

BEC
Sustainability
Report 2019



"...climate change will threaten financial resilience and longer-term prosperity. While there is still time to act, the window of opportunity is finite and shrinking."

Mark Carney

This is how we Enable Sustainability.

The Report

This Sustainability Report (“Report”) covers Business Environment Council’s approach to sustainability covering strategy, objectives, initiatives and performance over 2 fiscal years from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018 (FY 2017/18) and 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019 (FY 2018/19). The Report is prepared in accordance with the GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards (“GRI Standards”): Core option, and the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide (“ESG Guide”) published by Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (“HKEx”). As a non-profit organisation, our disclosure also references the GRI G4 NGO Sector Disclosure Supplement (“NGO Sector Supplement”). The reporting boundary comprises our contributions and impacts from our operations as well as the environmental footprint of the BEC building located in Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong.

Awards and Membership
Recognition of BEC and our work to enable sustainability.



Figures
This section provides consolidated information about our sustainability performance and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Glass bottles	37	(0.0%)	138	(0.4%)
Other glass	193	(0.6%)		
(Glass) Sub-total				25
Metals	18	(0.3%)	7	(0.2%)
Aluminium cans	102	(1.0%)	79	(2.0%)
Iron/steel metals	19	(0.3%)	17	(0.4%)
Other non-ferrous metals	139	(2.2%)	103	(2.6%)
(Metals) Sub-total				518
Paper	235	(1.7%)	282	(7.2%)
Cardboard	313	(4.9%)	76	(1.9%)
Newspaper	76	(1.2%)	66	(1.7%)
Other paper	44	(0.7%)	39	(0.9%)
Tissue/pulp	690	(10.8%)	411	(10.9%)
Others ⁽¹⁾	1,358	(21.3%)	856	(22.4%)
(Paper) Sub-total				2,344
Plastic bottles	52	(0.8%)	37	(0.9%)
Other plastic	79	(1.2%)	78	(2.0%)
(Plastic) Sub-total				155
Others			122	(3.1%)
(Others) Sub-total				490

Content Index
Navigation tool to help locate specific disclosures within this Report.



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Highlights

2000+ **11**
Members **Publications**

39 **Events and Seminars**

155
Community engagements delivered

56 **29**
Headcount **Sectors**
BEAM Plus Platinum Rating (Existing Buildings)

348
Environmental advisory projects delivered

9
Policy dialogues

43%
GHG emissions reduced since baseline (FY2012/13)

69 **10%** **Building recycling rate increase since baseline (FY2015/16)**

Workshops and Courses **12** **Consultation Responses**

31% **Building energy consumption reduced since baseline (FY2012/13)**

12 **Initiatives with business**

Message from our Chairman

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chairman during a period of heightened awareness of environmental issues and drive for action in Hong Kong spearheaded by the business community. As an independent, charitable membership organisation, BEC is a keystone in the local sustainability ecosystem enabling our 200+ members from 29 sectors to contribute to the mission of transitioning Hong Kong to a low carbon world. We are a platform which encourages a competitive green economy built on bold innovation, steady collaboration and long-term resilience.

Although our focus is Hong Kong, we recognise that we are part of a global community working together to address environmental challenges. In my time as Chairman, I have fostered BEC's outward-looking view encouraging the management team to access global expertise and share international viewpoints with our members and non-members alike. In practice, the result is a more active role as the Hong Kong network partner for the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, greater involvement with regional organisations such as the Asia Investor Group on Climate Change and stronger international partnerships with key players such as CDP and the World Resources Institute.

Over the past two years, we have witnessed a greater awareness and interest in the various aspects of environmental sustainability and the interconnectedness of these issues. To ensure BEC remains attuned to emerging trends and focused on a clear direction, the Board initiated a re-evaluation of our organisational priorities. Through the efforts of the management team and with the support of Board directors, BEC articulated a set of three strategic priorities for the next three years, namely, deliver value to members, drive government and business action and demonstrate leadership with BEC building as a 'green lab'.

Although our focus is Hong Kong, we recognise that we are part of a global community working together to address environmental challenges.

The new strategic priorities are accompanied by three interrelated environmental focus areas to help concentrate BEC's efforts and resources to realise the greatest impact. Reflecting these focus areas, BEC's Advisory Groups have been reorganised and consolidated into the Climate Change Business Forum Advisory Group, the Sustainable Living Environment Advisory Group and the Circular Economy Advisory Group. Through this exercise, BEC has established a strong footing from which to continue its work and create impact. The successful execution of this strategic plan will rest on the collective efforts of the entire organisation and continued support from our members.

After 27 years of connecting stakeholders, nurturing leadership and creating value, we ended FY 2018/19 on a positive note with the successful renovation of the auditorium and exhibition hall as the conclusion of the BEC Building Transformation Project. BEC will continue to leverage its extensive experience to engage with the business community, the government and our partners both locally and internationally to offer opportunities to exchange knowledge, enhance awareness and innovate sustainable solutions.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Lancaster'.

Mr Richard Lancaster



Message from our CEO

When I first joined BEC, I was impressed by the team's dedication and commitment to driving change. Over the past two years, I am reminded of how accurate my first impression was as I witnessed the BEC team build on the organisation's 27 years of experience to accelerate the drive to achieve our vision and mission as we respond to greater urgency to address environmental sustainability challenges.

With the support of the Chairman and Board Directors, we have fostered stronger relationships with our local and global partners and in 2019, we had the pleasure of hosting several senior figures from the World Business Council for Sustainable Development who shared their vision for a sustainable future. We embrace change, recognising when there is need to re-evaluate our areas of focus to ensure we maintain our relevance and our role as the "voice of business" on the environment in Hong Kong. Building on the trust of our members and our board directors, BEC management has introduced a new set of strategic priorities and environmental focus areas which allow our team to more effectively and deliberately address the most pressing environmental challenges in a holistic manner. Our collaborative and practical approach continues to inform all our interactions with our stakeholders, from our members to the wider community.

In the past two years, I have worked to instil a growth mindset within the organisation which thrives on challenge and innovation. In addition to upskilling our current team members, we have also worked to attract the "right" individuals; ones who share the same values and possess the skills to help fill our expertise gaps. Although always strapped for resources, our team spirit and caring culture shines as we worked to improve our workplace environment from an enhanced office layout

to catering to the needs of working mothers as a breastfeeding friendly workplace. In addition, BEC has introduced a sustainability governance structure to help scrutinise our own environmental and social performance in a more systematic manner.

It is my view that, the present BEC team is the strongest it has ever been on multiple fronts. Particular noteworthy achievements of this team during this period are the delivery of continuous steady membership growth and record revenues and surplus which place us on a solid financial footing to continue enhancing our work in the coming years. Though we have embarked on a process to update and enhance outdated policies and operating procedures, BEC now practices "continuous improvement" and is always looking to see how we can be even better in all aspects of our operations to make us an organization synonymous with quality.

Our next steps are a review of the BEC Institute for Environmental Education strategy and revamping our website to help us be even more impactful going forward. Our efforts over the past two years have further reinforced BEC's position as an important voice representing the business community and platform for taking the right steps to deliver impact together with our members to improve the environment in Hong Kong.



Mr Adam Koo

We embrace change, recognising when there is a need to re-evaluate our focus areas to ensure we maintain our relevance and our role as the "voice of business" on the environment in Hong Kong.



Who we are

Who we are

Business Environment Council (“BEC”), as an independent charitable membership organisation established by the business sector, has been bringing the private and public sector together to tackle environmental issues through innovative solutions since 1992. In this Report, BEC describes how we work to enable sustainability.

Vision

That Hong Kong’s businesses will be recognised as leaders in practising and enabling environmental protection, and in contributing to the transition to a low carbon economy.

Mission

To advocate environmental protection amongst our members and the broader community, the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution, and improve the environment.

200+

members from 29 sectors

*as at 30 September 2019

Our People

BEC’s expertise and success is a result of our team’s persistent commitment to realising a sustainable future.

56

Headcount

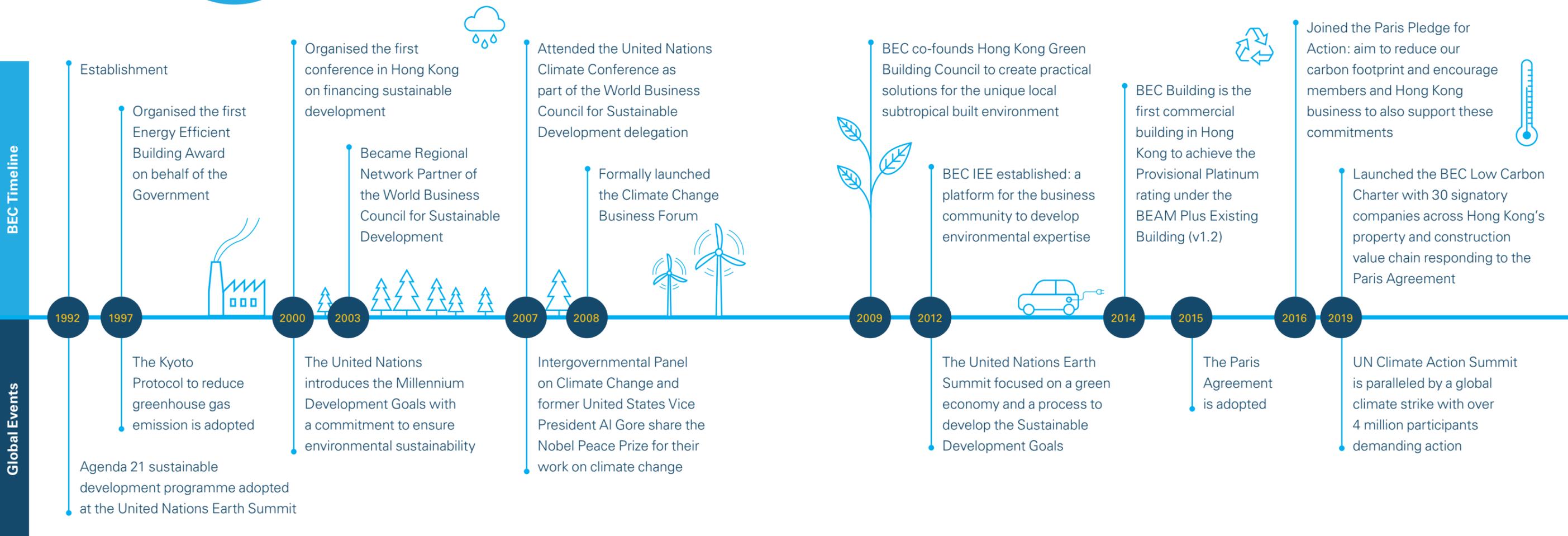
21.34

Average training hours per employee

1.31

Average basic staff salary ratio (f:m)

*as at 30 September 2019



What we do



What we do

Our Strategy

In 2019, we underwent a re-evaluation and articulation exercise to develop a 3-year organisational strategy and related objectives covering FY 2019/20 to FY 2021/22. As part of the process, the senior management worked with the board to evaluate and determine environmental, social and governance risks related to BEC's operations and potential actions to mitigate the risks.

