

BEC E-NEWSLETTER

Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment

ENVIRONMENTAL OUTLOOK FOR 2024

BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng shares his insights on global and local environmental issues requiring attention in 2024.



According to Global Risks Report 2024¹, environmental risks continue to dominate the risk landscape, with “extreme weather events”, “critical change to Earth systems”, “biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse”, and “natural resource shortages” completing the top 4 most severe risks perceived to be faced over the next 10 years. For short-term risks, “extreme weather events” ranks second, only after “misinformation and disinformation”.

With that in mind, I want to draw your attention to the current state of play regarding several global and local issues that we are facing, in terms of both challenges and opportunities, as we venture into 2024 with so much at stake if we fail to reduce man-induced, adverse impact on the environment and reverse unsustainable development trends.

Global risks ranked by severity over the short and long term

Please estimate the likely impact (severity) of the following risks over a 2-year and 10-year period.



Source: World Economic Forum

On climate change, there is growing fear, backed by the latest Emissions Gap Report 2023: Broken Record² published by the United Nations Environment Programme, that we will likely breach the 1.5 degrees limit before the end of this decade. It is predicted that 2030 greenhouse gas emissions must fall by 42% for the 1.5 degrees pathway. Alarming, in November last year, the global average temperature briefly hit 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels for the first time in recorded history. The planet is getting hotter, and the impacts more and more material.

Despite the added urgency, the outcomes of COP28 in Dubai are underwhelming to say the least – compromised success with the Global Stocktake by calling out fossil fuel but failing to deliberate a full phase-out plan; stalled progress in the Mitigation Work Programme and little attention on adaptation despite the Global Goal on Adaptation was established; too many discussions being pushed further down the line; and rather weak language overall with limited drive to ensure implementation. Little has changed since COP26 in Glasgow with only a handful of countries, no large emitters included, submitted new pledges and more ambitious goals. The next round of nationally determined contributions will be due in 2025. As things stand, all countries must punch above their weight to close the emission gap.

At the corporate level, companies are under constant pressure from investors and clients to set implementable near and long-term net-zero targets. Regulators like Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited are mandating climate-related disclosures. As listed companies are required to oblige and some other companies, including small and medium sized enterprises, may choose to follow, there is a huge capacity gap in Hong Kong related to climate-related scenario analysis, quantitative disclosures of current (and anticipated) financial effects, credible scope 3 emission assessment, and cross-industry and industry-based metrics.

[1] <https://www.weforum.org/publications/global-risks-report-2024/>

[2] <https://www.unep.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2023>

On energy transition, the message from COP28 is to transition away from fossil fuels, and the Global Stocktake called on the tripling of global renewable energy capacity and doubling the rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030. In Hong Kong, BEC is keenly anticipating the Government's hydrogen development strategy for Hong Kong in the first half of 2024, and the plan to support its local applications. We are also heavily involved in the promotion of green fuel usage and supply in Hong Kong, including sustainable aviation fuel ("SAF") and green marine fuels such as liquefied natural gas and methanol. As an example, the Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition was launched on 29 January to spearhead the decarbonisation of the aviation industry and position Hong Kong as a regional and global hub for SAF.

On circularity and waste management, the recent government announcement of postponing the MSW charging scheme to August 2024 should be considered a minor setback in the grand scheme of things. The key now is to swiftly address concerns from different corners, with property management companies, building owners and tenants all claiming they are unsure about the implementation details of the scheme, and there is also misinformation over the designated garbage bags, the handling of breaches, and the issue of responsibility.

BEC reiterates our full support for waste charging. Instead of questioning the "polluter-pays" principle, or finger-pointing, we'd better make the most of the extended preparation period by working together to clarify the details, share information and experience effectively with multi-stakeholders (foreign domestic helpers and frontline cleaning workers spring to mind), and initiate or encourage early practices in different premises to identify and rectify pain points, so as to ensure smooth implementation in August. A similar approach should be taken with the banning of disposable plastic tableware also on the horizon in mid-April this year.

Whereas waste charging will gradually drive change in corporate and individual behaviour, achieve waste avoidance and reduction, and encourage separation and recycling, we cannot emphasise enough the importance of developing a truly circular economy. Please follow BEC closely as we are stepping up our works on circularity through policy advocacy, research, events, stakeholder engagement, and capacity building.

