

[Hong Kong, China wins again in APEC Energy Smart Communities Initiative Best Practices Awards Program \(with photo\)](#)

The Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services, Mr Poon Kwok-ying, attended the award ceremony of the sixth Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Energy Smart Communities Initiative (ESCI) Best Practices Awards Program in Lima, Peru on August 13 (Peru time). This year's Program comprised 10 awards, and a total of 62 projects from 13 APEC member economies participated in the selection. Hong Kong, China won one gold and two silver awards among the 10 awards this year, winning again after it won an award in 2022.

Mr Poon attended the award ceremony to receive the awards and said, "The three awards won in two categories not only acknowledge Hong Kong, China's efforts in smart residential communities but also serve as a reminder to persist in our commitment to fostering innovation and technology to meet our carbon neutrality goal."

The three winning projects by Hong Kong, China are:

- Power-hawk Inspector: a drone-based power grid defect inspector with embedded artificial intelligence (AI) using few-shot learning and federated learning, by the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), received the gold award in the Smart Grids category.
- E&M AI Lab: Driving Digital Transformation in Building Facilities Management, by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), received the silver award in the Smart Buildings category.
- Renewable Energy and Retired EV Battery Solution for Smart Grid Integration, by the HKPC, received the silver award in the Smart Grids category

The APEC Energy Working Group initiated the ESCI in 2010, and launched the biennial APEC ESCI Best Practices Awards in 2013, to recognise exemplary community-level projects that integrate renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies for sustainable development in the APEC region. A gold award and a silver award are selected from each of the five categories: Smart Transport, Smart Buildings, Smart Grids, Smart Jobs and Consumers, and Low Carbon Model Towns. In 2022, a joint project by the EMSD and the Hong Kong Green Building Council won the gold award in the Smart Jobs and Consumers category. For more information about the ESCI, please visit www.esci-ksp.org.

