



BEC E-NEWSLETTER

Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment

PATHWAY TO ZERO WASTE

BEC's Ir C.F. Leung, Director of Operations, shares his insights on waste management and introduces related work by BEC.

Facing the challenge of a high and rising level of waste disposal, it is vital for the entire community to join up and reduce waste. With the generous support from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the BEC Jockey Club Intelligent Resource Management Programme ("IRMP") successfully engaged over 200 local premises and developed a waste performance benchmarking system among these buildings. By deploying smart technologies on waste and recyclable data collection and monitoring, building management agents of the participated premises can monitor their waste reduction progress and benchmark against other buildings of the same type. To influence and drive behavioural change of the building users, participating premises also received BEC's support in enhancing recycling facilities, conducting waste audits, and organising engagement activities to promote waste reduction and clean recycling.

The "plan-do-check-act" approach in waste management can drive continual improvement and is effective in solving problems and managing change. Firstly, understanding the problem source is vital for the formulation of effective waste management solutions. Secondly, continuous waste data collection, monitoring and analysis can help identify points of weakness, reveal waste disposal pattern, and hence support the premise owners or the property management companies to decide on areas for improvement. Subsequently, they can set up waste performance baseline, waste reduction target and action plan, as well as build up comparable database for internal or external benchmarking. Regular benchmarking can also motivate improvement on waste management performance, stimulate discussions and create synergies between relevant parties.

Premises owners or property management companies may



consider conducting regular waste audit for tracking the effectiveness of the waste reduction measures. A waste audit is a process that evaluates and captures the amount and types of waste produced in the premises or by an organisation. It is an effective tool to determine how a building can reduce waste, assess the effectiveness of the current waste management strategies, and identify any need for new measures. To provide useful references for premises or organisations to conduct waste audits on their own, BEC has developed the Waste Audit Methodology Guide which explains the objectives and methodology of waste audit, including the suggested waste categories to be used, necessary tools and manpower for the audit, as well as a sample of waste audit report.

Tenants and building users account for most of the waste generated in buildings. Incorporating and reserving designated areas for recycling facilities during the building design stage can facilitate the practice of waste separation at source and ease the recyclable collection process when the building is in use. Both hardware and manpower support would influence the success of waste reduction. Apart from providing proper recycling facilities, building owners or property management companies should be transparent and communicate the downstream outlets of the recyclables collected from the buildings with building users so as to strengthen their confidence in the proper handling of recyclables, boost participation in clean recycling and eventually help to build a circular economy in Hong Kong.

The Government announced the Waste Blueprint for Hong Kong 2035 in February 2021 which outlines the strategies, goals and measures to tackle the challenge of waste management in the coming decades. The new blueprint advocates for a circular economy in Hong Kong, and sets the medium-term goal to gradually reduce the per capita municipal solid waste (“MSW”) disposal by 40-45% and increase the recovery rate to 55% by implementing MSW charging. BEC stands ready to collaborate and assist the

business sector in developing a holistic and strategic waste management plan for their premises in order to achieve the “Waste Reduction • Resources Circulation • Zero Landfill” vision.

Acknowledgement: A note of gratitude to Ms Sarah Choi of the BEC Environmental Management Team and Ms Doris Chan of the Green Building Team for contributing to this article.

Countryside Conservation – Why it Matters? What is Happening?



We enjoyed a thought-provoking webinar on Hong Kong’s countryside conservation on 27 July. Thanks to Prof Stephen Tang and Mr Mike Kilburn for sharing their valuable insights with all participants.

A few key takeaways:

- The Countryside Conservation Office (CCO) has been improving access, amenities, and sewage/drainage systems for remote countryside areas.
- To increase the interest of the business sector in nature conservation and rural restoration, Hong Kong may consider:
 1. setting up a conservation trust for developers to swap ecologically valuable land with sites with lesser value for development;
 2. developing nature-based carbon sequestration projects.



