

HKQAA Symposium Sustainable Finance and Climate Resilience • 2021

香港品質保證局專題研討會 — 可持續金融及氣候適應・香港 2021

Moving towards Carbon Neutrality – the role of ISO standards 邁向碳中和 — ISO 標準所扮演的角色

> HONG KONG QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY 香港品質保證局

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Promoting climate resilience in the financial and business communities

Nations worldwide are struggling to tackle the challenges of sustainability and climate change but there have been some positive developments. The recent COP 26 summit in Glasgow reached a consensus on key climate actions. Our country's "Fourteenth Five-Year Plan" also includes various sustainability strategies. The Plan establishes the "30.60" carbon target, designed to foster the transformation of the green economy. In Hong Kong, the SAR Government has introduced policies and measures to promote sustainable development, green finance and carbon neutrality.

HKQAA is developing new services to align with the Government's climate change strategy. These include the Net-Zero Certificate, the Climate Risk Management Index and the TCFD Reporting Index, as well as training and registration services for green and sustainable finance talent. These initiatives will assist financial institutions and organisations to fulfill regulatory requirements, and help listed companies and other organisations demonstrate their progress and achievements in reducing carbon emissions and addressing climate risks.

Apart from this, we have recently held the HKQAA Symposium 2021 to keep the industries abreast of the latest regulatory and market trends. Overseas and local leaders from renowned international organisations, regulatory bodies and banking institutions shared insights into the latest trends in sustainable financing and climate resilience. This issue of VISION reviews this flagship international event and introduces the role of ISO standards in moving towards net-zero carbon emissions.

Looking ahead, HKQAA will continue to play a leading role in supporting industries and communities in strengthening climate resilience. Through the efforts of different sectors, we believe we will shape a sustainable future for Hong Kong, the nation and the world.

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Moving towards Carbon Neutrality – the role of ISO standards

Dr Nigel H Croft

Associate Technical Director, HKQAA Chair, ISO Joint Technical Coordination Group for Management System Standards



Introduction

In recent years, climate scientists have shifted the definition of what they believe is the "safe" limit of global average temperature rise in order to avoid the more catastrophic effects of climate change. For decades, researchers argued that the increase must be kept below 2C by the end of the 21st century to avoid the worst impacts, including rising sea levels, desertification, threats to food security and others. But scientists now argue that keeping the temperature rise below 1.5C is a far safer limit for the world. Among the most important contributing factors to climate change is the level of carbon emissions, and the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) calculated that global carbon dioxide emissions must be reduced by 45 per cent by 2030 relative to the 2010 level, in order to achieve this goal.

One of the key objectives of the recent COP26 held in Glasgow at the end of 2021, therefore, was to come up with ambitious 2030 emissions reductions targets that align with reaching net zero by the middle of the century and to "keep 1.5C within reach". This includes accelerating the phasing-out of fossil fuel use and investment in renewable energy, among other initiatives.

A relevant and important initiative was taken by ISO in September 2021 (immediately prior to COP 26,) when it approved its "London Declaration" to help combat climate change through the standards it develops. There are already many standards within the ISO portfolio that focus on assessing and improving environmental performance (including carbon emissions), but some more recent initiatives have focused on the important role that can also be played by the promotion of sustainable investments and the so-called "green finance" movement.

ISO's Initiatives In The Quest For Carbon Neutrality

Most of the technical work within ISO related to climate change has its origins in the ISO 14000 series of standards developed by Technical Committee TC207, of which the best-known is by far ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for use), first published in 1996. As awareness and concerns related to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, global warming and climate change in general have grown over the last 25 years, however, so too has the portfolio of standards developed by ISO to address these issues. Of particular importance are the "ISO 14060", "ISO 14090" and "ISO 14030" series of standards that deal with GHG assessment and verification, climate change adaptation and green debt instruments respectively, as well as new sustainable finance standards that are under development by ISO Technical Committee TC 322.



GHG assessment and verification

The ISO 14060 series has been in existence for over 15 years and today comprises a number of standards that provide requirements for the quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions

- ISO 14064 Part 1 specifies requirements for quantification and reporting at the organizational level, whilst Part 2 applies a life-cycle approach to assessing GHG emissions and removals within specific projects. Part 3 defines the criteria for the verification and validation of GHG statements
- ISO 14065 provides requirements that have to be met by validation and verification bodies (such as HKQAA), with ISO 14066 defining the competence criteria for validation and verification teams
- ISO 14067:2018 is a relatively recent and important addition to the series, providing globally agreed principles, requirements and guidelines for the quantification and reporting of the carbon footprint of an organization's products. This in turn helps organizations to understanding better the ways in which they can reduce their footprint.

Climate change adaptation

The ISO 14090 series of standards, published over the last 2 years, aims to help organizations assess climate change impacts and put plans in place for effective adaptation. It helps them identify and manage risks, as well as to seize any opportunities that climate change may bring.

