





DECEMBER 2022

BEC E-NEWSLETTER

 $Connecting \ \cdot \ Nurturing \ \cdot \ Creating \ for \ a \ Sustainable \ Environment$

THINKING BOTH CLIMATE AND NATURE TO CONSERVE OUR PLANET: POST-COP27 AND POST-COP15

BEC Head – Policy and Research Mr Merlin Lao contributes an article to share his insights about two recent Conferences of the Parties ("COPs").



There is no planet B. Extreme weather patterns and natural disasters in various parts of the world, including the recordbreaking high temperatures in Hong Kong, are simply the evidence. Global scientists have reinforced the need to limit global warming to no more than 1.5 degrees by mid-century as compared to pre-industrial levels to reduce catastrophic impacts of climate change like extreme heat waves, degraded nature and sea-level rise. However, current pledges and actions from national governments are insufficient that we are on track to a 2.7-degree world. The situation is dooming, and we must continue to put efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions while planning for climate change adaptation. Science tells us that higher global temperatures would result in more damaged ecosystems. which makes adaptation more expensive. Many even question if mankind can actually adapt to a more devastating change of intense storms, wildfires and species extinction.

Biodiversity conservation plays a significant role in both mitigating and adapting to climate change. Not only does nature serve the function of carbon sinks, but it also stabilises ecosystems and provides a habitable environment for human beings. Internationally, policy makers start to recognise the intercorrelation between climate change and nature, and they try to make synergies between both when formulating national policies. To consolidate efforts and enhance global actions, the United Nations organises annual climate change conferences under the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("UNFCCC"), which are more well-known, as well as biannual biodiversity conferences under the Convention on Biological Diversity ("CBD"). The 27th Conference of the UNFCCC ("COP27") was convened in Sharm el-Sheikh of Egypt last month, while the 15th Conference of the CBD ("COP15") just finished in Montreal of Canada. Business Environment Council would like to provide several outcome observations to our members.



Photo credit: UNFCCC

COP27: Falling short in mitigation ambition, breakthrough in loss and damage support

The closing of COP27 produced mixed feelings. While there is continued 1.5-degree limit recognition by nations, there is weak progress on mitigation action agendas, and few countries updated more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions ("NDCs"), which measure the mitigation efforts of countries. On the adaptation front, governments agreed to move forward on the Global Goal on Adaptation ("GGA"), and more detailed actions will be concluded at COP28 to improve resilience amongst countries. However, no major adaptation finance pledges have been made while international society is calling for further financing over

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adaptation, given more natural disasters are resulted from climate change. Perhaps the most encouraging news is that countries agreed to create a specific fund for loss and damage, a breakthrough from decade-long discussions to support the most vulnerable and least developed countries disproportionately affected by climate change.

Regarding developments relevant to business, an urgent agenda at COP27 was to ensure accountability of climaterelated commitments made by businesses as more are rushing to net-zero pledges. Several major publications and announcements to address growing greenwashing behaviour should be worth noting:

- Integrity Matters: Net-Zero Commitments by Businesses, Financial Institutions, Cities and Regions, released by the UN's High Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities to provide recommendations on net-zero commitments;
- <u>Net-Zero Guidelines</u> (IWA 42), released by the International Organization for Standardization to provide guiding principles to stakeholders working towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions for business, group or country;
- CDP, which runs the global environmental disclosure platform for corporations, is set to incorporate International Sustainability Standard Board's ("ISSB") Climate-related Disclosures Standard in its platform to help reduce corporates' burden in disclosure activities.



Photo credit: UNFCCC

COP15: A global deal for nature

The UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement adopted at COP21 successfully lead to a global framework that continuously drives and monitors climate actions among countries. However, this was not quite the case for the CBD. The CBD was first agreed in 1992 and ratified by 196 nations. The Parties to the CBD committed themselves to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss but failed to deliver. And none of the targets set between 2010 and 2020 (known as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as

agreed in COP10) have been fully met. Many describe 2010 to 2020 as a lost decade for biodiversity. The urgency of saving nature from destruction has drawn the attention of more countries in the last few years, with experts working on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to steer biodiversity targets until 2030 and formulate an accountable global agreement equivalent to the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC.



