

Immediate Release**BuildING Our Future Grand Challenge 2025 HK Stage Results Announced**
Champion Innovation Projects Encourage Community Participation in Monitoring Urban Trees and Biodiversity

(20 November 2025) The BuildING Our Future Grand Challenge 2025 Hong Kong Stage Finale, organized by tramplus, a sister company of Hong Kong Tramways Limited, was successfully held on 8 November 2025 at PMQ. This year's competition themed "Nature in the City: Smart Connections for Sustainable Living", saw the Chinese Division champion awarded to students from St. Francis' Canossian College for their "Forest on Track" (「森·軌道」) project, while the English Division champion went to students from La Salle College for their "BiodiverCity" project. Both champion teams will receive a one-month tram body advertisement to promote their outstanding achievements. Next year, they will join the 1st and 2nd runners-up on an overseas exchange trip to Singapore, where they will compete against Singaporean teams for the overall championship.

Champion Innovation Projects Focus on Enhancing Community Engagement

The Chinese Division champion, "Forest on Tracks", from St. Francis' Canossian College, plans to develop a mobile app to raise public awareness of tree health in Hong Kong and reduce tree collapse incidents. Users can adopt virtual trees near their homes via GPS technology, name them, and connect to existing tree monitoring systems to access health data. Through virtual leaf-sweeping battle games, reporting mechanisms, and tree coin rewards in the app, citizens are encouraged to build stronger connections with community trees and monitor their conditions.

The English Division champion, "BiodiverCity" from La Salle College, suggests upgrading tram stops into eco-friendly interactive stations. This includes building native local plant canopy on tram stop rooftops to enhance greening, improve roadside air quality, and cool the urban environment. Smart bird sanctuaries equipped with cameras and sensors will monitor bird activity, with real-time data displayed on tram station information screens. The project is complemented by a mobile app featuring daily environmental challenges and reward mechanisms to encourage citizens to learn about biodiversity and foster environmental awareness.

Top Three Teams Poised to Shine for Hong Kong and Push Innovation Forward

Nixon Cheung, General Manager of tramplus, the event organiser, said, "This is the third edition of the Grand Challenge, with a record-high number of entries and the highest quality of proposals to date. This year's theme revolves around sustainable development. We have arranged a Singapore exchange trip for the top three teams in each division, allowing students to experience firsthand how different parts of the world implement environmental protection and greening, and how the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are put into practice, broadening their horizons. I am delighted to see students cherishing and enjoying this platform. Behind their shining moments on stage lies nearly six months of hard work. I hope they will continue to strive for Hong Kong's glory in the Singapore Stage."

Professor Ben Y B Chan, Associate Director of the HKUST Academy for Bright Future Young Engineers, the co-organiser, mentioned, "Innovation competitions differ from traditional exams in that there are no absolute correct answers. Today, all participating students stepped out of their comfort zones and embraced challenges—this in itself is a great achievement. For the teams that did not win, they gain even more. Many people ask me the secret to success in innovation. From years of



experience in innovation education, I conclude that the more failures you experience, the easier it is to succeed. After failure, you reflect on your shortcomings, repeatedly consider how to improve and progress—this is the essential stage for entrepreneurs to successfully launch excellent products and solutions.”

Top Three Teams to Travel to Singapore for Exchange and Learning

This year's competition received an enthusiastic response, with nearly 100 project submissions, a record high. The top ten teams from both Chinese and English Division, totalling 20 finalist teams, gathered to actively present their urban sustainable development innovation proposals to guests, and industry professionals from the education, as well as innovation and technology sector. Judges selected the champions based on five criteria: innovation and creativity, impact on sustainable urban living, use of technology, feasibility & practicality, and presentation & clarity. The top three teams from both divisions will travel to Singapore for exchange and learning, and compete in the grand finale.

The BuilDING Our Future Grand Challenge 2025 is organised by tramplus, and co-organised by the HKUST Academy for Bright Future Young Engineers and Hong Kong Tramways Limited, with Hongkong Land as the lead sponsor. It aims to encourage students to propose innovative solutions that balance urban development with ecological conservation, raise public awareness of biodiversity, and lead sustainable development. As a platform to nurture local innovation talent, the top ten finalists in each division previously participated in the Grand Challenge Master Class, where tutors provided guidance and suggestions on their projects to prepare for the finale.

