public.

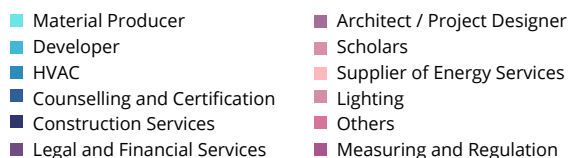
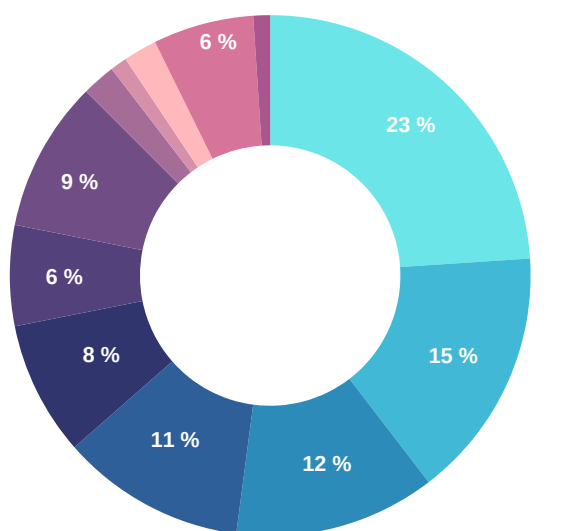
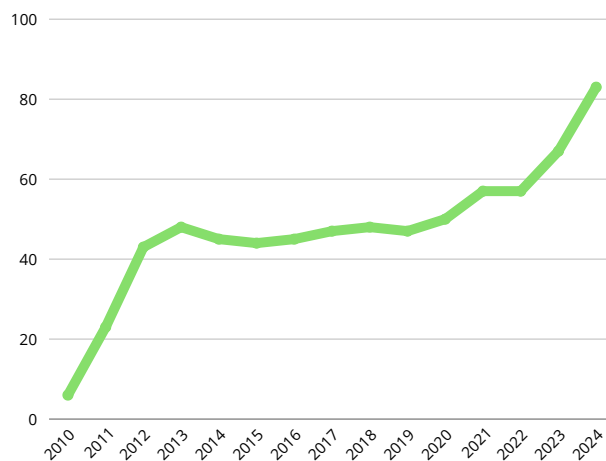
MEMBER BASE DEVELOPMENT

As of 31 December 2024, the Slovak Green Building Council (SKGBC) had **83 member companies**. In the previous year, the SKGBC welcomed 19 new members.

We have five exclusive members, 75 regular members, and three associated members. Nine companies of the founding members are still with us.

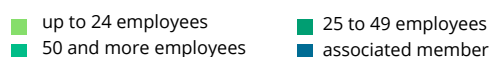
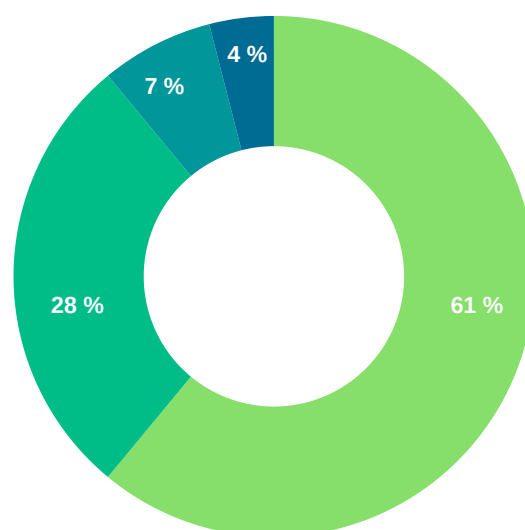
We are very glad that the number of our regular members has been growing significantly. As far as the exclusive members goes, we have five of them: **CTP Invest SK, EcoCocon, Kontrakting stavebné montáže, SIPEUROPE, and VÚB bank.**

Over the past years, we have awarded **honorary membership** to Mr **Miloš Blanárik**, professor **Dušan Petráš**, and professor **Róbert Špaček** for their long cooperation and support the activities of the council.



From the perspective of categories, i.e., **the main business activities** of our members, the largest group are material producers (23 %) and developers (15 %).

