

AUGUST 2023

BEC E-NEWSLETTER

Connecting · Nurturing · Creating for a Sustainable Environment



BEC LAUNCHES NEWLY REBRANDED NET-ZERO CARBON CHARTER

BEC celebrated the official launch of the newly rebranded BEC Net-Zero Carbon Charter with 60 Charter signatories at BEC Net-Zero Carbon Charter Launch Ceremony on 24 August, achieving a remarkable milestone of the organisation. Mr C.F. Wong, JP, Commissioner for Climate Change of the Hong Kong SAR Government, was invited to officiate the Launch Ceremony with BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien and CEO Mr Simon Ng.

BEC Net-zero Carbon Charter, riding on the merits of its predecessor BEC Low Carbon Charter launched in 2019, has attracted a total of 60 signatories to date from a diverse range of industries including property and construction, banking and finance, engineering and architecture, aviation and shipping, power and utilities, and hospitality sectors.

The Charter consists of two parts: Declaration and Commitment. Signatories, who can commit to either Action Signatory or Science-aligned Signatory, are required to self-report their progress and achievements as requested by BEC once a year. Regarding emission reduction ambition, Action Signatories should have a clear reduction target as minimum basis requirement; whereas Science-aligned Signatories should clearly pursue reduction targets following 1.5°C aligned science-based pathway.



In addition, signatories will be invited to share their insights and experience in co-learning workshops and activities organised by BEC. They will also have access to BEC expertise and opportunity to participate in charter support programmes such as Power Up Coalition, Carbon Disclosure Programme, Hong Kong International Airport Carbon Capacity Building Programme, and Global Connect Initiative.

[Click here to learn more](#)

BEC CEO Dialogue



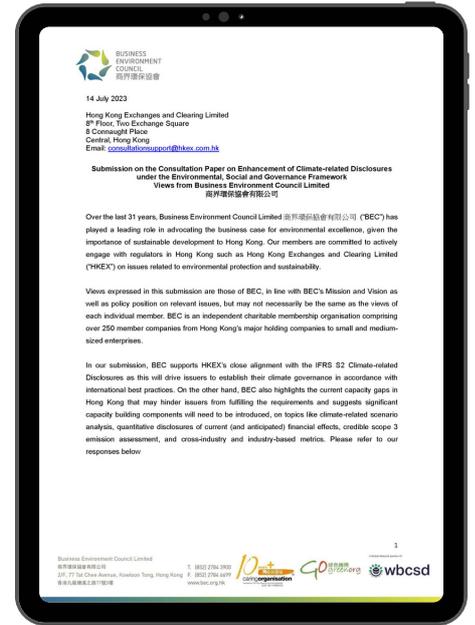
BEC organised our biannual signature event “BEC CEO Dialogue” on 28 July, focusing on the theme of “Formulating the Roadmap towards Net Zero as Conglomerate: Challenges and Way Forward”. Mr Eric Ma, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of NWS Holdings Limited, was invited as our honourable guest to exchange views with then BEC Board Director Ms Susanna Wong and BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng on hurdles the conglomerate is facing in formulating its net-zero roadmap and how to overcome these challenges with his strategic mindset.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Submission on the Consultation Paper on Enhancement of Climate-related Disclosures under the Environmental, Social and Governance Framework

The Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (“HKEX”) has recently concluded its consultation on the Enhancement of Climate-related Disclosures under the Environmental, Social and Governance Framework to require further climate-related disclosures. In our submission, BEC supports HKEX’s close alignment with the IFRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures as this will drive issuers to establish their climate governance in accordance with international best practices. However, BEC also highlights the current capacity gaps in Hong Kong that may hinder issuers from fulfilling the requirements and suggests significant capacity building components will need to be introduced, on topics like climate-related scenario analysis, quantitative disclosures of current (and anticipated) financial effects, credible scope 3 emission assessment, and cross-industry and industry-based metrics.

[Click here to learn more](#)



BEC Receives “No. 1 Environmental Excellence Award”



BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng attended the award ceremony of the “Headline No.1 Awards” on 25 August to receive the “No. 1 Environmental Excellence Award” by Headline Daily, in recognition of BEC’s achievements and contributions in promoting environmental excellence and sustainability in Hong Kong.

