HKRSA 香港退休計劃協會
The Hong Kong Retirement Schemes Association

NEWS BULLETIN

Sep 2020

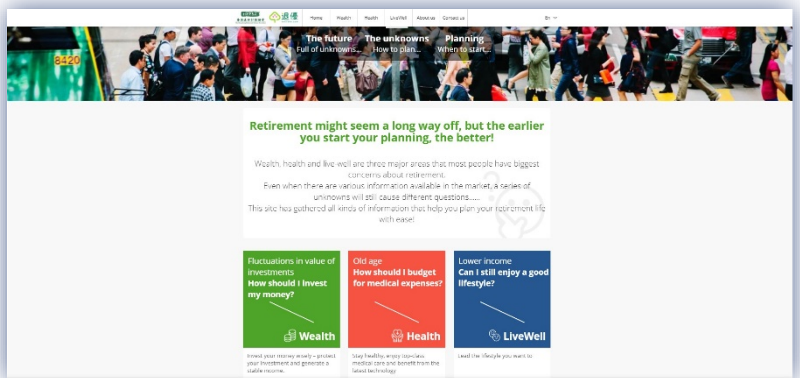
www.hkrsa.org.hk | Rm 1704, 17/F, OfficePlus @Sheung Wan, Wing Lok Street, Hong Kong | Facebook.com/hkrsa.hk/

退優 retirehk.com
www.retirehk.com

"Take-a-Tour"

28 Sep 2020 (Mon)

Retirement seems a long way away for most people. Yet it suddenly appears on the horizon much faster than some people have prepared for. Retirement planning can start at any time, but it always pays off the earlier you start - that's the best way to ensure a safe, secure, and enjoyable retirement. To most of us, wealth, health and live-well are the three key aspects in retirement planning and a lot of information are available from different corporations, portals, service providers, NGOs, etc. To make your retirement planning hassle-free, the HKRSA is launching a Dedicated Retirement Portal, retirehk.com. This site is designed to be one-stop-shop to host all the information you need to order to save your time to enjoy life. Happy planning!



To share the soft-launch excitement with you, please click **here** to participate in a short survey. The first **100** respondents will receive an e-Coupon with complimentary tall size coffee from Pacific Coffee as a token of thanks.

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The Hong Kong Retirement Schemes Association www.facebook.com/hkrsa.hk
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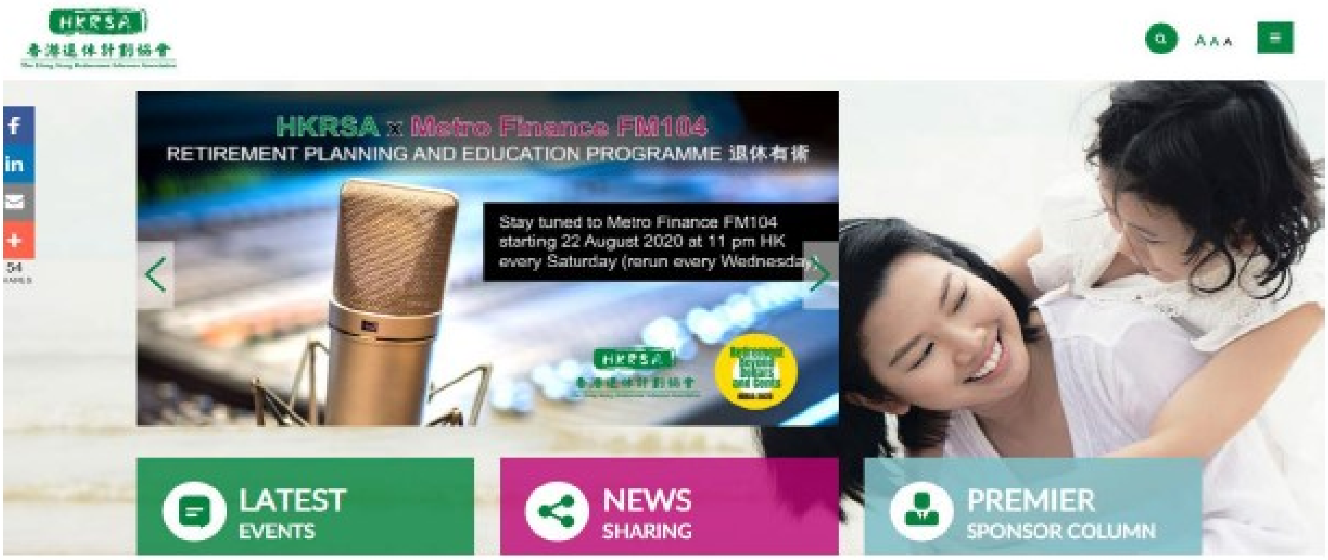
Retirement Beyond Dollars and Cents HKRSA 2020

