



**Hong Kong Report
for
ARCASIA Committee on
Green and Sustainable Architecture
Meeting in 2019**

5 November 2019

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

Environment and Sustainable Development Committee of HKIA

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) set up the Environment and Sustainable Development Committee under the Board of Local Affairs in 1998. The Committee strives to promote sustainable architecture to the public and external organizations, in particular on the role of architects in contributing to sustainable building design; to advise the Council and Board of Local Affairs on sustainability matters; and to collaborate with local building industry, including Professional Green Building Council (PGBC) and Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC), as well as overseas counterparts. Currently there are 22 Committee members dedicated to pursuit the above goals.

1.0 Pillar 1 : Heritage / Vernacular

1.1 Co-Vitalize Our Heritage - Public Engagement Project on Built Heritage Conservation

Co-Vitalize Our Heritage is a series of activities and events aimed at strengthening community awareness, mobilizing stakeholders, enhancing participation and involving young forces within the wider heritage conservation community, with a focus on the role of architecture in adaptive reuse projects. It is a public engagement project funded by Built Heritage Conservation Fund of Development Bureau of HKSAR. The project comprises 4 event categories, namely Co-Design with Architects, Co-Crafts with Masters, Co-Create with Students, Co-Tour with Docents. The project was launched on 16 March 2019 and successfully closed on 26 October 2019.

Please refer to official website and Facebook for project details and media coverage :

Official website : <http://hkia-covitalize.hk/tc>

Facenbok : <https://www.facebook.com/CoVitalizeOurHeritage/>



2.0 Pillar 2 : New Urban Agenda

2.1 Green Book Principles and Rating Tools

2.1.1 Building Environmental Assessment Method (BEAM)

Building Environmental Assessment Method (BEAM) – BEAM Plus is the assessment tool developed and implemented by BEAM Society Limited for assessment of green buildings. BEAM Plus covers the series of BEAM Plus New Buildings, BEAM Plus Existing Buildings, BEAM Plus Interiors, and BEAM Plus Neighbourhood caters to the diverse needs of stakeholders of Hong Kong. BEAM Plus of Hong Kong is tailor-made for the high-rise, high density built environment of sub-tropical climate in Hong Kong, which embraces a range of good practices in planning, design, construction, management, operation and maintenance of building, and is aligned with local regulations, standards and codes of practice. BEAM Society Limited is the body to administer and develop the BEAM Plus assessment tools, and to build capacity in the community through education and training to advance health and well-being.

Appreciated by the Hong Kong Government and other stakeholders, BEAM assessment and certification provide building users with a single performance label that demonstrate the overall quality of a building. A qualified BEAM green building should be aimed at sustainability, providing a safer, healthier, more comfortable, more functional and more efficient living or working environment.

The BEAM Plus New Buildings version 2.0 was launched on 5 September 2019. HKIA contributed written comment in April 2019 and has held seminar in for exchange of views between HKIA members and the BEAM Society in July 2019.

HKIA members have been serving on the Board of Directors, Committees as well as BEAM Expert Panel of BEAM Society Ltd, and also the Steering Committees and Working Groups formed under BEAM Society for the formulation and revamp of BEAM Plus assessment tools.



2.1.2 BEAM Professional and BEAM Assessor

HKIA members possess the qualifications for being BEAM Professional (BEAM Pro) and BEAM Assessor (BAS). BEAM Pro are green building professionals accredited by the HKGBC in various aspects of the entire green building life cycle. A key role of BEAM Pro is to integrate the latest green building standards and practices into everyday building planning, design, construction and operation. In a typical engagement, BEAM Pro are embedded in project teams; and will be responsible for advising the project team on how to attain the client's desired green building rating level. To ensure openness and fairness of the assessment, BEAM Plus requires a pool of professional BAS to be recruited from the industry to undertake the building assessment on behalf of HKGBC.

2.1.3 Consultancy Study on Review of Mechanism for Encouraging a Quality Built Environment through GFA Concession

In support of the Hong Kong Government's quality built environment policy, Buildings Department of Hong Kong Government is carrying out a consultancy study to review the current mechanism for granting gross floor area concession to further promote green building since February 2018. In this review, it would consider tightening the prerequisite by requiring a development project to attain specific standards of performance in environmental protection, or even adopt performance-based and site-specific approaches to determine the maximum GFA concession. The consultancy study is currently in progress.

HKIA plays a proactive role in conveying views and comments on the subject to the government and the consultants in beginning stage of the consultancy and would partner with the consultants in sharing views and information concerning the consultancy study.

