

SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

Hong Kong Chapter of IFMA | by Jenny Yeung

Climate change is affecting everyone in the world. We cannot wait for someone else to fix this problem for us in the future. We must act now. Sustainability is not a checklist exercise to show how many initiatives you have rolled out but a lifestyle that we should adopt to reduce our environmental footprint to this planet; Our planet is calling for help. Facility managers handling operations, products and services around the globe is an important role to lead this task.

The Hong Kong Chapter of IFMA has strong passion to promote sustainability in the region. The first Green Energy seminar jointly organized with Asian Institute of Management (AIM) was held in June 2015, and the first IFMA Sustainability Workshop was held on June 25, 2016, and now it becomes a regular event in Hong Kong.

The Sustainability Workshop was kicked off by **Ms. Jenny Yeung**, Past President of the Hong Kong Chapter of IFMA (2011-2013). After a warm welcome, Jenny had introduced to the audience IFMA's Sustainability Facility Professional® (SFP®), highlighted IFMA's Knowledge Library, and provided update on ESUS. Distinguished speakers included **Mr. Patrick So**, Engineer from Energy Efficiency Office of Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government, **Mr. Chiu Pak-kan**, Senior Environmental Protection Officer of Environmental Protection Department of HKSAR Government, **Ms. Nissa Marion**, Co-founder and Editor in Chief of Eco-zine and the Hong Kong Cleanup, **Mr. Patrick Yam**, National Sales Manager of LUTRON, **Ms. Catherine Chan**, Project Development Manager of World Green Organization (WGO), and **Mr. Stanley Chen**, Green Building Consultant of GEES Group.

Hong Kong is a densely populated city crowded with high-rise buildings which contribute to about 90% of the city's total electricity consumption. Unsurprisingly, major building services installations are the major source of electricity usage in buildings. HKSAR Government has pledged to achieve energy intensity reduction by 40% by 2025 using 2005 as the base. In 1998, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) launched the voluntary Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Registration Scheme for Buildings to promote building energy efficiency. In 2012, the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance (BEEO) came into full operation specifying the requirements to comply with the Building Energy Code (BEC) and Energy Audit Code (EAC).

To meet the latest developments in technology, international trends and public aspiration, the first comprehensive review of the BEC and EAC was completed and the revised BEC and EAC were gazetted in December 2015, with a view to improving the energy efficiency standards under BEC and enhancing the energy audit requirements of EAC. The revised energy efficiency standards under BEC 2015 edition are expected to bring approximately 10% energy saving in buildings as compared to those under BEC 2012 edition. **Mr. Patrick So** had elaborated in the workshop major key changes in the BEC 2015, i.e. occupant sensors control, integration of daylight, lift regenerative braking system and automatic speed reduction of escalator. HKSAR Government also promoted the development of retro-commissioning to building services installations. 65% of commercial buildings in Hong Kong are over 25 years old. Retro-commissioning bringing back the system efficiency to the design standard can definitely demonstrate its value. Related to the BEC 2015, **Mr. Patrick Yam** had dig deep in the application of automatic lighting control with audit functions and daylight responsive control for offices, classrooms, corridors, storerooms, etc. A vast number of practical case studies were shared with interactive discussions were the fruitful takeaways to the audiences.



Moving on to the waste management section, **Mr. Chiu Pak-kan** had walked through the “Sustainable Use of Resources : Five-Pronged Approach” - 1) reduction at source 2) food waste Hong Kong 3) Clean Recycling 4) Waste to Energy and 5) Hygienic Landfilling. The preview of 1st Organic Waste Treatment Facilities to be commissioned in 2017 and integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 to be commissioned around 2023 are excited projects that we are looking forward to.

Sustainable Use of Resources Five-Pronged Approach

In this metropolitan city of over 7 million population as disposable income and living standards increase, consumption of goods and services correspondingly rise, as does the amount of waste we generate. There are about 9,780 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) being generated in Hong Kong every day, of which 3,600 tonnes is food yard waste. Landfilling is currently the major disposal method for solid waste. However, the reliance on landfills for solid waste disposal is not sustainable because it depletes the valuable landfill space.



To address the waste management problem and develop a sustainable waste management regime, the HKSAR Government promulgated the “Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources (2013-2022)” (Blueprint) in May 2013 and “A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan (Food Waste Plan) for Hong Kong 2014 – 2022” in February 2014 to map out a comprehensive waste and resource management strategy with targets, policies and actions plans for the coming years up to 2022. The target disposal rate reduction is 40% by 2022 using 2011 as base. This represent reducing per-capita MSW disposal rate from 1.27kg to 0.8kg. To-date, there are already 550 signees for the Food Wise Charter in Hong Kong.



While HKSAR Government is working on their road map, the private sector is also increasing their awareness to go “Zero Waste”. **Ms. Nissa Marion** started her sustainability journey through Hong Kong Cleanup 15 years ago and is passionate in bringing Zero Waste Corporate Challenge to Hong Kong. In Nissa’s presentation she defines “Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices, to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use. It means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.” Zero waste is a global topic. Discussion panels was held last year to identify business challenges in reducing habits, engage next, infrastructure and metrics. There are also practical solutions to these challenges that inspired us to take simple steps towards zero waste. The successful waste reduction result at **Chi O Stadium** in **Chi O State University** through application of waste management procedures perfectly echoed to another case study carried out by HKSAR Government; the organizer significantly reduced waste year-on-year during the Ruby Seven game in Hong Kong Stadium participated by 40 000 audiences.

Other areas also covered in the workshop included GEES CPD Training by **Mr. Stanley Chen** and WGO’s Sustainable Business Award by **Ms. Catherine Chan**.

Green Environment Energy Saving (GEES) is the first independent Underwriters Laboratories Environment Education Partner in Greater China, developed its own Certified Professional Scheme with specialty of Indoor Air Quality to help professionals equipped with knowledge of improving building indoor air quality from its design, construction to operation. In 2015 IFMA and GEES had signed a Memorandum of Understanding. GEES CPD and IFMA SFP in Hong Kong.

From 2016 onwards, all the listed companies in Hong Kong are required to comply with the new ESG reporting guidelines to enhance business transparency on their social responsibility. This acts as an important incentive to urge those enterprises to develop a better sustainable development strategy. To raise local businesses’ awareness of the importance of their contribution in ESG (Environment, Social, Governance), WGO has initiated an award scheme namely The Sustainable Business Award to recognize corporations that have put efforts and contributions in the following assessment categories in Workplace Quality, Environmental Protection, Operation Practice and Community Involvement.

The next Sustainability Workshop will be held in Hong Kong on November 26, 2016. The event will gather another 8 enthusiastic speakers to share their experiences in this vital topic with our members and associates.