Hong Kong Monetary Authority
"Four Faces of Talents in Central" Video Series

Interview Video 2 - Green and Sustainable Finance

Super: Human-powered vehicles
Are you the visionary type?
Then green and sustainable finance may suit you well!

BabyJohn: Are you concerned about environmental protection
and green development?
Green and sustainable finance may suit you well
Today I am joined by Tracy and Tim
to talk about this industry

Super: Tracy Wong Harris
Vice President and Deputy Secretary General
Hong Kong Green Finance Association

Tim Chan
Asia Sustainability Analyst, Vice President
Morgan Stanley Asia Limited

BabyJohn: What is green and sustainable finance?
What is the actual work? It is very popular now

Super: What is the work of Green & Sustainable Finance?

Tracy: Green and sustainable finance
refers to different activities in the financial market
such as issuing bonds, providing loans
or launching other financial products
to provide capital for green, blue and social projects
What do green projects include?
They include green buildings and renewable energy
such as wind and solar power

Super:	Green projects E.g. : Investment in renewable energy
Tracy:	Blue projects are related to the oceans such as marine transplantation or seaside development
Super:	Blue projects E.g. : Promoting ocean sustainability
Tracy:	Social projects include essential services For example, during the pandemic capital was used to produce and transport vaccines and oxygen
Super:	Social projects E.g. : Maintaining essential services
BabyJohn:	Academically, is it a must to have studied Environmental Sciences before entering the industry?
Super :	Do I need to study Environmental Sciences to get into the industry?
BabyJohn:	Comparatively speaking is financial knowledge less important?
Tim:	That is a good question
BabyJohn:	Thanks
Tim:	Actually, green and sustainable finance is an inter-disciplinary subject I can share my own experience As I am a science graduate I believe my strength is that for example, when discussing climate change and sustainable development it would be much easier for me to get the financial practitioners

	to understand these topics Of course, basic financial knowledge is also important So I have taken the Chartered Financial Analyst course to enhance my financial knowledge ESG has become a buzzword in recent years ESG stands for Environmental, Social and Governance
Super:	ESG Environmental, Social, Governance
Tim:	Basically, what it means is during the investment process apart from financial considerations a lot of investors are also concerned about ESG which includes climate change, labour issues and the independence or diversity of the board We have found that there are graduates of diverse academic background working in the ESG or green and sustainable finance fields
BabyJohn:	What factors do you consider when deciding to hire an applicant?
Super:	What factors do you consider in recruitment?
Tracy:	I consider four major factors when hiring Firstly, I want to learn about the applicants' values on green and sustainable development They must understand the value of green and sustainable finance towards the ecological civilization of the earth Secondly, like what Tim mentioned the applicants have to be equipped with knowledge about different financial products Thirdly, they must be aware of environmental and social issues Fourthly, language ability is also very important

BabyJohn: Imagine that I am a university graduate
interested in green and sustainable finance
What jobs can I do?

Super: What positions can university graduate take in field?

Tracy: There are actually many different areas
in green and sustainable finance
Fundraising is the largest area
which is the origination of the projects, where my team
will issue bonds and arrange loans for clients

Super: Capital Market

Tracy: My other team is responsible for
managing the environmental and social risk

Super: Environmental Risk Management

Tracy: We also have a special team on product development
because we need to keep innovating financial products
to suit the fast growing market

Super: Product Development

Tim: Just now, Tracy shared that there is a high demand for
talents in green and sustainable finance
in Hong Kong and around the world
Working in equity research
of course I am aware of the demand for talents in this area
To my understanding
listed companies are also looking for
a lot of talents to help achieve regulatory compliance
and so there are plenty of job opportunities

BabyJohn: As a university graduate in Hong Kong
what are the advantages to working in this industry?

Super: What are the advantages of Hong Kong graduates in this industry?

Tracy: If you are a graduate in Asia or Hong Kong
that is already a great advantage in itself
because Hong Kong is an international financial centre
Secondly, there are more opportunities
in the green and sustainable finance industry within Asia
You will be very popular if you go abroad
and definitely have a competitive advantage

BabyJohn: After your sharing
it seems this is a hot industry
severely in need of talents
If you are interested
you might consider joining the industry
To learn more about other areas of the financial market
click the links to watch other interview videos

Super: Visit the HKMA YouTube Channel
to learn more about other areas of the financial market!
Acknowledgement
Hong Kong Green Finance Association
Morgan Stanley Asia Limited
Hong Kong Monetary Authority Logo