The 4th Sustainable Development Forum & Eco Asia Conference –
SDGs Implementation & Brighter Future Concludes Successfully

The 4th Sustainable Development Forum and Eco Asia Conference – Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and Brighter Future (the "Forum) was held successfully on 23rd November (Monday). Co-organized by the Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development (the "Institute"), The Hong Kong UNESCO Hong Kong Association (the "Association"), and The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), the event attracted nearly 500 participants in various forms of webinar, online streaming and panel discussion. The Forum this year was supported by World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), World Institute of Sustainable Development Planners (WISDP), China Association of Circular Economy (China CACE), Mainland Hongkong Macau Economy & Trade Promotion Association, Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China, Hong Kong Professionals (Beijing) Association, and Center for Responsibility and Social Value, The Peking University.

SDGs Implementation & Brighter Future

23 / 11 / 2020 (Monday)

10:30am – 12:30pm (GMT+8)

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. This debut cooperation with UNESCO Hong Kong Association and Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development will invite heavy-weighted speakers to share how corporates implement the SDGs, the sustainability and certification scheme, and the balance of innovative technology and sustainable development.

Co-organisers:

Supporting Organisations:

Moderator:

Prof Daniel Leung,
Professor of Practice,
Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development

Speakers:

Prof Karen Q. Cheung,
Executive President,
UNESCO HK Association;
Director of HiESD

Mr James Gomme,
Director,
Sustainable Development Goals,
World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Mr Albert H.K. Wong,
CEO,
Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation

Ir S.X. Guan,
Deputy Secretary-General,
China Association of Circular Economy

Ir C.S. Ho,
Chairman,
Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency

Mr Hendrik Rosenthal,
Director - Group Sustainability,
CLP Group

Mr Banting Sze,
CEO,
Freetech Road Recycling Technology (Holdings) Co. Ltd

Mr Albert Lam,
CEO,
Novelte Robotics Limited

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Hosted by Professor Daniel Leung and Professor Wilson Chan, who are both Professors of Practice in the Institute, the Forum started with a **welcoming speech** given by Miss Sophia Chong, the Assistant Executive Director of HKTDC on behalf of the organizers, followed by an **opening remark** delivered by Professor Karen Q. Cheung, the Acting President of UNESCO HK Association, the Director of Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development. On the theme of SDGs Implementation and Brighter Future, International, national, and local heavyweight leaders from various industries, experts and scholars were invited to address **keynote speeches**, such as Mr. James Gomme, the Director of Sustainable Development Goals from WBCSD, Mr. Albert Wong, the CEO from the Hong Kong Science & Technology Parks Corporation, Ir. S.X. Guan, the Deputy Secretary-General from China CACE, Ir. C.S. Ho, the Chairman from Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency, and Professor Wang Liyan, Officer at the Center for Responsibility and Social Value, Guanghua School of Management, The Peking University. In addition, Mr. Hendrik Rosenthal, the Director of Group Sustainability from CLP Group, Mr. Anson Lim, the CFO of Freetech Road Recycling Technology (Holdings) Co. Ltd., and Mr. Albert Lam, the CEO of Novelte Robotics Limited, had a group discussion on **corporate implementation of technological innovation and SDGs, and** representatives from Fuzhou Wisdom Network Technology Co., Ltd. from Singapore, Soociedade de Jogos de Macau, S.A. from Macau, and Sealtech.com Aviation Seals Mfg. Ltd. from Hong Kong, shared the secret of success regarding corporate participation in the certification of **'Certified Sustainable Development Corporation' (CSDC) and the effectiveness of its promotion**. In the **panel discussion** session following, Professor Gryphon Sou, the provost of the Institute, Mr. Edmond Fung, the General Manager of Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency, Mr. Angus Yip, an Adjunct Associate Professor in Hong Kong University School of Professional and Continuing Education, Dr. Wong Chi Mei, the Deputy General Secretary of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions Occupational Retraining Centre, Dr. Aaron Tong, the Principle Consultant of TQM Consultants Co. Limited, designated institution for continuing education by Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, introduced **'Certified Sustainable Development Planner' (CSDP) and related programmes** respectively, while indicating how to become a successful CSDP. Lastly, **certificates were presented** to CSDPs and CSDCs, along with **the release of A Compilation of Selected Sustainable Development Planning Reports 2020**.

