

JULY 2022

# BEC E-NEWSLETTER

Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment

## TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

*As BEC celebrates our 30th anniversary in 2022, two senior management team members have decided to embark on a new journey with BEC. Mr Merlin Lao, Head of Policy & Research, joined BEC in May, while Ms Maggie Lam, Assistant Director of Communications, started her chapter with us in June. We are pleased to have an interview with them together in a cosy mid-summer afternoon.*



Mr Merlin Lao (left) and Ms Maggie Lam (right) are the newest members of BEC's management team.

Merlin's tenure at BEC might have started only two months ago but he has long been a close friend of BEC. Back in May 2019, Merlin was invited to speak at BEC EnviroSeries Conference, an edition where we explored the problems, opportunities and future strategies in Hong Kong's waste management system.

"The fact that this happened only three years ago suggests how time really flies during the pandemic. It was a truly

memorable experience though." During the Conference, Merlin shared with the audience waste management strategies around East Asian countries, as he was living and working in Seoul, South Korea at that time. "Separation at source requires a behavioural change," recalled Merlin. "All waste in South Korea must be separated into general waste, food waste, recyclable items, etc. before disposal. It was certainly a new challenge for me as I first relocated there, but then it naturally became a habit."

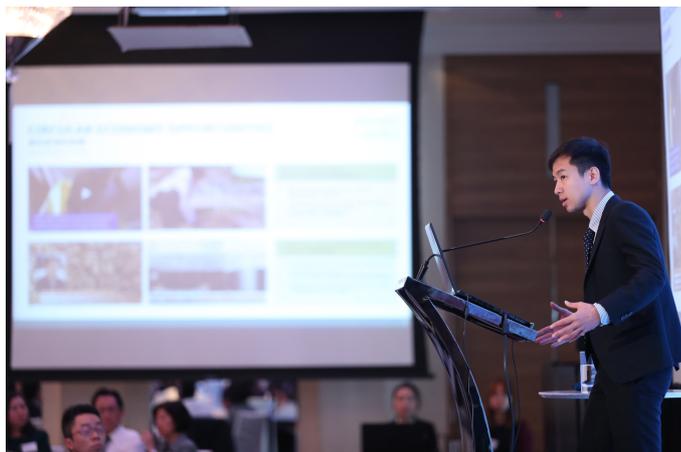
It is often said that Hong Kong can learn from South Korea in terms of waste management strategy. In August 2021, the Legislative Council passed the Municipal Solid Waste (“MSW”) Charging Bill, something South Korea has implemented since 1995, some 27 years ago. “Waste management has always been a thorny issue in Hong Kong. I am glad to see that our city finally took a big step forward,” Merlin commented. “Now that the policy framework is in place, promotion and education are essential. General public need to understand the importance and urgency of carrying out a territory-wide MSW charging scheme. If citizens are reluctant to pay the bill, the only way is by reducing the amount of waste created. At the same time, we must not forget to provide more support to vulnerable groups.”

As a communications and public relations expert, Maggie had worked in the property and energy sectors prior to joining BEC. “BEC has long established its presence among Hong Kong’s business sector. In fact, several of my former employers are active members of BEC. Don’t be surprised if you can see my face on some past event photos,” joked Maggie, recalling the occasions when she participated in BEC’s events.



Ms Maggie Lam oversees the communications initiatives and event management at BEC.

One of Maggie’s key missions at BEC in 2022 is to oversee a cross-departmental working group for commemorating BEC’s 30th anniversary. Recently, two commemorative videos involving our Chairman, Immediate Past Chairman, and CEO have been released. More initiatives are expected to be launched in the second half of 2022. “Collaboration is the key. Every colleague has his or her unique strengths. We, as senior management team, must harness the skill and creativity of our workforce to make a greater impact together,” said Maggie. “I think this management philosophy defines what kind of organisation we are. BEC does encourage cross-sectoral collaboration among our 220+ members to co-create a better and greener Hong Kong.”



Mr Merlin Lao gives a presentation at BEC EnviroSeries Conference in May 2019.



Mr Merlin Lao leads BEC’s Policy & Research team to develop clear policy position on pressing environmental topics.

Sustainability and ESG have become a prime focus for corporates. How does Maggie, an experienced communicator, view this growing trend? “While people focus on scenario analysis, risk mapping or benchmarking when they talk about ESG, let’s not forget communication is equally important,” suggested Maggie. “A well-planned communication campaign can disseminate widely your commitments and progress made to your clients and investors. You then receive feedback from important stakeholders, which in turn helps shape your next move or tactic.”

