

Demystifying Environmental Impact Assessment and Cross-Boundary Planning Processes for Civil Society Groups

- Knowledge based Capacity Building on EIA and Cross-boundary Planning Issues

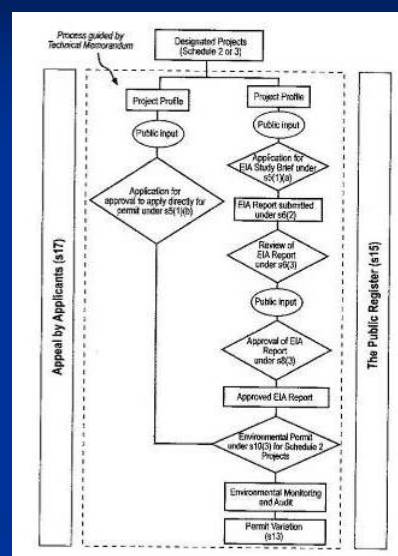
SIP Forum Presentation
19th April, 2013

Project Coordinator:
Team Members:
Assistants:

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Mr. Wong Chi Chung
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Topic 1: Environmental Impact Assessment in HK

- The EIA system in Hong Kong
- The screening and scoping processes under the EIA Ordinance
- Impact assessment, evaluation and mitigation
- Public participation in Hong Kong's EIA process
- Decision-making and case studies
- Monitoring and Audit, and EIA Follow-up
- Effectiveness & limitations of Hong Kong's EIA process
- Strategic Environmental Assessment and international trends



Topic 2: Cross-Boundary Planning

- Institutional set-up and governance framework
- Plan-making approaches: Similarities and differences
- Cross-boundary infrastructure planning
- Cross-boundary land-use planning
- Cross-boundary environmental planning
- Cross-boundary marine ecology planning
- Stakeholder engagement in cross-boundary planning
- Role of civil society in cross-boundary planning



Objectives

- To provide a **comprehensive training and experience-sharing** programme for **environmental NGOs** and **community concern groups** on two major environmental planning issues: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and cross-boundary planning
 - To enhance the participants' competency and capacity to make an **informed and reasoned contribution** to these two environmental planning issues, significantly strengthening their bargaining power in regard to the overall decision-making process
- => The contributions from such stakeholder groups should help **improve the overall quality** of the decision-making process.

Summary of activities/events from Oct 12 to Apr 13 (Mar 2012 –Aug 2012)

Date	Activities (Research, events, workshops, meetings etc.)	Description
20 Apr	A Trial Training Session on HKEIA Screening Process for ENGOs	Described the current screening process in the EIA system in HK. Discussed past examples and limitations of the process.
5 May	1 st Network Group Meeting	Identified the needs and key concerns of ENGOs and CCGs regarding to EIA & cross-boundary issues; an introduction to the workshop
25 Jul	Literature review on cross-boundary cooperation mechanisms	
31 Jul	Literature review: "HK/GD Joint Working Group on SD & Environment Protection"	
9 Aug	Literature review on cross-boundary cooperation project initiatives	
14 Aug	Literature review on cross-boundary cooperation institutional development	
1 - 8 Aug	Meetings with the website designer	Discussed and confirmed the design of web-pages and the terms of the contact.
18–30 Jul	Research of case examples	5 case examples identified
24 Aug	Meetings with the website designer	Discussed the possible technical problems

Summary of activities/events from Oct 2012 to Apr 2013

Date	Activities
06/10/12	1st training session: introduction of HKEIA system and the key features
27/10/12	2nd training session: EIA process, prediction, evaluation and mitigation public participation, some case examples
27/10/12	Guest presentation on "Air Quality Modelling in HK's EIA Study" by Mr. Freeman Cheung
01/12/12	One-day field trip: EIA mitigation measures – practicality & effectiveness
23/02/13	3rd training session: EIA follow-up, some case examples, merits and limitations of HK EIA's system



One-day field trip on 1 December 2012

Topic: **Implementation Gaps of Hong Kong EIA Projects**



Summary of evaluations of the four training sessions

	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neutral	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree
Content was appropriate and informative			2	40	62
The speaker was knowledgeable			1	23	80
The presentation was inspiring			11	40	52
My professional expertise was enhanced			5	48	51
The event was of appropriate length of time		1	15	55	32
I would recommend ExCEL3 events to peers			9	36	49

A dialogue session on 23/2/2013

- provided an open and interactive platform for participants to discuss some salient issues of the EIA System in Hong Kong with a panel of experts on this topic.



Guest speakers/panelists:

- Prof K.C.Lam, Former Chairman of ACE
- Mr Freeman Cheung, AECOM
- Dr Alan Leung, WWF HK


Public forum on

- it provided an unique opportunity to share views with key stakeholders on some salient issues and the prospects of HKEIA.
- >130 participants from ENGOs, community groups, project proponents, professional consultants and government officials.



A Public Forum

HONG KONG'S EIA SYSTEM AT A CROSSROAD: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Abstract:
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been an effective tool in protecting our environment. This forum provides an open and interactive platform for participants and groups to discuss salient challenges that are confronted by, and future opportunities presented for, key stakeholders concerned with Hong Kong's EIA system. This Forum is being organized as a part of The University of Hong Kong's ExCEL3 Training-cum-Networking Project on Hong Kong's EIA system.

Moderator: Dr. Cho-nam Ng
Department of Geography,
The University of Hong Kong

Programme:
Keynote speakers:

- Mr. Chin-wan Tse, Deputy Director, EPD (2:05p.m.)
- Mr. Henry Leung, Chairman, The HK Institute of EIA (2:20p.m.)
- Dr. Alan Leung, Conservation Manager, WWF-Hong Kong (2:35p.m.)
- Prof. Kin-che Lam, former Chairman, ACE (3:00p.m.)

Open discussion and dialogue session (3:15p.m. - 4:30p.m.)

The forum will be conducted in Cantonese.

Date:
Saturday
April 13, 2013


Time:
2:00p.m. - 4:30p.m.

Venue:
K419,
Knowles Building, HKU

All are welcome

For enquires, please contact Mr. Chris Wong at wccr@hk.hk

Supported by



A WWF project sponsored by The Hong Kong Institute of EIA



Summary of evaluations of the public forum (13 Apr)

	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neutral	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree
Content was appropriate and informative			2	33	24
The speaker was knowledgeable			1	28	31
The presentation was inspiring			7	28	23
My professional expertise was enhanced			5	36	15
The event was of appropriate length of time		3	10	35	10
I would recommend ExCEL3 events to peers			3	33	22

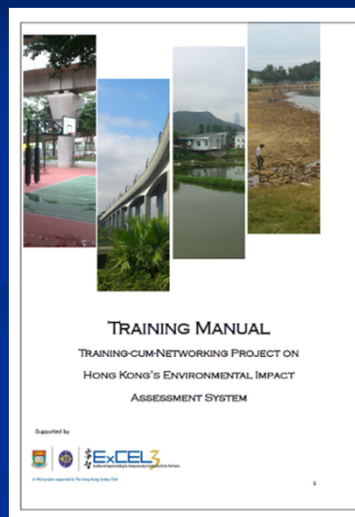
Expected Impacts ?!

- a joint submission from ENGOs on their views about HK's EIA System



upcoming plans/activities

on-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of the web-based training materials
on-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of training materials on cross-boundary planning
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One or two Network Group meetings on preparing a joint submission (from ENGOs) about HK's EIA System
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website development
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One half-day practical workshop
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One half-day practical workshop
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-day training workshop on cross-boundary EIA and planning issues
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One day field trip to Shenzhen River Catchment



Thank you

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Environmental Impact