



BUSINESS  
ENVIRONMENT  
COUNCIL  
商界環保協會

This is how we

# Enable Sustainability.












**“Ours is a world of looming challenges and increasingly limited resources. Sustainable development offers the best chance to adjust our course.”**

Ban Ki-moon

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## Message from our Chairman



Mr Richard Lancaster

2017 celebrates a quarter century of BEC standing at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence and improving corporate responsibility. As an independent, charitable membership organisation in Hong Kong, BEC plays a key role in engaging 200+ businesses from various sectors to contribute to the mission of transitioning Hong Kong to a low carbon society. We are glad to provide a platform which assembles bold and forward-looking ideas, promotes collaboration and witnesses encouraging changes.

Hong Kong is unique in a lot of senses - its status as one of the world's financial centres, China's Special Administrative Region; its physical and social characteristics as a vertical compact city, pressure from population growth and ageing labour. At the same time, Hong Kong has its advantage of being the gateway to the world and attracting visionary talents.

Recognising the impact of these forces, BEC adopts an outward-looking view, leveraging our partnerships with international organisations such as WBCSD, CDP and AIGCC to bring best practices and the latest information to our members and the community. Through BEC's various projects, we provide insights on how global trends might impact business activities; we assist companies to manage waste, conserve resources and adopt clean technologies; we express our perspectives on government policies. We are glad to see that some of our works have influenced government policies and improved efficiency among businesses.

Second year into signing the Paris Agreement, we see effective changes in the policy framework in both Hong Kong and China. One of the most exciting news comes with the push for green energy from Hong Kong Government by introducing feed-in-tariffs, which allow anyone who generates their own green electricity through renewable energy installations, such as for solar and wind energy, to sell back to the two power companies in Hong Kong. China's Environmental Protection Tax Law, which went into effect on 1 January 2018, also shows the strong will of the Central Government to curtail environmental polluting activities and incentivise green innovation.

Standing at the historical moment where critical changes are needed to keep global warming under 2 degrees Celsius, we are witnessing booming opportunities across different industries. BEC will continue to engage with the private sector, the government, academia and our local and international partners to offer sustainable solutions and professional services. We believe that through synergy, we can build a sustainable net zero carbon future for all.

## Message from our CEO



Mr Adam Koo

Having joined BEC early in its 25th anniversary, it is my pleasure to present our second biennial sustainability report. It outlines our commitments and actions in fulfilling our mission to advocate for environmental protection amongst our members and the broader community, and encourage the adoption of clean technologies and practices for a low carbon economy and a more sustainable society in Hong Kong.

BEC is in a unique position as the only organisation in Hong Kong with a mission that aims to mobilise the vast capacity of the business community for environmental sustainability. We achieve this goal through green collaboration with diverse stakeholders, practical projects and advisory services, our Building Transformation initiative and our drive to nurture sustainability leadership in Hong Kong. Our collaborative and practical approach informs all our interactions with our stakeholders, from our members to the wider community.

We are committed to raising environmental awareness and expanding environmental knowledge in Hong Kong. However, BEC also scrutinises its own behaviour. In the quest to transform our building into a green hub, we have implemented a number of resource efficiency initiatives including retrofitting and behavioural changes of occupants which together helped our premises attain the BEAM Plus Platinum Rating for Existing Buildings in October 2017. While this is a notable accomplishment, in the spirit of continual improvement, we actively seek opportunities to further advance our environmental performance.

BEC's staff are a fundamental factor in our success. Through our shared values, positive work environment and optimistic outlook on sustainability, we aim to instil a sense of belonging and ownership to reinforce the strong passion which drives BEC's initiatives and activities. We truly believe that it is only through collective efforts with our members, partners, government and the wider global community will we be able to cultivate a more resilient economy that can withstand sustainability risks and overcome joint challenges.

BEC's 25 years of action has catalysed Hong Kong's business community to move forward along this city's environmental sustainability journey. In this report, we detail how BEC joins hands with our members and other stakeholders to enable sustainability.



# 1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

2. Through Green Collaboration.

3. Through Practical Projects and Advisory.

4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

6. This is how we Enable Sustainability.





# 1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

## This is how we Enable Sustainability.

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 for 25 years. In this Sustainability Report (“Report”), BEC describes how we are working with our members, partners, and the wider community to enable environmental sustainability in Hong Kong.

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”), this Report covers 2 fiscal years from 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2016 (FY 2015/16) and 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017 (FY 2016/17). 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 BEC’s headquarters in Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong.

### United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Reflecting our commitment to collaboration, BEC takes the view that we must play our part to drive environmental sustainability as a member of the wider global community working towards a broader set of sustainable development objectives. Through our efforts to harness and augment the positive impacts of our members, and other partners in Hong Kong, we are able to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – a shared global agenda for sustainable development.

BEC has assessed the impact of our activities to determine opportunities where we can directly and indirectly contribute to the concerted efforts to meet the SDGs.

As a multi-stakeholder platform that emphasises the importance of sharing and enhancing knowledge, we have identified two overarching SDGs where BEC contributes the greatest value:



**SDG 4: Quality Education<sup>1</sup>**  
 BEC aims to expand and enhance sustainability knowledge in Hong Kong to encourage innovation and improve environmental practices and performance.

**SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals<sup>2</sup>**  
 BEC aims to be an “enabler” to encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships for sustainable development.

While SDG 4 and SDG 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 SDG 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

<sup>1/</sup> 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.

<sup>2/</sup> BEC specifically contributes to SDG 17.16: Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilise 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.



# 1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

## Our Sustainability Framework

In 2017, we consciously developed a sustainability framework built on our core values. We believe in a coordinated and collaborative approach to driving the shift towards a more sustainable society both locally and globally. BEC's focus as a business membership organisation is to work with our members, the wider business community, Government and others in our society to drive Hong Kong towards a more sustainable economy. In this way, we view our role as an enabler, 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 hub, and nurturing leadership.





# 1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

## Issues material to BEC.

To prepare a focused report that effectively addresses sustainability issues material to BEC, we have adopted [internationally recognised best practice](#) to establish our material Topics. The three-step process of Identification, Prioritisation and Validation helped us determine materiality of sustainability issues as presented below.



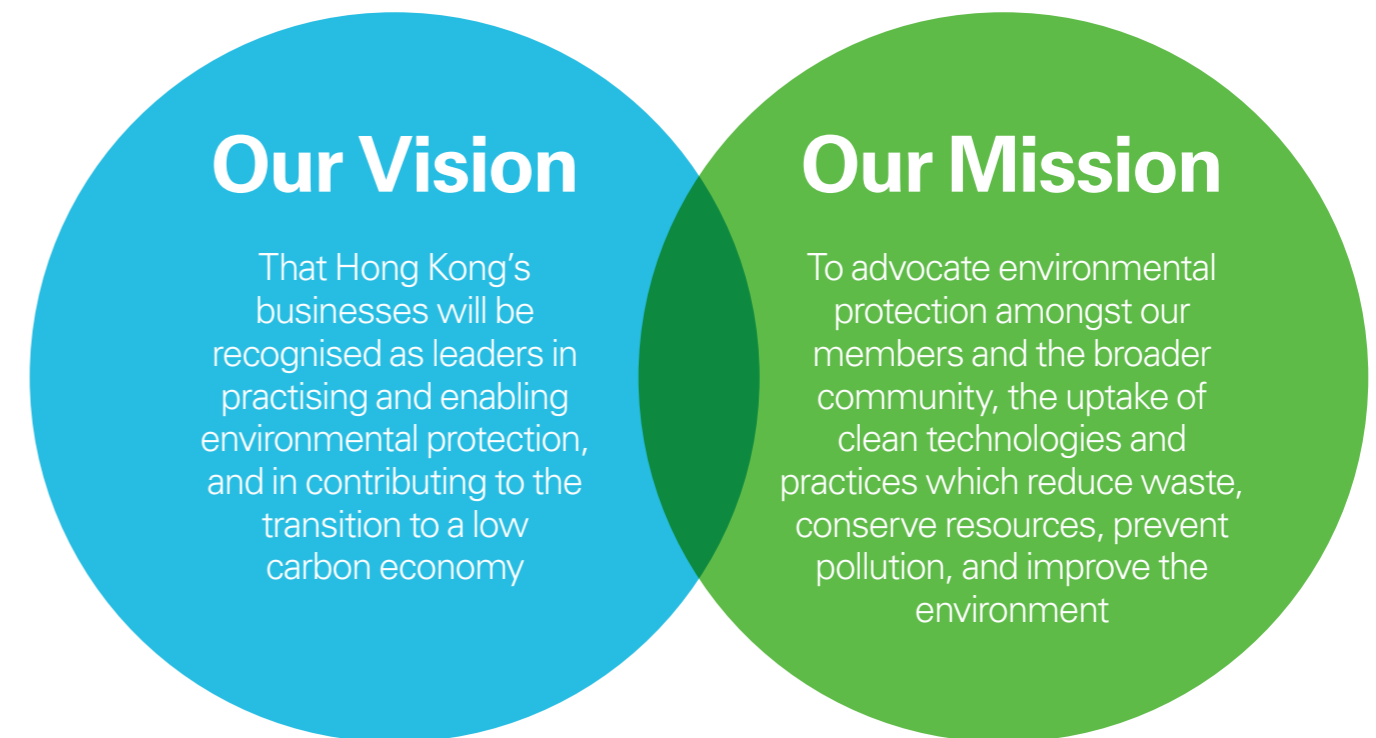
Note: The larger the size of the box, the higher the materiality level of the Topic.

## Enabling sustainability for 25 years, and more to come.

Environmental sustainability is our core philosophy. We believe that a sound governance structure, strong leadership, commitment to integrity, diversity in our funding, and engaging with our stakeholders set a good direction for success in enabling sustainability for the community.

## BEC's History and Structure

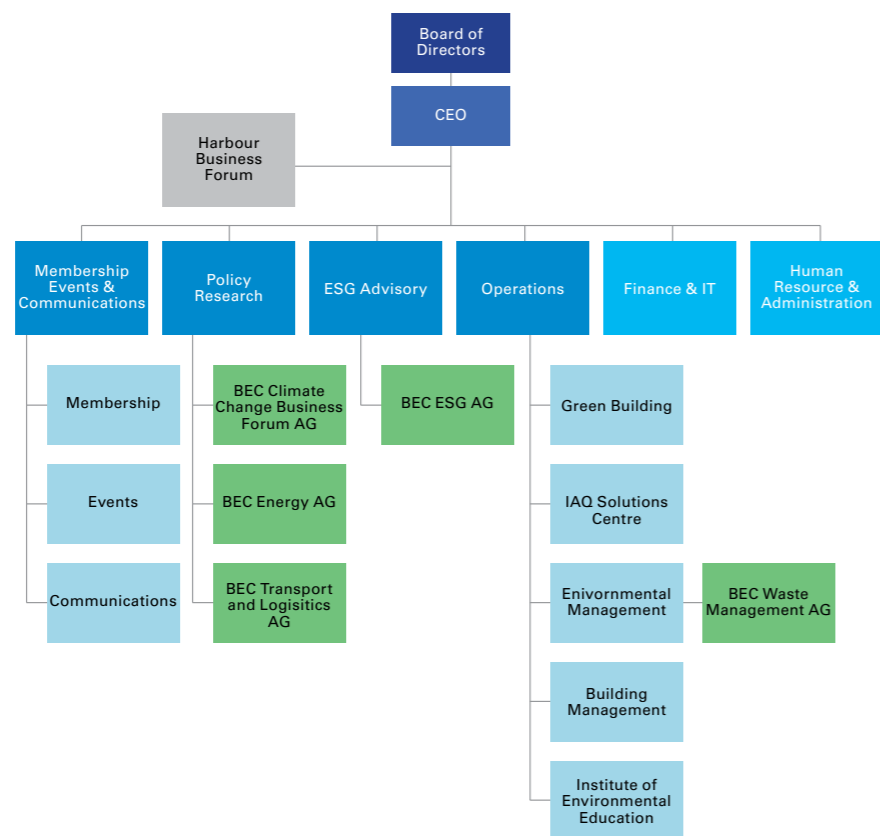
Since its incorporation in 1992, BEC has advocated for the sustainable development of Hong Kong through capacity building and facilitating public, public-private, and civil society partnerships. BEC offers sustainable solutions and professional services covering advisory, research, assessment, training and award programmes, carrying on the quest to influence business, government and communities to act for a better environment in Hong Kong.



