

[View this email in your browser](#)



## Holiday Giving Campaign Launching Soon!

### **Learn about our Holiday Giving cause and donate in December!**

Climate change is one of the biggest threats facing humanity and it has massive implications for our livelihoods. Scientists recommend limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degrees but in order to meet that threshold, the world must cut emissions by 45% over the next 11 years according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Buildings are responsible for about 40% of our carbon emissions, which means that efforts to make our built environment more sustainable need to be a big part of the solution. For this reason, it is critical that individuals, cities and communities remain committed to taking action.

### **What is VIBE and Why was it created?**

The Verdani Institute for The Built Environment (VIBE) is a non-profit organization, founded by our parent company, Verdani Partners. Verdani is a separate sustainability consulting firm that is focused on advancing sustainability in the built environment. Beyond the work Verdani is doing for clients, by creating VIBE, we wanted to do our part to make a positive impact and help fight climate change. When the current administration decided to withdraw from the Paris Agreement we became concerned with the lack of federal action on environmental issues which motivated us to create VIBE. Through VIBE we plan to provide resources for green building and resilience practices, education and collaboration on a global scale.

---

## Watch our Video

---



## How VIBE is Making a Difference

Our non-profit organization called Verdani Institute for the Built Environment (VIBE), prioritizes four key areas of focus to fight climate change: **Sustainable Properties, Resilience and Risk Management, Education and Research, and Collaboration.**

### **With your generous donations we will:**

- Hire an executive director to run the organization and manage our programs
- Publish a children's book about Climate Heroes and our first Sustainable Real Estate Textbook
- Invest in our initial programs that include education, collaboration, resiliency and tenant engagement

### **Your world-saving donations will help to:**

- Educate and inspire thousands of people
- Catalyze action for fighting climate change
- Create a thriving and more resilient planet for future generations

**Please donate to our fundraising campaign this holiday season to make a difference for a more sustainable, resilient and thriving future!**

[Learn More About VIBE](#)

---

**VIBE** VERDANI INSTITUTE FOR  
THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

---

## Focus Areas

- Sustainable Properties
  - Resilience & Risk Management
  - Education & Research
  - Collaboration
- 



## Sustainable Properties

### Tenant Engagement Recognition Awards Program

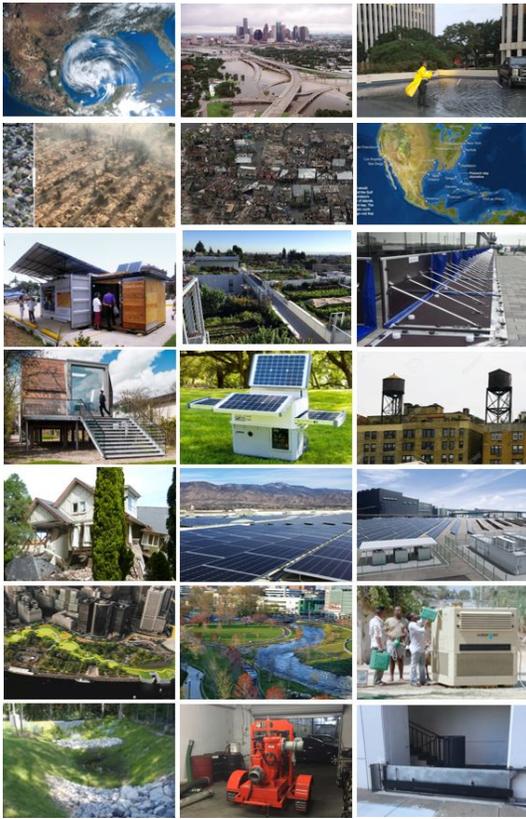
Tenants are responsible for 60-70% of a building's energy consumption. In order to reduce resource consumption and lower operating expenses, it is crucial to gain the participation of tenants in sustainable behavior. Tenants will be scored on the implementation of sustainability practices in the following categories:

- Alternative Transportation
- Energy Smart Practices
- Water Smart Practices
- Waste Smart Practices
- Sustainable Procurement
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Health and Wellbeing
- Resilience and Emergency Management Strategies
- Training and Education in Sustainability and Climate Action
- Innovation

Participants receive a ranking from 1 to 5 stars based on the points earned for each initiative. The highest-ranking tenants will receive national recognition for their efforts.

---

## Resilience & Risk Management



## Climate Risks and Resilience Website & Mobile App

The app will create a simple way to determine building and property climate risks associated to a particular location, enabling increased resiliency and better preparedness for impending disasters. It will also be designed as a platform to create ongoing awareness and collaboration on climate related issues. The app will provide specific measures to improve building resilience to regional risks identified and will have the ability to send notifications and reminders. We also hope to leverage crowdsourcing tools so local communities can communicate with one another to increase their survivability when facing imminent climate disasters.

