

DECEMBER 2023

BEC E-NEWSLETTER

Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment

NAVIGATING COP28 AND MOVING BEYOND

BEC Head - Policy & Research Mr Merlin Lao contributes an article sharing his insights about the recent COP28.



First Global Stocktake and Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuel

The latest UN annual climate conference - COP28 ended in Dubai on 13 December. With nearly 100,000 attendees, COP28 attaches its own importance as it features the outcome of the first global stocktake, a process taking place every five years to assess the collective progress on addressing climate change since the adoption of the Paris Agreement. This would further inform countries about the level of climate ambitions they have to take in the next five years and beyond.

The most prominent decision is that countries have agreed to transition away from fossil fuels in an orderly and equitable manner. Many delegates see this as a compromised success as it is the first time a COP's official decision called out fossil fuels, although earlier over 100 developed countries and island countries have been calling for a full phase-out of fossil fuels. The global stocktake also called on countries to contribute to tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030.

While short of more detailed targets, these decisions would play an influential role in the global energy landscape and countries' direction for their next nationally determined contributions ("NDCs"), i.e. their climate commitments, due in 2025. Countries are expected to update their 2030 targets and present targets for 2035, with more stringent actions to cut emissions. The stocktake also highlighted that COP28, COP29 and COP30 presidencies will work together on a "roadmap to mission 1.5" and strengthen international cooperation to keep 1.5°C within reach.



Photo Credit: Kiara Worth | UN Climate Change

Loss and Damage, Adaption and Climate Finance

Beyond mitigation, the COP negotiations and stocktake also featured other climate agendas. Perhaps another major success of COP28 was the full operation of the loss and damage fund, a decision made at COP27 to support the most vulnerable countries to deal with adverse consequences of climate change. By the end of COP28, over US\$700 million have been pledged by countries (mostly developed ones) to the fund, with institutional arrangements to be arranged by or before COP29 so that finance can be channelled to projects.

On the adaptation front, the Global Goal on Adaptation ("GGA") was established within the Paris Agreement with the intention to provide a mechanism to monitor and improve climate change adaptation. However, there has been much less attention compared with the mitigation agenda. It was only until COP26 that countries started the discussions to define more details for the GGA. At COP28, countries agreed to adopt the GGA framework with theme coverage on water, food, health, ecosystems, infrastructure, poverty eradication and cultural heritage, although thematic targets remained generally described. Countries will now kick start a two-year work programme to develop indicators to assess adaptation, which would also be covered at COP29, alongside with adaptation finance gap discussions as the GGA framework fell short in addressing financial support.

Developed countries have previously committed to providing at least US\$100 billion of climate finance annually to developing countries by 2020 and until 2025. The stocktake has acknowledged so far countries fail to meet the requirement. While meeting US\$100 billion pledge remains a discussion highlight between developed and developing countries, there is not much progress on climate finance negotiation, including the New Collective Qualitative Goal (“NCQG”) as a post-2025 climate finance goal to replace the US\$100 billion pledge. Some negotiators and observers believe the NCQG will be one of the major agendas for COP29, as little has been accomplished at COP28 regarding climate finance.

International Pledges: Food, Methane and Others

Outside official negotiations, multiple countries or non-state actors are also making various climate pledges. One of the prominent commitments is the COP28 Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems and Climate Action, with over 150 signatories that represent most of the world’s food systems emissions. Specifically, the declaration asks countries to commit to integrating agriculture and food systems into their NDCs before COP30. If countries honour the declaration with policy reforms, it is likely we will see more food-related initiatives with non-state actors, including companies.

Methane, the short-lived greenhouse gas with high global warming potential, also drew more countries’ interests. At COP28, five more countries joined the Global Methane Pledge with commitment to cut global methane emissions by 30% by 2030 as compared with 2020 levels. China, UAE, and the US held a joint summit during COP28, calling for countries to include methane and other non-CO2 greenhouse gases in the next NDCs. Governments, businesses and philanthropies have also announced new grants of over US\$1 billion to tackle methane emissions. It is evident that non-CO2 emissions will be subject to more regulation in future.



Photo Credit: Kiara Worth | UN Climate Change

In the energy space, more countries and companies are joining existing or new initiatives, ranging from coal phase-out, renewable energy and energy efficiency acceleration, and strengthening nuclear energy capacity. On the other hand, 50 fossil fuel companies together pledged to end gas flaring by 2030, zero out methane emissions and align around net zero by or before 2050, although with criticisms that these pledges are not clear and focus only on operational emissions rather than fossil fuel consumption. Other pledge areas include forests and land use, health, and a global cooling pledge led by UAE, the COP28 presidency.



Photo Credit: Kiara Worth | UN Climate Change

Moving Beyond COP28

COP28 is the biggest ever UN climate summit with participants double of previous COPs. More actors than ever are interested in the international climate agenda, which presents both opportunities and risks. Climate change is not a local or regional challenge - only a multi-stakeholder approach can bring us closer to a just transition with a sustainable living world; in the meantime more efforts are needed to single out and prioritise initiatives that truly deliver climate mitigation or adaptation benefits. Now COP28 is over, in 2024, countries should move on to update with more ambitious NDCs by 2025 as informed by the stocktake outcome. The NDCs will be further translated into actions for non-state actors including businesses.



