

About BEC

Business Environment Council Limited (BEC) is an independent, non-profit membership organisation, established by the business sector in Hong Kong. BEC is also a tax-exempt charitable organisation under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap 112). Since its establishment in 1992, BEC has been at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence by advocating the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution and improve corporate environmental and social responsibility. BEC offers sustainable solutions and professional services covering advisory, research, assessment, training and award programmes for government, business and the community, thus enabling environmental protection and contributing to the transition to a net-zero economy.

The six flares of the BEC logo denote Sustainability – the 21st Century Agenda which embraces Economic Growth, Eco Efficiency, Social Equality, Partnership and Action.

Our Vision

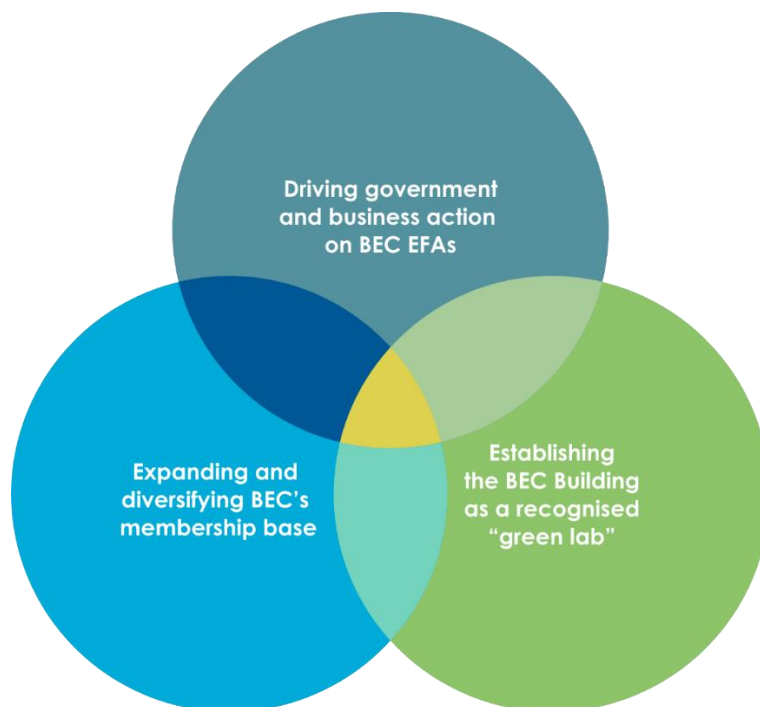
To lead, enable and drive the business community to transform for a green, liveable and sustainable Hong Kong.

Our Mission

To galvanise business actions towards environmental excellence and net zero in Hong Kong by connecting the government, businesses, and community through thought leadership, innovative solutions, policy advocacy, strategic partnership, advisory services, and environmental education.

Environmental Focus Areas

In 2019, during BEC strategy re-evaluation and articulation exercise, we identified three environmental focus areas (“EFAs”): Climate Change, Circular Economy and Sustainable Living Environment, that serve as anchor points to converge internal resources, focus BEC’s attention, drive our advocacy and maximise impact. Building on the analysis, a set of interrelated strategic priorities were identified:



BEC Net-zero Carbon Charter

BEC Net-zero Carbon Charter, riding on the merits of its predecessor BEC Low Carbon Charter launched in 2019, has attracted a total of 60 signatories from a diverse range of industries including property and construction, banking and finance, engineering and architecture, aviation and shipping, power and utilities, and hospitality sectors.

BEC Net-zero Carbon Charter consists of two parts: Declaration and Commitment. Signatories, who can commit to either Action Signatory or Science-aligned Signatory, are required to self-report their progress and achievements as requested by BEC once a year. Regarding emission reduction ambition, Action Signatories should have a clear reduction target as minimum basis; whereas Science-aligned Signatories should clearly pursue reduction targets following 1.5°C aligned science-based pathway.

In addition, signatories will be invited to share their insights and experience in co-learning workshops and activities organised by BEC. They will also have access to BEC expertise and opportunity to participate in charter support programmes such as Power Up Coalition, Carbon Disclosure Programme, Hong Kong International Airport Carbon Capacity Building Programme, and Global Connect Initiative.

As an ongoing initiative, BEC will continue to welcome companies to embark on their decarbonisation journey toward net zero by signing BEC Net-zero Carbon Charter.

	Action Signatory (Category 1)	Science-aligned Signatory (Category 2)
Emission Reduction Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently with emission reduction targets fulfilling SMART* criteria, or developing targets in 1 year upon signing the Charter; and With the ambition to join the Science-aligned Signatory, preferably in 3 - 5 years' time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently with near-term emission reduction targets following 1.5°C aligned science-based pathway, or developing targets in 2 years upon signing the Charter; and With the ambition to further develop net-zero targets based on recognised standards
Target Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target date no later than 2030 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target date in 5-10 years, no later than 2035
Emission Reduction Ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting to reduce emissions in value chain with a clear target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signatories should demonstrate significant emission reduction in value chain by aligning their near-term targets with recognised standards**, to support international call for halving global emissions by 2030.
Scope Coverage on targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory Scope 1 and 2; and Optional Scope 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory Scope 1 and 2 Recommended 67% of Scope 3 if Scope 3 emissions > 40% of total emissions Optional Scope 3 for SMEs with <500 employees
Obligation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosing emission reduction progress annually to BEC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosing emission reduction progress annually to BEC; and Reviewing and updating near-term targets at least every 5 years to get closer to net zero
Delisting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failing to disclose emission reduction progress to BEC for consecutive years; or Failing to develop SMART targets during the requested period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failing to disclose annual emission reduction progress to BEC for consecutive years; or Failing to develop near-term targets during the requested period
Re-joining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 year after delisting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 year after delisting

Our Future

In the future, BEC will continue to concentrate on our three environmental focus areas: Climate Change, Circular Economy and Sustainable Living Environment. We intended to amplify our influence on the pertinent challenges within these sectors. Additionally, we are also committed to expanding the base of our membership and providing them with a platform to share their insights on excellent environmental practices and examples.

Looking ahead, BEC will continue to drive business ambition and commitment into real action, and to accelerate business transformation in the city.

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