

JANUARY 2025

BEC E-NEWSLETTER

Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment

ENVIRONMENTAL OUTLOOK FOR 2025

BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng shares his insights on global and local environmental issues requiring attention in 2025.



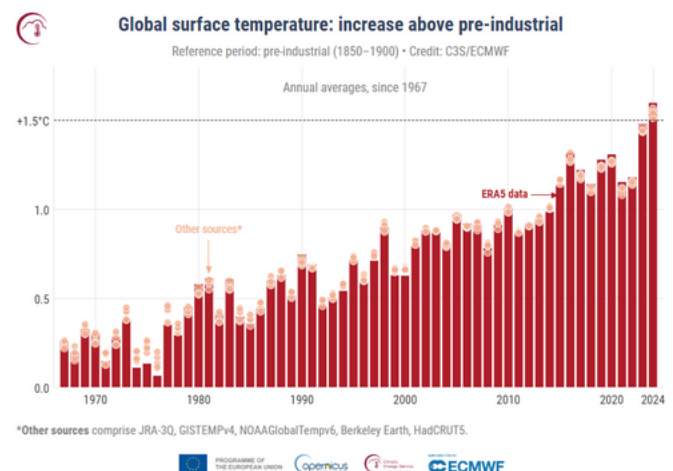
A strong start in spring sets the tone for the whole year.

BEC was quick off the blocks in 2025, having delivered four events in as many weeks in January (please read about the events in other sections of this newsletter). We are also about to roll out new initiatives and training courses, with more projects and activities in the pipeline. BEC is making moves to drive new business action and cross-sector collaboration in Hong Kong in order to make up ground in addressing climate change and other environmental issues. We also want to identify opportunities that would move the needle, and to rebuild optimism amongst stakeholders, amid a rather gloomy outlook with the latest science and politics.

With little surprise, environmental risks – namely “extreme weather events”, “biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse”, “critical change to Earth systems”, and “natural resource shortages” – stay as the top four most severe risks perceived to be faced over the next ten years according to the latest edition of the [Global Risks Report](#). For short-term (two-year) risks, “extreme weather events” ranks second, same as last year. Alarmingly though, while all risks are expected to worsen in severity in the set time frame, environmental risks will undergo the most significant deterioration. Does the record-breaking typhoon season in the Philippines with six typhoons in 30 days, the extensive floods in Valencia, or the wildfire in Los Angeles ring a bell?

It is perhaps most worrying that the [Global Climate Highlights Report 2024](#) from the European Union’s Copernicus Climate Change Service confirmed 2024 as the warmest year on record globally. With an average global temperature of 1.6 degrees above the pre-industrial level, it is the first calendar year that the average global temperature exceeded 1.5 degrees.

The United Nations Environment Programme’s [Emissions Gap Report 2024: No More Hot Air ... Please!](#) also finds that the 1.5 degrees goal of the Paris Agreement will be gone within a few years unless all nations deliver dramatically stronger ambition and action in the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions, due for submission in February 2025 ahead of COP30. Nations must deliver immediate action and collectively achieve a 42% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 57% by 2035 to stay on track for 1.5 degrees. Considering the gaps in climate finance and the likely scenario that not all the plans will be fully implemented, the chance of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees is becoming very slim.



Credit: C3S/ECMWF

Now enter Mr Trump and the United States exiting the Paris Agreement.

Despite all this, I am still confident progress will be made in Hong Kong if we focus on the right issues and mobilise resources that are within reach and control.

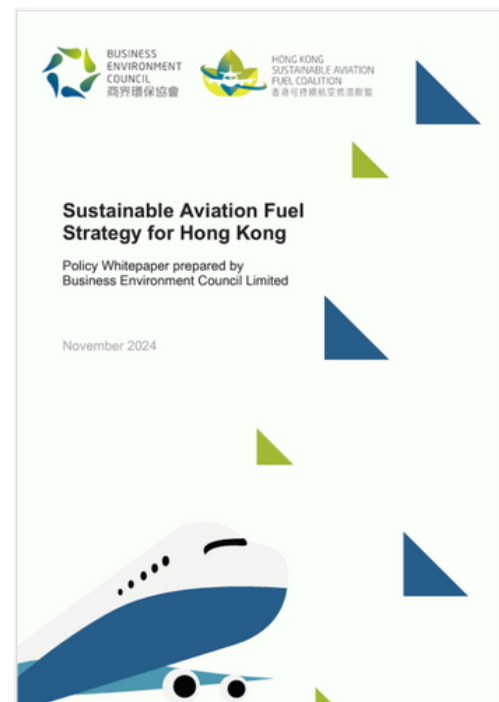
For example, I am excited by the Government's Action Plan on Green Maritime Fuel Bunkering, which provides ambitious targets and detailed action items for Hong Kong to decarbonise the maritime sector aligned with the global ambition, and to strengthen Hong Kong's position as an international shipping and bunkering hub. Apart from promoting and facilitating the use of green fuels, electrification will also contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions for vessels operating in Hong Kong waters, including local vessels such as ferries, launches and harbour crafts. BEC is currently working on projects and policy advocacy related to green marine fuels, new energy ferries and onshore power systems. We will contribute expertise to this conversation and support implementation.

