

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment

Meeting No. 002/22 of the Committee on Environment for 2022 was held on Tuesday, 21 June 2022 at 2:30 pm at the Board Room, Construction Industry Council Headquarters, 38/F COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Present:	Ivan FU	(FI)	Chairperson
	Anthony CHAN*	(AyCn)	
	CHAN Yiu-cheong	(YCC)	
	Marvin CHEN	(MCh)	
	Charles CHIU*	(CCK)	
	CHOW Chi-ping*	(CPC)	
	Thomas HO Kwok-kwan	(KnH)	
	Nicholas HO*	(NH)	
	KAN Jun	(KJ)	
	Stephen LAU*	(SyLU)	
	Marco LEE*	(ML)	
	Clarence LEUNG*	(CLWK)	
	Rachel LEUNG*	(RaLg)	
	WU Siu-kei	(WSK)	
	Andrew YOUNG	(AYMC)	
In Attendance:	Thomas HO*	(TH)	Chairman
	Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director
	Daniel SUEN	(DSuen)	Director - Industry Development

	Alex HO	(AHKK)	Assistant Director - Industry Development
	Margaret HO	(MHo)	Manager – Environment and Sustainability
	Max CHIN	(MChin)	Assistant Manager - Environment and Sustainability
	CHIU Wai-chung	(CChiu)	Senior Officer - Environment and Sustainability
	Jane LING	(JLing)	Senior Officer - Environment and Sustainability
Presenter:	Joe TANG*		Cundall Hong Kong Limited (Cundall)
	Edith YIU*		Cundall
	Hannah WONG*		Cundall
	Rainbow LEUNG*		Cundall
	Joy SONG*		China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group (CECEP)
	Eddie TSE*		Gammon Construction Limited (Gammon)
	Emma MALTBY*		Arcadis Consultancy Hong Kong Limited (Arcadis)
	Gabriella ZHANG*		Arcadis
	Yvonne MOK*		Arcadis
	Heidi HUI*		Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC)
	Ivy LEE*		HKGBC

Paul SAT*

HKGBC

Apologies: Clarice YU (YPM)

* attended the meeting online via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Action

Before the meeting, members were briefed on the major work of Com-ENV.

No declaration on conflict of interest was received from Members at the meeting.

2.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the comments from DEVB on the minutes of the last Com-ENV meeting No. 001/22 held on Tuesday, 22 March 2022. Clarification on some of the comments was summarised as follows:

1.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

CIC Green Product Certification Scheme (GPC)

DEVB suggested not to cover “MiC, MiMEP” under GPC at the moment as it might constraint the supply chain being developed given the MiC’s development was still at an early stage. As such, “MiC, MIMEP” would be deleted from the sentence “*To explore the feasibility of promoting MiC, MIMEP, energy saving systems, low carbon concrete in Hong Kong via the scheme,...*”

CIC Carbon Assessment Tool (CAT)

DEVB opined that the focus of construction industry in achieving the Hong Kong carbon neutrality target would be on building energy saving related carbon emission during operational stage, and hence suggested deleting the sentence “*Consultancy services may be engaged for detailed analysis when necessary*” in the second bullet point under this topic.

Greater Bay Area Zero Carbon Place (GBA ZCP)

FI clarified that since a separate proposal on the collaboration with GBA would be prepared, specific details could be developed in future proposal. The clause “*,including existing tools from the CIC on sustainable construction*” would be deleted in the minutes.

Action

Item 4.5 - CIC Carbon Assessment Tool (CAT)

The clause “*to prepare for the carbon neutrality roadmap*” would be deleted in the minutes to avoid misunderstanding on the relationship between CAT and the Hong Kong carbon neutrality target.

Upon clarification, members confirmed the minutes with amendments.

2.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the following matters:

Item 1.3 – CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme (SFCS)

Three new potential applications were noted. Seven engagement and experience-sharing sessions were arranged from March to June 2022.

The criteria for the early bird package have been relaxed. CIC Enhancement of the early-bird package was updated on the SFCS Secretariat website. Information such as the loan/guarantee size offered by the bank, once secured, would be disclosed on the SFCS website upon consent from applicant(s), with a view to attracting interest / attention from potential applicants and banks.

Corresponding to inquiry from Members on the integrity of assessor(s), amendments to the Assessor Application Form were made with an emphasis on the prohibition of solicitation and acceptance of advantages by staff in line with the advice from ICAC.

Third-Party verification was completed in June 2022 and opportunities for improvement were spotted.

Paper CIC/ENV/P/006/22 regarding the change in financial instruments’ terms was circulated to seek members’ approval on 9 CIC Secretariat

Action

June 2022, bearing the objective to widen the coverage of financial products under the SFCS. As at the time of the meeting, fourteen votes of approval were obtained whilst one member abstained from voting. The CIC Secretariat would follow up with Cundall for the change of term.

(Post-meeting note: A total of fifteen votes of approval from Com-ENV members were obtained shortly after the meeting.)

Item 1.4 – CIC R&D Fund Project – iBEAM Unison

Research agreement on the project between the CIC and BEAM Society Limited (BSL) was signed. The signing ceremony would be organised in July 2022.

Item 1.7 – Carbon Neutrality Roadmap Consultancy Study

Paper CIC/ENV/P/005/22 regarding the consultancy study on carbon neutrality roadmap for Hong Kong construction industry was circulated to seek members' approval on 9 June 2022. As at the time of the meeting, thirteen votes of approval were obtained whilst one member abstained from voting, with comments received from individual members.