Retirement Planning and Education Programme Kicks Off

HKRSA's first radio programme (退休有術) began airing on Saturday, 22 August 2020, Metro Finance FM104.
NEW EPISODE EVERY WEEK until the end of October. Visit our website for details.

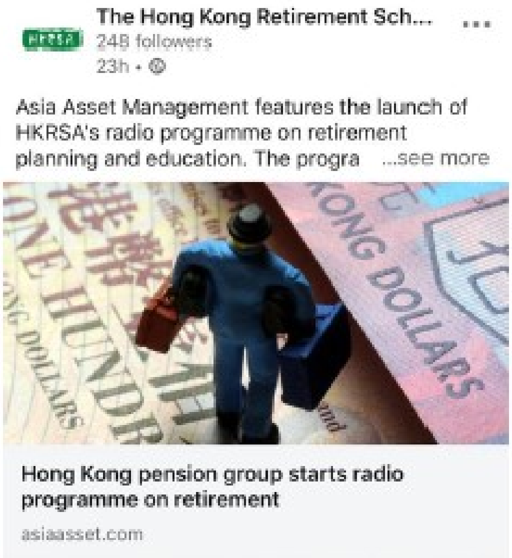


Episode 1: Speakers and hosts gathered at the Metro Finance FM104 Studio for audio recording on 18 August.

Thanks to the speakers who kick off our radio series.

Helen Leung (Ninety One)
Lau Ka Shi, BBS (HKRSA)
Cheng Yan Chee (MPFA)

Together with Metro Finance FM104 as our media partner, we communicate with members and promote the programme through various outlets in the week of 17 August.



For latest news and information about the radio programme, visit our website and follow our LinkedIn page (#hkrsa) or Facebook.

ESG and Sustainability Investing in the context of pension investment

Speaker: Dr Steffen Hörter | Ms Dianna Enlund

As the world resets for growth beyond coronavirus, sustainable investing that couples competitive financial returns with wider environmental and social benefits has what it takes to reshape the future of investing, experts told a webinar.

Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) or commonly called Sustainability is quite a broad set of issues, from the Australia bushfires to "Black Lives Matter" protests to the accounting fraud of German payments firm Wirecard, said Dianna Enlund, Head of Sales of Australia Institutional and Sustainability Specialist for Asia Pacific at Allianz Global Investors, citing recent examples by way of illustration.

The webinar, themed "ESG and Sustainability Investing in the context of pension investment", was organized by the Hong Kong Retirement Scheme Association and broadcast online on July 17th.

Once a niche practice, sustainable investing has become a large and fast-growing major market segment on a global scale.

Global sustainable investment assets are on track to grow to an estimated $47 trillion in 2020 from $23 trillion in 2016, as data from Global Sustainable Investment Alliance and JPMorgan Chase showed.

"Historically, it has been a European growth story. But today, it's also pretty much a story seen in the United States, Canada and Asia," said Steffen Hörter, Global Head of ESG Integration and Solutions at Allianz Global Investors.

Pension funds, in particular, has long "played a big role" in the momentum. "Especially in Asia, pension funds have spearheaded and set the trend of sustainable investing," Hörter noted.

The nature of pension funds as long-term investors makes them "a good match" for sustainable investment strategies that focus on long-term value creation, Hörter reckoned.

