GREEN BUILDING FORUM 2026

Wednesday 18 November 2026

Dockside, Cockle Bay Wharf, Sydney

MORNING PROGRAM

8:15am	**Arrival and networking**
8:55am	**Opening remarks from the Chair** ***Taryn Cornell*** *- Senior Manager, Strategy and Development,* ***Green Building Council of Australia***
9:00am	**Welcome to Country** **Uncle Michael West**
9.10am	**Icebreaker – An informal session to build your network**
9:15am	**GBCA Update** ***Davina Rooney*** *- CEO,* ***Green Building Council of Australia***
9.35am	**Panel: Driving circularity outcomes through procurement, design and materials** Discussion points: • Driving circularity outcomes through better project collaboration • Unlocking circular procurement and specification pathways • The role of products and materials in enabling circular outcomes • Scaling innovation to deliver measurable impact ***Fairouz Ghanem*** *- Senior Sustainability Consultant – Sustainable Futures,* ***Lendlease*** ***Aidan Mullan -*** *Sustainability Manager,* ***Interface Australia and New Zealand*** ***Yann Frampton –*** *Senior Associate Architect****, Hassell*** ***Davina Rooney*** *- CEO,* ***Green Building Council of Australia***
10:10am	**Green Star Case study: UNSW CBD Campus** Achieving a 5-Star Green Star rating, the UNSW CBD Campus sets a new benchmark for sustainable learning environments. Hear how the team overcame complex delivery challenges to create a flexible, technology-enabled campus that blends circular design principles, innovative learning spaces and outstanding environmental performance. ***Melissa Nouel*** *- Built Environment Sustainability Manager,* ***UNSW*** ***Nathan Humphries*** *– Principal,* ***DesignInc Sydney***
10:40am	**Morning tea**
11:20am	**In Conversation – Unpacking the upcoming changes in upfront carbon.** This session will address upcoming changes for the built environment in upfront carbon and the reduction strategies that create the most impact. ***Jorge Chapa –*** *Chief Impact Officer****, Green Building Council of Australia*** ***Carlos Flores –*** *Director****, NABERS***

11:45am **Design for disassembly and reuse - turning today's buildings into tomorrow's material banks**

Deepak Chopra - *National Sales Director****, Milliken***

Alexis Kusinski - *Director,* ***MKDC Workspace Designers***

12:05pm **Panel - Driving Carbon Reduction: Innovation, Initiatives and Smarter Material Choices**

This panel will explore how the built environment can drive carbon reductions through innovation, supply chain engagement and smarter material choices.

Discuss points

- Turning carbon reduction goals into measurable outcomes through supply chain engagement and collaboration.
- Exploring how innovation across manufacturing, design and delivery is reducing embodied carbon.
- How ratings, benchmarking and performance data can help organisations identify, prioritise and track carbon reduction opportunities.
- Which policies, frameworks and reporting requirements are making the biggest impact?
- Navigating the trade-offs between carbon, cost, availability, performance and constructability

Natalya Partington *- Senior Associate Carbon Planner,* ***Slattery***

Joanne Andrade - *National Sustainability Lead****, Cox Architecture***

Effie Chew - *Head of Environmental and Sustainability****, KONE APAC, Middle East and Africa***

Daniel Lia – *Senior Sustainability Manager, Carbon Planning and Construction****, Mirvac***

Emily Chung – *Manager, Future Focus****, GBCA***

12:40pm **Green Star Update**

Elham Monavari - *Head of Green Star Strategic Delivery,* ***Green Building Council of Australia***

1:10pm **Lunch**

BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

2:00pm **STRATEGY WORKSHOP**
The industry roadmap to 2035: Moving from ideas to action

How do we build the future we want?

The Green Building Council of Australia has set bold commitment targets for 2035. The four impact areas of industry focus include reducing upfront carbon by 60%, accelerating the circularity rate by 15%, achieving a measurable biodiversity net gain, and creating healthier, more resilient places for people and communities

*Now the challenge is turning that ambition into action. This interactive session will seek to identify the barriers, opportunities and practical steps needed to deliver these outcomes at scale. This is the time to collaborate and shape an industry-led roadmap for achieving the GBCA's 2035 commitments and answer one critical question****: what must we start doing today to create the sustainable built environment we want by 2035?***

Jorge Chapa – *Chief Impact Officer,* ***GBCA***

GREEN STAR WORKSHOP
Overcoming barriers on a tricky Green Star project

This interactive workshop will explore how to approach complex and unconventional Green Star projects, unpack credit intent, and identify pathways when standard compliance isn't possible. The session will introduce GSAPs (experienced and new) to key stakeholders in a Green Star project, deliver an overview of the certification process and will provide you greater confidence in developing robust submissions and Technical Questions.

Elham Monavari *- Head of Green Star Strategic Delivery,* ***GBCA***
Emma Bezzina *- Green Star Systems Manager,* ***GBCA***
Sebastian Hacker *- Assistant Delivery Manager,* ***GBCA***

With Assessors:
Digby Hall *– Technical Director - Sustainability Lead, NSW Buildings & Places,* ***Aecom***

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

3:30pm	**Afternoon tea**
4:00pm	**Green Star Case Study: Newcastle Airport Terminal** As Australia's first airport terminal to achieve a 5 Star Green Star Buildings As Built certification, the Newcastle Airport Terminal Expansion set a new benchmark for sustainable aviation infrastructure. This session will explore the technical and operational challenges of delivering ambitious sustainability outcomes within a complex airport environment, and the lessons learned in balancing performance, resilience and passenger experience ***Matt Williams*** *- National Leader, Sustainability,* ***LCI Consultants***
4.30pm	**Green Star Case study: Sydney Fish Markets** The new Sydney Fish Market showcases how innovative design and sustainability can be integrated at scale. This session will explore the delivery of the project's striking wave-inspired mass timber roof, one of the largest and most complex timber roof structures constructed in Australia. The session will also examine how the extensive use of renewable timber, alongside initiatives to improve energy efficiency, reduce embodied carbon and enhance environmental performance, contributed to the project's ambitious sustainability objectives and pursuit of a 5-Star Green Star rating. ***Owen Grace*** *- Sustainability Manager,* ***Multiplex***
5:00pm	**Closing remarks**
5:10pm- 6:15pm	**Networking drinks reception**