In 2017, BEC improved its organisational structure by grouping the Green Building, Indoor Air Quality and Environmental Management teams under the Operations department, and consolidating the Membership, Events and Communications teams under a single unit. This has allowed BEC's top management to better plan and implement strategy, and coordinate efforts to achieve our common goals to carry out our mission of sharing knowledge, promoting best practice and facilitating dialogue.



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## Governance

Our strategic direction is governed by a board of 20 directors (“the Board”) elected from our members, including leading multinational and local corporations, who individually bring an appropriate mix of skills, experience, expertise and diversity to the Board’s decision-making process. It takes overall responsibility for the delivery of strategies, policies and goals related to economic, social and environmental topics.

The Board meets regularly to review BEC’s performance and to provide strategic direction, effective governance and leadership on behalf of our members. It delegates the day-to-day management of BEC to the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”). There are two standing committees to support the work of the Board, namely the BEC Executive Committee (“EXCO”) and the Communications and Membership Committee (“CMC”).

The Board evaluates and determines environmental, social and governance risks related to BEC’s operations through our annual strategic planning process. Led by our CEO, BEC has implemented the Quality Management System (ISO 9001:2015) for environmental projects and the Environmental Management System (ISO 14001:2015). The effectiveness of risk management and internal control systems are reported to the Board on a regular basis.

Learn more

**Our Board Directors**

**Roles and membership structure of the EOC**

**Roles and membership structure of the CMC**

## Integrity

BEC is committed to high standards of transparency, integrity and accountability. We have a zero tolerance policy for any form of corruption or anti-competitive practices. The BEC Code of Conduct guides our approach to upholding this commitment to professionalism and is part of the induction training provided to all staff members. Our policy states clearly 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. We are committed to maintaining a fair business relationship with competitors and business partners.

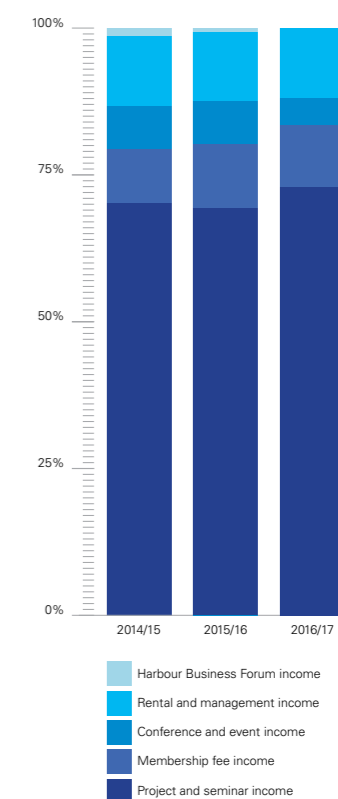
The Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing Policy were instigated to maintain high standards of business ethics and stipulate a reporting channel for any suspected misconduct. Any misconduct reported to the respective Department Head, the CEO or BEC Chairman will be treated in a confidential and sensitive manner. There were no reported cases of whistleblowing, corruption, anti-competitive and anti-trust behaviours during the reporting period.

## Independence and Funding

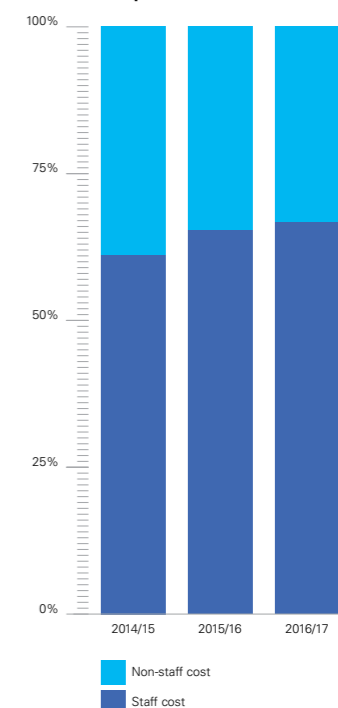
Achieving our mission and vision requires long-term dedication and ongoing commitment. With the aim of facilitating environmental sustainability and advancing environmental education in Hong Kong, BEC holds charitable status under section 88 of the Hong Kong SAR Inland Revenue Ordinance. As such, all our activities and funds are strictly applied towards the attainment of our stated mission and organisational purpose.

At BEC, financial sustainability focuses on the long-term continuity of our organisation and enables us to continue activities that further our goals, vision and mission. We are an independent organisation that self-funds all our operations through revenue generated from membership, sponsorship programmes, environmental education courses, contracted projects, property rental, and ticket sales from conferences, events, industry visits, and networking events.

Income by source



Expenses





# 1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

BEC has continued to achieve a steady revenue stream, recording a total revenue of HK\$29.5M in 2015/16 FY and HK\$33.5M in 2016/17 FY. Our diverse funding stream protects our independence by helping prevent an unhealthy reliance on any single source of income, which avoids an undue level of influence from a single supporter's policies and strategy.

BEC employs internal financial control systems to enable the tracking of resources and ensure their use for intended purposes. Unique project codes are assigned to each project for identification and traceability, and controls are established for monitoring and recording the resources being allocated for each project. This includes the preparation of annual audited accounts and annual business reviews in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622), 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.

To ensure that BEC can continue to operate through potential periods of challenge, BEC has established a guideline to set aside an amount of unrestricted free liquid funds sufficient to cover at least 4 months of the organisation's operating costs. A Building Reserve has been established to earmark a pool of funds to meet the capital requirements of any major building maintenance related project. An Investment Policy is in place to ensure that a proper selection of investments in financial instruments is duly exercised for the reserves and surplus cash flows.

## Engaging you and other stakeholders along the way.

Being a good listener is the secret to a great relationship. This is especially true for BEC as we forge long-term relationships with different stakeholders to drive environmental sustainability together. Stakeholder engagement is crucial in delivering impacts because we take a collaborative approach in planning our events, conducting our projects and gathering stakeholders' views for policy consultations.

In the age of social media, we have been engaging our stakeholders via social platforms more frequently. In order to inspire a wider audience to join us to drive sustainability, the latest BEC and members' activities, initiatives and achievements are shared through Facebook and LinkedIn.



## Your Opinion Matters

We identify our stakeholders and strategise our engagement approaches following the AccountAbility 1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard, which helps us to determine the most effective and efficient communication methods.

Stakeholders	Engagement Channels	Key Concerns/ Interests <small>(Click to see our response)</small>
BEC Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Townhall and Happy Friday</li> <li>- Suggestion Box</li> <li>- Annual Appraisal</li> <li>- Employee Online Survey</li> <li>- Focus Group Discussion</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> <li>- Intranet and Newsletter</li> <li>- Website and Social Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Delivering positive impacts through work</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Minimising environmental impacts at the workplace</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Employee welfare and training</a></li> </ul>
BEC Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advisory Groups</li> <li>- Seminars, Events and Conferences</li> <li>- Policy Consultations</li> <li>- Industry Visits</li> <li>- Online Survey</li> <li>- Focus Group Discussion</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> <li>- Newsletter</li> <li>- Website and Social Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More engagements with <a href="#">members</a> and the <a href="#">public</a></li> <li>- BEC to drive sustainability through <a href="#">advocacy</a>, <a href="#">projects</a>, <a href="#">education</a> and <a href="#">events</a></li> <li>- BEC to bring in <a href="#">international expertise</a> while catering for local business needs</li> </ul>
Clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Client Feedback Form</li> <li>- Seminars, Events and Conferences</li> <li>- Business Meetings</li> <li>- Online Survey</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> <li>- Website and Social Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BEC's positive impact to the local economy through <a href="#">quality advisory services</a> and <a href="#">networking opportunities</a></li> <li>- BEC's <a href="#">compliance with environmental and socioeconomic regulations</a></li> </ul>
Government Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy Submission</li> <li>- Seminars, Events and Conferences</li> <li>- Industry Visits</li> <li>- Online Survey</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> <li>- Newsletter</li> <li>- Website and Social Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Value BEC as a reliable partner in <a href="#">raising public awareness</a> on environmental issues</li> <li>- Value BEC members' opinions in the development of <a href="#">public policies</a></li> </ul>
Suppliers / Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business Meetings</li> <li>- Online Survey</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BEC's <a href="#">integrity</a></li> <li>- BEC's <a href="#">financial stability</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Minimising environmental impacts</a></li> </ul>
Tenants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seminars, Events and Conferences</li> <li>- Informal Gatherings</li> <li>- Online Survey</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support the transformation of the BEC Building into a <a href="#">Green Hub</a></li> <li>- Work with BEC to <a href="#">minimise environmental impacts within the BEC Building</a></li> <li>- BEC to organise <a href="#">more events in the BEC Building</a></li> </ul>
Community / NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seminars, Events and Conferences</li> <li>- Voluntary Activities</li> <li>- Website and Social Media</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Collaboration with BEC</a> to amplify impacts</li> </ul>
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interviews and Media Coverage</li> <li>- Website and Social Media</li> <li>- Sustainability Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">How BEC and its members act to improve Hong Kong's environment.</a></li> </ul>

We depend on you to let us know how we can improve and be more impactful in enabling sustainability. Let us know your thoughts [here](#).



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Signed the Paris Pledge and launched the Low Carbon Hong Kong project



Launched the BEC Sustainable Consumption Programme with 110 companies



Submitted responses to 14 policy consultations



Welcomed 198 members as at 30 Sept 2017





## 2. Through Green Collaboration.

### We bring 200 companies together.

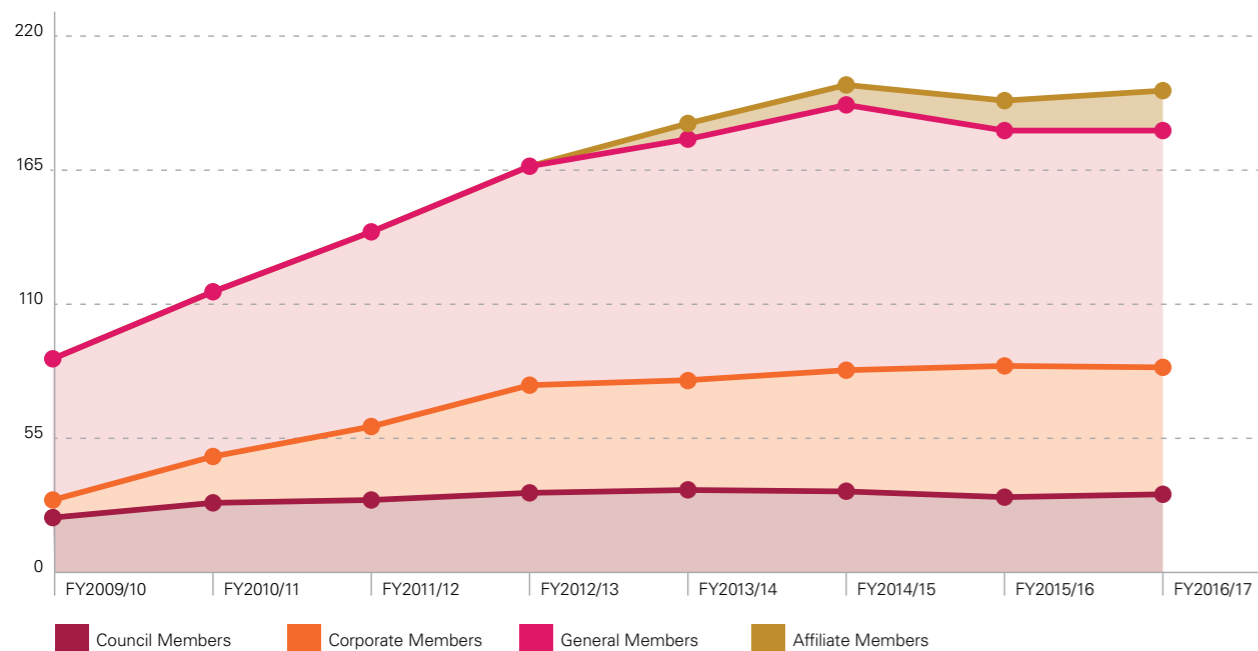
As a membership-based organisation, BEC is a platform for companies to pursue their common vision of a sustainable future by enabling them to share best practice and collaborate with industry partners and across various sectors.

