

ESG Series – Latest Trends and Updates

(December 2021 – January 2022)



The recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) highlighted the need for everyone to work together to combat climate change and mitigate its impacts.

There are also increasing demands by investors and regulators on companies to be transparent about the risks and opportunities that climate change and other "ESG" (environmental, social and governance) issues pose to their businesses. Hong Kong first introduced ESG reporting guidelines in 2012, and these have been strengthened since, with the latest guide released in 2020.

As ESG increasingly becomes a priority of the boards and part the business strategy, it is important for us as professionals to understand its essence and implication to businesses, in order to create values and fulfil stakeholders' expectations.

The Institute is playing its own part in becoming more sustainable and promoting sustainability to members. In November 2021, the Institute joined other accounting bodies, all members of The Prince of Wales's Accounting for Sustainability Project Accounting Bodies Network, in publicly committing to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions within their own organizations, as well as provide an enabling environment for their membership to do the same. The Institute will develop its plan over the next 12 months.

The following series of webinars aims to equip participants with fundamental knowledge in ESG and sustainability, giving the latest trends and updates on the certain key areas of ESG – *climate change, sustainability, ESG reporting, and supply chain health and safety.*

Topic (Programme code)	Date and time	Language	CPD hours	Speakers	Moderator
ESG and Climate Change 101 and Latest Trends for Accounting and Finance Professionals (EWEB21121501)	Wed, 15 Dec 2021 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Cantonese	1.5	Mr. Dennis Wu Vice-Chairman and Executive Director, AEC Group; Founder and CEO, AEC Capital Group; Founding Chairman, Greater Bay Area Carbon Neutrality Association	-
ESG Strategy and Communication (EWEB21121701)	Fri, 17 Dec 2021 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Cantonese	1	Mr. Cyrus Cheung Partner, ESG Services, PwC Mr. Gabriel Chung Founder and Director, SocietyNext Foundation	Mr. Herbert Yung Director, Member Engagement, Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Driving Shared Values Through Effective ESG Reporting (EWEB22010501)	Wed, 5 Jan 2022 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	English	1	Mr. Patrick Ho Sustainable Development Manager, Swire Properties Limited	
EHS vs ESG – The Evolution towards Safe, Responsible and Accountable Business (EWEB22011401)	Fri, 14 Jan 2022 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	English	1	Ms. Kimberley Ip Manager, Climate and Sustainability, Deloitte Hong Kong	



Format	Webinar		
Fee (for each session)		<u>1 hour</u>	<u>1.5 hours</u>
	HKICPA member or student or IA:	HK\$120	HK\$150
	Non-member:	HK\$220	HK\$330
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Participants	<p>Accountants; Finance professionals; Financial controllers; Investor relationship practitioners; Investors; CEOs; CFOs; ESG practitioners; ESG rating professionals; Corporate sustainability professionals; Sustainability communications or assurance consultants; Corporate communications, marketing and investment relationships practitioners; ESG, corporate social responsibility and sustainability reporters and contributors; Legal professionals; Company secretaries; Persons who are interested in understanding sustainability reporting and climate change</p> <p>Participants are expected to have basic understanding of accounting, auditing, sustainability, and ESG pillars.</p>		
Competency*	Risk Management and internal control; Corporate governance; Business planning and strategy		
Sub-competency*	Identifying and managing risks; Designing internal controls; Monitoring performance and accountability; Establishing good corporate governance practices and procedures; Developing and implementing strategic actions; Communicating, managing and evaluating strategic plans		
Rating*	Intermediate level		

* Please refer to the [competencies and ratings for CPD events](#).