- ISO 14090:2019 offers a framework that enables organizations to give appropriate consideration to climate change adaptation when designing and implementing policies, strategies, plans and activities.
- ISO 14091:2021 sets out guidelines on how to understand an organization's vulnerability and how to develop and implement a sound risk assessment in the context of climate change. It can be used for assessing both present and future climate change risks
- ISO/TS 14092:2020 provides requirements and guidance on adaptation planning for local governments and communities



- ISO 14097:2021 specifies a general framework, including principles, requirements and guidance for assessing, measuring, monitoring and reporting on investments and financing activities in relation to climate change and the transition into a low-carbon economy. ISO 14097 applies primarily to financiers (investors and lenders), and guides their reporting activities to interested parties such as shareholders, clients, policymakers, financial supervisory authorities and non-governmental organizations. It includes the following considerations:
 - o the degree of alignment of investment and financing decisions with low-carbon transition pathways, adaptation pathways, and climate goals;
 - o the impact of actions through the investment and lending decisions towards the achievement of climate goals in the real economy, i.e. mitigation (greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (resilience);
 - the risks to owners of financial assets (e.g. private equities, listed stocks, bonds, loans) arising from climate change.

Sustainable Finance

In addition to the publication of ISO 14097, another of ISO's major initiatives in the field of sustainable finance has been the development of the ISO 14030 series of standards on green debt instruments, the first three parts of which (Parts 1, 2 and 4) were published in September 2021.

Essentially, the standards are as follows:

- ISO 14030-1:2021 Green debt instruments Process for green bonds provides the key principles, requirements and guidance for designating bonds as "green", for selecting projects, assets or activities, for managing proceeds, and for defining, measuring and reporting on their environmental impacts. It specifies the process steps for designating a bond as green, including the identification of appropriate performance indicators.
- ISO 14030-2:2021 Green debt instruments Process for green loans follows the same principles as ISO 14030-1, but its structure is slightly different, with distinctions being made for the various responsibilities of wholesale and retail borrowers and lenders. The administration of such retail loans can be complex, sometimes involving hundreds of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) or thousands of individuals borrowers.
- ISO 14030-3 (scheduled for publication in 2022) Green debt instruments Taxonomy will deal with the classification ("taxonomy") of eligible investment projects, including categories that:
 - o are green "by default"; (e.g. wind, marine, tidal and solar energy power plants)
 - o are green by meeting category qualification (e.g. Renewable energy power plants)
 - o pass a process test with screening criteria such as:
 - o Climate change mitigation
 - Climate adaptation
 - Biodiversity
 - o Water resource management
 - o Waste minimization
 - Pollution prevention and control



• ISO 14030-4:2021 (Verification) provides requirements for verification scheme owners and conformity assessment bodies such as HKQAA. The standard requires verification to be carried out prior to the issue of the green debt instrument and at least one post-issuance verification engagement.

The first standard being developed by TC 322 on Sustainable Finance is the future ISO 32210 "Framework for sustainable finance: Principles and guidance" which is currently at the DIS (Draft International Standard) stage and will address topics such as:

- o Governance and culture
- o Strategy alignment and objectives
- o Impact assessment
- Stakeholder engagement
- Monitoring and Measuring
- Reporting and Transparency
- o Review and Continual Improvement

Conclusions

The quest for carbon neutrality is vital in order to keep hopes alive to limit global average temperature rise below 1.5C by the middle of the 21st century. ISO standards can provide extensive support for organizations who are seeking to limit their Greenhouse Gas emissions, and the recently-published ISO 14097 and ISO 14030 standards can be used to support sustainable finance initiatives, without which the targets are unlikely to be achieved.



HKQAA Symposium Sustainable Finance and Climate Resilience 2021

The Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) held the 2021 HKQAA Symposium at the Island Shangri-La, Hong Kong today. The Honourable Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, officiated at the event. Mr Christopher Hui, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, and Mr Tse Chin Wan, Under Secretary for the Environment, were special guests.



Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, was the officiating guest of the HKQAA Symposium 2021.



Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Third from right); Mr Christopher Hui, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Second from left); Mr Tse Chin Wan, Under Secretary for the Environment (First from Right); Ir C S Ho, Chairman of the HKQAA (Third from left); Mr Simon Wong, Deputy Chairman of the HKQAA and Dr. Michael Lam, CEO of the HKQAA at the HKQAA Symposium 2021.

International symposium explores visionary insights

In this flagship international symposium, leaders from the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), China National Institute of Standardization, International Financial Corporation, as well as the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, Financial Services Development Council and other banking institutions in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, shared insights into the latest trends in sustainable financing and climate resilience. The hybrid event attracted more than 600 online and offline participants from government departments, regulatory organisations, Chinese and foreign banking and financial institutions, foreign consulates, business associations, academic institutions and green groups, among others.