Towards the end of this interview, both Merlin and Maggie showed their excitement towards the upcoming celebratory events for BEC's 30th anniversary. "The Communications and Events team that I lead will strive to deliver the interesting initiatives we have planned. Stay tuned with us!" Maggie remarked. "As the Head of Policy & Research team, I also look forward to demonstrating BEC's thought leadership in

this special year," Merlin added. "We shall continue to work closely with Maggie's team to share our policy perspectives during seminars, webinars and conferences in the near future."

**"BEC, happy birthday!"**

## BEC 30th Anniversary - CEO Interview & Chairman Dialogue

To commemorate BEC's 30th Anniversary, BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng has shared with us his thoughts on our key success in these 30 years, his insights on BEC's future new heights, and how he was inspired to become an advocator in climate change, environmental protection and sustainable development.

In the other video, BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien and Immediate Past Chairman Mr Richard Lancaster have engaged in a dialogue to share BEC's mission and vision and its unique advantages.



Watch the CEO Interview:

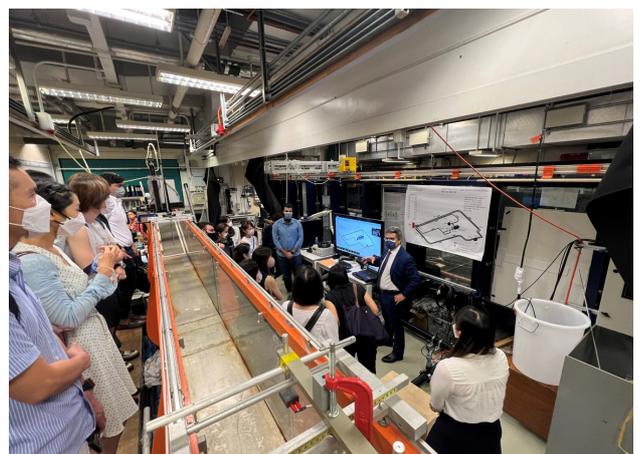


Watch the Chairman Dialogue:



## BEC Industry Visit: HKUST Sustainable Smart Campus as a Living Lab

BEC Industry Visit – HKUST Sustainable Smart Campus as a Living Lab took place on 8 July. Representatives from Affiliate Member The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and General Member Energys Spectrum Limited showcased various innovative and sustainable projects around the campus, including LED circadian lighting to improve users' wellbeing, Smart Water Network to reduce water wastage, digital twin for the campus and self-cleaning multipurpose nano-coatings.



[Click here for more photos](#)

## Smart and Sustainable City Development: Hong Kong and International Experiences

Smart City development has been picking up pace both locally and internationally. It also has huge potential to contribute towards COVID-recovery and new developments such as the Northern Metropolis. However, many companies still encounter difficulties in implementing and fully reaping the benefits of Smart City technologies.

BEC's new research report "Smart and Sustainable City Development: Hong Kong and International Experiences" focuses on the areas of Smart Environment and Smart Mobility. The report identifies pain points in the implementation of relevant technologies and provides high-level policy recommendations, as supported by local and international case studies. Subsequent data privacy and digital inclusion considerations are also discussed.

[Read the full report here](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BEC Leadership Networking Series: Green Buildings and Energy Efficiency

22 August

Energy saving and green buildings are a key part of Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050 that seeks to combat climate change. In the coming BEC Leadership Networking Series, you will hear about the use of innovation and technologies for green buildings and discuss what is possible in enhancing energy efficiency in Hong Kong. Come to learn more and engage in discussion on the trends, economics, social benefits and management practices through the case sharing from green building professionals.

[Click here for details & registration](#)



BEC Leadership Networking Series:

### Green Buildings and Energy Efficiency

22 August 2022 (Monday)  
4:30p.m. – 6:00p.m.  
BEC Auditorium



## 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 set. Click the course titles below for more details:



### Training Programme

(April – September 2022)

#### [Carbon Audit Step by Step](#)



12 August

#### [Time Management for Managers](#)



1 September



(Last updated on 25 March 2022)

[Click here for Training Programme pamphlet  
\(April - September 2022\)](#)

## MEMBERS CORNER

### Council Members

High-quality company reporting plays a key role in driving business success and strong corporate governance. **CLP** is pleased to receive the Special Award for Online Reporting in the private sector and two Gold Awards in the General Award and Sustainability Reporting Award categories of this year's Australasian Reporting Awards. The awards recognise CLP's continued excellence in company reporting and commitment to integrate sustainability into its business. It is the fourth consecutive year for CLP to receive the accolades in both categories.

