

## **Report of Sustainability Committee**

### **PAQS 2019 KuChing Malaysia**

1. The meeting of the committee was held on 23/8/2019 with the 14 representatives from 7 countries viz. Canada, Philippine, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka.
2. Last year, there were 5 member countries viz. Canada, New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong submitted their summary of green buildings, which were uploaded onto the PAQS web-site. As a follow-up action, 2 member countries have updated their summary of green buildings on the following areas:
  - a) Existing environmental assessment method for buildings;
  - b) Statutory requirements on environmental buildings;
  - c) Government incentives in encouraging environmental buildings;
  - d) QS involvement in environmental buildings;
  - e) Useful links; and
  - f) Recent updates.

The updated summaries will be uploaded onto the PAQS website for members' information.

3. It was reported that the research project funded by PAQS titled "Motivational factors & tangible benefits of green development buildings" was completed and a final report was submitted to PAQS for review and endorsement.
4. The objectives of the research project were:
  - to identify the motivational and hindrance factors affecting green building developments; and
  - to investigate performance and tangible benefits of green building developments.

5. After conducting the literature review, the researchers had identified the potential key factors affecting green building developments, and a questionnaire survey was carried out to evaluate the extent of their implications. Based on the findings of the survey, the research has made the following recommendations:
  - a. Provide **financial rewards** to the construction team for their extra efforts and skills put in adding values to green construction so as to enhance performances in cost, environmental sustainability & social sustainability;
  - b. Provide **financial rewards** to the design team for their extra efforts and skills putting in adding values to green building designs and features so as to enhance time performance;
  - c. **Set the goal** for green design and construction clearly at the project inception stage so as to enhance environmental sustainability, social sustainability, and marketing benefits;
  - d. Include a **clear goal** for environmental sustainability in proactive value management so as to enhance environmental sustainability performance);
  - e. Be **early adopter /pioneer** in the industry, i.e., go for sustainability even when green technologies are still deficient and when there is still insufficient fiscal incentives from the government so as to enhance company's marketing benefits; and
  - f. Prevent overly rigorous **policy packages** to guide actions on sustainability so as to enhance project performance in terms of cost and time.
6. The meeting discussed the findings and recommendations of the final report and had no comments. The report of the research is attached to the bundle of this Board meeting for information and endorsement. After obtaining the Board's endorsement, the final report will be posted onto the PAQS web-site for members' information.

7. The committee proposed in the last PAQS in Sydney that to enhance the knowledge sharing on sustainability and as a pilot arrangement, the host country of the next PAQS conference (i.e.2019), Malaysia, was invited to consider allocating a time slot of about 90 minutes in the conference on a topic relating to the challenges of sustainability in its country. The exact topic was to be decided by Malaysia. The committee would like to give wholehearted thanks for Malaysia as the host country for arranging a whole session on the second day of the conference this year on the topic of sustainability excellence. The committee considered that the PAQS conference is a good opportunity for members to share information and experience on green buildings, and therefore proposed the hosting country, Singapore, to consider organizing a sharing session on the topic of sustainability in the PAQS conference in 2020 as well.
8. The committee agreed that a summary of green buildings prepared by each member country would enrich the members' information on the development of green buildings in other countries. As such, other than the five member countries mentioned in item 2 above, the committee would like to invite the remaining member countries to submit a summary of green buildings in their countries for posting onto the PAQS web-site for information. The summary would be updated annually before the PAQS conference.
9. To enhance the communication between members of the committee, a whatsapp group and email group had already been set up. Through these communication channels, members can share their views and knowledge on sustainability more frequently throughout the year before the next committee meeting.

Reported by Sr Daniel Ho of HKIS