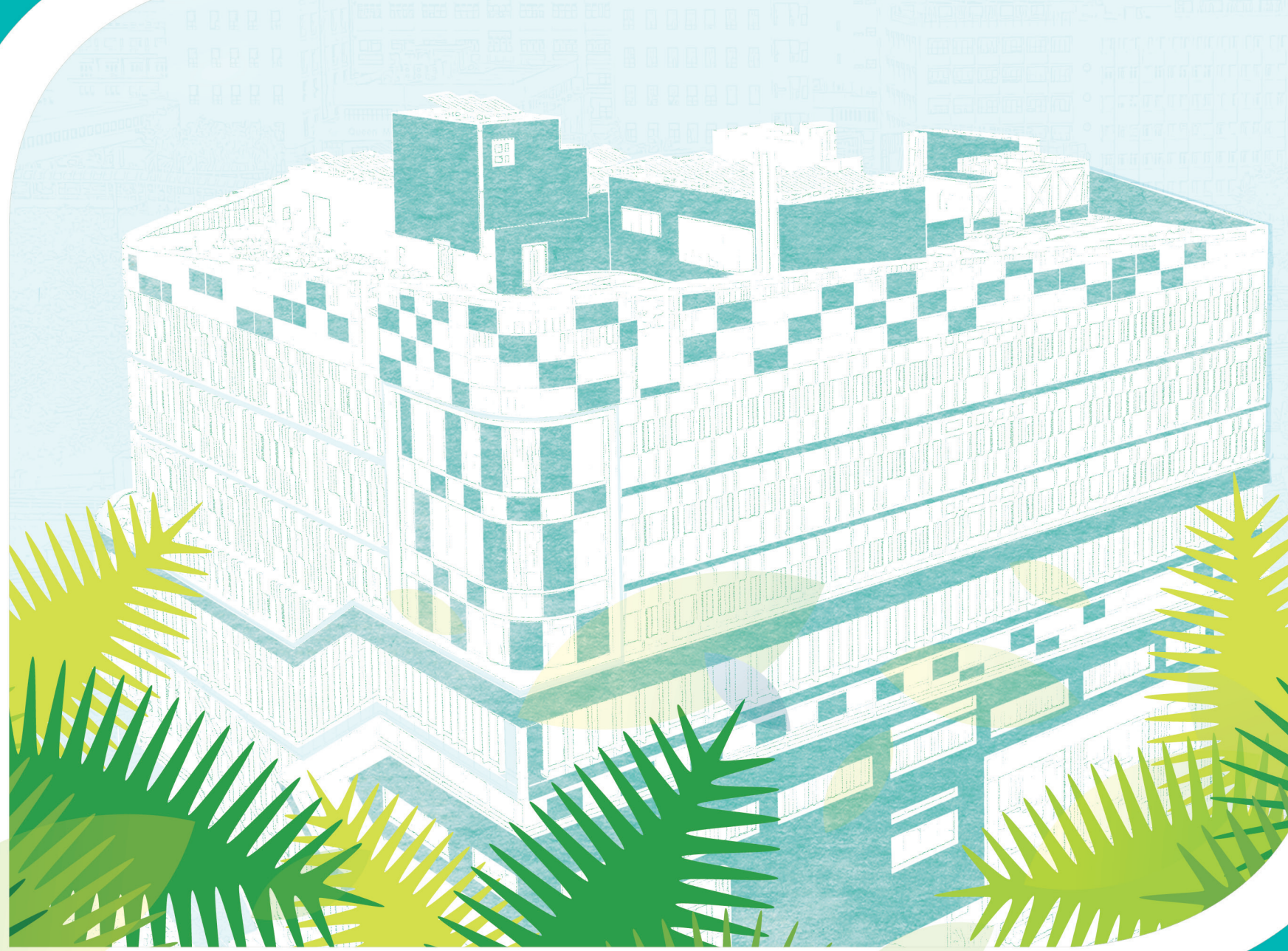
Estates Office, The University of Hong Kong

Campus Sustainability Report 2024

Contents

Overview



Overview

Founded in 1911, The University of Hong Kong ('The University') is Hong Kong's oldest institution of higher learning. As an internationally acclaimed university, it currently ranks 11st in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2026 and holds 2nd place in the QS Asia University Rankings 2026.

Whilst pursuing academic excellence, the University maintains a steadfast commitment to environmental stewardship, working diligently to reduce its carbon footprint whilst fostering a sustainable campus environment that enhances teaching, learning and research activities.

In its pursuit of providing a high-quality, sustainable built environment, the University has established and implements a comprehensive sustainability framework, incorporating environmentally conscious elements and industry-leading practices throughout its campus development, construction projects and facilities management.

This report presents the University's sustainability performance and social responsibility initiatives during the 12-month period from September 2023 to August 2024.

Estates Offices, The University of Hong Kong | Campus Sustainability Report 2024

Targets

The University is committed to developing and managing its activities in a manner that safeguards the environment, minimises its ecological footprint and advances sustainable development practices.

In October 2021, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government unveiled its Climate Action Plan 2050, which sets forth strategies and targets to reduce carbon emissions by 50% before 2035 (compared to 2005 levels) and achieve carbon neutrality before 2050. The University has aligned its sustainability goals with these targets, committing to become a carbon-neutral institution by 2050.

To realise this carbon-neutral ambition, the University has implemented numerous initiatives focused on reducing energy consumption, optimising resource usage and enhancing environmental protection. In response to growing societal expectations regarding Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance, the University has strengthened its commitment to social responsibility whilst fostering a culture of sustainability awareness across campus.

The University of Hong Kong's Sustainability Targets:

Energy & Resources Consumption

- Implementing comprehensive energy conservation measures to optimise consumption
- Expanding adoption of renewable energy technologies across campus facilities
- Preserving natural resources and promoting environmental stewardship for long-term sustainability
- Preventing all forms of waste generation and environmental pollution
- Strengthening recycling infrastructure and procurement of sustainable and recycled materials

Environmental Protection

- Implementing sustainable building design practices and eco-friendly principles in construction, maintenance and landscaping
- Prioritising environmentally responsible materials, products and processes to minimise ecological impact
- Establishing and maintaining sustainable transport initiatives across campus
- Safeguarding local biodiversity through protection of native flora, fauna and their habitats

Raise Awareness

- Fostering awareness and understanding of conservation practices throughout the University community and beyond
- Enhancing environmental consciousness through integrated curricula, scholarly research and comprehensive staff development programmes
- Implementing and maintaining a single-use plastic-free campus initiative
- Championing waste reduction through the principles of 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' and systematic food waste management

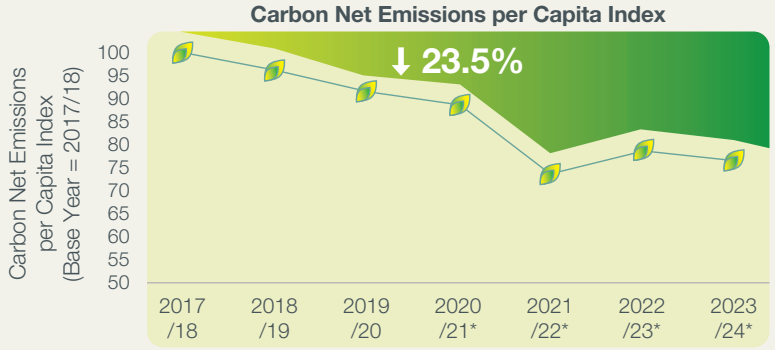
Social Responsibility

- Fostering zero-waste initiatives and sustainable practices across campus
- Championing inclusion, diversity and equal opportunities for all
- Ensuring fair and equitable employment practices throughout the organisation