[Click here to learn more](#)

With climate change being an increasing concern and focus among external stakeholders, particularly the global investor community, **Hang Lung Properties** has disclosed climate-related information with reference to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") recommendations since 2019. The company has recently revealed its approach to addressing climate-related issues in alignment with the TCFD recommendations in its Sustainability Report 2021.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**Henderson Land** has recently announced the launch of its industry-first Landlord-Individual-Tenant ("LIT") ESG Partnership Programme, a three-way collaboration that engages the corporate tenants of The Henderson – the group's up-and-coming development in Central – and their individual employees in pursuing data-driven ESG goals. Participants' sustainable efforts will be evaluated by four key drivers, namely Carbon Neutrality, Health and Wellbeing, Partnership for Good, and Integrated Culture. Participants will also be rewarded with "HEND COINS" to redeem special rewards. The ESG data management system at The Henderson is powered by the state-of-the-art Digital Twin technology. Participants can access a full spectrum of crucial data covering 12 ESG aspects in real time, which enables a comprehensive performance analysis for ESG reporting, assessment and strategy formulation.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**Jardine Engineering Corporation** has been awarded a significant contract by Drainage Services Department to carry out electrical and mechanical works for sludge dewatering building, administration building and renewable energy facilities at Yuen Long Effluent Polishing Plant. It is an iconic project to upgrade the existing Yuen Long Sewage Treatment Works to tertiary treatment level to meet the increasing development needs in the region and minimise adverse environmental impact on the Deep Bay ecosystem. The treatment capacity will be increased from 70,000m<sup>3</sup>/day to 150,000m<sup>3</sup>/day in 2 stages. The project is expected to be completed in 2026.

[Click here to learn more](#)

**Modern Terminals** has recently taken delivery of two electric light goods vehicles and two electric forklifts, taking an important step towards achieving its decarbonisation goals under the Sustainability Strategy – to eliminate direct greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and to become carbon neutral by 2050. To achieve its 2030 goal, the company has to identify appropriate equipment and different types of goods vehicles powered by cleaner energy that can meet its operational needs.

[Click here to learn more](#)



## MEMBERS CORNER

**Sino Group** collaborates with fellow BEC member, local start-up EcoBricks, on a breakthrough solution to upcycle all seven types of plastic into sustainable construction materials, presenting a viable circular economy solution to urban wastes. Thanks to the proprietary formula and a low-energy, 100% cold production process, there is no harmful emission or pollutant. Up to 50% of aggregates in concrete bricks can be replaced with plastic waste, meaning that up to 2,000 kg of plastic waste, or 200,000 plastic bottles, can be diverted from landfills for every 100 sqm of EcoBricks produced. EcoBricks have been applied at Gold Coast Piazza and Olympian City, with more suitable locations to come.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Swire Pacific** has been listed on the 2022 Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index, acknowledging the company's commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive workplace and its level of disclosure and achievement of best-in-class policies. A total of 418 companies across 45 countries and regions were included in the Index, which measures gender equality across five pillars: female leadership and talent pipeline, equal pay and gender pay parity, inclusive culture, anti-sexual harassment policies, and pro-women brand. Swire Pacific is the only Hong Kong-headquartered company to be included. It scored particularly well for its inclusive culture, anti-sexual harassment policies and pro-women brand.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Swire Properties** successfully concluded its seven-month Smart Waste Reduction Challenge, the first in Hong Kong, using smart scales and a digital engagement platform to "gamify" the collective sustainability journey experienced by its tenants and employees. During the Challenge, 15 company teams, including 10 office tenants competed against each other in terms of their waste reduction performance and employee engagement level. The interactive technology together with fun and exciting activities have motivated 3,400 tenants and employees to collectively reduce 14% of total waste per employee\* and achieve 41% of waste diversion rate.

\*as compared to the first full month of data recorded at the beginning of the Challenge

[Click here to learn more](#)



In line with global concern on methane leakage, **Towngas**, together with its subsidiary, is striving to minimise methane emissions from its operation through management optimisation and new technologies. To synergise efforts towards methane reduction, the group has recently joined two global and regional methane alliances – the "Methane Guiding Principles" partnership in April and the "China Oil and Gas Methane Alliance" in June. Looking ahead, the group will continue to join hands with the industry to shoulder the responsibility of methane emissions control, promote green energy development and contribute to carbon neutrality.



## MEMBERS CORNER

**HK Electric** hosted the “Green Energy Dreams Come True 21/22” Final Presentation cum Award Ceremony for the Tertiary Institution category on 9 July. The competition is extended to tertiary institutions for the first time this year, calling on young people to initiate innovation projects promoting energy efficiency, renewable and sustainable energy on campuses and among the community. This year, with the seed money from HK Electric, a group of civil engineering students won the champion with the design of a bus stop integrating solar panels and green walls, which aimed at reducing the impacts of air pollution and heat island effect on roadside bus stops. The team was awarded a prize money of \$15,000 and a valuable internship opportunity at HK Electric.