Photo Credit: Mike Muzurakis | IISD

BEC Seasonal Cocktail



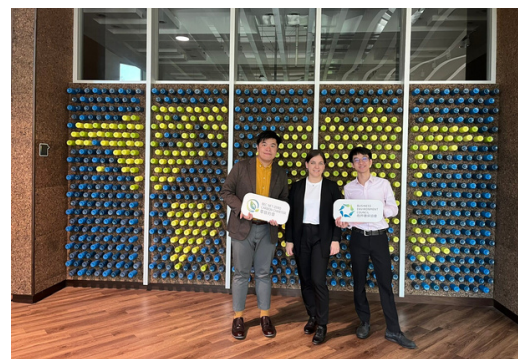
BEC Seasonal Cocktail 2023 was staged at our Exhibition Hall on 14 December. BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien expressed his sincere gratitude to all our members and partners for their immense support to BEC over the past year.

Looking forward, BEC will continue to facilitate dialogues between the business sector and the HKSAR Government in 2024 and strive to be our members' premier partner on their sustainability journey.

[Click here for more photos](#)

BEC Conducts Virtual Sharing on SBTi

BEC invited Ms Ayla Dincay, Technical Buildings Manager of the Science Based Targets initiative ("SBTi"), to conduct a virtual session on 21 November. With her timely knowledge on the issue, Ms Dincay shared about the latest development of SBTi Buildings Guidance and Tool drafts for pilot testing with more than 70 participants. The audience exchanged views with the speaker based on the Hong Kong context for the net-zero journey of the building sector.



BEC Supports CIC's Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2023

BEC was pleased to support CIC's Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2023, curating a session entitled "Towards Zero-Emission Construction: Mainstreaming Electric Plants and Equipment" on 22 November. Our Head - Policy & Research Mr Merlin Lao moderated the session with major stakeholders from the solution providers, energy and construction industries sharing insights on the challenges, opportunities, and strategies in promoting zero-emission construction in Hong Kong.

BEC, with its "Power Up Coalition" initiative, will continue to facilitate the transformation towards zero-emission construction sites in Hong Kong through collaborative efforts and advocacy.



Liaison Office Representatives Visit BEC

BEC was pleased to welcome representatives of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong SAR to our office on 1 December. Our CEO Mr Simon Ng, Director – Operations Ir C. F. Leung, and Head – Policy & Research Mr Merlin Lao presented BEC's work on environmental protection and sustainability and our advisory services to the visiting guests. The visit, joined by our Assistant Director – Communications Ms Maggie Lam, also included a building tour guided by Ir Leung who introduced various green building features of BEC Building.



BEC Technical Visit – Pathways to Sustainability: Unveiling Energy Efficiency Strategies



BEC Technical Visit – Pathways to Sustainability: Unveiling Energy Efficiency Strategies in the West Kowloon Cultural District took place on 8 December. During the visit, Mr Graham Tier, General Manager – District Facility Services of West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, introduced the district's development, green and unique sustainable features. The group also visited the M+ Museum and Hong Kong Palace Museum to see the behind-the-scenes facilities such as fresh water-cooled chiller systems and the cutting-edge district cooling system plant room.

[Click here for more photos](#)



Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence 2023



2023
香港環境卓越大獎

現已接受報名

截止報名日期 **31.12.2023**

☎ 2788 5903 ✉ awards@hkaee.gov.hk 🌐 www.hkaee.gov.hk

Join the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (HKAEE) and be recognised for your outstanding commitment to environmental protection! As one of the organisers of the awards, BEC invites companies and organisations with strong dedication to environmental stewardship and excellent environmental performance to apply for this highly esteemed environmental award. Participating in HKAEE offers you the opportunity to benchmark your environmental efforts against industry best practices and embrace sustainable practices.

Don't miss the chance to showcase your environmental achievements and be part of the HKAEE community. Applications are now open until 31 December 2023. Join us in the pursuit of environmental excellence by applying for HKAEE 2023 today!



 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL
商界環保協會

 BEC NET-ZERO CARBON CHARTER
零碳約章

BEC NET-ZERO CARBON CHARTER
Join Us To Collectively Decarbonise Today!

The Green Performance Pledge (“GPP”) Academy with Swire Properties – Workshop #2: Green Building and Office Tour at Taikoo Place



An interactive building tour at the triple-Platinum One Taikoo Place (“OTP”), and an exclusive visit to IBM’s LEED and WELL-accredited office took place on 11 December with resounding success as the second event of the GPP Academy – a three-year partnership between Swire Properties (“SPROPS”) and BEC that offers curated learning experiences to SPROPS’ office tenants, allowing them to tap into extensive industry knowledge, share best practices, and inspire impactful actions.