Sustainability Performance

2023/24 Highlights

FIGURE 1



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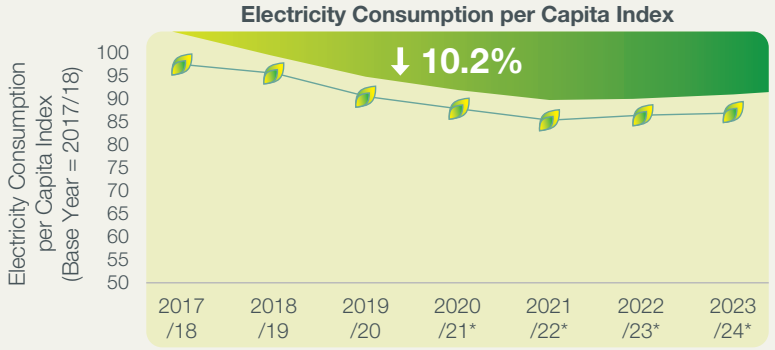

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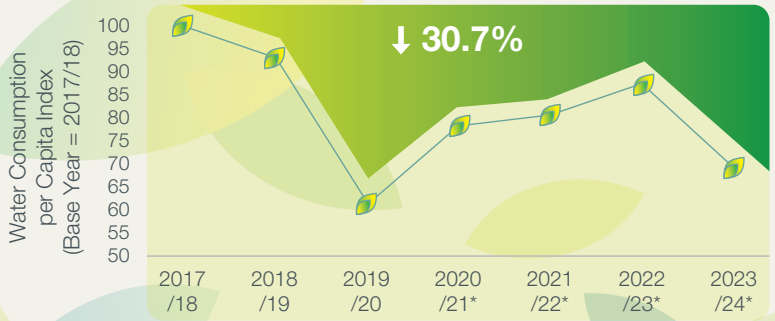

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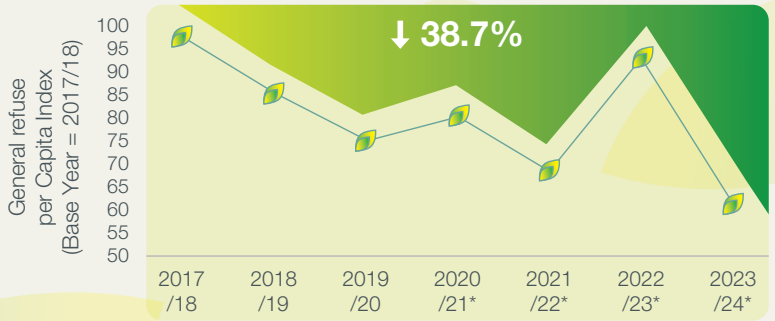


Note: Due to data availability, 2017/18 level is selected to be the baseline level.
(*) Reference period for 2020/21 onwards is revised into 1st September to 31st August.

Sustainability Initiatives

- Green Campus
- Efficient Elevators
- Renewable Energy Generation
- Green Transportation
- Water Usage Reduction

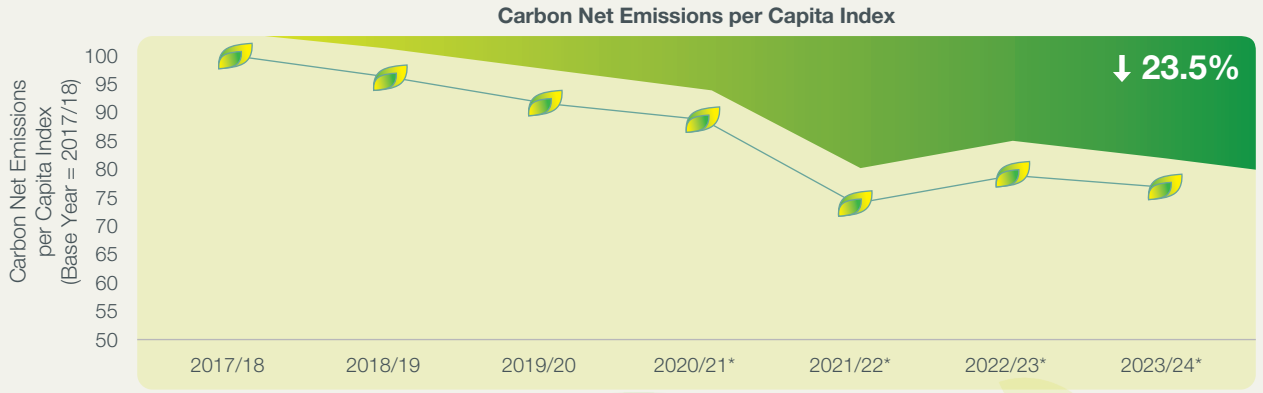
Carbon Emissions

During 2023/24 academic year, the University achieved a 23.5% reduction in per capita carbon emissions compared to the 2017-18 baseline year. This was accomplished through consistent implementation of resource saving and environmentally friendly practices.

Among all, energy indirect emissions from electricity consumption (Scope 2) constituted 91% of the University's total carbon emissions. Direct combustion sources (Scope 1) and other indirect emissions (Scope 3) made up the remaining 9%, contributing 5% and 4% respectively to the annual carbon footprint.

In alignment with the Hong Kong SAR government's carbon neutrality goals, the city's electricity grid has shown continuous improvement in carbon efficiency. Notably, Hong Kong Electric's carbon emission factor saw a 2.9% reduction from 0.68 kg CO2-e/kWh in 2022 to 0.66 kg CO2-e/kWh in 2023, primarily due to increased natural gas utilisation in power generation. This improvement has contributed positively to the University's carbon reduction achievements.

FIGURE 1



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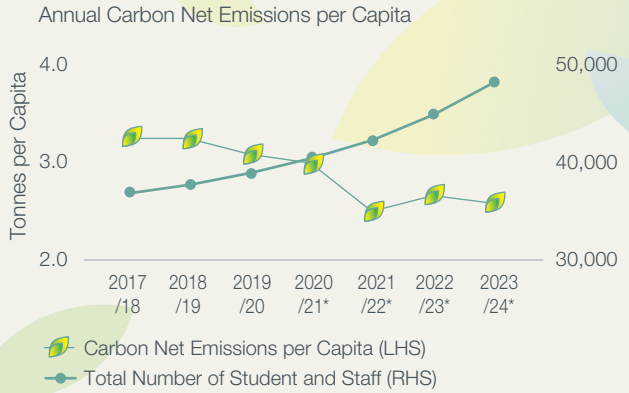


TABLE 1

2023/24 Y-o-Y Percentage Change of Annual Carbon Net Emissions per Capita

As Compared With	% Change
2022/23	▼ 2.9%
Baseline (2017/18)	▼ 23.5%
Pre-Covid (2018/19)	▼ 20.6%

Note: (*) Reference period for 2020/21 onwards is revised into 1st September to 31st August.

Electricity

The University has made significant progress towards full electrification, with electricity accounting for over 90% of its total energy consumption. In the 2023/24 academic year, there was a notable 10.2% reduction in per capita electricity consumption compared to the baseline year of 2017/18, dropping from 3,913 kWh to 3,515 kWh per person per year. This positive trend can be attributed to the successful implementation of various energy saving initiatives across the University.

