Case Study

Sino Land Company Limited

Photo Source: Sino Land Company Limited

Sustainability is central to Sino Land's business and operations. It has integrated sustainability into all aspects of its operations — from architectural planning and green property management to education and exploring green innovations as the Group seeks to Create Better Lifescapes.

Decarbonisation and climate resilience have long been foci of the Group's sustainability efforts. In 2012, Sino Land set its carbon reduction target of 16% by 2020, based on the 2012 baseline; by mid-2019, the company achieved reduction of carbon emissions of 17.45% against the 2012 level, one year ahead of the target. In 2020, Sino Land set a new target to achieve a GHG emission reduction of 30% by 2030 from the 2012 baseline, and in 2022, a new target in line with Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) methodology was set to reduce 53.1% Scopes 1 and 2 GHG emissions per square metre by 2030, from its 2018 baseline.

In 2020, the Group unveiled the Sustainability Vision 2030, the blueprint charting the sustainability course towards 2030 and beyond. It entails the Group's vision in crucial areas such as decarbonisation, renewable energy, plastic reduction, green building and innovative solutions, all these contribute to a more sustainable future.

Sino Land has entered into a strategic cooperation with Huawei Hong Kong Digital Power Business to deepen collaboration to drive digital transformation in the built environment and promote sustainable development in the industry. A joint project team will be set up for collaborative research and to promote co-operations in a wide range of fields, including the use of green energy, smart charging networks, next-generation data centres, etc to advance the goals of Sustainability Vision 2030.

Sino Land also signed up to support United Nations Global Compact as well as Business Ambition for 1.5°C and the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) in 2021, becoming one of the first Asian real estate developers to commit to the global calls-to-action to build a more sustainable future together.

In its most recent effort, the Group has unveiled its Decarbonisation Blueprint to achieve net zero carbon by 2050. Backed by extensive research with the HKUST, the holistic roadmap focuses on three key areas, namely Development, Operations and Collaboration, with specific decarbonisation strategies and interim targets including:

- in addition to setting Science-based Target of reducing Scopes 1 and 2 GHG emissions per square metre by 53.1% from the 2018 baseline, it has set a new target of reducing Scope 3 GHG emissions in line with Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) methodology;
- reducing electricity consumption intensity by 30% from the 2018 baseline;
- conducting climate risk assessments at Sino Land's wholly-owned new development projects, where applicable, and
- obtaining BEAM Plus Gold or above certification at all of Sino Land's wholly-owned new development projects, where applicable.

Climate risk assessment has been conducted at over 170 Hong Kong properties under the Group's management to evaluate climate resilience in accordance with recommendations from the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure, enabling the Group to make progressive strides towards a more climate-resilient and sustainable future.

Sino Land supports renewable energy to make its properties more environmentally friendly. The use of renewable energy, namely solar panels, wind turbines and in-building hydropower system is explored wherever possible. Over 2,300 photovoltaic panels have been installed, generating a total peak power of more than 790kWp. To optimise renewable energy harvesting, Sino Land has developed an Integrated Renewable Energy Platform to monitor real-time performances of all photovoltaic panels in its properties, including system status, system capacity and energy output.

Green transport is another core pillar of Sino Group's decarbonisation strategies, and the Group is expanding the coverage of electric vehicle charging stations at its properties, with a target of over 1,400 installed by end-2022.

In a further effort in minimising carbon footprint, Sino Group and local start-up EcoBricks Limited have joined hands on a breakthrough solution to upcycle all the seven types of plastic, including mixed and composite plastic, into sustainable construction materials, presenting a viable circular economy solution to urban plastic waste.

The low-energy, 100% cold production process with no heating or melting of waste plastic eliminates harmful emissions or pollutants. Up to 50% of aggregates in concrete bricks can be replaced with plastic waste, meaning that up to 2,000 kg of plastic waste can be diverted from landfills for every 100 square metres of EcoBricks produced, equivalent to 200,000 plastic bottles.

EcoBricks have been applied at Gold Coast Piazza with over 15,000 bricks used to pave the promenade and line the Leaf Path. The EcoBricks have been upcycled from the plastic from over 560 old washing machines, equivalent to 5,400 kg of plastic waste. In addition to Olympian City and The Fullerton Ocean Park Hotel, the Group is planning to deploy EcoBricks at other suitable properties as well as strengthening engagement with tenants and customers in supporting plastic upcycling and circular economy.

Sino Group is committed to making sustainability a driver of its business and exploring innovative solutions to build a healthier and more sustainable environment. The Group will continue to uphold sustainability and promote circular economy through engaging different stakeholders while nurturing start-ups to explore innovative solutions to environmental issues.