BEC MEMBERSHIP

- EXPAND PROFESSIONAL NETWORK
- SHARE ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- EXCHANGE SUSTAINABILITY KNOWLEDGE
- VOICE YOUR OPINIONS

Enjoy the best membership rate for 2023 today

UPCOMING EVENTS

BEC Anniversary Dinner 2023 28 September



BEC Anniversary Dinner is a premium platform to review BEC's work, preview the exciting opportunities ahead, and network with like-minded sustainability leaders who have shared our vision and supported our efforts in leading our city further along the sustainability pathway. It is also an excellent occasion to acknowledge the longstanding support of BEC's members and partners, and to celebrate the expanding network in our sustainability leadership platform. This year, we are pleased to have **Miss Diane Wong, Under Secretary for Environment and Ecology**, as our Guest of Honour to deliver the Keynote Speech at our Anniversary Dinner.

[Click here for details & registration](#)

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](#)

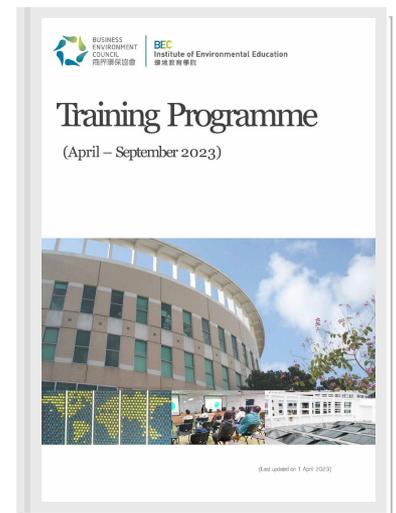


14 September

[Reporting on the Environmental Aspects of the HKEx ESG Reporting Guide](#)



21 September



[Click here for more courses](#)

ESG CORNER

Paving the Way for a More Sustainable Future with ESG Mindset

In recent years, Environmental, Social, and Governance (“ESG”) considerations have gained significant traction across various sectors. ESG has evolved from a niche concept to a mainstream framework, with companies and investors recognising the importance of sustainable practices and responsible business conduct. The latest developments in ESG underscore a growing commitment to creating a positive impact on society, the environment, and corporate governance. Some key trends and advancements in ESG are noteworthy for the business community.

One of the most prominent developments in ESG is the increasing attention it receives from investors and the financial sector. Institutional investors are integrating ESG factors into their investment strategies, recognising that sustainable practices can contribute to long-term value creation and risk management. As such, companies are under growing pressure to disclose comprehensive ESG information and demonstrate their commitment to sustainable practices. This trend should be able to drive positive change across industries, encouraging companies to adopt more sustainable business models.

Governments and regulatory bodies are taking a proactive stance in promoting ESG practices. Many countries have introduced or strengthened regulations to enforce ESG reporting and disclosure requirements. For examples, the European Union’s Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (“SFDR”) mandates financial market participants to disclose information on their ESG policies and the integration of sustainability risks into their investment decisions; the International Sustainability Standards Board (“ISSB”) issued the International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”) S1 General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information and IFRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures in June. In Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited has recently finished its consultation on the Enhancement of Climate-related Disclosures under the ESG Framework to require further climate-related disclosures. Such initiatives provide a standardised framework for ESG reporting, enhance transparency, and enable investors to make informed decisions based on reliable data.



ESG metrics and reporting standards have also witnessed significant development in recent years. Organisations, such as the Global Reporting Initiative (“GRI”) and the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (“SASB”), are continuously refining their guidelines to provide clearer guidance for companies to measure and report their ESG performance. The Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (“TCFD”) is urging companies to disclose the financial risks and opportunities associated with climate change. The evolving metrics and standards facilitate better benchmarking and analysis of sustainability performances among companies.

The heightened investor focus, regulatory initiatives, and evolving metrics and standards all contribute to a more comprehensive and robust approach to ESG. These developments pave the way for a more sustainable future with businesses operating responsibly and investors making investment decisions with ESG considerations.