Over 30 participants from 15 companies joined the tour guided by building services and sustainability professionals of SPROPS. Tenants had the opportunity to walk through the OTP building and visit key sustainability features, such as an innovative dual-level roof fitted with a combined green roof and solar PV system, waste-to-energy tri-generation system, as well as the rainwater recycling system. In addition, tenants also visited key infrastructure, such as chiller plant and recycling facilities to understand how a green building operates behind the scenes.



The tour was followed by an exclusive sharing session hosted by IBM & CBRE, during which the key elements of a LEED and WELL-accredited office were showcased with IBM’s own office as a case study. After the sharing session, participants were invited on an insightful office tour, offering them first-hand experience to the design elements and practice implementations that have contributed to a more sustainable and healthier workplace.

Through this interactive event, tenants gained a deeper understanding of how a green building and office operate behind the scenes, which motivated them to drive positive change in their own workplaces.

Stay tuned for more updates on the upcoming GPP Academy workshops!



ESG CORNER

Driving Sustainable Success: Unlocking the Power of ESG to Enhance Corporate Social Performance

In today's business landscape, Environmental, Social, and Governance ("ESG") factors have become integral to determining a company's long-term success and social impact. As stakeholders increasingly demand responsible and sustainable practices, companies must proactively enhance their social performance within the ESG framework. Key strategies should be adopted by companies to improve their social performance, fostering positive social change while creating value for all stakeholders.

First of all, companies must actively engage with their stakeholders, including employees, customers, communities, and investors. By soliciting feedback, addressing concerns, and involving stakeholders in decision-making processes, companies can gain valuable insights to inform their social initiatives. Regular dialogue fosters trust, builds stronger relationships, and ensures the company's actions align with the needs and expectations of its stakeholders.

A purpose-driven culture is foundational to driving positive social change. Companies should establish a clear and compelling purpose that goes beyond financial gains. By aligning their business objectives with social and environmental values, organisations can inspire employees, attract top talent, and build a loyal customer base. Embedding purpose into the company's DNA creates a shared sense of responsibility and encourages employees to actively contribute to social initiatives.

In addition, companies must integrate ESG considerations into their core business strategies. This involves identifying and prioritising key social issues that align with the company's purpose and values. By setting measurable goals and incorporating ESG metrics into performance evaluations, companies can ensure that social performance remains a priority, driving accountability and long-term sustainability.

Last but not least, a diverse and inclusive workforce is essential for improving social performance. Companies should implement policies that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at all levels, ensuring equal opportunities for all employees. By embracing diverse perspectives, companies can foster innovation, enhance decision-making processes, and better serve their customers and communities. Creating a culture of inclusion requires ongoing education, training, and creating a work environment where everyone feels valued and respected.

Enhancing social performance often requires collaboration with external partners, including NGOs, government agencies, and industry associations. Companies should leverage these partnerships to jointly address social challenges, share best practices, and scale impact through collaborative initiatives. By pooling resources and expertise, all parties can achieve greater social outcomes while building meaningful relationships with stakeholders and driving sustainable success for all.

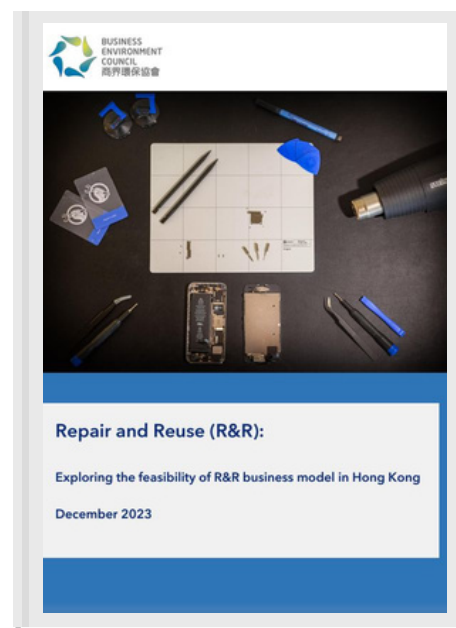


RECENT PUBLICATION

Repair & Reuse (R&R): Exploring the feasibility of R&R business model in Hong Kong

The disposal of e-waste and furniture in Hong Kong is a growing issue. According to the International Telecommunication Union, Hong Kong produced 150,000 tonnes of electronic waste in 2019, accounting for 0.29% of global e-waste. Additionally, 1,800 tonnes of furniture waste are disposed of in Hong Kong daily, making up 16.1% of municipal solid waste in 2021. To prioritise sustainability, we must focus on repair and reuse to reduce waste and extend product lifespan. Hong Kong should lead in promoting these practices.

BEC's research report, "Repair and Reuse (R&R): Exploring the feasibility of R&R business model in Hong Kong," examines the viability of the R&R business model. The report summarises regulations and business models in the EU, the UK, and the US, as well as the situation of local businesses promoting R&R in Hong Kong. R&R can drive a circular economy with multiple opportunities.