As at 30 Sept 2017, we have 198 members: 33 Council Members, 51 Corporate Members, 98 General Members and 16 Affiliate Members.



Photograph by Wayne Wong

Number of BEC members



We work closely with our members who represent organisations of all sizes and across varied sectors including leading business, government, academic and community groups. As the Hong Kong economy continues to innovate, thrive, and transform, we are working hard to enhance the diversity of our membership to ensure that BEC continues to accurately and sensibly represent the perspectives of the business community.

BEC brings our members together to learn, share, and lead responsible business practices that balance environmental, social and economic interests to further drive sustainability in Hong Kong. We regularly organise events, Advisory Group meetings, seminars and workshops to address major sustainability issues faced by businesses and the community in Hong Kong. Our members are encouraged to participate and contribute to consultations and focus group discussions that aim to shape the government's policy agenda for the sustainability and competitiveness of Hong Kong. We also work with our members to ensure that the unique perspective of Hong Kong's business community is heard at the international level through BEC's links to global organisations, and responses to relevant international consultations.

### We facilitate dialogue.

As a member-led organisation that brings companies together to share knowledge and act as catalysts for change, BEC seeks to fully engage members in our mission and our activities. The Advisory Groups provide a platform for a deeper level of engagement on particular focus areas which are continually reviewed to ensure that BEC addresses the changing needs of the business community.

The role of the Advisory Groups is to:

- ✓ Advise the Board on matters relating to their remit, in effect enabling informed and effective policy advocacy to the government and well-thought through best practice programmes and projects
- ✓ Help build capacity and a positive culture in support of their particular mission amongst our members
- ✓ Provide a platform for sharing knowledge and information

Over the past two fiscal years, the five AGs have all identified and advanced key areas in a number of ways including supporting and steering BEC projects, the development of policy recommendations, and helping organise workshops and seminars.

### We deliver impact collaboratively.

Working collaboratively is our fundamental approach to delivering impact. We start by developing communities of practice and building networks of leaders and practitioners to encourage action around key environmental topics in Hong Kong. Climate Change, Energy Efficiency, Air Quality and Sustainable Use of Resources constitute our current focal points, however, we also cover a wide range of other topics which are highlighted throughout the report. A key part of BEC's action around these challenges is our [Headquarters Transformation Project](#) which aims to demonstrate practical steps that may be adopted to improve the environmental performance of existing buildings.

We currently have 5 advisory groups:

- Climate Change Business Forum Advisory Group (CCBF AG)
- Energy Advisory Group (Energy AG)
- Environmental, Social and Governance Advisory Group (ESG AG)
- Transport & Logistics Advisory Group (T&L AG)
- Waste Management Advisory Group (WM AG)



## 2. Through Green Collaboration.

### Combating Climate Change

As climate change poses a shared fundamental and unprecedented challenge to communities worldwide, including the business sector, BEC has targeted this issue through a number of initiatives focused on raising awareness, enhancing capacity, developing solutions and encouraging action. Our work on climate change revolves around two areas:



- ✓ **Climate Resilience:** To enhance business resilience to climate change, BEC reviewed climate risks to the city's key business sectors and developed a set of recommendations for both businesses and the government published in the [Hong Kong Climate Resilience Roadmap for Business](#) launched in December 2015 with the support of CCBF AG.

BEC has begun engaging with investors regarding climate risks and their impacts on investment decisions. This process included a workshop in July 2016 with a focus on the issue of transparency by business to enable good investment decisions. BEC also provided a positive response to the G20's Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures recommendations released in July 2017 with the support of the ESG AG and input from CCBF AG and the wider BEC membership.

- ✓ **Climate Mitigation:** To encourage our members and the wider business community to take a long term strategic approach to GHG emissions reduction and to align their business strategies with the over-arching objectives of the Paris Agreement, BEC launched the [Low Carbon Hong Kong: Supporting Business to Set Targets](#) project.

### Low Carbon Hong Kong: Supporting Business to Set Targets

Beginning with BEC signing the [Paris Pledge](#) in January 2016 and our [May 2016 EnviroSeries Conference: A Resilient and Low Carbon Hong Kong – Transforming Awareness into Actions](#), BEC took forward the Low Carbon Hong Kong project to support businesses to put in place long-term strategies and targets aligned with the objectives of the [Paris Agreement](#). The project involved a series of interactive workshops ranging from identifying common obstacles and possible solutions, exploring methodologies to set science-based targets, and sharing success stories in setting long-term strategies and targets.

The Low Carbon Hong Kong: Supporting Business to Set Targets [report](#) outlined the outcomes of these workshops, supplemented by BEC's research. The report conveys the importance of setting carbon reduction targets, explains the extent of the change needed across a number of key Hong Kong sectors, introduces available methodologies for setting targets, and identifies and explains challenges and possible solutions to different methodologies. Government officials and business leaders endorsed the report and attended the report launch event. Moving forward, BEC will continue to support action through sectoral working groups on setting Paris Agreement aligned targets and strategies beginning with the property and construction sector.

Learn more

### Keeping the Air Clean

In Hong Kong, the transport sector is the second highest greenhouse gas ("GHG") emitter and the largest contributor of air pollution. Acknowledging this impact and understanding the need to engage this sector to make significant gains in improving Hong Kong's air quality and mitigating climate change, BEC has focused on reducing roadside and marine emissions.



- ✓ **Roadside Emissions:** BEC worked through the T&L AG to form the Roadside Emissions Taskforce which helped to develop and publish BEC's [Roadside Emissions Taskforce Report](#) in December 2016, which includes recommendations to government and business. In the future, this will be followed by an on-going sectoral dialogue to bring government and business sectors together to develop commitments for impactful action towards a clean low carbon transport and logistics system.
- ✓ **Marine Emissions:** BEC, with the support of T&L AG, and in partnership with the Hong Kong Shipowners Association and the Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association, organised a half day seminar on marine emissions to reflect on the actions successfully taken to date and discuss next steps to reduce emissions from ships and ferries. A key message from the panel discussion is that NOx and particulate matter emissions from ships and local vessels such as ferries continue to be an issue.

## 2. Through Green Collaboration.

### Boosting Energy Efficiency

Since the majority of GHG emissions in Hong Kong arise from energy consumption which also contributes to other air emissions, our activities in improving energy efficiency also complement our work on climate change and air pollution. In particular, energy efficiency in buildings is a key area of expertise for BEC with [a strong advisory team](#) focused on enhancing the sustainability performance of the built environment.



In addition to collaborative and research output, BEC's Policy Research ("PR") team has also organised other activities and knowledge sharing opportunities for members focused on clean energy generation and approaches to efficiency.

- ✓ **Energy Efficiency:** To [share practical energy efficiency knowledge and tools](#), BEC, with the support of Energy AG, organised two mini-expos, the first being cross-sectoral and the second focused on hotels. These enabled one-to-one discussions at booths as well as a series of talks by technology and service providers, and users.
- ✓ **Clean Energy Generation:** BEC organised two events on Clean Energy including a seminar in January 2017 on cutting edge technologies and a 1-day event in February 2017 looking at renewable energy policies.

#### Energy Efficiency Hotel Mini Expo

This event provided a platform for over 100 participants to update their knowledge of the latest developments in energy efficiency technologies and practices. The event started with a presentation by Ir K.K. Li, Senior Project Engineer at Environment Bureau, on how to meet Hong Kong's 40% energy saving target from the government's perspective, followed by a series of talks delivered by business leaders and industry players. A mini-expo took place concurrently, with ten exhibitors showcasing their energy saving technologies and services, and sharing their experience and ideas with participants.



### Managing Resources Sustainably

Growing waste generation poses a challenge to the city. BEC has adopted a comprehensive approach to co-create solutions with our members and the community through policy dialogues as well as showcasing the latest technologies and encouraging good supply chain management. Policy recommendations are put forward to government as necessary.



- ✓ **Waste Policy:** To encourage the adoption of effective and practical waste policies, BEC communicates with the government and regulatory bodies on waste related matters. BEC organised two roundtable discussions between WM AG members and representatives from the Environmental Protection Department to share updates on the municipal solid waste ("MSW") charging scheme, and the producer responsibility scheme ("PRS") for recycling glass bottles.
- ✓ **Recycling Infrastructure Development:** To support the sustainable development of the recycling industry in Hong Kong, WM AG Chairman serves as a member of the Advisory Committee on Recycling Fund on behalf of BEC to advise and make policy recommendations on matters relating to the overall administration and operation of the Recycling Fund.
- ✓ **Waste Management Innovation:** Aligning with BEC's goal to forge collaborative links between local and global expertise, we organise a WM AG meeting at the annual Eco Expo Asia: International Trade Fair on Environmental Protection. Following the meeting, WM AG members are invited to a guided tour of local and international exhibitors showcasing cutting edge waste management technologies and solutions.
- ✓ **Low Carbon Supply Chain:** BEC conducted research to understand the tools and practices available for reducing carbon emissions in the supply chain followed by a workshop on sustainable supply chain management organised with the support of CCBF and ESG AGs.



#### BEC Sustainable Consumption Programme for Business and Community

To echo the SDGs, and to address the Consumer Council's findings that there was a noticeable gap between the awareness of Hong Kong consumers and their sustainable consumption practices, BEC initiated the Fostering Sustainable Consumption for Hong Kong Business and the Community project to develop the first guide on sustainable consumption in Hong Kong and an online directory of sustainable products and services. 110 companies from a variety of industries have joined us as Sustainable Consumption Enterprises and Sustainable Product Suppliers as at September 2017. We've also reached approximately 6,000 individuals to introduce the concept and encourage them to practice sustainable consumption via roving exhibitions, seminars and newsletters.



## 2. Through Green Collaboration.

### Global perspectives, local innovation.

In order to enhance the competitiveness of the business community in Hong Kong, we actively arrange opportunities for knowledge exchange on emerging trends to enable our members to better prepare for future risks and take advantage of upcoming opportunities. We believe that exposing the local business community to global perspectives and knowledge may spark innovative solutions for the Hong Kong context. As such, BEC actively seeks to organise events and workshops that include international experts to share their experiences and practices. We also forge close relationships with global organisations, such as the Global Reporting Initiative (“GRI”), CDP (formerly Carbon Disclosure Project), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (“WBCSD”), and other leaders to drive sustainability together.



Network Partner of



Member of



“Big data for Corporate Sustainability” Seminar



ESG Salon on Sustainability Governance with Philippe Joubert, Founder & CEO of Earth on Board



Circularab Discovery Workshop on Circularity and Biomimicry

### Together, we push for greener policies.

One of BEC’s core functions is working with our members to develop policy positions with the aim of shaping the Hong Kong Government’s policy framework to set a clear direction, be sufficiently ambitious, and provide the necessary supporting framework for businesses to innovate and take action. Our aim is to proactively encourage government action by demonstrating willingness on the part of business to protect the environment and transition to a low carbon economy.

#### BEC’s Process for Developing Policy Positions



## 2. Through Green Collaboration.

### The Three Facets to BEC's Environmental Policy Advocacy

**Research and Proactive Recommendations:** We conduct robust evidence-based research and develop publications and recommendations in line with BEC's overall objectives. This includes regular annual Policy Submissions to inform the Hong Kong SAR Chief Executive's annual Policy Address. Please click [here](#) for our research reports.

**Consultation Responses:** We responded to nine consultations on a variety of topics ranging from the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and Hong Kong 2030+ to a Marine emissions control area to smart city development. Please click [here](#) for our submissions.

**Policy Dialogues:** We invite government officials to engage in dialogue with our members on topics such as the Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan, HK 2030+, and the Chief Executive Policy Address. In addition, every summer BEC's Board meets with the Secretary for the Environment for a round table discussion on the government's environmental policies.