Similarly, it is encouraging that the Government announced plans in the Chief Executive's 2024 Policy Address to set sustainable aviation fuel ("SAF") usage target for flights departing from Hong Kong International Airport before the end of 2025, and to develop the SAF supply chain in respect to supply, demand, storage and bunkering. BEC launched a programme called "The Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition" last January with the key objective of accelerating the deployment of credible SAF in Hong Kong. We recently published a [policy whitepaper on SAF strategy for Hong Kong](#), offering recommendations to the Government that align the socio-economic interests of both policymakers and industry players, and facilitate aviation industry's decarbonisation while maintaining Hong Kong's position as an international aviation hub for both passengers and cargoes. I expect major progress on SAF target and strategy from the Government before year end.

While the municipal solid waste charging scheme has been deferred, circularity and waste management will remain high on BEC's agenda. In terms of work focus, BEC is keenly anticipating the upcoming regulations on the producer responsibility scheme. We are also looking to mobilise our members and the wider business community to make pledges and take voluntary actions for packaging reduction. Please reach out to us if you are interested in working together.

On the nature agenda, BEC submitted early recommendations to the Government in November last year for their Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan ("BSAP") review, with a focus on mainstreaming biodiversity in business strategy and decision making, supporting corporate assessment and disclosure, and facilitating public-private collaboration through a multi-stakeholder task force. We are planning events and continued dialogue with various stakeholders this year, supporting the Government's consultation on the BSAP update in the first quarter of 2025. In addition, BEC is co-convening the TNFD Consultation Group in Hong Kong with the Hong Kong Green Finance Association, representing a major step forward in integrating nature-related considerations into financial decision making.

With the Lunar New Year just around the corner, I wish you all a healthy and prosperous Year of the Snake. Kung Hei Fat Choy!



BEC released its Policy Whitepaper on Sustainable Aviation Fuel Strategy for Hong Kong in November 2024.

Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition Annual Symposium 2025



Business Environment Council Limited (“BEC”) held the Annual Symposium 2025 of Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition (“HKSAFC”) on 24 January at BEC Auditorium. Mr Liu Chun Shan, JP, Under Secretary for Transport and Logistics, was invited as the Guest of Honour, while Mr Arthur Lee, Commissioner for Climate Change, attended as our special guest.

The Symposium underscored BEC and HKSAFC partners’ efforts in advancing SAF advocacy, as well as their commitment to supporting the Government’s targets in driving for SAF adoption in Hong Kong and the publication of the Policy Whitepaper on SAF Strategy for Hong Kong. The event also featured a diverse range of expert speakers who shared valuable industry insights on SAF strategies for Hong Kong.

BEC Leadership Networking Series & Mini Expo: Fashioning a Greener Future

BEC Leadership Networking Series & Mini Expo: Fashioning a Greener Future was held at BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall on 8 January. Mr Kim Hellström, Ms Mathilde Béttinas, Ms Katherine Chan and Dr Alain Lam were invited to share best practices in the apparel industry to improve sustainability performances across supply chains, operations and product development. Booths were set up during the mini expo by BEC Members to showcase their innovative solutions instrumental to the sustainable transition.

[Click here for more photos](#)



Post-COP29 Hong Kong Forum: Reflections and the Path Forward for Hong Kong's Role in Global Sustainability

The Post-COP29 Hong Kong Forum was successfully held at BEC Auditorium on 16 January. Co-organised by BEC, Civic Exchange, and HKUST Institute for the Environment and Division of Environment and Sustainability, the forum brought together over 100 participants, including business leaders, academics, civil society representatives, financial market participants, and policymakers. Discussions focused on COP29 negotiation outcomes, supply chain impacts, considerations regarding the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, ISSB standards adoption and opportunities under Article 6. BEC will continue to foster multi-stakeholder engagement to consolidate Hong Kong’s role as an international green financial hub and support sustainable development both locally and globally.