---

## Education

Sustainability education is one of our highest priorities. We are planning for VIBE to become a key information resource for sustainability in the built environment for students, professionals and schools around the world. We believe that our education initiatives can scale the understanding of sustainability issues and help drive immediate action on climate change. All the funds from the books and lectures will be used to help us achieve our non-profit goals. Our initial projects include:

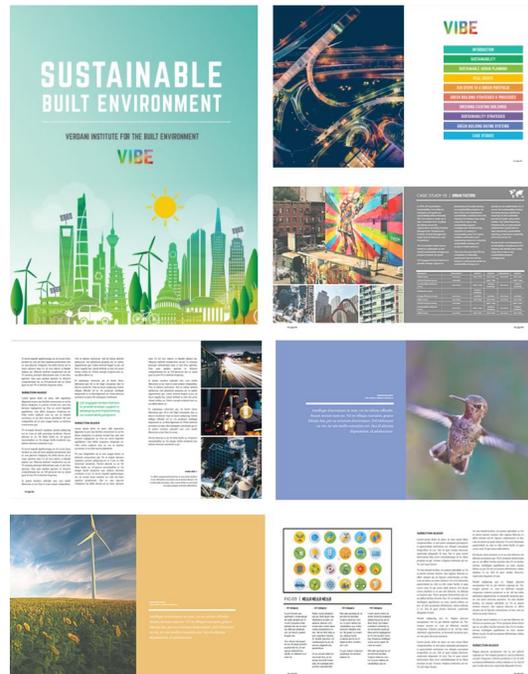
- **Sustainable Real Estate Textbook**
- **Climate Heroes Children's Book**
- **Online Sustainability in the Built Environment Course**

---

## Sustainable Real Estate Textbook

We have been working with over 70 contributors, including many global sustainability experts, to crowdsource curated content for a 500 page educational textbook about sustainability in the built environment. The book includes eight

chapters that cover key topics from urban planning to green building certifications, sustainable real estate management and building resilience. We also plan to create a coordinated online course that uses the book as a main curriculum resource. Each chapter will have an online lecture that explains and tests users on its content. We hope to translate the content into many languages and make a core sustainability course for students and professionals around the world.



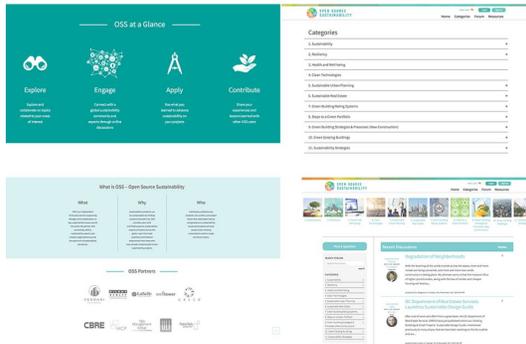
## Climate Heroes Children's Book

Verdani's founder started working on this book with her children in 2016. While trying to explain climate change to them, she realized the need for a book to help kids understand what was happening to the environment around them. In the story, the kids realize that the planet was getting sick. They saw that adults were not taking action and started taking matters into their own hands. The kids are transformed into Climate Heroes and join forces with other kids around the world to save their planet. The book teaches about scientific concepts around climate change and the everyday actions we can take to fight it. It also tells stories of young people from all over the world that are making a positive impact. Once released, the book will be shared through a social media campaign with the hashtag **#ClimateHeroes** to inspire people on a global scale to mobilize and act to save the planet.





Engage a global community of experts to drive sustainability in the built environment through conversations, projects, and collaboration.



## Collaboration

As part of our goal to create innovative tools and platforms to facilitate global collaboration on key sustainability topics, projects, and issues, we have created an online **Open Source Sustainability (OSS) Forum** for research and sustainability projects. The forum is an independent third-party tool for supporting collaboration and information sharing on key sustainability issues so people from different parts of the world can share information, lessons learned and best practices and reduce the need to reinvent the wheel so we can make progress around sustainability initiatives much faster. A special thank you to [Verdani Partners](#) and [Kilroy Realty](#) for funding the first phase of the OSS project.

***Our mission** is to position the global building sector as a positive force for sustainable development through green building and resilience practices, education and collaboration.*

***Our Vision** is for a low carbon, healthy, and more resilient built environment.*

## Make a Difference

Please keep an eye out for holiday giving opportunities as our fundraising campaign launches! In the meantime, we invite you to learn more about VIBE and the exciting initiatives we have underway to help fight climate change!

## Learn More about VIBE



*Copyright © 2019 Verdani Institute for the Built Environment, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

