

Information Pack

BEC EnviroSeries Conference – 21 May 2015

**Embracing Natural Capital in a Densely Built Metropolis:
Challenges and Solutions for Achieving Environmental Sustainability**

Background

Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司 (“BEC”), is an independent, charitable membership organisation established by the business sector in 1992. Staged twice a year the EnviroSeries is BEC’s flagship conference that aims to provide a cross-sector forum to discuss and address key issues related to Hong Kong’s environmental sustainability. BEC EnviroSeries has a proven track record of success in bringing together like-minded leaders to exchange industry knowledge and showcase leading best practice.

Overview

Date : 21 May 2015 (Thursday)

Time : 9:30 to 17:05

Venue : JW Marriott Hong Kong

Hong Kong ranked 8th overall on a recent Sustainable Cities Index covering 50 cities globally, but it ranked only 19th in terms of environmental performance. While Hong Kong has been enjoying economic prosperity as a world-class metropolis, what should the business sector and the Hong Kong Government do to preserve natural capital and ensure environmental sustainability of the city?

Natural capital represents the stocks of natural assets encompassing air, water, geology and all living things that provide ecosystem services in making human life possible. Clean air, clean water and other natural assets are becoming increasingly more important to policy makers and business leaders in their planning and decision making process.

According to the Chief Executive’s 2015 Policy Address, the Hong Kong Government is formulating the first Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (“BSAP”) for the city with a view to stepping up conservation efforts and supporting the sustainable development of Hong Kong. The business sector is well-positioned to provide inputs to the Government on developing a successful BSAP that can facilitate Hong Kong’s development agenda. What elements should be incorporated in the BSAP to enhance transparency and predictability of the development planning process, while avoiding duplication with the existing regulatory regime and potential increase in the cost of doing business?

Clean water, as an important natural asset, also requires careful long term planning and management. The Hong Kong Government has forecasted that fresh water demand will grow to 1,315 mcm by 2030 if no additional water demand management measures are introduced after 2015. With a population of over 7 million and still growing, maintaining reliable water supply is a challenge for Hong Kong. What are the possible measures and solutions that can facilitate our planning and better management of this natural asset?

Hong Kong is a city bursting at the seams with dense population and is struggling to meet the needs of its citizens. However there is no simple formula for converting a congested metropolis into a green and low-carbon urban environment. Strategic planning, innovative business solutions and cooperation among different sectors are needed to balance economic growth and protection of natural capital. In this Conference, BEC will bring together industry experts, policy makers, business leaders and academics to discuss and explore innovative solutions and technologies that can preserve Hong Kong’s natural capital and bring benefits to businesses at the same time.



BEC EnviroSeries Conference Rundown (21 May 2015)

9:00	Reception and Registration
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Morning session

9:30 (15 mins)	Opening Remarks - Prof John CHAI, Chairman, BEC
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9:45 (15 mins)	Group Photo and Souvenir Presentation (Government Officials and Sponsors)
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10:00 (15 mins)	Group Photo and Souvenir Presentation (Speakers)
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10:15 (15 mins)	Keynote Presentation – Policy Directions in Enhancing the Conservation of Hong Kong’s Natural Capital as an Important Pillar for Sustainable Development - Mr K S WONG, JP, Secretary for the Environment, Hong Kong SAR Government (confirmed)
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10:30 (15 mins)	Balancing Infrastructure Development and Environmental Sustainability – Innovative Approach in Preserving Natural Capital in Infrastructure Projects - Mr Mike KILBURN, Senior Manager, Environment, Airport Authority Hong Kong (confirmed)
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Networking Tea-break 10:45 – 11:00

11:00 (15 mins)	Biodiversity in Urban Planning Process – Perspectives from Property Development - Mr Tony IP, Deputy Director of Sustainable Design, Ronald Lu & Partners (confirmed)
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11:15 (15 mins)	Business Opportunities in Ecosystems Services – Challenges, Success Factors and Future Development - Mr Ben RIDLEY, Sustainability Affairs – Asia Pacific Regional Head, Credit Suisse (confirmed)
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11:30 (15 mins)	Win-Win Scenario in Driving Growth and Conserving Biodiversity - Mr Alistair MONUMENT, FSC Asia Pacific Regional Director, Forest Stewardship Council® (confirmed)
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11:45 (60 mins)	Panel Discussion – The Role of the Business Sector in Facilitating Biodiversity in Hong Kong and the Business Considerations Moderator: Mr Mark HARPER, Senior Manager - ESG Advisory, BEC Panellists: - Ms Natalie CHAN, Director, Corporate Responsibility & Sustainability of The Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, Limited (confirmed) - Mr Gavin EDWARDS, Director of Conservation, WWF-Hong Kong (confirmed) - Mr Tony IP, Deputy Director of Sustainable Design, Ronald Lu & Partners (confirmed) - Dr Michael LEVEN, Director, AEC Limited (confirmed) - Mr Ben RIDLEY, Sustainability Affairs – Asia Pacific Regional Head, Credit Suisse (confirmed) - Prof Nora F Y TAM, BBS, JP, Chair Professor, Department of Biology and Chemistry, City University of Hong Kong (confirmed)
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Networking Luncheon 13:00 – 14:15	
13:45 (15 mins)	Developing the First City Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Hong Kong - Dr Siu Fai LEUNG, Acting Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation, Hong Kong SAR Government (confirmed)
Afternoon session	
14:30 (15 mins)	Group Photo and Souvenir Presentation
14:45 (15 mins)	Water Management in Hong Kong as a Water-Scarce City and Strategic Measures to Improve Water Security - Ir Chung Leung WONG, Deputy Director of Water Supplies, Hong Kong SAR Government (confirmed)
15:00 (15 mins)	Embracing Water Efficiency – Business Case and Innovative Solutions - Mr Samuel KWONG, Group Sustainable Development Manager, John Swire & Sons (H.K.) Limited
15:15 (15 mins)	Showcasing Water Footprint Reduction as a Successful Business Strategy - Mr Anderson LEE, Chairman, Sustainable Fashion Business Consortium (confirmed)
Networking Tea-break 15:30 – 15:45	
15:45 (15 mins)	Water Resource Management in a Service Economy – Overseas Experiences - Mrs Rita Hämmerli-Weschke, Consul General, Consulate General of Switzerland in Hong Kong (confirmed)
16:00 (60 mins)	Panel Discussion – Water Resource Management for Different Industry Sectors including Risk Assessment and Mitigation Moderator: Ir Shirlee ALGIRE, Executive Manager, Sustainability, The Hong Kong Jockey Club (confirmed) Panellists: - Ms Pat Gallardo DWYER, World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, Class of 2015 (confirmed) - Prof Kin Chung HO, BBS, JP, Dean of School of Science & Technology, The Open University of Hong Kong (confirmed) - Mr John HERBERT, Director, BEAM Society Limited (confirmed) - Mr Samuel KWONG, Group Sustainable Development Manager, John Swire & Sons (H.K.) Limited - Dr Joyce TSOI, Environmental Program Responsible, H&M Hennes & Mauritz (Far East) Limited (confirmed)
17:00	Closing Remarks - Ms Agnes LI, Chief Executive Officer, BEC
17:05	End of Programme

For additional information, please contact:

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