BEC x NESS Green Jobs Fair 2025



BEC and Network of Environmental Student Societies (“NESS”) successfully hosted “BEC x NESS Green Jobs Fair 2025” on 17 January at BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall. We were honoured to have Dr Samuel Chui, JP, Director of Environmental Protection, joining us to engage with young talents and industry leaders, sharing valuable insights into the current green jobs market and opportunities. Over 120 university students and fresh graduates attended the event throughout the day.

Sponsors of “BEC x NESS Green Jobs Fair 2025” include (in alphabetical order): CLP, EnviroEvents (Rethink) Ltd, Gammon Construction Limited, MTR Corporation Limited, Schneider Electric, Swire Pacific, The Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd. (Hk Electric), and The Hong Kong Jockey Club.

[Click here for more photos](#)

BEC IN THE SPOTLIGHT

BEC Opinion Article on *Capital Magazine*

An opinion article on practising ESG in event management written by BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng was published in *Capital Magazine* (January 2025 issue).

BEC Opinion Article on *Master Insight*

An opinion article on key insights from COP29 written by BEC Head – Policy & Research Mr Merlin Lao was published on *Master Insight* on 13 January.



UPCOMING COURSES: BEC IEE TRAINING

The BEC Institute of Environmental Education (“BEC IEE”) provides structured and tailor-made courses under our focus areas, including Climate Change and Carbon Management, Circular Economy and Resource Management, Green and Healthy Buildings, and Corporate Sustainability. Click the course titles below for more details about upcoming structured courses:

[Insights and Applications of Life Cycle Assessment \(Level 1\)](#)



12 Feb

[Insights and Applications of Life Cycle Assessment \(Level 2\)](#)



19 Feb

[Carbon Audit and Management in the Property Management Industry](#)



18 Mar



UPCOMING EVENTS

BEC Spring Dinner 2025

25 February

BEC is hosting our Spring Dinner on 25 February 2025, an excellent opportunity for BEC Members and industry leaders to celebrate the Chinese New Year together. We are pleased to have Mr Arthur Lee, Commissioner for Climate Change, Environment and Ecology Bureau, as our Guest of Honour. Come and join us in this celebration event to meet and network with other like-minded business executives and environmental experts in leading Hong Kong towards a net-zero carbon economy! Seats are limited on a first-come first-served basis.



[Click here to register](#)

Join the Packaging Reduction Charter Now!

The Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) has officially launched the Packaging Reduction Charter, with management support from BEC. If your business is committed to sustainable practices and aims to gain recognition for its efforts in packaging reduction, this initiative offers an opportunity to collaborate in promoting sustainable packaging, reducing packaging waste, and contributing to Hong Kong’s long-term carbon reduction goals.

By joining the Packaging Reduction Charter, your business will align with the government’s vision of achieving Zero Landfill, while positioning your company as a leader in sustainability. As a signatory, your company will enjoy several key benefits:



**Join the
Packaging Reduction Charter
NOW!**

Briefing Session on Packaging Reduction Charter
Date: 18 February 2025 (Tuesday)
Time: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Format: Hybrid (Zoom Online Video Conference & In-person)
Venue: Room 202E, 2/F, Jockey Club Environmental Building,
 77 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong

- Enhanced Corporate Image** – Receive a Certificate of Commendation from the EPD, recognising your commitment to packaging reduction;
- Professional Support** – Access EPD’s expertise and resources on packaging reduction and recycling initiatives; and
- Packaging Reporting Support** – Listed companies and their supply chains will receive support in preparing packaging-related data for ESG reports, including Scope 3 emission disclosure, as required by the HKEX.

Participating organisations will also be invited to the official launching ceremony in late March 2025, where they will receive commendation from the EPD for their commitment to packaging reduction.

Ready to make a difference? Join us at the recruitment briefing on 18 February 2025 by registering [here](#) and submit your Charter Application Form [here](#)!

Together, let’s take a significant step towards a more sustainable future!

Enquiry:

- Phone: 5279 1936
- Email: lesspackagingcharter@bec.org.hk

RETHINK HK CORNER



ReThink HK 2025 is gearing up for its largest edition! With an impressive 300+ exhibitors and 10,000 delegates, we are set to host Hong Kong's best-attended and most ambitious business event for sustainable development. Now is the time to align your brand with the industry's leading minds and showcase your green products, services or solutions to a global audience of decision-makers and influencers. Secure your spot at the BEC Pavilion by registering before the early bird deadline on 28 February 2025!