New initiatives for Net-Zero, climate risk management and TCFD reporting

In recent years, HKQAA has supported Hong Kong's sustainable economic development by developing new services. One significant contribution is the Green and Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme. Up to now, over 35 billion US dollars' worth of green and sustainable finance instruments have been certified. During the Symposium, HKQAA announced a series of new initiatives to align with the Government's climate change strategies. They include the Net-Zero Certificate, the Climate Risk Management Index, the TCFD Reporting Index, as well as training and registration services for green and sustainable finance talent.

Ir C S Ho, Chairman of the HKQAA (left photo), said, "These new services will be rolled out shortly to assist financial institutions and organisations to prepare for regulatory requirement fulfilment, and help listed companies, SMEs and other kinds of organisations demonstrate their progress and achievements in reducing carbon emissions and addressing climate risks."

"We also plan to give back to society by establishing a user-friendly knowledge sharing platform online, namely the 'LightShare'. The project will facilitate the capacity building of finance and other sectors to promote sustainable finance, TCFD reporting and carbon emission and climate risk management, and bolster COVID resilience and recovery in our city" said Ir Ho.

Recognition ceremony for green and sustainable finance issuers and facilitators

The Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2021 ceremony was held at the Symposium. The Awards recognise the efforts and contributions of organisations, leaders and strategists to promoting the issuance of green and sustainable financial instruments in Hong Kong. Thirty-six organisations were recognised, including banking and financial institutions and corporations from Hong Kong, mainland China and overseas markets. Thirty-eight leaders and 67 strategists were given awards.

Dr Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA (right photo), said, "I believe the good practices of awarded companies are inspiring more industry members to make a greater contribution to environmental protection and social development, thereby building a more resilient and sustainable world."











Left to right: Mr Eric Usher, Head of The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative, and Mr Martin Skancke, Member of Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Chair of the Principles for Responsible Investment, delivered the speeches via video; Mr Arthur Yuen, JP, Deputy Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority; Dr Au Kinglun, MH, Executive Director of Financial Services Development Council, delivered presentations in the Symposium.











Left to right: Ms Daphne Wat Wing Kam, Chief Corporate Banking Officer, China Construction Bank (Asia), Mr He Xin, Deputy General Manager, CMB Wing Lung Bank, Mr Alex Cheung, Managing Director and Head of Institutional Banking Group, DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, Mr Chen Xian, Assistant Chief Executive, Industrial Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch, Ms Kim See Lim, Regional Director, East Asia and the Pacific, International Finance Corporation were the guest speakers.









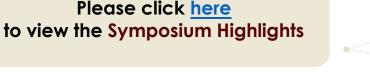




Left to right:

Dr Nigel Croft, Associate Technical Director of HKQAA, Chair, ISO Joint Technical Coordination Group for Management System Standards; Dr John Shideler, Chair of Technical Committee ISO/TC 207/SC 4; Dr Li Peng Cheng, China National Institute of Standardization, Convenor of ISO 14100 introduced the international standard development for promoting green and sustainable finance via video.





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Mr. He Jianbo Chairman, Minmetals Land Limited



Mr. Nakamura Futoshi



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Mrs. Orith Azoulay Global Head of Green & Sustainable Hub - Natixis
Corporate & Investment Banking



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Mr. Ng Hak Yiu Benson Director, Sinopower Holding (Hong Kong) Co. Limited



Mr. Fredric Teng Managing Director, Global Credit Markets, Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited



Mrs. Christine Ip CEO, Greater China, United Overseas Bank Limited Hong Kong Branch

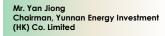


Chief Executive Officer and **Executive Director** Vinda International Holdings Limited



Mr. Francis Ip Deputy CEO Yip's Chemical Holdings Limited







Mr. Cao Ronggen Executive Director; General Manager Joy City Property Ltd



Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Finance



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Bank of China (Hong Kong)



China Construction Bank (Asia) **Corporation Limited**



China Everbright Bank Co., Ltd. **Hong Kong Branch**



China International Capital **Corporation Hong Kong** Securities Limited





Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited



China Construction Bank (Asia) **Corporation Limited**



China Everbright Bank Co., Ltd. **Hong Kong Branch**



Bank of China (Hong Kong)



China Construction Bank (Asia) **Corporation Limited**



China Development Bank Hong Kong Branch



China Gas Holdings Limited



China Merchants Bank Co.,Ltd. and **CMB Wing Lung Bank Limited**

Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Finance



China Risun Group Limited



Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank



Haitong International Securities Group Limited



Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited





Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A., **Hong Kong Branch**



CSSC (Hong Kong) **Shipping Company Limited**



Hang Seng Bank



Industrial Bank Co., Ltd. **Hong Kong Branch**



金融大獎:

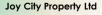
Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A., **Hong Kong Branch**



Group Limited



Management Ltd





Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Finance



Modern Terminals Limited.



