

# Capacity Building Workshop on Promoting Digital Solar Resource Maps and Management Technologies of Association of Southeast Asian Nations held in Hong Kong (with photos)

The Capacity Building Workshop on Promoting Digital Solar Resource Maps and Management Technologies of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is being held in Hong Kong today and tomorrow (February 27 and 28). Thirty experts and delegates from six ASEAN member states are gathering to exchange valuable experiences and technical knowledge and share insights on digital solar resource maps and management technologies.

Delivering a welcoming speech by video, the Secretary for Environment and Ecology, Mr Tse Chin-wan, said that Hong Kong was honoured to hold the ASEAN Capacity Building Workshop on Promoting Digital Solar Resource Maps and Management Technologies to enhance renewable energy utilisation in combating climate change in the region.

Mr Tse emphasised that Hong Kong has been reducing carbon emissions significantly since 2014, with the reduction progress surpassing that of the United States and the European Union. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government also set the interim target to further reduce carbon emissions by half from the 2005 level before 2035 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. He said that the HKSAR Government has been leading by example in developing renewable energy systems at government premises, including restored landfills and impounding reservoirs, and launching the Pilot Scheme on Building-Integrated Photovoltaics.

In addition, he pointed out that digital solar resource maps and management technologies enable solar plant operations to be remotely monitored and managed more effectively, helping ASEAN member states better plan energy transition policies and roadmaps by collecting and analysing solar energy data and information.

Mr Tse also expressed that, to encourage innovation, the HKSAR Government has devoted resources to support research and pilot projects on green energies, including the development of solar-to-hydrogen facilities. The HKSAR Government also published the Strategy of Hydrogen Development in Hong Kong in June last year. The Strategy outlines four major strategies to complement the development of hydrogen energy of the country, seize opportunities for development, and maintain the important role as the "super connector" and "super value-adder" between the Mainland and the rest of the world.

The Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services, Mr Poon Kwok-ying, shared the HKSAR's advancements in solar energy development with emerging technologies. He thanked ASEAN member states for joining the workshop and encouraged them to embrace innovative technologies for utilising solar resources.

The workshop is organised by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department with support from the Economic and Technical Co-operation (ECOTECH) Work Programme under the ASEAN-Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement. The ECOTECH Work Programme has supported 35 projects in pursuit of mutual benefits between ASEAN and Hong Kong, benefitting around 6 600 participants from Hong Kong, ASEAN and other regions to date.