Photo credit: UNCBD

The good news is, as of writing, COP15 was successfully closed with a new global agreement adopted by negotiators to halt and reverse the destruction of biodiversity. The new agreement, titled the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (named after the official host cities in China and Canada), consists of four goals and 23 targets. The core commitment is known as "30 by 30", i.e. to conserve at least 30 per cent of the world's land, water, coastal and marine areas by 2030, with another 30 per cent of degraded ecosystems to be restored. The agreement also targets to mobilise at least 200 billion USD annually from all public and private sources to safeguard nature actions and have developed countries provide financial assistance to developing countries at 30 billion USD annually by 2030. Business accountability will be strengthened as well. As mentioned in Target 15, governments are expected to take policies that enable businesses to regularly monitor, assess, and disclose their activity impacts on biodiversity. Businesses will gradually need to provide more information to consumers to promote sustainable consumption behaviour. They will also need to report on compliance with regulations to reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, and reduce biodiversity-related risks regarding their operations.

While there are concerns over the agreement including legally binding issues and African countries' worries over the financing mechanism, COP15 is seen as a major milestone forward to protect mankind and reverse biodiversity loss.

BEC EnviroSeries Conference





BEC held its flagship event BEC EnviroSeries Conference with the theme "Formulating Business Roadmaps Towards Net Zero" on 29 November in hybrid mode, attracting over 1,000 in-person and online participants including government representatives, business leaders, entrepreneurs, industry experts, academics and other interested participants from Hong Kong and abroad.

Making his opening address, BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien remarked, "The United Nations Climate Change Conference COP27, which has just come to a close in Egypt, reiterated the same unprecedented call for a climate-safe future and netzero transition as we have seen in previous and other international conferences related to climate change and net zero. With all the huge challenges ahead, it is essential for all business sectors to formulate their own roadmaps toward net zero so that all of us can play our roles to accelerate the change for a more sustainable future."

The audience enjoyed four compelling sessions on formulating business roadmaps towards net zero across various sectors: Innovation and Technology, Transport and Logistics, Construction and Properties, as well as Hospitality. The discussions revealed what practical steps are needed towards 2030, 2035 and 2050 to bridge ambition and action.





BEC Chairman Shares Views on ESG

BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien has recently been featured in a video interview focusing on ESG by the business platform CORPHUB. During the interview, Mr O'Brien shared his views on the importance of ESG, the challenges that corporates are facing, how corporates should tackle those challenges for long-term sustainability, and the urgency for collaborative climate actions.

Click here for the interview



arbonisation Along

the Value Chain

HKEX's ESG Academy

BEC Director – Operations Ir C.F. Leung was invited to speak at ESG Academy of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HKEX") on "Decarbonisation along the Value Chain" on 17 November. To promote sustainable packaging management for a net-zero city, Ir Leung shared about the Environmental Protection Department's sectoral "Practical Guide on Packaging Reduction & Management" and introduced how this guide could assist the trades and relevant stakeholders of different business sectors to avoid or reduce packaging consumption and to do packaging reporting. He also suggested leveraging this guide to engage with relevant departments within organisation.

Science in the Public Service 2022

BEC Head - Policy and Research Mr Merlin Lao was invited to speak in Science in the Public Service 2022 on 3 December. With the topic of "Sustainable Living in a Smart City", Mr Lao shared the work by HKSAR Government and BEC to transform Hong Kong into a smart city. He also introduced the report "Smart and Sustainable City Development: Hong Kong and International Experiences" published by BEC in July 2022, highlighting BEC's recommendations on the areas of environment, mobility, and technology for enabling Hong Kong to become a green, liveable and sustainable smart city.