We also identified three environmental focus areas expected to significantly impact Hong Kong to serve as anchor points which connect issues, focus BEC's attention, converge internal resources and maximise impact:

Our Environmental Focus Areas



Climate Change



Circular Economy



Sustainable Living Environment

Our Strategic Priorities



Deliver Value to Our Members



Drive Government and Business Action



Demonstrate Leadership: BEC as a "Green Lab"

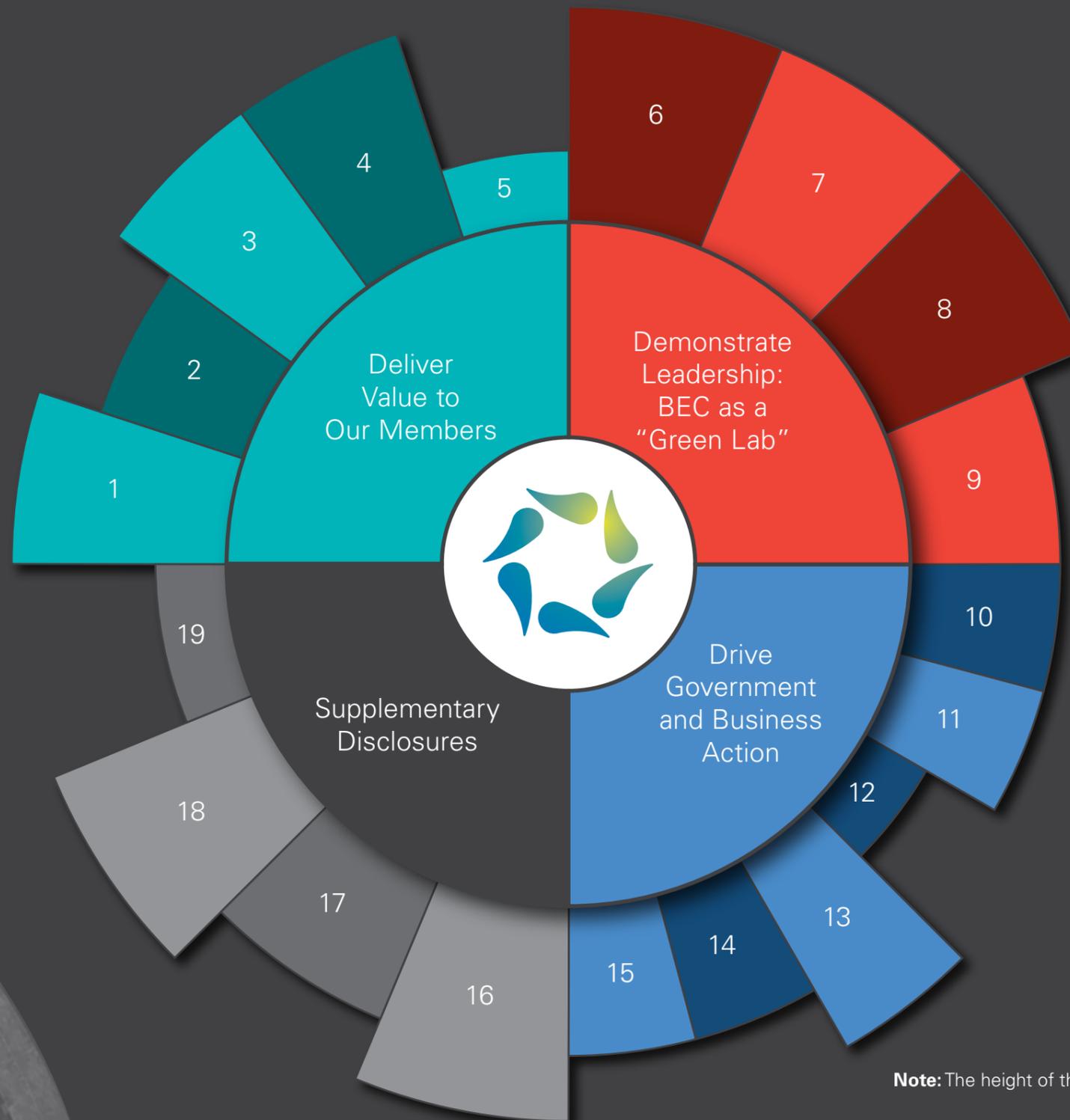


We also identified three environmental focus areas expected to significantly impact Hong Kong



Our Key Issues

- We engaged our stakeholders to gather feedback on our overall performance and assess the materiality of our key issues
- Identified issues which may impact our ability to deliver on our objectives in relation to our strategic priorities and our environmental focus areas
- These issues were validated by our senior management team



Deliver Value to Our Members

1. Customer Privacy
2. Ethical Funding
3. Training and Education for BEC's Staff
4. Recruitment and Retention of BEC's Staff
5. Anti-Corruption

Demonstrate Leadership: BEC as a "Green Lab"

6. BEC's Effluents and Waste
7. BEC's Energy Usage
8. BEC's GHG Emissions
9. BEC's Water Usage

Drive Government and Business Action

10. Affected Stakeholder Engagement
11. Coordination with Other NGOs
12. Feedback, Complaints and Action
13. Influence on Public Policy
14. Impacts on Local Communities
15. Public Awareness and Advocacy

Supplementary Disclosures

16. Socio-Economic Compliance
17. Diversity and Equal Opportunity
18. Environmental Compliance
19. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

[> See our Content Index for links to content within this report](#)

[> See our Materiality Methodology for details on our process](#)

Note: The height of the column indicates the level of materiality.

Our Role in the Sustainability Ecosystem

The sustainability challenges we face are complex, fluid and shared across borders and industries. We believe in a coordinated, collaborative and holistic approach to drive positive change. BEC's commitment is to work with our members, the wider business community, the Hong Kong government and others in our society to realise a sustainable economy with a special focus on Hong Kong. In this way, we are enablers within the sustainability ecosystem, working with different partners to build capacity and encourage the adoption of innovative practices and technologies through green collaboration, practical projects and advisory, BEC as a green lab, and nurturing leadership.

We play our part to drive environmental sustainability as a member of the wider global community which aims to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("SDG"s) – a shared global agenda for sustainable development. As we harness and augment the positive impacts of our members, and other partners in Hong Kong, we make our contributions to the SDGs. Our activities directly and indirectly contribute to the concerted efforts to meet the SDGs. As a multi-stakeholder platform which emphasises the importance of sharing and enhancing knowledge, we have identified two overarching SDGs where BEC contributes the greatest value:



4 QUALITY EDUCATION
SDG 4¹: BEC aims to expand and enhance sustainability knowledge in Hong Kong to encourage innovation and improve environmental practices and performance.

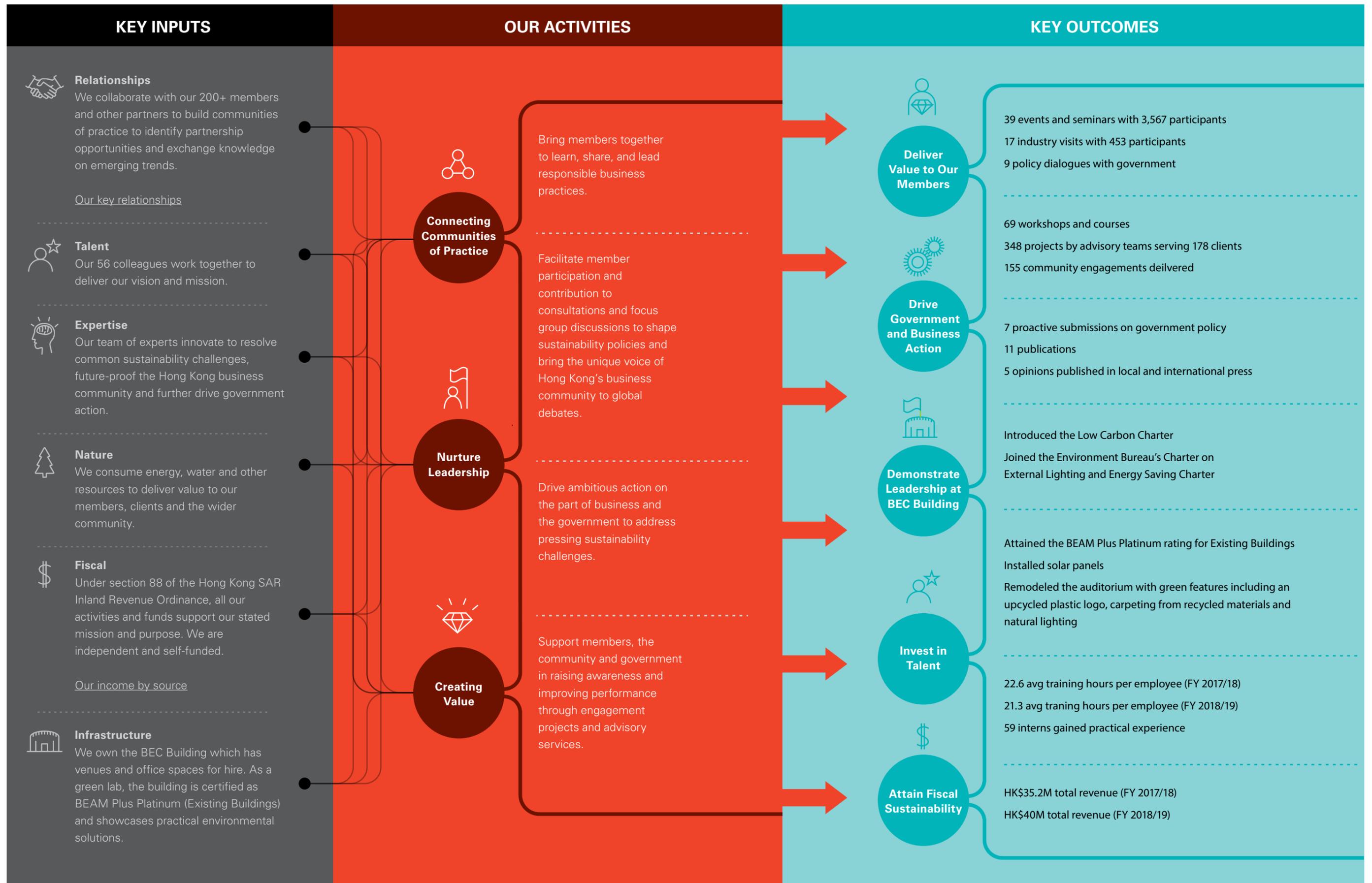
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
SDG 17²: BEC aims to be an "enabler" to encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships for sustainable development.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

While SDGs 4 and 17 are BEC's areas of greatest impact, our operations, green collaborations and practical projects also enable businesses and communities in Hong Kong to contribute to other SDGs.

