

1 April 2022

Our Ref: INS/TEC/10/51
By e-mail only

To: Chief Executives of all Authorized Insurers, Chief Executives of Designated Insurance Holding Companies, Responsible Officers of all Licensed Insurance Broker Companies and Responsible Officers of all Licensed Insurance Agencies

Dear Sirs,

Launch of the Green and Sustainable Finance (“GSF”) Data Source Repository

We would like to share with you that under the Green and Sustainable Finance Cross-Agency Steering Group (“CASG”)¹, the Centre for Green and Sustainable Finance (“GSF Centre”)² has launched the GSF Data Source Repository which is now available at <https://www.hkma.gov.hk/eng/key-functions/international-financial-centre/green-and-sustainable-finance/gsf-data-source-repository/>.

The repository was recommended and compiled by the GSF Centre’s Data Working Group. The Data Working Group, which is co-chaired by the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers (“HKFI”) and Citi, aims to study data needs, identify data gaps, and recommend ways to address such gaps identified to support green and sustainable finance.

The repository contains a set of available data sources for assisting climate risk management and other green and sustainable finance related analysis and research. It was compiled based on current industry practice and it is not exhaustive. The data sources in the repository were mainly produced by reputable international organisations, governments, academic institutions and not-for-profit organisations.

The repository contains data sources in six major areas:

1. Climate-related risks – including datasets that facilitate assessment in relation to exposure to physical and transition risks under different emissions scenarios and time horizons.
2. Climate scenarios – including scenarios models and projections that facilitate climate risk analysis and stress testing, or for research and policy purposes.

¹ The CASG is co-chaired by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the Securities and Futures Commission with members including the Insurance Authority, the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited, the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau and the Environment Bureau to coordinate the management of climate and environmental risks to the financial sector, accelerate the growth of green and sustainable finance in Hong Kong and support the Government’s climate strategies.

² The GSF Centre is a cross-sector platform launched by the CASG that coordinates the efforts of financial regulators, government agencies, industry stakeholders and the academia in capacity building and policy development. It also serves as a repository for resources, data and analytics which support the transition to a more sustainable development pathway.

3. Climate-related targets, actions and assessment – including datasets that facilitate assessment of portfolio alignment to well-below 2°C or 1.5°C emissions scenarios, and carbon reduction assessment and target setting on country, city or company levels.
4. Carbon exposure – including datasets that enable analysis of carbon exposure and efficiency.
5. Other ESG related – including datasets that measure exposure to ESG risks and relevant management.
6. Macroeconomics – including economic and financial datasets that assist in conducting climate analysis and identifying potential opportunities arising from the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The potential use of these data sources for the insurance industry would include managing climate-related risks in their businesses and facilitating companies in setting climate-related goals and strategies. We hope that you would find them useful.

The GSF Centre will review and update the repository on an ongoing basis. If you have any suggestions and feedback, you are welcome to send them to hkcgsf@hkma.gov.hk.

Yours faithfully,

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c.c. The Hong Kong Federation of Insurers
The Hong Kong Confederation of Insurance Brokers
Professional Insurance Brokers Association