[Click here for the full report](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Victoria Harbour 2035: Destinations to Rejuvenate Hong Kong" Competition: Meet Our Teams 9 January

VICTORIA HARBOUR 2035:
DESTINATIONS TO REJUVENATE HONG KONG

MEET OUR TEAMS

9 January 2024 | 4:30pm – 6:30pm | BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall

Co-organisers:  

Sponsors:  

"Victoria Harbour 2035: Destinations to Rejuvenate Hong Kong" design competition is now underway. Harbour Business Forum and BEC will hold a "Meet Our Teams" event at BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall for participants to meet their peers, mentors, jury members and sponsors of the competition.

There will be a panel session on "Unlocking Potential: Exploring Opportunities for Harbourfront Development", followed by a Q&A session for participants to raise questions in relation to their assigned catchment site.

[Click here for more details](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Forum on Climate Risk Management

17 January

Co-organisers:



Supporting Organisations:



Venue Sponsor:



Co-organised by BEC, Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong, and Hong Kong Federation of Insurers, and supported by Environment and Ecology Bureau and Development Bureau, the “Forum on Climate Risk Management” will bring together government speakers as well as representatives from the real estate and insurance sectors to share their insights and initiatives in tackling climate risks. Through expert presentations and panel discussion, participants will gain valuable knowledge and practical tools to navigate the complexities of climate risk management.

[Click here for more details](#)

BEC Leadership Networking Series & Mini Expo: Smart and Sustainable Living Environment

19 January



Embark on a journey towards a sustainable future at the upcoming BEC Leadership Networking Series & Mini Expo: Smart and Sustainable Living Environment. During the event, you will discover the latest trends and advancements in sustainable living with industry experts, thought leaders, and innovators; engage with three influential speakers who will share their insights on achieving a greener and more sustainable world; and immerse yourself in the exhibition showcase, where you can explore cutting-edge solutions and network with industry pioneers.

[Click here for more details](#)

BEC Industry Visit: Discovering Repair Culture and Sustainable Living at Vessel REPAIR Workshop

26 January

To promote sustainable living and repair culture, BEC is organising a visit to the first Repair Station in Hong Kong in January. By joining us at the event, you can also participate in the Vessel REPAIR workshop operated by Community Leap.



During the visit, you will participate in an electronic appliance checking workshop hosted by the Repair Master team; visit the Repair Station to learn about its environmental initiatives; explore the sustainability strategies and goals of the Vessel Repair; and learn about Community Leap and Food Grace – the first food recycling centre in Hong Kong.

[Click here for more details](#)

BEC Spring Dinner 2024

26 February

BEC is hosting BEC Spring Dinner on 26 February 2024, an excellent opportunity for BEC Members and industry leaders to celebrate the Lunar New Year together. Come and join us in this celebration event to meet and network with other like-minded business executives and environmental experts in leading Hong Kong towards a net-zero carbon economy! Seats are limited on a first-come first-served basis.

[Click here for more details](#)



UPCOMING COURSES: BEC IEE TRAINING

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

[ESG Bridging Programme for Graduates](#)



13,20,27 January

[Introduction to Circular Economy](#)



18 January

[The Fundamentals of Corporate Sustainability](#)



22 February



MEMBERS CORNER

Council Members

Airport Authority Hong Kong ("AAHK") was honoured with the Gold Award in the "Most Sustainable Organisations section (Public Sector/ Not-for-profit (Large) Category)" at the Best Corporate Governance and ESG Awards 2023 on 29 November. The award recognises AAHK's significant efforts in carbon management, as well as its disclosures of climate-related strategy and initiatives in Sustainability Report and Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures Statement. This recognition also highlights AAHK's high governance standards and its adoption of an open and proactive communication policy to promote effective communication with stakeholders and evaluate customer feedback.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

To help Hong Kong reach carbon neutrality, **Chinachem Group** and fellow BEC member CLP Power Hong Kong Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding to deepen collaboration in energy efficiency, decarbonisation, and electrification through a wide range of new sustainability initiatives aiming to meet the group's increasingly diverse business development directions. The initiatives will improve Chinachem's operational efficiency and help the group achieve its ambitious CCG 3050+ decarbonisation targets. Chinachem targets at reducing its operational carbon intensity under Scope 1 and 2 by 51.8%, and Scope 3 carbon intensity from capital goods, downstream leased assets and waste generated in operations by 20% by 2030 from a 2020 base year.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Gammon gained double recognition at the CIC Sustainable Construction Award for the Kwun Tong Composite Development Project. The project earned both the Silver Award and the Smart Sustainability Award, reflecting the company's commitment to sustainable construction. The award-winning project utilised innovative technologies to reduce carbon emissions and incorporated digital systems for efficient management. These achievements emphasise Gammon's dedication to elevating industry standards for sustainable construction and digital innovation in Hong Kong.