Emphasising our core values and leveraging our key strengths, our sustainability framework reflects our role as an enabler in the sustainability ecosystem in Hong Kong and beyond.

Our Operating Model





Deliver value to our members

Deliver value to our members

All our activities are focused on serving our members as we activate steps towards environmental sustainability. Keeping our mission at the core of our activities, we provide a platform for our members to share knowledge and support them as they work collectively as catalysts for positive change.

Objectives

- Develop a strong membership base around the environmental focus areas
- Enhance the diversity of our membership as the local economy innovates, thrives and transforms to ensure that we remain “the voice of business” on environmental issues



Ethics

Our relationships with our members, partners and the wider community starts from a place of integrity, transparency and accountability. From this foundation, we ensure we deliver the best possible value to our members. Our shared values and explicit policies guide us as we uphold our high ethical standards to meet the expectations of our members and wider stakeholders.

We do not tolerate any form of corruption or anti-competitive practices.

- The BEC Code of Conduct guides our approach to upholding this commitment and is part of the induction training provided to all staff members.
- Our policy states that no staff, including Directors, shall solicit or accept any advantage from any individual or organisation having business dealings or potential business dealings with BEC.
- The Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing Policy stipulate that any misconduct may be reported to the respective Department Head, the CEO or BEC Chairman and will be treated in a confidential and sensitive manner.



- > [See the roles and membership of the BEC board](#)
- > [See the roles and membership of the BEC EXCO](#)
- > [See the roles and membership of the BEC CMC](#)

Governance and Integrity

Our members expect and trust us to deliver value in a responsible and transparent manner. As we undertake our activities, we are guided by a clear strategy and well-established policies and processes.

Our Board of Directors steers BEC’s strategic direction and reviews our performance to ensure we continue to deliver value to our members as we undertake activities and initiatives to achieve our stated mission. Board directors are elected from our members and include representatives of leading multinational and local companies who individually provide an appropriate mix of skills, experience, expertise and diversity to inform

decision-making and provide effective governance and leadership on behalf of our members. The board holds overall responsibility for the delivery of strategies, policies and goals which, given our organisational purpose, are inherently related to economic, social and environmental topics.

The BEC Executive Committee (“EXCO”) and the Communications and Membership Committee (“CMC”) support the work of the Board while the Chief Executive Officer has been delegated with the daily management of BEC.

Independence and Funding

Diversity of funding streams enables our independence as we prevent overreliance on a single source of income and any resultant undue influence from a single supporter’s policies and strategy.



Robust internal financial controls enable us to monitor, record and track the use of resources. In compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622), we prepare annual audited accounts and annual business reviews which are approved by the Board and submitted to BEC Council Members. In addition, the Board and the Executive Committee review BEC's financial results at each respective meeting.

For the purposes of organisational continuity during challenging economic periods, we set aside an amount of unrestricted free liquid funds sufficient to cover at least 4 months of our operating costs.

Our Building Reserve is earmarked to meet the capital expenditures necessary for any major building maintenance projects.

Our Investment Policy ensures that a proper selection of investments in financial instruments is duly exercised for the reserves and surplus cash flows.



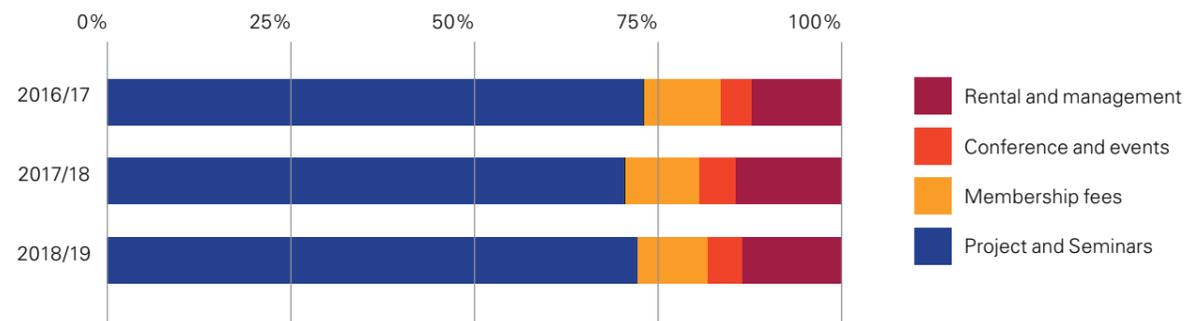
Connecting Communities of Practice

Having joined BEC, our members leverage our platform to connect with communities of practice where they are invited to learn, share and lead responsible business practices. To facilitate this, we organise regular events, Advisory Group meetings, seminars, courses and workshops which tackle both urgent and emergent environmental issues facing business and the community in Hong Kong. These activities are tailored to meet the needs of professionals at all career levels, from the C-suite to frontline staff. The aim is to prepare participants to respond to the business risks that arise from environmental changes.

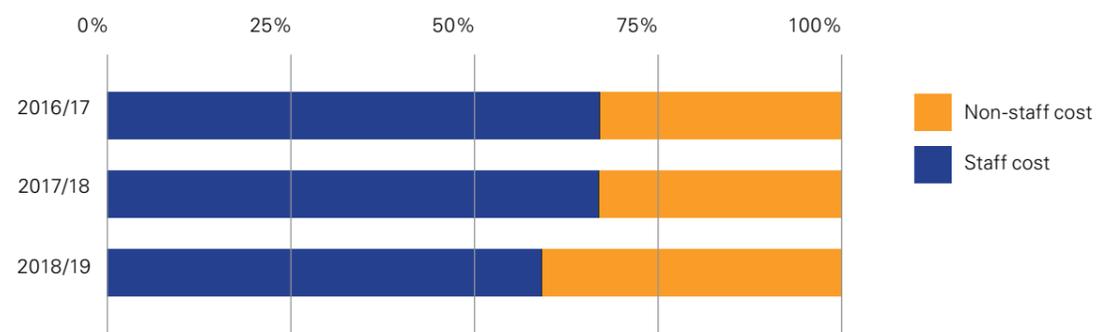
We aim to provide opportunities for interactive knowledge exchange between peers. Our activities cover a wide range of interconnected environmental issues, however as matters related to our environmental focus areas became more salient over time, we have worked to raise the profile of relevant topics. This approach helps to:

- raise the awareness of our members;
- strengthen our position as a source of environmental leadership; and
- widen the BEC community as we attract partners who are impacted by, and seek to address, such issues.

Income by Source



Expenses





Climate Change

Climate Finance: From Green Bonds to Green Loans – Recent Market Developments was held on 13 June 2018. The seminar featured speakers from the International Capital Market Association (“ICMA”), the Climate Bonds Initiative, S&P Global Ratings, BNP Paribas, Link Asset Management and New World Development who shared market developments and the evolving set of green finance frameworks. Three key points arose from the discussion: climate risk and opportunities can affect credit ratings of financial products, the green finance market is growing rapidly, and that finance plays a critical role to transitioning to a low carbon future.

Events and Seminars



*note that events are classified based on topics covered; as some event topics overlap environmental focus areas, they may be counted multiple times.

Deciphering TCFD Part 2: Implementing the Recommendations – Tools, Insights, and Best Practice was held on 27 August 2019 as the debut event at BEC’s newly renovated auditorium. The Financial Stability Board’s Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (“TCFD”) has developed a set of recommendations to help companies manage climate-related financial risks and encourage consistent disclosures to investors, lenders, insurers, and other stakeholders. This seminar with a panel of industry experts from Bloomberg, CLP, KPMG, and CDP who shared industry best practice on how companies should navigate TCFD. This is Part 2 of a two-part event. Deciphering TCFD, Part 1: What Businesses Cannot Ignore – Understanding Investor & Stakeholder Expectations was held on 30 April 2019.



Sustainable Living Environment

EnviroSeries: The Making of a Low Carbon Hong Kong – Business Leadership and Best Practices was held on 23 November 2018. Our flagship event showcased the business sector’s commitment to decarbonisation through strategies, innovation, technologies, investment, integrated solutions, partnership and sectoral target-setting. Mr Wong Kam-sing, the Secretary for the Environment was the Guest of Honour and Keynote Speaker. Other prominent speakers included Mr Shailesh Sreedharan, Director of Global Operations, World Resources Institute and Dr Zhang Jian-yu, Vice President, Environmental Defense Fund. The Conference attracted over 170 participants, including policy makers, industry experts, business leaders and academics.

Investing in Building Energy Efficiency: Enhancing Hong Kong’s Policy Framework – Seminar and Research Report Launch Event was held on 28 January 2019. Welcoming over 70 guests, BEC launched the “Investing in Building Energy Efficiency: Enhancing Hong Kong’s Policy Framework” report. Green building professionals and building owners/users shared the bottlenecks they encounter in enhancing energy efficiency. Incentivising landlord/tenant collaboration, improving transparency of building-level data and establishing buildings energy efficiency benchmarks were suggested as possible solutions.

Green Building Standards Breakfast Seminar co-hosted with the European Chamber of Commerce was held on 3 June 2019. More than 60 participants received an overview of four leading green building rating systems which are defining sustainability in the built environment today. Expert speakers and attendees engaged in a rich and insightful discussion on Passivhaus, LEED, BEAM and WELL systems; as well as on the challenges and opportunities facing the green building industry in Hong Kong.





Circular Economy

BEC Leadership Networking Series: Be Bright, Recycle Right! Taking Responsibility for Every Finite Resource of Your Operations was held on 15 May 2018. Supported by the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”), BEC hosted this experience sharing seminar, where participants learnt and exchanged ideas on the latest promotion of “clean and right recycling” by the HKSAR Government. Representatives from the EPD, Swire Properties Limited and Secure Information Disposal Services Limited shared their experience and initiatives in achieving and implementing waste and resource management plans in their operations.