(Post-meeting note: A total of fourteen votes of approval were obtained shortly after the meeting.)

DEVB provided consolidated comments before the meeting and reiterated in the meeting. DEVB was of the opinion that it was premature to proceed with the “Roadmap” study and instead recommended first to reviewing and quantifying the size of problem, roles of stakeholders, relationship of local Construction Industry with the carbon neutrality targets in the Hong Kong’s Climate Action Plan 2050 (CAP2050) (particularly on whether “embodied carbon” or only carbon emission during operation would be counted in the targets set by ENB/EPD). The international and in particular the Mainland requirements for the construction industry in achieving carbon neutrality targets should be made reference to.

Action

Adoption of high level strategic / policy term like “Roadmap” would be inappropriate for such review.

Members opined that embodied carbon should be considered in the consultancy study and a practical roadmap benchmarked against international standards should be developed.

TH opined that the study should also help the industry establish the important management tools and measures for achieving mid-term targets by 2035 and carbon neutrality by 2050.

The CIC Secretariat would follow up with FI on the comments of DEVB to facilitate early commencement of the consultancy study. CIC Secretariat

(Post-meeting note: A meeting on discussing the scope of the consultancy study between DEVB and the CIC was arranged on 6 July 2022. CIC was reminded to closely liaise with PSGO of DEVB for issues related to MiC, MiMEP or high productivity construction method, BEAM Plus, HKGBC, sustainability / low carbon / Green Product Certification, CIC Sustainable Construction Award, iBEAM, etc. prior to putting up related proposal in COM-ENV for discussion / approval.)

Suggestions from Members were received on the establishment of Working Group for the study, proposing the inclusion of major stakeholders such as policymakers and material suppliers. The CIC Secretariat would approach and invite suitable candidates to join the Working Group. CIC Secretariat

(Representatives of HKGBC joined the meeting at 3:43 pm)

Action

2.3 Detailed Business Plan and Budget for 2023

The CIC Secretariat presented the detailed business plan and budget for 2023.

The HKGBC representatives presented the five proposed projects and the corresponding KPIs, seeking funding from the CIC for 2023. The projects include the Hong Kong Green Building Week (HKGBW) 2023, Hong Kong Green Shop Alliance (HKGSA) 2023, World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2023 (WSBE23) and CIC Green Product Certification (GPC)'s new research initiative and operational cost. HKGBC also provided updates on the CIC-funded projects in 2022, including HKGBW 2022, HKGSA and GPC.

Members enquired if HKGBC would seek separate funding from HKGBC/ Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF) for CIC WSBE23. Members suggested CIC to review the funding support to Secretariat HKGBC initiatives from 2023 onwards since they account for a significant percentage of the E&S budget. The CIC Secretariat would provide supplementary information on HKGBC funding request 2023 to Members for further review and comments.

Members approved the Paper CIC/ENV/P/007/22, detailed business and budget plan for 2023. CTN would further review internally the allocation of budget among departments correspondingly.

(Representatives of HKGBC left the meeting at 4:08pm)

2.4 Progress Update on CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme (SFCS)

Members were briefed on the progress of phase 2 implementation of SFCS, including stakeholder engagement and experience-sharing sessions, assessor training, BEAM Plus integration and SFCS e-platform.

Action

CECEP reported on their engagement exercises that Financial Institutions, both from Hong Kong and Mainland, were interested in green finance, especially on the potential projects at GBA.

Cundall/

Members suggested Cundall and CECEP to explore opportunities on the collaboration with FIs, with promotion targeting at SME applicants and Mainland projects.

CECEP/

CIC

Secretariat

Members were briefed on the new phase proposal, which covers engagement with FIs, BEAM Plus integration and further engagement with developers/ contractors. Members agreed with the new phase proposal.

KnH enquired on the magnitude of Scheme Operator’s fee under the standalone post-lending fee. Supplementary information on the breakdown of Scheme Operator’s fee would be circulated for Members’ reference and consideration.

Cundall/

CIC

Secretariat

Upon deliberations, Members approved the Paper CIC/ENV/P/008/22 covering the phase 2 report and its substantial completion, standalone post-lending application fee and the release of stage payment to Cundall.

(Representatives of Cundall, CECEP and Gammon left the meeting at 5:04 pm)

2.5 Progress Update on Smart Waste Management Plug-in

Members were briefed on the update of the project plan and the progress including desktop review, site visits and stakeholder engagement sessions.

Members suggested Arcadis to define the target users of the plug-in, review the logistic workflow of the plug-in and compare it against the current practice, and evaluate the benefits to the end-users upon adoption of the plug-in.

Arcadis

Action

Members suggested Arcadis to conduct more site visits to Arcadis understand the practice of waste management on different building sites and seek views from contractor associations to facilitate the study.

Members approved the Paper CIC/ENV/P/009/22, including the inception report and revised project plan.

(Representatives of Arcadis left the meeting at 5:22 pm)

2.6 Progress Update on CIC Carbon Assessment Tool (CAT)

Members noted that the tendering documents of consultancy services on the enhancement of CAT were prepared, with project scope covering a preliminary analysis of the data collected via CAT, enhancement to functions in the user/administrator interfaces, and operational and maintenance services for the tool. CIC Secretariat

2.7 Tentative Date of Next Meeting No. 003/22

The next meeting would be held on 6 September 2022 (Tuesday) at 2:30 pm at Board Room, Construction Industry Council Headquarters, 38/F COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong. All to Note

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm.

**CIC Secretariat
June 2022**