

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Sustainability

Meeting No. 003/24 of the Committee on Environment and Sustainability for 2024 was held on Tuesday, 10 September 2024 at 2:30 pm in the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong and online via Microsoft Teams.

Present:	Clarence LEUNG	(CLWK)	Chairperson
	Anthony CHAN*	(AyC)	
	Victor CHEUNG	(VC)	
	HUANG Jianxiang	(HJX)	
	Rodney IP*	(RICW)	
	Kan JUN	(KJ)	
	Raymond KWOK	(RKWM)	
	Terence LAM*	(TmL)	Prin AS (Works) 5, Development Bureau
	Sunnie LAU*	(SLSY)	
	Tim LI*	(TMLW)	Ch Architect 3, Housing Department
	Kevin MA	(KMHM)	
	Rex WONG*	(RxW)	
	Andrew YOUNG*	(AYMC)	
In Attendance:	Raymond CHAN	(RC)	Adviser
	Alex HO	(AHKK)	Director – Industry Development

	Timothy LEUNG	(TLeung)	General Manager – Industry Development
	Chris LAU	(CL)	General Manager - Finance
	Eros LAM	(ELLT)	Manager – Management Support
	Margaret HO	(MHo)	Senior Manager – Environment and Sustainability (E&S)
	Max CHIN	(MChin)	Manager – E&S
	Ivan CHIU	(IChiu)	Manager – E&S
	Laraine CHAU	(LChau)	Assistant Manager – E&S
	Lynn CHENG	(LCheng)	Assistant Manager – E&S
	Jane LING	(JLing)	Senior Officer – E&S
	Ray CHAN	(RChan)	Senior Officer – E&S
	Susan LEE*	(SL)	Officer – E&S
Presenter:	Heidi HUI*		Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC)
	Ivy LEE*		HKGBC
	Paul SAT*		HKGBC
	Tim WONG*		Arup
	Gary LI		RESET Carbon
	Nelson TSUI		RESET Carbon
Apologies:	Thomas CHAN	(TCCT)	
	Irene CHENG	(ICW)	
	KWOK Hing-wun	(HWK)	

Henry NGAI (HNHS)

WU Siu-kei (WSK)

* Attended the meeting online via Microsoft Teams

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The Chairperson of Com-E&S welcomed Mr. Raymond Chan as the Adviser of the Committee.

3.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Members confirmed the minutes CIC/E&S/M/002/24 of the last Com-E&S meeting No. 002/24 held on Friday, 7 June 2024.

All to Note

3.2 Latest Updates of Accidents and Upcoming Safety Events

The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the Megabox's fire escape route, the CIC's latest safety publications/events, and messages from the CIC's Chairman.

All to Note

3.3 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the following matters:

(a) Item 2.2 – Proposal on the Green Data Hub

Members were informed that a previous engagement with the Hong Kong PropTech Alliance had been conducted, and further feedback will be collected.

Members were also updated that BEAM Society Limited (BSL) will provide the proposal within September 2024. It is targeted to submit the CIC R&D Fund application between September and November 2024. The R&D fund application assessment is tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2025.

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(b) Item 2.2 – Updates on the CIC Loyalty Program

Members were informed that the Internal Working Group of CIC Loyalty Program has formed and proposed collecting and analysing the user data from the CIC APP for the first six

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months following its launch. The CIC Secretariat will report the progress to Members in due course.

(c) Item 2.5 – Progress Updates on the CIC Smart Waste Management Tool

Members were informed that 17 projects have been registered on the tool, approaching the KPI for 2024. The Public Fill Committee has committed to referring 25 projects and several developers and contractors have pledged to adopt the tool in their upcoming projects.

The CIC Secretariat reported that discussions are ongoing with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) regarding the integration of the C-Easy Platform with the tool. Members will receive updates on this progress in due course.

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A consultant has been appointed for the second phase of development, which has recently commenced, and the Working Group has approved the initial deliverables.

Members were invited to refer any projects interested in adopting the tool to the CIC Secretariat.

(d) Item 1.4 – Proposal on a Feasibility Study on Construction Site Electrification and Clean Energy Adoption

Members were briefed that a consultant was awarded in June 2024 and the project commenced in August 2024. The consultant team has initiated the pre-engagement sessions and submitted the inception report to the Working Group for review and comment. The CIC Secretariat will update Members on the key deliverables in the future.

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3.4 Revision of 2025 Business Plan, Budget and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Revision of 2024 KPIs

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Members were informed that the budget for Com-E&S for 2025 has been reduced due to changes in the economic climate. They are informed of the details of the subsequent revision to the Business Plan, Budget allocation, and KPIs for 2025, which will be submitted for endorsement from the Executive Committee and approval from the Council.

The CIC Secretariat presented the status of the 2024 KPIs and the justification for the removal of the “Development of Green Data Hub” from the 2024 KPIs in view of the project's latest development and the revised CIC R&D Fund application schedule.

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Members endorsed the revision of 2024 KPIs as detailed in Paper CIC/E&S/P/012/24.

3.5 Progress Updates on Enhancement and Repositioning of the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme

Members were briefed on the details of the proposed consultancy study for the enhancement and repositioning of the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme (SFCS).