Target Setting for Long-term Decarbonisation: A Practical Challenge for Businesses in Hong Kong



Prof Johnny Chan, Ms Julie Wong and Mr Jasper Hilkhuijsen shared their thoughts in the 2 August webinar on extreme weather conditions and businesses, the challenge of target-setting, and how to achieve the targets.

A few key takeaways:

- Long term decarbonisation presents a win-win scenario for businesses and the environment. To achieve this, companies will need to change their mindset and think beyond meeting regulatory requirements and exercising corporate social responsibility. Nothing is too small to make an impact. Small changes are still good changes.
- Effective target setting starts with carbon measurement and accounting in which availability, consistency and accuracy of data are critical. Tailored-made targets will be useful to translate strategic or long-term visions to more tangible, sector-specific deliverables.
- Target setting and resetting is an ongoing process -- continuous measurement, monitoring and evaluation will assist companies to keep track of their decarbonisation progress.



Corporate Governance for Climate Resilience

Our gratitude to Ms Susanna Wong, Mr Hendrik Rosenthal, Mr Mohan Datwani and Mr Peter Tisman for contributing to the webinar on 4 August on the important topic of corporate governance, with the focus on how Hong Kong businesses can strengthen corporate governance structure, improve Board diversity, minimise groupthink, and enhance climate resilience.

A few key takeaways:

- Listed companies in Hong Kong have demonstrated increasing awareness on climate change and resilience. To strengthen corporate governance structure, sustainability visions need to be incorporated into company's strategies. Companies should constantly re-evaluate whether their business actions are aligned with their sustainability goals.
- Whereas in-house sustainability experts are playing major role to assist company Boards to make informed decisions, Board diversity should be complemented to minimise chances of "groupthink" and assist the translation of sustainability knowledge into relevant business cases.
- In pursuit of a more climate resilient future, continuous trainings and awareness-raising exercises are recommended. For Board directors, subject-specific knowledge on climate change will assist informed decisions with a resilience mindset. As for ESG/sustainability professionals, updates of industry trends and development enable effective communication of climate risks and opportunities.



Watch the webinar again:



Following the webinar, BEC released its "Corporate Governance for Climate Resilience" report on 13 August, aiming to understand corporate climate governance trends among Hong Kong's listed companies. With changes on regulatory requirements, investor expectations, compliance standards and fiduciary duties of Board directors, companies need to build resilience through stronger Board oversight and integration of climate risks and resilience considerations into business development, reporting and disclosure.

In the report, BEC proposes the following recommendations to assist companies to be more climate resilient:

1. improve Board awareness on climate resilience through internal trainings, knowledge sharing and Board diversity;
2. strengthen climate oversight through Board-level Sustainability Committees, company policies and advisory from external expertise;
3. provide continuous trainings for ESG/sustainability practitioners on climate risk and resilience;
4. develop a city-wide climate resilience strategy for climate risk and resilience studies;
5. engage internal staff, shareholders and the civil society on climate risk and resilience.

[Read the report HERE](#)



Corporate Governance for Climate Resilience:
Emerging Challenges & Opportunities for
Companies in Hong Kong

August 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

BEC + InvestHK Leadership Forum Series #2 - Reducing Waste Through Innovation and Partnership

13 September

The Environment Bureau announced the Waste Blueprint for Hong Kong 2035 early this year, and the Municipal Solid Waste charging bill was recently legislated. As Hong Kong steps up its effort to reduce waste, this second webinar under the Leadership Forum Series will focus on how innovation and partnership can help eliminate waste and improve resource utilisation. Our keynote speaker, Secretary for the Environment Mr K.S. Wong, and other local experts and practitioners will share their views and experiences on preventing waste generation, through creating innovative solutions and investing in the circular economy.



[Click HERE for details & registration](#)

UPCOMING COURSES: BEC IEE TRAINING

The **BEC Institute of Environmental Education ("BEC IEE")** offers a variety of courses for business professionals, including senior executives and managers, to advance their knowledge and skill sets.

We will soon announce details of the upcoming BEC IEE Training Programme (October 2021 – March 2022). Stay tuned!

