

UN75 Dialogue

Hong Kong's UN 75th Dialogue jointly hosted by UNESCO Hong Kong Association (UHKA) and Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development (HiESD) on the theme of "Climate & Environment Sustainability at a Financial Center, HK" at 4:00 p.m on the 18th of May, 2020. We invited the Chairman of Securities and Futures Commission - Mr. Tim LUI to make the keynote speeches, panel speakers of Prof. Bernard V. LIM, Prof. K C HO, Ir C S HO, with theme moderator by Prof Wilson CHAN from HiESD.

Our current generation is getting close to the tipping point of climate and environmental crisis, and it's accelerating at an unprecedented speed. However, it is by no means impossible to fight through this challenge, just as how the Secretary General of United Nations have ambitiously stated in his opening remarks at 2019 Climate Action Summit: "The climate emergency is a race we are losing, but it is a race we can win." The devastating consequences of climate change is inevitably endured by everyone on our planet. Facing such challenge, Hong Kong is utilizing its advantages of being an international financial center to foster the sustainable development of climate and environment, and more importantly, to complement the mainland's green policies and objectives.



UN75 Dialogue: Hong Kong Financial Sector Initiatives to Manage Climate Change and Sustainability

18 May 2020

Tim Lui
Chairman, Securities and Futures Commission

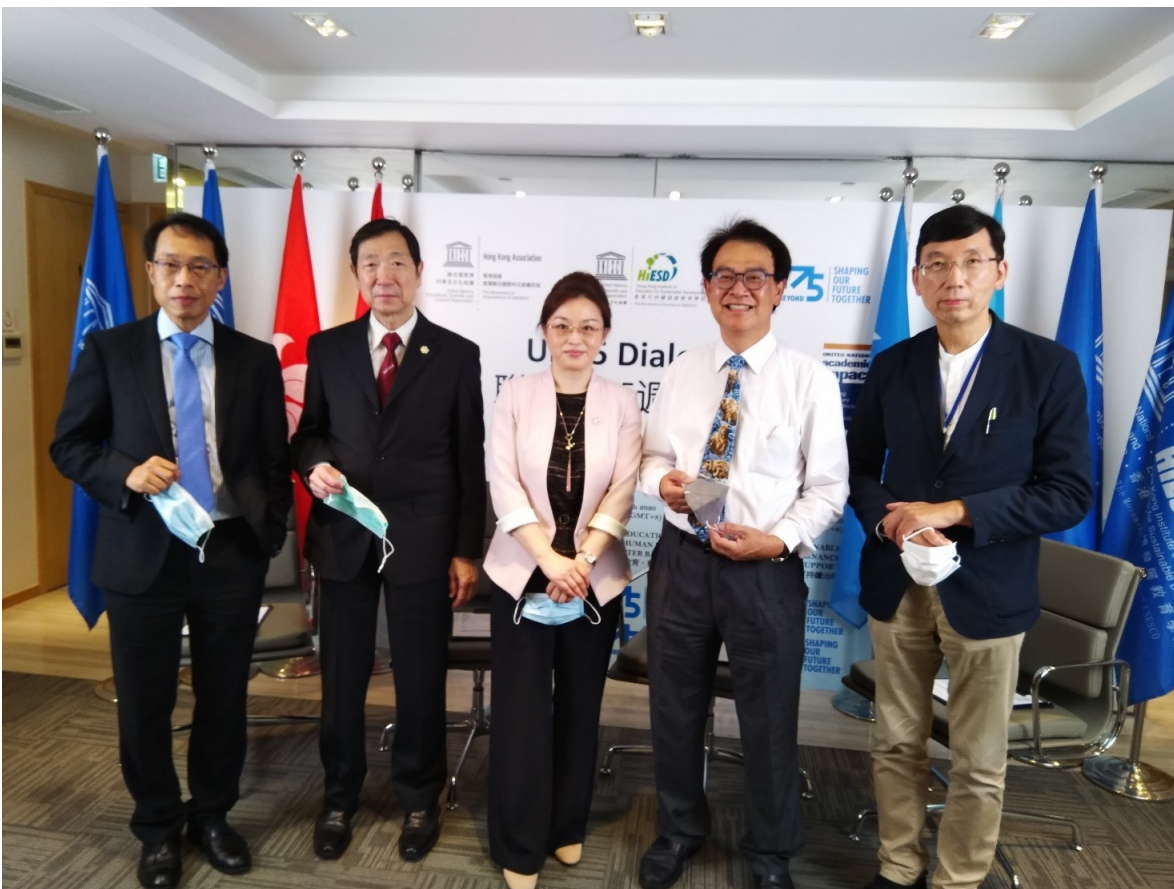


Chairman Tim LUI conducted online keynote speaking

Mr. Lui pointed out the importance to support the development of Hong Kong into a green finance centre in the Greater Bay Area, and set up an internationally recognised green bond certification institution. The SFC were committed to lay link the necessary changes to help Hong Kong Financial Sector manage climate related issues while facilitating green and sustainable economic development. Professor LIM shared how Hong Kong had applied special architectural design, recycled constituents, low carbon building materials and environmentally friendly policy in construction industry. We were in line with international standards and in some fields, and we were proudly beyond the verge of them. Professor KC HO called attention to the prevention, control and management of climate changes from his experiences in the High Arctics. Rising Sea

level, increasing sea surface temperature, worsening climate conditions and the acceleration of shrinking arctic sea ice were all challenges that could be taken as opportunities. On the basis of scientific research, Hong Kong was well prepared to adapt, monitor, forecast and react to changes with positive and active mindsets. Ir HO said that over the years, the Hong Kong SAR Government and the financial community had done a lot of work in promoting green finance. The next step was to carry out regional and global cooperation, such as the Belt and Road cooperation with the Greater Bay Area; further cooperation between various industries, especially with the government; expanding the focus from the needs of large companies to the needs of SMEs. Responding to the UN 75th dialogue, Ir HO further envisioned for cooperation between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and governments to promote and implement green finance policies, expressing his ambitions of utilizing Hong Kong's advantages to contribute to the development of both regional and global development in the field of green finance.

