CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Sustainability

Meeting No. 002/25 of the Committee on Environment and Sustainability for 2025 was held on Tuesday, 23 June 2025 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
	Terence LAM*	(TmL)	Development Bureau
	Gary HON*	(GyH)	Housing Department
	Anthony CHAN*	(AyC)	
	Thomas CHAN*	(TCCT)	
	Victor CHEUNG	(VC)	
	HUANG Jianxiang	(HJX)	
	Rodney IP*	(RICW)	
	KAN Jun	(KJ)	
	KWOK Hing-wun	(HWK)	
	Raymond KWOK	(RKWM)	
	Sunnie LAU*	(SLSY)	
	LEUNG Man-kit	(MKL)	
	Kevin MA	(KMHM)	
	Henry NGAI	(HNHS)	
	Rex WONG	(RxW)	
	WU Siu-kei	(WSK)	

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

	Andrew YOUNG*	(AYMC)	
In Attendance:	Raymond CHAN*	(RC)	Adviser
	CK WU	(CK)	General Manager – Industry Development
	Leo HIU	(HLH)	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
	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:	James WONG		Arcadis Consultancy Hong Kong Limited (Arcadis)
	Hadley LIU*		Arcadis
	Coco CHIN*		Arcadis
	Joanne NG*		Arcadis
	Sandy LI		CECEP Environmental Consulting Group Limited (CECEP)
	FU Weiwen		CECEP
	Ir Dr. Paul SAT		Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC)

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Heidi HUI HKGBC

Ivy LEE HKGBC

POON Chi-sun The Hong Kong Polytechnic

University (PolyU)

LU Jian-xin PolyU

Apologies: Tim LI (TMLW) Housing Department

^{*} Attended the meeting online via Microsoft Teams

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

2.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Chairperson welcomed Mr. LEUNG Man-kit and Mr CK Wu for joining the Com-E&S as member and Secretariat team respectively.

All to Note

Members confirmed minutes CIC/E&S/M/001/25 of the last Com-E&S meeting No. 001/25 held on Tuesday, 11 March 2025. No conflict of interests was reported from Members.

All to Note

Chairperson encouraged members to attend future Com-E&S meetings in person.

All to Note

2.2 Latest Updates of Accidents and Upcoming Safety Events

Members were briefed on the latest safety messages and events.

All to Note

2.3 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Members were updated on the following matters:

(a) <u>Item 1.4 – Progress Updates on Smart Waste Management</u> Tool (SWMT), Phase Two

Majority of members voted in favour of the platform name "MEx". CLWK suggest to suffix with CIC, i.e. "CIC MEx" to further emphasise the CIC brand name. The Secretariat will proceed the naming along that direction.

All to Note

(b) <u>Item 1.5 – Progress Updates on Feasibility Study on Construction Site Electrification and Clean Energy Adoption</u>

The Consultant, Arcadis will present the latest progress update and addressed members' suggestions raised in the previous meeting in the agenda item 2.7.

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

(c) <u>Item 1.7 – Progress Updates in CIC R&D Fund Project – Tailoring New-Generation Low-carbon Concrete for Green Construction: Engineering Applications towards Carbon Neutrality</u>

Referring to Members' suggestion to include a cost-benefit comparison analysis between the conventional material and the proposed low-carbon concrete, the research team will present the relevant findings and updates in the agenda item 2.10.

All to Note

(d) AOB item – Hang Seng Seminar

The CIC and Hang Seng Bank successfully held a seminar on green finance in May 2025, attracting over 75 attendees in person. Similar event in collaboration with other financial institutions would be considered in the future.

All to Note

(e) <u>AOB item – Hong Kong Circular Built Environment</u> Guidebook

The draft Guidebook is expected to be available in July 2025 and is targeted for launching at the Eco Expo Asia 2025 which will be staged in October 2025.

All to Note

2.4 HKGBC 2026 Funding Request and Progress Updates on HKGBC Funded Projects for 2025

(Representatives of HKGBC joined the meeting at 14:35)

Members were reported on the timeline, event theme, programme, promotion initiatives and budget allocation for the Hong Kong Green Building Week (HKGBW) 2025 and the Hong Kong Green Shop Alliance (HKGSA) 2025. Members suggested incorporating CIC's sustainability initiatives as elements into the HKGBW programme.

