

Introduction to the SBE Conference Series

The Sustainable Built Environment (SBE) series of conferences began in 2000, operates on a three-year cycle and now includes five international organizations as co-owners:

- *International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction* (CIB, www.cibworld.nl)
- *International Initiative for a Sustainable Built Environment* (iiSBE, www.iisbe.org)
- *Division of Technology, Industry and Economics* (DTIE) of the *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP-SBCI, Sustainable Building and Climate Initiative, www.unep.org/sbci/)
- *International Federation of Consulting Engineers*, www.fidic.org
- *Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction*, Global ABC, www.gabc.org

The result of this continuous period of activity has been the establishment of a series of conferences, held on a three-year cycle. The series is held on held on a three-year cycle, with planning and preparation in year 1, national/regional conferences held in year 2 and a single global event held in year 3.

The series features a core emphasis on peer-reviewed and indexed papers, presentations of regional policy papers and displays of assessed projects. The series also provides fast-track inclusion of the best technical papers from national or regional conferences into the global event, and registration policies designed to encourage the attendance of students and delegates from developing countries.

The SBE conference series is now recognized as the pre-eminent English-language international conference series on sustainable building and construction.

The most recent conference cycle in 2016 included 20 national / regional events and the next global event is the World SBE2017 Conference, to be held in Hong Kong 5-7 June 2017.

In all of these conferences, one or more local research-based organizations have taken financial and organizational responsibility while iiSBE, CIB, UNEP-SBCI, FIDIC and Global ABC as the international series owners, have given organizational advice and have used their networks to help ensure a large multi-disciplinary audience for the events.

The increasingly high reputation of the series has resulted in some research groups holding events concurrently with SBE conferences thereby maximizing the benefit for delegates. In short, the SBE-series of conferences provides delegates with an unparalleled view into regional and international sustainable building issues every three years, while providing host organizations with increased visibility and effectiveness in their own regions.

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