While the University maintains significant progress compared to the baseline year, there has been a slight increase in electricity consumption over the past two years. The per capita consumption rose from 3,439 kWh in 2021/22 to 3,515 kWh in 2023/24, representing a gradual increase as campus operations returned to normal levels.

Looking ahead, the University plans to implement Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions for energy optimisation, enabling detailed energy monitoring, consumption forecasting and automated management systems. Additionally, the University will conduct a comprehensive energy audit across the campus to evaluate current consumption patterns and identify opportunities for improved energy management.

FIGURE 2

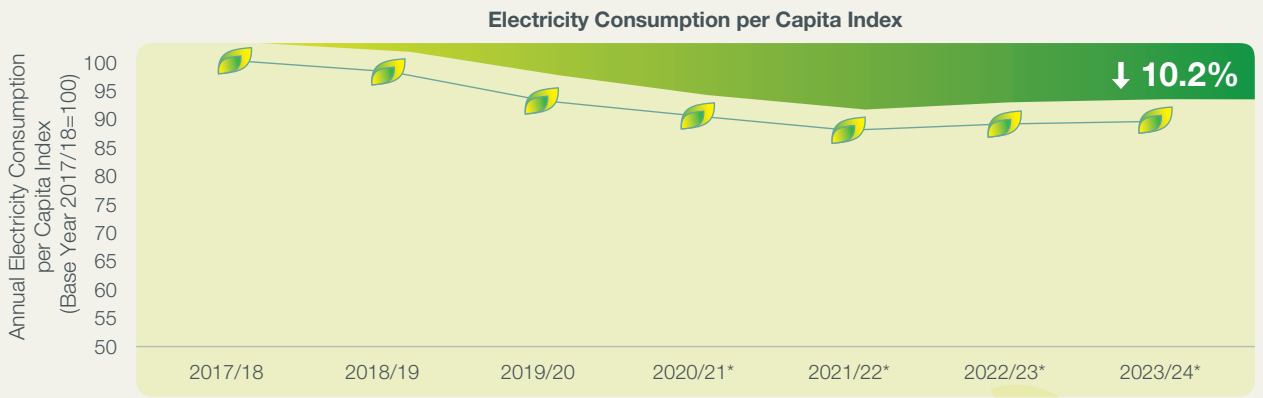


TABLE 2

2023/24 Y-o-Y Percentage Change in Annual Electricity Consumption per Capita

Compared to	% Change
2022/23	▲ 0.8%
Baseline (2017/18)	▼ 10.2%
Pre-Covid (2018/19)	▼ 8.6%

Note: (*) Reference period for 2020/21 onwards is revised into 1st September to 31st August.

Water

During 2023/24 academic year, the University achieved significant reductions in water consumption, with a 9.4% decrease compared to the baseline year of 2017-18 and a 14.9% reduction from the previous year 2022-23. On a per capita basis, water usage dropped by 30.7% from 2017-18 and 20.7% from 2022-23, demonstrating substantial improvements in water efficiency.

These positive trends in water conservation extend beyond pandemic-related reductions, with the total consumption levels remaining 5.2% lower than pre-pandemic figures in 2018-19–demonstrating sustained improvement in water management practices. As part of water usage reduction efforts, the Faculty of Medicine Building has installed Grade 1 water-efficient fixtures, including faucets, urinals, and water closets, in accordance with the Water Supplies Department's Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme.

The University actively reviews its water consumption patterns, identifies opportunities for conservation, and implements measures to minimise water waste.

FIGURE 3

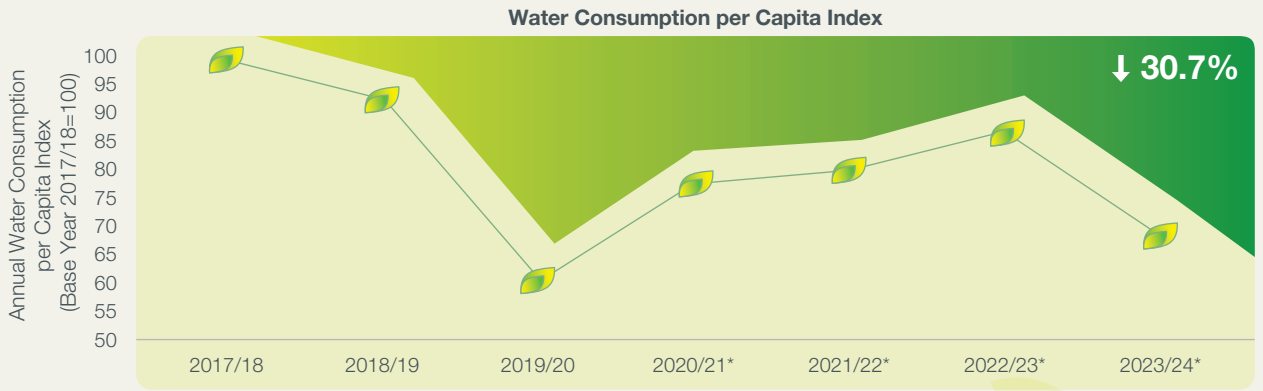


TABLE 3

2023/24 Y-o-Y Percentage Change in Annual Water Consumption per Capita

Compared to	% Change
2022/23	▼ 20.7%
Baseline (2017/18)	▼ 30.7%
Pre-Covid (2018/19)	▼ 25.8%

Note: (*) Reference period for 2020/21 onwards is revised into 1st September to 31st August.

Waste

The University's Estates Office aims to reduce waste at its source and increase the percentage of recycled materials in total waste generation. This is achieved through partnerships with appropriate facilities management providers and recycling contractors for collecting different materials.

During the 2023/24 academic year, the University made substantial progress in waste reduction. The data shows a significant year-over-year decrease of 31.2% in total waste generated, with an even more impressive per capita reduction of 35.9%.

Compared to the baseline year, waste generation decreased by 19.9%, while per capita waste generation showed a remarkable reduction of 38.7%. These improvements extend beyond pandemic-related reductions, with waste generation remaining 8.6% lower than pre-COVID levels, and per capita waste generation showing a substantial 28.5% decrease compared to pre-pandemic figures.

Furthermore, the University's facilities management team continuously monitors on-campus general waste disposal and collaborates with canteen operators to optimise food waste recycling initiatives.

Regular waste audits have been implemented to analyse waste volumes and composition, with the resulting data informing the establishment of recycling targets and the development of a comprehensive campus-wide charging framework.