Shanghai Pudong Development Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong **Branch**



Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation



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MTR Corporation Limited



Sinopower Holding (Hong Kong) Co. Limited



The Bank of East Asia, Limited



Yip's Chemical Holdings Limited



Natixis



Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited



United Overseas Bank Limited Hong Kong Branch



Yunnan Energy Investment (HK) Co. Limited

Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Finance

Company Name	Award Name
Agricultural Bank of China Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (Hong Kong Commercial
Hong Kong Branch	Banking Industry) - Visionary Green Bond Framework
Agricultural Bank of China Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Water Industry) -
Hong Kong Branch	Visionary Green Loan Framework
Analogue Holdings Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Construction Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Hong Kong Commercial Banking Industry) - Largest Single Renminbi Green Bond
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Facilitator (Greater Bay Area Enterprises) - Greatest Number of Green and Sustainability-linked Loan, Green Loan e-Assessment
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (Shipping Industry) - Largest Single Blue Bond
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (Financial Investment Industry) - Largest Amount of Green Bonds
China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Hong Kong Commercial Banking Industry) -Largest Single Sustainability-linked Bond
China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Renewable Energy Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
China Construction Bank (Asia)	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (ESG Banking Service) -
Corporation Limited	Visionary Green and Sustainability-linked Bond Frameworks
China Development Bank Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Development Finance Institution) - Visionary Green Bond Framework
China Development Bank Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Mining Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
China Everbright Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (Financial Industry) - Visionary Green Bond Framework
China Everbright Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Facilitator (Hotel Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
China Gas Holdings Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Natural Gas Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
China International Capital Corporation Hong Kong Securities Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (SOE and Local Government Projects) - Visionary Green Bond Framework
China Merchants Bank Co.,Ltd.	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Banking Industry) - Visionary Sustainability Bond Framework
China Risun Group Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Basic Materials Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A., Hong	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Dairy Farm Industry) -
Kong Branch	Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A., Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Chemical Manufacturing Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Crédit Agricole Corporate and	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (Investment Grade Financing
Investment Bank	Service in Greater China) - Largest Amount of Green Bonds
CSSC (Hong Kong) Shipping Company Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Ship Leasing Industry) - Largest Single Blue Bond
EcoGreen International Group Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Fine Chemicals Industry) – Visionary Green Loan Framework
Haitong International Securities Group Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (China Real Estate Industry)- Largest Amount of Green Bonds

Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Finance

Company Name	Award Name
Hang Seng Bank Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Greater Bay Area Corporate) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Henderson Sunlight Asset Management Ltd	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Real Estate Investment Trusts Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Global Commercial Banking Industry) - Largest Amount of Carbon Neutrality Themed Green Bond
Industrial Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Hong Kong Commercial Banking Industry) - Largest Single Carbon Neutrality Themed Green Bond
Industrial Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (Urban Construction Investment Industry) - Largest Amount of Green Bonds
Joy City Property Ltd	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (China Commercial Real Estate Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Leo Paper Group Finance Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Printing & Communication Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Minmetals Land Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Centrally-Administered SOEs Real Estate Developer) - Largest Single Sustainability Bond
Mitsubishi HC Capital (Hong Kong) Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Financial Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Modern Terminals Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Port & Logistics Industry) – Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
MTR Corporation Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (Transportation industry) - Largest Single Green Bond
Natixis	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Basic Materials Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Shanghai Pudong Development Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Ship-leasing Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Sinopower Holding (Hong Kong) Co. Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Renewable Energy Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (China Integrated Real Estate Industry) - Visionary Sustainability Bond Framework
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Natural Gas Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
The Bank of East Asia, Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Facilitator (Printing & Communication Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
United Overseas Bank Limited Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Facilitator (Printing & Communication Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Framework
United Overseas Bank Limited Hong Kong Branch	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (Real Estate Industry) - Visionary Green Loan Performance Metrics
Vinda International Holdings Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Fast Moving Consumer Goods Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Yip's Chemical Holdings Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Chemical Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics
Yunnan Energy Investment (HK) Co. Limited	Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (Renewable Energy Industry) - Visionary Sustainability-linked Loan Performance Metrics



