

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment

Meeting No. 003/23 of the Committee on Environment for 2023 was held on Tuesday, 5 September 2023, at 2:30 pm at the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Present:	Ivan FU	(FI)	Chairperson
	Terence LAM*	(TmL)	
	Garret HONG*	(On behalf of Tim LI)	
	Irene CHENG*	(ICW)	
	Clarice YU*	(TCY)	
	Thomas HO Kwok-kwan	(KnH)	
	Charles CHIU*	(CCK)	
	Jiangxiang HUANG*	(HJX)	
	Clarence LEUNG	(CLWK)	
	Andrew YOUNG	(AYMC)	
	KAN Jun	(KJ)	
	Rex WONG*	(RxW)	
	WU Siu-kei	(WSK)	
	CHAN Yiu-cheong	(YCC)	
In Attendance:	Thomas HO	(TH)	CIC Chairman
	Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director
	Alex HO	(AHKK)	Director - Industry Development
	Timothy LEUNG	(TLeung)	Senior Manager – Construction Business Development

	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 – Mainland Liaison Services
	Jane LING	(JLing)	Senior Officer – E&S
	Ray CHAN	(RCKH)	Senior Officer – E&S
	Rainbow LO	(RLo)	Officer – E&S
Presenter:	Albert LEE		Ernst & Young Global Limited (EY)
	Philip CHEUNG		EY
	Heidi Hui*		Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC)
	Ivy Lee*		HKGBC
	Tim WONG*		Arup
	Tim LO		BEAM Society Limited (BSL)
	Freeman CHEUNG		Hong Kong Institute of Qualified Environmental Professionals (HKIQEP)
	Grace KWOK		HKIQEP
Apologies:	Tim LI	(TMLW)	
	Marvin CHEN	(MCh)	
	Nicholas HO	(NH)	

* Attended the meeting online via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

	<u>Action</u>
<p>No declaration of conflict of interest was received from Members at the meeting.</p>	<p>All to Note</p>
<p>3.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p>	
<p>Members confirmed the minutes CIC/ENV/M/002/23 of the last Com-ENV meeting No. 002/23 held on Tuesday, 6 June 2023.</p>	<p>All to Note</p>
<p>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</p>	
<p>The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the following matters:</p>	
<p><u>Item 2.3 – Progress Update on the Consultancy Services on Development of Strategy and Plan Directional Guideline for the Hong Kong Construction Industry Achieving Carbon Neutrality Target according to the Hong Kong’s Climate Action Plan 2050</u></p>	
<p>The CIC Secretariat reported that a meeting with HKGBC would be convened to explore the potential synergies and collaboration between the CIC’s carbon neutrality directional guideline and HKGBC’s Climate Action Framework. The second stage payment was released to CECEP.</p>	<p>CIC Secretariat</p>
<p><u>Item 2.4 – Progress Update on Smart Waste Management Tool</u></p>	
<p>The CIC Secretariat reported that the pilot programme would be expanded from five to ten projects, of which the details of the variation order would be reviewed under Item 3.3. The second stage payment was released to Arcadis.</p>	
<p><u>Item 2.5 – Progress Update on CIC R&D Fund Project - iBeam Unison</u></p>	
<p>The CIC Secretariat reported that a proposed change of scope of iBeam Unison was approved in the last Com-ENV meeting, and stakeholder engagement exercise would be conducted to address the change.</p>	

Action

Item 2.6 – 2024 Business Plan and Budget

The CIC Secretariat reported that the business plan was approved in the last Com-ENV meeting, but the 2024 KPI items were updated for discussion in the A.O.B. It was also reported that the HKGBC's funding request for 2024 was approved in the last Council Meeting in August.

Item 2.8 – A.O.B.

Progress Update on CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2023 (GCSF) and Sustainable Construction Award 2023

The CIC Secretariat reported that the contract for the Provision of Event Management and Production Services for GCSFE 2023 for CIC has been awarded following the approval in the last Com-ENV meeting and Council Meeting, and the event preparation commenced in June.

3.3 Progress Update on the CIC Smart Waste Management Tool

Members were briefed on the project's progress, including a study on the Environment Protection Department's C-Easy System and a subsequent system update of the Smart Waste Management Tool (SWMT) to ensure its compatibility with the EDP's system.

The CIC Secretariat reported that the pilot programme would be expanded from five to ten projects, covering a wide range of project types, including those which have adopted the EPD's C-Easy system. The pilot programme will be shortened to two months until the end of November 2023. The SWMT is targeted for launching by the end of 2023.

Members approved the Paper CIC/ENV/P/013/23 and the additional budget for the expansion of the pilot programme.

CIC
Secretariat

Action**3.4 Progress Update on the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme**

Members were briefed on the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the ESG Consortium to jointly promote ESG initiatives, including Green Finance and supporting SMEs' transformation. Members approved the proposed MoU with the ESG Consortium to jointly promote ESG initiatives but suggested further specifying the collaboration and follow-up actions with the ESG Consortium.

Members were updated on the progress of the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme (SFCS).

Members were also informed that Green Loan Principles (GLP) and Sustainability-Linked Loan Principles (SLLP) were updated in April 2023, therefore it is suggested that SFCS should be updated accordingly.