The CIC Secretariat presented the key findings of the initial stakeholder engagements with financial institutions for the SFCS. The RFP exercise is currently underway to engage a consultant for this study.

Members were concerned about whether SFCS could benefit small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) in the construction industry and suggested engaging with banks to facilitate SMEs' easier access to green financing. Members advised conducting market research to identify the market needs of SMEs regarding green finance and tailoring the SFCS for them.

The CIC Secretariat replied in the upcoming study further advice from banks shall be sought, and research shall be conducted to identify the SFCS's target clients.

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(Representatives of HKGBC joined the meeting at 15:08)

3.6 Progress Updates on HKGBC Projects funded by the CIC and funding request for 2025

Members were reported on the progress of the HKGBC projects funded by the CIC for 2024 and the revised funding request for 2025.

The CIC inquired about the effectiveness of stakeholder engagement in promoting the CIC Green Product Certification (the CIC GPC). The HKGBC responded that the CIC GPC has been effectively promoted through stakeholder engagement. For instance, The Hong Kong Housing Authority has agreed to include CIC GPC-certified ready-mixed concrete (RMC) in its general specifications for projects.

Members inquired about the number of the CIC GPC-certified RMC suppliers available for public works tendering. The HKGBC clarified that 13 suppliers in the market can supply the CIC GPC-certified RMC. Members supported the HKGBC in engaging the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) in adopting low-carbon ready-mixed concrete certified by the CIC GPC for public works.

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Members inquired about the future promotion plan of the CIC GPC scheme in the Greater Bay Area (GBA) in 2025. The HKGBC responded that they would collaborate with the CIC to promote the scheme in the GBA in 2025, with support from the CIC's Mainland Liaison Services (MLS) department.

Members inquired about the tendering status and the revised budget for the CIC GPC Enhancement Study in 2025. In response, the HKGBC clarified that enhancement study is now proposed to span three years instead of two, while the total funding request remain unchanged. The tendering exercise is scheduled to commence in the

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first half of 2025.

(Representatives of Arup joined the meeting at 15:30)

3.7 Progress Updates on the Enhancement Study on the CIC Green Product Certification

Members were reported on the progress updates on the enhancement study on the CIC GPC, including major changes in the new scheme, the overall programme and progress, and the launching arrangement.

Members expressed their expectations for a broader recognition and smooth transition of the CIC GPC enhancement.

HKGBC / Arup

(Representatives of HKGBC and Arup left the meeting at 15:39)

3.8 ★Progress Updates on CIC R&D Fund Project – Tailoring New-Generation Low-carbon Concrete for Green Construction: Engineering Applications towards Carbon Neutrality

The CIC Secretariat will invite the representatives from PolyU to report the key deliverables in due course.

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3.9 AOB

(Representatives of RESET Carbon joined the meeting at 15:57)

Technical Procurement Guideline by RESET Carbon / Hong Kong PropTech Alliance - Members were introduced to the Technical Procurement Guideline on Low Embodied Carbon Construction (the Guideline) by RESET Carbon, a carbon management consultant. The Guideline has been presented to the Hong Kong PropTech Alliance and will be published soon. Members of the Hong Kong PropTech Alliance will be invited to

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pledge to the adoption of the Guideline.

Members inquired about the coverage of Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) materials in the guideline. RESET Carbon acknowledged the importance of MEP materials and indicated plans to include MEP materials them in future revisions.

Members commented that the Guideline did not address decarbonisation target for private developers and suggested it should cover the technical and practical information of the green products. RESET Carbon responded more stakeholders would be engaged in future to address this concern.

Members inquired about the relationship between Hong Kong PropTech Alliance and RESET Carbon. The latter clarified that the Guideline was initiated by RESET Carbon independently and that they would like to work with Hong Kong PropTech Alliance for promotion of the Guideline through their platform.

(Representatives of RESET Carbon left the meeting at 16:35)

The CIC Secretariat reported on its contribution to the Guideline as “knowledge partner” only, including feedback on sections related to Carbon Assessment Tool and CIC GPC, and sought members’ view on the CIC’s role in this initiative. No adverse comments were received on CIC’ role as “knowledge partner”.

Members clarified that Hong Kong PropTech Alliance had not officially endorsed the Guideline and reminded that the CIC should prudently consider its role in the initiative.

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Members expressed concern that the Guideline complicates the project team structure by introducing the role of a project carbon leader. They also noted it overlooked the impact of design optimisation on decarbonisation, focusing only on the selection of low-carbon materials, which could mislead the industry. Members pointed out that the Guideline does not address the adoption of MiC

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products manufactured in mainland China.

Members also suggested localising the Guideline to facilitate the low-carbon procurement for high-rise buildings in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Circular Built Environment Guidebook - Members were briefed on the collaborative initiative of developing the Hong Kong Circular Built Environment Guidebook together with HKGBC, the Business Environment Council. The CIC will contribute to content on CIC initiatives related to circularity, call for submissions from the industry and nominate task force members.

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3.10 Tentative Date of Next Meeting No. 004/24

Next Meeting is scheduled for 28 November 2024 (Thursday), 3:30 pm, in the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road.

All to Note

**CIC Secretariat
September 2024**