Finally, a brief but important note on biodiversity and nature conservation. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which includes four goals and 23 targets to be achieved by 2030, is adopted as part of the global agreement to halt and reverse biodiversity destruction under the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties ("COP15") to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. Hong Kong will review and update its city-level Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan this year, and BEC will prepare a submission to the Government representing views from the business community on nature topics. Recently, corporates in Hong Kong are showing interests in nature-related topics, including nature-based solutions and the reporting requirements under the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures ("TNFD"). Just a couple of weeks ago, seven organisations from Hong Kong signalled their intent to start adopting the TNFD recommendations by becoming early adopters. As corporate appetite on nature is growing, BEC is developing a nature-centric programme this year to raise awareness and to drive the conversation.



Credit: Environmental Protection Department

Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition Launch Ceremony



BEC announced the official launch of the Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition (“HKSAFC”) with a launch ceremony held on 29 January at BEC Auditorium. Developed in partnership with Cathay as co-initiator and as a response to the latest Policy Address by the HKSAR Government, HKSAFC aims to spearhead the decarbonisation of the aviation industry and position Hong Kong as a regional and global hub for sustainable aviation fuel (“SAF”) through engaging various stakeholders across the SAF value chain.

“Victoria Harbour 2035: Destinations to Rejuvenate Hong Kong” Competition: Meet Our Teams



Harbour Business Forum and BEC held the “Meet Our Teams” event for the “Victoria Harbour 2035: Destinations to Rejuvenate Hong Kong” Competition on 9 January at BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall, offering a valuable opportunity for participants to connect with their peers, mentors, jury members and sponsors of the competition. Urban design and sustainability experts were invited to the event for a dynamic panel discussion on “Unlocking Potential: Exploring Opportunities for Harbourfront Development”, which inspired participants and shed light on innovative approaches to harbourfront development. Additionally, participating teams raised questions in relation to their assigned catchment site in the competition during the Q&A session.

BEC Staff Volunteer at Food Angel

BEC Staff Club organised a staff volunteering activity at Food Angel on 3 January, where our staff volunteers prepared food ingredients and meal boxes for the underprivileged. Through the activity, participating staff could get to know more about Hong Kong’s food waste and poverty issues. It was also an ideal team building opportunity to foster team spirit.



BEC Visit to Huawei Headquarters

Led by BEC CEO Simon Ng, 13 BEC staff members paid a visit to Huawei Digital Power Headquarters, PV Plant and R&D Centre in Shenzhen and Dongguan on 5 January. During the visit, Huawei's representatives and specialists introduced their sustainable technologies, including FusionSolar products, EV charging and data centre facilities. All participants were truly impressed by the comprehensive and advanced solutions, which contribute to fostering sustainable development.



Forum on Climate Risk Management

BEC, Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong, and Hong Kong Federation of Insurers co-organised the Forum on Climate Risk Management on 17 January, where speakers and panellists were invited to share their insights and initiatives in tackling climate risks. The forum brought together government speakers and representatives from the real estate and insurance sectors to offer participants valuable knowledge and practical tools to navigate the complexities of climate risk management.



[Click here for more photos](#)

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

BEC Leadership Networking Series & Mini Expo: Smart and Sustainable Living Environment took place at BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall on 19 January. Ir Dr Anthony Lo, Mr Raymond Leung, and Mr Ron Chow were invited to share their valuable insights on achieving a greener and more sustainable world. The sharing session was followed by an exhibition showcase, where 15 BEC Members set up booths to demonstrate their cutting-edge solutions leading towards a sustainable future.



[Click here for more photos](#)

BEC x NESS Green Jobs Fair 2024

BEC and the Network of Environmental Student Societies ("NESS") organised the second edition of the well-received "BEC x NESS Green Jobs Fair" on 24 January at BEC Auditorium and Exhibition Hall. Building on the success of last year's event, the fair once again brought together companies, universities, students, and government officials to initiate a four-way discussion on the current green jobs market and opportunities. Mr Fong Kin-wa, JP, Deputy Director of Environmental Protection, was invited as the Guest of Honour to officiate at the opening ceremony of the fair.



