

# **Toward a Sustainable Museum: A Case Study of the National Science and Technology Museum in Taiwan**

**Shang-Ching YEH**

Associate Professor

Graduate Institute of Conservation of Cultural Relics and Museology,  
Tainan National University of the Arts

## **Abstract**

Facing challenges of rapidly changing social, cultural and economic environments as well as climate change, museums are responding by devoting themselves to sustainability development. However, most museums' practices of sustainability development address environmental pillars/ aspects, little consider four pillars, including environmental, economic, social, and cultural sustainability development. This research takes the National Science and Technology Museum (NSTM), Taiwan as a case study. The NSTM implemented a "Green Museum Initiative" for several years, incorporating the four pillars of sustainable development into its operations. The research results show that the NSTM's Green Museum Initiative met with some success in all four pillars of sustainability development. Nevertheless, worries happen while museums implement sustainability development strategies, which include large cost for green building renovation, more participation needed for social sustainability, a limit on increasing revenue or reducing cost, as well as a balance among cultural, environmental and social sustainability.

Keywords: Museum, Sustainability, Sustainable Development, Green Museum