BEC Leadership Networking Series: Actions for Reducing Single-Use Plastic was held on 30 August 2018 exploring responses to the serious environmental problems caused by single-use plastic. During the seminar, representatives from the EPD, Sino Group, The Hongkong and Shanghai Hotels, Limited and Langham Hospitality Group shared their efforts and experiences as they reduced single-use plastic in their operations. The seminar offered an enriching experience for the over 100 like-minded attendees from the business and environmental protection sectors.

BEC hosted this experience sharing seminar, where participants learnt and exchanged ideas on the latest promotion of “clean and right recycling” by the HKSAR Government.



Climate Change

The Executive Training on Developing and Financing Low Carbon Economy, an interactive half-day workshop organised by BEC, the Hong Kong Centre for Carbon Innovation and the University of Edinburgh, was held on 13 December 2017. Using real world examples, participants explored current trends financing a low carbon economy, analysed the associated risks and opportunities, and developed organisational strategies aligned with financial stability.

Workshops and Courses



The Responsible Investment Workshop: How Investors and Corporates Can Manage Climate Risk workshop held on 14 March 2018 brought together investors and corporates to learn about responsible investment and climate risk. It was supported by the Principles for Responsible Investment (“PRI”), ICMA, CDP and the Asia Investor Group on Climate Change (“AIGCC”). Lorenzo Saa of PRI, Emily Chew of Manulife Asset Management and Mervyn Tang of MSCI explained the various frameworks and guidelines for asset owners and managers to take into account the financial impacts of climate risk. Paul Milon of BNP Paribas Asset Management shared the major steps taken and the commitments made by BNP Paribas to assess and reduce their exposure to climate risk.



Sustainable Living Environment

The Intensive Training on Indoor Mould Inspection and Management course was held four times during the reporting period to help participants prepare for the new Indoor Air Quality (“IAQ”) objectives introduced by the EPD and launched on 1 July 2019. The training provided essential knowledge on indoor mould inspection and management which is relevant to the new parameters on mould included in the new IAQ objectives.



Circular Economy

The Training on Circular Economy Strategies for Sustainable Business course was held on 11 January 2018. Participants were introduced to the Circulab methodology, a transition management and strategy tool. The skills they acquired in this training through concrete circular examples include how to develop knowledge through experience, create new circular solutions to challenges, use collective intelligence and adopt biomimicry.

Our member Canon Hongkong Company Limited invited the BEC Institute for Environmental Education (“IEE”) to develop and deliver seminars for schools which participated in the Canon x McDull Inter-school Ink Cartridge Recycling Competition under the Ink Cartridge Recycling Programme. During FY 2017/18 and FY 2018/19, BEC IEE presented the seminar at 48 primary and secondary schools to enhance awareness of environmental protection and waste reduction amongst the students.

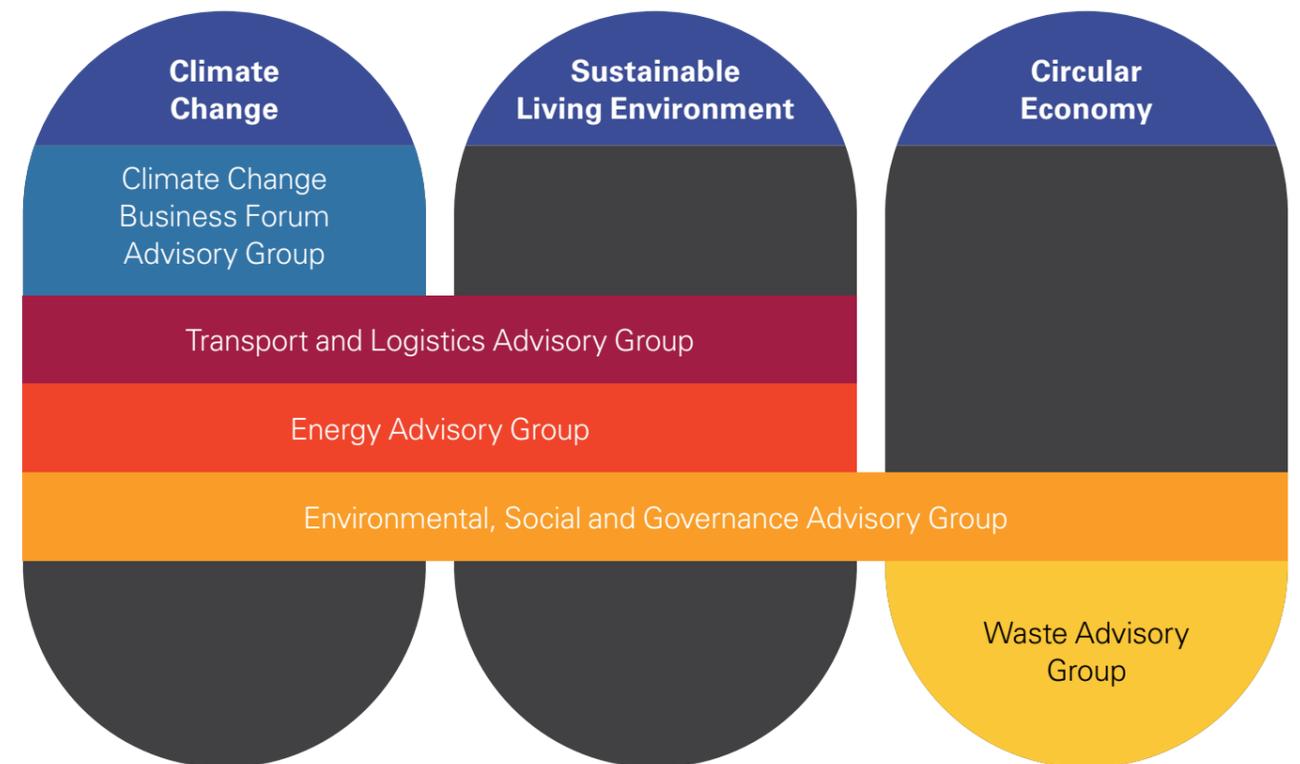


Advisory Group

Our Advisory Groups provide members with a platform for a deeper level of engagement on particular focus areas. The Advisory Groups play an important role as:

- advisors to the board on matters related to their remit which results in informed policy advocacy to the government and effective best practice programmes and projects
- a source of capacity building on particular topic areas
- a sharing platform

The Advisory Groups help us identify and advance key environmental focus areas and support BEC and our members as we develop and organise projects, policy recommendations, workshops and seminars.



[> See details on policy recommendations](#)

The Advisory Groups are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure we address the changing needs of the business community. During our strategy development process, we restructured our five Advisory Groups for better alignment and a more holistic and thematic approach to environmental sustainability focused on the three environmental focus areas. The new structure will come into effect in FY 2019/20.

Global Connections

Although we focus on environmental sustainability in Hong Kong, we also recognise that these challenges are global in nature. To ensure our members and the wider Hong Kong business community remain competitive in a global market facing increased volatility as a result of sustainability challenges, we invite global perspectives into the discussions taking place at BEC. We forge close relationships with global organisations, such as the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (“WBCSD”), the AIGCC, The Climate Group, the World Resources Institute (“WRI”), CDP, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and other leaders to drive sustainability together.

On 8 August 2019, BEC hosted a CEO Luncheon with Mr Peter Bakker, President and CEO of WBCSD. During the luncheon, Mr Bakker shared an insightful presentation on decarbonisation, the sustainable living environment and a vision for future cities. As the network partner of WBCSD in Hong Kong, BEC will continue with more collaboration between BEC and WBCSD in future.

EnviroSeries: The Business of Waste – Solving Hong Kong’s Urgent Environmental Problem was held on 17 May 2019. The Conference attracted over 200 delegates across sectors to explore problems, opportunities and future strategies in Hong Kong’s waste management system. We invited an overseas speaker Mr Merlin Lao from ICLEI East Asia Secretariat to introduce their projects in Asia.



The Conference attracted over 200 delegates across sectors to explore problems, opportunities and future strategies ...



Amplifying “the Voice of Business”

We amplify member voices as we work with them develop clear joint positions on pressing environmental topics through our multifaceted approach to influencing government policy. Approaching the government with a single voice, we aim to proactively encourage ambitious policies by demonstrating the willingness of the business community to protect the environment and transition to a low carbon economy.



[> See our research reports](#)

[> See our consultation responses](#)

Our Approach

Research and Proactive Recommendations	We conduct robust evidence-based research and develop publications and recommendations in line with BEC’s overall objectives.	
Consultation Responses	We regularly present Policy Submissions to the Hong Kong government to inform the Chief Executive’s annual Policy Address.	We respond to consultations on a variety of topics such as the Long-term Decarbonisation Strategy, HKEx ESG Reporting Guide, the supply of recycled water, the Gross Floor Area concession mechanism and land supply.
Policy Dialogues	We invite government officials to engage in dialogue with our members on topics such as the Lantau Tomorrow Vision, the Long-term Decarbonisation Strategy, and the Chief Executive Policy Address.	Every summer BEC’s Board meets with a high-level representative from the Environment Bureau for a round table discussion on the government’s environmental policies.

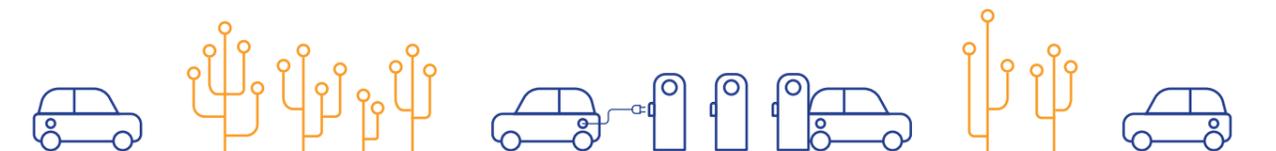
Our Process



Our Impact

Government announcements which reflect BEC's recommendations:

- Initiated a \$2 billion incentive scheme to promote the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in car parks of existing private premises
- Committed to the formulation of Hong Kong's first roadmap on the popularisation of electric vehicles
- Set up a \$200 million Green Tech Fund to promote green technologies and decarbonisation



[> See our policy recommendations](#)

Our People Deliver Value

All our activities rely on the hard work and diligence of our colleagues and together we generate and deliver value to our members. The environmental expertise held by our employees is wide ranging from Environmental Management and ESG (environmental, social and governance issues) to Green Buildings and Indoor Air Quality to environmental education and policy. To uphold BEC's leadership position and ensure our continued relevance in the market, we encourage our employees to explore trends and practices and have set aside a set of funds to support their continued training and development. Our Code of Conduct requires each

employee to fulfil a minimum number of Continuing Professional Development hours per year. This number is often surpassed by our colleagues in their quest to expand their knowledge and deepen their expertise.

