

Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

Organised by HKQAA

Facilitate Sustainable Finance Development
Promote Climate Risk & ESG Disclosure



Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

■ Background

- As the pandemic continues to recede, governments worldwide have been formulating recovery policies and measures to reshape society sustainably, supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Our country highly values SDG implementation and actively promotes green economic and social development. The Hong Kong SAR Government is also committed to developing Hong Kong into a green and sustainable financial hub in the region.
- Under this trend, organisations need to develop strategies to strengthen business resilience and enhance ESG performance to tackle challenges under the new normal and align with the government's climate change and sustainability policies.



Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

- **Vision - Uphold HKQAA's mission to promote the sustainable development of businesses and society as a whole**
 - As a non-profit public organisation established by the Hong Kong Government in 1989, HKQAA has striven to encourage enterprises to improve performance continuously to tackle various challenges and benefit society.
 - This year, HKQAA continues to organise the “Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards”. With the theme of “Facilitate Sustainable Finance Development, Promote Climate Risk & ESG Disclosure”, we will roll out recognition awards related to below categories. We aim to promote the sustainable development of businesses and society as a whole :
 - **Green & Sustainable Finance**
 - **Net-Zero Contribution**
 - **Climate Risk Disclosure** and **ESG Disclosure** Contribution



Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

- **Vision - Uphold HKQAA's mission to promote the sustainable development of businesses and society as a whole**

Objectives of the Recognition Program

- Recognise the organisations which had made significant achievements and efforts in generating positive sustainability impacts and contributing to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Promote the issuance of green and sustainability related financial instruments, supporting Hong Kong's development into a green and sustainable finance hub in the region
- Encourage organisations to continuously enhance carbon emission performance to align with the Government's carbon neutrality strategies
- Encourage organisations to disclose ESG and climate risk information using a common framework
- Encourage organisations to cultivate staff development, pursue continuous improvement and support the promotion of sustainable development in the community
- Researches, publications and technical exchanges on green and sustainability will be supported by utilising resources from the recognition program.



Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

■ Eligibility of Entry:

1. **Issuers** of green and sustainability related financial instruments issued from 1 November 2022 to 31 October 2023 which:

- obtained appropriate green and sustainable finance certification; or
- obtained appropriate independent second opinion document for green and sustainable financial instruments; or
- obtained appropriate independent second opinion document or assessment conclusion for green and sustainability linked financial instruments; or
- obtained appropriate independent verification report or statement for green and sustainability linked financial instruments; or
- completed appropriate independent greenness assessment or e-assessment for green financial instruments; or
- Launched innovative green and sustainable financial products/ services and completed appropriate independent conformity assessment

2. **Banks or financial service providers** involved in the issuance/ launch of green and sustainability related financial instruments/ services during the above period and obtained the above certification or conformity assessment document.

3. **Other issuers, listed companies, public service organisations, banks or financial service providers** which have made efforts and contributions to carbon neutrality, climate risk or ESG disclosure, and are planning, or were involved in the past, in the issuance/ launch of green and sustainability-related financial instruments/ services, but have not been involved in such financial instruments/ services during the above period.



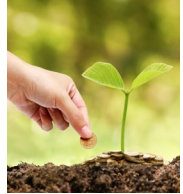
Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

■ Categories of the Awards**

Green and Sustainable Bond, Loan and Other Financial Instruments/ Services - \$38,000/ per application

- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Facilitator
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Facilitator
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Deposit Facilitator
- Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Guarantee Facilitator
- Pioneering Organisation in Green and Sustainable (Other Financial Instrument/ Service Category) Service

Green and
Sustainable
Finance



***Applicants can apply for more than one award at the same time, but are required to submit the application fee and declaration form for each award*

Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

■ Categories of the Awards**

Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution - \$38,000/ per application

- Achievement of Visionary Net-Zero Strategies
- Achievement of Visionary Carbon Peak Strategies
- Visionary Blueprint towards Net-Zero
- Showcase Carbon Disclosure Performance

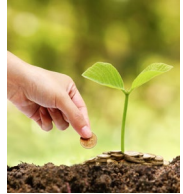
Net-Zero
Contribution

Climate Risk Disclosure and ESG Disclosure Contribution
- \$38,000/ per application

- Pioneering Organisation in Climate Disclosure Planning / ESG Disclosure Enhancement
- Pioneering Award for Climate / ESG Disclosure Contribution
- Outstanding Award for Climate / ESG Disclosure Contribution