FIGURE 6

General Refuse per Capita per Day

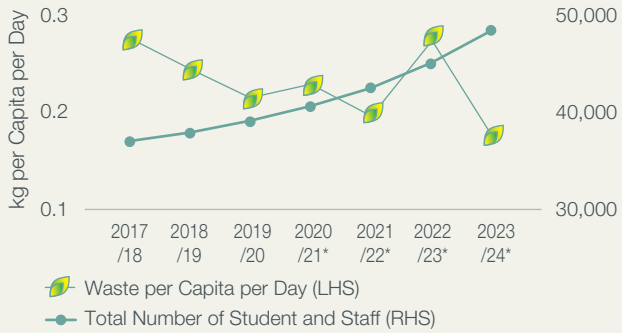


TABLE 4

2023/24 Y-o-Y Percentage Change in General Refuse per Capita per day

Compared to	% Change
2022/23	▼ **35.9%**
Baseline (2017/18)	▼ **38.7%**
Pre-COVID (2018/19)	▼ **28.5%**

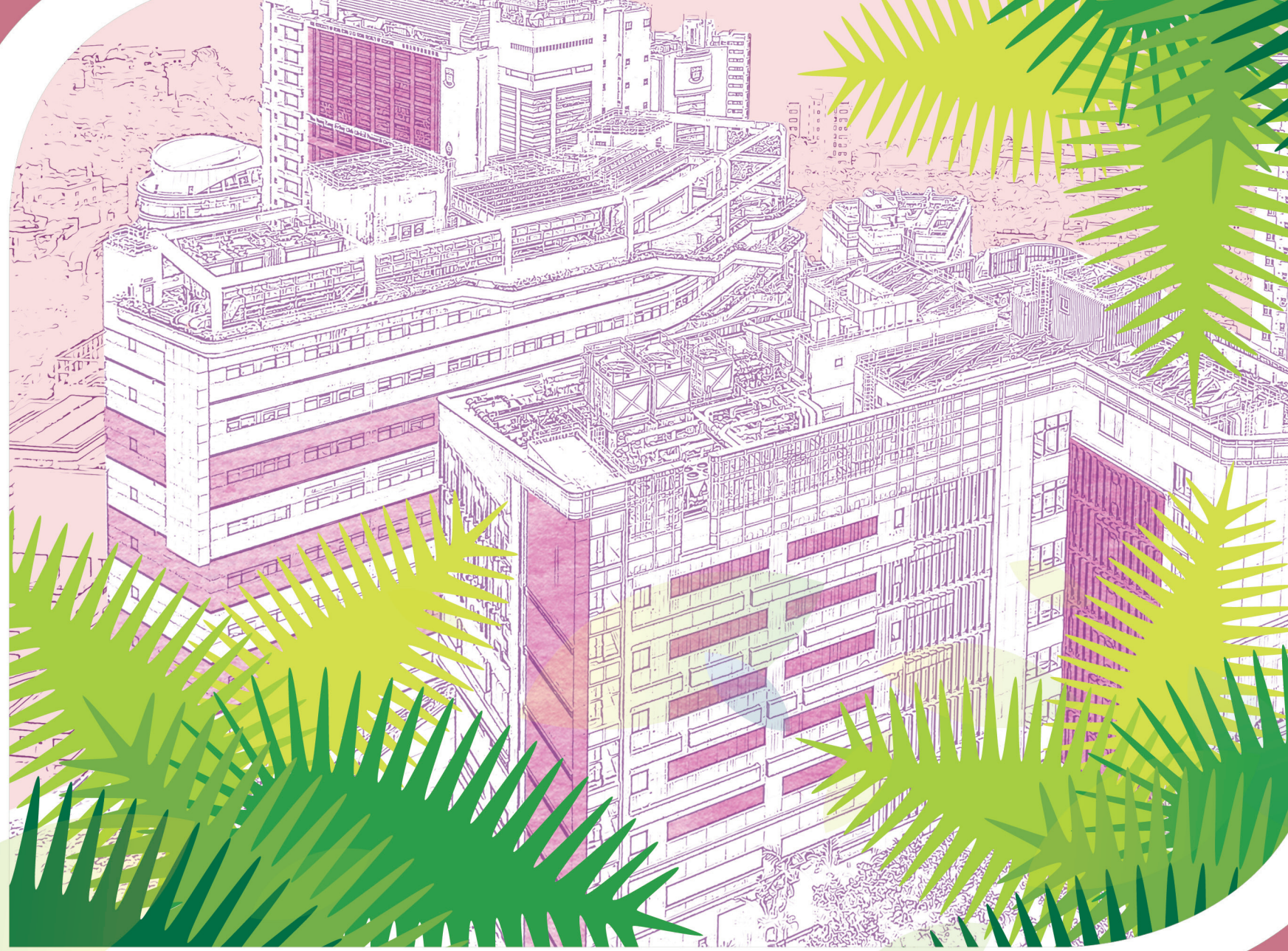
TABLE 5

Annual General and Main Recycled Waste

Item	2022/23	2023/24	% Change
Waste to Landfill			
General Refuse (Tonnes)	4,478	3,025	▼ 32.4%
Waste to Recycle			
Waste Paper (Confidential & Non-confidential) (Tonnes)	104	172	▲ 66.5%
Metal (Tonnes)	2.9	5.1	▲ 73.9%
Plastic (Tonnes)	4.3	4.1	▼ 5.8%
Glass (Tonnes)	1.0	3.3	▲ 223.0%
Food Waste (Tonnes)	72.6	84.2	▲ 16.0%
Total (Tonnes)	**184**	**269**	▲ **45.9%**

Note: (*) Reference period for 2020/21 onwards is revised into 1st September to 31st August.

Sustainability Initiatives



Sustainability Initiatives

Green Campus

To ensure the campus meets sustainability requirements, all new buildings shall be constructed in accordance with the latest environmental standards within the construction industry.

Tech Landmark has achieved Provisional Platinum, the highest possible grading under the BEAM Plus New Buildings V1.2.

Efficient Elevators

The University is modernising its lift and escalator systems, particularly those over 30 years old, to enhance energy efficiency, reliability and the passenger experience.

The Chong Yuet Ming Chemistry Building, Chong Yuet Ming Physics Building and Knowles Building completed modernisation by replacing all lifts with regenerative systems to further improve the energy efficiency performance.

Renewable Energy Generation

To build a more sustainable and resilient energy network, the University is actively investing in the development and utilisation of renewable energy, such as installing solar panels in suitable locations.

With the addition of PV panels at the Academic Building at No. 3 Sassoon Road, renewable energy generation increased by 8% compared to AY2022–23, from 146,872 kWh to 158,337 kWh — enough to power >550 households for one month.

Green Transportation

To promote sustainable transportation, the University expanded its charging facilitates for EV.

44 new EV chargers have been installed in Senior Staff Quarters to encourage greater electric vehicle adoption.

Water Usage Reduction

The University has upgraded its infrastructure by replacing traditional plumbing fixtures with modern, water-saving alternatives.

The Faculty of Medicine Building has installed Grade 1 water-efficient fixtures, including faucets, urinals, and water closets, following with the Water Supplies Department's Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme.

Projects completed in the past 12 months

Green Campus

The Tech Landmark, a groundbreaking new development at HKU, consists of 4 towers that will provide approximately 42,300 square metres of research space for the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Science. This state-of-the-art facility will house 10 institutes focused on emerging fields including AI, big data, smart materials, quantum science, and biomedical engineering. The complex has achieved Provisional Platinum rating under BEAM Plus New Buildings V1.2, demonstrating its exceptional commitment to sustainable design.

Environmental sustainability is at the core of the Tech Landmark's design, featuring high COP chillers, highly efficient ventilation systems, and energy-efficient lighting and lift systems. The advanced power and cooling infrastructure will be capable to support high-performance computing needs while maintaining energy efficiency. Additionally, the complex will generate renewable energy through PV panels, contributing to the university's overall sustainable energy goals.

Beyond its technological features, the Tech Landmark emphasises community integration and green spaces. The development will connect to the University Street and MTR via link-bridges, and will offer public open spaces including deck areas and roof gardens for social and cultural events. These features, along with pedestrian link bridges, are designed to create a harmonious walking experience that integrates with the existing campus network. The project is scheduled for completion in 2025.

FIGURE 7: The Tech Landmark Development

Efficient Elevators

Smart and efficient elevator systems play a crucial role in building connectivity and energy conservation. As part of HKU's ongoing modernisation efforts, four elevators received significant upgrades during the past 12 months. The upgrades took place in three buildings: the Chong Yuet Ming Chemistry Building, Chong Yuet Ming Physics Building and Knowles Building, completing the full elevator modernisation for these facilities.

