Hong Kong Institute of
Certified Public Accountants
香港會計師公會

HKICPA X ICAEW – Building trust in sustainability reporting: the role of assurance



Programme Code: FCPD26111601

Hong Kong is developing an internationally aligned sustainability reporting and assurance ecosystem. This joint HKICPA and ICAEW session covers practical implementation, examining how organisations can prepare for, commission and use sustainability assurance as local reporting and assurance expectations develop.

Through a fireside chat and panel discussion, the speakers will explore credible sustainability information, the profession's role in building trust and the practical considerations involved in procuring and using assurance. The discussion will also include questions from the audience.

Session Impact:

- **Connect strategic and local perspectives.** Place Hong Kong's sustainability assurance development within the wider international movement towards trusted sustainability information.
- **Turn assurance into practical decisions.** Give boards, finance and sustainability teams a usable framework for deciding what to assure, when to begin and how to procure a high-quality engagement.
- **Hear from different parts of the market.** Combine institutional leadership with preparer, governance and assurance perspectives.

This session will cover:

- How the needs from buyers of sustainability assurance inform the scope and level of sustainability assurance.
- The factors that determine whether sustainability information is ready for assurance.
- What to consider when appointing an assurance practitioner, including independence, competence and quality.
- How boards and management can use assurance findings to improve governance, controls and future reporting.

Event Rundown:

10:00 a.m.	**Registration**
10:30 a.m.	**Welcome and introduction**
10:35 a.m.	**Fireside chat – HKICPA x ICAEW** Mr. Ravi Abeywardana of ICAEW and Mr. Herbert Yung of HKICPA will share perspectives on credible sustainability information and the profession's role in building trust. Speakers: • Mr. Herbert Yung - Director, Sustainability, HKICPA • Mr. Ravi Abeywardana - Director of Sustainability Reporting and Assurance, ICAEW *(Speaker profiles are provided overleaf)*
10:50 a.m.	**Panel discussion: Practical insights for buyers of assurance** The panel discussion will explore assurance readiness, engagement scope and level,

	practitioner selection, and how assurance findings can improve reporting and controls, followed by questions from the audience. **Panellists:** • Ms. Athena Ng - Chief Communications Officer, China Overseas Land & Investment Limited • Ms. Eddie Ng - Partner, ESG Reporting and Assurance, KPMG • Mr. Ravi Abeywardana - Director of Sustainability Reporting and Assurance, ICAEW **Moderator:** • Mr. Herbert Yung - Director, Sustainability, HKICPA *(Speaker profiles are provided overleaf)*
11:30 a.m.	**Networking**

Date	**Monday, 16 November 2026**
Time	**10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
Format	Face-to-face
Location	**HKICPA Auditorium** 27/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai
Language	English
Fee	Free of charge *Places are limited and enrolments will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Successful applicants will receive a confirmation email.*
Participants	Accountants; Finance professionals; Financial controllers; Investor relations practitioners; Investors; CEOs; CFOs; Sustainability practitioners
Competency*	Sustainability
Sub-competency*	Sustainability assurance
Rating*	Foundation to intermediate level
CPD hour	1
Enrolment deadline	**Friday, 13 November 2026** *Non-members may be required to register for a web account for enrolment. Click here for instructions.*

* *Please refer to the competencies and ratings for CPD events.*

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About the speakers



Mr. Ravi Abeywardana
Director of Sustainability Reporting and Assurance, ICAEW

With more than 20 years of experience spanning both the public interest and private sectors, Ravi is a recognized leader in ESG, sustainability reporting and assurance, sustainable finance, and financial reporting. He was a key architect of the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards, leading the development of draft IFRS S1 and the expansion of the Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB) Framework, which is referenced within the ISSB Standards. As former Technical Director of both the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) and CDSB, he also led global capacity-building initiatives to support the implementation and adoption of the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards. Prior to this, he held leadership roles at Olam International, a Singapore-listed global agri-business, where he focused on finance, corporate sustainability, sustainability disclosures, and sustainable finance.



Ms. Athena Ng
Chief Communications Officer, China Overseas Land & Investment Limited

Athena is the Chief Communications Officer at China Overseas Land & Investment Limited, responsible for corporate finance, media, investor relations, environmental, social and governance ("ESG") matters, and other board-related affairs. She also serves as a Council member of the Institute, and as a board member of Friends of the Earth (HK), one of Hong Kong's most prominent and long-established environmental groups.

Athena is a Certified Public Accountant (Hong Kong and the Commonwealth of Virginia), a Chartered Secretary, a CFA Charterholder, a holder of the Fundamentals of Sustainability Accounting (FSA) credential, and a Certified ESG Analyst (CESGA®), awarded by the European Federation of Financial Analysts Societies (EFFAS).



Ms. Eddie Ng
Partner, ESG Reporting and Assurance, KPMG China
Chair, Sustainability Assurance Advisory Panel, HKICPA
Member, Sustainability Ethics Advisory Panel, HKICPA

Ms. Ng is the firm's technical leader of reporting and assurance of non-financial information and has hands on experience in supporting professionals and clients in interpreting and applying ESG reporting and assurance requirements.

Ms. Ng possesses expertise and local implementation experience across a range of sustainability advisory services to support companies in preparing their ESG reports in compliance with the HKEX ESG Reporting Guide and TCFD recommendations. She has led and participated in various ESG advisory and assurance engagements, e.g. stakeholder engagement, material assessment, ESG strategy formulation and ESG rating enhancement.



Mr. Herbert Yung
Director, Sustainability, HKICPA

Herbert is a sustainability executive with extensive experience across the professional services, financial and public sectors. He is the Director of Sustainability at the HKICPA, leading the Institute's sustainability initiatives to advance sustainability reporting and assurance in Hong Kong. His work spans professional capacity building, stakeholder engagement and advocacy for the adoption and application of sustainability disclosure and assurance standards, as well as the Institute's own sustainability strategy and reporting.