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

BEC Industry Visit "Discovering Repair Culture and Sustainable Living at Vessel REPAIR Workshop" was successfully held on 26 January. The event provided valuable insights into the environmental initiatives of the Repair Station and showcased the circularity features of the Vessel REPAIR. One of the highlights was the electronic appliance repair workshop, which helps reduce e-waste and serves communities in need.



[Click here for more photos](#)

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:

[The Fundamentals of Corporate Sustainability](#)



22 February

[Carbon Audit Step by Step](#)



21 March



UPCOMING EVENTS

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](#)



BEC Shenzhen & Foshan Technical and Exchange Tour

13-14 March

Climate change is one of the most urgent global challenges of our time. To address climate change and reduce carbon emissions, Mainland China has adopted a series of policies and measures, striving to reach the emission peak by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060. Enterprises in Hong Kong and Mainland China have also taken corresponding carbon reduction measures to actively respond to the climate crisis.



Special thanks to:      

BEC is organising a technical and exchange tour to Shenzhen and Foshan in collaboration with BYD, Feichi Technology, Foran Energy, HSBC, Sinosynergy and Towngas on 13 – 14 March 2024. The purpose of this tour is to explore the latest green, electrical vehicle and hydrogen technologies in Mainland China. Seats are limited, register now!

[Click here for more details](#)

ESG CORNER

Sustainable Aviation Fuel: A Catalyst for ESG Transformation in the Aviation Sector

With environmental, social, and governance (“ESG”) principles gaining significant attention in the business world in recent years, one sector that has been actively exploring sustainability solutions is aviation. In order to reduce carbon emissions, the aviation industry has turned its focus towards Sustainable Aviation Fuel (“SAF”).

SAF is a renewable alternative to traditional fossil-based jet fuel. It is produced from sustainable feedstocks such as agricultural residues, waste oils, and crops specifically grown for fuel production. The key characteristic of SAF is its ability to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide, compared to conventional jet fuel. SAF can be blended with traditional jet fuel or used as a standalone fuel option, making it a viable solution for reducing aviation’s carbon footprint.

ESG considerations have become a central focus for companies seeking to align their practices with sustainability goals. The aviation industry, known for its significant carbon emissions, recognises the importance of addressing environmental concerns. By incorporating ESG principles, airlines, aircraft manufacturers, and industry stakeholders are actively pursuing the adoption of SAF as a means to reduce their carbon footprint.

One of the primary reasons for incorporating SAF into aviation operations is to mitigate environmental impact. The use of SAF can lead to a substantial reduction in net carbon emissions, making it a crucial component in achieving carbon neutrality. By replacing conventional jet fuel with SAF, airlines can significantly contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, thereby combating climate change.

The adoption of SAF also addresses social considerations within the ESG framework. It helps promote the development of a more sustainable and responsible aviation industry. By investing in SAF, airlines demonstrate their commitment to sustainable practices, which can enhance their reputation and build trust among passengers, investors, and other stakeholders. Additionally, the production of SAF creates job opportunities and economic growth in the renewable energy sector.

The governance aspect of ESG plays a vital role in encouraging the development and adoption of SAF. Governments and regulatory bodies worldwide are implementing policies and incentives to encourage the use of sustainable aviation fuels. These measures include financial support, tax incentives, and mandates that require blending a certain percentage of SAF into jet fuel. For example, the European Union has introduced the Renewable Energy Directive II, which mandates a minimum 2% share of SAF in jet fuel by 2025 and a gradual increase to 5% by 2030. Singapore has also implemented the Green Fuels for Aviation Initiative, offering financial incentives to encourage airlines and fuel producers to invest in SAF. By establishing supportive governance frameworks, policymakers encourage the aviation industry to invest in and transition to SAF, promoting sustainable practices.

Hong Kong, as a global aviation hub, has recognised the significance of SAF in achieving its sustainability goals. Although SAF development in Hong Kong is still in its early stages compared to some other countries, efforts are being made to accelerate its adoption. Collaborations between airlines, fuel suppliers, and research institutions are being fostered to drive innovation and ensure a steady supply of SAF in the region. The recent launch of Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition is one of the significant examples encouraging and promoting the adoption of SAF in the industry.