There are 19 companies in the category of material producers and 12 in the category of developers. They are being followed by the categories of HVAC services (ten companies, 12 % of the base) and nine companies dealing with advisory 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 SKGBC, most of our members are smaller companies with up to 24 employees (61 %, 51 in total).

23 companies (28 %) have more than 50 employees, 7 % are middle-sized companies, and three are associated members.

SKGBC ACTIVITIES



In 2024, we have focused on areas of sustainable constructions in which Slovakia has been falling behind. Those are, in particular, reconstructions of public buildings and use of timber as a sustainable construction material. Our efforts for improving the quality of reconstructed public building were supported by the then President of the Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová, awarding two green seals to newly renovated buildings. However, our efforts to change legislation on timber constructions were put to a hold by the parliament elections in 2024.

At all our activities, we noticed significant interest of experts and the general public. In 2024, SKGBC **was visible at 46 events** on sustainable constructions or architecture. Out of that, **15 events were organised by SKGBC** itself, hosting more than 1,200 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 2024, three events were the main pillars of our activities, again.

In March, we started the 3rd annual sustainability academy entitled **GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY**. We put together four specialised webinars focusing on sustainable constructions, with the goal of educating the general public and experts from sectors outside the construction industry, as well as students.

At the end of April, we cooperated with the Slovak Chamber of Architects on the third annual international conference of **GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT**, a top event on this topic in Central Europe. The main topic of this year's conference was circularity as a way to sustainable future.

In September, we organised the traditional 14th annual event series entitled **Green Building Week**. It was a series of five events with various focus, accompanied by guided expert tours of a sustainable building, as well as a bicycle tour with guided stops at buildings with sustainability features entitled **GREEN BUILDING BIKE TOUR**.



GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2024

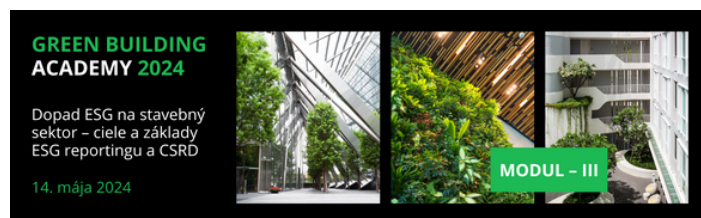
In March 2024, we started the third series of specialised webinars dealing with the topic of sustainable construction named **GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY 2024**. The sustainability academy focused on education of specialised public, as well as experts outside the construction industry.

During the course of **four new webinars, 16 experts** dealt with various aspects of sustainability in constructions. Within the scope of the modules, they focused on the current issues and best practices. There were **374 registered participants** of the four modules of the academy. Media and schools were able to participate in the academy free of charge.

In 2024, 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 four modules received a **CERTIFICATE**.

52 participants passed all the academy modules and were awarded a **CERTIFICATE**. This represents a year-to-year growth of graduates of 37 %.



GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2024

In 2024, renowned speakers of international architecture studios came to Slovakia, again. In cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Architects, we organised the 3rd annual international conference of **GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2024**. The event took place on **24 April 2024** in the venue of the floating conference room of Pontoon on the River Danube in Bratislava.

The conference was **the summit event on the topic of sustainable solutions in Central Europe**. The patronage of the event was held by the President of the Slovak Republic **Zuzana Čaputová**, the Ambassador of the Republic of Austria in Slovakia **Johannes Wimmer**, the Ambassador of Finland in the Czech Republic and Slovakia **Pasi Tuominen**, and the Chairman of the Authority for Spatial Planning and Construction of the Slovak Republic **Martin Hypký**. The conference was opened by **Richard Teichmann**, Deputy Chairman of the European branch of the World Green Building Council (WGBC).

The programme of the conference was structured in a way to stress **the circularity as a way to sustainable future**, and consisted of two theme blocks with presentation, and subsequent discussion panels. The main topics of the event were **circularity, sustainability, and public buildings**. The goal of the conference was to provide inspiration and case studies on sustainable solutions and international experience on how to design and construct sustainable buildings and introduce future trends in architecture and constructions.

We noticed significant interest in the topics presented at the GREEN BUILDING SUMMIT 2024 conference. It had **more than 150 participants**.