What's new with ReThink HK 2025?

- **[Expanded] Smart Mobility & Transportation Sector**

Low-carbon fuels, infrastructure & vehicles for aviation, marine, rail & road transportation

- **[New] Buildings & Infrastructure Sector**

Innovation, technologies and green building practices to create energy-efficient, resilient, and environmentally harmonious urban environments

- **[New] Innovation Stage**

Visionary entrepreneurs pitch and demonstrate game-changing green products, services and solutions

- **[New] Theatres & Topics on Circularity, Food & Hospitality and Waste**

Engaging discussions that explore practices and solutions in circular economy, sustainable food systems, and waste reduction within the hospitality industry

BEC Members are entitled to various exclusive benefits and perks at ReThink HK 2025. Get in touch today!

- **Become an Exhibitor / Sponsor**
- **Download the ReThink HK 2025 Conference Framework**
- **Nominate a Speaker**
- **Register your interest for a Priority Pass!**

Join us to be part of a transformative journey towards sustainable development. ReThink HK 2025 is not just an event; it's a movement that brings together thought leaders, innovators, and changemakers committed to building a greener future. Let's work together to shape a sustainable tomorrow!

MEMBERS CORNER

Council Members

Airport Authority Hong Kong ("AAHK"), in collaboration with fellow BEC Member Cathay Pacific, has previously launched a pilot to enhance the collection and recycling of plastic bottles and aluminium cans for Cathay's arriving flights at Hong Kong International Airport. Comingled recyclables are separated onboard and sorted by AAHK's contractor at the Airside Waste Station. Plastic bottles are then transported to a recycling facility that processes them into valuable raw materials to be used in the recycled plastics manufacturing sector. The pilot has collected seven tonnes of plastic bottles and three tonnes of cans since its launch in April 2024. This initiative serves as a good example for other airlines and service providers looking to enhance their recycling efforts.



MEMBERS CORNER

China State Construction Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited (“CSHK”) recently held its third annual Outstanding Partner Recognition Ceremony to celebrate the excellent performance of supply chain partners, marking another milestone in the company’s commitment to sustainable and high-quality construction as a major industry player in Hong Kong. CSHK is dedicated to fostering a collaborative, mutually beneficial and sustainable ecosystem across the industry supply chain. Through partnering with top-quality domestic and international resource providers, it strives to set benchmarks in construction safety, engineering quality, technological innovation and ESG standards. CSHK will continue to strive for sustainability excellence through mutual support with supply chain partners, fostering a harmonious and progressive future for Hong Kong’s construction industry.



The hospitality arm of **Chinachem Group** partnered with local charities to organise a Christmas pastry workshop for participants to engage in food upcycling. Under the guidance of hotel chefs, a total of 20 students from a local NGO, many from ethnic minority backgrounds, made colourful pastries with surplus chocolate and crushed biscuits to share with their families. This workshop showcased the creativity of the younger generation, promoted sustainable culinary practices and fostered a sense of community engagement. The event concluded with a joyful lunch buffet at Nina Hotel Tsuen Wan West and Nina Hotel Island South.



[Click here to learn more](#)

The Science Based Targets initiative has approved **Henderson Land’s** near-term, long-term and net-zero science-based emissions reduction targets, validating its commitment in alignment with the Paris Agreement. Additionally, the company has also been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia/Pacific Index for the first time, positioning the company among the top 20% of the region’s 600 largest companies.



[Click here to learn more](#)

Nan Fung Group has recently received the Making Core Award at Social Value Awards 2024, becoming the first company in Hong Kong to achieve such recognition. This award highlights Nan Fung’s efforts in embedding social value into their ESG strategy, which includes initiatives like location-based materiality assessments, the Net Positive Lease, and transparent performance reporting. In 2023/24, Nan Fung Group generated over HK\$34 million in social value, driving positive change and setting new benchmarks in the private sector.



[Click here to learn more](#)

Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited (“SHKP”) has been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia/Pacific Index for the second consecutive year. This achievement, along with improvements in S&P Global CSA Scores, places the group among the top 20% of large companies in the Asia Pacific region. With renewable energy being a key indicator in ESG ratings, SHKP demonstrates its contribution through Hong Kong’s first privately funded solar farm on a landfill. Operated by SHKP’s joint venture at the South East New Territories Landfill, the project is expected to generate 1.2 million kWh of green electricity annually starting in 2025. As a joint venture partner, the group supports construction and facilitates its technology arm in acquiring CLP Renewable Energy Certificates for the solar power generated by the farm. This collaboration aims to create a closed-loop ESG model for a greener future.