2.2 Promotion of Architectural Excellence and Architectural Sustainability

2.2.1 HKIA Annual Awards

The HKIA Annual Awards & Exhibitions aim at fostering an appreciation for buildings which have been designed by members of HKIA and have achieved architectural excellence that deserve professional acknowledgement and public awareness. HKIA has been holding HKIA Annual Awards in the past decades, with a view to promoting excellence of design in architecture which contributes significantly to the built environment in and outside Hong Kong.

Each project nominated for the various award categories of HKIA Annual Awards would provide a statement to give a full account on the sustainability details of the project, so as to not only promoting design excellence in architecture but also outstanding performance and contributions in sustainability and the built environment of Hong Kong. There is also a Special Architectural Award – Architectural Sustainability to promote distinctive sustainable design in function and building design. The results of HKIA Annual Awards 2018/2019 was announced on 28 October 2019.



2.2.2 ARCASIA Awards for Architecture

ARCASIA Awards for Architecture acknowledges exemplary work done by architects working in Asia and encourages the sustenance of the Asia spirit, the development and improvement of Asian built environment and enhancement of the awareness of the role of architecture and architects in the socio-economic and cultural life of Asian countries. The objectives of the Award align with one the missions of HKIA in promoting architectural excellence. HKIA has been supporting the ARCASIA Architecture Awards since



the first Award held in 1992 by promoting and encouraging our general members and registered practices to nominate projects for AAA to showcase the works of Hong Kong architects.

2.2.3 ARCASIA Committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture

HKIA is a Member of ARCASIA as well as ARCASIA Committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture. HKIA has been actively participating in the Committee meetings and projects. HKIA made two submissions for each of its projects including Green AsiARCH exhibition as well as the publication on vernacular wisdom.

2.2.4 Green AsiARCH 2019

Green AsiARCH 2019 is the exhibition organized by ARCASIA Committee on Green and Sustainable Architecture to showcase the green and sustainable practice of architecture in Asia. Each member organizations are invited to nominate two projects which are commendable in terms of energy efficiency and sustainability. Hong Kong nominated 2 entries for showcasing at the forthcoming Green AsiARCH 2019 Exhibition to be held during the ARCASIA Forum 20 to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in November 2019. The two projects nominated by HKIA include T-Park in Hong Kong and 18 King Wah Road.

2.2.5 Eco Expo Asia 2019

Eco Expo Asia is an international trading platform showcasing the latest innovations in environmental protection industries from around the world. Areas of specialty covered at the fair include Air & Water Quality, Eco-friendly Product, Energy Efficiency & Energy, Green Building as well as Waste Management and Recycling. HKIA has been supporting organizations of this international green products trade fair. Eco Expo Asia 2019 will be the 13th one in the same series organized by Environment Bureau and Hong Kong Trade Development Council.



HKIA has staged an exhibition booth in the Expo, showing the entry projects of Special Architectural Award – Architectural Sustainability of HKIA Annual Awards 2018-2019 at AsiaWorld Expo, Lantau, Hong Kong between 30 October and 2 November 2019.



2.2.6 UIA Commission on UN Sustainable Development Goals

HKIA was appointed by the International Union of Architects (UIA) to be a members of the UIA Commission on UN Sustainable Development Goals for the term of office in 2017-2020.

Following the UIA General Assembly in Seoul in September 2017, a new permanent UIA Commission has been established to deal with sustainability,

based on the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This UIA Commission on the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will focus on the response of architects to each of the 17 goals in the form of policy statements, examples of projects that solve the problems, the visible and active presence of UIA at the COPs and other important UN meetings or discussions wherever they are in the world, influencing the decision-making bodies about the importance of architecture in the shaping of well-functioning sustainable societies of 2030, the establishment of a platform for exchange of existing knowledge and experience for members of the UIA, the communication by using all available means of the UIA to promulgate the policy statements of the architects.

To promote the UN SDGs to the building industry in Hong Kong, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee of HKIA and PGBC jointly organized a CPD seminar and workshop to have an account of the UN SDGs followed by sharing of views on application of the SDGs in the workshop by multi-disciplinary professionals from PGBC on 9 July 2019.

HKIA is also supportive to the initiative of the UIA Commission in submitting sustainable building projects for presentation in the second edition of the SDG Architecture Guide Book.

2.2.7 Hong Kong Delegation to World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2020



Environment and Sustainable Development Committee of HKIA is organizing a study tour to Sweden for HKIA members to visit sustainable building projects and counterparts as well as to

participate in the WSBE 2020 Gothenburg. The tour is scheduled for end of May 2019 to early June before the WSBE 2020 to be held on 9-11 June 2020.

Hong Kong's participation in the world sustainable built environment conference series has been a joint collaboration of the industry and the government under Development Bureau since 2008. This momentum would be sustained with continuous government leadership and industry participation to further pursue the world agenda on climate change.