### BEC's Policy Advocacy 2015-2017

While our impact on public policy is difficult to measure, it is reassuring that many of the government's announcements have been in line with BEC's recommendations.

### Overarching Themes BEC Routinely Champions



Transition to a Low Carbon, Resilient and Competitive Economy



Enhance the Liveability of our City



Circular Economy: Reduce Impacts of Waste and Optimise Use of Resources



Secure Hong Kong's Longer Term Position as a Smart Sustainable City



Strengthen Hong Kong's Position as a Regional Green Economic Hub



### Select Government Announcements which Echo BEC's Recommendations

- ✓ Setting a 2030 city-wide GHG emission reduction target
- ✓ Promoting walkability and cycling as part of a holistic and sustainable transportation plan
- ✓ Taking forward proposals for the introduction of MSW charging
- ✓ Revitalising urban areas and enhancing green spaces to enhance liveability
- ✓ Support for green finance as a means of promoting sustainable economic development
- ✓ Establishing an inter-governmental committee on climate change to enhance cross-bureaux/departmental coordination
- ✓ Exploring the development of local industry to use recycled materials, in line with circular economy principles
- ✓ Continued and transparent efforts to identify brownfield land for development
- ✓ Promoting of sustainable consumption
- ✓ Protecting urban green spaces and trees





1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

2. Through Green Collaboration.

# 3. Through Practical Projects and Advisory.

4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

6. This is how we Enable Sustainability.



Engaged over 35,000 citizens on marine biodiversity



Held 120 activities on waste reduction at public housing estates



Supported 5 buildings to attain the highest green building rating in Hong Kong



Supported over 20 companies to develop their sustainability reports

# 商界環保協會有限公司 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL LIMITED

香港館  
HONG KONG  
PAVILION

Anniversary  
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL  
商界環保協會  
Connecting • Nurturing • Creating  
for a Sustainable Environment  
集思廣益 • 創造未來 • 建立可持續發展環境

## BEC Professional Expertise 商界環保協會 - 專業諮詢服務

Green Building  
綠色建築



We help businesses implement the latest technology to upgrade the built environment performance, enhance energy efficiency and reduce operating costs.

- Building environmental advisory and benchmarking
- Energy and carbon audits
- BEAM Plus and LEED advisory services

Environment, Social and Governance (ESG)  
環境、社會及管治

ESG benchmarking, gap analysis, advisory and reporting writing  
ESG strategy and management system development  
Stakeholder engagement and community involvement  
Carbon footprinting reporting and management

ESG策略與審核、差距分析、諮詢及報告撰寫  
ESG策略及管理制度發展  
利益相關者及社區參與  
碳足跡報告及管理

BEC Institute of Environmental Education (BEC IEE)  
商界環保協會環境教育學院

Quality training courses for business decision makers and professionals on a range of environmental issues  
度身訂造培訓課程為企業決策者及專業人士提供各類環境議題



### 3. Through Practical Projects and Advisory.

To further support our members as well as the wider business community, BEC provides quality advisory services to help clients resolve sustainability challenges and further advance their individual sustainability journeys. Our three advisory teams are equipped to provide expert advice and facilitate improvements in the areas of environmental management; green buildings and indoor air quality; and environment, social, and governance reporting and strategy.

#### Environmental Management advisory.

The Environmental Management (“EM”) team supports government and the business sector with a comprehensive range of services covering waste management, resource recycling, biodiversity conservation, and environmental management systems. We also encourage healthy competition for the best sustainability practices, and continual improvement of environmental performance through major environmental award schemes such as the [Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence](#), the [Bank of China Corporate Environmental Leadership Awards \(Hong Kong\)](#), and the [HSBC Living Business Awards](#).

#### The Government’s Go-To Experts

BEC’s expertise in environmental management has attracted government’s attention which views us as a major partner to raise environmental awareness in the community. We have developed and executed various high impact projects to influence the wider community. Some examples include the BEC Waste Reporting and Reduction in Office Buildings Programme; Green Delight in Estates; Hong Kong Marine Biodiversity Roving Exhibitions; recycling programmes for glass bottles, fluorescent lamps, rechargeable batteries, computer and communication products; and the provision of waste reduction and recycling advisory services for major community events.

Awareness raising projects will contribute to help elevate the capacity of Hong Kong’s community when it comes to environmental impact and sustainability.

**316**  
Total number of environmental projects delivered by our 3 advisory teams in FY2015/16 and FY 2016/17

#### Low-carbon School

As part of BEC’s ongoing Low-carbon School Programme supported by the Environmental Protection Department, we recruited and trained tertiary institution students to help us lead 700 primary and secondary school students through guided tours of Eco Expo Asia. During the dialogue with the Secretary for the Environment in 2016, over 350 primary and secondary school students were familiarised with environmental policy and initiatives through direct Q&A sessions.



Learn more



Leveraging our expertise in waste issues, the EM team also engaged in a number of waste reduction and recycling programmes. In response to the increased awareness and expectations for better environmental performance during large-scale public events, BEC was commissioned by the Environmental Protection Department in early 2017 to review and identify appropriate waste reduction and recycling measures for various events of different sizes. BEC plays a supportive role advising event organisers on the formulation, implementation and review of a waste management plan; providing briefing sessions to event stakeholders; and performing on-site promotional, monitoring and coaching sessions on event days.



#### Green Delight in Estates

Working with the Hong Kong Housing Authority and two local environmental NGOs, we have been involved in the Green Delight in Estates programme since mid-2012 to raise the environmental awareness of Public Rental Housing (“PRH”) residents and instil a sustainability culture. In 2016-2017, we held 120 activities focused on the reduction of MSW.

Learn more



#### Marine Biodiversity

In partnership with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, and supported by 8 local institutions, we organised a series of community activities in 5 districts from June to October 2017 to provide over 35,000 citizens opportunities to learn about the local coastal environment and marine life, and to promote the need to conserve Hong Kong’s rich marine biodiversity.



Learn more





### 3. Through Practical Projects and Advisory.

#### Green Buildings and Indoor Air Quality advisory.

Our [Green Building](#) and [Indoor Air Quality](#) ("GB & IAQ") team works to enhance capacity in the market when it comes to understanding the environmental impacts of the built environment in Hong Kong. The team specialises in building energy management through energy and carbon audits, and identifying potential energy saving opportunities. Our IAQ Solutions Centre, the first Certificate Issuing Body accredited by Hong Kong Accreditation Service ("HKAS"), conducts inspections, assessments, and certifies indoor air quality.

#### Fostering Sustainable Buildings

Hong Kong's over 42,000 existing buildings account for 92% of total electricity demand – the majority of the territory's greenhouse gas emissions. To further augment the impact of our efforts to address climate change and reinforce government's response to the Paris Agreement as outlined in the [HK Climate Action Plan 2030+](#), our team supports partners in their quest to make their buildings more sustainable. A reduction in energy consumption is a main focus area and essential to achieving government's targeted 40% reduction in energy intensity by 2025.

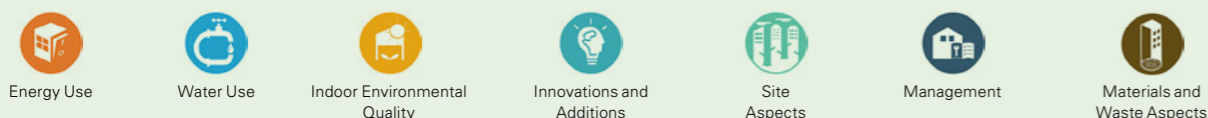
21 years ago, BEC recognised the need for an innovative green building performance label tailored to Hong Kong's unique compact high density sub-tropical urban conditions and initiated the development of the Building Environmental Assessment Method ("BEAM"). We continue to encourage progress in sustainable buildings through our energy audit and green building label advisory services which help to identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions.



#### Revamping the BEAM Plus Existing Buildings Manual

Working with the BEAM Society Limited, we applied our knowledge and hands-on experience to develop the BEAM Plus Existing Buildings version 2.0 Manual to incorporate the actual needs of building operations and practical improvement measures that can be adopted in the Hong Kong context. To co-create a solution that applies to local climatic and physical conditions, we organised stakeholder engagement workshops to invite the views and suggestions of green building professionals in Hong Kong.

Launched in March 2016, the BEAM Plus Existing Buildings Version 2.0 Manual provides greater flexibility for applicants ranging from newly-built blocks to aged existing buildings. The new manual incorporates initiatives to improve building performance and aligns with the government's targets under the [Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong's Built Environment 2015-2025+](#).



#### Transforming Lee Garden One

Lee Garden One was the first building from the Hysan Development Company portfolio to register for a BEAM Plus Existing Building assessment. We are pleased to have provided our professional advice to assist Lee Garden One to attain the Final Platinum accreditation under BEAM Plus Existing Building version 1.2.

To address their carbon emissions, Hysan have concentrated their efforts in enhancing energy efficiency through retrofitting works, including the installation of water-cooled chillers, T5 and LED lighting, and water-saving taps. Upon completion of the retrofitting works, we evaluated their carbon emission performance by our professional services, covering computational modelling and technical calculation. In addition to physical retrofits, we also provided guidance for the improvement of building operations management plans, including those focused on energy management, green purchasing, and water conservation. Lee Garden One Offices was transformed into a low carbon building with operation plans to facilitate its sustainable operations by the tenants and occupants.

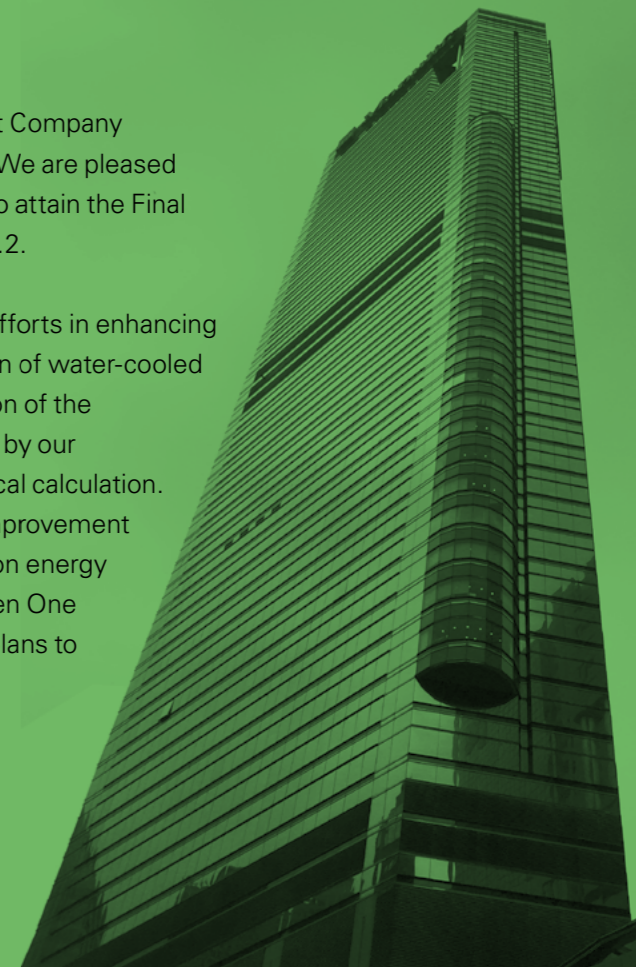


#### Improving Air Quality Indoors

Hong Kong citizens spend more than 70% of their time indoors, therefore indoor air quality is intrinsic to business sustainability and occupants' well-being. The IAQ Management Programme devised by the Environmental Protection Department introduced the IAQ Certification Scheme. This is one of the core approaches to improving indoor air quality and promoting public awareness on IAQ knowledge. As one of the Certificate Issuing Bodies, we are pleased to support the government's advocacy by providing certification services as well as disseminating knowledge to the public.

During the past two years, we are pleased to have supported five existing buildings to attain BEAM Plus Existing Buildings Final Platinum rating, including our own headquarters – Jockey Club Environmental Building, Lee Garden One, Standard Chartered Bank Building and Sunlight Tower.