The development of SAF is instrumental in shaping the future of the aviation industry, as SAF offers a renewable alternative to traditional jet fuel. While SAF development in Hong Kong is still in its early stages, efforts are underway to accelerate its adoption and establish the region as a sustainable aviation hub. By prioritising ESG considerations and investing in SAF, the aviation industry can contribute significantly to a greener and more sustainable future.

MEMBERS CORNER

Council Members

The **Airport Authority Hong Kong (“AAHK”)**’s newly commissioned Sky Bridge, a 200-metre footbridge connecting Terminal 1 and the T1 Satellite Concourse, has achieved the highest Final Platinum rating under the BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.2 rating system. The Sky Bridge incorporates numerous sustainability features that contribute to its high rating – from using timber products from sustainable sources, to recycling and reusing at least 60% of demolition waste and more. The bridge effectively removes the need for bus transportation between terminals, eliminating all associated emissions. These efforts showcase AAHK’s dedication to fulfilling the World’s Greenest Airport Pledge.



China State Construction Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited (“CSHK”) was awarded two honours at the Green Building Awards 2023, which recognises outstanding projects and organisations that made huge contributions to sustainable development and environmental protection in the construction industry. CSHK is honoured to be the second contractor to receive The Pioneer Award under the Green Building Leadership Category since the prize’s establishment in 2019. This award recognises industry sustainability pioneers in the building and construction field who are determined to raise the bar of sustainable development among industry peers. In addition, CSHK’s project on the Organic Resources Recovery Center Phase 2 (“O.PARK2”) won the Merit Award in the New Buildings Category. O.PARK2 is also China’s first pilot project to achieve carbon neutrality in its construction phase.



Nina Park, an urban park with Asia’s largest wood fossil collection launched by **Chinachem Group**, officially opened its first phase to the public in December 2023. As the first museum-grade wood fossil park in Hong Kong, it showcases over a hundred precious wood fossils collected by the group’s late chairwoman Mrs Nina Wang. All the fossils exhibited have a rich history, spanning millions of years. The park also incorporates a variety of multimedia facilities and advanced environmentally friendly technology, providing a unique and engaging “edutainment” experience. Following on the heels of Central Market, Nina Park is another “Playground for All” project by the group. Offering a brand-new attraction in Hong Kong, it is set to become a unique destination for locals and tourists alike.



[Click here to learn more](#)

In 2023, **Hang Lung Properties** garnered over 35 prestigious ESG awards across Hong Kong and mainland China. These accolades are a testament to the company’s collaborative efforts in driving collaboration and innovative programmes. By bringing together its employees, tenants, business partners, and NGOs, Hang Lung is dedicated to achieving sustainable growth. It actively contributes to advancing sustainability goals, supporting government green policies, and implementing a wide range of impactful community investment programmes, to address areas of women’s empowerment, youth development, and elderly services, all while prioritising the wellbeing and development of its employees and the communities it serves.



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Hang Seng Bank was recognised with the Green Building Award 2023. The revolutionary Hang Seng Bank Headquarters Workplace Transformation has earned Grand Award for Existing Buildings Category: Completed Projects - Commercial. This remarkable commercial project shows the power of eco-friendly design and revolutionises the workplace. The innovative approach to workplace transformation sets a new standard for corporate responsibility. Additionally, Hang Seng Bank was a finalist in the Green Building Leadership Category: Government, Institutions & NGOs. These extraordinary achievements serve as a powerful testament to Hang Seng Bank's unwavering dedication to shaping a greener and more sustainable future.



Henderson Land was recently recognised with a GRESB 5-star rating and the title of Global and Regional Sector Leader (Diversified - Office/ Retail) in the 2023 Real Estate Assessment, which surveyed 2,000+ participating companies across 15 sectors and 75 markets, and culminated in a comprehensive and rigorous analysis of industry peers' efforts and progress in ESG management, performance and development. These accolades underscore the company's focus on driving sustainability in the built environment and shaping the industry's best practices.

