



# KENYA GREEN BUILDING SOCIETY

Build Green Save Kenya

P.O. Box 50865 – 00100

Nairobi, Kenya

Date: Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020,

## PART I

### STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY KGBS

#### To our stakeholders:

Kenya Green Building Society-KGBS, is pleased to continue its support to the ten (10) principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption. With this commitment, we express our intent to advance these principles within our sphere of influence, and will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> (second) COE – Communication on Engagement and it gives an overview of the activities and initiatives KGBS has taken since COE in order to support and promote the UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT (UNGC) and its Principles. We commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary platforms of communication and engagement.

Yours Sincerely,

**John Kalungi Kabuye**  
Chief Executive Officer

## II. Description of Actions

The Kenya Green Building Society (KGBS) is an independent, non-profit, non-political society formed to lead the transformation of the Kenya's built environment towards environmental sustainability. We aim to ensure that all buildings are designed, built and operated in an environmentally sustainable way allowing Kenyans to live and work in healthy, resilient and productive environments.

KGBS is one of 90 global network members of the World Green Building Council alongside Australia, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and South Africa. KGBS aims to green the built environment in Kenya by focusing on the following areas:

- **Advocacy and awareness creation**

Advocacy and awareness creation of the benefits of green building. Support government to lead by example, to legislate and to facilitate the adoption of green building practices. Recognize and reward industry leaders who achieve green building excellence. We have used USGBC's LEED, IFC EDGE (Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiency) and Green Star Africa-Kenya Rating Tools to establish a common language and minimum best practice standards of measurement for green buildings.

- **Education and Training**

Annual KGBS Green Building conventions- provides access to the latest innovations and trends delivered by international and local thought leaders. Green Star Africa-Kenya Accredited Professional Courses in New Buildings, Existing Building Performance, Commercial Interiors and Project Certification workshops.

- **Innovation**

Innovation is fueling sustainability and KGBS has been at the forefront of encouraging innovations within the built environment. From encouraging innovations in materials and technology that will continue to drive the built environment towards sustainability. For instance, KGBS has adopted new technology, ARC, to measure, score and improve sustainability in buildings and spaces.

## Activities;

### **Sustainability Speaking engagements**

KGBS representatives have been involved in more than 320 hours of green building and sustainability speaking engagements to audiences in excess of 50,000 people cumulatively over the period of 3 years at events organized by KGBS and others organized by other organizations.

### **KGBS at the World Green Building Congress**

KGBS has been involved in the World Green Building Congress 2017, 2018 and 2019. These events brought together the international community from the green building sectors to discuss the built environment and how it can actively contribute to sustainable living and to mainstream ambitions of the WGBC's Advance Net Zero global initiative.

### **KGBS at the Climate Action 2019, New York**

KGBS Chairperson was among the Kenya representatives at the Climate Action Summit in New York in September 2019. Kenya was among the cohort signatories to the Zero Carbon Buildings initiative launched at the Climate Action Summit. KGBS is actively involved in grounding the initiative locally in Kenya.

## **KGBS Youth Chapter Launch**

KGBS launched the KGBS-Youth chapter to create a platform of engaging the youth in climate action through green building, equity, climate protection and resilience. Majority of the youth live in cities and relate well with the dynamics and challenges of cities.

## **Green Building Certification systems**

KGBS has continued to peer review and provide technical advisory notes for green building rating tools used in Kenya. These are EDGE tool developed by IFC and now LEED for Cities and LEED for communities. Green Star Africa Existing Buildings performance.

## **Kenya Government Big 4 Affordable Housing Agenda**

KGBS has engaged the government to ensure the Governments Big 4 Affordable Housing agenda delivers sustainable green homes. The Government intends to deliver 500,000 housing units in 5 years. KGBS is working with the State Departments of Housing, Urban Development and Public Works to ensure green choices are made.

## **KGBS Programs**

- **Green Apple Day of Service**

The Green Apple Day of Service by the Centre for Green Schools which is marked through several green initiatives like tree planting, recycling and other fun practical learnings has been marked since 2012. The Kenya Green Building Society recently collaborated with other businesses and organizations to help improve the conditions of schools around Kenya in honor of The Green Apple Day of Service. The focus of the Centre for Green Schools is to promote sustainable schools that practice, teach and support environmentally responsible choices by advocating and ensuring schools demonstrate commitment to the environment. Kenya Green Building Society and WEB Limited partnered with like-minded stakeholders and corporate organizations in mobilizing resources and volunteers. We engaged students, teachers, parents, elected officials, universities, organizations, companies to take action through education and outreach, community events, advocacy campaigns and more, for better school buildings, improved facilities, cost saving practices and improved knowledge on how to maintain the environment.

- **Better places for people**

This is a World Green Building Council global program aimed at ensuring that all buildings and spaces advance health and wellness of the people. Each year there's a different theme and this year KGBS has embarked on the better places for people's plant-a-sensor campaign.

- **Advancing Net Zero buildings**

KGBS launched the Advancing Net Zero campaign in Kenya in 2019. This is a global program that is running in complimentary to the Zero Carbon Buildings (ZCB) initiative. This program targets Zero Carbon new buildings by 2030 and existing buildings by 2050.

- **Advanced Building Challenge initiative**

The program is powered by ARC, a global first-of-its kind scoring methodology that uses data to help measure, score and inspire improvement in sustainability performance across key performance areas of energy, water, waste, transportation and human experience. KGBS is onboarding companies so that sustainability values can be spread and become part of the organization culture.

- **Building Efficiency Accelerator (BEA) program**

KGBS is offering technical assistance consultancy to the counties that have signed up to the BEA program by World Resource Institute locally implemented through KGBS in Kenya. The BEA program aims to assist sub-national governments (Counties in Kenya's case) have a policy in place and

activate projects demonstrating green building standards. In Kenya, County governments of Nairobi City, Nakuru and Kisii signed up to the program that has been running since 2018.