"The Sustainable Development Goals have brought clear and definite help to enterprises in expanding business opportunities, attracting talents, expanding cooperation, gaining capital and social trust. "Professional training, promoting cooperative governance, big data and innovation" are the three pillars for us to encourage corporates effectively to strive for the SDGs." mentioned in the **opening remark** by Professor Karen Q. Cheung.

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ONLINE
ECO ASIA CONFERENCE 亞洲環保會議
SDGs Implementation & Brighter Future
可持續發展目標實施和更美好的未來
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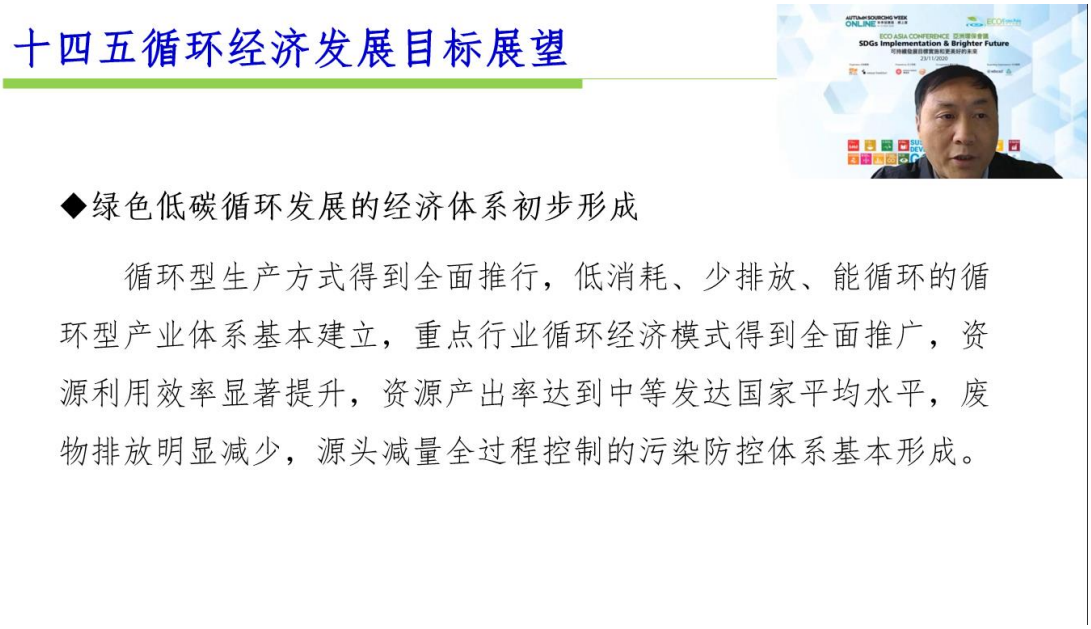
Mr. James Gomme believes business enterprises are essential in propelling SDGs. The way of agreeing corporate development and achieving SDGs is very important, in the sense that corporates work towards the SDGs proactively through strategic integration, business expanding, risk management, effective execution and the obtainment of assets and social trust.

Mr. Albert Wong has stated that the HK Science Park, as a base for innovation culture cultivation, helps corporates face the hardship and challenges brought by new technologies and old modality, and experience the new paradigm with the integration of business and the environment in the community.

Ir. S.X. Guan has explained that circular economy is a generic term referring to reducing, refusing, and recycling activities in the process of production, circulation and consumption. The target and prospect of circular economy development stated in the 14th Five-Year Plan includes the preliminary formulation of an economic system for green and low-carbon circulation development, the basic construction of a strategic protection system for new resources, and the basic building of a green lifestyle.