RETHINK HK 2021 CORNER

ReThink HK 2021 will host a programme titled "Empowering Businesses to Lead for Impact" at the **BEC Theatre** on Day 1, covering the following sessions:

- Defining New Business Leadership – Dialogue with C-level Executives
- Going Circular
- Innovating for a Sustainable Tomorrow
- Deconstructing Future Smart Buildings
- The SDGs and Business
- VIP Talk
- ESG Game



05 & 06 OCTOBER 2021
HKCEC, HONG KONG

We are pleased to confirm our C-suite speakers in the first session "Defining New Business Leadership – Dialogue with C-level Executives", which includes CLP CEO and BEC Chairman Mr Richard Lancaster, Cathay Pacific Airways Limited and Swire Coca-Cola Limited Chairman Mr Patrick Healy, and Champion REIT CEO Ms Ada Wong.

In the second session "Going Circular", we are pleased to announce Swire Coca-Cola HK Head of Sustainability Ms Suzanne Cheung, SUEZ (Asia) Limited CEO of Water Mr François Fevrier and H&M Group Head of Sustainability – Global Production Ms Payal Jain as our speakers. We will also have Wealth of Flows Consulting Ltd Founder and Director Ms Helga Vanthournout as moderator.

Please stay tuned for more details on the rest of the speaker line-up in our dedicated theatre!

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

Council Members

In June, **Airport Authority Hong Kong (“AAHK”)** deployed 100 artificial reef (“AR”) units in waters to the west of Hong Kong International Airport’s south runway as a pilot scheme to investigate the value of providing micro-marine habitats for enhancing marine ecology and fisheries resources. AAHK is also implementing another pilot scheme to deploy oyster reefs along the north-eastern section of the newly formed seawall, which aims to recreate a natural shellfish habitat that promotes proliferation of shellfish and other marine life. The effectiveness of these two schemes will be closely monitored over the coming 12 months.



Sharing common values in innovation and sustainability, **Henderson Land** collaborated with international sustainability design icon Ms Rossana Orlandi to curate “Waste is Value” Art & Design Exhibition, her debut exhibition in Asia, in July. As one of the 100 key game-changers in the world named by prestigious AD Italia magazine, Ms Orlandi curated 45 sustainable art pieces to celebrate the 45th anniversary of Henderson Land. Promoting waste upcycling and responsible behaviours, these eco-friendly designs showcased ways to translate sustainability into daily options, inspiring visitors including Secretary for the Environment Mr Wong Kam-sing and members of the HKSAR Advisory Committee on Recycling Fund.



[Click HERE to learn more](#)

In July, **Kerry Properties’** Qianhai Kerry Centre Apartment Bayview A1-2-3 became the first development in mainland China to receive an honourable mention in Project of the Year category at the LEED Homes Awards. Located at Qianhai’s waterfront, Qianhai Kerry Centre is an active urban community teeming with innovation in sustainability design, smart building and boundless exchanges. The mixed-use development, comprising offices, residences, retail outlets and a hotel, has achieved several top-tier accreditations for sustainable development with its eco-friendly design.



Riding on Hong Kong’s digital transformation journey, **Siemens Limited** will hold Siemens Smart City Forum 2021 on 15 September (Wednesday) to delve into how we can create technology that solves tomorrow’s problems. Under the theme “Technology to transform the everyday”, the forum will explore the latest innovations that are integrating our physical and digital worlds and discuss the significance of digitalisation in empowering Hong Kong’s sustainable development. Joined with thought leaders, discussions will be sparked to realise opportunities and generate lasting values in Hong Kong’s smart city development.



[Click HERE to learn more](#)

The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (“Towngas”) and a Chinese power company are co-hosting the inaugural TERA-Award, the world’s first innovation competition targeting the field of zero-carbon technology. Under the theme of “Exploring zero-carbon innovations for the future”, the competition aims to recruit projects from energy start-ups around the world to attain the dual carbon goals set by mainland China to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060. The competition is offering a US\$1 million top prize!