The CIC Secretariat introduced a discussion paper titled "Prototype of a Green Classification Framework for Hong Kong" issued by HKMA, covering the construction of new buildings and renovation of buildings. This classification framework would provide guidance for financial institutes to define and measure sustainable initiatives, and to make their sustainable investment decisions accordingly. The construction & building management and infrastructure might be covered in the next round of consultation.

Members suggested that the CIC Secretariat actively participates in the consultation process of the HKMA's classification framework, and the Working Group should further discuss the positioning and implementation strategy of the SCFS to keep it abreast of the market situation.

(Representatives of EY joined the meeting at 2:58 pm)

Action

3.5 Progress Update on the Sustainability Report for the CIC

Members were briefed on the scope of the consultancy services for the Sustainability Report for the CIC, the project plan and current status, recommendations from the benchmarking exercise and gap analysis against the disclosure requirements of HKEX and GRI.

EY proposed modification of the consultancy services regarding the publication time of the Sustainability Report for the Years 2022 and 2023 to avoid conflict with high-priority events.

Members suggested EY adding more organisations of similar scales in the peer benchmarking exercise. EY

Members suggested that the CIC Secretariat should have flexibility and objectives to decide the publication time of the Sustainability Report and disclosure reference standards to be adopted as deemed appropriate. CIC Secretariat

(Representatives of EY left the meeting at 3:19 pm)

3.6 Any Other Business

Progress Update on CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2023 and Sustainable Construction Award

The CIC Secretariat reported the progress on the CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition (GCSFE) 2023, including updates on speakers, luncheons, dinners, charters, gala dinner performance, exhibition, and design items.

Members suggested displaying an upcycled art piece at the Forum venue, and inviting some charter pledgees to take a group photo with the Financial Secretary on stage. CIC Secretariat

Action

(Representatives of HKGBC and Arup joined the meeting at 3:39 pm)

Progress Update on the HKGBC Projects funded by the CIC

Members were updated on the progress of CIC-funded HKGBC projects, including Hong Kong Green Week 2023, Hong Kong Green Shop Alliance, CIC Green Product Certification (GPC) operations, and application status updates.

Arup, the consultant engaged by HKGBC, presented the latest status on the GPC scheme enhancement study to identify opportunities for improving the quality and competitiveness of the scheme.

Members suggested HKGBC inviting experts from the material manufacturing sector to join the steering committee group, including upcycled/recycled materials and exploring the possibility of material upcycling to facilitate the implementation of material circularity. HKGBC

(Representatives of HKGBC and Arup left the meeting at 3:54 pm)

(Representatives of BSL joined the meeting at 3:55 pm)

Proposal on Green Data Hub

BEAM Society Limited (BSL) reported an interim report on the Green Data Hub proposal, which aims to establish a single digital platform in trust to store reliable data related to carbon emissions and other environmental performance aspects, covering the entire lifecycle from the construction stage to building operation.

Action

Members initially suggested that the Green Data Hub should be owned by the CIC instead of BSL after the development. However, further discussions should be conducted regarding the positioning, ownership, development, maintenance, finance matters and data management at a later stage.

BSL/
CIC
Secretariat

(Representatives of BSL left the meeting at 4:07 pm)

Progress Update on the CIC Carbon Assessment Tool

Members were briefed on the CIC Carbon Assessment Tool (CAT) enhancement project, which included three significant updates, namely (1) improving user-friendliness and data reliability, (2) enhancing the efficiency of material searching and comparison, and (3) expanding the construction material database from approximately 900 pieces of data to over 2,000.

Progress Update on 2023 Business Plan & Review of 2024 KPIs

Members were reported progress updates on 2023 Com-ENV business plan, including the latest status for each project under Com-ENV.

CIC
Secretariat

The CIC Secretariat presented the modified 2024 business plan, with key performance indicators (KPIs) and the timeline.

Regarding Carbon Neutrality for Construction Industry – Study on Site Electrification, Members suggested the CIC Secretariat prioritising actions based on workability and readiness of market supply, and exploring a more realistic approach to decarbonisation, such as material selection and the adoption of green fuel energy.

CIC
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Members suggested that the Circular Economy Building project should be funded by the Board of CIC-Zero Carbon Park, and the Com-ENV Committee should provide technical advice.

CIC
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Action

Brainstorming Session – CIC’s ESG Initiatives

Members were introduced regarding ESG incentive schemes currently available in the market.

Members opined that while the CIC and Com-ENV have already launched many good initiatives which are all related to different aspects of ESG, it would be good to have some promotion efforts to reach out to the industry practitioners.

CIC
Secretariat

Members suggested that the sustainability reporting exercise conducted by consultant EY is a good opportunity for CIC to identify and formulate CIC’s ESG strategy, framework and direction, to facilitate the CIC to brand its existing efforts and devise promotional initiatives accordingly to engage industry practitioners. The Com-ENV Secretariat will work with EY according to the timeline of the sustainability reporting exercise.

CIC
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(Representatives of HKIQEP joined the meeting at 4:51 pm)

HKIQEP Legislation

Representatives of the Hong Kong Institute of Qualified Environmental Professionals (HKIQEP) were introduced their Institute and the proposed submission of Private Member Bill to the Legislative Council for the incorporation of the Institute.

Members expressed their support for it.

(Representatives of BSL left the meeting at 5:17 pm)

Tentative Date of Next Meeting No. 004/23

The next meeting will be held on 8 December (Friday) at 9:30 am in Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.

All to
Note

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CIC/ENV/M/003/23

**CIC Secretariat
September 2023**