BEC Industry Visit: Create Your Innovative & Sustainable Living – Innovation Hub Hong Kong

"BEC Industry Visit: Create Your Innovative & Sustainable Living – Innovation Hub Hong Kong" took place on 9 December. BEC Council Member Schneider Electric Hong Kong President Mr Jonathan Chiu welcomed all participants at the beginning and introduced the Innovation Hub. During the visit, participants learned more about how technologies and innovations help promote sustainability. BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng also thanked the Schneider Electric team for demonstrating various innovative solutions and products to the participants.

Click here for more photos



Eco Asia Conference 2022

BEC co-organised "Eco Asia Conference - Potential of Repair and Reuse in achieving a Circular Business Model" on 14 December during Eco Expo Asia 2022. BEC CEO Mr Simon Ng kicked the conference off with a welcome address, followed by presentations and discussions on how repair and reuse can be integrated into a more circular business model. Our Head - Policy and Research Mr Merlin Lao also moderated a panel discussion on "Industry Best Practices Sharing and How to Transform towards a More Circular Business Model?"



10 Years+ Member Appreciation Ceremony

BEC held its "10 Years+ Member Appreciation Ceremony" on 15 December to appreciate the support from 66 member companies who have joined BEC membership for 10 years or more and celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the organisation. BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien expressed his gratitude to all long-standing members for their continued support, which reflects strong commitment of BEC members to achieving environmental excellence.

Click here to learn more



BEC Seasonal Cocktail 2022





BEC Seasonal Cocktail 2022 was staged at our Exhibition Hall on 15 December. BEC Chairman Mr Kevin O'Brien expressed his heartfelt thanks to all our members and partners for their tremendous support to BEC over the past year.

This event brought down the curtain on BEC's 30th Anniversary. Looking forward, BEC will continue to facilitate dialogues between the business sector and the HKSAR Government in 2023, and strive to be our members' reliable partner as Hong Kong sets off its net-zero journey.

Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence 2022

As one of the organisers of the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence ("HKAEE"), BEC has a long-standing advisory role in developing assessment mechanisms to evaluate businesses' and organisations' efforts to achieve environmental excellence. Our inhouse experts advise participants on environmental improvements while assisting them to benchmark their environmental performance against their peers.

HKAEE is a highly credible environmental award. We cordially invite companies and organisations with a strong commitment to environmental protection and excellent environmental performance to apply for 2022 HKAEE. Applications are open until 15 January 2023!

Click here to learn more



CNNR Environ

UPCOMING EVENTS -M-

Post-COP27 Hong Kong Forum

12 January

The global business community articulated an important mindset shift throughout the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("COP27") in Sharm el-Sheikh of Egypt, from making pledges to deploying concrete action to decarbonise their business.

Co-hosted by BEC, Civic Exchange, and HKUST Institute for the Environment and Division of Environment and Sustainability, this event aims to provide a forum for Hong Kong's COP27 participants to share their observations with the Hong Kong business community and other key stakeholders. Specifically, this forum will focus on the latest development of the ISSB disclosure standard and transition pathway. Both topics have been discussed widely throughout COP27.

Click here for details & registration

BEC Spring Dinner 2023

2 February

BEC is hosting BEC Spring Dinner 2023 which offers an excellent opportunity for BEC Members and industry leaders to celebrate the Chinese New Year together. Come and join us in this celebration event to meet and network with other like-minded business executives and environmental experts in leading Hong Kong towards a net-zero carbon economy!