The conference was a key event with **renowned speakers from Slovakia and abroad**. The keynote speaker was **Jakob Dunkl** – architect and founder, **Querkraft architekten**.

Within the **1st block**, the speakers were **Kasper Fabritius** – business and marketing manager, **Senaatti**, and **Vittorio Salvadori** – director of project acquisitions, **CREE**.

Within the **2nd block**, there were the presentations of **Samppa Lappalainen** – CEO and partner, **JKMM Architects**, **Alfred Berger** – architect and founder, **Berger + Parkkinen Architekten**, and **Milan Tomac** – architect and partner, **ENOTA Architects**.

You can find recordings of all lectures at the [summit website](#).



GREEN BUILDING WEEK 2024

In 2024, we prepared and organised the 14th annual series of events titled **Green Building Week 2024**. The five events on sustainable constructions took place in person in two weeks of September (**17-26 September 2024**).

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 patronage of the event was held by the Ambassador of the Republic of Austria in Slovakia **Johannes Wimmer**.

As part of the Green Building Week 2024, we organised two specialised events named **GREEN BUSINESS BREAKFAST**, accompanied by specialised discussions, one of each was amended by a guided tour of a special building. Another event of the council, **GREEN BUSINESS AFTERNOON**, was held in the highest office building in Slovakia.

The jewel of the series of specialised events was – as usually – the networking event of **GREEN BUSINESS CLUB 2024**.

We also had a bicycle tour with guided stops at buildings with sustainability features, titled **GREEN BUILDING BIKE TOUR 2024**. The route of the second year of the event was approximately 6 km long and had four stops. It was aimed at the general public, as well as children.

The main topics of the Green Building Week 2024 were:

- Towns in the time of climate change
- Low-carbon solutions at building renovations
- Timber constructions, prefabricates and modularity in Slovakia

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

584 people registered for the Green Building Week 2024 events, and the number of event participants reached **417**.

The fact that this type of events is popular is proven by the repeated **growth of the number of participants**. Most of the growth was thanks to students and scholars. There were as many as 170 participants who were at the Green Week of the SKGBC for the first time.

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



COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

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.

Green Seal of the President

In April, the President of Slovak Republic Zuzana Čaputová awarded the **Green Seal of the President to the reconstructed town swimming pool in Stará Ľubovňa**. It was the second public building holding a special certificate for public buildings. The building of the town swimming pool in Stará Ľubovňa has undergone a significant reconstruction.

The second Green Seal of the President went to the historic building of Szápáry Manor in Čunovo. It was the third public building holding a special sustainability certificate. The Bratislava Self-Governing Region was able to remodel a ruin of a manor house to a unique eco center, becoming a fully renovated cultural monument with an interior full of interactive educative expositions, and a garden with mysterious flora of the Danube River forests. The renovated manor is an example of enlightened approach to reconstruction of a historic building with the support of European funding.



Self-governing regions and renovation of buildings

In November, together with the Association of Energy Services Providers, the Association of Construction Entrepreneurs of Slovakia and the platform of Buildings for the Future, we signed a **memorandum of understanding and cooperation in the area of public buildings** with the **Association of Self-Governing Regions of Slovakia (SK8)**, which represents the eight regions.

It is a start of a focused cooperation, aiming at speeding up the renovation of public buildings, improving their energy efficiency, and supporting sustainable solutions, which will – in the long term – result in savings in budgets and introduce a higher standard of the interior of buildings owned by the self-governing regions, town and municipalities in Slovakia.



Cooperation with the ZMOS association

We have signed a **memorandum of understanding and cooperation in the area of renovation of public buildings** with the **Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia (ZMOS)** at the end of 2024. We are hoping for a close cooperation within the consortium of the Association of Energy Services Provides, the Association of Construction Entrepreneurs of Slovakia and the platform of Buildings for the Future, as well. Its goal is to improve the energy efficiency of public buildings, intensify their renovation and focus it in order to support sustainable solutions which – in the long term – will result in savings in budgets and higher quality of interiors.

We see a huge potential in cooperation at renovation of public buildings owned by the towns and municipalities, as well as self-governing regions in Slovakia.