HKGBC

Members were briefed on the proposed projects and their respective KPIs for 2026 HKGBC funding request. The HKGBC has set the funding priority as follows: 1) Operation

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

of CIC Green Product Certification (CIC GPC) for year 2026; 2) HKGBW 2026; 3) HKGSA 2026; 4) Development of CIC GPC Accreditation and Standards for Low Carbon Materials/ Products Categories – Stage 4 & 5; 5) Hong Kong's Participation in World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2026 (WSBE26).

Members were informed that the virtual event of WSBE24 had a limited impact. Given the uncertainties regarding the presence of HKGBC and CIC at the 2026 physical event in Australia, as well as the significant resources required for participation — including project staff travel abroad — HKGBC has decided to assign WSBE26 the lowest priority among its proposed funding initiatives.

All to Note

Member suggested light participation in future WSBE events could be considered.

HKGBC

Members were reported on the application status of the CIC GPC 1.0 and updates on GPC 2.0 after Launching Ceremony held on 26 May 2025, including the timeline for the pilot run, training arrangement, promotion plan and engagement plan of the scheme 2.0.

All to Note

In particular, over 50 Express of Interest (EOI) were received for the pilot run. Training sessions for certified carbon auditors (CCA) and scheme verifiers (VVB) will be conducted to facilitate the new applications.

HKGBC

Members were informed that the GPC 2.0 website enhancement will be conducted and expected to be completed by November 2025.

All to Note

CLWK suggested that HKGBC shall make efforts to recruit more products beyond civil materials, making the scheme's products more balanced across different product families, especially for those categories with less than three certified **HKGBC**

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

products. He also emphasised the importance of timely response and maintaining smooth and effective communications with interested suppliers throughout the process.

Members were briefed on the proposed study for Stage 4a, 4b and Stage 5. Based on the lessons learnt from Stage 1 to 3, HKGBC suggested postponing Stages 4b to 5 – "Development of CIC GPC Accreditation and Standards for Low Carbon Materials/ Products Categories" to the year of 2026 and prioritising Stage 4a – "Green Material Demand and Supply Market Analysis" in 2025.

All to Note

Members were presented with the justifications for the KPIs set for CIC GPC in 2026, noting a decrease from 2025. HKGBC elaborated on the challenges in increasing the total number of licenses and suggested reviewing the KPIs and programme of Stage 4b to 5 by the newly formed Task Force and the CIC.

HKGBC / CIC Secretariat

Members inquired about HKGBC's strategy to attract more suppliers in each category of products since sufficient number of suppliers of products would be a crucial factor for DEVB's consideration of whether to incorporate CIC GPC into public works contracts. CLWK suggested establishing two sets of KPIs: one for civil products and another for non-civil products, as the nos. of civil products in particular RMC, might vary significantly with the construction market situation.

HKGBC

(Representatives of HKGBC left the meeting at 15:12)

2.5 E&S Business Plan and Budget for 2026

Members were briefed on the proposed E&S budget plan. The proposed projects for 2026 include the Global Construction

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2026, the Sustainable Construction Award 2026, the HKGBC projects and various E&S projects such as the operation and enhancement of several digital platforms.

CLWK commented that the Carbon Assessment Tool (CAT) platform is due for update and revamp. The current proposed budget might be insufficient to support a comprehensive revamp on CAT platform. Increase budget allocation should be considered.

CIC Secretariat

Members endorsed the Budget Plan for 2026 and agreed not to fund HKGBC's participation in WSBE26.

All to Note

2.6 Proposal of CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition (GCSFE) 2026

The Secretariat introduced the proposed theme and preliminary planning of the proposed GCSFE 2026, including organising the event in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), with the event period of 2-day for exhibition and conference plus 1-day for technical tour.

All to Note

Members expressed support to the proposal. CLWK encouraged the members to assist in recruiting the exhibitors for the event.

All to Note

2.7 Progress Updates on Feasibility Study on Construction Site Electrification and Clean Energy Adoption

(Representatives of Arcadis joined the meeting at 15:26)

Members were briefed on the objectives, methodology, work programme, key findings, and proposed promotion strategies and recommendations for the construction site electrification and clean energy adoption.

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

Members agreed that electrification represents a forward-looking and appropriate direction for the industry. Members expressed the need for the support and pre-planning from the Government and power companies, particularly for new development projects in the Northern Metropolis to adopt construction site electrification.