Click here for details & registration



BEC Institute of E

Training Programme

UPCOMING COURSES: BEC IEE TRAINING

The BEC Institute of Environmental Education ("BEC IEE") offers a variety of courses for business professionals, including senior executives and managers, to advance their knowledge and skill set. Click the course titles below for more details:

<u>Reporting on the Environmental</u> <u>Aspects of the HKEx ESG</u> <u>Reporting Guide</u>	6 February	(October 2022 – March 2023)
<u>Carbon Audit Step by Step</u>	8 February	
The Fundamentals of Corporate Sustainability	21 March	

Council Members

Chinachem Group and a local university signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") in December to strengthen research collaboration among industry, academia and research organisations to advance innovative solutions for sustainable development of the Greater Bay Area ("GBA"). This industry-academia partnership leverages Chinachem and the university's strength and experience in property and community development to create new technologies and systems to minimise carbon emissions and energy consumption in a next-generation data centre, investigate new types of intergenerational housing for future Hong Kong community settlements in the GBA, and experiment with blockchain technology to promote green economy. Under the MoU, the two parties will continue exploring cooperation opportunities in areas including support to start-ups and entrepreneurship, ESG strategy and measurement, and carbon neutrality.



Click here to learn more

Hang Lung Properties and a French luxury giant joined forces to co-create ESG solutions at the inaugural Real Estate & Climate Forum on 24-25 November, generating over 200 ideas for tackling real estate and retail sustainability challenges. The hybrid forum gathered about 200 participants from both groups and their partners across Hong Kong, Shanghai, Paris, and other cities. Among them, 96 changemakers represented a diverse mix of profiles, seniority levels, and areas of expertise from cross-sector, and collaborated on climate and sustainability solutions. Both groups will announce a Common Charter in the first quarter of 2023.

Click here to learn more

Henderson Land is pleased to announce its commitment to the Science Based Targets initiative ("SBTi") by setting emissions reduction targets grounded in climate science to support the Paris Agreement, which is aimed at keeping the rise in global temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and at pursuing efforts to further limit global warming to 1.5°C. Sustainability is at the heart of Henderson Land's business strategy. In an effort to combat climate change, the group has pledged to set Scope 1, 2 and 3 reduction targets on greenhouse gas emissions, echoing its 2030 Sustainability Vision. When developing the reduction targets, the group will conduct a comprehensive review of its major properties and construction activities in Hong Kong and mainland China. Click here to learn more

Shell offers a local hospital with a package of integrated energy solutions, including provision of Shell Biodiesel B5, installation of the first EV charging station at the hospital and deployment of the CO2 Offset Programme, to strengthen the hospital's sustainability measures in reaching carbon neutral target. This collaboration is highly in line with Shell's principle of carbon reduction - "Avoid, Reduce and Compensate". It is expected that the hospital will be able to offset a total of 1,717 tonnes of carbon emissions from the use of diesel in boilers through the CO2 Offset Programme in the next three years.





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.

Swire Properties is delighted to be ranked No. 4 globally out of the 500+ assessed real estate companies around the world and for the second consecutive year, No. 1 in Asia, in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index 2022. Under the "Environmental Dimension" category in the index, Swire Properties raised its score from third in 2021 to second globally in 2022. Swire Properties achieved an ESG score of 83 out of 100 in the 2022 S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment, demonstrating its exemplary performance in sustainability management.

Click here to learn more

The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited ("Towngas") is one of the first users to complete a carbon trade on Core Climate, the new international carbon marketplace initiated by Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited in November. The transaction involved a purchase of approximately 10,000 tonnes of Verified Carbon Units, generated from two wind energy and biomass emission reduction projects in China and India respectively, and certified by VERRA, an international registry of carbon emission reductions. The transaction marked a significant step forward in Towngas' efforts to drive the development of a carbon trading market and low-carbon economy in Hong Kong.

Click here to learn more

Click here to learn more

HK Electric has been encouraging people of all ages to support the city's carbon neutrality pledge. Recently, the company teamed up retirees and student ambassadors to receive training on various green topics, including climate change, energy efficiency and the smart use of resources through upcycling. The young and the senior also collaborated with a local environmental artist to create art pieces by turning trash into treasure. The artwork will be put on public display in 2023 to showcase the value of upcycling and promote saving resources for our planet.

