

CESL Asia CEO urges bold steps to break from old thinking and embrace innovation

By Newsdesk



António Trindade, CEO of CESL Asia, has called on the government and key stakeholders to take bold steps to elevate Macau to the highest standards in the region in terms of innovation, new technology, and environmental sustainability.

“The government should be bold and not take the easy way out by keeping everything the same or making it worse than before,” Trindade told MNA on the opening day of the Macau International Environmental Co-operation Forum & Exhibition (MIECF).

He believes the city has the conditions to embrace a higher-quality development model and an improved quality of life, but decisive action is needed. When asked what authorities could do to address the SAR lagging behind other mainland cities in adopting cutting-edge solutions, Trindade urged the government to double down on innovation rather than adopting a protectionist approach that hinders the best solutions.

For Trindade, “it’s clear that the government knows very well what’s going on” and that the trends of domestic consumption outflows to the mainland, as well as other issues affecting the local economy, “can be reversed” because “Macau has a unique position and advantages.”

Moving away from protecting certain established interests is the way forward. “One should not be focused on protecting yesterday’s world.”

Regarding human resources policies, Trindade advocates for allocating imported labour quotas based on added value and innovation, with a focus on upgrading the city’s quality of life. In this context, as both Beijing and the local government have emphasised, “gaming has to support non-gaming” in the SAR’s push for economic diversification.



He noted that CESL Asia, a 38-year-old Macau-headquartered company with operations in the SAR, mainland China, Hong Kong, and Portugal, has been contributing to this transformation. The company provides services related to infrastructure management, energy and environmental solutions, agriculture and food, as well as architecture and engineering consultancy.

António Trindade spoke to MNA on the sidelines of an event introducing the new corporate identity for Macau – Professional Services, Limited (MPS), a subsidiary of CESL Asia, held during MIECF.

Societies and economies evolve in cycles, and Macau is now entering a new phase, he noted. After being involved in the construction and building management boom of the city’s first integrated resorts over two decades ago, the group is now focused on the new economy and emerging technologies.

“It’s no longer about building 10 million square metres of new developments but rather working on a different scale—redeveloping existing structures and providing new AI and data-driven solutions to improve energy efficiency and environmental quality.”