[Click HERE to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

Chairman of **the Hong Kong Jockey Club** Mr Philip Chen appeared on TVB Pearl to promote World Environment Day in June. He shared how the Club has been working with the community to build a better society, fulfil its environmental responsibility and promote environmental protection in multiple areas. For instance, the Club has introduced several initiatives to phase out single-use plastic, such as banning 7 types of single-use plastics, switching to sustainably sourced wood utensils and bagasse takeaway boxes, banning the sale of plastic bottled water and installing 85 water dispensers. He also mentioned that Penfold Park, built and managed by the Club, will undergo an enhancement programme to provide a new and better experience in the future while protecting the biodiversity of the area.



Keen to engage its employees in protecting the environment and conserving natural resources, **HK Electric** always looks for new ways to enhance staff environmental awareness and encourage them to walk the talk. In a recent internal environmental campaign, the company created a platform for its staff to share their own green practices and collected about 200 good ideas of environmental-friendly eating, consumption and travelling habits, both at home and at work. The company will consider putting these ideas into practice and continue to cultivate this green culture through experience sharing.



Corporate Members

As a BEC Low Carbon Charter signatory, **CN Logistics ("CNL")** has recently been verified by ISO 14064-3, showing its commitment to fulfilling Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard of the GHG Protocol under an internationally recognised carbon calculation method. To achieve UNSDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, CNL has also funded wind farm projects in Mongolia and the Philippines, cancelling 6,403 tonnes of CO₂ between 2020-2021.



To minimise the environmental impact created from its operation, **Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited ("Hactl")** started to adopt a plastic cargo protection sheet that contains 30% recycled material in August. More environmentally responsible, the new plastic sheet allows Hactl to maintain the highest level of service quality. Hactl has been working closely with its supplier during the development process, conducting numerous trials to collect feedbacks from its operation staff. This is a major milestone of Hactl's "Green Terminal" initiative, which aims to reduce single-use plastic consumption.



Arup is deploying its Life Extension and Asset Management Platform ("LEAP") to monitor the remaining lifespan of offshore wind foundations at a wind farm in the UK. LEAP is an integrated, cloud-based digital application which combines structural health monitoring and survey data to provide ongoing insight into the condition of offshore wind foundations over their entire lifetime. Integrating directly into clients' asset management systems, LEAP empowers owner-operators and asset managers to assess the wind farm's operational life and enables a more risk-based inspection and maintenance approach.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

Taking a step further towards its 2030 net zero target, **PwC** helps bridge the gap for others to achieve their climate goals too. On 16 July, the company became one of the executive members of the Net Zero National Action Alliance established at the launching ceremony of China's national carbon market online trading forum. PwC is committed to drive the transition to a less carbon intensive economy in mainland China along with other leading companies.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



The printing industry is often regarded as one of the most polluting industries. To enable a greener, better and safer world, **SGS Hong Kong** shared how the printing industry can work towards sustainability and ensure responsible sourcing of forest products in the "Leading Environmental Advocate" seminar in August. The company's sharing helped the printing industry respond to climate change and promoted green printing industry development.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



In addition to water stations which provide package-less hydration, **Swire Coca-Cola HK ("SCCHK")** redesigned the packaging of its water brand and switched to clear plastics to enhance recyclability in June. Labels of bottled water now carry clearer information on the material used to facilitate proper recycling. The water range also comes in aluminium cans so that consumers have another recyclable option. Believing in less is more, SCCHK produces label-less bottled water for the first time, which deliver a higher recycling efficiency by eliminating one layer of packaging.



In July, **WSP's** commitment to Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") matters was acknowledged by receiving World Finance Sustainability Awards 2021 – Engineering. Winning this accolade for the third consecutive year reflects WSP's efforts to advance its ESG programme and implement climate action, while engaging clients and communities to enable positive change that goes beyond the company.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



General Members

In August, **ALBA IWS** was invited to a panel discussion to share their thoughts on pursuing a career in the sustainability field. The reception was excellent with students raising meaningful questions on the future of sustainability. One question which came up repeatedly was on how to improve people's perception of sustainability in Hong Kong. Learn more about the panellists' interesting ideas on this open-ended question at the link below!