Corporate Members

ATAL's Senior Business Development Manager Derek So spoke at the remarkable "AWS Industry Week Hong Kong" earlier, sharing how ATAL strives to "Drive Carbon Neutrality Forward with Big Data Analytics". Mr So shared modelling techniques comparison and elaborated how Physics-Guided Machine Learning ("PGML") Model could enhance data accuracy. As one of the first companies in the world to apply PGML in energy optimisation, ATAL has successfully overcome data-related issues. Leveraging Machine Learning during AI-based data processing and the development of equipment models, ATAL could identify optimal energy consumption to minimise carbon emissions, offering customers green and intelligent building solutions.

Click here to learn more

FUJIFILM Business Innovation Hong Kong Limited is proud to be awarded a Pioneering Organisation in Net-Zero Contribution - Achievement of Net-Zero at HKQAA Recognition Program 2022. The award is a recognition of the company's contribution to supporting Hong Kong's transformation towards carbon neutrality, undertaking actions in combating the climate crisis, and striving to share and reference other organisations' best practices to pursue continuous improvement. Having become a carbon neutral business since the fiscal year 2014 by investing in carbon offset projects that promoted renewable energy, the company endeavours to explore and invest in sustainable development and help companies to achieve ecofriendly offices.











Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited ("Hactl") has refurbished the staircases in its North Office Block of SuperTerminal 1. The staircase walls now display questions relating to various sustainability issues and trends, and their corresponding United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs"). The theme of questions changes regularly; all 17 SDGs including "Gender Equality", "Reduced Inequalities", and "Sustainable Cities and Communities", will be progressively covered throughout this project. Hactl's project, through its interactive graphics and thought-provoking messages, seeks to make staff more aware of serious issues. The company also hopes to encourage the staff to take the stairs and improve their health, in pursuit of the SDG of "Good Health and Well-being".

Click here to learn more

Arup has built an international dataset of whole life carbon ("WLC") emissions for buildings in design, calculating emissions for almost 1,000 projects across 30 nations and five continents using Zero, Arup's new software platform. This data allows the firm to estimate its "carbon handprint", quantifying the scale of emissions arising from its global building design project portfolio. The development of WLC data as a primary metric driving the decarbonisation of buildings is an urgent requirement and has the potential to play a crucial role in the global property sector's ability to achieve its net zero commitments. **Click here to learn more**

PwC conducted a study on ESG reports published by Hong Kong listed companies in 2021 to understand the compliance landscape and gaps in adoption of the ESG Reporting Guide [2021 Version]. Based on the analysis of study results, PwC highlighted suggestions on how to optimise ESG management and improving the quality of disclosure, aiming to facilitate listed companies to better practice sustainable development. Combined with data obtained from previous years, PwC generated insights into the status and trends of ESG reporting, identifying the best reporting practices and providing references for listed companies.

Click here to learn more

SGS Hong Kong Limited signed a MOU with fellow BEC member HSBC to jointly enhance understanding of green and sustainable finance and related services in Hong Kong by organising a series of training, webinars, industry outreach events, and knowledge exchange activities. The partnership will combine SGS's expertise in conducting external review for sustainable initiatives and HSBC's knowledge and capabilities in corporate finance to help businesses and individuals learn about the fast-evolving area of green finance. Companies and the general public can sign up for webinars where representatives of SGS and HSBC will discuss the latest green finance and sustainability concepts and topics.

Click here to learn more

Swire Coca-Cola HK ("SCCHK") is honoured to receive the Distinction Award at the Hong Kong Sustainability Award 2022, a recognition to the company's dedication in promoting innovative technology and sustainable initiatives for the industry. SCCHK's five-year business transformation programme has driven the company to realise many firsts and key milestones, such as the launch of the world's first Bonaqua® label-less bottled water for individual sale, and the relaunch of Returnable Glass Bottles beverage products. The company will continue to develop innovative product portfolios with sustainable packaging, while engaging its consumers and customers with integrated digital ecosystem.