[Click here to learn more](#)



HK Electric won the Gold Award in the "Corporate Sustainability" category at the 5th Hong Kong Public Relations Awards 2023 for its "Decarbonisation ABC" activity book. To nurture children's environmental awareness at an early age, HK Electric designed the book and a series of extended learning activities in the 2022 academic year. Since then, 60,000 copies have been distributed to over 1,000 kindergartens and nurseries throughout the territory. Around 60 workshops and related activities were also organised for about 4,000 participants. The accolade recognises the creativity and effectiveness of the book and affirms the company's ongoing commitment to green education.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Link Sustainability Lab, **Link's** sustainability education and collaboration platform, is welcoming visitors with a new theme on social inclusion "Differently Together", featuring multiculturalism, mental wellness, and active ageing. The company firmly believes that social inclusion is the cornerstone of a sustainable society, ensuring equity and respect in all aspects of life. With many of Link's properties being social hubs for people, it is well positioned to promote social inclusion. With engaging content, immersive visual experience, lively interactive games, free seminars and workshops, Link Sustainability Lab aims to help participants learn the stories of different groups and individuals, fostering appreciation and respect for diversity.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Siemens was invited to the opening of a newly expanded cargo facility in November to showcase their Battery Energy Storage Systems (“BESS”) solution. Consisting of rechargeable batteries that can store energy and discharge when needed, BESS optimises the utilisation of solar power and effectively manages peak loads in buildings. With annual electricity savings of 125,000 kWh and a reduction of 49 tons of carbon emissions, which is equivalent to planting 2,137 trees, BESS plays a vital role in reducing Scope 2 emissions, demonstrating Siemens' commitment to accelerating net-zero transformation.



Swire Pacific's outstanding ESG performance is once again recognised with prestigious awards. Swire Pacific recently received the “Excellence Award” in ESG reporting for the second consecutive year at the HKMA Best Annual Report Awards. The company also achieved the “Distinction Award” at the HKMA Hong Kong Sustainability Award. In addition, Swire Pacific received the “ESG Award” at the HKICPA Best Corporate Governance and ESG Awards 2023 under the Non-Hang Seng Index (Large Market Capitalisation) Category, further highlighting its commitment to best practices in ESG.



Swire Properties is ranked No. 2 globally out of 260+ assessed real estate management and development companies worldwide in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices, surpassing its previous position at No. 4 in 2022. Furthermore, the company has achieved the top global ranking in the “Environmental Dimension” score and fifth in the “Governance & Economic Dimension” score. In addition, Swire Properties won the Grand Award, the highest recognition, in the Large-sized Organisation category at the HKMA Hong Kong Sustainability Award 2023. These recognitions serve as a testament to its pioneering sustainability work and commitment to building vibrant and sustainable communities.



[Click here to learn more](#)

Towngas received the Sustainable Procurement Award (Large Organisation) - Supply Chain Climate Action from the Hong Kong Green Awards 2023. The award recognises the company's outstanding performance in sustainable procurement in terms of environmental management, safety and health, and governance. Towngas is committed to environmental protection and has been collaborating with suppliers to improve their environmental performance in operations and management processes, monitoring their performance and encouraging suppliers to reduce carbon emissions to align with the Hong Kong Government's goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.



[Click here to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

Corporate Members

In line with the Hong Kong government's ambitious goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, **Baguio** adopts a digital carbon management platform that enables the collection of Scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emissions data. This proactive approach assists Baguio in effectively managing carbon emissions and transitioning towards a low-carbon model. Baguio takes a serious view on the sustainable procurement. The company organised a sharing session to promote sustainable development among its suppliers, contractors and business partners, and encourage them to prepare for the future disclosure of Scope 3 carbon emissions.

[Click here to learn more](#)



This year, Hong Kong was struck by the heaviest rainfall over the last century; many parts of the territory were paralysed by the associated severe flooding. To understand the government strategy in tackling flooding in the community, **FUJIFILM BI HK** joined the "Yuen Long Bypass Floodway Eco Tour" organised by a local green group, touring a variety of environmental engineering facilities along the Yuen Long Bypass Floodway. The team also explored the ecological conservation in Nam Sang Wai – Kam Tin River Estuary incorporated in the Drainage Services Department's flood prevention works, and appreciated the rich biodiversity and ecosystems of local wetland. Through the activity, staff members of FUJIFILM BI HK have gained a deeper understanding of the environmental conservation measures and strengthened their commitment to sustainability.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited ("Hactl") presented the eighth edition of its annual Green Week under the theme of "Going beyond Green" in November. The week-long programme was curated to demonstrate the multifaceted approach to sustainability at Hactl, and included interactive activities such as cultural exchange workshops, pop-up quizzes and the Green Market. A pioneering detective game was also featured to showcase the sustainability facilities at Hactl's SuperTerminal 1, in which staff and visitors explored the initiatives that help build an environmentally conscious workplace whilst collecting hints to solve the game. Hactl will continue to advocate for sustainability through creative means, and engage its staff in building a more sustainable air cargo terminal.