[Click here to learn more](#)



## Corporate Members

**ATAL** has recently discussed at an online Contractor Forum held by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department the potential of “MultiTrade integrated Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing” (MiMEP) and “Design for Manufacture and Assembly” (DfMA) technology. Brian Cheng, Chief Executive of Building Services Engineering at ATAL, presented the challenges in adopting the modern construction techniques and explained how embracing the development would lead to industry-wide and long-term improvements. ATAL is progressing towards positive growth in project scheduling, work quality, safety and sustainability by developing its own set of guidelines and exploring ways to facilitate wider implementation of MiMEP and DfMA.



**CN Logistics’ (“CNL”)** effort in sustainable supply chain practices has recently been recognised by academia as one of the case studies in the research on green solutions for the logistics and transportation industry conducted by three Hong Kong-based leading academics. The results were presented at the “2022 3rd International Conference on Green Energy, Environment, and Sustainable Development” in Beijing on 29 June. This is an extraordinary step towards documenting and disseminating sustainable insights in academia for our future generations.

[Click here to learn more](#)



In April, **Compass Group Hong Kong** celebrated Stop Food Waste Day, an International Day started by Compass Group US back in 2017. During the whole month, all catering units across the business participated through different campaigns such as serving zero waste menu, sharing of recipe book, recipe challenge, and various educational pieces shared to clients. Compass also celebrated Earth Month by hosting a public webinar on “Plastic on your plate” hosted by its Senior Nutritionist, Charles Wong.



**Arup** has established a centre of excellence for climate modelling as part of its commitment to help corporates across Asia build climate resilience and answer the call from investors and policymakers. By bringing together veteran climate scientist and expert Prof Johnny Chan and Dr Homan Wong, the regional hub of expertise brings a new level of scientific understanding of climate change and thus increased confidence in resilience actions.

[Click here to learn more](#)

# ARUP

## MEMBERS CORNER

**PwC** is committed to transforming into a more sustainable business. Apart from corporate actions towards net-zero emissions, individual actions of PwC people are also crucial for creating a healthy planet. Recently, PwC China launched its Personal Carbon Calculator to allow every PwCer to understand the environmental impacts of their daily activities, and start making a change in their daily living habits. Through this tool, PwCers can estimate their current carbon footprint and receive a tailored report, after which they can choose from a number of climate pledges to start reducing their carbon footprint.



Decarbonisation of the built environment requires companies to implement green buildings at scale and to be able to access the appropriate financing to do it. **SGS Hong Kong** co-held with its partners the “How to Decarbonise Your Buildings and Access Green Finance” webinar in May, sharing how companies can get ahead of the curve and set out a clear action plan for decarbonisation of their real estate assets in a simple and cost-effective way using the EDGE software tool. The webinar also explored how companies can scale green building efforts and how these efforts can be tied with green finance available for companies looking to decarbonise their buildings.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Swire Coca-Cola HK (“SCCHK”)** has once again blended upcycling and corporate social responsibility in its waste management regime. In the “Coca-Cola’ and the Bottle of Secrets” exhibition at The Mills in June, the old returnable glass bottle crates were given a second life to transform the exhibition space at The Mills and turned into various sustainable items designed by local design students, one of which is a product that aids the visually impaired, using 3D printing techniques from recycled materials (rHDPE) of the old crates.

[Click here to learn more](#)



With a goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, **VPower Group** is dedicated to creating a green office space and raising awareness of environmental protection among staff members and the community. In June, the teams from the headquarters and overseas offices were engaged to wear green clothing or accessories to work as a pledge to sustainable living and help spread the green message. A variety of green fruits were also prepared on the event day to promote a healthy workplace.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**WSP** is proud to be named one of the Best 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada by Corporate Knights for the second consecutive year. This recognition affirms the company’s significant progress towards a more equitable, inclusive and low-carbon world. Highlights of its performance include above-average “clean revenues” earned from its environmental and other consulting capabilities; and top-quartile environmental performance. WSP continues to make significant progress towards achieving its goal of reaching net zero emissions, as well as tackling climate and societal challenges that plague the world over.

