

HONG KONG CIRCULAR BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Invitation for Submission of Circular Practices Case Studies (CALL FOR SUBMISSION)

Introduction

With an aim to promote circular practices for the Hong Kong built environment, the Business Environment Council (BEC), Construction Industry Council (CIC), and Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) have formed a Task Force to collaborate on the creation of a guidebook on circular built environment in Hong Kong.

In alignment with the World Green Building Council's Circular Built Environment Playbook[#] released in May 2023, the proposed guidebook aims at empowering building practitioners in Hong Kong to adopt sustainable, circular approaches, fostering resource efficiency and local socioeconomic benefits. Focused in Hong Kong, it will provide insights and strategies for implementing circular practices in the region, contributing to a built environment that supports resource regeneration and circular economy principles.

Tentatively, the proposed guidebook will delineate circular practices in the built environment across four key aspects: Building and Construction Materials, Design and Retrofit, Regenerate Nature, and Levers for Change.

- A. Building and Construction Materials: Circular materials enhance resource efficiency for emission reduction and sustainable construction, advocating for sustainable practices, resource reuse, and localized supply chains.
- B. Design and Retrofit: Circular design approaches prioritize reuse and lifecycle considerations for environmental and socio-economic benefits, promoting long-term sustainability by minimizing waste and optimizing material use.
- C. Regenerate Nature: Circular solutions in construction regenerate natural systems, align with industry standards, close material loops, enhance urban-nature connections, and ensure sustainable practices from construction to operation.
- D. Levers for Change: Circular practices encompass new business models, improved data accessibility, ESG reporting, circular certifications, and educational initiatives to advance circular economy efforts through collaborative partnerships.

Case Studies (Call for Submission)

The Task Force is now calling for submission of case studies to showcase best practices and encourage industry adoption of circular approaches. Submissions should feature a tangible circular material, design approach, solution, system that showcases notable achievements in material circularity, serving as a leading example for the building industry. These submissions should align with the circular practices outlined in the four aspects and the list provided in Annex 1, which are slated for inclusion in the proposed guidebook, which will serve as a comprehensive and evolving resource, with content continuously updated to showcase additional circular practices and pioneering examples that illustrate the principles of the circular built environment.

The submission shall include an outline of key items as stipulated in Annex 2, which will be reviewed by the Task Force based on the above specified aspects. Shortlisted entries will receive invitation at later stage for more detailed submission for inclusion in the proposed guidebook.

Submission Details

Interested parties shall complete and return the REPLY SLIP (Annex 2) together with relevant details to isp@hkgbc.org.hk by 12:00 noon on 31 December 2024 (Tuesday). Acceptance of any submissions or not will be at the sole discretion of the Task Force.

Enquiry

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms Carina KWOK at 3994 8863 (email: carina.kwok@hkgbc.org.hk) or Dr Paul SAT at 3994 8821 (email: paul.sat@hkgbc.org.hk).

Business Environment Council Limited
Construction Industry Council
Hong Kong Green Building Council Limited

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World Green Building Council's Circular Built Environment Playbook (<https://worldgbc.org/article/circular-built-environment-playbook/>)

Annex 1

List of Circular Initiatives contributing to the Built Environment

A. Building and Construction Materials	
A1	Digital Material Passports
A2	Buildings as Material Banks
A3	Locally Sourced Materials
A4	Responsible and Healthy Materials
A5	Urban Mining and Material Cascading
A6	Material Take-Back
A7	Carbon-Storing Materials
B. Design and Retrofit	
B1	Design for Reuse Over Multiple Lifetimes
B2	Design for Disassembly and Deconstruction
B3	Design Out Waste
C. Regenerate Nature	
C1	Inspiration and Implementation of Nature-Based Solutions
C2	Nature's Efficiency: Utilizing Essential Matter Only
C3	Embracing Resilience Over Performance Optimization
C4	Natural Decomposition: The Simplicity of Materials in Nature's Cycle
C5	Nature's Resource Efficiency: Multifunctional Utilization in the Natural World
C6	Regenerative Urban Development: Reversing Climate Crisis and Biodiversity Loss
D. Levers for Change	
D1	Product as a Service
D2	Circular Procurement
D3	ESG Frameworks
D4	Sustainable Finance Drivers

Annex 2

Reply Slip

1. Please select the type of your submission and provide the relevant information

- It is a new case study for the listed circular initiatives.

Please provide the name of the listed circular initiatives, or you can refer to Annex 1 for the relevant numbering, i.e. A1, A2, A3, etc. You can relate your case study with more than one circular initiative.

Name of the listed circular initiatives:	
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- It is a new circular initiative, and supplements with a relevant case study.

Please select ONE relevant chapter for the new circular initiative.

- Building and Construction Materials
 Design and Retrofit
 Regenerate Nature
 Levers for Change

Please provide the name, brief description, suggested consideration of the new circular initiative.

Name of the new circular initiatives:	
Brief description (around 100 words):	
Suggested consideration:	

2. Please provide the details of the case study

Information of Building	
Building owner:	
Building name:	
Photo of the building: (at least 300 dpi)	*Please attach the photo as Annex

Description of the building:	
Information of Circular Practice	
Circular practice:	
Description of the circular practice showcasing notable achievements in material circularity (around 300 words):	
Photo / schematic diagram indicating the featured circular material, design approach, solution or system (optional): (At least 300 dpi)	* Please attach the diagram/photo as Annex
Benefits of the circular practice to the project:	
Benefits of the circular practice to the industry:	
Benefits of the circular practice to the environment:	
Name of consultant / contractor / manufacturer:	
Cost:	
Material saving:	

Carbon footprint:	
Subsidy / funding (if any):	
Award(s) (if any):	
Year of completion:	

3. Please provide contact information for onward liaison. The contact information will not be disclosed in the Guidebook.

Contact person:	
Organisation:	
Position:	
Contact no.:	
Email:	