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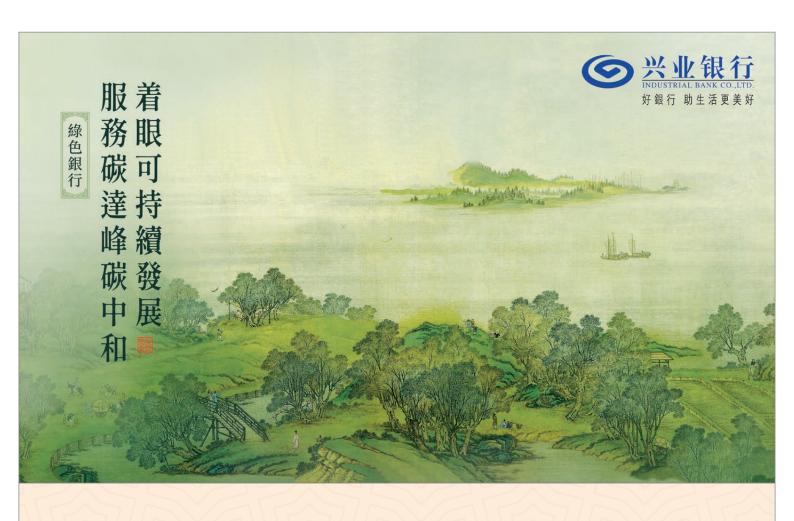
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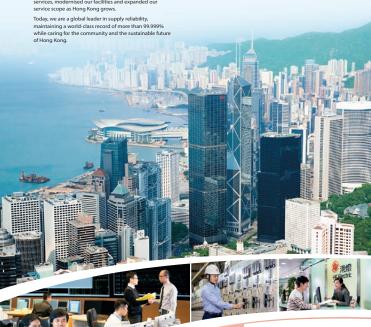
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MoU signed with Haitong International Securities Group Limited

On 8 December 2021, HKQAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Haitong International Securities Group Limited ("Haitong International"). The MoU aims to contribute to the realization of China's goal of achieving "carbon peak" by 2030 and "carbon neutrality" by 2060, and support the Hong Kong SAR as a green and sustainable financial hub.

The MoU was witnessed by Dr Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA(second row left, left photo), and Mr Patrick Poon, Haitong International Executive Committee Member, Chief Financial Officer and Chairman of the ESG Committee of Haitong International (second row right, left photo), and was signed by Mr P C Chan, Deputy CEO of HKQAA (first row left, left photo) and Mr Chen YI, Managing Director and Head of Global Capital Markets of Haitong International (first row right, left photo).

The MoU will combine the strengths and experience of both parties to jointly promote the development of green and sustainable finance in the region and create a better future.





MoU signed with China Minsheng Banking Corp., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch

On 1 November 2021, HKQAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China Minsheng Banking Corp., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch. The MoU aims to support the national and HKSAR Governments' climate strategies and promote Hong Kong's position as a leading green and sustainable financial Centre in Asia and globally. Both parties will cooperate in the areas of green and sustainable finance and facilitate the green transformation of enterprises.

The signing was witnessed by Dr. Michael Lam, CEO of HKQAA (left photo, left of 2nd row) and Mr. Du Yunfei, CEO of CMBC Hong Kong Branch (left photo, right of 2nd row). The MoU was signed by Mr. P C Chan, Deputy CEO of HKQAA (left photo, left of 1st row) and Mr. Li Ming, Deputy CEO of CMBC Hong Kong Branch (left photo, right of 1st row).

The MoU will combine the strengths and resources of both parties to contribute to the environment protection and sustainable development.





MoU signed with Essence International Financial Holdings Limited

On 10 November 2021 (Wednesday), HKQAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on green finance and related services with Essence International Financial Holdings Limited. The MoU will promote green proliferations, environmental reservation, and support the strategies of the Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong SAR Government to prevent and reverse climate change.

The MoU was signed by Dr Michael Lam, CEO of HKQAA (right, left photo) and Mr Han Hui, CEO and Director of Essence International Financial Holdings Limited (left, left photo).

The MoU will capitalize on both Parties' specialties, strengths and advantages to facilitate sustainable economic development in the region.





MoU signed with Bank of Communications (Hong Kong) Limited

On 26 January 2022, HKQAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank of Communications (Hong Kong) Limited. The MoU aims to contribute to the realization of China's goal of achieving "carbon peak" by 2030 and "carbon neutrality" by 2060, and support Hong Kong as a "Green Financial Center in the Greater Bay Area".

The MoU was signed by Dr Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA and Ms Wu Ye, Chief Executive of Bank of Communications (Hong Kong) Limited. Both parties will cooperate in sustainable and green finance capacity building and product development, green building certification, enterprise green transformation and green organization certification.

The MoU will combine the strengths and resources of both parties to jointly contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development.



MoU signed with CTBC Bank Co., Ltd

On 27 January 2022 (Thursday), HKQAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CTBC Bank Co., Ltd. The MoU aims to utilize the advantage of both parties to jointly facilitate and assist corporates to seize green and sustainable finance opportunities, and support Hong Kong's status quo as the leading green and sustainable financial hub in Asia and globally.

The MoU was signed by Dr Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA and Mr Max Lin, Executive Vice President of CTBC Bank Co., Ltd. Both parties will cooperate in shaping a sustainable business and investment environment through professional certification and assessment services and promote the green financing for corporates and SMEs.

The MoU will combine the strengths and resources of both parties to jointly contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development.

