

The International Initiative for a Sustainable Built Environment

Who Are We?

iiSBE is an international non-profit organization whose overall aim is to actively facilitate and promote the adoption of policies, methods and tools to accelerate the movement towards a global sustainable built environment. iiSBE has an international Board of Directors from almost every continent and has a small Secretariat located in Ottawa, Canada. Our specific objectives include the following:

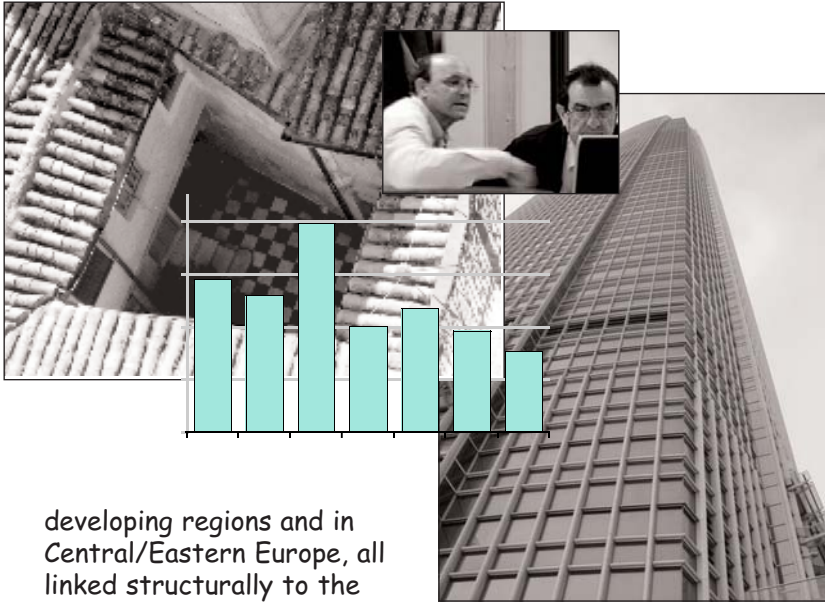
- ❑ Map current activities and establish a forum for information exchange on SBE initiatives for participating organizations, so that gaps and overlaps may be reduced and common standards established; and
- ❑ Increase awareness of existing SBE initiatives and issues amongst non-participating organizations and in the international user community;
- ❑ Take action on fields not covered by existing organisations and networks.

Our Activities

- ❑ Our most important activity is networking; helping specialists and generalists to get to know each others' abilities and needs. This occurs formally through our databases and newsletter, and informally through every-day e-mails;
- ❑ We are managing and providing technical support for the international *Green Building Challenge* (GBC) process, which involves over 15 countries in the development and testing of a rating tool for buildings. This work has led to the development of a performance rating tool called GBTool, which is unique in its ability to adopt to local needs and conditions. See <http://www.iisbe.org> for details;
- ❑ The *Sustainable Building Information System* (SBIS), a web-based database of international R&D information relating to sustainable building,

has been successfully launched, and is attracting users from around the world - see www.sbis.info;

- ❑ We have established a web-based database called the *Skills Registry*, which features a searchable file of the skills and experience of individuals and organizations. Anyone can browse the Skills Registry at www.sbis.info:8101/iisbeRegistry
- ❑ Our newsletter, *Advanced Building Newsletter* (ABN) is published approximately every two months and has a reputation for providing stories of technical excellence as well as news items from around the world. The seventh issues, ABN07 was issued at the end of August, 2005.
- ❑ In cooperation with CIB, iiSBE has launched a *Green Buildings Policy* project, an effort to understand policies and programs that are related to sustainable building practices. The work is led by Ronald Rovers of the Netherlands. See www.iisbe.org/iisbe/gbpn;
- ❑ Dr. Ray Cole is leading an iiSBE *Education Task Force*, which sponsored a special session at Tokyo SB05. The group is focusing on post-secondary education in sustainable building, including curriculum development;
- ❑ On behalf of the International Energy Agency and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, iiSBE has successfully managed a contract to complete the work of IEA Annex 31, related to tools and methods for environmental assessment;
- ❑ iiSBE and CIB are major co-sponsors of the SB conference series, which began in Maastricht in 2000, then went on to Oslo in 2002 and, recently, in Tokyo. The venue for SB08 will be Melbourne, Australia.
- ❑ In partnership with CIB and UNEP, iiSBE also sponsored a series of SB conferences in 2004 in



developing regions and in Central/Eastern Europe, all linked structurally to the Tokyo SB05 event. These events were held in Sao Paolo, Stellenbosch (South Africa) Shanghai, Warsaw, Kuala Lumpur and Athens, and the regional coordinators presented regional summaries of sustainable building in their regions at SB05. A similar series will take place in 2007.

Why should you join ?

Associate members of iiSBE will obtain many benefits for a modest annual fee of \$75 CAD (about 45 to 50 Euro, and 50% of that for students or members in developing countries). Corporate members pay more, but the benefits of Associate Membership are made available to several people within the firm.

Associate Membership brings the following benefits:

- Full access to our *Sustainable Building Information System (SBIS)*, which is now operational at www.sbis.info. This database provide users with full access to over 1,200 documents relevant to sustainable building, all searchable

and downloadable in PDF format. You can also search for buildings, R&D projects, policies and other relevant information. The system has English, French and Spanish interfaces.

- Full use of and support for our GBTool software;
- Copies of the bi-monthly *Advanced Building Newsletter (ABN)* in PDF format;
- A special subscription rate to *Building Research & Information*, the prestigious international journal. The savings on this offer alone are worth more than the cost of annual membership !
- Access to our *Skills Registry* database This new system will bring your skills and abilities to the attention of a broad audience of international users, who may then contact you with regard to cooperation in research work or consulting projects. Find the Skills Registry at www.sbis.info:8101/iisbeRegistry;

- Networking support from the head office - we will gladly help you to find people or documents that you are looking for.



iiSBE Board, 2005-2006

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 Cesar Ulises Trevino, Local Chapters Committee
 Thomas Luetzkendorf, ISO Liaison

iiSBE Executive Director

Nils Larsson, larsson@iisbe.org

You can download our membership forms from www.iisbe.org. For further info, contact info@iisbe.org.

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