

Architecture 2030 Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IFC and Architecture 2030 Collaborate on Global Target of Zero Net Carbon Buildings

Washington, DC, August 9, 2017 – IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is partnering with Architecture 2030 to support the international architecture and building community in designing [zero net carbon \(ZNC\)](#) buildings. The collaboration is the result of extensive strategizing between IFC's EDGE green buildings team and Architecture 2030 to work together to share knowledge, align platforms, coordinate training, and jointly promote each other's efforts, paving the way to a more sustainable future.

Architecture 2030 is a prominent think tank working to rapidly transform the global built environment from the major contributor of greenhouse gas emissions to a central part of the solution to the climate crisis. IFC, the largest global development finance institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets, created the EDGE program in response to the need for a measurable solution proving the financial case for building green. EDGE includes a green building certification system with free software.

As part of the partnership with Architecture 2030, the [EDGE software](#) has been enhanced to include carbon reporting, as well as recognition for the procurement of off-site renewable energy and carbon offsets. The objective of this enhancement is to reward property developers with building projects that come as close as possible to carbon neutrality through on-site efficiency strategies, and then add the installation or procurement of renewable energy to achieve ZNC. While the intention of EDGE is to help meet a minimum standard of 20 percent less energy consumption than a typical building, the software can now support buildings targeting ZNC design.

Additionally, Architecture 2030 will connect IFC's EDGE program and platform to its vast network of architects, beginning with training opportunities for local design institutes in China offered in the fall of 2017. Already, 59 major architecture and planning firms in China have committed to designing their buildings and developments to meet low carbon or carbon neutral standards via the China Accord.

Finally, Architecture 2030 has adopted energy consumption baselines from the EDGE software for those projects seeking to meet the 2030 Challenge outside of the U.S. and Canada. IFC's EDGE baselines are sophisticated sets of city-based climate and cost data, consumption patterns, and algorithms for a variety of building types in 131 countries. This announcement serves to support the growing number of international project owners striving to meet the 2030 Challenge targets, including those from firms participating in [the American Institute of Architects' 2030 Commitment](#). The AIA also supports the use of EDGE baselines by encouraging signatories of the 2030 Commitment to use the EDGE software when benchmarking international projects. In the near future, Architecture 2030 will incorporate the EDGE baselines into its [Zero Tool](#), which is used by architects to estimate building fossil fuel energy consumption baselines and targets.

“With the anticipated and unprecedented growth of the building sector in China, India, and other developing countries, it is essential that designers have the capability to measure the energy and emissions impacts of their projects and immediately target ZNC as a viable design strategy,” said Edward Mazria, CEO and Founder of Architecture 2030. “EDGE provides locally relevant baselines for the international design community, and its inclusion of onsite and offsite renewable energy provides a critical pathway for zero net carbon buildings in rapidly urbanizing areas.”

“The property sector is becoming smarter about the competitive advantages of designing buildings that express an elevated commitment to environmental stewardship,” said Prashant Kapoor, IFC's Principal Green Building Specialist and the entrepreneur behind EDGE. “While EDGE is intended to be inclusive in helping all architects to reach a minimum standard of green, our collaboration with Architecture 2030 will address the market for those performers who aspire to the highest level of design.”

About IFC

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with more than 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our capital, expertise, and influence to create markets and opportunities in the toughest areas of the world. In FY16, we delivered a record \$19 billion in long-term financing for developing countries, leveraging the power of the private sector to help end poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit www.ifc.org

About EDGE

An innovation of IFC, [EDGE](#) helps property developers to build and brand green in a fast, easy and affordable way. EDGE is supported by free software that encourages solutions to reduce energy, water and the energy used to make building materials by at least 20 percent, which is the standard for EDGE certification. The program has been generously supported by the following donors: Austria, Canada, Denmark, ESMAP, EU, Finland, GEF, Hungary, Japan and Switzerland.

About Architecture 2030

Architecture 2030 is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit research organization with the mission of rapidly transforming the global built environment from the major contributor of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to a central part of the solution to the climate and energy crises. Architecture 2030 pursues two primary objectives:

- to achieve the dramatic reduction in global fossil fuel consumption and GHG emissions of the built environment by changing the way cities, communities, infrastructure, and buildings are operated, planned, designed and constructed and;
- to advance the regional development of just and sustainable, resilient, carbon-neutral built environments that can manage the impacts of climate change, protect and enhance natural

resources and wildlife habitats, provide clean air and water, generate local low-cost renewable energy and advance more livable buildings and communities.

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