About the programme

ESG and Climate Change 101 and Latest Trends for Accounting and Finance Professionals (EWEB21121501)

The rapidly growing focus on ESG and climate change by individual, business sectors and regulators accelerates the needs for ESG and climate change knowledge. There are also certain requirements from regulators on ESG and climate change risk management. This webinar will provide the basics and the latest development of ESG, sustainability, United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate change risk management. Topics include:

- The impacts of ESG in macro and micro level
- Causes of climate change and its linkage to carbon emission
- Introduction of Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) framework
- Examples of climate change-related risks and opportunities
- Key regulatory requirements on ESG and climate change risk management and its development
- Latest development of future sustainability reporting standard



ESG Strategy and Communication (EWEB21121701)

Climate change and net zero have been the hot topics lately. Investors around the globe have increasing demand for more transparent disclosure from businesses. A well-established ESG strategy and reporting system can better enable companies to make business decisions and provide transparency to the outside world. How to integrate corporate governance, climate-related risks, and ESG strategy into the business strategy and enhance company's ESG branding is becoming increasingly important. This webinar will discuss the ESG strategy and communication. Topics include:

- Latest ESG trends
- How to integrate ESG strategy and case sharing
- How ESG strategy could generate value for shareholder

Driving Shared Values Through Effective ESG Reporting (EWEB22010501)

ESG reporting serves as the mainstream platform for companies to communicate their strategies around material ESG impacts, risks and opportunities. Effective reporting enables companies to gain competitive advantages, get better access to green and sustainable finance and generate shared social and environmental values with stakeholders.

Creating a high quality ESG report can be challenging, as it must fulfill the specific requirements of the reporting methodology and principles, and also strike the right balance of information and data from a wide range of topics. Companies also need to plan well on how to communicate relevant information to drive long-term sustainability improvements. This webinar will share insights of "why", "what" and "how" of effective ESG reporting. Topics include:

- ESG strategy and reporting
- ESG governance and materiality
- ESG reporting: Why, what and how
- How ESG reporting drives performance improvement
- How ESG reporting supports communication and engagement

EHS vs ESG – The Evolution towards Safe, Responsible and Accountable Business (EWEB22011401)

In the context of the climate change and global drive for reduction in carbon emissions, businesses are pressured to address the environmental impact of their operations and its safety for the employees and communities.

In this webinar, the concept of environmental, health and safety (EHS) aspects of operating a business and how the traditional framework of EHS relating to the up-and-coming phenomenon of environmental, social and governance (ESG) will be covered. Different phases of EHS in application to different businesses, the concept of materiality, and major components of EHS will also be addressed. The critical building blocks of a robust EHS management system will be introduced to the audience, addressing the interplay between regulatory compliance and going over-and-beyond.

After joining this webinar, participants will be familiar with the common metrics and disclosures pertaining to EHS and will be able to identify and differentiate key EHS standards and relevant reporting frameworks. Topics include:

- Correlation between EHS and ESG
- Robust EHS management system
- EHS metrics and disclosures
- EHS as part of regulatory compliance
- Voluntary EHS standards and reporting frameworks



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About the speakers

Mr. Dennis Wu

Vice-Chairman and Executive Director, AEC Group; Founder and CEO, AEC Capital Group; Founding Chairman, Greater Bay Area Carbon Neutrality Association

Mr. Wu's role in AEC Group (Stock Code: 8320.HK) mainly focuses on green and healthy buildings, environmental consultancy and sustainability advisory, and his role in AEC Capital Group focuses on sustainable finance, real estate, and investment management.

Mr. Wu has over 20 years of experience in finance industry. He worked in the Assurance and Business Advisory Services Department – Financial Institution Group of Arthur Andersen and PricewaterhouseCoopers in early 2000s. Subsequently, he worked for CITIC Capital Group for 17 years focusing on alternative asset management including private equity, real estate, mezzanine, venture capital, special situation, and marketable securities. During his career in CITIC Capital, Mr. Wu was appointed as Executive Director for Finance Department, Direct Investment Department, and Culture and Tourism Department chronologically.