Climate Risk
Disclosure /
ESG
Disclosure
Contribution

***Applicants can apply for more than one award at the same time, but are required to submit the application fee and declaration form for each award*



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■ Green and Sustainable Bond, Loan and Other Financial Instruments/ Services

For Bond/ Loan Issuers (1 Nov 2022 to 31 Oct 2023)



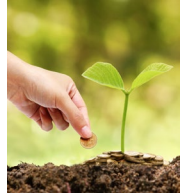
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Issuer (In the sector)**
 - Largest Single (Theme) Bond
 - Largest Amount of (Theme) Bond
 - Visionary (Theme*) Bond Framework/ or Bond Performance Metrics
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Issuer (In the sector)**
 - Largest Single (Theme) Loan
 - Largest Amount of (Theme) Loan
 - Visionary (Theme) Loan Framework/ or Loan Performance Metrics

**The “Theme” is the green and sustainable theme of the bond/ loan, e.g. “Green”, “Social”, “Sustainability”, “Green & Climate Transition”, “Green & Climate Resilience”, “Sustainability-linked”, “Sustainability-linked & Climate Transition”, “Sustainability-linked & Climate Resilience”, “Blue”, “Epidemic Prevention”, etc.*

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■ Green and Sustainable Bond, Loan and Other Financial Instruments/ Services

For Banks/ Financial Service Providers (1 Nov 2022 to 31 Oct 2023)



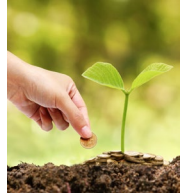
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Lead Manager (In the sector)**
 - Largest Single (Theme*) Bond
 - Largest Amount of (Theme*) Bonds
 - Visionary (Theme*) Bond Framework/ or Bond Performance Metrics
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Bond Facilitator (In the sector)**
 - Visionary (Theme*) Bond Framework/ or Bond Performance Metrics
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Structuring Advisor (in the sector)**
 - Visionary (Theme*) Loan Framework/ or Loan Performance Metrics

**The "Theme" is the green and sustainable theme of the bond/ loan, e.g. "Green", "Social", "Sustainability", "Green & Climate Transition", "Green & Climate Resilience", "Sustainability-linked", "Sustainability-linked & Climate Transition", "Sustainability-linked & Climate Resilience", "Blue", "Epidemic Prevention", etc.*

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■ Green and Sustainable Bond, Loan and Other Financial Instruments/ Services

For Banks/ Financial Service Providers (1 Nov 2022 to 31 Oct 2023)



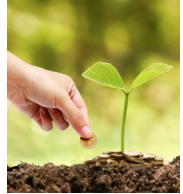
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Loan Facilitator (In the sector)**
 - Largest Single (Theme*) Loan
 - Largest Among of (Theme*) Loans
 - Greatest Number of (Theme*) Loans
 - Greatest Number of (Theme*) Loan e-Assessment
 - Visionary (Theme*) Loan Framework/ or Loan Performance Metrics
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Deposit Facilitator (In the sector)**
 - Largest (Theme*) Deposit
 - Visionary (Theme*) Deposit Service

**The "Theme" is the green and sustainable theme of the bond/ loan, e.g. "Green", "Social", "Sustainability", "Green & Climate Transition", "Green & Climate Resilience", "Sustainability-linked", "Sustainability-linked & Climate Transition", "Sustainability-linked & Climate Resilience", "Blue", "Epidemic Prevention", etc.*

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■ Green and Sustainable Bond, Loan and Other Financial Instruments/ Services

For Banks/ Financial Service Providers (1 Nov 2022 to 31 Oct 2023)



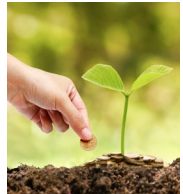
- **Outstanding Award for Green and Sustainable Guarantee Facilitator (In the sector)**
 - Largest Single (Theme*) Guarantee
 - Largest Amount of (Theme*) Guarantees
 - Visionary (Theme*) Guarantee Service
- **Pioneering Organisation in Green and Sustainable (Other Financial Instrument/ Service Category) Service (In the sector)**
 - Visionary (Theme*+ Other Financial Instrument/ Service Category**) Framework/ or Loan Performance Metrics/ or Operation Policy