MoU signed with Fubon Bank (Hong Kong) Limited

HKQAA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fubon Bank (Hong Kong) Limited on 25 April 2022. The MoU aims to support the climate change strategies of the Mainland and Hong Kong SAR Governments.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA, and Mr. Simon Chung, CEO and Managing Director of Fubon Bank (Hong Kong) Limited. The parties will cooperate in promoting green and sustainable finance products and services, and in providing related certification and assessment services.

The long-term strategic partnership will facilitate low-carbon business transitions and help meet the market demand for green finance products and services. It will also combine the strengths and resources of both parties

to nurture more capital flows to green and sustainable development and so contribute to a greener future for Hong Kong.



HKQAA becomes amfori QMI's Industry Standard Partner

Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) is pleased to announce that it has become amfori QMI's Industry Standard Partner. We will support the initiative in audit technical advice, auditor training and audit quality assurance programme.

amfori is a leading global business association for open and sustainable trade, empowering over 2,400 companies from more than 40 countries to operate successful and sustainable businesses. It helps organisations improve their social and environmental performance and the quality management capability of their supply chain through initiatives such as amfori BSCI, amfori BEPI and amfori QMI.

As a highly respected association in the global market, amfori has established long-term strategic partnerships with renowned international organisations, governments, companies, and academic institutions including the Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA), Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), the China Electronics Standardization Association (CESA) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

HKQAA's partnership with amfori has been publicised on amfori's official website and in its members' newsletter. HKQAA expects the partnership to help drive improvements in quality management capability in the international market, contributing to the sustainable development of the global supply chain.





Supports Developing Product Carbon Footprint Label Certification in the Greater Bay Area

As one of the leading conformity assessment organisations in the region, HKQAA supports HKSAR Government policies and social development by providing innovative professional services. We also actively participate in the development of international and national standards which enhance the overall performance of the industry and promote the sustainable development of society.

Recently, the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) confirmed to support the Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation to form a strategic alliance with HKQAA and other bodies to develop **product carbon footprint label certification** in the Greater Bay Area (GBA). The alliance will pioneer the development and implementation of scientific and practical carbon footprint label certification for products, striving to reach the international level by driving continuous improvement.

The development of this certification is expected to **encourage cooperation in the GBA by promoting a unified system of product carbon footprint label certification**. It will facilitate the development of the green economy in the region and contribute to the achievement of the country's "Dual Carbon" goals.

In the first half of 2022, HKQAA has also announced a series of initiatives to align with the HKSAR Government's climate change strategy. These include the Net-Zero Certificate, the Climate Risk Management Index and the TCFD Reporting Index, as well as training and registration services for green and sustainable finance talent. HKQAA will continue to help various sectors address challenges and seize opportunities, thereby building a more resilient and sustainable world.





Pest Control Personnel Registration Scheme

Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) is launching the "Pest Control Personnel Registration Scheme" in 2021 in response to the market development. With the aims to develop a qualification requirement for the pest control industry, the Scheme assesses three types of pest control personnel: Pesticide Applicator, Pest Control Technician and Provisional Pest Control Technician.

HKQAA established a stakeholder group when formulating the registration Scheme and invited industry practitioners and experts from different backgrounds to provide technical advice on the scheme. By increasing transparency of the pest control service, the Scheme allows customers to better understand the qualifications and work experience of the practitioners when hiring pest control companies, thereby enhancing their confidence in the service.

Qualified in-service practitioners are encouraged to sign up for the following categories:

- Pesticide Applicators who apply pesticides.
- Provisional Pest Control Technicians who have knowledge of pest control operations.
- Pest Control Technicians who have knowledge and practical experience of pest control operations.

Successful registrants will obtain a registration card and letter which they can show to their customers to demonstrate their professional expertise. The registration can also be displayed on the registrant's resume and business cards.

Successful registrants will obtain a registration card and letter which they can show to their customers to demonstrate their professional expertise. The registration can also be displayed on the registrant's resume and business cards.







New Book Recommendation – Sustainbility in Hong Kong

In December 2021, HKQAA published 'Sustainability in Hong Kong', which introduces the concept of sustainable development and the latest trends in the field.

The new book introduces the principles of sustainability, its development in Hong Kong, mainland China and globally, and the benefits and opportunities for enterprises and investors.

The book includes case studies from international enterprises and examples of best practice from Hong Kong companies. It also gives practical guidance on how enterprises can enhance sustainability performance and seize opportunities related to global sustainable development goals.

The book was edited by Dr Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA, and follows on from 'Corporate Social Responsibility in Hong Kong' (2011) and 'Green Finance in Hong Kong' (2019).

Sustainability in Hong Kong' is now available for sale in bookstores and on our website. The electronic version can be purchased at https://www.red-publish.com/book/2898.

Please contact us on 2202 9111 for more details.



