

design sustainability

by Victor Chen, images courtesy of Embassy of Switzerland in Singapore In May 2022, the Embassy of Switzerland in Singapore, together with Swiss and local partners, launched +Pavilion, an installation showcasing innovative and sustainable designs, building materials, and solutions.

The project highlighted the urgency to reduce the carbon footprint of the built environment – a part of Singapore's Green Plan 2030 – and how industry players can get involved. It demonstrated what can be achieved if stakeholders within and outside the built environment ecosystem worked together towards sustainability.

The built environment across the globe is

responsible for 39 per cent of global carbon emissions, of which 11 per cent is embodied carbon and the remaining 28 per cent is from building operations.

Embodied carbon is the carbon released during the manufacturing, transportation, and construction phases of a building. This means that 11 per cent of global carbon emissions are not recoupable once buildings are constructed, according to a World Green Building Council Report.

Designing sustainable buildings requires more efficient construction methods, and the prioritisation of the reusability and the durability of buildings and building materials.

+Pavilion highlighted this through modular design and construction with pre-fabricated, pre-assembled modules, and 'fit-for-purpose' services.

The partners in the said project include Affordable Abodes, Deloitte Singapore, EHL Campus (Singapore), Haring Timber Technology, Hilti, Nespresso, Studio SKLIM, UBS, Vitra, and the Embassy of Switzerland in Singapore.

In August, +Pavilion was transferred to the EHL Campus (Singapore), its permanent home, where it is being used for workshops and education around sustainability in the built environment.