We also provide internship opportunities to students from local and international universities where they gain practical skills and work experience which gives them a head start in their future careers. Having spent some time at BEC as a training ground, our interns eventually enter the pool of experienced candidates available for our members.



Whilst delivering value to our members, BEC is committed to ensuring the privacy of our members, clients and event participants. Our Operational Manual of Handling Personal Data provides guidance to our staff. All information collected is kept under strict confidence and will not be sold, reused, rented, loaned or otherwise disclosed to third parties. We clearly inform individuals who voluntarily provide their contact information how it will be used. Event participants are apprised and give permission to BEC to take and share photos, videos and talking points from discussions for our general communications on social media, our website and other appropriate materials.

Drive government and business action

Drive government and drive business action

Our core values highlight BEC’s role as a partner collaborating with government, business and the community to address environmental issues and improve performance. We have a two-pronged approach to driving positive change. First, we nurture business leadership and encourage knowledge exchange for better environmental performance. Second, we harness business leadership to urge and support the government in developing a policy framework conducive to environmental innovation and excellence.

Objectives

- Develop thought leadership
- Lead business actions
- Influence public policy on the environmental focus areas



*as at 30 September 2019

Our Environmental Focus Areas

To maximise the impact of our activities, we aim to concentrate our efforts and resources on our identified environmental focus areas over the next three years. The areas selected are expected to emerge as major issues with a significant impact on Hong Kong.

Through our activities, we aim to expand our thought leadership and organisational expertise in the different aspects of each of these focus areas.



Climate Change



Sustainable Living Environment



Circular Economy



Climate Change

in Hong Kong

The back-to-back typhoons Hato and Mangkhut in 2017 and 2018, and the damage Hong Kong sustained serve as a glaring reminder of how vulnerable the city is to the impacts of climate change. Events like these have elevated the importance of climate change on the agendas of the government, business and the community at large. Despite being a member of the C40 cities network, Hong Kong’s progress in building climate resilience and in decarbonisation still has much room for improvement. Hong Kong awaits to see the outcomes of the Long-term Decarbonisation Strategy public engagement exercise and how the government will respond to the call by the community to secure a sustainable future.

- **65-70%** – Hong Kong’s carbon intensity reduction target by 2030³
- **0.73-1.28m** – Expected annual mean sea level rise in Hong Kong by 2100⁴
- **0.1%** – Electricity generated by renewable energy⁵
- **90%** – City’s electricity is consumed by buildings in Hong Kong⁶

around the World

With current global efforts and progress, the world is still on course to fail the goals of the Paris Agreement – exceeding 2°C temperature rise above preindustrial levels. On the other hand, the risks and the impacts of climate change are becoming more and more clear. The IPCC 1.5°C special report, for example, highlights that even at just 2°C temperature rise the world as we know it will still be drastically and irreversibly altered. The outcomes of recent UNFCCC COP have been lacklustre. But where countries have failed to show sufficient resolution to combat climate change, the recent years have seen increased and unprecedented commitment and action from non-state players.

- **1.1°C** – Above pre-industrial levels – the state of global average temperature in 2019 according to the World Meteorological Organization⁷
- **102** – Number of cities committed to carbon neutrality by 2050 under the Climate Ambition Alliance⁸
- **107** – Number of countries with a stated intention to enhance their ambition or action in Nationally Determined Contributions by 2020⁹
- **817** – Number of companies committed to setting ambitious decarbonization targets through the Science Based Target initiative¹⁰

How are we responding?

Select projects and initiatives:

Low Carbon Hong Kong Initiative and BEC Low Carbon Charter

To catalyse decarbonisation from the business sector, BEC established the Low Carbon Hong Kong initiative – advocating, educating and mobilising businesses to set and achieve ambitious decarbonisation targets, reflecting the goals of the Paris Agreement. The initiative led to the launch of the BEC Low Carbon Charter, with 34 major companies from the property and construction sector joining as initial signatories. The Charter will expand to invite signatories from all sector in the next phase.

Events and Workshops on Climate Risk, Scenario Analysis and TCFD

To build climate resilience capacity amongst businesses, BEC organised a series of events and workshops to raise understanding on climate risk, scenario analysis, and the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, enabling the integration of climate considerations into the governance and decision making of businesses.

Our impact

BEC would like to see Hong Kong achieve carbon neutrality no later than the second half of this century.

Our objective

Transition to a low carbon, resilient city



BEC would like to see Hong Kong achieve carbon neutrality no later than the second half of this century.

Select BEC recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set decarbonisation target for our city with a roadmap, implementation plan and resource support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decarbonise the transport sector through a comprehensive transition plan
Select government announcements which reflect BEC's recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Formulating long-term decarbonisation strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Setting up a \$200 million Green Tech Fund to promote green technologies and decarbonisation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Developing Hong Kong's first roadmap on the popularisation of electric vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing a \$2 billion incentive scheme to promote the installation of electric vehicle charging -enabling infrastructure in car parks of existing private premises
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rolling out pilot schemes for electric public light buses and electric ferries 	



In addition to our policy-related initiatives, BEC's advisory teams enhance the capacity of the business community through the following climate-related services:

<p>Sustainability and ESG</p>	<p>Working with clients, the Sustainability and ESG advisory team help to identify climate-related risks and opportunities, integrate them into enterprise risk management, develop governance structures to ensure coherence and progress and disclose this information to stakeholders in sustainability reports and investor questionnaires such as CDP and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.</p> <p>The team is experienced in developing disclosures aligned to the TCFD recommendations and is developing a scenario analysis service to address transition risks to further drive action in the market toward long-term decarbonisation.</p>
<p>Green Buildings</p>	<p>Buildings in Hong Kong consume around 90% electricity and contribute to 60% of our carbon footprint. Our Registered Energy Assessors help buildings to check the design and conducts energy audits to ensure compliance with Building Energy Codes. Energy management and energy saving opportunities are also identified to ensure the buildings can further reduce their energy use.</p> <p>Our certified Carbon Auditor Professional also carries out carbon audits to identify the sources of carbon emissions and quantify the carbon footprint of buildings, premises and corporations. Cost-effective solutions are provided to effectively reduce carbon emissions.</p>



Sustainable Living Environment

in Hong Kong

Hong Kong is a dense, vertical city. These features help support a highly utilised mass transport system and transit-oriented / mixed-use urban development patterns that make our daily lives efficient and convenient. However, unchecked growth of vehicle ownership and mileage, urban encroachment and over-reliance on fossil fuels as the city's main energy source have led to unsustainable outcomes such as air and noise pollution, traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions, diminishing water resources, the loss of open spaces and a decline in biodiversity. Creating a sustainable living environment is important and necessary to safeguard and improve the quality of life of Hong Kong people and to attract overseas talent and investment.

- **24.9%** – Hong Kong's total land area classified as "urban or built up land" in 2018¹¹
- **20.85bn HKD** – Total economic loss in 2019 due to air pollution¹²
- **90%** – Share of passenger journeys carried by public transport¹³
- **38** – Hong Kong's ranking as the world's most liveable city for 2019¹⁴

around the World

In response to global agendas such as the UNSDGs and the New Urban Agenda, and to address climate change and other urban environmental issues, policymakers are working to identify, develop and implement sustainable urban development policies and strategies which transform the way we plan, design, build, operate and manage our cities to enhance the well-being of residents and visitors. One example evident in many cities over the past two decades is the paradigm shift from a car-centric to a people-oriented approach to city and transport planning. Stronger emphasis has been placed on human-scale design, mixed land use, pedestrian-friendly facilities, place-making, universal access, active environments, resilience and connections with green and blue spaces.

- **≥80%** – People living in urban areas exposed to air quality levels that exceed WHO guideline limits¹⁵
- **7.1** – SDG focused on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy for all by 2030¹⁶
- **2.5M** – Number of zero-emission vehicles estimated to be rolled out by 2030¹⁷
- **50%** – Combined modal share in 2035 by walking, biking and public transport pledged by Los Angeles, a city known for ownership and use of automobile and car-centric planning¹⁸

How are we responding?

Select projects and initiatives:

<p>Energy Efficient Retrofits Guide</p>	<p>In December 2017, we published a guide and calculator which estimate the energy and cost savings for various energy efficiency technologies in office and hotel buildings, allowing building owners and managers to visualise the carbon reduction and payback periods for different retrofit decisions.</p>
<p>Investing in Buildings Energy Efficiency: How to Enhance Hong Kong's Policy Framework</p>	<p>This research compares the buildings energy efficiency policies of several cities and develops policy recommendations which will support the business case and action in energy efficiency investments of buildings in Hong Kong. The report listed 20 recommendations for Hong Kong to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings across 7 policy categories.</p>



Our impact

BEC is encouraging policy development focused on advancing a sustainable living environment in Hong Kong.

Our objective

Create a liveable environment



Select BEC recommendations

- Improve air quality to protect public health
- Enhance the liveability of our city and the well-being of our people

Select government announcements which reflect BEC's recommendations.

- ✓ Reviewing and tightening Hong Kong Air Quality Objectives
- ✓ Preparing for the launch of a scheme to phase out Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles
- ✓ Promoting zero-emission transport such as electric vehicles and electric ferries
- ✓ Updating the Clean Air Plan
- ✓ Promoting walking and cycling
- ✓ Revitalising urban areas and enhancing green spaces to enhance liveability
- ✓ Implementing the electronic road pricing pilot scheme in Central



In addition to our policy-related initiatives, BEC's advisory teams enhance the capacity of the business community through the following sustainable living environment-related services:

Green Buildings	We provide professional green building advisory services to help achieve the BEAM Plus, LEED, China GBL and WELL certifications, throughout the whole building life cycle from the design to the construction stage. In adopting the best techniques, practices, and standards compatible with prevailing economic constraints to achieve these certifications, we help to reduce the environmental impact of buildings while maintaining and, in many areas, even improving the quality of the built environment and users' satisfaction.
Environmental Management	Tackling air pollution requires the collective effort of the whole community. BEC is the endorser of the widely recognised Clean Air Charter initiated by Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. BEC is also the verification and certification body for subscribers to or signatories of the Charter. The voluntary certification scheme independently certifies subscribers of the Clean Air Charter to showcase their achievements in tackling air pollution in Hong Kong.
Indoor Air Quality	People stay indoors for around 90% of their lifetime so it is essential to have good indoor air quality to safeguard the health of building users, but also enhance the comfort and wellbeing of the occupants. Our IAQ Solutions Centre is the first Accredited Indoor Air Quality Certificate Issuing Body in the city. We provide IAQ inspection and certification services in accordance with the IAQ Certification Scheme for Offices and Public Places initiated by the EPD.