Protecting biodiversity is a natural extension of WSP's commitment to mitigate climate change. To advance this goal, WSP has announced a donation of C\$700,000 to Canada's premier organisation in delivering tangible and permanent nature conservation. WSP's donation will fund three conservation initiatives over the next three years, which demonstrates the company's approach to giving back to our communities through the development of a more sustainable and equitable world. It is also aligned with WSP's business strategy and purpose: We exist to future-proof our cities and environments. Click here to learn more

General Members

Circular Economy (Hong Kong) was invited to give a presentation during the press conference of Eco Expo Asia on 8 December on its circular economy solution, which allows organisations, industries, and communities to analyse, explore and implement circular business models in a systemic manner. In a separate occasion, Harry Li, Founder of Circular Economy (Hong Kong), was invited to give a presentation on the development of ESG in Hong Kong to over 100 secondary school students in Hong Kong and Greater Bay Area.

To help create a green smart city with a low-carbon future, Cornerstone **Technologies** fully supports fellow BEC member CLP's Renewable Energy Label Scheme. The company has been awarded the Renewable Energy Label 2022 as a recognition for its support on renewable energy. Cornerstone will continue to apply the concept of sustainability with its innovative EV charging solutions to facilitate the popularisation of EV and application of renewable energy, echoing the government's goal of achieving carbon neutrality before 2050.

Elegance Financial Communications Limited ("EFC") embraces the capital market's ESG boom by successfully organising the first "ESG Reporting Seminar - Create the best impact for your business and the world". The forum invited five professionals with knowledge of corporate social responsibility from different fields to present their insights on the latest ESG trends. The panellists analysed the most recent ESG report performance and rating analysis of Hong Kong listed companies and discussed their opinions on the ESG report. They also shared their successful ESG strategies, outlook, before exploring the industry trends, and conversing with corporate management about opportunities created by the development of ESG regulations.

Energys Spectrum participated in Hong Kong International Outdoor and Tech Light Expo 2022 on 13-16 October to showcase its energy saving solutions with the latest IoT Solutions, and promote carbon emissions reduction. Mr Gary Wan, CEO of Energys Spectrum also conducted a seminar on Smart Lighting Solutions for a Sustainable Future during the Beyond Illumination – Smart Solutions for Energy Efficiency Seminar to share and exchange energy saving solutions with the participants.

Click here to learn more











New research from **GlobeScan** shows that society's progress on the Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs") is severely lacking, while at the same time Climate Action (Goal 13) is becoming increasingly urgent. To solve the climate crisis, sustainability experts point to increasing renewable energy as the most effective approach, which is also among the most viable solutions to implement at scale. Experts also say a lack of political will is the largest barrier to a just transition that equitably distributes the costs and benefits of addressing climate change.

Click here to learn more

To celebrate World Education Day in January, **Humans Matter** will organise a series of events that combines care, learning and collaboration to illustrate how to leverage cognitive science in learning to enable sustainable behavioural change. Join its Climate Fresk on 18 January and other innovative co-learning sessions from January to February to experience it first-hand! Click here to learn more

Intertek Hong Kong was recently invited to join a webinar themed "How SMEs Put Environmental, Social and Governance ('ESG') into Practice". In this webinar, Carbon and Energy Management Solutions Manager Tommy Cheung shared some latest updates of the international plans for carbon footprints & sustainability and some examples on how corporates can measure, calculate, and monitor environmental KPIs. Intertek's services range from solutions to address immediate environmental, social, and ethical compliance to the development of strategic portfolio initiatives, such as stakeholder engagement programs, sustainable supply chain management tools, reporting and assurance.