Buildings for the Future

As far as legislation goes, in 2024, we cooperated with our subsidiary platform of **Buildings for the Future (BPB)**, which has been focusing on improving public policies in the buildings sector in Slovakia for eleven years. Within the platform, we have joined discussions on the **Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)**, which is in the process of transposition into national legislation, together with the **Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)**.

Upon the initiative of the BPB, we and 33 other signatories **invited the government to thoroughly implement both these European directives, enabling a significant increase in the number of high-quality renovated buildings in Slovakia**. At the same time, we emphasized how important it is that the relevant funding is allocated to the project in order to continue and expand the building renovation programmes after 2026 and that measures to support highly-skilled workforce in the construction industry are implemented.

We have also supported and participated at all major activities and events on energy efficiency of the buildings hosted by the platform, aiming, in particular, on identifying opportunities to speed up the pace of renovation of public buildings in the context of the European directives.



Cooperation with university

In 2024, we have signed a **general agreement on cooperation in education, science and research activities and technical development with the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava**.

The goal of the agreement is to intensify our cooperation at effective transfer of knowledge from science and research in the area of sustainable constructions and the impact of construction and architecture on the environment into the process of solution-finding of the current and conceptual objectives of both partners. We are glad that we can collaborate more closely at our specialised activities and common projects, also in cooperation with third parties.



Children and green cities

In 2024, we supported the **10th annual** fine art contest of the project **Children and Architecture**. The contest was entitled **Green City District** and **more than 600 pictures** participated in it. The jury awarded 26 works of art of pupils from all around Slovakia.

OZ EUROARCH civic association, as the organised of the contest, intended to select only 20 best pictures, but in the end, the jury decided to award 6 main prizes, 3 special awards, 3 awards of the organiser and the project author, and 14 awards of project partners and supporters. The gala announcement of the victors was in the Slovak National Gallery and the children also took part in the topical tour of the green architecture of Bratislava.



PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

We are an active partner of various projects and initiatives with local and international perspective. We monitor the current market trends, as well as the development of the number of certified buildings holding international sustainability certificates in Slovakia. We are providing an overview of certified buildings using generally available data. In 2024, we have started examining the readiness of towns and municipalities for renovation of public buildings.

Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions

In cooperation with selected members, other associations and scholars, in 2024, we continued in the Initiative for Modern Timber Constructions with the goal to support timber as a sustainable raw material in modern constructions. We have reached the second stage. **The goal of the project is to change the legislation in order to allow construction of timber constructions to the firefighting height of 22.5 m for all types of constructions, irrespective of the construction type.**

For 2024, we planned milestones like defining and approving specialised parameters of the project, finding support of the relevant institutions, as well as funding. We organised several meetings and prepared a document entitled **How to Use the Potential of Timber Constructions in Slovakia** which provides and overview on the advantages of timber constructions and concrete recommendations for legislative changes. The publication stresses the potential of timber constructions in mitigating the environmental impacts, increased construction pace and development of regional economy. It compares the current height limits for timber constructions in Slovakia with other countries and points to the need of amending these regulations.

In the second half of the previous year, due to changes in public administration, we had to revisit and change our strategy of the project, being inspired by a project from the Czech Republic, which has completed the legislation change allowing construction of higher buildings made of timber. This project is supervised and funded by the state.

9 Rules of Building Renovation

Renovation of public buildings represents a huge potential for lowering the energy load of construction and improving the quality of the interior environment. Sustainable renovation can also result in significant savings. We have prepared a **practical brochure** for the towns and municipalities **entitled 9 Rules of Building Renovation**, which offers clear recommendations and inspiration for effective and modern approach to renovation of public buildings. This publication is available online on our website and we are also distributing it at our regional events related to renovation of public buildings.

Overview of certified buildings

After several years, in 2024, we have prepared another **overview of certified buildings in Slovakia**, mapping the development of certified sustainable buildings with internationally recognised certificates (BREEAM, LEED or WELL). By the end of 2024, we have identified **200 buildings** with a valid sustainability certificate. Most of them were logistic, industrial and office buildings. We intend to update this analysis on a regular basis and provide an expert overview for the specialised public, investors, and representatives of the public sector.