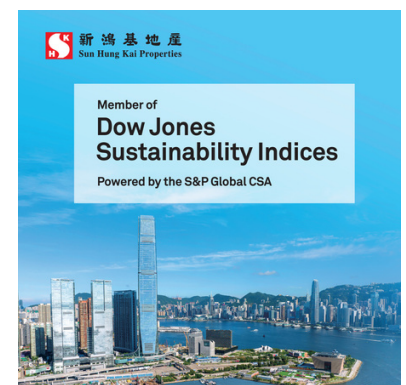


Siemens recently received the Merit Award at the Green Building Award 2023. In collaboration with various industry-leading architectural and engineering companies, Siemens presented the award-winning Treehouse, a carbon-neutral smart building design that promotes carbon positivity and the wellness of its inhabitants. Featuring carbon-reduction technologies, the pioneering design provided a framework to address urban challenges and accelerate Hong Kong's carbon neutral journey while balancing healthy living.



Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited ("SHKP") is listed for the first time as a constituent of the latest Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific Index. This international ESG milestone positions the group in the top 20% of the largest Asia Pacific companies with exceptional long-term performance in economic, environmental and social criteria, recognising its commitment to fostering sustainable development and creating long-term value for stakeholders. In addition, SHKP has just launched a video highlighting the achievement of its headquarters, Sun Hung Kai Centre. With a history of over 40 years, the building has been awarded LEED Platinum certification under "v4.1 Operations and Maintenance: Existing Buildings". The building underwent retro-commissioning to ensure optimum efficiency and installed a smart building management system to save energy and reduce emissions. Since 2005, over 65 million kWh of electricity has been saved, reducing 42,000 tonnes of carbon emissions.

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Swire Properties has received top accolades for its outstanding capabilities in the areas of sustainability reporting, ESG and health & safety. Notably, it was the only Hong Kong real estate company to receive the “Sustainability Excellence Award” at the second EY CSO Forum and Sustainability Excellence Awards. The company was also honoured with the “ESG Award [Non-Hang Seng Index (Large Market Capitalisation) Category]” at the HKICPA Best Corporate Governance and ESG Awards 2023, the “Best ESG Reporting Award (Property Development & Investment category)” at the 2023 HKMA Best Annual Reports Award, and the “Silver Award (Occupational Safety and Health Report Award)” at the 22nd Hong Kong Occupational Safety & Health Award. These recognitions highlight Swire Properties’ game-changing work and efforts to embrace best practices in low-carbon transformation, sustainable development, and technological innovations.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Towngas is listed in the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific Index for the second consecutive year, becoming the only gas utilities company listed in the Index. The achievement recognises the group’s strong and continuous commitment to ESG issues. As Towngas transitions from a traditional utility company to an integrated clean energy supplier, it makes every effort to ensure a Just Transition to create a low-carbon economy in a fair and equitable manner. The group is proactively expanding its low-carbon businesses, such as smart energy, waste-to-energy, and energy efficiency, to provide customers with sustainable energy solutions and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. In pursuit of this goal, in 2023, Towngas began to incorporate Internal Carbon Pricing and ESG Due Diligence in its investment decision-making processes to identify and drive low-carbon opportunities and investments.

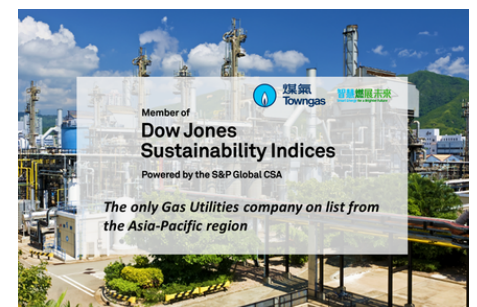
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Corporate Members

China Everbright Environment Group Limited has been listed in the Dow Jones Sustainability Emerging Markets Index for the eighth consecutive year, being one of the six companies from China to be listed in the index in 2023. The company got an overall score of 55, considerably higher than the Commercial & Professional Services industry average of 23. This marks another endorsement to the company in sustainable development, following its inclusion in S&P Global’s Sustainability Yearbook and the Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Benchmark Index for the 13th consecutive year in 2023.

