

# SEN officiates at opening ceremony of new Environmental Academy training facility

The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, today (November 18) officiated at the opening ceremony of the new "Environmental Academy@Smart Venue" training facility under the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

The EPD established the Environment Academy in May 2018 to take charge of planning, management and development of human resources with a view to strengthening staff training, particularly in the areas of professional knowledge, technical skills, legal knowledge, law enforcement competency and collaborative skills. To tie in with the development of the department, the EPD has further upgraded the training facilities and set up the "Environmental Academy@Smart Venue".

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Mr Wong said, "The EPD attaches great importance to human resources development. The setting up of the Environmental Academy offers a more systematic training approach for green talents. So far, more than 1 000 colleagues from the Environmental Protection Officer and Environmental Protection Inspector grades have benefited from programmes offered by the Academy. The 'Environmental Academy@Smart Venue' provides better and diverse training facilities, marking another new human resources development milestone for the EPD in the areas of advancement, education, progress and open-mindedness."

Located in Eastern District, the "Environmental Academy@Smart Venue" is equipped with a TV wall, an interactive projector system, a 3D TV, an immersive Cave Automatic Virtual Environment and a video conferencing system for providing environmental training in an innovative and experiential mode. The facility also serves as a suitable venue for interaction with local and international environmental experts.

Mr Wong pointed out that, apart from providing training for EPD staff, the Environmental Academy also collaborates with various professional institutions and organisations to provide participants to the Graduates Subsidy Programme under the Green Employment Scheme with environmental-related professional training to better equip them with different areas of expertise in the field. The first lecture will be given at the "Environmental Academy@Smart Venue" on November 26.