[Click here to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

Towngas and a subsidiary of an established local construction company have signed a memorandum of understanding to advance low-carbon and renewable energy utilisation, including hydrogen power generation, promoting green construction and buildings in Hong Kong. With over 160 years of experience in gas operations, Towngas is equipped with mature hydrogen extraction and storage technologies, allowing it to deliver safe and efficient hydrogen supply solutions. This collaboration aligns with the HKSAR government's carbon reduction policies, fostering green energy applications, supporting the construction sector's growth, while injecting new momentum into Hong Kong's productive forces.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Corporate Members

Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited ("Chun Wo") prioritises sustainable development through green practices and innovative technologies. As a key player in Hong Kong's construction sector, the company emphasises quality, efficiency, and environmental responsibility. In the Sau Nga Road Stormwater Storage Scheme, Chun Wo opted for a raft foundation over pile driving, conserving 3,000 cubic meters of concrete and 1,900 tons of steel, reducing CO2 emissions. The project also implemented AI vehicle cleaning, boosting water efficiency by 35% compared to traditional methods. Chun Wo remains dedicated to green initiatives, aiming to harmonise growth with environmental preservation and reduce its carbon footprint.



Exploiting the vast, unobstructed environment of Hong Kong International Airport, **HAECO** upscaled the solar PV panel installation on the rooftop of Hangar 1 in December 2024, with sponsorship from Swire Solution Roll Out Fund and in partnership with fellow BEC Member CLPe Solutions. HAECO is now the biggest single-site solar PV panel owner in Hong Kong, possessing more than 8,000 solar PV panels that can generate over 4,000,000 kWh of electricity annually – equivalent to about 14% of its hangars' annual electricity consumption. The new panels have been in operation since January 2025, serving as a testament to HAECO's commitment to advancing towards net-zero carbon emissions.



SGS launches **IMPACT NOW** for sustainability, a new concept in the delivery of sustainability services designed to address ever-changing market demands and the urgent needs of the planet. It consolidates SGS's sustainability offerings under four strategic pillars: climate, circularity, nature and ESG assurance. Through these pillars, SGS offers trusted compliance solutions that directly help businesses address the key environmental and social challenges impacting the planet. With new regulations mandating ESG disclosures and a growing emphasis on sustainable processes and products, **IMPACT NOW** for sustainability provides a comprehensive platform where businesses can find tailored solutions they need to enhance sustainability and meet compliance requirements.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

General Members

Allied Sustainability and Environmental Consultants Group Limited (“AEC Group”) announces that the third batch of the ESG Certified Professional (“ESGCP”) Examination will be held on 24 February 2025. As the key knowledge partner for this initiative, AEC Group, in collaboration with a local chamber, launched Hong Kong’s first rules-based ESG professional examination in June 2024. This programme aims to enhance the professionalism of ESG practitioners and foster the growth of the ESG industry in Hong Kong. The ESGCP Examination Review Course, offered by AEC Group’s ESG Academy, has successfully covered the exam syllabus and essential application skills.

[Click here to learn more](#)



AS Watson’s beverage and manufacturing brand has won the Gold Award in the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (Manufacturing and Industrial Service sector) for 2023. This recognition underscores its strong commitment to sustainability leadership, partnerships with reverse vending machine and rPET pioneers, support for environmental NGOs, a paperless system, and the innovative 3RS initiative.



Asia Airfreight Terminal recently wrapped up a successful Annual Sustainability Week, filled with inspiration, learning, and action, uniting our community in the pursuit of sustainability and wellness. The week featured various events, from the Fairtrade Bazaar showcasing ethical products to the eye-opening Fast Fashion Seminar and Barter Booth, where participants learned and practised ways to reduce carbon footprint. The LOHAS booth provided an array of organic produce, promoting healthier dietary choices, while activities like the organic jam DIY workshop and the organic herbal teas serving at the canteen reinforced the importance of ethical consumption. Another highlight was the mindfulness workshop with singing bowls which provided a serene space for personal reflection.