However, challenges remain, including the need for consistent and reliable data, effective impact measurement methodologies, and addressing greenwashing concerns. As the ESG landscape continues to evolve, stakeholders must collaborate to overcome these challenges and ensure ESG practices genuinely drive positive change. The seamless collaboration among all stakeholders including the Government, the business sector, ESG professionals, industry experts, academics, and the wider community to promote an ESG mindset is critical.

RETHINK HK CORNER



The 4th edition of **ReThink HK - Sustainable Business Forum & Solutions Expo** - will take place in Hall 1CDE of the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre on 14-15 September 2023.

The event offers not only excellent networking opportunities for service providers, corporations, start-ups, and leaders from all industries, but also 160+ conference sessions with panels and workshops led by 500+ local and world class speakers. ReThink HK is the best opportunity for you to meet new business partners, exchange great ideas, and keep track of the latest trends for running a sustainable business.

[Register now](#) and see you at ReThink HK 2023!

MEMBERS CORNER

Council Members

Airport Authority Hong Kong ("AAHK") established the Marine Ecology Enhancement Fund ("MEEF") and Fisheries Enhancement Fund ("FEF") with a total capital injection of HK\$400 million. The MEEF and FEF have recently granted a total of over HK\$10.7 million to 11 projects for a 12-month period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. The funded projects are managed and carried out by universities, research organisations, and associations from the fisheries industry, on subjects including repurposing shellfish shells, assessing human activities' impact on coastal wetlands, and Tai O fishing village tourism project and more.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Chinachem Group and a leading prefabricated building company signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") to form a strategic partnership to develop and use the Modular Integrated Construction ("MiC") system. This collaboration is set to bring mutual benefits by fostering joint technological innovation, materials procurement and supply, information exchange, technical consultation and more. As the first private developer in Hong Kong to apply the concrete MiC System in a private residential project, the group will extend this technology to other property development projects at Tung Chung Traction Substation to lower carbon emissions and positively impact the community and the environment.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Hang Lung Properties has been included as a constituent stock in the latest FTSE4Good Index Series for the third consecutive year. Created by the global index provider FTSE Russell, the FTSE4Good Index Series is designed to measure the performance of companies demonstrating strong ESG practices. Hang Lung pursues sustainable growth by connecting its customers and communities, and embeds sustainability in all aspects of its business. Sustainable growth is Hang Lung's mission, and sustainability is one of its core values.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Henderson Land Group is actively supporting a milk powder tin recycling machine scheme by offering venue sponsorship. Smart milk powder tin recycling machines have been installed in five Henderson Land shopping malls, namely KOLOUR • Tsuen Wan I, MCP Central, MOSTown, Shatin Centre and Trend Plaza. Since the installation in April, more than 3,700 tins have been collected within the first four months. This initiative aims to encourage parents to embrace sustainable development and to educate the younger generation about the importance of environmental conservation.



JEC's project, Shek Wu Effluent Polishing Plant – Main Works Stage 1, has been awarded the Runner-Up of NEC Contractor of the Year at the prestigious Martin Barnes Award 2023. This project aims to increase the treatment capacity by 35,000 m³/day, with a plan to reach 190,000 m³/day upon completion of all stages. The project includes the various electrical and mechanical works for sludge treatment facilities. To further enhance its environmental performance, thermal hydrolysis process and side stream treatment facilities are introduced.



[Click here to learn more](#)

ZETTA, the latest Electric Vehicle ("EV") quick charging initiative under **Kum Shing Group**, was successfully launched in July 2023. In response to the Government's roadmap for EV popularisation, ZETTA aims to establish a comprehensive EV charging network in Hong Kong, providing convenient, excellent and reliable fast charging and group charging services to commercial fleets, taxis, other public transportations, and private EV drivers. ZETTA will also offer consultation on power and EV charging solutions, EV charger installation services, and fleet management solution services, ushering in a new era of zero-carbon transportation.