Drawing on his 27 years of industry experience, Hörter said the overarching goals of pension funds are better risk-adjusted returns through sustainability integration and a real world impact.

But sustainable investing is more effective when its core activities are integrated into existing financial investment strategy, rather than carried out in parallel, he emphasized.

Hörter highlighted regulatory changes afoot in the world of sustainable investment. In European Union, he pointed out, sustainable investing is no longer "an optional thing", as new rules that obligate pension funds, asset managers and insurers to integrate sustainability with investment strategies will kick in from 2021.

In Asia, for instance, the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong has developed a framework for green and ESG funds and the list of compliant ESG funds is available on its website, Enlund added.

Citing a survey conducted by Allianz Global Investors last year, Hörter noticed remarkably growing investor appetite for ESG investing. Such findings move in line with the latest study from the World Economic Forum, which found out ESG risks are moving to the top of global agenda.

Dismissing the idea that sustainable investing sacrifices performance, Hörter said "there's overwhelming academic evidence that sustainable assets outperform non-sustainable assets, especially in times of market turbulence".

As the coronavirus pandemic has wreaked havoc on capital markets particularly in March, with volatility spiking tremendously to levels beyond the Lehman Brothers collapse, Hörter underscored the outperformance of several MSCI ESG Indexes, compared with non-ESG MSCI Index over the first quarter of the year.

"Broadly speaking, sustainability aims to build more robustness and quality from an investment factor into portfolios. Quality factor pays off in reduced volatility and reduced drawdown risk over the market cycle, especially throughout a turbulent market cycle," he stressed.

Hörter believed that "sustainability is a tail risk. It needs to be actively managed and can be translated into financial performance of financial assets".

Known as an active investor, Allianz Global Investors is also in active dialogues or engagement with corporates to "steer them into a more profitable and sustainable development part," Hörter added.

Premier Sponsor Column (August 2020)

We are delighted to have articles contributed by Franklin Templeton, Manulife and Willis Towers Watson to provide us insights on how can we better plan for our retirement. Stay tuned for more articles in Oct 2020!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PREMIER SPONSOR ARTICLE SERIES Aug 2020
Goal-based Wealth Management – the Future of Advice
FRANKLIN TEMPLETON
The Missing Connection
Background
Goal-based Planning vs Goal-based Investing


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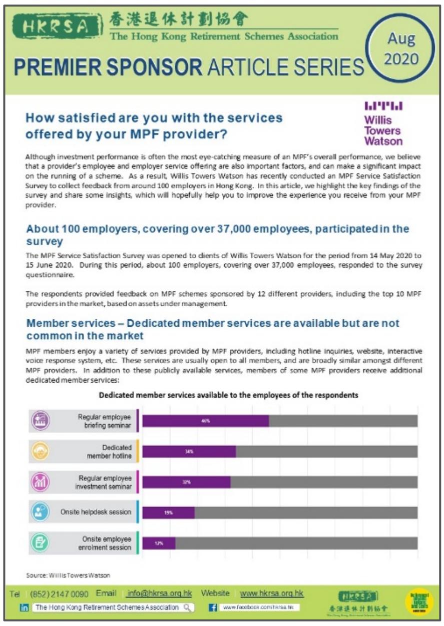
PREMIER SPONSOR ARTICLE SERIES Aug 2020
Lack of access to post-retirement solutions risks leaving Hongkongers out to dry
Manulife Investment Management
Your harvest depends on your retirement plan
What do people think of their MPF?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PREMIER SPONSOR ARTICLE SERIES Aug 2020
How satisfied are you with the services offered by your MPF provider?
Willis Towers Watson
About 100 employers, covering over 37,000 employees, participated in the survey
Member services – Dedicated member services are available but are not common in the market
Dedicated member services available to the employees of the respondents

Upcoming HKRSA event

Webinar Register now

Date & Time: 8 October 2020 3-4.30pm

Topic: Investing Strategies During the Time of Pandemic and Beyond

Language: Cantonese

Fee: Free