

Yasmeen Alkandari

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Speaker Biography:

Yasmeen Alkandari is the Co-founder and CEO of SEEDS Co., the first Kuwaiti company dedicated solely to green building and sustainability services. Her pioneering work with SEEDS Co. is transforming the built environment in Kuwait, setting new standards for sustainability. With major clients including Limak Insaat Kuwait, Kuwait Cement Company, Tabuk Cement in the heart of NEOM Saudi Arabia, and National Industries Company, SEEDS Co. is at the forefront of sustainable development in the region.

Workshop Title: Green Buildings 101

Abstract:

The “Green Building 101” workshop offers a comprehensive introduction to the principles of green building design and construction. This session will explore the fundamental differences between green buildings and traditional buildings, highlighting the environmental, economic, and health benefits associated with sustainable construction practices.

Participants will gain insights into the core principles of green buildings, including energy efficiency, water conservation, indoor environmental quality, sustainable materials, and site sustainability. By understanding these key components, attendees will be equipped to recognize and implement green building strategies in various types of construction projects, ranging from residential and commercial to institutional and industrial buildings.

The workshop will also provide an overview of major green building rating systems that are shaping the industry today. We will delve into the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) system, which offers a framework for healthy, highly efficient, and cost-saving green buildings. Attendees will learn about the Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies (EDGE) certification, which focuses on making buildings more resource-efficient in emerging markets. The Global Sustainability Assessment System (GSAS) will be introduced, showcasing its approach to sustainability in the Middle East. Additionally, the WELL Building Standard, which emphasizes the health and well-being of building occupants, will be discussed.

This workshop is designed for professionals from all sectors of the building industry, including architects, engineers, contractors, developers, and facility managers, as well as anyone interested in understanding the basics of green building practices and how buildings work in general. By the end of the session, participants will have a foundational understanding of green building principles and be prepared to incorporate sustainable practices into their projects, contributing to a more sustainable built environment.