Ir. C.S. Ho has mentioned that the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) is a professional institute established by the HKSAR Government with the commitment of assisting in the quality of industrial and commercial development, as well as environment, safety, health, social and special management systems. Green finance is a crucial tool for our country to boost economic development and regional cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the "Belt and Road". The Green Finance Certification Scheme launched in Hong Kong will be helpful in discovering business potential of the market of green finance in the financial sector and promote environmentally friendly investments, so as to create a sustainable future.

Professor Wang Liyan delivered a speech entitled "From Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG): new challenge?". Professor Wang pointed out the CSR report and the ESD report are non-financial reports. He explained different practices of non-financial report promotion along with case studies and analysis of various enterprises. He also mentioned the value of the report depends on the contents and credibility, which requires an independent third party to secure.

Mr. Hendrik Rosenthal, **Mr. Anson Lim**, and **Mr. Albert Lam** had a group discussion on **corporate implementation of technological innovation and SDGs**.

Representatives of Fuzhou Wisdom Network Technology Co., Ltd. from Singapore, Soociedade de Jogos de Macau, S.A. from Macau, and Sealtech.com Aviation Seals Mfg. Ltd. from Hong Kong, shared the secret of success regarding corporates participation in the certification **of 'Certified Sustainable Development Corporate' (CSDC) and the effectiveness of its promotion**. The World Institute of Sustainable Development Planners (WISDP) has done the verification as an independent third party through corporate

application to recognize and propagandize corporates' effectiveness in promoting SDGs to society, including progress on strategic planning, corporate policies and cultures, as well as business operation and effectiveness, which plays a modeling and leading role in the region and among industries to help corporates expand business opportunities, attract talents, build partnership, and gain assets and social trust.

Professor Gryphon Sou, **Mr. Edmond Fung**, **Mr. Angus Yip**, **Dr. Wong Chi Mei** and **Dr. Aaron Tong** shared how to become a 'Certified Sustainable Development Planner' (CSDP) by studying programmes in alignment with **HKQF level 3-level 6** in the perspectives of programme structures and positioning, foundation certification, diploma certification, and continuous education. The introduction provided an overview how students may **admit to different programmes which qualify**. CSDP certification is a certification granted by WISDP to professionals who meet the educational standards in terms of knowledge, capability, skills and culture, with working experience related to sustainable developing planning, and the ability and profession of integrating SDGs into work and industry. WISDP attracts talents from different industries, and is a leading think tank in the region and among industries to propel SDGs.

Professor Karen Q. Cheung presented certificates and trophies to CSDPs and CSDCs.

Professor Karen Q. Cheung released **A Compilation of Selected Sustainable Development Planning Reports 2020**, which begins with The Regional Report of Propelling Sustainable Development Goals , the biennial report submitted to the UN Global Compact by the UNESCO HK Association and the Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development in April, 2020. According to the Report, "propelling sustainable development planning and governance" among corporates is the blueprint of implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Corporate Action Guide published by the UN Global

Compact. The Report also publishes The Value of Planning Is Sustainability – Reflecting on the 14th Five-Year Plan in Coastal Cities written by **Professor Zhu Ronglin**, Regional Planning Consultant of the National Development and Reform Commission and the Chair Professor of the Institute. In the article, Professor Zhu reflects, analyzes and makes suggestions in terms of “planning pathway” and “technical pathway” . The Compilation also publishes practical CSDPs’ planning reports in different fields, such as environmental protection, fashion, real estate management, and green supply chain planning from the perspective of occupational safety and health, in order to improve cooperation and governance with business mediation. Building mediation culture has to be started from education. Hong Kong as an international business and cultural exchange hub for China and western countries, mediation enjoys unique advantages in serving the mainland and overseas businesses, which is effective in promoting SDGs 4, 16 and 17.

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, and the 5th year of the UN propelling the SDGs. Under the influence of the global epidemic, it can be seen in The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2020 published by the UN that implementation of SDGs worldwide lags far behind the expected schedule. In the midst of uncertainties and innovative technologies breaking through the old models, we need to make greater effort to integrate SDGs into our personal and corporate planning.

Think sustainably, act sustainably, together we could pave a brighter future for all!

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