

## **What is Green Building?**

Green Building is a construction idea, which was developed with the main idea of sustainability. This is associated with a high resource efficiency in the segment of energy, water and materials to reduce negative impacts on the human healthiness and also on our climate and natural environment. The goal is to improve our quality of life and remain a livable and intact environment to the future generations.

The idea is strongly related with the three columns of sustainability: environmental benefits, economic benefits and socio-cultural benefits.

Therefore, these components must be always applied about all phases of the life cycle of a building.

But why is it so important, that this main idea will be realized in the future?

The greatest problems are, first, too much energy usage and therefore too much CO<sub>2</sub> emission. The consumption by buildings is 40 percent of the total energy usage. So, if you minimize the high emission, the first step is to optimize the pollution of the environment. Another problem is the behavior of our society associated with the high production of waste. In that context, the construction field "materials" is very important for the implementation of the sustainable concept. Due to the new sustainable developments in the range of construction materials, you can minimize waste. One idea for example is, that materials are biodegradable. Further you can reuse construction materials. These are two ways, to make the green footprint better and to minimize the pollution. In the long term this will improve the healthiness of the next generations and the environment.

But in the critical consideration it needs more time for the implementation. In fact, there are already a few Green Buildings, but the society and construction industry have to increase their engagement to reach a sustainable future. An instrument to reach that goal could be the increase of certified Green Buildings.

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