Introduction of New Council Members



Mr Raymond Cheng

Mr. Raymond Cheng is a seasoned IT professional and has established a long career in the financial industry for more than 35 years. His last job was the Group General Manager and Chief Operating Officer in the Asia Pacific region at HSBC, overseeing IT, Operations, Real Estate, Procurement and Consulting Services.

Currently, he is a Council Member of HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. Members Council and a Senior Advisor of QBN Capital Management Ltd. Besides, he has established strong connections with different IT professional bodies and the IT community in Hong Kong. He is the Chairman of Chinese University Engineering FinTech Applied Research Academy Advisory Committee and Joint Universities Computer Centre Ltd. respectively.

He is a Council Member of the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Group and involved in providing advisory services to a few FinTech startups and a technology fund. He is currently the Director of Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Ltd and Hex Trust Ltd. Raymond is a Distinguish Fellow of Hong Kong Computer Society.



Mr Kwan Chuk Fai, MH, JP

Mr Kwan Chuk-fai has over thirty years of management experiences. He is now Director, Corporate Communications and Investor Relations of Hang Lung Group.

Mr Kwan is a Founding Member of the Hong Kong Public Relations Professionals' Association. In his career as a professional communicator Mr Kwan handled a number of crises.

Mr Kwan has been active in promoting corporate social responsibility, social capital and shared values in various organisations.

He currently serves as Chairman, Community Investment and Inclusion Fund under Labour and Welfare Bureau.

Mr Kwan graduated from The University of Hong Kong with and obtained an Executive MBA from the Richard Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario. He was a member of The Court at The University of Hong Kong during 2011-2017, and is currently a Professor of Practice of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



Sr. Lam Kin Wing Eddie

Sr Eddie LAM Kin-wing is a Professional Construction Manager, Registered Professional Surveyor, Chartered Surveyor, and Chartered Builder. Sr Lam has over 40 years of extensive experience in planning, operating and management of construction projects in various sizes and nature. Sr Lam is the Chairman of Thelloy Development Group Limited, which is providing professional construction management services in Hong Kong for building, RMAA, and MIC works. Sr Lam is also currently the President of the Hong Kong Construction Association, the Chairman of the Construction Industry Training Board, a member of the Construction Industry Council, and an Honorary President of the Hong Kong Institute of Construction Managers.

Sr Lam is actively involved in serving the community. He is currently a Chairman of the Pneumoconiosis Compensations Fund Board and a member of the Mandatory Provident Fund Industry Schemes Committee of Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority, and He is also a member of the Land and Development Advisory Committee and Building Contractors Committee of the Development Bureau.



Ir Lee Wai Kwong Sunny, JP

Ir. Sunny Lee is currently Vice-President (Administration) at City University of Hong Kong, Ir. Lee has more than 35 years of experience in business and technology management in Hong Kong and overseas.

Over the last three decades, he has held a number of key C-level positions at major organizations including Hong Kong Jockey Club, Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited and Bank of America.

Ir. Lee is passionate in serving the community. He is currently Board Chairman of Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, Chairman of Hong Kong Public Libraries Advisory Committee, Chairman of the HKMA IT Management Committee, and Council Member of Cornel University. He is a former President of Hong Kong Computer Society and Chairman of Hong Kong Education City.

Ir. Lee has received many public recognition including the Asia CIO Award, China Top CIO Award and Hong Kong CIO Outstanding Achievement Award. He was a 2008 Beijing Olympics Torchbearer representing Hong Kong's technology achievers.

Ir. Lee is a Distinguished Fellow of Hong Kong Computer Society and Fellow of Hong Kong Institute of Engineers. He holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from Cornell University.



Prof Wong Cheung Chi Thomas

- Prof. WONG has over 30 years experience in the luxury fashion field.
- And over 20 years with the building industries with high end interior decoration
- Recently he focuses on Sustainable Development of Animals Based Industries,
- including meat, animal fibers fashion and pets industries.
 - Chairman of Sustainable Development Committee of Chinese Manufacturers Asso.
- Founding President of Institute of International Sustainable Development
- Founding Chairman of "Belt & Road Youth Foundation" (HK Charity # 91/15440) Senior Expert Advisor of GBA Carbon Neutrality Asso.
- Advisor of Asso. of Family Offices in Asia- MAG
- Director of HK Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA)
- Director of HK Brand Development Council
- External Advisor of HK Poly Univ CPCE CPD steering Committee
- Advisor of The Education Univ. Of HK Edu-plus Internship program
- School Manager or CKK Secondary School
- Chairman of Audit Committee and Director of a 60 years-old International Trade Federation
- Served as an Advisor to the HKSAR Agriculture and Fisheries & Conservation
- Department's Endangered Plants & Animals Species Advisory Committee.
- Served as Director at ESF Foundation Board
- School Manager at Island School
- Arte Moda International Enterprise Chairman
- Nanjing China Railway Best Joint Comm. Co Ltd. CEO



Mr Emil C. O. Yu BBS, JP

Mr. Emil Yu is the General Manager and Director for Keystone Electric Wire & Cable and has been with Keystone for over 30 years, specialized in the manufacturing of electric cable and instrumentation cable.