Officiated by the Chief Executive Mr John Lee, **Citybus** launched Hong Kong’s first-ever hydrogen refuelling station and hydrogen double deck bus in November 2023, leading Hong Kong into the new era of hydrogen transportation and infrastructure. This momentous occasion marks a major stride forward in the advancement of hydrogen development. Citybus is fully dedicated to supporting Hong Kong’s carbon neutrality target through its zero-emission campaign #MissionZero, pledging to operate a full-fleet of zero-emission buses by 2045. In 2024, Citybus will procure additional production model hydrogen buses, which will be trialled alongside diesel and electric buses, assisting the Government in formulating the hydrogen roadmap and policies.

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Member of
**Dow Jones
 Sustainability Indices**
 Powered by the S&P Global CSA



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CLPe partners with fellow BEC members Henderson Land Group and Chinachem Group to introduce Cooling as a Service at Flora Plaza in Fanling, which is expected to save 500,000 kWh of electricity a year, equivalent to a reduction of around 200 tonnes of carbon emissions. CLPe will upgrade the mall's chiller system, which has been in use since the mall opened, to a more energy-efficient system under a BOOT (Build, Own, Operate, and Transfer) agreement, resulting in energy cost savings, reduced carbon emissions, and increased cooling capacity to accommodate the mall's future business development. This sets a good example and encourages similar malls to enhance the energy efficiency of their most electricity-consuming equipment, the chillers, in a cost-effective way.

[Click here to learn more](#)



CN Logistics celebrates the successful completion and full operation of its solar power generation system installation project at its Italian facility in mid-December 2023. This strategic initiative took over a year to complete, with a total of 362 solar power generation panels installed on the roof of the Italian facility, covering an area of approximately 747 square metres. With a capacity of 152 kWp, this system is expected to generate around 167,200 kWh of renewable clean energy annually, resulting in a reduction of nearly 80,000 kg of CO2 emissions per year. The project marks a significant milestone for CN Logistics as the company continues its commitment to greener operations and reducing carbon footprint.

[Click here to learn more](#)



DBS Bank's Chief Economist, Taimur Baig, and Chief Sustainability Officer, Helge Muenkel have co-written a report on "Coal Phase-out: Challenges and an emerging roadmap". Coal, the primary energy and emission source in Asia, faces evolving public policies, private sector initiatives, and technological advancements, making phase-out more plausible. Meanwhile, complexities arise from retiring coal assets, job preservation, cross-sector collaboration, banking innovation, parallel action on renewable energy production and required infrastructure, as well as the consideration of long-term dividends. Navigating these multifaceted challenges is crucial in achieving sustainable energy transition.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Hactl has joined hands with fellow BEC member Jardine Matheson, a local social enterprise, and a non-profit organisation, to co-host a community project "Revive and Thrive", in which discarded wooden pallets were collected from Hactl's SuperTerminal 1 and then transformed into upcycled furniture and tablet holders for underprivileged families in the local community. During the six-month project, more than 200 volunteers from the group visited subdivided flat residents, participated in woodcraft workshops, and delivered upcycled tablet holders and furniture to 66 students from grassroots families and six benefit-claiming families.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Electric vehicle ("EV") adoption helps Hong Kong accelerate towards a net-zero future.

Inchcape offers sustainable and innovative mobility options to promote the popularity of EVs and the development of EV ecosystem in Hong Kong, such as the recent launch of Inchcape One+, a one-stop 360 EV solution with services covering home charging solution and public charging networks. It is the first-of-its-kind service in Hong Kong which provides comprehensive and personalised charging solutions and after-sales services in all aspects to address the pain points of EV owners.

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General Members

Allied Sustainability and Environmental Consultants Group Limited (“AEC Group”) hosted the highly anticipated 2023 GRESB Regional Insights: Hong Kong Event on 23 November 2023 at ESG Innovation Lab in Central. Following the previous year’s success, this impactful industry event gathered around 100 industry leaders and ESG experts from Hong Kong and the region, celebrating the achievements of the GRESB Global & Regional Sector Leaders while offering inspiring insights into the ESG benchmarks. AEC Group helped clients, such as fellow BEC member Henderson Land Development Company Limited, achieve five-star ratings and improvements with their GRESB evaluation, and provided ESG enhancement advice for their five-star worldwide and regional leadership recognition. [Click here to learn more](#)



