

Online Conference on Beyond Community Development, How Social Capital Impacts Your ESG Performance

Exploring the Importance of Social Capital to ESG

Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) held an Online Conference on "Beyond Community Development, How Social Capital Impacts Your ESG Performance Online Conference" on 3 September 2020. The conference, which was funded by the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF), attracted more than 200 participants. Professionals from different sectors shared their views on how social capital can improve the ESG performance of enterprises.



Mr C F KWAN, MH, JP, Chairman of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) Committee, emphasised that both social capital and ESG concern the common good, and both play an essential role in times of economic crisis. They have a reciprocal relationship in that the social capital of a company can help improve its ESG performance, while good ESG practices can build and enhance social capital.

Upward Trend for Sustainability Investment around the Globe

Ms Anita MO, Chief Executive Officer of Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited, explained the concept of Sustainable and Responsible Investment (SRI) during keynote remarks. Ms MO noted the upward trend in SRI around the world: "The trend of Sustainable investment in different locations is increasing every year. Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited has launched Corporate Sustainability indexes in 2010, which cover Hong Kong-listed and Mainland-listed companies that perform well with respect to sustainability."

In his keynote address, Mr P C CHAN, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA, said that social capital refers to the institutions, relationships and norms that shape the quality and quantity of a society's social interactions. "By making good use of relationships between people, between people and institutions, and between institutions, we can establish networks of mutual benefits to create win-win situations." Mr CHAN said.



Mr Hendrik ROSENTHAL, Director - Group Sustainability, CLP Group (Upper Left), Ms Julie WONG, Assistant Director – Sustainability, NWS Holdings Limited (Bottom Left), and Dr Calvin Lee KWAN, Head of Sustainability, Link Asset Management Limited (Bottom Right), participated in the panel discussion in the morning. Mr W K WONG, Assistant Senior Manager, Sustainability, HKQAA (Upper right), was the moderator.



Ms Esther YU, Sustainability Manager, The Wharf (Holdings) Limited (Upper Left), Ms Lilian LAW, MH, JP, Former Executive Director, The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (Upper Right), Prof Lubanski LAM, Assistant Professor of Department of Business Administration, Hong Kong Shue Yan University (Bottom Left), and Dr Amie LAI, Senior Sustainable Development Manager, Swire Properties Limited, participated in the panel discussion in the afternoon.

Speaker	Topic
Mr C F KWAN, MH, JP Chairman, Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) Committee	Keynote 1: Facing COVID-19 Crisis: Role of Social Capital and ESG
Ms Anita MO Chief Executive Officer, Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited	Keynote 2: ESG Investing
Mr P C CHAN Deputy Chief Executive Officer, HKQAA	Keynote 3: Enhancing ESG Performance and Building Social Capital
Mr W K WONG Assistant Senior Manager, Sustainability, HKQAA	Introduction to Social Capital and 7 Core Subjects
Dr Calvin Lee KWAN Head of Sustainability, Link Asset Management Limited	Presentation 1: Building Reciprocal Partnerships in Business
Ms Julie WONG Assistant Director – Sustainability, NWS Holdings Limited	Presentation 2: Building Social Capital through CSV
Mr Hendrik ROSENTHAL, Director – Group Sustainability, CLP Group	Presentation 3: How to Build Good Governance to Drive ESG Performance
Ms Jorine TAM Director, Corporate Business, HKQAA	Introduction to Corporate Social Capital Implementation Guidance Document (Presentation in Cantonese)
Prof Lubanski LAM Assistant Professor of Department of Business Administration, Hong Kong Shue Yan University	Presentation 4: Six Dimensions of Social Capital and ESG (Presentation in Cantonese)
Dr Amie LAI Senior Sustainable Development Manager, Swire Properties Limited	Presentation 5: Staff Buy-in and Participation in Forming the Sustainable Development Strategy: SD2030 (Presentation in Cantonese)
Ms Lilian LAW, MH, JP Former Executive Director, The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	Presentation 6: Sustainable Partnership with Charities and NGOs (Presentation in Cantonese)
Ms Esther YU Sustainability Manager, The Wharf (Holdings) Limited	Presentation 7: Business-in-Community: Driving Social Changes and Building Networks (Presentation in Cantonese)

For more information about social capital and ESG-related topics, please click <http://bitly.ws/9H6h> to review the online conference or <http://bitly.ws/9H6w> to download the "Corporate Social Capital Implementation Guidance Document" published by HKQAA.

Supporting Organisations: (Listed in no particular order)