



Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Series (January to February 2019)



In view of the increasing attention of regulators and the business sector on sustainability and ESG reporting, HKICPA continues to run the ESG Series of seminars to assist members in developing their knowledge in this subject area and the relevant challenges faced by Hong Kong listed companies.

| Topic/ Programme code | Date and Time | Speaker |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Overview of ESG Reporting and Greenhouse Gas Accounting/ Carbon Trading (SCPD19010801) | Tuesday 8 January 2019 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Mr. Vincent Pang <i>CFA, HKICPA, CPA (Australia)</i> Managing Director, AVISTA Group Ms. Karin Chiu <i>MSc (EST), LEED (BD+C),</i> <i>BEAM Pro, AMHKIEIA</i> Assistant Manager – Risk Advisory Services, AVISTA Group |
| Interpretation of ESG Rating and Responses (SCPD19011801) | Friday, 18 January 2019 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Ir. Coleman Ng <i>FHKIE, FCIWEM, FIMechE, FIET, CEng, CEnvMgr</i> Head of Business Reporting and Sustainability, Greencove EX Limited |
| How Environmental Due-Diligence Affects M&A Deal Conditions (SCPD19022201) | Friday, 22 February 2019 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | |

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|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Venue | Hong Kong Institute of CPAs, 27/F., Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong | |
| Format | Seminar | |
| Language | Cantonese | |
| Fee | HKICPA member or student: | HK\$150 |
| (For each) | IA/ HKIAAT member or student: | HK\$150 |
| | Non-member: | HK\$330 |
| Participants | Financial professionals; Accountants; Investor relationship practitioners; Investors; ESG practitioners; Legal professionals; ESG rating professionals; Engineers; Financial controllers; Directors; Company secretaries | |
| Competency* | Risk management; Auditing and assurance; Corporate finance; Accounting and financial reporting; Corporate governance | |
| Rating* | Intermediate level | |
| CPD hours | 1.5 | |
| (For each) | | |

* Please refer to the [Institute's online CPD Learning Resource Centre](#) for descriptions of competency and rating.



About the programme

Overview of ESG Reporting and Greenhouse Gas Accounting/ Carbon Trading (SCPD19010801)

Course outline

There is mounting evidence that long-term returns may best be calculated using a company's environmental, social and governance (ESG) metrics. A number of ESG reporting frameworks are being generated by stock exchanges around the world in an effort to upgrade transparency and performance of listed companies in non-financial aspects. Considering there is a global trend to impose costs on the emission of greenhouse gases, integration of climate-related risks into financial decisions is growingly significant. Topics include:

- Current trend of ESG reporting
- Latest regulatory updates in ESG reporting
- Common challenges in an ESG reporting cycle with cases sharing
- Future trend in sustainability practices
- Greenhouse gas accounting: Guideline and methodology
- Case study of carbon pricing: Cap-and-trade system and carbon taxes

After joining this seminar, participants will gain knowledge about:

- The latest reporting trend in ESG reporting
- Current disclosure requirements to avoid the risk of non-compliance
- Sustainability practices in the future
- Practical tips on overcoming the difficulties in preparation of an ESG report
- GHG accounting and carbon pricing

Speakers

Mr. Vincent Pang *CFA, HKICPA, CPA (Australia)*,
Group Founder & Managing Director, AVISTA Group

Mr. Pang has advisory experiences in a wide range of industries, including financial services, energy, IT, technology and pharmaceutical, etc. He has more than 18 years experiences in leading AVISTA on corporate investment, business consulting, M&A advisory and financial valuation in Hong Kong and China.

Before founding AVISTA, Mr. Pang was an Associate Director of PricewaterhouseCoopers in charge of its valuation division in Beijing. He participated in numerous large M&A deals in China for multinational corporations and Chinese state-owned enterprises. He was also involved in a number of the largest US and HK IPO listing assignments.

Ms. Karin Chiu *MSc (EST), LEED (BD+C), BEAM Pro, AMHKIEIA*,
Assistant Manager – Risk Advisory Services, AVISTA Group

Ms. Chiu is experienced in developing and implementing environmental sustainability strategies. She is skilled in the provision of sustainability strategies advisory, sustainability reporting, carbon audit, energy analysis and air pollutant analysis. She provides sustainability consultancy services to local, mainland and national clients from a wide spectrum of industries, including manufacturing, logistic, renewable energy, environmental protection, medical and health care, food and beverage, property management and retail industries.



Interpretation of ESG Rating and Responses (SCPD19011801)

Course outline

Nowadays, institutional investors pay particular attention to corporate ESG performance. In addition, there are evidences showing that sustainability investment grows across globally as investors diversify their investments to increasingly focus on those companies that perform strongly with respect to corporate sustainability.

One of the critical ways to determine the ESG performance of an individual company is to look at its ESG rating given by some rating agencies. In Hong Kong, Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index (HSSUS) is one of the Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index Series which provides benchmark for sustainability investment. Assessment of the companies is based on a set of pre-determined protocol and the findings (i.e. the rating) will suggest the constituents of the HSSUS. Similar practices are applied to other global markets, such as the A-share companies and the MSCI ESG Indexes.

This seminar aims to make reference of the ESG performance assessment protocol being used for the HSSUS to introduce the rating methodology. Insights to interpret the rating and performance will be shared. Recommendations on how to improve the rating through corporate governance, stakeholders communication, target setting, human rights, etc. will also be discussed.

Topics include:

- Determination of ESG Performance
- ESG Rating Reference
- Interpretation of ESG Rating
- Recommendation for Improvement of ESG Rating

How Environmental Due-Diligence Affects M&A Deal Conditions (SCPD19022201)

Course outline

Identification of potential environmental liabilities is critical for M&A deals. For example, previous land use such as oil storage or farmland may cause potential land contamination. New/ updated legislative requirements may impose necessity of upgrading of existing environmental pollution control systems. Excessive carbon emissions may incur additional environmental taxes. All aforesaid environmental problems may eventually affect the deal decision and/ or conditions such as price.

This seminar aims to introduce some ideas on undertaking environmental due-diligence to identify potential environmental risks and liabilities for the purpose of supporting M&A deals. International protocols such as IFC and/ or ADB will be briefly introduced. Due-considerations will be given to environmental engineering and science.

Topics include:

- Purpose and advantages of environmental due-diligence for M&A activities
- License for operation
- Key considerations of environmental due-diligence
- International protocols for environmental due-diligence

Speaker

Ir. Coleman Ng, *CHKIE, FCIWEM, FIMechE, FIET, CEng*

Head of Business Reporting and Sustainability, Greencove EX Limited

Ir. Ng is a chartered environmental, mechanical and electrical engineer. He has over 25 years experience in management consulting and green engineering. He is specialized in assisting listed companies for sustainability reports, MNCs for carbon strategies, investors for ESG due-diligence, as well as industrial and commercial sectors for environmental improvement. He would like to make use of his competent experience on green engineering and hands-on knowledge on finance to assist corporates to improve their financial performance via sustainability.



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 - The Institute reserves the right to change the venue, date, speaker or to cancel the event due to unforeseen circumstances.
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