The modernisation project included installing regenerative elevator systems, which convert gravitational energy from descending elevators into usable electricity. Additional improvements included relevant upgrades to machine rooms, elevator shafts, and car components.

These upgrades have delivered multiple benefits:

- Reduced energy consumption through regenerative technology
- Improved reliability and passenger comfort
- Enhanced safety features
- More precise levelling and operational efficiency

FIGURE 8: Elevator in Chong Yuet Ming Chemistry Building

Renewable Energy Generation

To support the university's goal of expanding the adoption of renewable energy technologies across campus facilities, the University has proactively invested in the development and deployment of renewable energy solutions, such as the installation of solar panel systems and solar hot water system in suitable locations.

With the addition of solar panels at the Academic Building on No. 3 Sassoon Road, renewable energy generation increased by 8% compared to AY2022–23, rising from 146,872 kWh to 158,337 kWh — enough to power over 550 households for one month.

TABLE 6

Renewable Energy Generation in 2023/24 Academic Year:

Centennial Campus:		
Centennial Campus (Solar Panel System)	69,954	kWh
Sassoon Road Campus:		
Faculty of Medicine Building (Solar Panel System + Solar Hot Water System)	18,073	kWh
Jockey Club Building for Interdisciplinary Research (Solar Panel System)	15,653	kWh
Academic Building at No. 3 Sassoon Road (Solar Panel System)	19,826	kWh
Student Residences:		
Lung Wah Street Residential Halls (Solar Panel System)	28,919	kWh
Senior Staff Quarter:		
Pine Court (Solar Panel System)	5,912	kWh
Total:	**158,337**	**kWh**

FIGURE 9: Solar Panel System in the Jockey Club Building for Interdisciplinary Research

Green Transportation

Green transportation is essential for improving air quality and achieving zero carbon emissions in the transport sector. In line with the Hong Kong government's 2021 Roadmap on Electric Vehicles, which aims to stop new registrations of fuel-powered and hybrid passenger cars by 2035, HKU has taken significant steps toward sustainable transportation.

The University's fleet now includes 3 electric vehicles, 1 electric van, and 6 hybrid cars. We have also expanded our charging infrastructure significantly. In the past year, 44 new EV chargers were installed in Senior Staff Quarters, bringing our total to 120 charging stations across different locations: 42 in Main and Centennial campuses, 34 in Sassoon Road Campus, and 44 in Senior Staff Quarters.

This expansion means that 26% of our parking spaces now have charging facilities, up from 17% in August 2024, demonstrating our commitment to supporting green transportation.

TABLE 7

Number of EVs/Hybrid Vehicles Owned by Estates Office

Type of Vehicle	Total Number
EV Passenger Car	3
EV Van	1
Hybrid Passenger Car	6
Total	**10**

TABLE 8

Total number of EV charging stations

Location	Total Number (Increment from 2023)
Main and Centennial Campuses	42
Sassoon Road Campus	34
Senior Staff Quarters	44
Total	**120 (41)**

FIGURE 10: EV Chargers at Senior Staff Quarters

Water Usage Reduction

As part of our commitment to environmental sustainability and resource conservation, we have implemented effective water-saving measures across our facilities. In 2024, we invested in water-efficient fixtures, at Faculty of Medicine Building as listed below, which are projected to further reduce our water consumption while maintaining high performance standards.

- **223 Grade-1 water closets installed:**
  - Dual-flush capability with efficient water usage: Full flush utilizing 4.6 L/flush, reduced flush requiring only 3.0 L/flush
  - These units meet the highest standards of water efficiency while maintaining excellent performance
- **110 Grade-1 urinals strategically placed:**
  - Highly efficient water consumption of <1.4 L/cycle
  - Featuring advanced sensor technology for optimal usage
- **214 Grade-1 water taps installed:**
  - Ultra-low flow rate of <1.8 L/min while providing consistent water supply

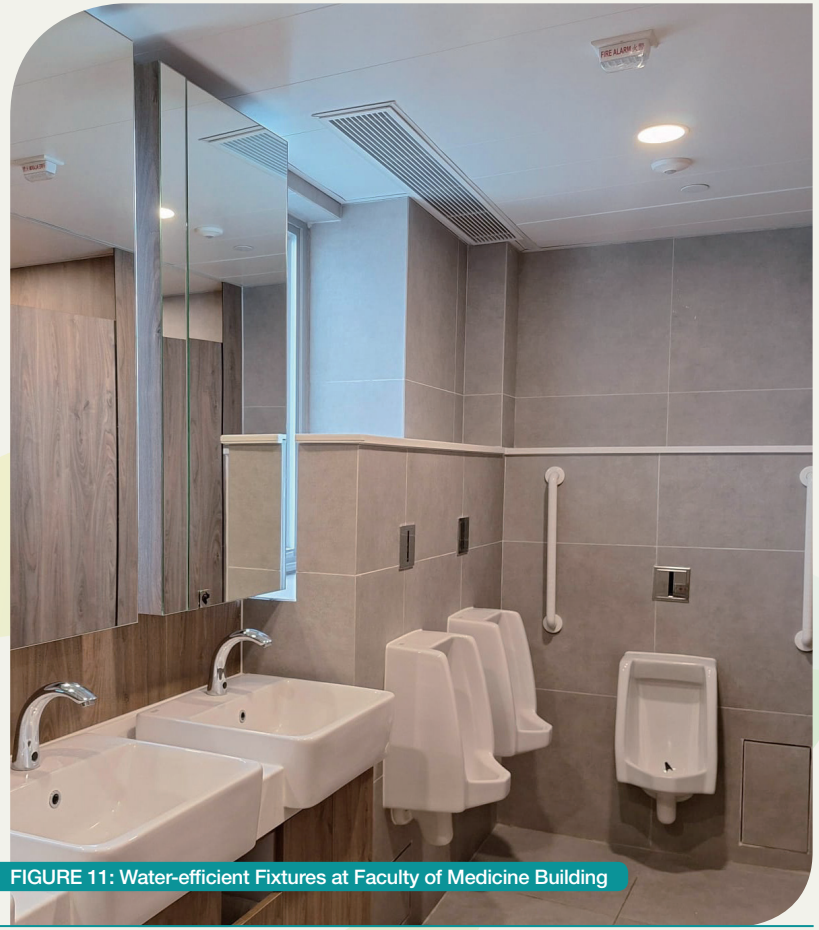


FIGURE 11: Water-efficient Fixtures at Faculty of Medicine Building

Community Engagement

Community Engagement

In the 2023/24 academic year, a diverse range of sustainability-focused events and initiatives were organised at HKU under 5 key categories: Circular Economy, Second-hand Items Collection for Reuses, Upcycling and Zero Waste, Reduction of Single-Use Items, and Recycling Education. These activities — ranging from second-hand markets, clothing swap pop-ups, and appliance repair stations to leadership programmes, upcycling workshops, and reusable container systems — aimed to cultivate a culture of sustainability and environmental responsibility within the campus community. By promoting reuse, reducing waste, and encouraging behavioural change, these events not only diverted substantial material from landfills but also empowered students and staff to take meaningful action toward a more circular and low-impact lifestyle. Collectively, these efforts support HKU's long-term vision of becoming a greener and more sustainable university.