Circular Economy

in Hong Kong

Waste reduction and management remains a challenging issue in Hong Kong. The adoption of a circular approach to resource management can be an effective solution to reduce waste at source, recapture value from different waste streams and reduce carbon emissions from the waste sector. Locally, businesses and government initiatives in the areas of resource management, disposable plastics, construction materials and others have set Hong Kong on the path to achieving circularity, but more has to be done given that existing landfill sites are operating at close-to-full capacity, the fluctuation in feedstock supply experienced by the local recycling industry and the shortage of affordable land to support recycling.

- **5.87M Tonnes** – Total solid waste disposed of at landfills in 2018¹⁹
- **3.7%** – Rise in average daily quantity of total solid waste disposed of at landfills compared to 2017²⁰
- **30%** – Municipal solid waste recovery rate in 2018, compared to 32% in 2017²¹
- **6.9%** – Share of total carbon emissions in Hong Kong contributed by the waste sector²²

around the World

Rapid urbanisation, rising population growth, and the deeply embedded ideas of 'take, make, dispose' in our traditional linear economy has led to a rising volume of waste being generated and disposed globally. China's ban on the import of plastic waste in 2018 was wake-up call to the world, revealing the severity of the global recycling crisis and shedding light on every country's responsibility and ability to produce and handle large volumes of waste. So far, progress towards achieving a circular economy has been slow around the world, despite the vast opportunities that can be unlocked with the circular approach.

- **8.6%** – Share of the global economy which is circular²³
- **70%** – Growth in global waste by 2050 if no action is taken²⁴
- **4.5 trillion USD** – Global growth opportunity by transitioning to a circular economy by 2030²⁵
- **40%** – Reduction of global carbon emissions with the help of a circular economy²⁶

How are we responding?

Select projects and initiatives:

EUO x BEC Plastic Waste Reduction Workshop

BEC partnered with the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao to organise a plastic waste reduction workshop in March 2019, inviting over 85 government officials, business leaders, NGO representatives, academics, social entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to share best practices in the area of circular economy and plastic waste reduction. Participants were encouraged to showcase their solutions to plastic waste and come up with practical ideas and actions on how Hong Kong can reduce its level of plastic waste.

Reforming BEC Waste Management Advisory Group into Circular Economy Advisory Group

To support BEC's work on circular economy, one of our three identified environmentally focus areas, a decision was taken by the Board to set up a new Circular Economy Advisory Group, replacing the old Waste Management Advisory Group. In doing so, BEC will take a circular approach on the subject of waste reduction and resource management, opening up opportunities to address these issues at different stages of the product/service life cycle.



Our impact

BEC is encouraging policy development focused on advancing a circular economy in Hong Kong.

Our objective

Transition from a linear to circular economy



Select BEC recommendations

- Reduce waste at source
- Optimise resource use through better recycling and recovery

Select government announcements which reflect BEC's recommendations.

- ✓ Proposing the Municipal Solid Waste charging scheme
- ✓ Promotion of sustainable consumption
- ✓ Preparing for the producer responsibility scheme on plastic beverage containers
- ✓ Trialling reverse vending machine and studying a deposit return scheme to improve recovery rate
- ✓ Providing financial support for the collection, screening, sorting and baling of wastepaper for recycling

In addition to our policy-related initiatives, BEC's advisory teams enhance the capacity of the business community through the following circular economy-related services:

Environmental Management	Waste is one of the major environmental challenges in Hong Kong. Our wasteful habits put tremendous pressure on the entire value chain, from waste generation, collection to disposal. Our expertise in waste management provides opportunities for buildings, premises or corporations to reduce their waste generation and increase recycling rate, fulfilling the requirement of circular economy.
Reverse Vending Machine Trials	The Environmental Management team was commissioned by the EPD to conduct a Pilot Trial Scheme on Reverse Vending Machines ("RVM") at Community Green Stations with the aim of testing the functions and technologies of different RVM models and recommending the most suitable RVM model to be applied in Hong Kong. This pilot is a fundamental programme to assist the Government to implement the Producer Responsibility Scheme on plastic beverage containers in the near future.
BEC Jockey Club Intelligent Resource Management Programme	People stay indoors for around 90% of their lifetime so it is essential to have good indoor air quality to safeguard the health of building users, but also enhance the comfort and wellbeing of the occupants. Our IAQ Solutions Centre is the first Accredited Indoor Air Quality Certificate Issuing Body in the city. We provide IAQ inspection and certification services in accordance with the IAQ Certification Scheme for Offices and Public Places initiated by the EPD.



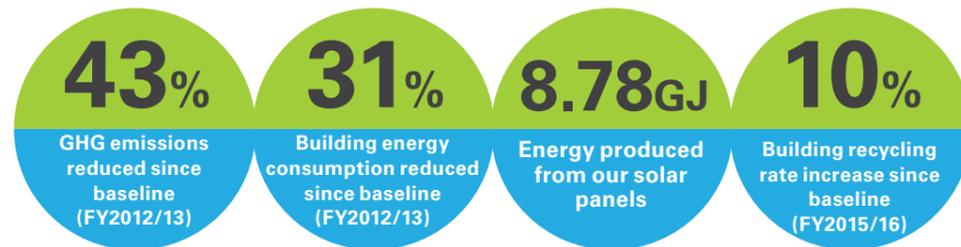
Demonstrate leadership: BEC as a 'green lab'

Demonstrate leadership: BEC as a 'green lab'

The BEC building is a 'green lab' – a space where environmental excellence is encouraged and celebrated. As a physical representation of BEC's thought leadership, we invite our members and partners to showcase innovative technologies, share the newest ideas and demonstrate the best practices at our building. We also illustrate BEC's environmental commitment through our own building's green features and performance.

Objectives

- Position BEC building as a showcase of outstanding environmental performance in Hong Kong
- Encourage interaction, connection and knowledge transfer in BEC building through various events and activities



*as at 30 September 2019

Sustainability at BEC

While our mission is to advocate for environmental protection in the market, BEC is also focused on ensuring our internal operations support our organisational purpose. In 2018, we consolidated the different systems and processes aimed at managing our own environmental performance under a single governance structure to ensure we are able to implement a sustainability strategy, manage goal setting, align and effectively manage BEC's performance and drive continual improvement.

senior management at BEC. It oversees, assesses, monitors and reviews management processes, standards, strategies, policies, targets, objectives and performance related to environmental and social issues. We have also introduced two working groups focused on social and environmental issues, respectively. The working groups propose potential initiatives for the sustainability steering committee's consideration and once approved, the working groups are responsible for implementation with the steering committee's support.

Reporting to the board, the Sustainability Steering Committee is chaired by the CEO and comprised of



Rooftop Republic / Vanessa Li

Green Showcase

As an organisation focused on the transition to a low-carbon economy in Hong Kong, it is imperative to highlight the environmental impacts of the built environment and demonstrate practical approaches to avoid, reduce, and mitigate these impacts. The building has always been a showcase in best practices. When construction was completed in 1996, the building received a "Very Good" rating under the BEAM for New Office Designs. In 2013, we introduced the BEC Headquarters Transformation Project – a vision of BEC as a centre for environmental education and an example of practical solutions to enhance the environmental performance of existing buildings. The initiatives and technologies adopted since then have resulted in significant performance improvements and noteworthy learning and knowledge sharing opportunities.

Latest building revamps

We continue to revamp our building to adopt new technologies and innovations as they become more accessible and practicable. In 2019, we renovated our auditorium and exhibition hall with green features and designs.

- The high-volume-low-speed fan facilitates air circulation in the exhibition hall and provides optimal thermal comfort. It can indirectly reduce the energy consumed by the air-conditioning system.
- The carpet installed at the auditorium has 66% overall recycled content. The yarn is 100% recycled regenerated material and is manufactured using post-industrial and post-consumer Polyamide 6 waste.

1st commercial building to achieve a BEAM Plus Provisional Platinum Rating (Existing Buildings) in 2014

Achieved final BEAM Plus Platinum Rating (Existing Buildings) in 2017

- The stage and bench are made from bamboo, a rapidly renewable material with a relatively short harvesting period when compared to timber.
- The acoustic panels are made of cork to improve the acoustic environment by reducing the echo inside the exhibition hall. Cork is a 100% natural and renewable material as the harvesting of cork does not require cutting down of any trees.
- The 2 feature walls are created from discarded water bottles and painted with low VOC²⁷ paint. The walls symbolise the importance of plastic waste reduction and draws attention to the landfill saturation problem.

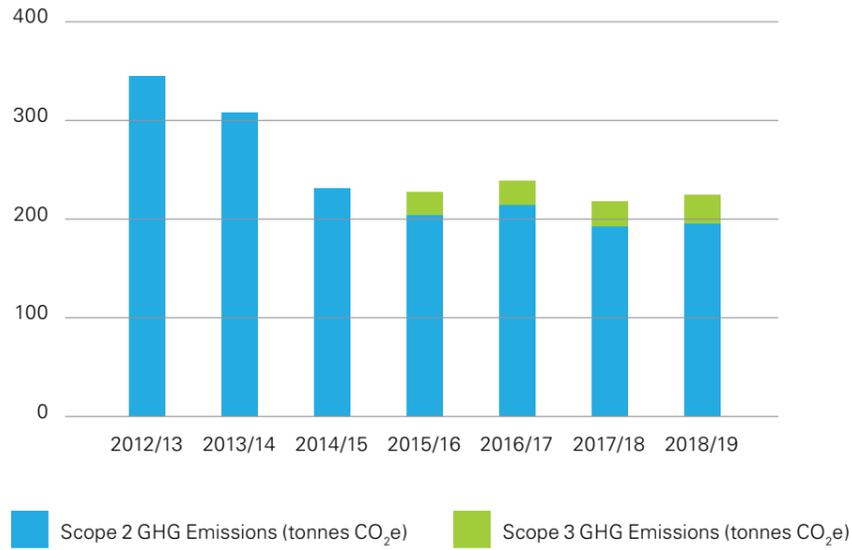
> [See video on the auditorium and exhibition hall revamp](#)