Modern Terminals has recently launched a programme titled Modern Terminals Cares for the Ocean to raise awareness of marine conservation among the younger generation. Between November 2022 and May 2023, the company organised eight educational sessions together with fellow BEC member WWF-Hong Kong for various stakeholders including employees and students. Participants observed the marine litter collection performed by an AI-enabled robotic boat called clearbot; conducted coastal clean-up; and collected water sample for microplastic analysis. Close to 180 participants gained a deeper understanding of marine conservation. The clearbot sponsored by Modern Terminals has been deployed across multiple locations in Hong Kong removing various kinds of marine litter till end of August.



[Click here to learn more](#)

MEMBERS CORNER

Nan Fung Group is pleased to announce the launch of “Net Positive Lease”, a new tenant engagement initiative that goes fourfold in driving sustainability by collaborating with tenants, their employees, and community partners. The goal of “Net Positive Lease” is to create a long-term positive impact for both society and the environment. Under “Net Positive Lease”, tenants are encouraged to commit to the “Net Positive Pledge” and undertake various sustainability tasks to earn “Net Positive Coins”. This approach breaks from conventional green leases by offering a series of unparalleled incentives, including management fee incentives, marketing exposure, and corporate sustainability training, to mobilise tenants to achieve sustainability goals alongside the group.

[Click here to learn more](#)



To explore more possibilities for the future of sustainable manufacturing, **Siemens** recently participated in an Open Day organised by a R&D centre of industrial artificial intelligence (“AI”) and robotics and signed a collaborative agreement to form closer ties for future partnerships. This agreement opens the door for a close partnership for the development of innovation technologies and exploring the possibilities brought by Siemens Xcelerator in industrial AI and robotics, which will serve as a major driving force in accelerating Hong Kong’s journey in net-zero manufacturing and break new ground for digital and industrial transformations.



Swire Pacific has achieved inclusion in the first edition of the S&P Sustainability Yearbook (China) 2023, which features a select group of 88 outstanding companies from a pool of 1,600 in China. Additionally, Swire Pacific has been recently included in the FTSE4Good Index Series, which evaluates the ESG performance of global companies across 34 markets. This recognition places the company among approximately 1,000 globally recognised top-performing constituents. Check out Swire Pacific’s latest Sustainability Report to discover how it integrates sustainable development into its overall business approach.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Swire Properties is the first Hong Kong company to issue “Green Dim Sum” Renminbi (“RMB”) Public Bonds which will help accelerate the company’s green projects, and raise Hong Kong’s status as an international offshore RMB trading hub. The transaction raised an aggregate amount of RMB3.2 billion, making it the largest-ever corporate green dim sum bonds issuance in Hong Kong. The net proceeds from the green dim sum bonds will be used to fund or refinance the company’s existing or new eligible green projects related to green building development, climate change adaptation, energy efficiency, renewable energy, etc. As Swire Properties continues to pursue its ambitious HK\$100 billion investment plan, with HK\$50 billion earmarked for the Chinese Mainland market, the proceeds from these green dim sum bonds will further enable the company to design and build iconic retail-led mixed-used landmarks that possess the world’s highest green credentials.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Towngas has recently received three awards at the BOCHK Corporate Low-Carbon Environmental Leadership Awards, including the Sustainable Business Award, the Anti-Epidemic Caring Award, as well as the Manufacturing Sector Gold Award, of which Towngas was awarded the Manufacturing Sector Gold Award for the fifth time since 2015. Towngas is committed to providing energy-saving and emission-reducing solutions such as renewable energy, combined heat and power supply, and heat recovery. These new business developments will accelerate the company's efforts towards carbon neutrality with its customers, supporting China's 30-60 dual carbon goals and contributing to a low-carbon future. [Click here to learn more](#)



HK Electric organised the "Green Energy Dreams Come True 2022/23" Competition to sponsor 17 school teams to carry out their environmental projects with a final presentation held in July. The champion of the secondary school category was awarded for their creative board game, Renewpoly, promoting the development and opportunities of renewable energy. Meanwhile, the champion of the tertiary institute category went to a joint team from three local universities, who developed a smart energy analysis system for enhancing energy management for households. In addition to a scholarship, the team also won an internship opportunity to work on green power generation at HK Electric. [Click here to learn more](#)