Second-hand Items Collection for Reuse

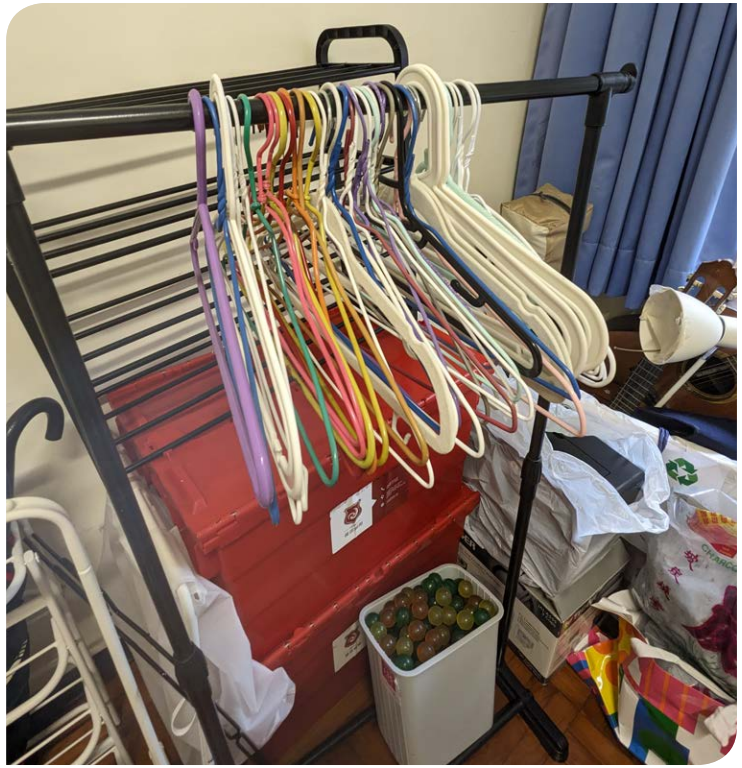
Re Treasure Market

A second-hand market that invited HKU students and staff to set up booths to sell preloved items. The event encouraged community engagement while promoting a circular economy by extending the life of goods and reducing unnecessary consumption. With over 880 participants, more than 130 second-hand items were sold and over 40 kg of unsold items were donated to the Salvation Army, reinforcing sustainable consumption and waste diversion.

Second-hand Items Collection for Reuse

Second-hand Item Collection at Simon KY Lee Hall

This initiative allowed departing residents at Simon KY Lee Hall to donate unwanted yet usable items during mass check-out, which were then made available to new residents in the following semester. The programme aimed to reduce waste, foster a culture of sharing, and promote reuse within the hall community. Over 220 items were donated, of which more than 130 were selected by fellow residents for reuse, and over 30 items were sent for recycling, reflecting a strong participation in waste reduction efforts.



Circular Economy

Sustainability Leadership Programme

The Jockey Club Sustainable Campus Consumer Programme (JCSCCP) Sustainability Leadership Programme empowered student groups to design and execute sustainability projects on campus with ample funding. The 3rd cohort included 6 HKU students, who were awarded 1st place for launching impactful initiatives, including collection drives and a thrift pop-up store. The programme provided leadership training, industry exposure, and a platform to drive real change in circularity and environmental awareness.

Under this leadership programme, a series of activities were held:

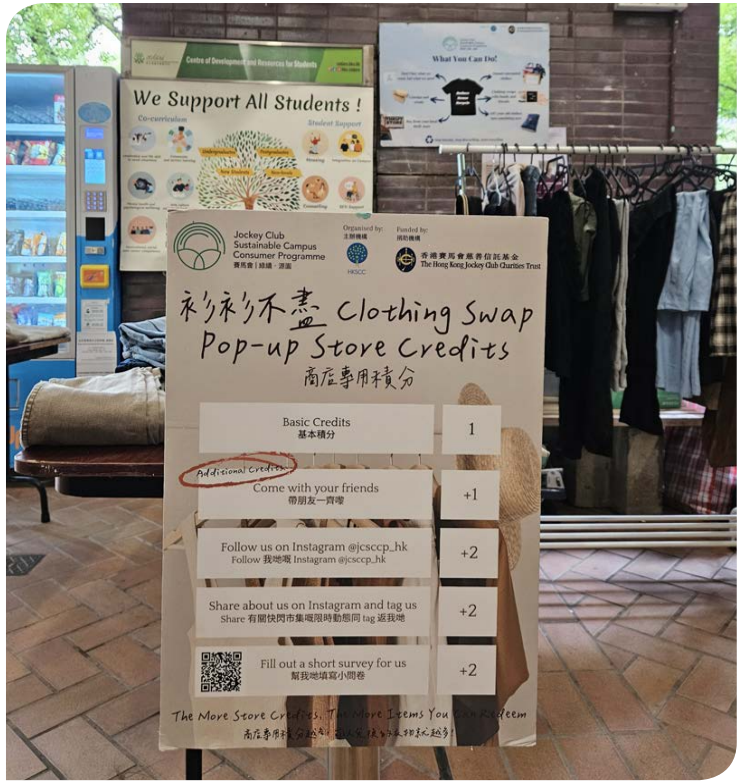
- **Clothing Collection Drive**
  As part of the student-led ReWear project under the Jockey Club Sustainable Campus Consumer Programme, this campaign aimed to redefine fashion sustainability by collecting unwanted garments for reuse and recycling. It raised awareness about the alarming rate of textile waste in Hong Kong while providing practical solutions. The drive collected over 210 kg of clothing.

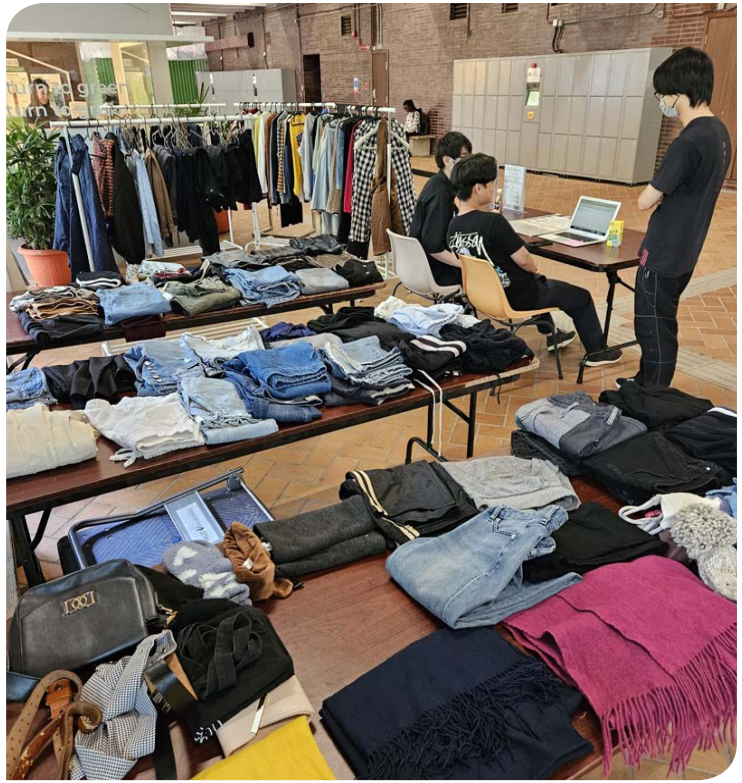
- **Second-hand Thrift Pop-up**
  A campus thrift store pop-up offering affordable preloved fashion items. The event raised funds for Redress and demonstrated the value of reuse while fostering circular fashion practices that help divert clothing from landfills, redistributed more than 50 kg, and donated over 160 kg to Redress for further recycling and advocacy work.