With a Master Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Canada, Mr. Yu gained experience through a 25 year joint venture (JV) partner where its manufacturing facilities were around the globe. Keystone has operations in Hong Kong, China and Singapore. With the JV partner announcement of divestment from Asia, his family was able to buy back the shares from partners in 2015.

Mr. Yu is a member of Shandong Provincial Political Consultative Conference, and a council member of Hong Kong Productivity Council. He is the Honorary Secretary of The Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors Limited and Life President of Hong Kong Electrical Contractor's Association. In addition, he is an employer member of Hong Kong Labour Advisory Board, a member of Rehabilitation Advisory Committee of HKSAR and a General Committee member of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

International News

ISO 9001 Revision Update

Despite ongoing speculation about a potential revision to ISO 9001:2015, there are currently no plans within ISO/TC176 to begin work on such a revision.

The formal systematic review of ISO 9001 (in 2020) and the decision of the National Standards Body Members of TC176 was to CONFIRM the standard as-is WITHOUT revision. There was a subsequent online survey carried out by TC176 directly with users of the standard which gave the same result. However, many feel that it is too long to wait until the next formal systematic review in 2025 to think about STARTING a new revision process, so there is a team currently working on answering the question "what would we change if a decision were made to start a revision in, say, 2023?". That task force will report back to the 2022 TC176 Plenary Meeting, and ONLY THEN might another ballot among the National Standards Body Members be initiated. If it was subsequently approved (and there is no certainty that it would be!), and if the revision were to start in 2023, a new version of the standard would only be published around 2026.





ISO Strategic Advisory Group to report on ESG issues

ISO's Technical Management Board (ISO/TMB) has recently established a high-level Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) on Environmental, social and governance (ESG) ecosystems, and the role that ISO can play to support such initiatives. HKQAA's Associate Technical Director Dr Nigel Croft will participate in this group, which is expected to develop a strategy and provide recommendations to ISO on topics including:

- •How to articulate the value proposition that ISO brings to the ESG ecosystem
- •how to strengthen the linkage between ISO standards and ESG reporting mechanisms
- A stakeholder engagement strategy
- •The role of conformity assessment
- •an approach to monitor changes in the ESG operating environment and to keep the relevant ISO Technical Committees informed

The report is expected to be ready by the end of 2022.

HKQAA CSR Index Organisation List in 2021/22

Name of Organisation	Index Type
Aggressive Construction	A
Company Limited Hong Kong Trade Development Council	A
Housing Department (Estate Management Division)	A
Shinryo (Hong Kong) Ltd.	A
Shinryo Technical Services Ltd.	A
Shun Yuen Construction Co. Ltd.	A
Yau Lee Construction Co. Ltd.	A

Name of Organisation	Index Type
China Everbright Greentech Ltd	P
China Merchant Ports Holdings Company Limited	P
Kai Shing Management Services Ltd.	P
Kerry Properties Limited	P
Leo Paper Group (Hong Kong) Ltd.	P
The Wharf Holdings Ltd.	P
Wharf Real Estate Investment Company	P
Wheelock and Company Ltd.	P





Memorable Moments

迎新天地

Welcome on Board

From September 2021 to March 2022, we have been pleased to welcome various organisations to our community. They have obtained certificates and being assessed in the following areas respectively:

- ISO 9001 Quality Management System
- ISO 14001 Environmental Management System
- ISO 20000 Information Technology Service Management
- ISO 22000 Food Safety Management System
- ISO 22301 Security and resilience Business continuity management systems
- ISO 22716 Cosmetics Good Manufacturing Practices
- ISO 27001 Information Security Management
- ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management
- ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems Certification
- HKQAA 5S
- HKQAA Hong Kong Registration Recycling Services
- Barrier Free Accessibility (BFA) Management Systems
- Quality Scheme for the Production and Supply of Concrete (QSPSC)
- SA8000 Social Accountability Management

- Anti-Epidemic Hygiene Measures Certification Scheme
- US FDA GMPC Cosmetic Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)
- GB/T 23331 Energy management systems Requirements
- Green Finance Pre-issuance Stage Certificate
- Green and Sustainable Finance Post-issuance Stage Certificate
- Green and Sustainable Finance Pre-issuance Stage Certificate
- Green Estate Registration Scheme
- Good Standardizing Practice for Enterprises Evaluation Service
- Residential Care Home for the Elderly Certification Scheme
- HKQAA-HACCP
- HKQAA- Hygiene Control System
- TL 9000 Quality Management System for the Telecom Industry
- Services Quality Management Certification Scheme
- Services Quality Management Certification Scheme Elderly Services

We believe the new clients will contribute to the overall success of the brand that prides itself on adding value to stakeholders.





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