Corporate Members

ATAL participated in IE Expo China 2023 held in Shanghai New International Expo Centre earlier and showcased the group's signature environmental engineering projects, innovative solutions and technology applications in Hong Kong, Mainland China and overseas markets. ATAL's booth attracted a wide range of visitors, including environmental companies, main contractors and agents of imported wastewater treatment products. The group's municipal wastewater treatment capabilities and other innovative technologies were of particular interest to visitors. During the exhibition, ATAL shared its rich experiences in environmental engineering with fellow industry professionals, the academia and government officials from both the Mainland and overseas. [Click here to learn more](#)



Canon Hongkong Company Limited has been demonstrating its commitment to sustainability since 2009, when it launched the "Ink Cartridge Recycling Program". The company has since placed over 300 recycling boxes across Hong Kong districts to collect empty ink cartridges. In 2011, the programme was extended to the local primary and secondary schools with the "Canon x McDull Inter-school Ink Cartridge Recycling Competition". To date, this programme has successfully collected over 252,000 ink cartridges, recycled more than 5.8 tonnes of plastics, and reduced over 8.8 tonnes of CO2 emissions, equivalent to the amount absorbed by 383 trees annually. The 13th school competition is now open for enrolment. Join now to build a greener environment together. [Click here to learn more](#)



MEMBERS CORNER

Over 100 million sharks are killed every year for their fins and other products. As apex predators, sharks are a crucial part of the marine food chain. Some species are already facing extinction, leading to imbalances in marine ecosystems and affecting the climate. To support shark protection, **FUJIFILM Business Innovation Hong Kong Limited** has joined a local charity dedicated to shark conservation as one of the shark-free companies. According to its sustainability policy, the company pledges not to consume and promote shark, ray and skate products in its business operations. It is also a demonstration of Fujifilm Group's commitment to preserve biodiversity to create a sustainable society.

[Click here to learn more](#)



MTR Corporation's wholly owned subsidiary announced in April a co-investment in a Hong Kong-based smart logistics company, which helps reduce carbon emissions in the e-commerce delivery cycle through its smart locker solutions that are revolutionising last-mile delivery. The investee's smart lockers can slash the number of CO2-emitting vans required per 1,000 deliveries in traditional e-commerce logistics from 17 to just four. The smart logistics company plans to double its presence in Hong Kong, expand its business into the Greater Bay Area, launch into at least one other Southeast Asian country by 2025, and invest in sustainable solutions such as battery and solar-powered Bluetooth lockers to optimise its best-in-class technology.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Vegware is delighted to announce that its compostable packaging made from four materials - paper with water-based lining, bagasse, wood and sustainably-sourced cardboard - are now recognised to be processed at O · PARK. After a pretreatment process to reduce its size, the packaging is eligible to be treated with food waste together at O · PARK's composting facility. This recycling solution brings added significance with the upcoming implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging on 1 April 2024, helping the catering sector to reduce solid waste directed to landfills, thereby minimising waste charges and achieving zero waste together. Sign up to Vegware's e-newsletter now for more latest information!

[Click here to learn more](#)



General Members

ALBA Integrated Waste Solutions ("ALBA IWS") has recently achieved another milestone of processing four million pieces of regulated E-waste, bringing Hong Kong another step closer towards zero waste. A celebration ceremony was held at WEEE · PARK recently, attended by Mr Bruno Luk, JP, Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (Waste Reduction), Environmental Protection Department, and other group representatives. ALBA IWS is committed to giving back to the community and promoting awareness of E-waste recycling by donating refurbished appliances to those in need. Mr Luk commended WEEE · PARK for reflecting the Government's commitment to sustainable use of resources, raising the awareness of E-waste recycling among the public, and encouraging people to practise waste reduction and recycling in their daily lives.



MEMBERS CORNER

Allied Sustainability and Environmental Consultants Group Limited (“AEC Group”) achieved the first EDGE Certification for Y83 in June, paving the way for a more sustainable built environment. Constructed in 2014, Y83 is the first Hong Kong hospitality establishment to obtain EDGE Level 1 certification, a green building certification launched by the International Finance Corporation. Throughout the project, the group’s green building consultants advised on a sustainable, resource-efficient strategy to transform this former hotel into a sustainable building with remarkable savings. Under AEC Group’s professional advisory services, Y83 achieved an impressive 81% reduction in embodied energy, 35% in water savings, and 21% in energy savings.