Click here to learn more

Leigh & Orange Limited ("L&O") is committed to building a sustainable future and has received several industry recognitions for its contributions to sustainable development. The InnoCell at Hong Kong Science Park is the first high-rise Modular Integrated Construction project in Hong Kong. This project has been nominated to represent Hong Kong at the World Green Building Council Asia Pacific Leadership in Green Building Awards 2022 and has been awarded the Leadership in Sustainable Design and Performance Award (Residential). In addition, L&O has been recognised as one of the top ten organisations to have achieved the most Green Building Awards, marking a milestone in L&O's ongoing aspirations in building a more sustainable future. As L&O continues in designing for a better tomorrow, these recognitions are testaments to L&O's commitment to creativity, sustainability and innovation in its projects.

In December, **Mayer Brown** published an article on the analysis of ESG practice disclosure ("Report") released by the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("SEHK"). The article highlighted the key findings of the Report with respect to Hong Kong issuers' record of compliance in the four areas of ESG practices under the ESG requirements implemented by the SEHK in July 2020, namely (i) board governance of ESG issues, (ii) climate change, (iii) social issues and (iv) reporting practices.

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Websites consume as much as 416.2 TWh of electricity per year, amounting to about 2% of global CO2 emissions, or roughly the same as the entire aviation industry. As a pioneer in the field of reducing website energy consumption, **PALO IT** has created its own tool to calculate the carbon footprint of various types of digital products to assist businesses in their sustainability journey.

Click here to learn more

Riskory was honoured to be the official Carbon Neutrality Event Partner and Sponsor of The Hong Kong Independent Non-Executive Directors Association Annual Conference 2022, providing technical support to organising its first carbonneutral event. The event was also Hong Kong's first large-scale carbon-neutral conference that uses Chinese Certified Emission Reduction/ Gold Standard/ Verified Carbon Standard/ United Nation Clean Development Mechanism carbon credits to offset its carbon footprint. The company will also assist BEC Affiliate Member the Chinese University of Hong Kong's Centre of Hospitality and Real Estate Research in organising their carbon-neutral conference in July 2023.

Click here to learn more

The municipal solid waste ("MSW") charging scheme in Hong Kong charges households and businesses for their waste - the more you waste, the higher you pay. Corporates, who often go through vast amounts of trash daily, should expect higher costs due to this law. **Spare-it** helps provide a method for reducing these costs. Its data platform engages employees through intelligent waste insights and data. Knowing the waste disposal patterns and trends can help minimise these additional costs from the MSW Charging scheme. Click here to learn more

The Harbour School ("THS") was invited to speak at the Asia-Pacific International Schools Conference on ESG for the K-12 education sector, sharing its best practices including the whole-school sustainability approach and publishing a GRI-referenced sustainability report. While the Ministry of Education in Singapore plans to work towards reducing net carbon emissions from the school sector by two-thirds - with at least 20% of SG schools to be carbon-neutral by 2030, THS advocates more actions could be done by the public and private sectors in Hong Kong to support K-12 schools, both technically and financially, in promoting sustainability education and operation.

Click here to learn more

Wang On Properties is delighted to announce its new sustainable property development project at 101-111 King's Road, Fortress Hill. The project is backed by a 3.5-year sustainability-linked loan ("SLL") of HK\$1,467.92 million from five major international and local banks, the second SLL Wang On has implemented to drive the development of green properties and achieve multiple sustainability performance targets. This monumental milestone demonstrates the group's dedication and commitment to promoting sustainable development in all its property development projects and investments.

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WELCOME NEW BEC MEMBERS

General Members

- Elegance Financial Communications Limited
- South Star Glass Limited
- Hong Kong Water Solution Limited
- Spare-it Limited



Join us now to enjoy member exclusive rights and benefits! We welcome organisations of all sizes across diverse sectors to facilitate environmental sustainability together. For more information about our membership programme, please visit **HERE** or contact **Membership Team (T. 2784 3924 | E. membership@bec.org.hk)**.

BEC SUPPORTED EVENTS 👰

- BOCHK Corporate Low-Carbon Environmental Leadership Awards 2022 | Federation of Hong Kong Industries | Now till August 2023
- "My Green Space" Student Competition 2022-23 | Hong Kong Green Building Council | Now till August 2023

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