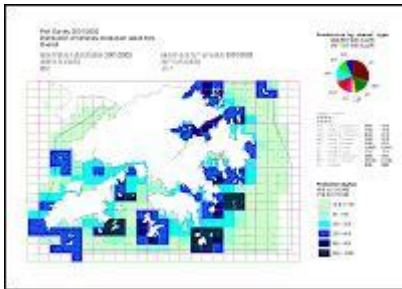


Reports of Technical Visits / Seminars

Seminar on the Basic Principles of the EIA Process

Date :	27 November 2003
Topic :	An Overview to Fisheries Impact Assessment in EIA Studies
Speaker :	Dr Y M Mak, Fisheries Officer, AFCD
Venue :	Conference Room, ERM

Summary



The Institute invited Dr Y M Mak, who is the Fisheries Officer in charge of the Fisheries Impact Assessment Section of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), to give us an overview of fisheries impact assessment in EIA studies. The Fisheries Impact Assessment Section is a functional unit under the Fisheries Management Division, one of the four divisions of AFCD's Fisheries Branch.

Assessment of potential environmental impact on fisheries is required for development projects involving foreshore and seabed, fish culture zones and fish ponds, in accordance with the EIAO. Criteria and guidelines and for fisheries impact assessment are published in Annexes 9 and 17 of the *Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process*.



Dr Mak started his talk by providing an overview of the Hong Kong present fisheries conditions, including those for both the capture and culture fisheries in Hong Kong. The discussion then continued on how fisheries impact assessments could be done in a better way for the different type of fisheries resources, including the use of appropriate baseline information (eg Port Survey), evaluation of impacts (loss or disturbance of seabed) and considerations for mitigation measures (eg fisheries enhancement). As conclusion, there was some brief discussion also on the topic of ex-gratia allowance.

The talk was very informative and well received by the audience.