[Click here to learn more](#)



In view of the lack of an internationally recognised way to measure circularity, **Hilti** has developed the new CIRCelligence method with its two partners. Circularity achievements are evaluated by CIRCelligence and visualised through SAP Business Technology Platform®, which provides a user-friendly interface for tracking the materials along the entire value chain. It can now evaluate an entire product portfolio on a yearly basis, based on how well circularity has been implemented. Its calculations cover areas such as recycled materials, product design, production methods, how it manages its tools, and what happens at the end of a product's life cycle.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Hongkong International Theme Parks Limited is pleased to announce that Hong Kong Disneyland Resort (“HKDL”) has received three new accolades from the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (“HKAEE”) 2022 for its environmental efforts. HKDL won a Gold Award in the “Public & Community Services Sector” category, while Hong Kong Disneyland Hotel and Disney Explorers Lodge received a Silver Award and Bronze Award, respectively, in the “Hotels & Recreational Clubs Sector” category. It is the theme park’s first gold award from HKAEE, in addition to the achievements of the hotels. It is not only a recognition of the resort’s green initiatives, but also an endorsement of its commitment to the environment.

[Click here to learn more](#)



In October, the Eco Expo Asia 2023 was held in Hong Kong. More than thousands of native experts and technical representatives of local innovative enterprises attended and had in-depth discussions on cutting-edge Liquid Cooled Super Charger for Electric Vehicles EV, product launch and commercialization from **Huawei Digital Power**. This was Huawei’s second product launch in 2023, a month after the commercialization of standard AC charger of EV in September. The new Super Charger suits various types of charging networks, including carpark spaces in commercial complexes, charging stations along the roads, etc. The Huawei Super Charger once again stands at the forefront of technology to create a high-quality, sustainable intelligent charging network, continuously supporting Hong Kong’s goal of achieving zero carbon emissions from vehicles by 2050.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Maxim’s Group collaborates with fellow BEC member Towngas to launch Hong Kong’s first inter-plant waste heat system. This three-years-in-the-making innovative project captures and converts residual heat from Towngas Tai Po Gas Production Plant and transfers to Maxim’s food factory via an 800m underground pipeline to power desiccant dehumidifiers that serve precise humidity and indoor air quality control, minimising the risk of moisture contamination and microbial growth. This system is expected to reduce approximately 800 tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually, equivalent to planting around 34,000 trees. This collaboration underpins Maxim’s commitment to achieving green operational excellence for meeting the needs of its business, society, and the planet.



MTR’s Hin Keng Station has achieved the Excellent rating under the BREEAM In-Use certification, making it the first railway station worldwide to receive this prestigious recognition. The station has implemented various green and low-carbon initiatives. Among the recent additions are the installation of bird boxes for biodiversity conservation, ultrasonic flowmeters to monitor water usage, and the use of eco-brick planters made from spoil ballast for beautification and upcycling purposes. Additionally, MTR has designed six upcoming stations according to green building standards, all of which have achieved “BEAM Plus Provisional Gold” or higher certification. These efforts demonstrate MTR’s dedication to promoting low-carbon public transport and environmentally friendly practices.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Arup has once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to creating a more sustainable future through collaboration with clients and partners. The company's remarkable achievements were recognised at the Green Building Award 2023, including five Grand awards for K11 Atelier, 11 SKIES, AIRSIDE, Hang Seng Bank Headquarters workplace transformation, Public Housing Development at Queen's Hill, and Central Market. Arup also received nine Merit awards and three Special Citations on United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals across various project types. These accomplishments reflect Arup's ongoing dedication to integrating sustainability into its projects and positively impacting the built environment.

[Click here to learn more](#)

ARUP

Hydrogen is currently recognised as an ideal environmentally friendly energy source. Hydrogen expert Ray Zhao from **SGS** was invited to the 4th Hydrogen Economy Forum to share related insights and introduce various hydrogen projects his team has been involved in. Leveraging the experience gained from these projects, along with international hydrogen-related standards and comprehensive testing facilities, SGS has successfully established a hydrogen testing and certification programme to ensure companies promoting hydrogen development worldwide can meet international safety standards, in turn securing the safety and reliability of hydrogen development to help achieve long-term carbon neutrality goals.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Siemens Mobility has completed the first test runs with its Mireo Plus H hydrogen-powered train in Bavaria, Germany, in September 2023, with two-car trainsets expected to enter passenger services in mid-2024 between Augsburg, Füssen and Peissenberg. As part of Siemens Mobility's sustainability strategy, the test runs marked an important milestone for the future of alternative drive systems for trains that will operate emissions-free.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Veolia Hong Kong's local smart recycling and digitalised collection company showcased its latest Smart Food Waste Bin and shared its Total Waste Management Solutions at the FoodSmart Conference and Expo for the Food and Beverage Trade 2023. The company's technologies, innovation and solutions will continue to support upcoming policy initiatives such as MSW Charging Scheme and the regulation of disposable plastic tableware and other plastic products. Veolia is committed to tackling Hong Kong's waste challenge through its services in organic resources recovery, waste collection and management.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Vegware UK has achieved B Corp certification, marking the culmination of a two-year journey. This recognition signifies that by prioritising the planet and the community, Vegware has been doing business the right way. It also reflects the company's dedication to continuous improvement, which is evident in its diverse set of compostability certifications and positive environmental impact. Vegware packaging helps the Food & Beverage sector close the loop by converting disposables together with food waste into compost. Aligned with the company's zero-waste commitment, the B Corp certification represents not just a seal but a promise of responsible business with authenticity, quality, and positive change – thus fostering trust and a greener future in the community.

