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Ali Sayigh Antonella Trombadore Editors

The Importance of Greenery in Sustainable Buildings







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- Presents leading-edge research in green building, sustainable architecture, and renewable energy
- Covers a broad range of global approaches to the use of greenery in sustainable building design
- Contains case studies and examples to enhance practical application of subjects presented

This book covers the important aspects of greenery in buildings, both in the landscape and within buildings, examining how greenery improves comfort and appeal. In sustainable buildings. The book is part of the World Renewable Energy Network's drive to encourage architects and builders to use greenery as much as possible in their design to reduce energy consumption and provide a pleasant appearance and pleasing aspect to their buildings. It shows and demonstrates how widespread the use of greenery is in buildings, and the books 17 chapters were chosen from 12 different countries representing a truly global look at the use and benefit of using greenery in buildings. This book is aimed at architects, building construction authorities, urban planners, and policymakers to encourage the use of greenery in their future buildings and explain why it is important to do so.

Innovative Renewable Energy

Series Editor

Ali Sayigh, World Renewable Energy Congress, Brighton, UK

The primary objective of this book series is to highlight the best-implemented worldwide policies, projects and research dealing with renewable energy and the environment. The books are developed in partnership with the World Renewable Energy Network (WREN). WREN is one of the most effective organizations in supporting and enhancing the utilisation and implementation of renewable energy sources that are both environmentally safe and economically sustainable. Contributors to books in this series come from a worldwide network of agencies, laboratories, institutions, companies and individuals, all working together towards an international diffusion of renewable energy technologies and applications. With contributions from most countries in the world, books in this series promote the communication and technical education of scientists, engineers, technicians and managers in this field and address the energy needs of both developing and developed countries.

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Ali Sayigh • Antonella Trombadore Editors

The Importance of Greenery in Sustainable Buildings



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Introduction

Greenery is as important to buildings as its walls are because it requires natural lighting and gives beauty to naked walls and yards. Greenery reduces energy consumption in buildings. Moreover, shrubs, plants, and green grass make the inhabitants cheerful and indirectly reduce stress. Greenery acts as an absorbent of toxins and a provider of oxygen.

The old saying in the Middle East is "The three most beautiful things in life are: Water, Greenery and a Beautiful Face."

Whenever architects and builders have integrated greenery within the facades of their buildings or in the various spaces or on the roofs, plants have contributed to the physical and mental well-being making indoor spaces healthier.

This book is part of the World Renewable Energy Network's drive to encourage architects and builders to use greenery as much as possible in their design to reduce energy consumption and provide a pleasant appearance and pleasing aspect to their buildings. It shows and demonstrates how widespread the use of greenery is in buildings. The 12 chapters were chosen from 12 different countries representing the use and benefit of using greenery in buildings.

Chapter 2 consists of two parts: Part I deals with green facades and vertical walls while Part II shows how urban farming can create a circular economy and benefits to the occupants based on their experience in Italy.

Chapter 3 provides useful guidelines for the use of greenery in the Municipality of Bahrain, while Chap. 4 describes the thermal aspects of green walls in reducing energy consumption in buildings of Bahrain.

Chapter 5 to delves into vernacular architecture of courtyard housing with greenery considering it as a natural resource specifically in hot arid climates such as that of Iran where it provides cooling.

Chapter 6 has been written by three eminent architects, two from Mexico and one from Spain, outlining the importance of vegetation in buildings.

Although most chapters are related to a hot arid climate where cooling is a priority, Chap. 7 demonstrates the use of greenery to create a micro-cool climate in buildings. Professor Aboulnaga in Chap. 8 describes the importance of urban farming in improving lifestyle, viability, and buildings in the cities. The chapter mostly describes the Egyptian scenario.

Chapter 9 discusses the use of green-roof housing design and its importance.

Chapter 10 again outlines the complementarity between vernacular and urban green architecture and patios in achieving sustainable contemporary architecture in Argentina.

Professor El Adli and his co-author concentrate on an integrated approach to planning sustainable green cities in Egypt.

Professor Scudo and his two associates, in Chap. 12, write about multiscale greening of buildings with a discussion on tradition and innovation of the built environment.

Professor Battisti in Chap. 13 envisages a green dream in regenerating cities through nature. In Chap. 14 the author is looking forward to the day when photosynthesis powers buildings.

Professor Zeiler writes, in Chap. 15, about the new development in the Netherlands towards the implementation of greenery in sustainable buildings in the country.

Chapter 16 is devoted to the importance and advantages of using greenbelts in a major complex such as the International Islamic University in Malaysia.

Finally Chap. 17 addresses the importance of using trees and shrubs in the Jordanian environment.

Greenery makes buildings alive instead of being a lump of dead construction of steel, concrete, and glass. The more greenery is introduced in buildings the more they become attractive, healthier, and alive.

This book is aimed at all architects, building construction authorities, planners, and policymakers to encourage the use of greenery in their future buildings and explain why it is important to do so.

Brighton, UK

Ali Sayigh

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