The conference theme BEYOND 2020 will focus on creating clear links between the most relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the built environment. Central to our discussion will be achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 11, Sustainable cities and communities by the 2030 deadline.

2.2.8 Green Building Award 2019

PGBC and HKGBC jointly organized the Green Building Award in 2019. Inaugurated by PGBC in 2006, the Green Building Award is a biennial award aiming at providing recognition to building-related projects with outstanding performance and contributions in sustainability and the built environment. GBA2019 is the 7th Award in the series. The past six successful editions of GBA have recognised a plentiful of projects of new and existing buildings, research and planning, building products and technologies with outstanding performance in creating a sustainable built environment.



HKIA has been supporting the Award through sending representatives to join the work of Award organization, promotion, shortlisting of entries and adjudication. The results of GBA 2019 will be announced on 5 November 2019. The list of all finalists are available for viewing on GBA 2019 website :

<http://www.gba.org.hk/textdisplay2.php?serial=67>

2.3 Professionalism

2.3.1 The Professional Green Building Council



The Professional Green Building Council (PGBC) is a non-profit making research and education institute established in Hong Kong to promote a better sustainable built environment through professional involvement. It was inaugurated in Hong Kong in 2012, of which HKIA is a one of the Founder Members. As of now, it comprises 5 professional institutes as Members, facilitating the collaborations amongst Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architects, Planners and Surveyors to achieve the above object of the Council.

HKIA again took up the Vice-Chairmanship of PGBC in 2019-2020 to continue the efforts of HKIA in collaborating with other professional disciplines through the platform of PGBC. Members of Environment and Sustainable Development Committee are actively serving on the PGBC Council to participate in the various work of PGBC.

HKIA and PGBC have been collaborating in organizing seminars, workshops, sharing sessions for continuing professional development of their members on topics covering climate change, city resilience, on green building certification systems, latest updates on practice notes and guidelines for Authorized Persons and professionals etc. Local CPD site visits to award winning sustainable building projects as well as overseas study tours would also be organized.

2.3.2 The Hong Kong Green Building Council

The Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) was established in 2009 for the promotion of the standards and developments of sustainable buildings in Hong Kong. The HKGBC aims at raising green building awareness by engaging the public, the industry and the government, and to develop practical solutions for Hong Kong's unique, subtropical built environment of high-rise, high density urban area, leading Hong Kong to become a world's exemplar of green building development.



HKIA members are serving not only on the Board of Directors as well as chairing Committees of HKGBC, but also serving on the Expert Groups of Green Building Faculty which is a pool of experienced experts supporting the work of HKGBC and BEAM Society Limited related to green building initiatives, acting as members in BEAM Expert Panels, providing expert advice on green building related matters, adjudication of BEAM Plus Final Appeals and various other kinds of pro bono services of HKGBC.



Following the success of the past six years, HKGBC will hold the Hong Kong Green Building Week 2019 jointly with the Construction Industry Council of Hong Kong with the support of the Environment Bureau

in September 2019 to echo the World Green Building Week 2019 to be held on 23-29 September 2019. The Green Building Week aims at raising public awareness of green building movement and sustainable lifestyle. More details of the Hong Kong Green Building Week is available at :

<https://www.hkgbc.org.hk/eng/engagement/public-initiatives/hkgbw/hkgbw-2019/index.jsp>

2.3.3 World Green Building Council

Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) is one of the members of World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) . HKGBC has been making proactive contributions to WorldGBC since joining.



HKIA members have been playing an active role in the promotion of green buildings and their dedications and leadership are recognized in the international arena. Our Ms Ada Fung, HKIA Past President and HKIA Fellow as well as a Director of HKGBC, was appointed by the WorldGBC in July 2018 to be one of the Directors and Board Secretary of the WorldGBC's Board of Directors. The Board's role is to advise and oversee WorldGBC's organisational strategy and governance, and to ensure that WorldGBC is operating effectively as a not for profit organisation and delivering on the mission of WorldGBC. Ir Cary CHAN, Executive Director of HKGBC, was also appointed by WorldGBC to be the Vice Chair of WorldGBC's Asia Pacific

Regional Network. The appointments signify Hong Kong's position in leading the green building movement locally and globally.

HKGBC is supportive to the promotion of the World Green Building Week 2019 organized by WGBC held between 23-29 September 2019. It is an annual campaign that motivates and empowers us all to deliver greener buildings. This year's campaign aims to raise greater awareness of the carbon emissions from all stages of a building's lifecycle, and therefore encourage new practices and new ways of thinking to work towards reducing carbon emissions from buildings.

