

Shaping the Circular Era | Portraits of the 5th Taiwan Circular Economy Awards Winners

Hsueh, Francie | Analyst, Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research

Su, Chiu-Hui | Research Associate, Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research

In response to the global drive toward a circular economy and net-zero transformation, the 5th Taiwan Circular Economy Awards recognized 20 exemplary enterprises and 3 outstanding individuals. These awards highlight the collaborative efforts of Taiwan's public, private, and academic sectors to reshape industrial value chains and accelerate the transition toward a low-carbon, sustainable future. The awardees span a diverse range of industries, including both traditional sectors such as steel, cement, semiconductors, textiles, papermaking, chemicals, plastics, and construction, and emerging sectors such as services, energy, healthcare, and finance. By advancing innovations in product design, process optimization, energy management, and business models, these trailblazers are embedding circular economy principles at the heart of their operations, showcasing the multifaceted nature of industrial transformation.

In the "**Green Evolution of Manufacturing**" category, Feng Hsin Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., TEMC Metal & Chemical Co., Ltd., Lianyou Metals Co., Ltd., ASE Group, and Asia Cement Corporation are leading the transformation of traditional high-energy industries by adopting low-carbon processes, promoting waste reuse, and deploying AI-driven intelligent management systems—achieving dual benefits in resource efficiency and carbon reduction. In the "**Journey of a Drop of Water**" category, Tung Fong Textile Co., Ltd. and Taipei Medical University Shuang Ho Hospital are pioneering innovative water recycling and wastewater reuse technologies, setting new benchmarks for sustainable practices in the textile and healthcare sectors.

In the "**From Waste to Regeneration**" category, Refining & Manufacturing Research Institute, CPC Corporation, FUJIFILM Business Innovation Taiwan Co., Ltd., Everlight Chemical Industrial Co., Ltd., Taiwan Enzyme Village Co., Ltd., Give Circle Co., Ltd., Yu Ching Plastics Co., Ltd., and Longchen Paper & Packaging Co., Ltd. are redefining the role of waste in the circular economy by transforming waste toner, catalysts, enzyme residues, marine debris, and waste paper into high-value products

and business opportunities. These cases underscore Taiwan's technological leadership in resource recycling and upcycling, reflecting a shift from conventional recycling toward comprehensive lifecycle management and value chain innovation.

In the "**Renewable Energy and Smart Management**" category, YFY Inc., e-Formula Technologies, Inc., and Kedge Construction Co., Ltd. are driving energy autonomy and operational resilience through the integration of renewable energy, microgrids, and smart energy management platforms. These initiatives are also fostering community engagement and educational outreach, promoting diversified circular energy models that encourage broader public participation.

In the "**Reimagining Product Value**" category, AUO Corporation and SuperAlloy Industrial Co., Ltd. are leading the charge in sustainable product design and supply chain management by incorporating recycled aluminum and reducing plastic usage—transforming products into carriers of sustainable value and embedding environmental stewardship into the design process from the outset.

The Awards also honored three individuals with the **MVP Award**: Huang Tien-Mu, Chairman of Central Deposit Insurance Corporation; Lin Meng-Chou, Chairman of Da Fon Environmental Technology Co., Ltd.; and Ma Max, CEO of Give Circle Co., Ltd. These leaders have served as catalysts for systemic change in finance, resource recycling, and the sharing economy, bringing both vision and action to their respective fields. Huang Tien-Mu, with four decades of experience in financial supervision and policymaking, has strengthened Taiwan's sustainable financial system by embedding ESG principles into financial governance and market mechanisms. Lin Meng-Chou began his journey at a humble recycling station and has since built Taiwan's largest resource recycling and regeneration network. Ma Max established the GC Give Circle platform, leveraging technology to connect surplus resources with societal needs, thereby fostering a nationwide participatory circular sharing movement.

Taken together, these award-winning cases illustrate how Taiwanese enterprises and individuals are advancing beyond energy saving and carbon reduction toward systemic governance, supply chain collaboration, market innovation, and social engagement—demonstrating the resilience, ingenuity, and global competitiveness of Taiwan's industries in the net-zero era. These narratives also reflect the continued maturation of Taiwan's circular economy ecosystem across markets and social value chains, signaling its evolution into a new era of systematized and scaled development.