AVISTA has leveraged its expertise in green finance to support its client in securing their inaugural sustainability-linked loan of HK\$326 million with fellow BEC member DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited. This marks a significant leap in advancing sustainable finance and decarbonisation for the client. The loan includes revolving credit facilities with an interest rate tied to the client’s sustainability performance against an agreed set of Key Performance Indicators. AVISTA provided technical support services for reviewing its client’s environmental goals, including energy consumption intensity and greenhouse gas emissions intensity across their operations and production activities, playing a pivotal role in the successful application of this sustainability-linked loan. [Click here to learn more](#)



Cundall has appointed Matt Carlisle as the Sustainability Associate Director and the new sustainability lead in Asia. With his strong background in energy systems and his extensive knowledge of renewable energy and sustainable design, Matt will play a pivotal role in leading the Cundall sustainability team to deliver transformational and resilient solutions in the region and help clients accelerate their sustainability strategies. Cundall will work closely with its clients globally to implement their Zero Carbon Design 2030 initiative and continuously drive the global business commitment in the region to create a more sustainable built environment. [Click here to learn more](#)



On 13 January, **Echo Asia Communications** successfully hosted ECO ART WALK 2024, Hong Kong’s first and only fundraising walkathon where the realms of artistry and sustainability intertwine. The event is a curation of a “Collective Eco Art Exhibition” scattered across Central & Western District, featuring 10 local stores, 10 artists and 10 eco-brands. With over 250 participants and 50 pets actively engaged, a remarkable 1,600 walkathon hours were collectively contributed, underscoring commitment to shaping a sustainable future. Part of the event’s proceeds has been allocated to support animal rights, address local food waste issues, and uplift local arts and creatives through donations to relevant local organisations. [Click here to learn more](#)



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FreshUp has made significant progress in advancing the Municipal Solid Waste (“MSW”) Charging Scheme by successfully obtaining a tender from the Environmental Protection Department. As part of this agreement, FreshUp will install vending machines where MSW charging bags can be purchased conveniently. FreshUp is continuously contributing to a greener future through the implementation of appropriate technologies that align with the government's environmental policies and address people's needs.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Leigh & Orange's new office, the L&O GreenWell Studio, has achieved a Platinum rating under the BEAM Plus Interiors V2.0 Beta Version. This project adopts a meticulous design approach that creates a sustainable and healthy workspace, showcasing low-carbon design and culture while prioritising employee well-being and comfort. It features a beautifully designed communal area, abundant natural light, and ergonomic furnishings for comfort. The use of upcycled local materials and energy conservation design demonstrates environmental responsibility. The project has also achieved Excellent Class for Indoor Air Quality Certification, offering superior ventilation and air purification. Additional amenities include a baby-care room, dining spaces, and multifunctional event spaces. The new office design aims to inspire colleagues to embrace a greener and healthier lifestyle both at work and within the community.

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Meiriki Japan's Managing Director Ophelia Lin represented China to attend COP28 in Dubai as the Vice-Chairperson of fellow BEC member Friends of the Earth (HK). During the event, the group organised a side event at the China Pavilion, focusing on Hong Kong's drive towards green and sustainable development and showcasing cutting-edge innovations. This marked the first time Hong Kong representatives held an event at COP's China Pavilion, demonstrating significant efforts in promoting Hong Kong's environmental protection and sustainability.



Nanofil Filtration Technology Limited has recently won a Grand Award of Green Building Award 2023 and HKGIA “Certificate of Merit” with their “Low Energy Sterilising Nano Air Filter”. The Nano Filter can replace the existing pre-filter and bag filter of AHU/PAU/FCU with relatively high pressure drops and as such achieve significant energy saving and carbon emissions reduction. In addition, the compactness of Nano Filter eases the problem of tight space of plant rooms in Hong Kong. A recent case at TVB City reflects that the filter can save around 40% of electricity and can reduce 75% of filter waste, improving IAQ and contributing to ESG performance.

[Click here to learn more](#)



NAP Acoustics (Far East) Limited has received Merit Awards from HKIOA Acoustics Awards 2023 for two projects. For Haven of Hope Hospital, NAP employed the unique Louvre Barrier Wall with QRD Noise Reducers on the rooftop to reduce chiller noise, restoring a quiet environment for the healthcare workforce and patients. As for BEC Exhibition Hall, NAP applied Cork and Space Functional Absorbers for speech intelligibility enhancement. The company's unwavering faith and vision to protect public health and environmental quality from noise pollution continue to drive its innovations in acoustic solutions.