Upon completion of indoor air quality measures for properties under our clients, such as Kai Shing Management Services Limited, Hongkong Land Limited, Hysan Development Company Limited and Swire Properties Limited Excellent Class IAQ Certificates have been issued to respective parties.



### 3. Through Practical Projects and Advisory.

#### Environment, Social and Governance advisory.

The Environment, Social and Governance (“ESG”) team plays a key role in enhancing the capacity of business in Hong Kong when it comes to sustainability, working with a variety of companies from different sectors including small and medium enterprises as well as large multinational corporations with global operations. The [team](#) shares its in-depth knowledge and extensive experience in sustainability related strategy development, communications, reporting, and various other activities with members and the broader business community. Our strong relationships with international organisations including GRI, CDP, and WBCSD, combined with research driven by our passion for the subject matter, allows us to keep abreast of the latest local and global trends and bring fresh ideas into Hong Kong’s sustainability ecosystem.



#### Greener market. Better planet

The ESG team views sustainability challenges as opportunities to find creative and innovative solutions. From developing sustainability / ESG reports to preparing responses to investor ESG questionnaires, our team provides flexible modular services to meet the needs of our partners. We also address strategic needs such as the development of sustainability governance structures, relevant corporate policies, and long-term stakeholder engagement strategies. Our bespoke collaborative approach is key to our success in attracting new and recurring projects.

While we understand and promote industry best practice, we are also sensitive to the current capacity of our partners and work with them to gradually upgrade their performance in the long-term. Our team focuses on enhancing the capabilities of our partners as we deliver our projects aiming to transfer our skills and knowledge in the process. We walk through every step of each project clearly explaining our rationale and methodology for each task, and sharing innovative approaches and industry best practices along the way.

#### We only deliver quality work.

BEC has established, documented, implemented and maintained a Quality Management System (“QMS”) in compliance with ISO 9001 since September 2014. When providing advisory and training services relating to environment management, we are committed to:

- Understanding the client’s needs and providing quality professional services to achieve client satisfaction;
- Ensuring the policy is effectively communicated and well-understood by related staff;
- Providing adequate resources to related staff to implement the policy; and
- Adopting a continual improvement approach towards quality performance.

These commitments underpin our projects regardless of whether they are in scope of the QMS. Our system is regularly audited to ensure continued compliance and identify areas for improvement, if any.

In addition to ensuring the quality of our work, we are also committed to ensuring the privacy of members, clients and event participants. BEC has an Operation Manual of Handling Personal Data in place to provide guidance to our staff. Information collected is kept under strict confidence and will not be sold, reused, rented, loaned, or otherwise disclosed to third parties. Individuals are informed that collected contact information is used for communications, including the distribution of newsletters and details of events, training courses and other activities. Event participants provide permission for BEC to take and share photos, videos and talking points from discussions for the sole purpose of general communications on BEC’s social media, website, and other appropriate materials. To protect the confidential information of our clients, we often sign and abide by non-disclosure agreements.

#### ESG Governance is the way to go

To ensure that sustainability is truly integrated into company culture and strategy, we encourage the Hong Kong business community to introduce effective governance structures to help develop and drive their long-term sustainability agenda. Recognising a need for a strategic approach to ESG, Television Broadcasting Limited (TVB) approached BEC with the task of

developing a governance structure to enhance the broadcaster’s ESG performance and suggest future commitments to target their sustainability initiatives. In line with the expectations of HKEx and the Companies Ordinance, BEC ensured that the Board has overall oversight over sustainability at TVB through a structure and process that fits TVB’s unique conditions.





1. This is how we Enable Sustainability.

2. Through Green Collaboration.

3. Through Practical Projects and Advisory.

# 4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

6. This is how we Enable Sustainability.



BEC Building Energy Intensity reduced 29% since 2012/13



BEC Building GHG Intensity reduced 36% since 2012/13

Our BEC Building attained the BEAM Plus Platinum Rating for Existing Buildings in Oct 2017

We established an ISO 14001:2015 environmental management system



## 4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

BEC is focused on environmental sustainability in Hong Kong – a city with a densely built environment. Transitioning Hong Kong to a low-carbon city requires practical solutions that help to avoid, reduce, and mitigate the environmental impacts of new and existing buildings. Our building was designed to harmonise with its surroundings incorporating a number of environmentally friendly features that encourage the preservation of urban greenery. It is permeable and community friendly with a walk-through passage and central atrium leading to To Yuen Street Park. When it was completed in 1996, the building received a “Very Good” rating under the BEAM for New Office Designs.

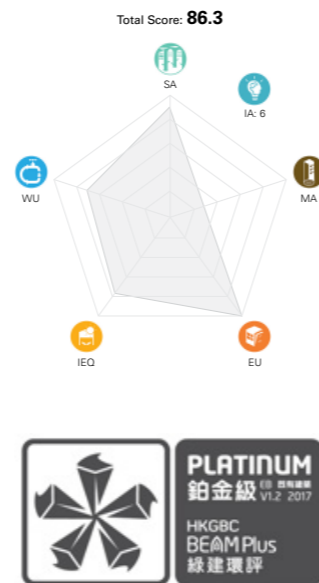
Since then, we have continued to upgrade our facilities to further improve the environmental performance of our building. In 2013, these efforts were consolidated under a strategic vision which aims to position BEC as a centre for environmental education, and an example of practical solutions that can make existing buildings more sustainable and resource efficient within a reasonable payback period. The BEC Headquarters Transformation Project resulted in significant reductions in environmental impacts and noteworthy learning and knowledge sharing opportunities.

While our building was the first commercial building to achieve a BEAM Plus Provisional Platinum Rating (Existing Buildings), as technology continues to improve and innovations become more accessible, revamping our 21-year old headquarters into a Green Hub continues.

### Transforming into a Green Hub.

Showcasing green building features. Bringing together green leaders. These are BEC’s objectives in transforming our 21-year-old BEC headquarters into a Green Hub. We have been working hard through retrofitting and motivating behavioral changes. In October 2017, thanks to the unrelenting efforts and expertise of BEC’s Green Building team, and with the contributions of all staff, tenants and partners, we were notified that we have successfully attained the BEAM Plus Platinum Rating for Existing Buildings, the highest achievable green building rating in Hong Kong. We will continue our efforts in finding innovative solutions and approaches to improving our sustainability performance and enhancing our resource efficiency.

Existing Building V1.2  
Final Platinum



### Flicking a switch. Saving a sheet. They all count.

While BEC provides a variety of advisory and advocacy services, we care as much about our own environmental performance in our daily operations. In 2015, a staff-initiated “Green Office Team” established the “BEC 10 Green Initiatives” to remind staff of green office practices. In June 2017, we have stepped up our efforts by establishing an environmental management system in accordance with the ISO 14001:2015 standard. With a documented and systematic approach, we can reduce our environmental impacts in a continual manner and drive behavioural change in our employees. We are pleased to have been ISO 14001:2015 certified in September 2017, a feat which acknowledges our past achievements and further motivates us in moving forward to create a “Green” atmosphere at BEC.

Apart from our own efforts, we are keen to spread the message to our supply chain. A green procurement checklist has been developed under the ISO 14001 system for purchasing paper and electrical appliances to ensure environmental considerations are incorporated into our procurement process. All vendors are required to fill out our new vendor questionnaire with an environmental guidance note to demonstrate their willingness to comply with our environmental requirements.

### 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.





# 4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

## Green Features at the BEC Building

The **oil-free variable speed air-cooled chiller** consists of a high energy efficiency compressor reducing long-term electricity consumption and maintenance costs.

Resource saved: Electricity ⚡

Application of **liquid solar film** on the east and west facing windows to reduce solar heat gain.

Resource saved: Electricity ⚡ (indirectly)

The **upgraded BMS and chiller optimisation** enable real-time monitoring of utility consumption.

Resource saved: Electricity ⚡ (indirectly)

The **rainwater collection tank** is capable of harvesting 165,000 litres of rainwater annually for non-potable water use.

Resource saved: Water 💧



**Solar panels** (under construction) will be installed on the roof for renewable energy.

Resource saved: Electricity ⚡

**A weather station** has been installed on the roof to collect weather data and enhance the efficiency control of the new chiller through the building management system.

Resource saved: Electricity ⚡ (indirectly)

**LED panels with sensors and automatic dimmers** enable lights to be switched on or off according to detected movement and light dimming based on detected lux levels from natural light.

Resource saved: Electricity ⚡

**Low flow water taps** reduce fresh water consumption and **dual flush toilets** reduce the volume of sewage discharged, minimising the burden on municipal sewage treatment facilities.

Resource saved: Water 💧

**Recycling bins** have been placed in prominent locations of the buildings, encouraging waste sorting for occupants, as well as influencing our immediate community.

Resource saved: Materials ♻️

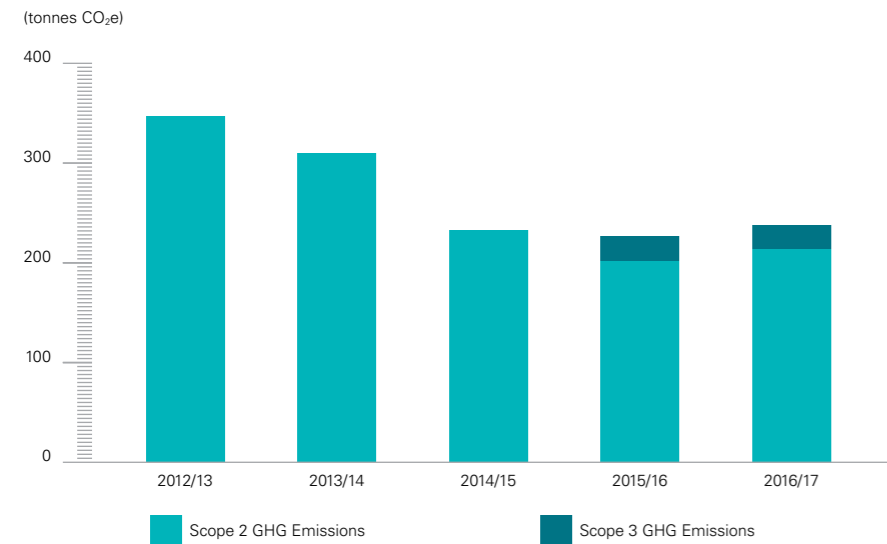


# 4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

## Tracking our performance year after year.

BEC has adopted a number of retrofitting measures over the past two years to achieve our 3 and 5 year targets for our building's energy and water use, and greenhouse gas emissions.

### BEC GHG Emissions

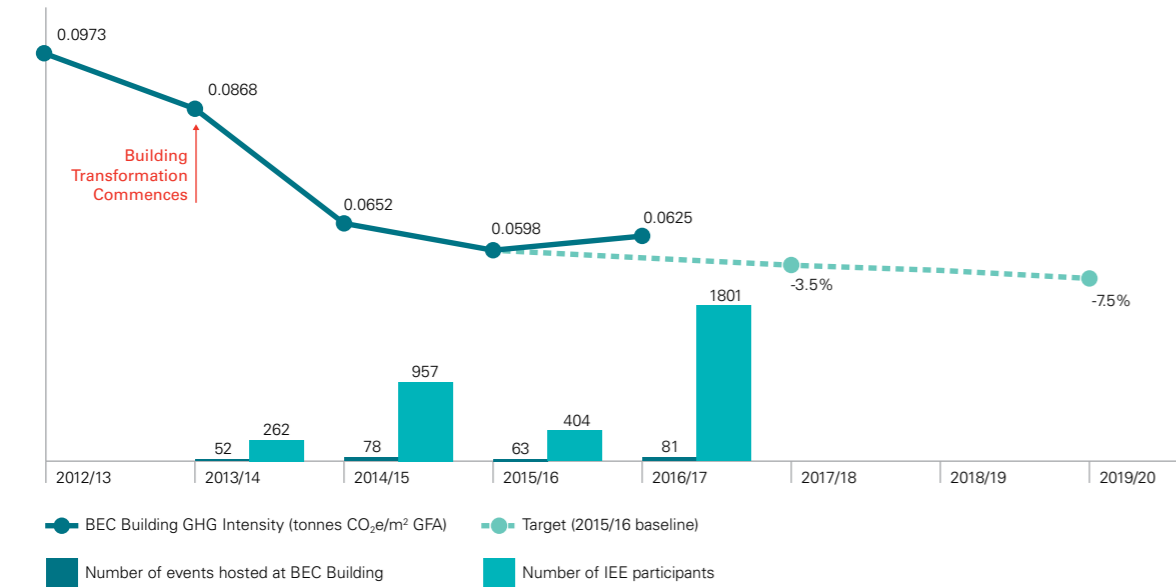


**Note:**

BEC Scope 2 emissions cover electricity use by the entire BEC building including tenant consumption.

