

PILOT GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT SCHEME

ntre for Green And Sustainable Finance

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF SUSTAINABILITY





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Program Overview



Sustainability and ESG have gained great traction in recent years, with many businesses having already begun to integrate sustainability within their organisational structure and business strategies. Notably, China has emerged as a key player in driving sustainable practices, particularly through its evolving carbon and environmental policies. As the policies become increasingly stringent and the Greater Bay Area (GBA) well positioned to spur green development in Hong Kong and China, organisations that have business in China will have to familiarise themselves with the development of these policies

In line with the Hong Kong Climate Action Plan 2030+ and its goal to build a Greentech and Greenfi 'ecosystem', this program enhances participants' knowledge and upskills them to be future-ready for the transition to a carbon-resilient world.

The **Advanced Certificate of Sustainability** covers a range of topics that provide participants with the fundamental knowledge of key sustainability topics, including climate change, the sustainability transition, supply chain management, sustainable finance, and sustainability reporting. This certificate, with a special focus on China, cuts across the corporate and financial sections in relation to the pertinent net-zero journey.

Program Learning Objectives



Attain holistic knowledge of sustainability and be equipped with the knowledge to apply sustainability-related frameworks within the organisation



Learn the importance of a circular economy and the features of sustainable supply chains



Obtain an overview of the environmental policies in China, as well as its progress, challenges, and future outlook regarding sustainable development



Recognize the consequences of the degradation of natural resources and biodiversity loss and the risks that arise from them



Understand trends and strategies of sustainable finance

Curriculum

<u>Module 1:</u> <u>Fundamentals of Sustainability</u> <u>(2 Days)</u>

The past decade has seen climate change, deforestation, and consumption bringing detrimental environmental, socioeconomic, and infrastructural changes in all parts of the world. Thus, there is an urgent need for both public and private sectors to integrate sustainability as an essential part of how businesses and institutions operate to ensure the needs of future generations are met.

This introductory module on sustainability informs participants of the basics of climate change and its impact, as well as sustainability issues and global initiatives. It also offers a preview of sustainability-related risks and outlines how sustainable development has progressed globally and in Hong Kong.

<u>Module 2:</u> <u>Sustainability Transition -</u> <u>Challenges of Natural Resources</u> <u>(2 Days)</u>

Sustainability is imperative to ensuring the survival and well-being of humankind, now and in the future. To succeed in our sustainability transition requires changes to the core systems of our society to protect biodiversity and our Earth's finite natural resources.

This course offers a panoramic overview of resource consumption and introduces participants to planetary boundaries, current resourcing challenges, and how climate change, biodiversity loss and humanity have affected natural resources. It also equips participants with an in-depth understanding of environmental impact assessments and potential solutions to overcome resourcing challenges.

Curriculum



<u>Module 3:</u> Environmental and Climate Policies in China (1 Day)

This course will provide a systematic understanding of China's environmental and climate policies. It will first examine China's major environmental and climate issues, including indoor and outdoor air pollution, water shortage and pollution, soil pollution, waste management, desertification & deforestation, climate change, energy transition and carbon neutrality. The organization of China's environmental and climate governance will then be explored.

Environmental/climate goals, policymaking and implementation will be investigated to understand their roles, challenges and solutions in China's specific context. Major policy instruments will also be introduced to tackle those environmental and climate issues in reality. <u>Module 4:</u> <u>Sustainable Supply Chain and</u> <u>Circular Economy</u> <u>(2 Days)</u>

In recent years, a number of organisations have fallen victim to supply-chain vulnerabilities and disruptions, and businesses are increasingly acknowledging the need for a more sustainable supply chain for risk mitigation. As the world slowly begins its transformation into a carbon-resilient world, it is clear that our current linear economy must also transition into a circular economy to reduce environmental pressure and become more resilient.

This course focuses on two main areas: 1) the importance of sustainable supply chains in managing risks and achieving decarbonization, and 2) adopting a circular economy mindset to improve resource efficiency. Participants will also be equipped with practical knowledge in supplier management, monitoring, and evaluation.

Curriculum

Module 5: Sustainable Finance (2 Days)

Module 6: **ESG rating and Reporting** (1Day)

Given an increase in investors' appetite in responsible investments, sustainable finance has seen exponential growth in popularity in thehas been a movement towards the past decade. Organisations are facing the challenge of having to maintain short-term profitability while transparency. In this course, simultaneously building a more sustainable future.

This module provides participants with an overview of sustainable finance. Participants will learn how to integrate ESG into their investments, the spectrum of sustainable finance products, and investment frameworks.

In recent years, to deal with pressure from investors, regulators and other stakeholders on the ESG issues, there "standardization" of ESG reporting standards for enhanced participants will learn about the basics of ESG reporting, including the key ESG metrics and reporting frameworks, as well as the regulatory landscape surrounding ESG reporting.

Meanwhile, there is also a global trend of ESG investing that has led to the demand for ESG ratings. Investors rely on these rating providers for scores that can help them assess and compare company performance. This module will also cover the basics of ESG rating, the importance of ESG in today's business landscape, and how ESG can be used to inform investment decisions.



WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Professionals who want to understand how the global financial industry is rapidly changing to address the climate crisis and other aspects of sustainability. **Corporate executives, finance professionals, and sustainability and ESG practitioners** who want to upskill and build the skillsets essential for career advancement given the trajectory of incorporating ESG into all aspects of business operations and investment decisions.

PROGRAM FEE

Application Deadline: 11 April, 2024 The fee includes:

- Design, development, and delivery of the program
- Tuition, teaching materials, and refreshment
- The use of fully equipped classroom and breakout rooms during the program Certification of Attendance

Regular Rate:	НК\$53,000
Early Bird Offer (by 28 March 2024):	НК\$49,290
CUHK / CUSCS / APIB Alumni Rate:	НК\$47,700
Corporate / Group Rate: (4 or more concurrent registrations)	HK\$45,050



SCHEDULE

Module	Date	Day
Module 1 Fundamentals of Sustainability	<u>18-19 April 2024</u>	2 Days
Module 2 Sustainability Transition - Challenges of Natural Resources	<u>25-26 April 2024</u>	2 Days
Module 3 Environmental and Climate Policies in China	<u>9 May 2024</u>	1 Day
Module 4 Sustainable Supply Chain and Circular Economy	<u>22-23 May 2024</u>	2 Days
Module 5 Sustainable Finance	<u>5-6 June 2024</u>	2 Days
Module 6 ESG Rating and Reporting	<u>19 June 2024</u>	1 Day

- Schedule: 9:30am - 12:30pm, 2:00 - 5:00pm
- Duration: Total 60 hours
- Venue: CUHK Business School Town Centre, Admiralty
- Medium of Instruction: English
- All modules are compulsory. To pass the modules, participants have to achieve at least 80% class attendance for each module and a 60% pass rate for all modules' quizzes

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