

Conference brief

Over a two fruitful day and with the contribution of 4 honorary distinguished speakers, 12 international Keynote and 10 guest speakers the **First International Conference on “Green Buildings: The Future in the UAE**, the first of its kind in the region, was held on 2-3 May 2005 at Dubai Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The main topics covered by this conference are Sustainable Sites, Energy and Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality, and Materials & Resources. The main conference outcome is the formation of sub-committees, the core group, and preparation for the establishment of the UAE Green building Council. The conference was organized by Dubai University College (DUC) in collaboration with international, regional and local institutions, government departments, universities, research centers, as well as specialized companies.

- UAE Ministry of Public Works
- Federal Environmental Agency
- Environmental Research & Wildlife Development Agency (ERWDA)
- Dubai Municipality
- UAE University
- Society of Engineers
- Emirates Environmental Group
- World Green Building Council
- World Renewable Energy Network
- Green Building Council of Australia
- India Green Building Council
- UN-ESCWA
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA
- Savannah College of Art & Design, USA
- Department of Environmental Architecture, Dortmund University, Germany
- School of Built Environment, University of Nottingham, UK
- School of Engg. & Physics Sciences, University of Aberdeen, King’s College, UK
- Institute for Lightweight Structures & Conceptual Design, Stuttgart Univ., Germany
- ASHRAE Emirates Falcon Chapter
- University of Kuwait
- Emirates Glass
- J C Maclean International
- Green Technologies
- Thermo-Shield®
- TRANE – Air Conditioning

The conference organizing committee brought together international experts in the field who addressed topics ranging from building materials and performance to solar water desalination and photovoltaic architecture.

Conference participants commented that, while the green building movement gains momentum around the world—in the USA, Canada, Europe, Latin America, Australia, Japan, and Taiwan, the conference brought these issues to the forefront to coincide with the unprecedented construction and planned development in the UAE.

The conference achieved numerous objectives:

1. Spread awareness and disseminate valuable information on the importance of Green Buildings.
2. Insights to all concerned within the building industry on benefits of achieving sustainable design to protect the environment in the UAE and the region at large.
3. Exchange and share new ideas and technologies, paving the way to healthier working, learning, and living environments in better quality buildings for users and owners alike in the UAE.
4. Formed Sub-committees to develop the road map for the UAE Green building Council
5. Establishing green rating guidelines for buildings in the UAE in line with accreditation systems such as the LEED Program of the US Green Building Council.