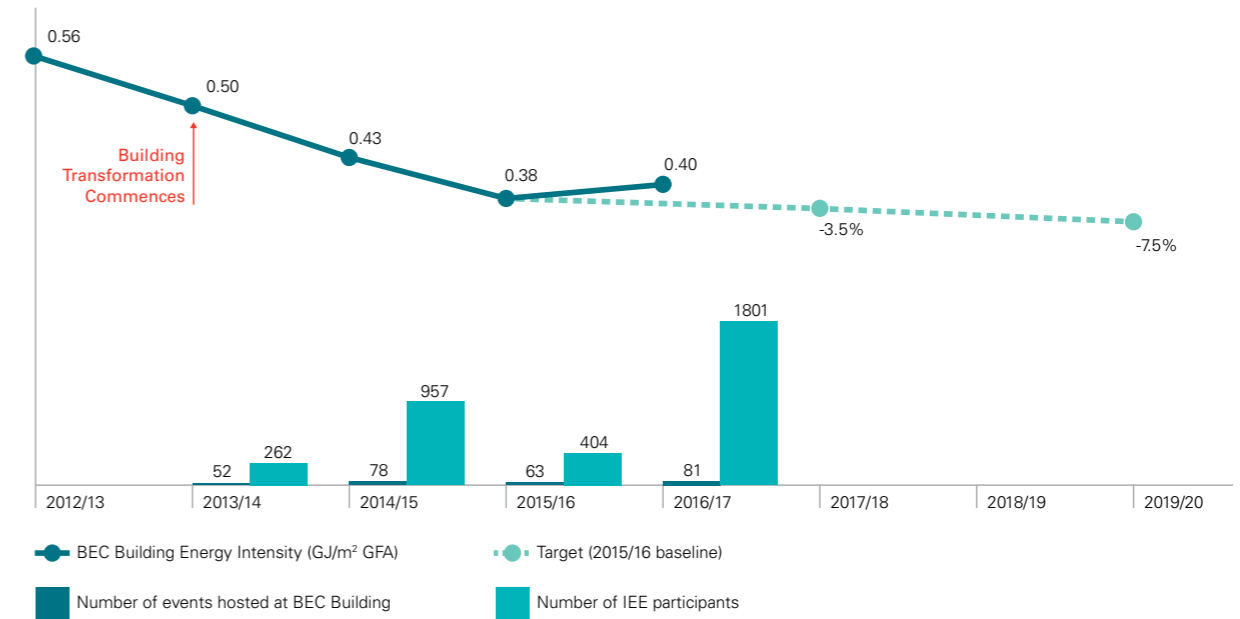
BEC Scope 3 emissions include indirect GHG emissions from processing freshwater, processing sewage, waste disposed at landfill and BEC staff commuting (estimated).

### BEC Building GHG Intensity



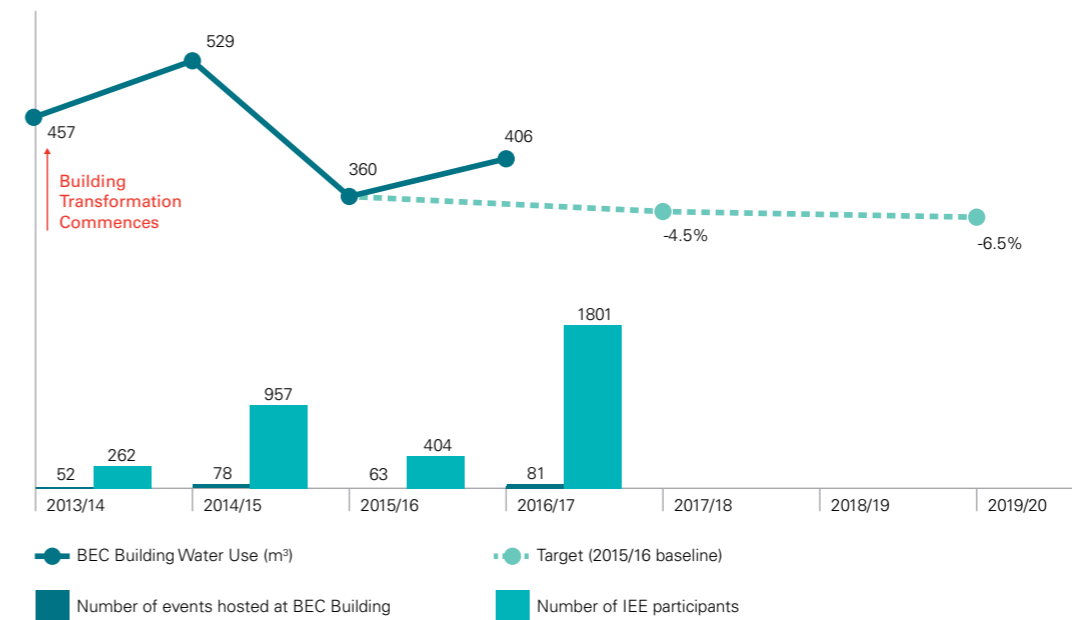
**Note:** Includes Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions for BEC and our tenants. Excludes BEC employee commuting.

### BEC Building Energy Intensity



**Note:** BEC Building Energy Intensity = BEC Building Energy Use including BEC and our tenants / BEC Building Gross Floor Area ("GFA"). Power consumption due to the Testing and Commissioning of new chiller accounts for 0.018 GJ/m<sup>2</sup> of 2016/17 BEC Building Energy Intensity.

### BEC Building Water Consumption



**Note:** Includes water used by BEC, our tenants and building users (including event and IEE courses participants).



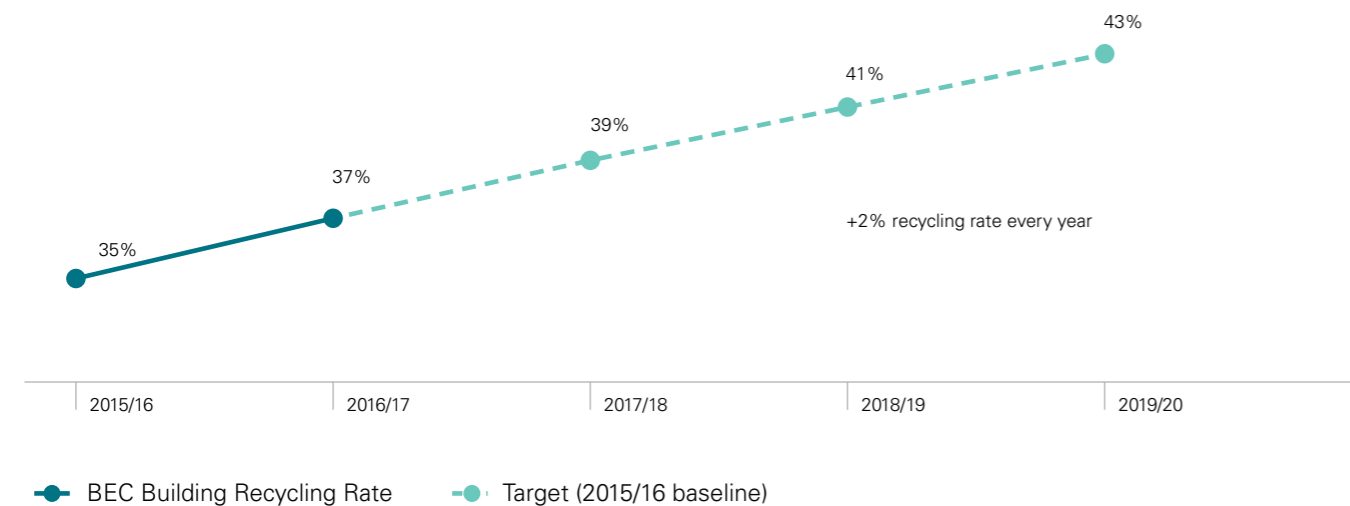
## 4. Through BEC as a Green Hub.

The slight increases in the building's GHG intensity, energy intensity and water consumption in 2016/17 are partly due to a rise in building users with an increase in the number of tenants and staff, the number of events that took place at BEC, and the total number of students attending IEE courses at the BEC building. Our energy use also rose due to the intensified operation of the air conditioning to address elevated mean daily maximum air temperatures in Hong Kong in August and September 2017 which were 1 to 1.5°C higher when compared to 2016. In 2017, we installed a new chiller and the comprehensive testing and commissioning process also increased our energy use. Despite these increases, the level of GHG intensity, energy intensity and water consumption remains below 2013/2014 levels when the building transformation project commenced.

We aim to redouble our efforts and engage our tenants to minimise the environmental impacts of the BEC building and achieve our energy and water consumption reduction targets. We have joined the HKGBC ACTShop as the first batch of pilot buildings in carrying out retro-commissioning to further improve the building's energy performance. Meanwhile, we will work with our members to install water saving faucets in the public areas to further reduce the water consumption.

We are happy to see that the BEC building waste recycling rate is on track during the reporting period. We will continue to work with our staff, tenants and building users to continue our recycling progress.