**The "Theme" is the green and sustainable theme of the bond/ loan, e.g. "Green", "Social", "Sustainability", "Green & Climate Transition", "Green & Climate Resilience", "Sustainability-linked", "Sustainability-linked & Climate Transition", "Sustainability-linked & Climate Resilience", "Blue", "Epidemic Prevention", etc.*

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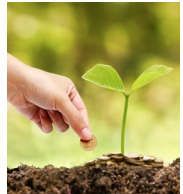
■ Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution

Net-Zero Contribution	
Award Category	Application Conditions
Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution - Achievement of Visionary Net-Zero Strategies	The organisation has obtained the HKQAA "Achievement of Net-Zero Certificate" or has obtained other applicable relevant conformity assessment documents. Meanwhile, the organisation must provide the relevant verification, certification or conformity assessment boundary and relevant carbon emission data for which verification or other assessment has been conducted.
Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution - Achievement of Visionary Carbon Peak Strategies	The organisation has obtained the HKQAA "Achievement of Carbon Peak Certificate" or has obtained other applicable relevant conformity assessment documents. Meanwhile, the organisation must provide the relevant verification, certification or conformity assessment boundary and relevant carbon emission data for which verification or other assessment has been conducted.
Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution - Visionary Blueprint towards Net-Zero	The organisation has obtained the HKQAA "Commitment to Net-Zero Certificate" or has obtained other applicable relevant conformity assessment documents. Meanwhile, the organisation must provide the relevant verification, certification or conformity assessment boundary and relevant carbon emission data for which verification or other assessment has been conducted.
Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution - Showcase Carbon Disclosure Performance	The organisation has obtained the HKQAA "Disclosure of Carbon Emission Certificate" or has obtained other applicable relevant conformity assessment documents. Meanwhile, the organisation must provide the relevant verification, certification or conformity assessment boundary and relevant carbon emission data for which verification or other assessment has been conducted.



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■ Climate Disclosure Contribution



Climate Disclosure Contribution	
Award Category	Application Conditions
Pioneering Organisation in Climate Disclosure Planning	The key elements of climate related risks are planned to be integrated or have been integrated into the 4 core operational areas of "Governance", "Strategy", "Risk Management" and "Metrics and Targets" in order to enhance climate resilience; disclosing information and progress on climate risk in these four key areas, is also planned with reference to the guidance and framework of international organizations and local regulators. Although the organisation has not yet disclosed the relevant information and obtained the relevant document of assessment, verification and other conformity assessment, it has planned or is taking relevant good practices and measures to make contribution to enhance the planning of climate risk management and disclosure.
Pioneering Award for Climate Disclosure Contribution	The key elements of climate related risks have been integrated into the 4 core operational areas of "Governance", "Strategy", "Risk Management" and "Metrics and Targets" in order to enhance climate resilience; disclosing information and progress on climate risk in these four key areas, with reference to the guidance framework of international organizations and local regulators, such as TCFD guidelines, ISSB guidelines, HKMA GS-1, HKEx Climate Disclosure Guidelines, etc., to enhance the climate risk management and disclosure planning; meanwhile, it has planned or applied for relevant assessment, verification and other conformity assessment.
Outstanding Award for Climate Disclosure Contribution	The key elements of climate related risks have been integrated into the 4 core operational areas of "Governance", "Strategy", "Risk Management" and "Metrics and Targets" in order to enhance climate resilience; disclosing information and progress on climate risk in these four key areas, with reference to the guidance framework of international organizations and local regulators, such as TCFD guidelines, ISSB guidelines, HKMA GS-1, HKEx Climate Disclosure Guidelines, etc, to enhance the climate risk management and disclosure planning; meanwhile, it has already obtained the relevant document of assessment, verification and other conformity assessment.

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■ ESG Disclosure Contribution