Green Features at the BEC Building



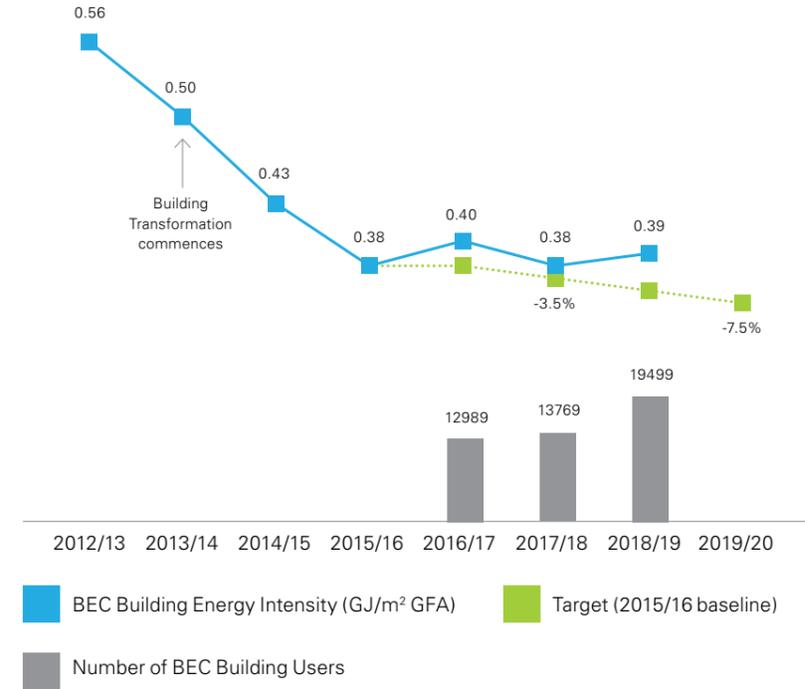
Our Building Performance

BEC Building GHG Emissions



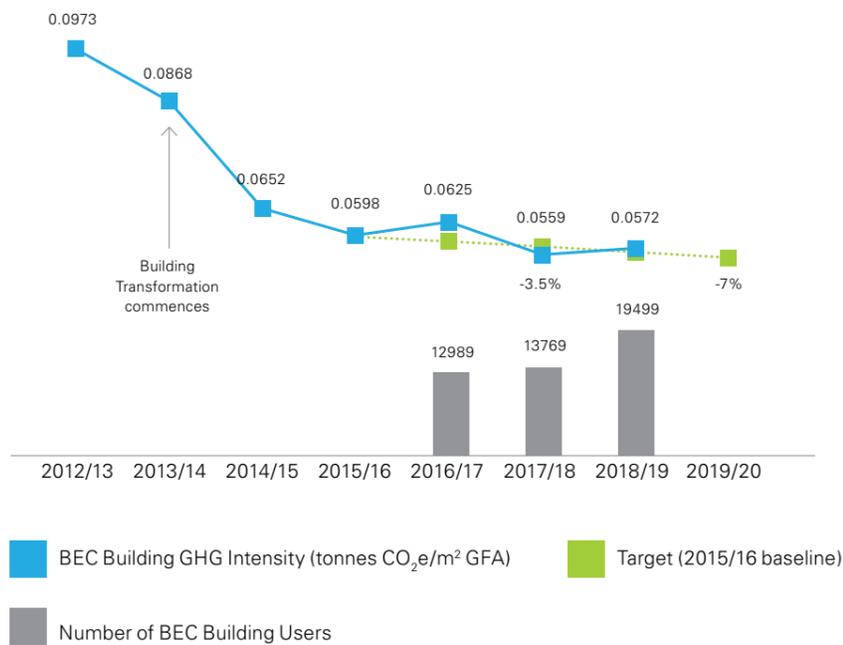
Note: BEC Scope 2 emissions cover electricity use by the entire BEC building including tenant consumption. BEC Scope 3 emissions include indirect GHG emissions from processing freshwater, processing sewage, waste disposed at landfill and BEC staff commuting (estimated).

BEC Building Energy Intensity



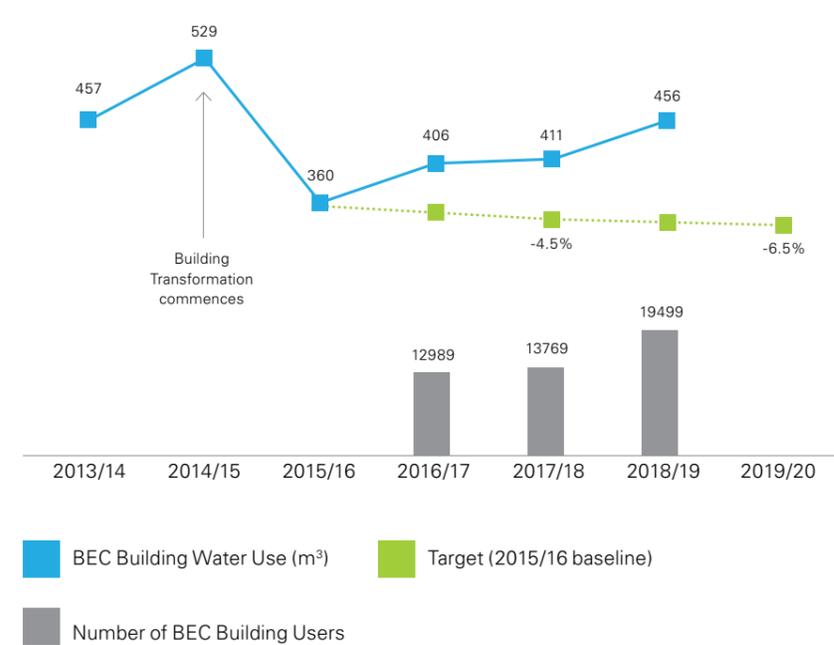
Note: BEC Building Energy Intensity = BEC Building Energy Use including BEC and our tenants / BEC Building Gross Floor Area. BEC building users is an estimate based on event attendees, visitors to the building and IEE course participants. Data for BEC building users are only available from FY2016/17.

BEC Building GHG Intensity



Note: Includes Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions for BEC and our tenants. Excludes BEC employee commuting. BEC building users is an estimate based on event attendees, visitors to the building and IEE course participants. Data for BEC building users are only available from FY2016/17.

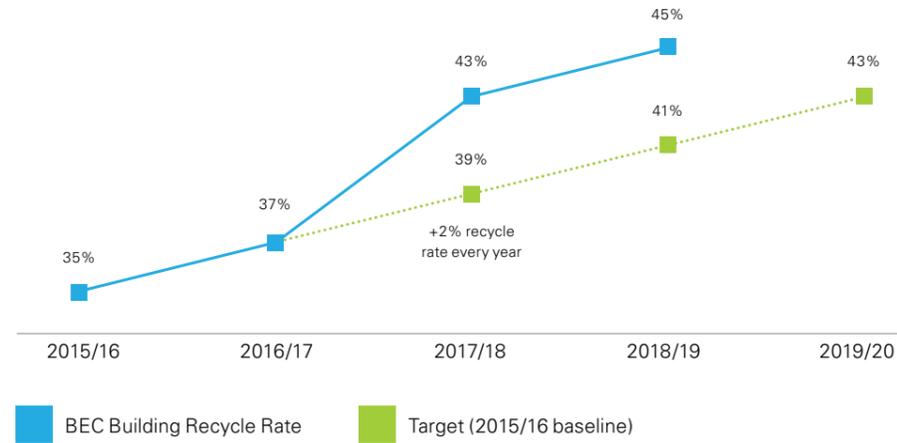
BEC Building Water Consumption



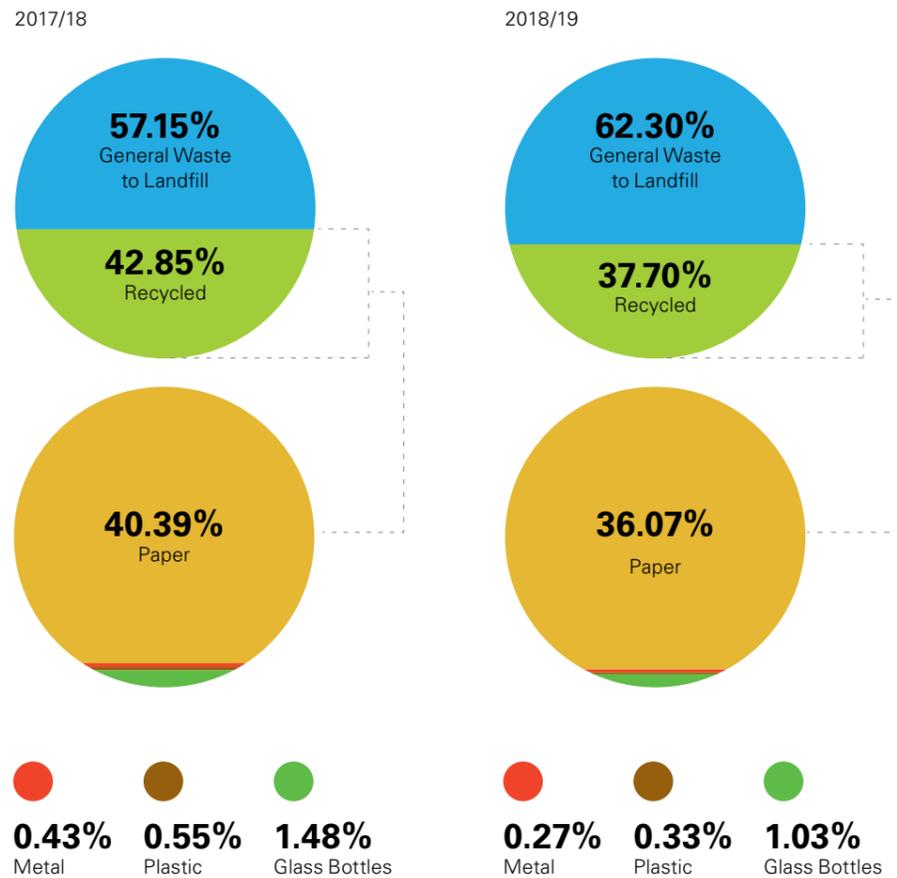
Note: Includes water used by BEC, our tenants and building users. BEC building users is an estimate based on event attendees, visitors to the building and IEE course participants. Data for BEC building users are only available from FY2016/17.



BEC Building Recycle Rate



Waste Generated within BEC Building



Note: Includes waste generated by BEC, our tenants and building users.

Our Office Performance

We are committed to demonstrating leadership within our offices with an emphasis on proper management and behavioural change. To systematically manage and mitigate the environmental impacts of our office operations, we follow an ISO 14001:2015 certified environmental management system ("EMS"). Our EMS is regularly audited to ensure continued compliance and identify areas for improvement as appropriate. We also ensure environmental considerations are incorporated into our procurement process through a green procurement checklist

developed under the ISO 14001 for purchasing paper and electrical appliances. All vendors are required to fill out our questionnaire with an environmental guidance note to demonstrate their willingness to comply with our environmental requirements.