Circular Economy

Clothing Swap Pop-up Market

A free clothing exchange event, sponsored by the Jockey Club Sustainable Campus Consumer Programme ("JCSCCP"), encouraged students to adopt circular fashion. Participants could swap clothes to refresh their wardrobes without buying new, supporting sustainable consumption and reducing textile waste. The event successfully facilitated the sharing of over 240 clothing items, demonstrating strong engagement with sustainable fashion practices.





Circular Economy

Small Electrical Appliance Repair Station

Held on Earth Day 2024, this repair station encouraged the HKU community to bring in malfunctioning small appliances for free diagnostics and repair. It showcased how repairs can extend product lifespan, reduce electronic waste, and conserve resources. Participants engaged in this hands-on initiative, gaining skills and awareness about sustainable electronics usage.

Upcycling Workshops

Plastic Upcycling Workshop

Held as part of Earth Day 2024, the Plastic Upcycling Workshop empowered participants to rethink plastic waste by engaging them in the full lifecycle of plastic reuse. In collaboration with the upcycling company, the event featured hands-on activities where participants shredded waste plastic collected on campus using a mobile shredder and repurposed the material into hiking twist locks, toothbrush holders, and spinning tops. This workshop aimed to raise awareness of the environmental impacts of plastic pollution, demonstrate practical upcycling techniques, and inspire individuals to actively participate in the circular economy. The event attracted over 90 participants, raising awareness about the lifecycle of plastic and encouraging hands-on involvement in reducing plastic waste.

Upcycling Workshops

Zero Waste Workshop: Coffee Grounds Body Scrub

This hands-on workshop educated participants on the environmental impact of microbeads and promoted the upcycling of food waste by transforming leftover coffee grounds into natural body scrubs. Microbeads — tiny plastic particles commonly found in commercial exfoliants — are non-biodegradable and often pass through water treatment systems, ending up in rivers and oceans. They contribute to marine pollution, harming aquatic ecosystems and entering the food chain. By using natural ingredients like leftover coffee grounds, the workshop offered participants a practical and eco-friendly alternative that helps protect marine biodiversity. Over 170 participants attended the two-day event, during which 4.5 kg of coffee grounds were successfully repurposed, encouraging eco-conscious self-care and food waste reduction.

Upcycling Workshops

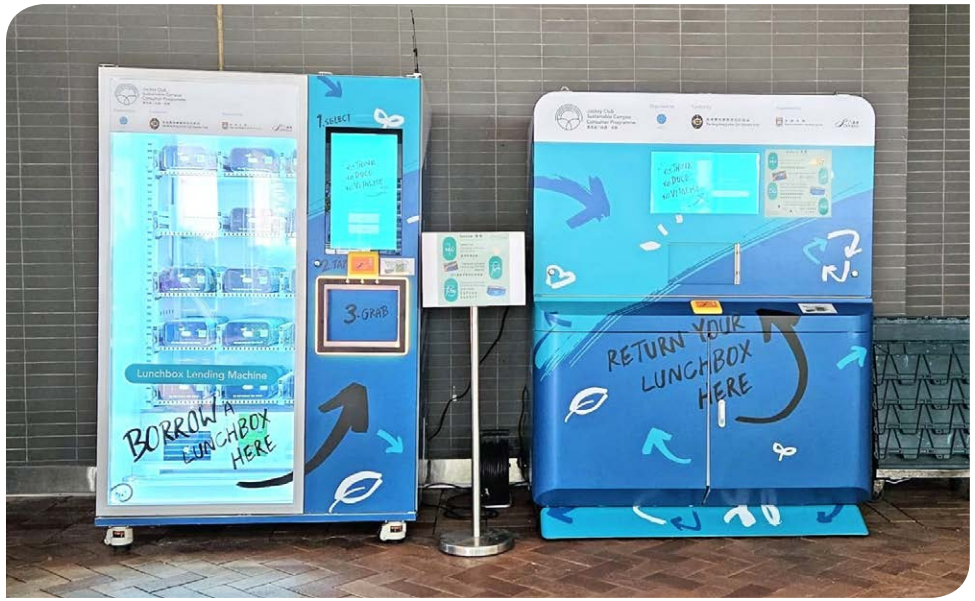
Zero Waste Workshop: Coffee Grounds Body Soap

Designed to promote handmade soap as a sustainable and healthier alternative to commercial products, this workshop taught participants to create soap using natural ingredients and leftover coffee grounds. Owing to overwhelming demand, the event was held three times throughout the year, engaging over 80 participants from a pool of more than 380 applicants. The event reinforced awareness of low-waste personal care and food waste upcycling.

B.Y.O. Campaign + Lending Machine

Lunchbox Lending Programme

To tackle the growing problem of single-use packaging waste from takeaway meals, the Lunchbox Lending Machine was introduced at Haking Wong Podium in partnership with the Jockey Club Sustainable Campus Consumer Programme (JCSCCP). This innovative initiative enables HKU members to easily borrow and return reusable meal containers, fostering a culture of sustainability, responsible consumption, and reuse across campus. By providing a convenient and accessible alternative to disposable packaging, the system effectively reduces the university's overall waste footprint. During the reporting period, there were over 1,800 borrowings, showcasing its effectiveness in reducing disposables and promoting sustainable dining habits on campus.



