

Immediate Release

BuildING Our Future Grand Challenge 2025
Hong Kong's Top Ten Finalists Rise from Record Entries
Vying for Singapore Exchange and Grand Championship

(20 August 2025) The BuildING Our Future Grand Challenge 2025 revealed the top ten finalists in both the Chinese and English divisions after the completion of its preliminary selection. The competition this year saw an overwhelming response, with a record-breaking nearly 100 proposals submitted, showcasing the passion of Hong Kong students for fostering sustainable living. The 20 shortlisted secondary school teams will compete for the top three spots in the Hong Kong stage and an opportunity for international exchange in Singapore, where they will face off against Singaporean schools in the grand finale for the ultimate championship.

Record Entries spotlight Climate Action and Local Species Protection

The competition theme this year, "Nature in the City: Smart Connections for Sustainable Living", encouraged students from Secondary 2 to Secondary 4 (Grades 9-11) to devise innovative solutions integrating biodiversity concepts to plan sustainable smart cities, promoting harmony between ecological conservation and urban development. The competition received widespread support from schools with nearly 100 proposals submitted, setting a new record. Student proposals addressed pressing social issues, including carbon reduction and energy-saving solutions to mitigate climate change and urban heat island effects, conservation of local species to combat biodiversity loss, and enhancing connections between citizens and nature to improve physical and mental well-being.

Nixon Cheung, General Manager of Tram Plus Limited (tramplus) says, "I am delighted that this year's competition has set a new record for the number of participating teams, with many proposals demonstrating immense potential and aligning with government initiatives such as smart and low-carbon mobility, low-altitude economy, and artificial intelligence applications. Since its establishment, tramplus has been committed to integrating education with practical application, encouraging students to apply STEAM knowledge from textbooks to urban planning scenarios to promote sustainable development. We hope the grand challenge serves as an international exchange platform to cultivate the global perspectives of students, broaden their horizons, and enhance their academic capabilities. The top three teams from the Hong Kong stage will participate in an overseas exchange programme in Singapore, where they can attend a seminar at the internationally acclaimed Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore and interact with local students, bringing them an invaluable learning experience."

The top ten finalists from the Hong Kong stage will advance to the next selection stage, participating in academic seminars and Grand Challenge Master Class to engage with industry representatives and educational elites. These sessions will train students in design thinking, enhance their science and technology knowledge, and inspire them to refine their proposals for the finale. The Hong Kong stage finale takes place on 8 November 2025. The judging panel will evaluate teams based on five criteria, namely innovation and creativity, impact on sustainable urban living, use of technology, feasibility & practicality and presentation & clarity. The top three teams will be selected on the spot, and the champion team will be awarded a one-month tram body advertisement to promote their outstanding STEAM achievements.

Hong Kong Top Three to Attend Seminar at NTU

This year's competition is held in a dual-region format in Hong Kong and Singapore for the first time, supported by the Centre for International Training of Government and Leaders, Singapore (CIFAL



Singapore), which is hosted by NTU. Both Hong Kong and Singapore are renowned for their high urbanisation, dense populations, and efficient public transportation systems, making their shared challenges and strategies for smart urban transformation and sustainable development highly relevant for mutual learning.

The top three Hong Kong teams will travel to Singapore for an overseas exchange tour, joining the shortlisted Singaporean teams to explore the city's smart urban development firsthand and compete in the grand finale. The three-day, two-night exchange programme includes attending a seminar at NTU, where Professor Adam Switzer, Director, CIFAL Singapore will share his insights into the implementation of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) in Asia. The students will also visit two of NTU's sustainable buildings, namely The Hive and Gaia.

Professor Adam Switzer says, "I am genuinely excited that CIFAL Singapore and NTU are joining forces with tramplus for the Youth Program Grand Challenge 2025, uniting our shared commitment to inspire and equip the next generation of Asian leaders to tackle the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with creativity, collaboration, and purpose, and to accelerate inclusive and sustainable development across the region."

On the day of the grand finale, a judging panel comprising representatives from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, tramplus, CIFAL Singapore, Jewel Changi Airport, and Hongkong Land and Green Come True will select the grand champion. The grand champions of the Chinese and English divisions will each receive a cash prize of HKD10,000 (approximately SGD1,650) as a reward.

The Singapore stage is now accepting entries from local schools. The deadline for submission is 21 November 2025. Winning and shortlisted teams will also have the opportunity to participate in the exchange programme.

BUILDING our Future Grand Challenge 2025 Finalists **(In alphabetical order by the English names of schools)**

Chinese Division Top 10

Shortlisted Schools	Proposal Names
PLK Celine Ho Yam Tong College	低碳暢行之路
Shun Lee Catholic Secondary School	電車沿線水霧系統降溫裝置
Shun Tak Fraternal Association Yung Yau College	綠野尋蹤
St. Francis' Canossian College	森•軌道
St. Mark's School	竹印電驛
St. Mary's Canossian College	軌道上的生態走廊
St. Paul's Secondary School	綠色都繪
The Hong Kong Taoist Association Ching Chung Secondary School	Blossom On TRAM 花開軌跡
The Y.W.C.A. Hioe Tjo Yoeng College	軌跡綠廊：電網絡驅動的城市生態
Wa Ying College	慢慢森呼吸



English Division Top 10

Shortlisted Schools	Proposal Names
Creative Secondary School	Moss Tram
ELCHK Lutheran Academy	Perchliner
German Swiss International School	CLIMATRAM
HKUGA College	TRAMsformerE
La Salle College	CityVeins: An Urban Oasis Network
Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section)	Hydr0Tram
Marymount Secondary School	Verdi Tram Nexus
St. Mark's School	Urban Moss Shields - A Breathing Highway
St. Mary's Canossian College	Nature Transcendence
The True Light School of Hong Kong	EcoTram

Photo Captions

Photo 1:



Hong Kong's top three teams from the BUILDING Our Future Grand Challenge 2025 will travel to Singapore for an overseas exchange. The Singapore stage accepts local school entries until 21 November 2025, with winning and shortlisted teams eligible for the exchange programme.



About tramplus

Founded in 2021, tramplus is a sister company of HK Tramways and owned by the RATP Dev Group.

With the vision to advocate local STEM education, tramplus teams up with the world's leading institutions and educators to provide easy access to the world-class online and in-curriculum STEM education, by blending in the rich legacy of tram engineering wisdom with modern tech knowledge.

tramplus focuses on STEM-related curricula including basic science, mechanical and electrical engineering, coding and urban development. By approaching these topics from a daily life perspective, tramplus hopes to inspire students to adopt a radical mindset and equip them with a STEM foundation. Hence, equip them with the knowledge and skills to develop a smarter and a more sustainable future for the city.

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