[Click here to learn more](#)



ASB Biodiesel (Hong Kong) Limited (“ASB”) started supplying B100 Biodiesel to the Hong Kong marine industry in July. The 2023 International Maritime Organisation Greenhouse Gas Strategy targets to reduce the total annual Greenhouse Gas (“GHG”) emission from international shipping by 2030 and 2040. As a result, biofuels are being promoted as one of the low-carbon alternatives to the existing fossil oil to reduce GHG emissions. ASB is now developing into the marine industry and looking forward to becoming China’s first firm to complete the biofuel bunkering operation.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Commissioned by fellow BEC member Clean Air Network, **Humans Matter** (OSE Consulting H. K. Ltd.) recently organised a Human Factor Mural with school teachers to facilitate reflection and discussion around enabling data-informed preventive and remedial actions to improve air on campus. The Human Factor Mural is a collaborative learning experience set out to shed light on the functioning of our cognition and the human factors that influence decision-making. To change human behaviours and habits, mere knowledge and intention are far from enough. A number of human factors related to our beliefs, emotions, and cognitive biases will act as brakes or accelerators for change.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Sustainable Office Solutions (“SOS”), which specialises in sustainable inventory management, will be exhibiting at ReThink HK 2023 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 14 to 15 September. This year, SOS is again the tier 2 sponsor and will showcase a large number of unique circular furniture pieces at the Central Networking Lounge. Visitors to the expo will have the opportunity to experience these pieces and learn about how SOS helped a hospitality group avoid embodied carbon through partnership and circular economy practices. Visit the SOS team at booth G10 to explore how your organisation can adopt circularity in your business.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Want to share your company's latest green news with over 6,000 BEC e-Newsletter subscribers from various industries? BEC Council, Corporate and General Members are welcomed to submit their recent environmental and sustainability accomplishments to us. Selected submissions will be published in the upcoming edition of BEC’s e-Newsletter completely free-of-charge. Please contact **Mr Tomas Li (E. tomasli@bec.org.hk)** for enquiries.

WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

General Members

- Alibaba Group Holding Limited
- ibebot Limited
- Invisible & Innovative Technology Co., Limited
- Wharf Estates Limited

Affiliate Member

- Vocational Training Council



BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS

- **BOCHK Corporate Low-Carbon Environmental Leadership Awards 2022** | Federation of Hong Kong Industries | Now till August
- **“My Green Space” Student Competition 2022-23** | Hong Kong Green Building Council | Now till August
- **Hong Kong Green Building Week 2023** | Construction Industry Council, Hong Kong Green Building Council | August-September
- **Innovation Dialogue Series – Hong Kong Edition: Circular Economy** | German Industry and Commerce Ltd and German Chamber of Commerce in Chins – South & Southwest | 5 September
- **HKRITA Forum “Partners for Progress”** | The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel | 6 September
- **BCI Equinox** | BCI Central Limited | 22 September
- **Climate Action Recognition Scheme (CARS) 2022-23** | Wofoo Social Enterprises, Hong Kong SDG Hub | Now till September
- **Fashion Summit (HK) 2023** | Clothing Industry Training Authority; Office of the Hon. Sunny Tan, Member of the Legislative Council; Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel; Redress; Sustainable Fashion Business Consortium; The Mills Fabrica; WWF-Hong Kong | 11-12 October
- **Outstanding ESG Enterprises Recognition Scheme 2023** | Sing Tao News Corporation Limited; the Center for Economic Sustainability and Entrepreneurial Finance, School of Accounting and Finance, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University | 15 October
- **The 1st CRECCHKI Real Estate ESG Awards GBA 2023 “Creating a Built-To-Live Environment”** | China Real Estate Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong and International Chapter | Now till 20 October
- **Excellent ESG Recognition Scheme** | Hong Kong Economic Times Limited | Now till October
- **Green Building Award 2023** | Hong Kong Green Building Council, Professional Green Building Council | Now till November

[Click here to see more](#)

Subscribe to BEC e-Newsletter 