All to Note

The consultant, Arcadis will submit the draft reference material and draft final report within July 2025. Upon finalization of the report, CLWK suggested to provide a one-page action plan summary to facilitate effective communications and promotion to industry practitioners.

Arcadis

(Representatives of Arcadis left the meeting at 15:52)

2.8 Progress Updates on the Consultancy Study on Enhancement and Repositioning of the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme

Members were briefed on the background and objective of the repositioning and enhancement study.

All to Note

(Representatives of CECEP joined the meeting at 15:53)

Members were briefed on the latest findings of the study, including the limitations and challenges faced by the SFCS, evolving market trends, a comparative analysis with competing services such as HKQAA, the CIC's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in driving sustainable finance, and feedback from stakeholder engagement.

All to Note

The Consultant of the study, CECEP recommended several strategic directions, such as forming strategic partnerships with financial institutions, contributing to local standard development and enabling the industry and financial institutions through training, while termination of the scheme can be considered. Among which, strategic partnerships with

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

financial institutions on the CIC GPC are highly recommended for further exploration.

Members preliminarily suggested considering suspension instead of termination of the scheme. After further discussion, most Members supported terminating the scheme and reallocating the resources to other directions as advised by CECEP. CECEP was requested to further elaborate on the proposed strategic directions with more concrete details.

CIC Secretariat / CECEP

The Secretariat reported that there will be further follow-up on the three strategic directions through engagement with financial institutions, including a review of whether CIC could collaborate with banks to develop relevant programmes on CIC GPC. CIC Secretariat / CECEP

Members suggested the CIC to engage with banks to align the existing CIC's tools with green building assessment frameworks, such that CIC could support the development of green finance even without continuing the SFCS.

CIC Secretariat

(Representatives of CECEP left the meeting at 16:00)

2.9 Progress Updates on the Consultancy Study and Development on CIC Smart Waste Management Tool, Phase Two

The Secretariat reported that system security risks related to workflow and user access rights has been identified during development of Phase Two platform. The system is currently under review by CIC and the Consultant. The consultant will provide action plan for further review.

CIC Secretariat

CLWK remarked that while cybersecurity and mitigation of potential abuse of the platform are important, user-friendliness is also an important consideration for attracting users in order for the platform to be successful.

CIC Secretariat

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

The Secretariat reported about the dissatisfaction to consultant's deliverables on the timber study. The Secretariat will follow up with consultant to ensure the quality of the study.

CIC Secretariat

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

(Representatives of PolyU joined the meeting at 16:33)

Members were reported on the project progress and laboratory test results of the project.

All to Note

Members queried about the unusually high cement content used in the concrete comparison analysis. PolyU acknowledged the unusual mix and assured that they would further review the mix design to be more realistic to reflect the market practice. PolyU further stated that they would calculate the carbon reduction of the proposed materials against the CIC GPC benchmark.

CIC Secretariat / PolyU

(Representatives of PolyU left the meeting at 17:18)

2.11 **AOB**

Progress Updates on CIC SCA 2026 – The Secretariat reported that the SCA 2026 website vendor has been appointed. The website is targeted to be launched in phases, featuring the new assessment criteria and nomination kit.

All to Note

The Secretariat also introduced the proposed composition of the judging panels for both the Project Category and Industry Practitioners Category.

CIC/E&S/M/002/25

Action

The launching of SCA 2026 will be carried out at Construction Innovation Expo (CIExpo) 2025, with the application period starting in January 2026 and lasting for three months.

All to Note

CLWK invited Members to actively participate in the award and to encourage industry peers to take part.

All to Note

Joining the Signatory for Urban Land Institute (ULI)'s low carbon emissions steel initiative — Members were informed that ULI had invited the CIC as the supporting organisation to their initiatives to promote Low Carbon Emissions Steel adaption in Hong Kong and China.

All to Note

Members agreed to support this initiative, as it is a good opportunity to promote the CIC GPC and support the industry's low-carbon transition.

CIC Secretariat

CLWK propose a vote of thanks to Ms. Margaret HO and Mr. Ivan CHIU for their hard work and contribution to the Secretariat.

All to Note

2.12 Tentative Date of Next Meeting No. 003/25

Next Meeting is scheduled for 16 September 2025 (Tuesday), 2:30 pm, in the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road.

All to Note

CIC Secretariat June 2025