We provide regular tips and reminders to our employees to help reduce the environmental impact of our operations. In 2015, BEC introduced our 10 Green Initiatives:

BEC 10 Green Initiatives

- Stair day on every Monday & Friday (except for the injured or the differently abled).
- Switch off your monitor when leaving your set for more than 10 minutes.
- For colleagues sitting at their desk switch off lights in their zoned area when leaving the room for more than 10 minutes.
- Switch off your light zone if you are the last one to leave.
- Set the air conditioner's temperature above 25 degree Celsius.
- Do not produce any food waste and drink all water in your mug.
- Refuse to take disposable cutlery when buying lunch from restaurants.
- Wash your disposable plastic lunch box and dispose of it in the recycling bin.
- Reuse paper printed on a single-side.
- Donate clothing and goods to the Salvation Army Recycling Programme.

This is how we Enable Sustainability

This is how we Enable Sustainability

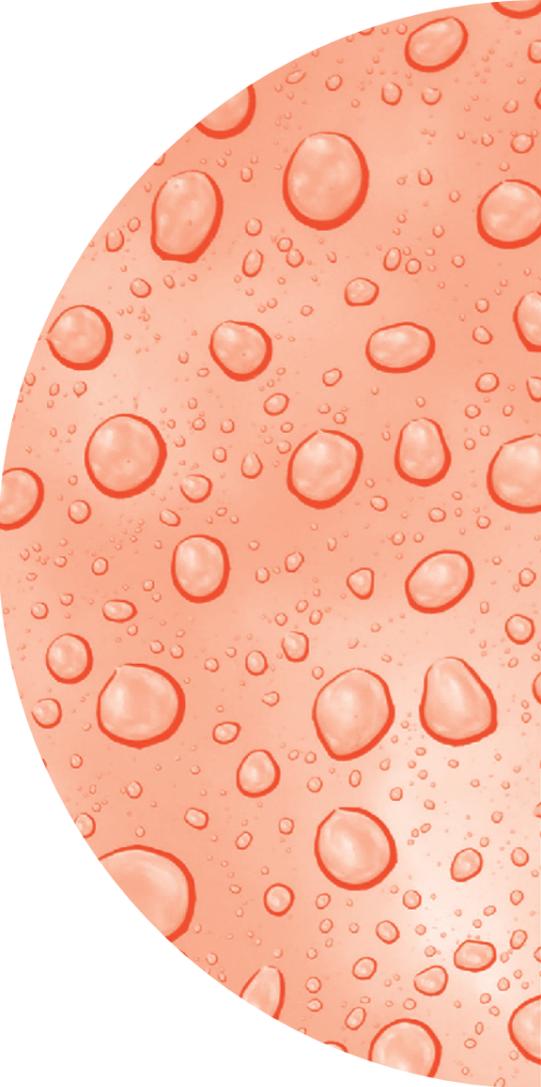
Outlook

As BEC continues through the first year of our 3-year strategy, we are focused on our organisational strategic priorities and have developed clear and measurable 3-year targets for each as well as a sustainability roadmap which includes annual performance milestones to keep us on-track. This strategic plan provides BEC with the tools to emerge as a more focused and impactful organisation to drive positive sustainable change in Hong Kong.

Serving as the central anchor point of our three strategic priorities, our environmental focus areas shape the lens with which we view our upcoming collaborations and opportunities. Our next undertakings will help prepare Hong Kong to respond to shared challenges and sustainability issues. For instance, we perceive a strong international trend towards alignment with climate disclosure frameworks and recommendations such as the Global Reporting Initiative or the recommendations from the Taskforce for Climate-related Financial Disclosures. BEC will utilise our expertise to support and advise organisations in Hong Kong to push them to the forefront of these global trends.

To demonstrate leadership in Hong Kong's journey to a net-zero carbon future, we are planning to commit to a long-term decarbonisation strategy which includes plans for setting BEC's own carbon reduction target and strategy. We will align this plan with our strategic priorities and have already begun to organise various enhancements to BEC building through our Green Lab strategic priority.

Through our work with the business community, academia, and the government, we empower Hong Kong to push towards a sustainable net-zero carbon future. BEC will continue to respond to locally and globally shared challenges by working together with our stakeholders to deliver on our strategic priorities. By facilitating green collaborations and leadership in sustainability, BEC is confident that together we can achieve a sustainable future.




To demonstrate leadership in Hong Kong's journey to a net-zero carbon future, we are planning to commit to a long-term decarbonisation strategy...

Supplementary disclosures

Supplementary disclosures

Employees

At BEC, we strive to provide employees with a working environment which embraces the principles of equal opportunity and diversity at all times. We ensure fair recruitment and promotion procedures based on individual merits, experience and qualification regardless of gender, age, nationality, religion, sexual orientation or disability. To build a sustained and engaged workforce, we continue to perfect our employment practices. Currently, we are developing a policy on creating a breastfeeding-friendly workplace to cater to the needs of working mothers.

Following our Health and Safety Policy, we are committed to minimising occupational hazards associated with our daily operations as far as practicable.

Going beyond regulatory compliance, we take a precautionary approach to maintain a healthy and safe workplace. Inspired by Hakka round houses, BEC's iconic building adopted several design features such as the round façade and the central skylight to maximise natural light and encourage air flow. To ensure staff comfort, we monitor indoor air quality according to the ASHRAE standard and conduct regular cleaning works on the filters and ducts across the building. We also installed solar window film to reduce heat gain in air-conditioned spaces. In addition to the walk-through passage and the glass central atrium, nature is welcomed into the office through our collection of plants and a fish tank at the staff rest area.

Impact on Local Communities

BEC has developed a collaborative relationship with the government in helping advance environmental awareness and education in the community. Utilising our expertise in environmental management, we have conducted community programmes related to a diverse range of topics including resource conservation and waste reduction. Through these programmes, BEC enhances the community's understanding of environmental impacts at a local level, helping to strengthen Hong Kong's overall capacity for sustainable development.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Since 2014, BEC has established, documented, implemented and maintained a Quality Management System ("QMS") in compliance with ISO 9001 applicable to its environmental projects relating to advisory and training services. To ensure our delivery of quality works, client feedback channels have been set up to collect their quality-related suggestions, enquiries and complaints for further review. Our QMS is regularly audited to ensure continued compliance and identify areas for improvement as appropriate.

Stakeholder Engagement

Ongoing and two-way communication with our stakeholders is crucial to gather their feedback and expectations with regards to our sustainability efforts and strategies. This process enables us to make informed decisions and deliver the best possible value to our stakeholders. We identify our stakeholders and strategies our engagement approaches by following the AccountAbility 1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard.



Stakeholders	Engagement Channels	Key Concerns/ Interests (Click to see our response)
BEC Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Townhall and Happy Friday • Suggestion Box • Annual Appraisal • Employee Online Survey • Focus Group Discussion • Sustainability Report • Intranet and Newsletter • Website and Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering positive impacts through work • Minimising environmental impacts at the workplace • Employee welfare and training
BEC Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Groups • Seminars, Events and Conferences • Policy Consultations • Industry Visits • Online Survey • Focus Group Discussion • Sustainability Report • Newsletter • Website and Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More engagements with members and the public • BEC to drive sustainability through advocacy, projects, education and events • BEC to bring in international expertise while catering for local business needs
Clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Feedback Form • Seminars, Events and Conferences • Business Meetings • Online Survey • Sustainability Report • Website and Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEC's positive impact to the local economy through quality advisory services and networking opportunities • BEC's compliance with environmental and socioeconomic regulations

Government Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Submission • Seminars, Events and Conferences • Industry Visits • Online Survey • Sustainability Report • Newsletter • Website and Social Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value BEC as a reliable partner in raising public awareness on environmental issues • Value BEC members' opinions in the development of public policies
Suppliers / Cocontractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meetings • Online Survey • Sustainability Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEC's integrity • BEC's financial stability • Minimising environmental impacts
Tenants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars, Events and Conferences • Informal Gatherings • Online Survey • Sustainability Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the transformation of the BEC Building into a Green Lab • Work with BEC to minimise environmental impacts within the BEC Building • BEC to organise more events in the BEC Building
Community/ NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars, Events and Conferences • Voluntary Activities • Website and Social Media • Sustainability Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with BEC to amplify impacts
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews and Media Coverage • Website and Social Media • Sustainability Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How BEC and its members act to improve Hong Kong's environment

End Notes

- 1 BEC specifically contributes to achieving SDG 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.
- 2 BEC specifically contributes to SDG 17.16: Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilised and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries; and SDG 17.17: Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.
- 3 From 2005 levels, translating into a 26-36% absolute carbon reduction.
- 4 Relative to the average of 1986-2005. Hong Kong Observatory "Climate Projections for Hong Kong".
- 5 HKSAR Government "LCQ21: Renewable energy", 23 October 2019.
- 6 Council for Sustainable Development (2019) Long-term Decarbonisation Strategy Public Engagement Document. P.17.
- 7 World Meteorological Organization (2019) WMO Provisional Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2019. P.1.
- 8 [Carbon Neutrality Coalition](#).
- 9 [Climate Watch](#).
- 10 [Science Based Targets Initiative](#).
- 11 [Planning Department "Land Utilization in Hong Kong 2018"](#).
- 12 [Number estimated based on data provided by the Hedley Environment Index](#).
- 13 Environment Bureau (2017) Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2030+, p.48. The Government does not release the percentage every year, but the percentage share over the past decade has been maintained consistently around 90%.
- 14 [Dewey Sim "Hong Kong edges out Singapore in liveability survey, Osaka and Tokyo among world's top 10", SCMP, 4 September 2019](#).
- 15 [World Health Organization "Air pollution levels rising in many of the world's poorest cities", news release, Geneva, 12 May 2016](#).
- 16 [United Nations "Sustainable Development Goal: 7 Affordable and Clean Energy"](#).
- 17 [The Climate Group "Charging ahead on electric vehicles: 2020 EV100 progress and insights report"](#).
- 18 [Los Angeles Department of City Planning \(2016\) Mobility Plan 2035. P.81](#).
- 19 [Environmental Protection Department, Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong \(Waste Statistics for 2018\)](#)
- 20 Ibid.
- 21 Ibid.
- 22 [Environment Bureau, Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Hong Kong by Sector](#)
- 23 [Circular Economy, The Circularity Gap Report 2020](#)
- 24 [The World Bank](#)
- 25 [Accenture, Waste to Wealth: Creating Advantage in a Circular Economy](#)
- 26 [Ellen MacArthur Foundation, Completing the Picture: How the Circular Economy Tackles Climate Change](#)
- 27 Volatile organic compounds.

Links to Appendices

[Appendix A – Content Index](#)

[Appendix B – BEC Performance Table](#)

[Appendix C – BEC Materiality Methodology](#)

[Appendix D – Awards and Memberships](#)

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