B.Y.O. Campaign + Lending Machine

B.Y.O. Info Booth

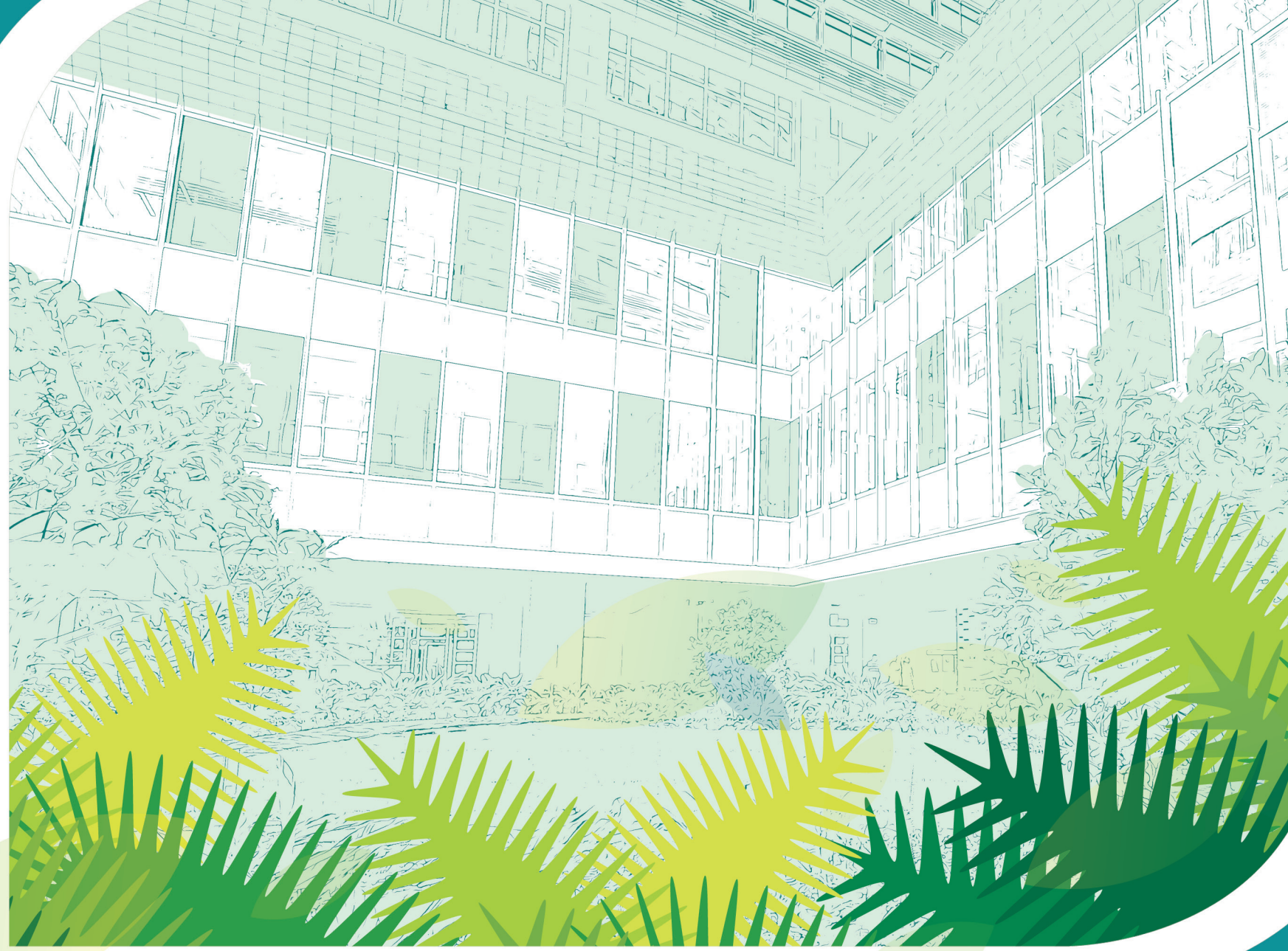
A four-day awareness booth promoting the “Bring Your Own” culture on campus. It encouraged students and staff to adopt reusable alternatives and form sustainable habits to reduce packaging waste. By creating visibility for sustainable habits and making B.Y.O. choices more approachable, the event played a crucial role in fostering an environmentally conscious campus culture. With over 330 participants, the info booth offered tips, resources, and visibility to support sustainable habits and inspire long-term behavioural change aligned with the University’s green goals.

Recycling Education

Green Support on Registration and Information Days

To reinforce HKU's commitment to sustainability, green support stations were established during Registration Days and information Day at key locations including the re Kiosk and Composite Building. These booths provided new students and staff with education on clean and proper recycling practices, emphasising the importance of waste segregation and responsible disposal from the outset of university life. By integrating green habits into the onboarding experience, the initiative aimed to normalise environmental responsibility and enhance the effectiveness of campus-wide recycling efforts. The event also served as a direct engagement point to connect students with broader sustainability programs and resources available at HKU.

Outlook



Outlook

Future Projects for a Greener University

Looking ahead, the University will continue its commitment to sustainability through various initiatives. For ongoing construction projects, including the Pokfield Campus Development and High West Site Development, we are pursuing the latest green building certifications whilst working closely with local stakeholders to develop environmentally integrated community spaces.

To enhance our building technology, we are implementing an AI-driven system to optimise our central chiller plant's energy efficiency. Additionally, we will undertake a thorough energy audit across the campus to evaluate current consumption patterns and identify Energy Management Opportunities (EMOs). Furthermore, we plan to deploy additional sub-metering systems to better monitor energy performance across different usage categories. These measures will help us identify energy-saving opportunities and establish meaningful Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the future.

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Pokfield Campus Development

The Pokfield Campus Development represents a significant milestone in HKU's commitment to sustainable infrastructure. Scheduled for completion between 2025 and 2027, this three-phase regeneration project will transform the Pokfield Road area into a contemporary campus hub that prioritises accessibility and environmental harmony.

Green and Healthy Design

The development embodies sustainability principles through its innovative design features. The campus will incorporate multi-level landscaping, including green podiums and vertical landscaping, creating a vibrant green environment that enhances the streetscape at the Pokfulam Road and Pokfield Road junction. Embracing the "sponge city" concept, the campus will feature rainwater harvesting and recycling systems, while maximising natural daylight and renewable energy usage for optimal energy efficiency.

Smart and Sustainable Infrastructure

As a smart campus, the development will be equipped with cutting-edge digital tools and technologies to enhance visitor experience and optimise operational efficiency. High-speed networks and ICT infrastructure will enable cross-disciplinary collaboration in smart facility and energy management. The construction will utilise environmentally friendly methods, including prefabrication and non-percussive type foundation, which help reduce construction time and minimise environmental impact.

Health and Well-being Focus

The project aims to achieve recognition as part of the first batch of "Healthy Buildings" accredited by the World Health Organization, incorporating 9 foundational elements, namely Ventilation, Water Quality, Thermal Health, Safety & Security, Noise, Moisture, Lighting & Views, Dust & Pests and Air Quality. The design adheres to local and international standards, including BEAM Plus and WELL Building Standard, ensuring comprehensive consideration of health, well-being, and environmental sustainability.

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High West Site Development

Set for completion in the first half of 2026, the High West Site Development project is situated at 142 Pok Fu Lam Road, neighbouring the heritage-listed University Hall. The development comprises two 19-storey towers atop a single-storey shared podium, designed to provide at least 938 student places. The facility will feature residential quarters for management staff, communal areas, dining facilities and auxiliary services.

Following the successful implementation at the HKU Wong Chuk Hang Student Residence, the project employs comprehensive Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) methodology for all towers, establishing itself as a pioneering MiC initiative in private residential development.

In recognition of its outstanding environmental design and resource efficiency, the High West project received the prestigious BEAM Plus New Buildings Provisional Platinum rating in 2022.

Conclusion & Recommendations

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To achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, the University will develop a comprehensive and strategic sustainability masterplan. It is also crucial to actively monitor our sustainability performance in accordance with the master plan.

The masterplan should prioritise the implementation of a robust sustainability management system. This framework will maximise resource efficiency and integrate environmentally conscious practices throughout campus development, construction and facilities management.

Moving forward, all new buildings are targeted to attain BEAM Plus certification and comply with contemporary green building standards. These structures should be designed with occupant well-being in mind, fostering environments conducive to productive study and work.

The University should harness cutting-edge technologies, particularly artificial intelligence, to optimise energy consumption and enhance waste management practices, thereby improving both recycling efficiency and volume.

Through these strategic initiatives — establishing a holistic sustainability masterplan, implementing comprehensive sustainability systems, maintaining rigorous building standards and embracing innovative technologies — the University will strengthen its commitment to environmental stewardship whilst continually improving its standing amongst peer institutions.

Recommendations

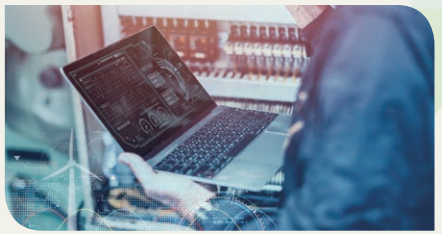
Green Buildings

- Develop green buildings with enhanced energy saving, recycling and renewable energy features
- Retrofit and redevelop aged buildings
- Enhance technology to control energy consumption

AI Chiller Plant Optimisation

- Optimise energy consumption in real-time, leading to significant reductions in energy use and minimising the carbon footprint of the facility

Energy Audit



- Undertake a thorough energy audit across the campus to evaluate current consumption patterns and Energy Management Opportunities

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