

Education and Communications

Education

To raise public awareness about online ramp and dump scams, the SFC organised a community outreach event with the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre (ADCC) of the Hong Kong Police Force in December. Leaflets and souvenirs were distributed to the public to provide information about these scams.

In addition, the SFC's wholly-owned subsidiary, the Investor and Financial Education Council (IFEC), launched an online anti-financial-scam game for the public and a new round of education programmes for seniors to help reinforce our efforts to combat financial scams.

During the quarter, the IFEC also provided educational resources on virtual assets, the new Hong Kong investor identification regime and updates on investment products.

At its 10th anniversary multi-media campaign held in October and November, the IFEC launched new activities to help the public develop good financial management and our Chairman Mr Tim Lui shared his personal investment and financial management experience at the IFEC's anniversary education seminar.

Community and market outreach

Events

At the SFC Compliance Forum 2022 held in October, senior market participants discussed the development of Hong Kong as an international financial centre, opportunities and challenges for Hong Kong as an Asian

equities hub, the role of Hong Kong as a sustainable finance centre, money laundering risks, operational challenges and risk issues of online platforms and the regulatory landscape for virtual assets. More than 2,500 market participants joined the event.

We co-organised Hong Kong FinTech Week 2022, held from 31 October to 4 November, where our Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Deputy CEO) Ms Julia Leung¹ provided an update on the SFC's latest policies on virtual assets, including the new regime for the authorisation of exchange-traded funds with virtual asset futures as underlying and security token offerings. Together with the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau and InvestHK, we held a meeting with virtual asset industry representatives to discuss the new licensing regime for virtual asset service providers.

Local training

During the quarter, we hosted two webinars for about 1,800 management and compliance personnel from licensed corporations to provide an update on the latest money laundering threats and vulnerabilities in the securities sector as well as to share regulatory developments and recent inspection observations on anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism. In addition, we provided virtual training sessions to two industry associations to introduce the digitalised licensing function and electronic submissions of financial resources returns, the enhanced competency framework and business email compromise risk.



Deputy CEO Ms Julia Leung (first from left) at the SFC Compliance Forum 2022

¹ Ms Julia Leung was appointed as the SFC's CEO with effect from 1 January 2023.

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Speaking engagements

During the quarter, our senior executives spoke at 38 local and international events to provide regulatory updates on a wide range of topics including sustainable finance, virtual assets and asset management. Mr Tim Lui delivered speeches at the Sustainable Investing and ESG² Conference 2022 hosted by the World Green Organisation and the United Nations, Regulation Asia's ESG Risk and Investment Asia Conference 2022 and the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency's International Symposium – Sustainable Finance and Climate Resilience 2022. Ms Julia Leung spoke at the Tech and Ops Conference organised by the Asia Securities Industry Forum 2022 and Financial Markets Association and the Institutional Digital Assets and Crypto Regulation Symposium.

Our senior executives attended the Global Financial Leaders' Investment Summit in November. In addition, we supported seven industry events during the quarter.

Our executives also attended the October and December meetings of the Panel on Financial Affairs to discuss the development of sustainable finance and the proposed enhancements to the position limit regime for the derivatives market in Hong Kong.

Publications and other communications

We proactively engage with a wide range of stakeholders to provide them with regulatory updates and explain our work.

We released the following publications in the quarter:

- The SFC's *July-September 2022 Quarterly Report* summarised our key regulatory work, corporate developments and financial information.
- The December issue of the *Takeovers Bulletin* highlighted the Takeovers Panel's decisions in relation to an investment manager's share dealings during an offer period³.

We also issued 15 circulars providing guidance on a variety of matters, including the investor identification regime, mutual recognition of funds and anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism.

In October, we launched an SFC webpage on sustainable finance featuring our latest Agenda for Green and Sustainable Finance as well as local, regional and international regulatory initiatives. We also published 53 posts on the SFC's social media platforms during the quarter to promote awareness on a range of matters, including investor alerts and virtual asset seminars as well as the sustainable finance internship programme and capacity building support scheme.



Community outreach with ADCC

² Environmental, social and governance.

³ See Corporates on pages 5-6.

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Publications and other communications

	Quarter ended 31.12.2022	Nine months ended 31.12.2022
Press releases	34	87
Policy statements and announcements	2	6
Consultation papers	2	5
Consultation conclusions	1	3
Industry-related publications	1	7
Codes and guidelines ^a	0	4
Circulars to industry	15	40
Corporate website average daily page views ^b	57,829	62,666
General enquiries	454	1,486

a Includes updates to previous versions.

b The average number of webpages browsed per day during the reporting period.