ESG Disclosure Contribution	
Award Category	Application Conditions
 <p>Pioneering Organisation in ESG Disclosure Enhancement</p>	<p>The key elements of climate related risks are planned to be integrated or have been integrated into the 4 core operational areas of "Governance", "Strategy", "Risk Management" and "Metrics and Targets" in order to enhance climate resilience; disclosing the ESG information and progress on climate risk in these four key areas, is planned with reference to the guidance and framework of international organizations and local regulators. Although the organisation has not yet disclosed the relevant information and obtained the relevant document of assessment, verification and other conformity assessment, it has planned or is taking relevant good practices and measures to make contribution to enhance the planning of ESG disclosure.</p>
 <p>Pioneering Award for ESG Disclosure Contribution</p>	<p>The key elements of climate related risks have been integrated into the 4 core operational areas of "Governance", "Strategy", "Risk Management" and "Metrics and Targets" in order to enhance climate resilience; disclosing information and progress on climate risk in these four key areas, with reference to the guidance framework of international organizations and local regulators, such as TCFD guidelines, ISSB guidelines, HKMA GS-1, HKEx Climate Disclosure Guidelines, etc, to enhance the ESG disclosure; meanwhile, it has planned or applied for relevant assessment, verification and other conformity assessment.</p>
 <p>Outstanding Award for ESG Disclosure Contribution</p>	<p>The key elements of climate related risks have been integrated into the 4 core operational areas of "Governance", "Strategy", "Risk Management" and "Metrics and Targets" in order to enhance climate resilience; disclosing information and progress on climate risk in these four key areas, with reference to the guidance framework of international organizations and local regulators, such as TCFD guidelines, ISSB guidelines, HKMA GS-1, HKEx Climate Disclosure Guidelines, etc, to enhance the ESG disclosure; meanwhile, it has already obtained the relevant document of assessment, verification and other conformity assessment.</p>

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■ Declaration of Commitment

Applicants commit to completing the exchange and training programs* on or before 31 March 2024 to fulfil the Awards' application requirements :

- Commit to arranging **two** staff with related job duties to participate in a 15-minute free video training course via Lightshare, HKQAA's online think tank platform, on topics about sustainable development, Net-Zero and climate risk, by the end of March 2024

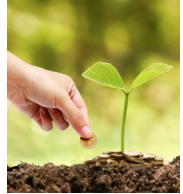


**CCU will follow up with the organization's contact person. It is not necessary to provide the above information or conduct training at the application stage.*

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■ Awards Presentation and Public Exposures

- Awarded organisations will be recognised in the ceremony during **HKQAA Symposium – Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Award 2023** on 30th November 2023*
- Featured sections for Awardees in the post-event commemorative booklet of the Symposium and Award
- Logo exposure in related promotion materials and occasions of the Awards
- Sharing opportunities on online platform or publication
- Interview articles for invited awardees in the newspaper supplement



**Health and safety of our guests, partners and staff are always our top priority. In case of an epidemic outbreak, HKQAA would take stringent precautionary measures to maintain the level of health and hygiene, in line with HKSAR Government's policy. To minimize the spread of infectious diseases, please note that the event format may change from in-person to hybrid / virtual or others.*

Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

■ Highlights of last year's Symposium and Awards

- HKQAA International Symposium – Sustainable Finance and Climate Resilience • Hong Kong 2022
https://www.hkqaa.org/en_community.php?catid=2&id=60
- House Programme of International Symposium 2022
https://www.hkqaa.org/cmsimg/Symposium2022/Highlight_of_sympto_2022_v09.pdf
- Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2022
https://www.hkqaa.org/en_gsservice.php?catid=20
- Award Booklet
https://www.hkqaa.org/cmsimg/Symposium2022/Awards_Booklet_2022.pdf



Hong Kong Green and Sustainable Finance Awards 2023

■ Application

Please submit the application to hkqaa.mkt@hkqaa.org. No online forms provided

Part A - Application Form

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Part B to E – Declaration Form




Declaration Form	Applicable For
Part B	Green and Sustainable Bond, Loan and Other Financial Instruments/ Services
Part C	Management Award for Net-Zero Contribution
Part D	Climate Risk Disclosure Contribution
Part E	ESG Disclosure Contribution

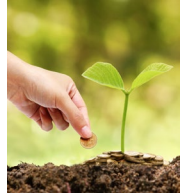
Submission Deadline for Part A – Application Form is **19 October 2023**;

Submission Deadline for Part B to E – Declaration Form is **31 October 2023**.

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■ Important Dates

September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion and accepting applications
19th October 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission deadline for application (Part A – Application Form)
31st October 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission deadline for declaration form & supporting document files (Part B to E – Declaration Form)
November 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoring and checking information Invitation to attend the Award Ceremony
30th November 2023 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results announcement and Award Ceremony* (HKQAA International Symposium - Sustainable Finance and Climate Resilience • 2023 will be held in HKEX Connect Hall)
Before 31st March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awardees fulfilling their commitments/ Publications of official Post-event Commemorative Booklet



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For Enquiry and Application:

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Corporate Communications Unit

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