Currently, Mr. Wu is a Co-Chair of Green and Sustainable Private Equity Working Group under Hong Kong Green Finance Association (HKGFA). He is also a Director of Hong Kong Private Equity Finance Association (HKPEFA), and a member of Environment and Sustainability Committee under Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (HKGCC). Mr. Wu completed courses on Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Professional Certification Program, Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), sustainable finance and digital transformation, in which he acquired the knowledge of sustainability and digital transformation.

Mr. Cyrus Cheung

Partner, ESG Services, PwC

Mr. Cheung specializes in sustainability advisory, corporate governance, risk management, internal controls and assurance. In particular, he has extensive experience in advising listed companies to develop and improve their ESG performance.

Mr. Cheung has delivered 50+ professional training and advice on sustainability to the companies from various sectors, including real estate, infrastructure, construction, conglomerates, ports operations, logistics and others. He also serves on the Sustainability Committee of the HKICPA.

Mr. Gabriel Chung

Founder and Director, SocietyNext Foundation

Mr. Chung is an author and organization development inventor in the innovation and transformation field. His corporate projects have received seven public awards including the International Society for Performance Improvement (ISPI) Award of Excellence in the United States. Mr. Chung's projects have been featured as case studies in international journals such as Global Business and Organizational Excellence, KEDGE (Wiley) and ISPI (Organizational) Performance Improvement Journal (Wiley), and the Top Most Read Paper in (Organizational) Performance Improvement, Wiley, 2018 & 2019.

Founded by Mr. Chung, the mission of SocietyNext Foundation is to collaborate with more organizations and people to shift from reactive to proactive in participating sustainability journey, thus enhancing sustainable development impacts and supporting sustainable prosperity. The initiatives include InnoESG Prize (since 2019), National ESG Commitment and its Progress through Sustainable Development Goal Badges, ESG Acceleration Certification Center for Sustainable Value Creation. Many businesses have already taken part including those from the Fortune 500, blue chip companies, listed companies, would be listed companies, private companies, and more.



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Mr. Patrick Ho

Sustainable Development Manager, Swire Properties Limited

In Swire Properties Limited, Mr. Ho has developed and executed the Sustainable Development 2030 Strategy, action and communication plans across the operation of the Company's global portfolio. He also manages the development and publication of the Company's annual sustainability report in accordance with Global Reporting Initiative and ESG Reporting Guide of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. In addition, he manages the corporate disclosure to various global ESG indices and ratings, including Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI), Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI), GRESB (Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark), FTSE4GOOD (is a collection of ESG stock indexes administered by the Financial Times Stock Exchange-Russell Group) and Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index. In 2021, Swire Properties topped the Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index for the fourth consecutive year, receiving the highest total score among all index constituents, while also maintaining an "AAA" rating.

Mr. Ho has more than 15 years of consultancy and trainer experience on environmental management and corporate ESG and sustainability strategy in Hong Kong and China. He is a Chartered Environmentalist, a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) and a Certified Carbon Auditor Professional.

Ms. Kimberley Ip

Manager, Climate and Sustainability, Deloitte Hong Kong

Ms. Ip has 10 years of experience in providing subject matter expertise and advisory on sustainability-related disciplines, including climate, carbon, water, energy efficiency, green buildings, health and safety, social impact, sustainability reporting and stakeholder engagement. She is also experienced in supporting clients in developing their climate and sustainability strategies to address current and future climate related risks.

Ms. Ip has supported multiple corporations in developing roadmaps to achieve Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) compliant net zero goals, including the in-house Deloitte China Firm roadmap to achieve Deloitte's 2030 commitments.

About the moderator

Mr. Herbert Yung

Director, Member Engagement, Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Mr. Yung is a Certified Public Accountant, and has over 12 years of advisory experience in enabling companies across industries to resolve business challenges and achieve sustainable growth. He led various projects relating to sustainability strategy, risk management, as well as ESG reporting and assurance for multinational corporations and Hong Kong listed companies.



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