

# RICS sustainability report 2025

The built environment drives 40% of global carbon emissions. We asked 3,500 RICS members in 36 countries about how sustainability is evolving.

## Sustainable buildings

### What's blocking investment in sustainable buildings?

- 1 Initial costs
- 2 Lack of ROI evidence
- 3 Lack of investor awareness or client demand

### What are investors and occupiers looking for in sustainable buildings?

**86%** say green building certification is important for investors

**94%** say occupiers prioritise indoor environmental quality

### Growth in demand for green buildings slows except in MEA as per the RICS Sustainable Building index (SBI)



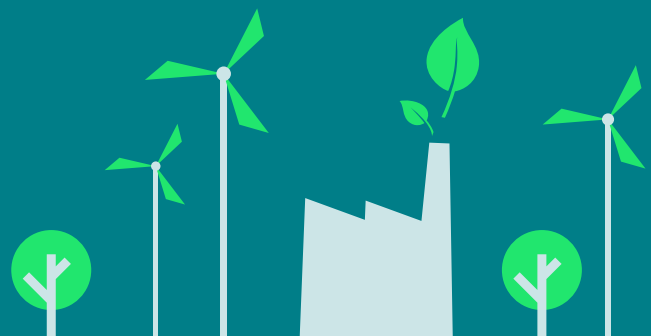
## Biodiversity

### Biodiversity protection gains urgency

More than

**60%**

agree the construction sector needs to make protecting biodiversity and the natural environment a critical issue



## Carbon emissions in construction

### Lack of progress in measuring carbon emissions

**46%** of construction professionals don't measure carbon across projects...



...compared to **34%** in 2024

**30%** point towards insufficient knowledge and skills to reduce embodied carbon emissions



Adoption of sustainability practices remain varied



### Gaining traction

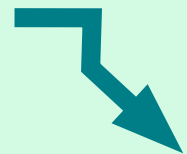
**40%**

track waste reduction and data-sharing regularly

### Lagging

**60%**

report carbon calculations and climate resilience assessments in less than half of projects or not at all



### What's next?

RICS recommends high-level activities that would promote decarbonisation and carbon assessment reporting, drive investments in green buildings and scale up biodiversity measures by enhancing government policy.

Learn more in our report at  
[www.rics.org/sustainability](https://www.rics.org/sustainability)