[Click here to learn more](#)



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OnePile Limited, an intelligence technology company providing bookcrossing service, has recently been acknowledged and honoured with numerous awards for its active participation and contributions in promoting environmental sustainability and creating a positive impact within the community. OnePile’s commitment to inclusive practices through the utilisation of technology was recognised with the “Certificate of Merit for Smart People (Smart Inclusion)” at the ICT Awards. The company also received its second “ESG Special Recognition Award” at TVB ESG Awards, further emphasising its dedication to fostering sustainable business practices and making a difference in the community. Additionally, Mr Damon Fan, one of OnePile’s dedicated staff members, has been recognised as an “Outstanding Green Achiever” at the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence.



RESET Carbon and fellow BEC member DBS have recently signed an MOU, solidifying their partnership to drive decarbonisation and sustainability in the apparel, footwear, and textile supply chain. Targeting the trillion-dollar fashion industry responsible for 8% of global carbon emissions, the collaboration supports buyers and suppliers in Asia’s manufacturing supply chain. DBS will provide financing solutions for suppliers to invest in cost-effective technologies that enable meaningful reductions across factory emissions, water use and waste, whilst RESET will offer advisory services and technical support to drive supply chain carbon reductions, set science-based targets, and strengthen in-house capabilities. With financing increasingly seen as an integral part of the solution, this marks a significant step in scaling up decarbonisation solutions in Asia’s manufacturing supply chain.



[Click here to learn more](#)

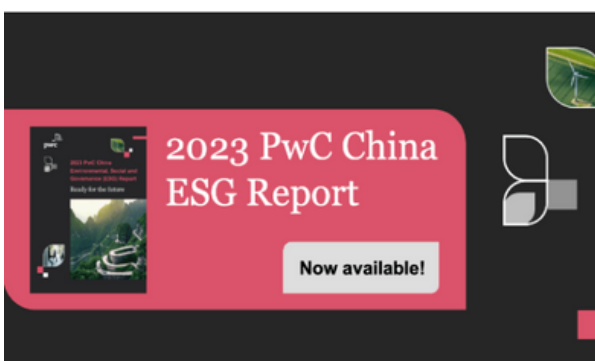
The Harbour School (“THS”) was nominated as a finalist in The Spirit of Sustainability Award (Group) of the 11th Spirit of Hong Kong Awards 2023, recognising the organisation’s efforts in promoting sustainability education in the K-12 school sector in Hong Kong with the aim of instilling a life-long commitment to environmental preservation in the young generation. THS has been taking a holistic approach to ocean literacy by integrating marine science into all classes, which nurtures students’ appreciation and responsibility for the oceans, marine creatures, and the natural world as a whole, while collaborating with different organisations to raise public awareness on ocean conservation.



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*Membership Upgrade



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General Members

- **Hong Kong Express Airways Limited**
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- **Nanofil Filtration Technology Limited**

BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS

- **Clean Air for Schools and Beyond - Making a Step Change in Indoor Environments for Health and Wellbeing for All** | Clean Air Network | 3 February 2024
- **ESG Challenge 2024** | Hong Kong Federation of Business Students | Now till 9 March 2024
- **Joint Technical Conference on Advanced Technologies in Water Engineering** | CIPHE Hong Kong Branch, ASHRAE Hong Kong Chapter | 15 March 2024
- **ESG Green Development & Carbon Neutrality Awards** | AM730 Media Limited, Institute of ESG & Benchmark, Institute of Financial Technologists of Asia | 18 March 2024
- **Austrian Technology Day** | ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA – Austrian Trade Commission | 22 March 2024
- **ESG Award Ceremony and Green Procurement Fair** | iRecycle Charity Foundation | 22 March 2024
- **Hong Kong Smoke-free Leading Company Awards 2023** | Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health | Now till March 2024
- **Technical Conference 2024 – Decarbonization Challenge for the Built Environment** | ASHRAE Hong Kong Chapter | 12 April 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

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