Professor CHAN summarized in the conclusion of the dialogue that the participants clearly saw the "milestone of sustainable financial development in Hong Kong" through the practice of local and international green cases, reflecting the innovation and leadership of Hong Kong professionals in green sustainability as well as the service capabilities of different countries and regions throughout the local area, the Greater Bay Area, the Belt and Road, and even the polar regions. We wished Hong Kong's sustainable finance to develop at a rapid pace. Let's work together to shoulder the mission and jointly build a sustainable future under the principle of not leaving anyone behind.



Professor Karen CHEUNG, the Acting President of the UHKA and the Director of the HIESD takes group photo with Dialogue Guests Professor Wilson CHAN (first left), Chairman C S HO (second left), Professor Bernard LIM (first right), and Professor K C HO (second right)

The viewers of the online dialogue were from the United States, Japan, Mainland China and Hong Kong.

The second "Dialogue" will be held at 3 pm on May 30, with the theme "Education, Technology and Talents in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area". Welcome to visit <https://www.un.org/zh/in75/events>

Background information:

UNESCO Hong Kong Association (UHKA) is committed to supporting, promoting and realizing the core mission of UNESCO, creating conditions for dialogue among different civilizations, cultures and nations on the basis of respecting common values, and achieving A global vision for sustainable development. UHKA is a registered charity in Hong Kong. Through education, science and culture, it strives to promote sustainable development and promote international exchanges.

Hong Kong Institute of Education for Sustainable Development (HiESD) is an interdisciplinary research-based innovative application college featuring interdisciplinary research and project application and training with the main purpose of promoting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the implementing agency of the United Nations Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Education (GAP), expert partners and service providers of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) (registration number: 12958), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Sustainable Development Goals Collaborative Partner (Registration Number: 26908). The Institute provides basic education, higher education, and continuing education through forums, special training, professional courses, professional certification, special projects, exchange visits, and research camp learning. This continuous development of a lifelong learning system assists companies and organizations to implement and achieve sustainable development goals at all stages.