2.3.4 Other Advisory Committees

HKIA members have been serving on various government advisory committees under relevant Hong Kong government Bureaux and departments including the Environment Bureau to give professional advices on matters including but not limited to sustainable development strategy for Hong Kong, comprehensive review of Sustainable Building Design Guidelines, energy conservation, and designing energy efficient buildings etc.

HKIA members have been represented in the Council for Sustainable Development, Energy Efficient and Conservation Subcommittee of the Energy Advisory Committee, as well as Asbestos Administration Committee established under the Environment Bureau of the Hong Kong Government to give advices on strategies for promotion of sustainable development and energy efficiency and conservation, as well as to monitor the implementation of the asbestos control programme under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance of Hong Kong.

3.0 Pillar 3 : Resilience

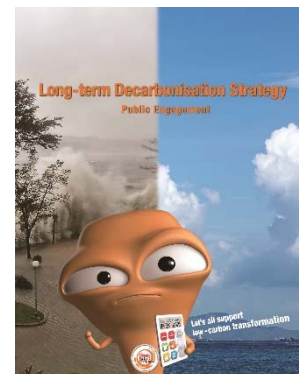
3.1 Long-Term Decarbonisation Strategy

Hong Kong has been actively taking mitigation and adaptation measures to address climate change. Hong Kong Government has been adopting a multi-pronged approach to reduce carbon emissions in the areas of optimising our fuel mix, maximising energy efficiency, promoting green road transport, using clean fuel for motor vehicles and turning waste to energy, with a view to achieving the reduction of carbon intensity by 50 to 60 per cent by 2020 when compared with the 2005 level as adopted in the Paris Agreement at the COP21.

Recognising the need to step up climate actions and to draw up long-term policies, an inter-departmental Steering Committee on Climate Change under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for Administration of HKSAR has set up to steer and coordinate the climate actions of various bureaux and departments in formulating long term climate strategies to meet a new carbon reduction target beyond 2020.

The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) accepted the Government's invitation to launch a public engagement on long-term decarbonisation strategy in April 2019, inviting public views on 3 major aspects : transition towards a low-carbon society, reducing energy use and further decarbonising electricity generation, and low-carbon transport in a smart city.

Through this public engagement process, the SDC hopes to arouse public awareness of the impact of carbon emissions, and gauge the views of the community in developing feasible strategies and measures for carbon reduction. Given the long-term low green house gas emissions development strategies envisaged under the Paris Agreement only covers mitigation measures, this public engagement exercise will focus on gauging public views on mitigation actions with due consideration of the geographical, social and economic contexts of Hong Kong.



HKIA has been supporting the Environment Bureau in promoting the awareness on combating climate change. In 2016, HKIA put forward to Environment Bureau on a proposal with 3 approaches, namely mitigation, adaptation and paradigm shift, in achieving livability for climate ready through replacement of fossil fuel with renewable energy, lessening energy consumption, education and social engineering. This year, HKIA supported the circulation of the opinion survey conducted by the SDC on long-term decarbonisation strategy to members for response. A sharing session with representatives of the SDC and Environment Bureau was held on 28 August 2019. A written submission was sent to Environment Bureau giving views on long term government policies for new buildings and existing buildings, carbon reduction in electricity generation, low carbon transport, public education for behavioral change in October 2019.

3.2 Consultancy Study on Seismic-resistant Design Standards for Buildings in Hong Kong

Buildings Department of HKSAR commissioned a consultancy study on Seismic-resistant Design Standards for Buildings in Hong Kong. The introduction of seismic-resistant building design standards aims to bring the design and construction of buildings in Hong Kong in line with international practice and to enhance the building safety by reducing building structure-related damages and injuries in the event of an earthquake. Public consultation would be conducted when the study is finished.

The Institute sent representative to join the Technical Committee of the consultancy study.

3.3 Consultancy Study on Use of Sponge City Design Concepts and Technologies for Government Projects in Hong Kong

The Architectural Service Department of HKSAR is carrying out a consultancy study on use of sponge design concepts and technologies for government projects in Hong Kong. The study seeks to identify and analyse the opportunities and challenges in designing and building the Sponge City Concept (SCC) for public projects in Hong Kong. Opinion survey to collect stakeholders' views are being conducted for the consultancy study.

The Institute supported the study by circulating the questionnaire to membership for response as well as making a response to the survey.

3.4 CAA Working Group on Designing City Resilience

HKIA made nominations to the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) for joining, among others, the Working Group on Designing City Resilience. This working group was formed by CAA with the intention of carrying forward the deliberations and conclusions reached at the Summit held along with CAA Golden Jubilee and City Development Agenda of the Commonwealth Foundation.

**The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
November 2019**