ECONOMICAL RESULTS FOR 2024

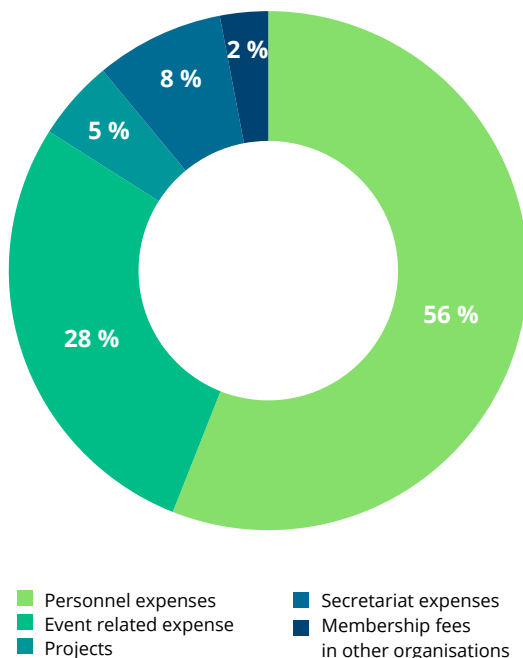
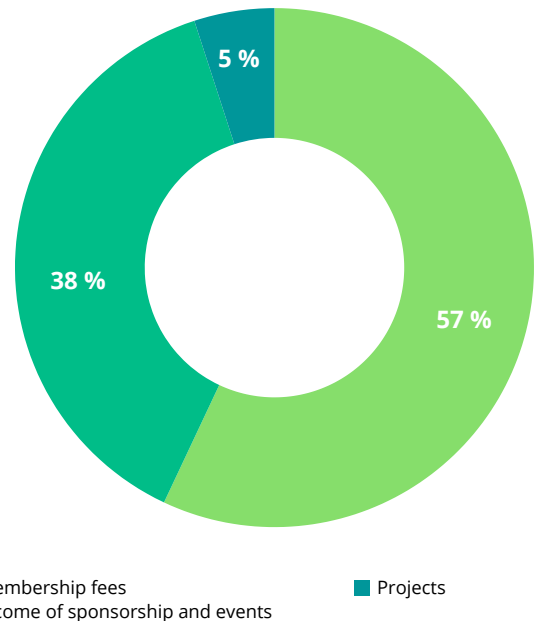
Income

In the fiscal year of 2024, the **Slovak Green Building Council** had mainly income of membership fee, grant projects, income of sponsorship donations, and events. A small portion of our income was from projects.

In 2024, income of membership fees in 2024 reached 57 % of the total income of the council, representing 142,397 euros.

Sponsorship donations and events income represented 38 % of our income, amounting to 94,873 euros. Projects income represented 12,000 euros.

In total, the income of 2024 was **249,270** euros.



Expenses

In 2024, the largest group of the SKGBC expenses were personnel expenses amounting to 141,896 euros and event related expenses of 71,244 euros.

We used 12,884 euros for projects and 21,057 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 6,000 euros (2 % of its overall expenses).

The total expenses 2024 amounted to **253,080** euros.

The economic result of the SKGBC from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 was 3,810 euros.

The account balance at the end of the year was 41,150 euros.

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

BOARD



Pavol Kukura

Chairman of the Board,
Chairman of the Supervisory
Board of Woodrock



Marek Kremeň

Deputy Chairman of the Board,
CEO
EXERGY



Rastislav Badalík

Member of Board and Treasurer,
CEO
Teichmann&Compagnons



Branislav Bošák

Member of the Board,
Technical Product Manager
YIT Slovakia



Pavol Praženica

Member of the Board,
Business Manager
SIEMENS



Martin Stohl

Member of the Board,
ESG manager
JTRE



Michal Široký

Member of the Board,
Marketing Manager
Saint-Gobain Slovensko
till 29/02/2024



Miroslav Zliechovec

Member of the Board
Business Development Manager
Saint-Gobain Slovensko
from 01/03/2024

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SKGBC MEMBERS AS OF 31.12.2024

EXCLUSIVE MEMBERS



FOUNDING MEMBERS



REGULAR MEMBERS





ASSOCIATED MEMBERS



CONTACTS

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 Slovak Green Building Council
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