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Circular Economy (Hong Kong) will invite Ms Lynn Johannson, President of a Canadian environmental consultancy, to present in its workshop at ReThink HK on 6 October. Ms Johannson will discuss the innovative “Are You Climate Ready” Ecosystem to help businesses implement or improve environmental management systems to meet the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure (“TCFD”) recommendations. Changing personal behaviours, tools and techniques to map, analyse, visualise and synthesise risks and opportunities, and collaborative learning through PODs are critical to the journey of climate action.

As convenience is key to a quicker electric vehicle (“EV”) adoption, **Cornerstone Technologies** will launch a mobile app in early September to enable EV users to charge their cars conveniently from beginning to end at certain locations. From finding a charging location to activating the charger, scanning the QR code for authentication to making payment - all in one mobile app! Users may also start and stop charging remotely, check the charging status as well as view their transaction history.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

The 2021 **GlobeScan / SustainAbility Leaders Survey** was released in July. The new research shows that sustainability experts believe the global pandemic will help draw attention to environmental issues, but will also deepen socio-economic challenges such as poverty and inequality. In a signal that the hallmarks of leadership have shifted, sustainable business models and strategy are now perceived to be the strongest indicator of recognised corporate leadership.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

To promote social inclusion and SDGs through art, **Mitsubishi Electric (Hong Kong)** collaborated with a non-profit organisation to launch “Creative Sustainability-kids 100” from March to June. More than 100 children joined a series of engaging workshops to learn about the importance of resource recycling by creating handicrafts with plastic bottles. This project could enhance children's awareness of environmental protection and explore their creativity.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)

Secure Information Disposal Services Limited and fellow BEC member Hang Lung Properties are going to unveil a free education programme on circular economy in the upcoming school year. Emphasising both theory and practice, the programme offers tours and talks, as well as paper recycling services to participating schools. It also serves as a platform for university students to gain knowledge and make an impact.



REPORT

GlobeScan / SustainAbility Survey

2021 Sustainability Leaders



WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

Corporate Member

- Wilson Group Limited



General Members

- Sustainable Office Solutions Limited
- The Harbour School Limited
- Toyota Tsusho (H.K.) Corporation Limited



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Want to share your company's latest green news with over 6,000 BEC newsletter subscribers from various industries? BEC Council, Corporate and General Members are welcomed to submit their exciting news/ technology/ activities related to sustainability and environmental excellence to us. Please contact **Ms Jaz Chan** (T. 2784 3912 | E. jazchan@bec.org.hk) for submissions and enquiries.



BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS

- **Sustainable Financing in China 2021 - Webinar Series** | Euromoney Conferences | September
- **Hong Kong Green Building Week 2021** | Hong Kong Green Building Council | September
- **EU and Hong Kong: The Green Way** | European Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong | 16 September
- **Symposium on Innovation 2021** | Hong Kong Electronics & Technologies Association | 27 October
- **Eco Expo Asia 2021** | Hong Kong Trade Development Council & Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd | 27-30 October
- **Eco Expo Asia 2021 – Hong Kong Pavilion** | Environmental Protection Department & Federation of Hong Kong Industries | 27-30 October
- **Global AI Challenge for Building E&M Facilities** | Electrical and Mechanical Services Department | October - December
- **ESG Forum 2021** | Hong Kong Economic Journal | 2 November
- **Social Enterprise Summit 2021** | SES | 4-6 November
- **International Conference on Advancing Net Zero** | Hong Kong Green Building Council | 23-26 November
- **“Advancing Net Zero” Ideas Competition** | Hong Kong Green Building Council | ongoing until 31 December
- **Science in the Public Service (SIPS)** | Hong Kong Observatory | 2021
- **Enterprises Cherish Water Campaign (ECH20)** | Water Supplies Department | 2021
- **CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme** | Construction Industry Council | on-going

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