



Practice Management Series for SMPs
(September – December 2024)



Practice Management Series for SMPs



Run yearly since 2018, this series of webinars on practice management aims to help practitioners from small and medium practices (SMPs) better prepare for the challenges and opportunities ahead, adapt to changes, improve their management and operational efficiency, as well as to support their sustainability and future success.

Topic (Programme code)	Date and time	Speakers / Panelists
Navigating the tech wave – Digitalization experiences in small and medium accounting practices (Event code: EWEB24091201)	Thursday, 12 September 2024 12:30 – 2:00 pm	<p>Mr. Jimmy Yip Deputy Chairman, Small and Medium Practices Committee (SMPC), Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA) Chairman, SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA</p> <p>Mr. Webster Ng, JP. Member, SMPC, HKICPA Member, SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA</p> <p>Mr. Thomas Lee Member, SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA</p>
Building strategy and capacity for ESG business (Event code: EWEB24110701)	Wednesday, 27 November 2024 12:30 – 2:00 pm	<p>Mr. Ricky Cheng Member, Sustainability Committee Director and Head of Risk Advisory, BDO Hong Kong</p>
Attract Global Talent for Hong Kong (Event code: EWEB24120502)	Thursday, 5 December 2024 12:30 – 2:00 pm	<p>Mr. Ho Kai-ming, JP. Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare</p>

Language	Cantonese (supplemented with English for technical terms)
Format	Webinar
Fee (for each session)	HKICPA member or student or IA: HK\$160 Non-member: HK\$360 <i>(A confirmation email will be sent to you when your registration is accepted, which will include a login ID and password for the webinar. You may access the webinar by tablet, smart phone or PC.)</i>
Participants	Partners; Managers; Supervisors
Competency*	Information Technology; Sustainability; Team Building
Sub-competency*	Technology-related upgrades and implementations; Understanding the relevancy and applicability of sustainability to business; Talent management
Rating*	Intermediate to advanced level
CPD hours (for each session)	1.5

About the programme

Navigating the tech wave – Digitalization experiences in small and medium accounting practices (Event code: EWEB24091201)

Course outline

In the midst of a rapidly digitizing world, technological innovation has emerged as a key driver of growth and competitiveness for businesses of all sizes. From cloud computing to artificial intelligence (AI), new tech trends are rewriting the rules of business operations across the globe. While the larger corporations are swiftly riding the wave of digital transformation, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) often face unique challenges that can make the transition a daunting endeavour. This is particularly evident in specialized sectors like accounting among small and medium-sized practices (SMPs).

In this panel discussion, the panelists will share their valuable insights and experiences on their journey towards technology adoption in SMPs, ranging from financial constraints to skill gaps. They will also shed light on the opportunities that these technological advancements present for these businesses, such as increased efficiency and the potential to offer more sophisticated services.

Panelists



Mr. Jimmy Yip

Deputy Chairman

Small and Medium Practices Committee (SMPC), Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA)

Chairman

SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA

Mr. Yip joined Mazars Hong Kong in 2000. He has been auditing companies of all sizes, ranging from SMEs to listed local, PRC and overseas companies, as well as H-share listed companies. Besides audit and assurance works, he is also engaged in special assignments including investigation and IPOs.

Mr. Yip's clients are involved in businesses of manufacturing, trading, assets management, computer software development, hotel operation and fitness & beauty centre operations, etc.

Mr. Yip is currently Managing Director at Forvis Mazars in Hong Kong.

Professional memberships

- Associate of Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Deputy Chairman of Small and Medium Practices Committee (SMPC), HKICPA
- Chairman of SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA



Mr. Webster Ng, JP.

Member

SMPC, HKICPA

Member

SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA

Being the proprietor and founder of Webster Ng & Co., Managing Director of AC CPA Limited and Senior Partner of Uniontax (Shenzhen) International Tax Agent Firm Co. Ltd, Mr. Ng is a Fellow Certified Public Accountant (Practising), Chartered Tax Adviser and Registered Six Sigma Champion. He is currently the Independent Non-Executive Director and Chairman of Audit Committee of two listed companies. Mr. Ng is a member of the Sixth Election Committee (Accountancy), member of the inaugural Advisory Committee of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (AFRC), and the President of the Society of Chinese Accountants and Auditors (SCAA), Immediate Past President of the Taxation Institute of Hong Kong (TIHK), Director of Accountancy Caring Alliance Limited and Co-chairman of World Chinese Accountants Consortium Limited. Mr. Ng is a member of Tax Policy Committee of the TIHK and has been named as Honorary Council member of the China Certified Tax Agents Association (CCTAA), Research Committee Member of China International Taxation Research Institute and Accounting Consultant of the Department of Finance of Guangdong Province.