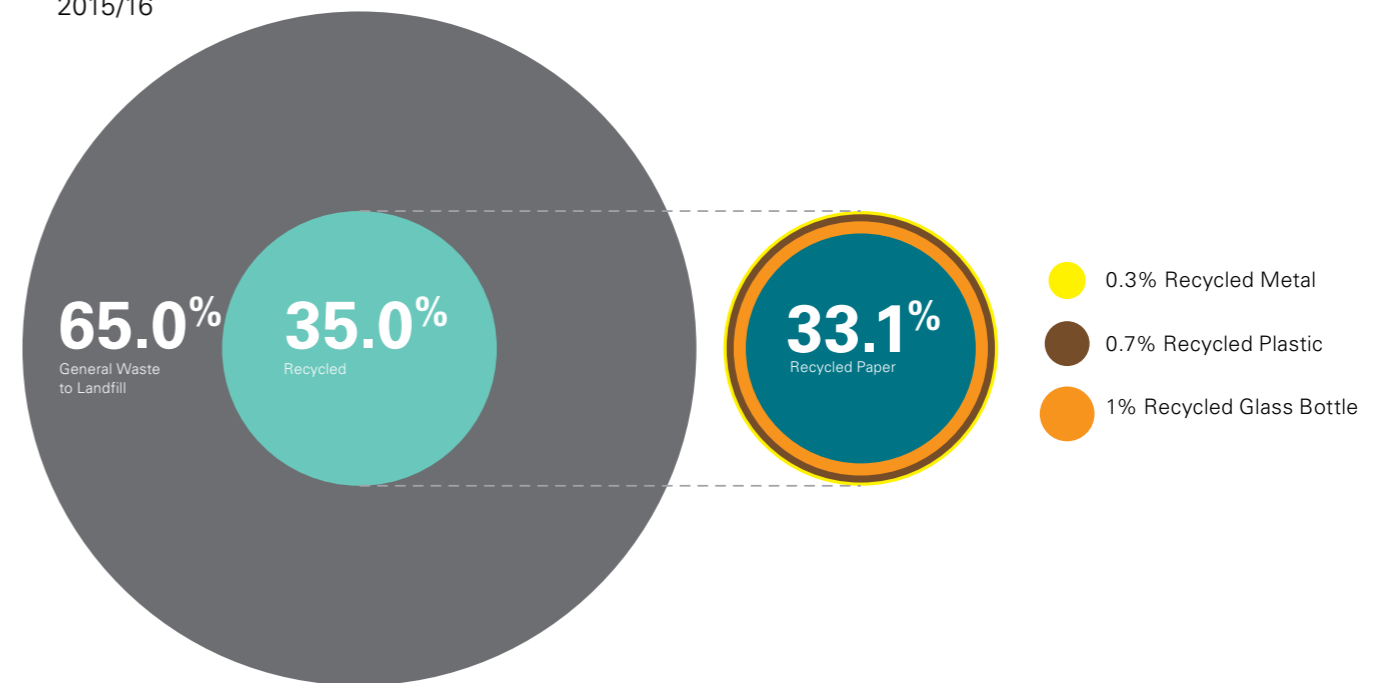
BEC Building Waste Recycling Rate



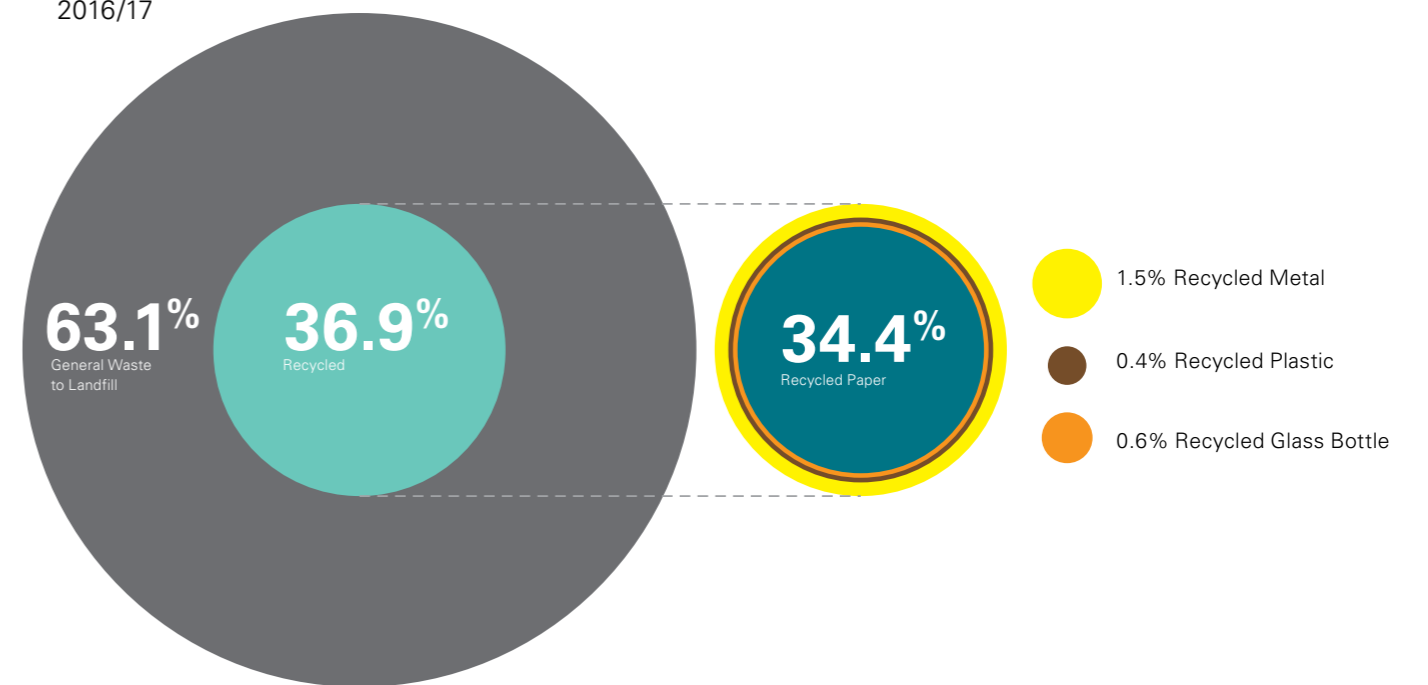
Waste Generated within BEC Building

Note: Includes waste generated by BEC and our tenants.

2015/16



2016/17





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4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Delivered 51 environmental education courses to 26,802 attendees



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Organised 61 events and industry visits to 4,122 individuals



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Our employees received 21 hours of training on average



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Provided learning opportunities to 66 interns





## 5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

### Empowering sustainability leaders, from C-suite to frontline.

BEC demonstrates sustainability leadership through collaborative and advisory projects, and our showcase headquarters building at Tat Chee Avenue. Yet, to multiply the momentum generated from our combined efforts and to achieve our vision, we are also in the business of empowering Hong Kong’s sustainability leaders with the most up-to-date global and regional trends, technological advances, best practices and thought leadership.

To further enhance the sustainability capacity of our stakeholders, we support opportunities to enrich knowledge through a wide range of activities tailored to meet the needs of leaders at all levels, from the C-suite to frontline staff. Our aim is to enlighten sustainability professionals at all career levels through impactful events, nurturing them through IEE courses, and widening their horizons through industry visits. We empower them to drive environmental sustainability in their daily work.

### Impactful events.

In line with our core objectives, we bring our members, non-members and the wider community together at events of all sizes that provide interactive sharing and learning opportunities amongst peers. The events cover a wide range of topics from practical solutions to challenges to emerging trends that will shape the future of sustainability.

### EnviroSeries. The think-out-of-the-box flagship conference

EnviroSeries, BEC’s flagship event, provides a cross-sector forum to discuss and address key issues related to Hong Kong’s environmental sustainability and serves as a key initiative to enhance the exchange of knowledge and views. It also aims to inspire out-of-the-box thinking, and encourages a fruitful discussion with practical impact which can foster government and business collaboration for a more efficient, competitive and sustainable Hong Kong. Over the past two years, Enviroseries themes were set with the aim of introducing new ideas and reinforcing innovative thinking in Hong Kong.

### Eco-innovation in the Transition to A Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Economy

The November 2015 EnviroSeries focused on practical approaches to driving eco-innovation to boost a sustainable future and provided a platform for participants to identify opportunities in a transition to a low carbon economy through innovative solutions and technologies. Speakers also shared their opinions and experiences with green bonds, business model innovation, sustainable buildings, low carbon transportation and the role of the business sector in enabling the development and application of new technologies.



### A Resilient and Low Carbon Hong Kong – Transforming Awareness into Actions

At the May 2016 EnviroSeries, speakers and participants, including policy makers, industry experts and business leaders, discussed strategies and plans to help transform Hong Kong into a low carbon city and support a global shift to net zero emissions. Ms Christine Loh, JP, then Under Secretary for the Environment of the Hong Kong Government, shared the government’s policy direction in combating climate change and reducing carbon emissions and stressed the importance of the “4Ts” principles to address climate change. Other distinguished speakers also discussed topics such as the future fuel mix for energy generation in Hong Kong, and China’s policy on climate change.



### Circular Economy: Towards a resource efficient Hong Kong – managing waste, driving growth

The May 2017 EnviroSeries consisted of three plenary sessions focused on leveraging waste as a resource for a circular economy in Hong Kong. We were honoured to have Mr K.S. Wong, Secretary for the Environment of the Hong Kong SAR Government, as our Keynote Speaker to share the government’s policy direction for waste management. It was also the first time we invited an overseas speaker, Mr Alexander Verbeek, Former Strategic Policy Advisor on Global issues, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, to present the European approach to a circular economy.



### See Best Practice, Learn Best Practice.

We believe that learning and knowledge sharing is a continuous process of discovery therefore, while Enviroseries takes place once to twice a year, we continue to engage our stakeholders through impactful events and exciting activities that foster a collaborative culture focused on problem-solving and innovation. We are always on the lookout for opportunities to partner, and coordinate our efforts to add value to our members’ experiences. We pool our resources with other expert organisations to effectively and efficiently expand our reach, provide access to a wider field of experts, and mobilise a shift in mindset to drive the transition to a low-carbon economy. Learn more about our events [here](#).

**4,122**  
Total number of participants in BEC EnviroSeries, BEC events and Industry Visits in 2015/16 and 2016/17



## 5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

### BEC Private Screening – Before the Flood

BEC partnered with the National Geographic Channel to host a private screening of Before the Flood – a documentary focused on the dramatic changes we are experiencing around the world due to climate change, as well as the actions we as individuals and as a society can take to prevent a catastrophic disruption to life on our planet. Mr Eric Chong, BEC Director and CCBF AG Chairperson, led a discussion with participants following the screening and exchanged views on the ways that we can spread the message about climate change and reduce our footprint in our daily lives.



### Renewable Energy – How can it thrive in Hong Kong

This seminar co-organised with Hong Kong Baptist University’s Asian Energy Studies Centre and WWF attracted over 100 participants from government, businesses, and NGOs to discuss the challenges and opportunities related to renewable energy and the relevant policy measures that can be introduced in Hong Kong.



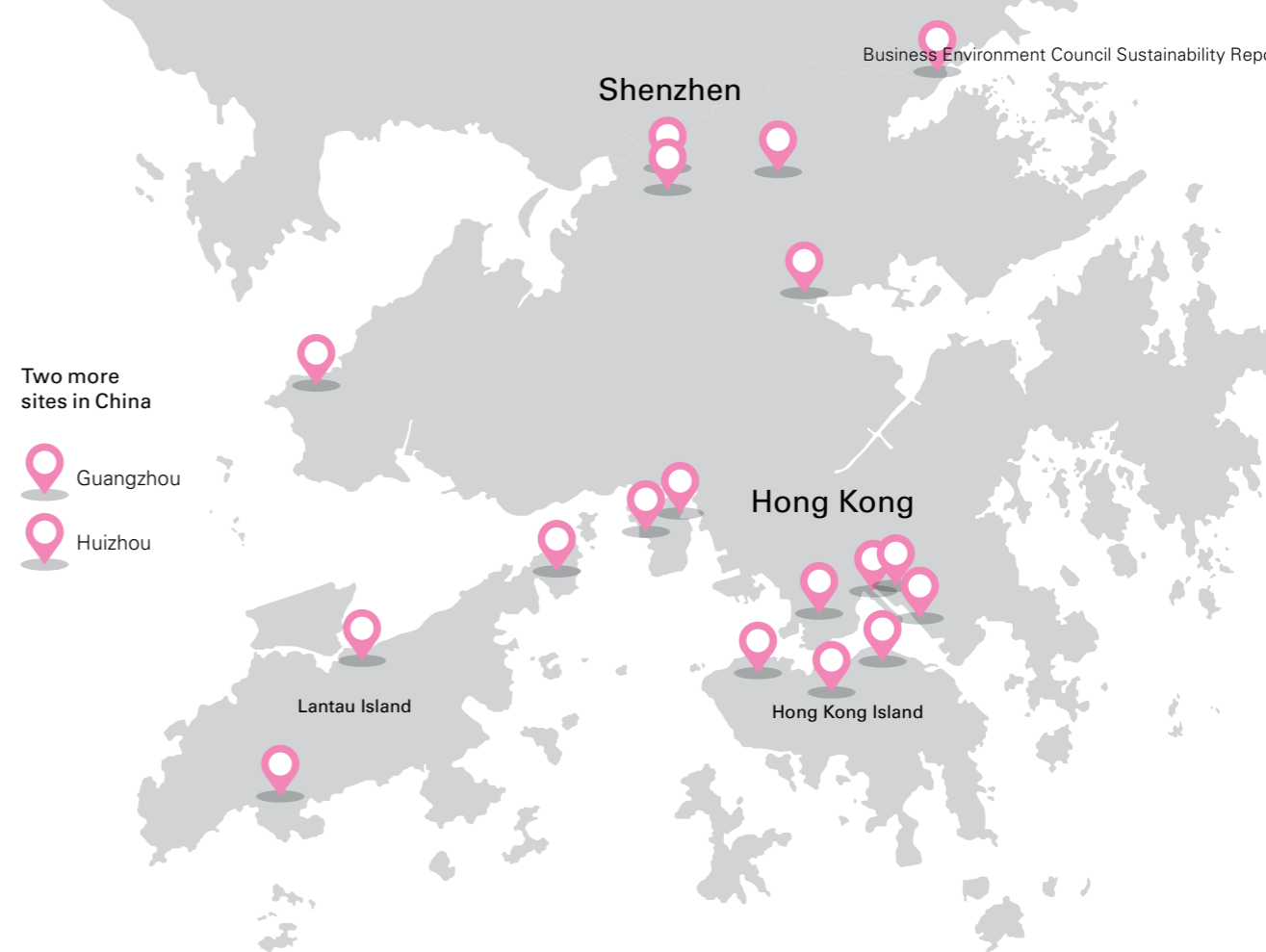
### Climate Change C-Suite Roundtable

A highlight of the engagement phase of the Low Carbon Hong Kong: Supporting Business to Set Targets project was a roundtable discussion for C-Suite business leaders in September 2017. We aimed to raise awareness on trends and possible business strategies related to a maximum 2°C temperature rise and encourage the integration of climate risk into enterprise risk management. More than 30 C-Suite business leaders took part in engaging presentations and fruitful dialogue.