Baker Tilly Hong Kong demonstrates its commitment to advancing ESG adoption and excellence among SMEs through the successful delivery of four workshops under the SME ESG Charter 2024 initiative. Held at venues including Eco-Expo Asia and Dah Sing Financial Centre, the workshops provided SMEs with expert insights into ESG megatrends, strategy development, and effective data management. Participants benefitted from actionable guidance on embedding ESG principles into their operations, enhancing organisational resilience, and capitalising on emerging opportunities. In recognition of its contributions, Baker Tilly received a certificate of appreciation at the closing ceremony of the SME ESG Charter 2024, underscoring its leadership in fostering sustainable growth within the SME sector.

[Click here to learn more](#)

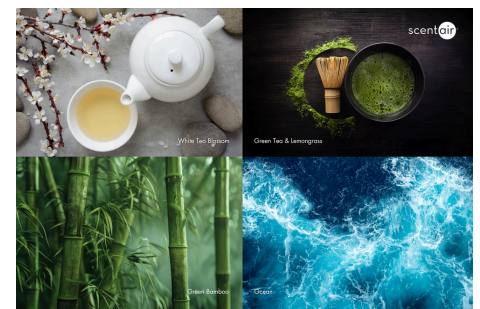


MEMBERS CORNER

HKBN unveiled its inaugural HK\$5.25 billion syndicated Sustainability-Linked Loan (“SLL Facility”) in December 2024, underscoring a deep commitment to responsible business practices and sustainable financing. Backed by 11 leading international and local banks, the SLL Facility’s Framework includes an innovative interest rate adjustment mechanism tied to sustainability performance targets, focusing on validated near-term science-based goals and internal cybersecurity phishing assessment failure rates. The SLL Facility Framework has received an overall “Good” Sustainable Fitch rating, reflecting positive market sentiment towards HKBN and its roadmap for climate action and governance.



ScentAir has curated a new wellness fragrance collection that embodies its commitment to ESG principles. Each carefully crafted scent not only enhances well-being but also aligns with sustainable practices, prioritising eco-friendly ingredients and responsible sourcing methods to reduce environmental footprint. This collection promotes positive social impact by fostering mental well-being and creating inviting spaces. By integrating wellness into its fragrance offerings, ScentAir contributes to healthier environments and communities, where delightful aromas inspire mindfulness and enhance quality of life, while supporting its collective ESG initiatives.



The Harbour School Hong Kong (“THS”) received Silver Award for overall performance at the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence 2023, alongside four other recognitions including Best Green Education Initiative Award - Outstanding Award for its ocean conservation and sustainability programmes. Education is the key and long-term solution to achieve sustainable development, and THS continues to advocate for the private and public sector to provide more support to K-12 schools to develop their capacity and capability on sustainable education and operation.



[Click here to learn more](#)

Recently Published Sustainability Report

- **FUJIFILM Business Innovation Hong Kong Limited**

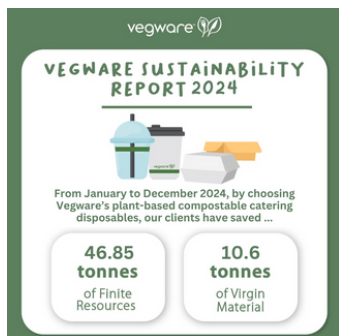


- **Nan Fung Property Management**



Recently Published Sustainability Report

- Vegware Hong Kong Limited



WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

Corporate Member

- ExxonMobil Hong Kong Limited*

ExxonMobil

*Membership Upgrade



General Members

- A Love Recycle (HK) Limited
- ALBA Group Asia Limited
- Amtrac Furnishings International Ltd
- Belu Water Limited
- Bluesky Carbon Sink Asset Management Co., Limited
- Ecovane Sustainability Limited
- HydroX Group Limited

Affiliate Member

- iRecycle Charity Foundation

BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS

- **Revealing Global and Local Decarbonisation and Zero Carbon Insight 2025** | ASHRAE Hong Kong Chapter | 19 February
- **8th International Conference – Roadmap to Net Zero** | Energy Institute Hong Kong, City University of Hong Kong | 27-28 Feb
- **Schneider Electric Ignite Your Impact Challenge** | Schneider Electric Hong Kong | Nov 2024 – May 2025
- **The 3rd Greater Bay Area ESG & Sustainability Exhibition** | Coastal International Conference & Exhibition Co., Ltd. | 20-22 Jun
- **“My Green Space” Student Competition 2024-2025** | HKGBC | Sep 2024 – Oct 2025
- **Green Procurement Sharing** | iRecycle Charity Foundation | Jan – Dec 2025

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