[Click here to learn more](#)



WSP celebrated its 45th anniversary in Hong Kong by hosting a series of three thematic seminars to dive into prominent trends from multidisciplinary perspectives that define the future. Local and overseas speakers discussed the importance of ESG and sustainability in decarbonising the built environment, explored ways to leverage innovative technologies to shape robust and future-proof infrastructure, and looked at the approach to digitalise engineering processes for a smarter, greener, and more resilient future. The seminar series has provided a valuable platform for WSP's experts and industry players to exchange Future Ready ideas and kickstart new collaborations.

[Click here to learn more](#)



General Members

BEAM Society Limited ("BSL") announced the launch of BEAM Plus Interiors ("BI") v2.0, an upgraded green interior assessment tool specifically designed for interior fitout, renovation and refurbishment works, at the launch ceremony jointly organised with Hong Kong Green Building Council on 28 November. The upgraded version introduces significant enhancements in Adaptability, Simplification, Certainty and Human-Centricity. Moreover, BSL has developed "BEAM Plus Interiors Version 2.0 – Residential", the first-ever assessment tool for domestic space, aiming at promoting green practices in households and paving the way towards the carbon neutrality goal set out in Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050. BEAM Plus BI v2.0 is now available for new project registration and the manuals can be downloaded from BSL's website.

[Click here to learn more](#)



In December, **Contact Lens Easy** has successfully recycled nearly 4 tonnes of contact lens cases through its Contact Lens Cases Recycling Programme. Since early December, a Christmas art installation made of contact lens cases and other recycled plastics has been exhibited at the new AIRSIDE shopping centre in Kai Tak district. An exhibition introducing contact lens cases and plastic recycling was established next to the art installation. Through this collaboration, plastic recycling and green concepts were further promoted to the public.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Dress Green collaborated with a renowned classic American fashion brand for a pop-up in late October at Taipei 101 shopping centre to celebrate the brand's 205th Anniversary. The brand has launched a limited-edition lamb plush based on its mascot Henry the Sheep, and worked with Dress Green to repurpose old merchandise and fabrics to customise sustainable garments for the plush collection. Each collectible dresses in an iconic style – Oxford Cotton Button Down, The POLO and classic 1818 suit. This meaningful project took the Dress Green team nearly one year from research, concept development, sorting recycled materials, prototyping to mass production. To empower inclusive communities, Dress Green also partnered with local retired garment workers and new immigrants to sew and prepare all the garments and accessories for the project. Dress Green takes pride in the collaboration to promote sustainable development and bolster corporate social responsibilities for communities.



[Click here to learn more](#)

Echo Asia Communications is thrilled to organise ECO ART WALK 2024 on 13 January 2024, Hong Kong's first and only fundraising walkathon where the realms of artistry and sustainability intertwine. ECO ART WALK will be collaborating with 10 local artists, including Chow Siu Mou, Humchuk and more. It is a curation of a "Collective Eco Art Exhibition" scattered across Central - Western District featuring 10 local stores. The event ends with a Charity Music Finale at the Fringe Dairy at night, featuring local rising bands such as Kowloon K and more, presenting a night of funky beats and fun vibes. ECO ART WALK fund-raises through the form of "City Strolling". Event profits will be partially donated to three different organisations to support animal rights, address local food waste issues, and uplift local arts and creatives.



[Click here to learn more](#)

In December, **GF Technovation** participated in two events to raise public awareness about the importance of recycling and responsible waste management. The first event was the Discovery Bay Recycling Day where the company promoted sustainability and encouraged a greener lifestyle within the community. As for the other event, the company was invited to the FoodSmart Conference and Expo at the HKCEC, aiming to lead the F&B industry towards more sustainable and environmentally friendly practices. Utilising technology is crucial for achieving long-term sustainability in smart recycling and waste management.



Leigh & Orange was honoured with two prestigious awards at the highly esteemed Green Building Award 2023. The firm has received the "Pioneer Award" in the Green Building Leadership (Consultant) category, recognising its 150-year legacy of dedication to sustainability and wellbeing. The Chung Chi Student Development Complex at the Chinese University of Hong Kong has also been bestowed with the "Grand Award" in the New Buildings category (Completed Projects – Institutional). These accolades serve as a testament to the firm's unwavering commitment to carbon neutrality and its steadfast efforts in combatting climate change by fostering a sustainable future, both within the organisation and the built environment, for Hong Kong and beyond.



