

January: iiSBE holds workshop on urban assessment in Paris

A workshop on urban assessment issues was held in Paris at the headquarters of UN Environment in mid-January. A main topic for discussion was the urban assessment framework being developed for CESBA, the *Common European Sustainable Building Assessment* association, a grouping of 9 European cities and research organizations. Following that, an introduction was made of an international process to develop indicators, based on the CESBA work. Another important topic was a presentation by Luis Bragança and Cristina Engel of work going on in Latin America to develop urban indicators within a process called URBENERE. Finally, Serge Salat made an interesting presentation on sustainable development and neighbourhood sustainability. Twenty people attended the workshop.

January: Workshop on SBE conference series

Immediately following the iiSBE workshop on urban assessment, a meeting of 22 SBE partners and event organizers was held at the same location in Paris in order to introduce event organizers to each other and to discuss issues of mutual interest. After an introduction to the series and the participants, several issues were discussed including plans for WSBE20 in Gothenburg, indexation of papers and the international urban assessment Challenge,

May: iiSBE Taiwan hosts two weeks of lectures, meetings and discussions

During the last two weeks of May, the Executive Director of iiSBE delivered a series of lectures on sustainable building and construction to professionals and staff in the cities of Kaohsiung and Pingtung in southern Taiwan. He also provided lectures to masters level and undergraduates of Shu Te and Pingtung Universities. Trip expenses were financed by the Pingtung Architects Association and were organized by Prof. Paul Chou of Shu Te University.



During the two-week visit, the XD also took part in the annual meeting of the Taiwan iiSBE organization in Taipei, which has 48 members and an active program of activities. In a side session at the AGM, Joseph Yen-yi Li, CEO of the TSSBE and Professor at Shu-Te University, provided background on several recent initiatives.

For information on TSSBE, contact Joseph Yen-yi Li at hamalee@gmail.com.

May: Presentation of iiSBE position paper “Plan B” at CaGBC in Toronto

On May 6, Nils Larsson (XD of iiSBE) and Kalum Galle (Morrison-Hershfield Engineers) presented iiSBE’s position paper on Climate Change, the sustainable built environment, climin the form of a PPT slideshow *Climate Change, Built Environment and Plan B*, at the combined Canadian GBC and WGBC conference in Toronto on 6 May.

June: CESBA meeting in Barcelona



CESBA is the *Common European Sustainable Assessment* process, which is a consortium of European urban areas focusing on the performance assessment of urban neighbourhoods. A meeting of the participating members was held in Barcelona in mid-June. Much of the meeting was devoted to reviewing and

discussing the draft framework for assessment of small urban areas, aka neighbourhoods.

Andrea Moro, head of iiSBE Italia, chaired the part of the meeting that dealt with technical issues. Another meeting will be held in Malta in November. See also our story on the launch of the iiSBE Urban Challenge 2020 process in this newsletter.

June: SBE Urban Challenge 2020 launched

The SBE Urban Challenge 2020 is an international collaborative process to develop a trans-national assessment system for urban small areas. The SBE Urban Challenge 2020 process is managed by the *International Urban Framework Committee* (IUFC), chaired by Andrea Moro of iiSBE.

Participating countries will have the opportunity to develop harmonized national and regional tools for rating the level of sustainability of neighborhoods. This process is inspired by two previous processes: the SB Buildings Challenge, which was featured at all global SBE conferences since 1998, and the more recent (still on-going) CESBA process (see previous news item). This cycle will result in presentations and discussion at the WSBE20 conference in Gothenburg in June 2020. Several of the teams participating CESBA teams will participate, as well as others from Japan and Taiwan.

The SBE Urban Challenge intends to promote the harmonization of assessment systems at small urban scale. The harmonization strategy is based on the “Generic Framework” principle that allows users to combine the need for contextualized tools with the possibility to share/compare the assessment results transnationally. The Generic Framework is a generic multi-criterion assessment tool that needs to be contextualized before being used.

The SBE Urban Challenge will also develop a guideline for the use of rating systems at urban scale in the decision-making processes of public authorities, in particular in the context of urban planning, sustainability action plans and sustainable retrofit concepts.

The IUFC will be composed of the coordinators of the participating National Teams, which are informal collaborative working groups established at country level.

June: iiSBE members participate in Turkish project on nZEB

Ilker Kahraman, Architect and Professor at Yasar University in Izmir, Turkey, has a contract with the Turkish Ministry of Energy and Environment to carry out a project to develop guidelines for *nearly-zero energy buildings* (nZEB), applicable to public buildings and possibly also to commercial and residential buildings. The project is being given financial support by GIZ, the German foreign technical support agency. Nils Larsson (iiSBE XD) is providing technical support.

Both individuals also took part in a previous Turkish government project to develop implementation guidelines for the integrated design process (IDP).

A first meeting with the Ministry was held on June 27-28 in Ankara, and included preliminary discussions with Ministry officials about the project, as well as a seminar with about 45 persons attending, including architects, engineers and researchers.

For information, contact Ilker Kahraman at ilkerkahraman@gmail.com

July: iiSBE Chapter formed in Canada

An iiSBE Chapter in Canada has only recently been formed. The previous informal group, called Team Canada or CanTeam, has been very active over the last ten-year period. There has been a membership of about 18 professionals across Canada, and CanTeam has carried out several research projects, including a major study that compared predicted building performance at the design stage with actual performance, after at least two years of operation. The study carried out these building performance evaluations (BPE) on 9 Canadian buildings for which data were available, and the results were presented at the WSB14 Barcelona conference. That study was financed through a grant provided by NSERC, the *Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council*, and an application is now being prepared to take this work further. Teresa Coady is Chair of the group. Contact her at [<teresa.coady@outlook.com>](mailto:teresa.coady@outlook.com)

August: Proposal call for revision of SBE website

We organized a call for expressions of interest for the development of a new SBE series website, based on a mockup prepared in a PPT. Five proposals were received, which were reviewed and scored by the 5 representatives of the SBE partnership. The selected bidder, Vitor Costa, of Minho University was selected to carry out the work.