Tram Teak Wood and Uniforms Upcycled into Souvenirs to promote green living

To align with the sustainable development theme, tramplus joined hands with the event's Upcycling Partners, Dress Green, a social enterprise dedicated to promoting sustainable fashion, and Studio Ryte, a local artisan studio, to promote green living. Tramplus and Dress Green hosted an “Upcycling Mobile Phone Strap Workshop” on the event day, allowing guests and students to create phone straps from old Hong Kong Tramways uniforms, experiencing upcycling as a way to practice environmental protection. Additionally, guests received cardholders made from coin bags used on free tram ride days, as well as upcycled embroidery pins made from old tram uniforms, available in three designs: Tram Ambassador Ding Ding Cat, vintage tram stop sign, and tram lane, encouraging green living. Additionally, the competition trophies and the judges' commemorative kaleidoscopes were all designed by Studio Ryte. They were specially upcycled from discarded teak wood of retired trams. Inspired by the classic woodworking craftsmanship of trams, the production deliberately preserved the traces of time on the teak, making them particularly meaningful.

BuilDING our Future Grand Challenge 2025 List of Awardees

Awards	Chinese Division Awardees	English Division Awardees
	School Names (Proposal Names)	
Champion	St. Francis' Canossian College (森 · 軌道)	La Salle College (BiodiverCity)
1 st Runner-up	Wa Ying College (慢慢森呼吸)	ELCHK Lutheran Academy (Perchliner)
2 nd Runner-up	Shun Lee Catholic Secondary School (水霧都市)	The True Light School of Hong Kong (EcoTram – Nature on Track)
Best Social Impact Award	Shun Lee Catholic Secondary School (水霧都市)	St. Mark's School (Urban Moss Shields)



Best Use of Technology Award	PLK Celine Ho Yam Tong College (低碳暢行之路)	German Swiss International School (CLIMATRAM)
Best Design Award	Shun Tak Fraternal Association Yung Yau College (綠野尋蹤)	ELCHK Lutheran Academy (Perchliner)
Best Innovation Award	St. Mark's School (竹印電驛)	HKUGA College (TRAMsformerE)
Best Presenter Award	St. Mary's Canossian College (軌道上的生態走廊)	The True Light School of Hong Kong (EcoTram – Nature on Track)
Best Sustainability Award	St. Paul's Secondary School (綠色都繪)	Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section) (Hydr0Tram)
Audience Choice Award Top 1	Wa Ying College (慢慢森呼吸)	Marymount Secondary School (VerdiTram Nexus)
Audience Choice Award Top 2	The Hong Kong Taoist Association Ching Chung Secondary School (花語憩亭)	La Salle College (BiodiverCity)
Audience Choice Award Top 3	St. Mary's Canossian College (軌道上的生態走廊)	German Swiss International School (CLIMATRAM)

Photo Captions (More photos can be downloaded [here](#))

Photo 1:



The Chinese division champion project is “Forest on Tracks” from St. Francis’ Canossian College. The project proposes developing a mobile app to raise public awareness of tree health in Hong Kong.



Photo 2:



The English Division champion project is “BiodiverCity” from La Salle College. The project suggests upgrading tram stops into eco-friendly interactive stations to foster environmental awareness among citizens.

Photo 3:



Nixon Cheung, General Manager of tramplus, the Grand Challenge organiser, stated in his speech that this year’s competition not only achieved a record-high number of entries but also the highest proposal quality to date. The top three teams in each category have been arranged for a Singapore exchange trip to broaden students’ horizons.

Photo 4:



Professor Ben Y B Chan, Associate Director of the HKUST Academy for Bright Future Young Engineers, the co-organiser, encouraged students during his speech to repeatedly reflect on how to improve and progress, as this is the essential stage for entrepreneurs to successfully launch outstanding products and solutions.



Photo 5:



The top ten finalists from both Chinese and English divisions, totalling 20 finalist teams, attended the Hong Kong stage final of the BUILDING Our Future Grand Challenge, actively presenting their urban sustainable development innovation proposals to guests and industry professionals from the education as well as the innovation and technology sector.

Photo 6:



On the day of the BUILDING Our Future Grand Challenge, tramplus collaborated with Dress Green to host an “Upcycling Mobile Phone Strap Workshop”, allowing guests and students to create phone straps from old Hong Kong Tramways uniforms and experience upcycling as a way to practice environmental protection.

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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