[Click here to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

As a member of a pedestrianisation advocacy group focusing on improving Central, **Masterplan Limited** advocates for improving public space and reducing the problems with our pedestrian environment. Changes in transport infrastructure provide opportunities for more space for landscaping and pedestrians. The new HKeToll system with variable tunnel tolls, is congestion charging and will reduce the use of cars. On 6 December, Masterplan's Managing Director Ian Brownlee explained how "HKeToll can make Hong Kong a better city at street level" on a local newspaper.

[Click here to learn more](#)



As part of efforts to reduce plastic waste, the Hong Kong government recently gazetted the Product Eco-responsibility (Amendment) Ordinance 2023 to introduce restrictions on the manufacture, sale and distribution of certain disposable plastic products such as tableware, food containers and hotel and guesthouse toiletries. The new requirements are expected to come into effect in two phases from April 2024, and are likely to impact the business operations of companies in the food and beverage and hospitality industries. **Mayer Brown's** new article outlines the key features of the upcoming regulations and other international developments targeting the reduction of plastic pollution.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Nano and Advanced Materials Institute ("NAMI") has developed the Carbon Negative Paving Block, a green product that integrates carbon capture, utilisation, and storage, as well as life-cycle assessment. Through judicious formulation design, NAMI's paving block is made of recycled materials which possess a low carbon footprint yet fulfilling the compressive strength requirements of the Highways Department. Atmospheric carbon dioxide can be permanently locked inside this paving block. The embodied carbon of the developed paving block is around -0.102 kg CO₂ e, meaning it can absorb and capture more CO₂ than it emits, being a solution to achieve carbon neutrality.

[Click here to learn more](#)



South Star Glass received the Merit Award in the category of Building Products and Technologies at the Green Building Award 2023 organised by Hong Kong Green Building Council and Professional Green Building Council on 3 November. Building Vacuum Glass ("BVG") Glazing Retrofit is a secondary glazing with an independent BVG system added to the room side of window or curtainwall glass panels. BVG glazing retrofit improves glazing shading performance by up to 70%, saves cooling energy electricity costs by 20-30%, as well as improves thermal comfort, acoustic, safety and security performance of windows.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

The Harbour School Hong Kong, together with fellow BEC member Ocean Park Corporation, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) to collaborate and jointly promote marine science, ocean conservation and sustainable development to the young generation in Hong Kong. The MOU aims to position Hong Kong as a global leader in marine conservation and education, and the two parties aim to develop sustainable strategies and communications that will build public awareness and support for ocean literacy and sustainability. The collective efforts will drive positive change and ensure a better future for our oceans.

[Click here to learn more](#)



The commitment of Wharf Estates Limited’s flagship property Times Square to green building innovation solutions has been recognised with prestigious awards this year. In addition to obtaining the Excellent Intelligent Green Building Renovation Award, the property was also honoured with the “Honourable Mention” at the Hong Kong openBIM/ openGIS Award 2023 and received the Grand Award of the Green Building Award 2023 in November. These esteemed accolades recognise the exceptional efficiency enhancement of Times Square’s cooling tower through application of advanced technologies such as iPaintAI, Building Information Modelling 7D, geographic information system and QR code. The project was anticipated to achieve a potential saving of 6% of electricity consumption for the chiller plant.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Zilver Limited has won the Outstanding Award in “Green Building Innovation and Technology” and “Ecological Conservation Innovation and Technology” categories at the Hong Kong Sustainable Development Innovation & Technology Awards 2023. Zilver is honoured to be one of the winners this year out of 142 nominations from 66 Hong Kong companies, which is a testament to its tireless efforts to drive sustainable and green construction through distributing natural paint with low carbon footprint.



Recently Published Sustainability Report

Colliers International (Hong Kong) Limited

- ESG: Giving built assets a competitive advantage



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.

WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

Corporate Members

- Chevron Hong Kong Limited



- Citybus Limited



- DynaSys Solutions Limited*



- Keppel Seghers Hong Kong Limited



General Members

- ANTA Sports Products Limited
- Cathay Pacific Services Limited (Cathay Cargo Terminal)
- Contact Lens Easy Co
- Echo Asia Communications Limited
- Habib Bank Zurich (Hong Kong) Limited
- Legend Contracting & Consultancy Limited
- L'Oreal Hong Kong Limited
- Plant Plant Holding Company Limited
- Prudence Engineering Limited
- Quooker Hong Kong Limited
- The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel Limited

*Membership Upgrade

BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS

- **ESG Green Development & Carbon Neutrality Awards** | AM730 Media Limited, Institute of ESG & Benchmark, Institute of Financial Technologists of Asia | 18 March 2024
- **Hong Kong Smoke-free Leading Company Awards 2023** | Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health | Now till March 2024
- **Green in Prop+Con** | Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation | Now till 24 May 2024
- **The 2nd Greater Bay Area ESG & Sustainability Exhibition** | Coastal International Conference & Exhibition Co., Ltd. | 21-23 June 2024

[Click here to see more](#)

Subscribe to BEC e-Newsletter