Mr. Ng served in various positions in accountancy sectors, and is currently a member of the Small and Medium Practices Committee of Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA) and SME committee member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), as well as member of Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, Medecins Sans Frontieres (HK) Limited.

In terms of public service, Mr. Ng currently serves as a member of the Lump Sum Grant Steering Committee (LSGSC) and Competition Commission, non-official member of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Community Relations of Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Honorary Treasurer of Social Workers Registration Board and Non-Executive Director and Chairman of Audit Committee of eMPF Platform Company Limited. Mr. Ng was commended as Distinguished Service for Community Building Awardee in 2018 and appointed as Justice of the Peace in 2022.

Mr. Ng holds the fellow membership of HKICPA, ACCA, TIHK, SCAA, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), and The Hong Kong Institute of Directors (HKIoD). He is also an ordinary member of The Hong Kong Independent Non-Executive Director Association (iNEDA) and The Association of Hong Kong Professionals and a founding member of the Hong Kong Professionals and Senior Executives Association (HKPASEA).



Mr. Thomas Lee

Member

SMPC Practice Management and Digitalization Support Group, HKICPA

Mr. Lee is a Partner of Lee, Au & Co. He has more than 20 years in the audit industry. He interned at Jardine Fleming (now JP Morgan) and began his first job at KPMG. He joined his father's audit firm in 2008. Since then, he and his father have partnered together to expand their business to other non-assurance sectors such as UK tax advisory, outsourced HR solutions, property agency and talent recruitment.

Mr. Lee graduated from Accounting and Finance at the University of Warwick and later obtained a second bachelor's degree in Chinese law at the Tsinghua University and Master of Business Administration at the Royal Holloway, University of London.

About the programme

Building strategy and capacity for ESG business

(Event code: EWEB24110701)

Course outline

The landscape of ESG reporting is rapidly evolving. Driven by increasing regulatory demands, investor pressure, and consumer expectations, companies are focusing more on transparency and accountability. The recently revised ESG Reporting Code by the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited is better aligned with the IFRS S2 where listed issuers are required to make their climate-related disclosures starting from financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2025 in their ESG reports. While the enhanced transparency in climate disclosure enables listed issuers to better address the information needs of their investors and stakeholders, the increased requirements create challenges for them in terms of capability, skills and resources availability.

To assist listed issuers in ESG reporting, the speaker will share his insights on how SMPs can better prepare themselves to capture ESG-related business opportunities, including:

- Overview of the reporting landscape and key drivers
- Challenges for companies seeking to fulfill the reporting requirements
- ESG-related opportunities
- A snapshot of ESG tools
- Preparation and collaboration needed for business development

Speaker



Mr. Ricky Cheng

Member,
Sustainability Committee
Director and Head of Risk Advisory,
BDO Hong Kong

Ricky Cheng is a seasoned professional at BDO, where he excels at Risk Advisory Services. With over two decades of experience, Ricky specializes in internal audit, risk management, and regulatory compliance. His expertise spans various sectors, including financial services, healthcare, and technology. Ricky has accumulated years of experience and gained knowledge in the ESG space through conducting researches and providing ESG reporting and advisory services to listed companies. Ricky is a governor of the Institute of Internal Auditors Hong Kong. Ricky holds CPA, Certified Internal Auditors and Fellow of the Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute designations and is known for his strategic insights and leadership in navigating complex risk landscapes. He is a frequent speaker at industry conferences and a respected thought leader, contributing to numerous publications. Ricky's commitment to excellence and client service has solidified his reputation as a trusted advisor in the field.

About the programme

Attract Global Talent for Hong Kong

(Event code: EWEB24120502)

Course outline

The accounting profession in Hong Kong continues to play an important role in safeguarding the integrity of the financial system, contributing to its stability and growth. However, the accounting industry is currently grappling with a substantial challenge in the attraction and retention of skilled professionals, a phenomenon that is not unique to the profession but prevalent across various industries.

In this webinar, the speaker will introduce a series of talent admission schemes to participants, including the Top Talent Pass Scheme (TTPS), Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals (ASMTP), Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG), Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (QMAS), Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS), Admission Scheme for the Second-Generation of Chinese Hong Kong Permanent Residents (ASSG), General Employment Policy (GEP) – Professionals (for non-Mainland residents), General Employment Policy (GEP) – Entrepreneurs (for non-Mainland residents), in order to help CPAs to solve the problems of talent shortage.

Speaker



Mr. Ho Kai-ming, JP.

Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Mr. Ho has been Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare since 2020.

Mr. Ho had served as Council Member of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Director-General of the Hong Kong Manufacturing Industry Employees General Union, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Clerical and Professional Employees General Union. Prior to joining the HKSAR Government, Mr. Ho was a member of the Legislative Council, and of the Kwun Tong District Council from 2012 to 2019. He is a member of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions.

Mr. Ho holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.



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