### Post-COP22 Review

The Conference of the Parties (COP) of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) reached the Paris Agreement on greenhouse gas emission mitigation, adaptation and finance in December 2015. This agreement was rapidly ratified and came into effect on 4 November 2016. At the November 2016 COP22 conference, the agreement’s implementation was discussed. Together with Civic Exchange and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology’s Division for the Environment, BEC held a seminar in December 2016 to review the actions of agreement signatories and supportive businesses, and discuss the momentum and risks of future actions on climate change.



Two more sites in China



### Industry Visits

BEC also organises site visits to a number of businesses, facilities and expos in Hong Kong and overseas to enable our members to share their solutions and best practices, and to learn from others.

#### Dec 2015 - Industry Visit to MTR Siu Ho Wan Depot

Our members explored the depot and experienced MTR’s operations behind-the-scenes including train exterior cleaning, 1st line and 2nd line train maintenance for providing reliable and comfortable journeys for passengers, and a wide range of environmental practices and initiatives to sustain a high quality railway service for passengers.

#### July 2016 - Industry Visit to Happy Valley Underground Stormwater Storage Scheme

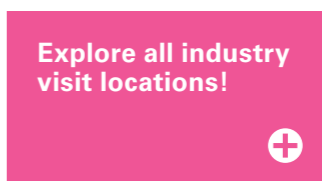
This major flood prevention project is a feat of engineering in Hong Kong. It is an excellent example of addressing sustainability challenges in a densely built environment through innovation in sustainable building designs. The BEAM Plus Platinum award winning project includes a 60,000 cubic meter storage tank excavated below the Happy Valley Race Course with various eco-innovative designs such as automatic movable weirs, a water harvesting system, and alternative foundation designs.

#### Nov 2016 - Overseas Industry Visit to Guangzhou

IE Expo and WasteMET Asia overlapped in November 2016 in Guangzhou. BEC was pleased to be a supporting partner for WasteMET Asia, one of the largest waste management expos in the region. Industry visit participants enjoyed networking and learning opportunities during this trip beyond Hong Kong.

#### Sep 2017 - Industry Visit to Floating PVs at Shek Pik Reservoir

As government is considering approaches to renewable energy that work within Hong Kong’s space constraints, a pilot project is underway to investigate the effectiveness of a solar power system that floats atop the SAR’s fresh water reservoirs. The Water Supplies Department introduced the fascinating features of the system and the innovative technology behind it to our members.





# 5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

## Igniting knowledge today for a brighter tomorrow.

We make sustainability knowledge and skills accessible to the business community empowering our stakeholders to build a better tomorrow. [BEC Institute of Environmental Education](#) ("BEC IEE") is where sustainability leaders and decision makers can advance their knowledge and develop the expertise necessary for environmental decision-making. BEC IEE facilitates professional development by promoting quality environmental education through various programmes. BEC IEE also tailors training programmes for companies interested in specific environmental sustainability topics, helping them to develop skills and knowledge to address future challenges and opportunities.

The programmes cover a wide range of topics delivered by a pool of academic and industry professionals.

- BEAM Plus Requirements
- Carbon Footprinting
- Sustainability Reporting
- Energy and Carbon Management and Auditing
- Environmental Legislation
- Indoor Air Quality
- Renewable Energy Application
- Water Conservation
- Waste Management

**26,802**  
Total number of attendees of BEC IEE courses in FY2015/16 and FY2016/17



## Comprehensive Certificate Courses for BEAM Plus on Site Aspects, Energy Use, Water Use and Indoor Environmental Quality

Comprehensive certificate courses are organised and designed for green building professionals to enrich their knowledge in BEAM Plus submission requirements. Each course consisted of 5 to 6 sessions and was delivered by a pool of experienced and professional speakers. These courses are co-organised with ASHRAE Hong Kong Chapter, BEAM Society Limited, Building Services Operation and Maintenance Executives Society and The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering - Hong Kong Branch.

## Regulatory Compliance for Environmental Legislation of Hong Kong

To help the business sector keep abreast of environmental legislation in Hong Kong, this 6-hour course provided participants with up-to-date information on the 5 major Ordinances – Air Pollution Control, Noise Pollution Control, Water Pollution Control, Waste Disposal and Environmental Impact Assessment. The course also highlights the essence of environmental licensing and permitting, with case studies illustrating practical ways to develop good practices within an organisation.



## Engaging your Stakeholders

Based on AccountAbility's AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard (2015), an open-source and well-established stakeholder engagement framework applicable to all company operations, this workshop guided participants through the stakeholder engagement process adapted for a sustainability context. Participants were engaged in interactive activities to learn how to identify, prioritise and map stakeholders; and how to prepare an engagement plan.



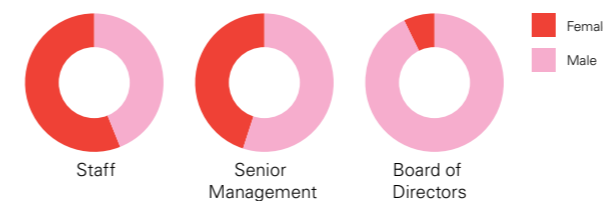
## Nurturing our employees, every one of us.

At BEC, our team is our most important asset. We work hard to identify individuals that share our values and openly welcome them to BEC. This is important because we believe that when our values resonate with the personal ideals of our employees, we are able to provide a greater sense of belonging resulting in a more engaged and supportive workforce immersed in the pursuit of shared objectives. We regularly communicate BEC's vision and goals through engagements and team building activities helping us to check in with our team and enhance their understanding of the organisation's purpose. Overall, our goal is to provide an energetic, inclusive, positive and supportive working environment in which our employees are encouraged to take smart risks, try new ideas, and seize opportunities that help them to achieve their personal and professional goals.

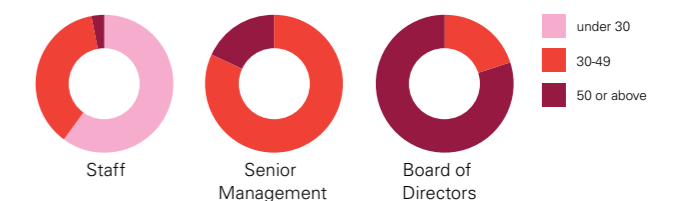
## A Positive Workplace

To achieve a positive work environment, it is our responsibility to provide an inclusive, non-discriminatory workplace.

### Gender Diversity



### Age Diversity



### Ratio of average basic salary [female to male]

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Senior Management (excluding CEO)	0.68	0.68	0.67
Staff	1.07	1.01	1.16



## 5. Through Nurturing Leadership.

It is BEC's policy that all team members are recruited and treated equally regardless of their gender, age, nationality, religion, sexual orientation or disability. While at BEC, our employees are assessed according to their work performance for career advancement and remuneration. We also provide professional development opportunities to support our employees in expanding their skills and achieving their career goals.

To encourage knowledge exchange, we also provide plenty of internship opportunities and programmes for students from both local and global universities. During the reporting period, we welcomed 66 interns who gained practical skills and work experience giving them a head start in their future careers.

Conditions in the physical environment also impact our employees, so we pay attention to our work space to make sure we provide a safe, healthy and inviting atmosphere. Our building was inspired by Hakka round houses using design features such as the round façade and the central skylight to maximise natural light in the building's core areas and encourage air flow. The provision of fresh air complies with the ASHRAE standard while the filters and ducts in the building are regularly cleaned to further enhance our indoor air quality. We also installed solar window film to block the sun's ultraviolet rays helping to reduce the temperature inside the building. 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.

### An Engaged Workforce

We encourage employee engagement through a number of activities designed to nurture their talent, enhance their sense of belonging, and help them develop as sustainability leaders.

Nurturing our employees starts on their first day with us through an induction programme that enables them to quickly settle into their new roles. To develop their sense of ownership over their growth, we request that staff, based on BEC's annual operating plan, establish their annual performance goals early each fiscal year. These self-set goals are the foundation for performance appraisals conducted at year-end to recognise staff contributions and highlight areas for improvement. Through this practice, we expect to cultivate a high performance culture within the organisation with the aim of retaining top talent and maintaining a stable team. Overall, this approach allows us to preserve and build up BEC's knowledge base and expertise while improving operational effectiveness.



While our employees are specialists in their areas of expertise, we believe that continuing education is key to elevating the quality of our work, keeping up with emerging trends, and maintaining BEC's leadership position. In fact, our employees often surpass the minimum number of annual Continuing Professional Development hours required by the Code of Conduct.

Although we would prefer to retain all our employees, it is a reality that our team members at times move on to other endeavours. Through our employee engagement activities, we have helped to shape our former colleagues into sustainability leaders that walk the talk. As they take up their new roles, they continue to spread our values, and the knowledge and habits gained at BEC deeper into the business community in Hong Kong.

### Maintaining Work Life Balance

In Hong Kong's fast paced work culture, BEC strives to adopt a different approach to work-life balance. Our employees enjoy the benefit of flexible work hours and on occasion, if overtime work is persistently significant, we grant Time-Off-In-Lieu to supplement the standard paid annual leave.

We also encourage our staff to give back to the community and share green knowledge with different groups through participation in different activities.

**21**  
Average training hours per employee (FY 2016/17)



### SHKP Vertical Run for Charity 2016

A BEC relay team was formed to run up the International Commerce Centre, Hong Kong's tallest building, to help raise funds for child and youth services.

### Happy Fridays

Working happily is key to maintaining morale within the organisation. Happy Fridays are arranged once bi-monthly during which staff gather to engage in casual interactions to get to know each other and build up team spirit.







## 6. This is how we Enable Sustainability.



Paving the way for environmental sustainability for 25 years, BEC will continue to enable sustainability in Hong Kong and the world through facilitating green collaborations, delivering practical projects, transforming the BEC Building into a green hub, and nurturing leadership.

The future for sustainability may be challenging yet we believe in thinking ahead to respond to the megatrends that may transform our world:

- Businesses will operate in a highly urbanised world that will be affected by resource scarcity and climate change. Energy efficiency of the urban built area and climate resilience in city infrastructure and organisations will be crucial for the vitality of businesses and cities.
- Businesses will operate in a hyper-connected world with accelerated technological breakthroughs. Businesses and organisations will have to embrace and adapt to the rapid changes brought by the digital revolution. We are eager to see how we can utilise big data and artificial intelligence to reach a smart and sustainable future.

To take on these challenges, we will continue to work closely with our stakeholders to collaborate and to innovate solutions to large-scale globally shared challenges.

### This is How We Enable Sustainability.

About Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司  
 Business Environment Council Limited ("BEC") is an independent, charitable membership organisation, established by the business sector in Hong Kong. Since its establishment in 1992, BEC has been at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence by advocating the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution and improve corporate environmental and social responsibility. BEC offers sustainable solutions and professional services covering advisory, research, assessment, training and award programs for government, business and the community, thus enabling environmental protection and contributing to the transition to a low carbon economy.

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#### Links to Appendices

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 Content Index



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 Performance Table



Appendix C  
 Materiality Methodology



Appendix D  
 Material Topics



Appendix E  
 Awards and Memberships