October: First SBE event of new SBE cycle held in Taipei

Wim Bakens (CIB) and NL just took part in the Taipei SBE18 conference, with a brief intro to the series by me and another short overview of the WSBE20 conference presented by Wim.

NL made a keynote presentation on a Plan B to cope with climate change and also made a shorter presentation for the Taipei SBE roundtable session that focused on the content and implications of the new IPCC SR1.5 report, issued on 8 October. There were a total of 6 participants on the panel and about 200 in the audience. The individual presentations (including mine) were so long that there was only limited time left for general discussion -- perhaps we will have to suggest that other organizers should be more ruthless in guiding their own panels.

October: Revision of SBE website is almost complete

Vitor Costa at Minho University has almost completed the revised structure for the SBE Series website, and it is now ready for new content from event organizers, who have already been notified.

October: On-going work to manage the SBE 2018-20 cycle

Nils Larsson is managing the SBE conference series until 2020, when Wim Bakens will take over. The current status of events is shown in the matrix on the following page.

Status of SBE18-20 Conferences

27Oct18



Location	Event name	Main sponsors
2018		
Taipei, Taiwan 14-17 October	Innovative Low Carbon and Green Buildings in Subtropical areas www.2018ilcgb.tw	AIT, TGBC, TISBE, WGBC National U. of Science & Technology
Eindhoven, Netherlands 5-7 November	Retrofit Europe www.retrofit-Europe-2018.nl	EU H2020 MORE-Connect, Huygen Advisors, SBS Centre, Zuyd University, WEBO, BJW, Tallinn, Prague, Guimaraes universities
2019		
Brussels, Belgium 5-7 February	BAMB - Buildings as Materials Banks https://www.bamb2020.eu/post/bamb-final-event/	University of Minho + EU Project BAMB - Buildings As Material Banks
Valetta, Malta 11-12 April	Sustainable Construction & Resilience Engineering in Euro Med www.sbe19malta.org	SBE Malta, Ministry for Sustainable Development, Uni. of Malta, Building Industry Consultative Council, Malta College Arts, S&T
Scilla, Calabria 16-17 May	Policies for Sustainable Built Environment <i>Website under development</i>	Regione Calabria and iiSBE Italia
Helsinki, FI 22-24 May	Clean Planet, Happy People & Shared Prosperity https://www.ril.fi/en/events/sbe-2019.html	Metropolia, VTT, Aalto Uni, Tampere Uni, SITRA, Ministry of Environment, GBC Finland
Seoul, Korea 29-31 May	Smart Building and Neighborhoods for Sustainability <i>Website under development</i>	SUSB Center at Hanyang University, DuraBI Center at Hanyang University
Prague, CZ 2-4 July	Central Europe Towards Sustainable Building www.http://cesb.cz	iiSBE CZ, Ministry of Environment, CZ GBC, EEB CZ, Centrum Passive House Centre
Tokyo, Japan 6-7 August	Built Environment in an Era of Climate Change http://sbe19tokyo.org/	Arch. Institute of Japan, Engineering Academy of Japan, Institute for Bldg. Env. & En. Conserv., Uni Tokyo, Waseda Uni., IGES
Milano, Italy 3-6 September	Resilient Built Environment for Sustainable Mediterranean Countries www.sbe19.polimi.it	PoliMi Milano, iiSBE Italia plus many orgs
Graz, Austria 11-14 September	SBE19 Graz sbe19.tugraz.at	ÖGNI, ÖGNB, BMVIT, klima aktiv, universities, WKO
Cardiff, UK 24-25 September	Towards SBE; from Policy to Practice http://sbe19.wales	Cynnal Cymru, Cardiff Uni., Universities Energy Research Institute
Temuco, Chile 16-18 October	SBE: urban planning, global problems, local policies <i>Website under development</i>	Uni Catolica de Temuco, Camara Chiliena de la Construccion, Agencia Cambio Climatico, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Ministerio de Energia
Thessaloniki, Greece 23-25 October	Sustainability in the built environment for Climate Change mitigation http://sbe19-thessaloniki.gr/	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Technical Chamber of Greece
Sydney, Australia 26-28 November	To come <i>Website under development</i>	UNSW, Ministries
2020		
Gothenburg, Sweden 9-11 June	<i>Beyond 2020</i> https://beyond2020.se/about-beyond-2020 Facebook: Beyobd 2020 Gothenburg Twitter: Beyobd 2020 Gothenburg	Chalmers University, RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

About iiSBE, the International Initiative for a Sustainable Built Environment

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. We have active Chapters in Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Italy, Portugal and Taiwan.

Our specific objectives include the following:

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

Our most important activity is networking; helping specialists and generalists to get to know each others' abilities and needs. This occurs formally through our meetings and newsletter, and informally through every-day e-mails.

Current officers include:

President	Luis Braganca	braganca@civil.uminho.pt
First VP:	Teresa Coady	tcoady@outlook.com
Treasurer:	Bob Bach	bbach@energyprofiles.com
Secretary:	Jean Cinq Mars	j5m@videotron.ca
Executive Director:	Nils Larsson	larsson@iisbe.org

Our membership year runs from November 1 to October 31. Our current membership rates are:

One year: \$80 CAD

Two years \$140 CAD

Deduct 50% if you live in a developing country

If you wish to join, contact Nils Larsson at <larsson@iisbe.org> and you will be sent a PayPal invoice.

iiSBE is registered in Canada as a non-profit organization, no. 892685918 RT0001