[Click here to learn more](#)



## MEMBERS CORNER

### General Members

To facilitate and implement the Government's Hong Kong Roadmap on Popularisation of Electric Vehicles, **Cornerstone Technologies** has developed the EV Charging Smart System ("EVCSS") for the Government and launched the "EV-Charging Easy" mobile app. EVCSS is the first combined all-round management and application system developed for EV chargers with back-end system, data integration and mobile application development. Systematically monitoring and managing the real-time operation of 1,800 EV chargers in government car parks, the system allows the mobile app to provide locations and real-time status of EV chargers, making emission-free driving more accessible.



**Dunwell** has been tasked by Drainage Services Department ("DSD") to collect sewage water samples from manholes and pumping stations all over Hong Kong, as part of the daily territory-wide sewage surveillance to develop proactive response to the COVID-19 pandemic for statutory public health interventions. To date, the company has collected over 17,000 samples for laboratory testing. Dunwell has also developed a mobile/desktop app for DSD to facilitate prompt and efficient monitoring. With the app, DSD can check the current work-in-progress as well as the history log of every single manhole site with all detail logs. As such, the company is able to provide clean and accurate real-time data to DSD and other management teams.



On 14 June, CEO of **Energys Spectrum** Mr Gary Wan was invited to be a speaker at a capacity building event under the HSBC Living Business Programme, of which BEC is one of the programme partners. Mr Wan made a presentation on "Landing - Turning Technology into Business Values" and shared with the audience how Energys Spectrum helps enterprises/SMEs implement ESG practically.



[Click here to learn more](#)

New research from **GlobeScan** finds that sustainability leadership is increasingly being measured by evidence of action, impact, and above all the integration of sustainability into business strategy. Sustainability experts are now almost unanimous in declaring the urgency of climate change, while energy security is growing in perceived urgency in the context of the war in Ukraine. The research also reveals that sectors most positively viewed when it comes to managing the transition towards sustainable development in Asia Pacific are Information Communications Technology, Automotive, and Life Sciences/Biotechnology.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Intertek** has launched ToxClear - an innovative digital chemical management platform for fashion industry stakeholders to detox their supply chains by reducing hazardous chemicals used in the input, process, and output stages. It provides total traceability and transparency of chemicals used across complex supply chains. The platform enables chemical inventory data exchange and communications between brands and suppliers seamlessly, 24/7, to fulfil their commitments when managing and offering transparency across their chemical production and usage.



[Click here to learn more](#)

## MEMBERS CORNER

**Mayer Brown** has published a short article entitled “The Rise of ESG and What HR Professionals in Hong Kong Should Do to Keep Up”. In recent years, employees and other stakeholders will gauge what companies are doing to pursue their ESG values. Whether companies are doing enough will have an impact on how engaged employees are to the company through alignment of corporate and personal values. Human Resources experts must be alive to these issues to mitigate reputational risks and help attract and retain the company's talent. [Click here to learn more](#)



**The Harbour School (“THS”)** and its partner have been awarded a kindergarten campus by the Government at the historic Tai Tam Tuk Water Pumping Station under the Batch VI of Revitalisation Scheme. “THS Earth Campus” consists of three main buildings that open onto Tai Tam Harbour, a strategic waterside location for THS’s marine science programme. The campus design will take into account the principle of “minimum intervention” and “reversibility”, with an emphasis on the environment with the incorporation of sustainable materials, design and practice, providing nature-based early childhood education, sustainability and heritage awareness programs designed for the public. [Click here to learn more](#)



## Recently Published Sustainability Report

- **Link REIT**



Want to share your company's latest green news with over 6,000 BEC e-Newsletter subscribers from various industries? BEC Council, Corporate and General Members are welcomed to submit their recent environmental and sustainability accomplishments to us. Selected submissions will be published in the upcoming edition of BEC's e-Newsletter completely free-of-charge. Please contact **Mr Tomas Li (E. tomasli@bec.org.hk)** for enquiries.

## Are You Ready to Go Low Carbon?

#BEC #LowCarbonCharter



BUSINESS  
ENVIRONMENT  
COUNCIL  
商界環保協會

# WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

## Corporate Member

- DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited



## Affiliate Member

- Diving Adventure Limited



Join us now to enjoy member exclusive rights and benefits! We welcome organisations of all sizes across diverse sectors to facilitate environmental sustainability together. For more information about our membership programme, please visit [HERE](#) or contact **Membership Team (T. 2784 3924 | E. [membership@bec.org.hk](mailto:membership@bec.org.hk))**.



# 30 YEARS

## of Environmental Excellence



## BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS

- **BOCHK Corporate Low-Carbon Environmental Leadership Awards 2022** | Federation of Hong Kong Industries | August 2022 - August 2023
- **Revive Tech Asia** | 24-25 August
- **Excellent ESG Recognition Scheme 2021-2022** | Hong Kong Economic Times | 27 October

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