



## Editorial

The long-awaited, briefly delayed, first Policy Address by CY Leung was finally presented to LegCo in January 2013, in which he spent 6 pages out of seventy two to elaborate on his environmental visions and policies - quite a good sign at ~8% of content. Nevertheless, like many other areas in the Policy Address, the environmental policies by CY Leung were observed as merely continuation of measures advanced by the previous administration, proposed studies and targets without concrete timelines. We appreciate CY Leung's effort in identifying the environmental challenges ahead of us, but the community also expected bolder plans and actions to tackle the priority ones.

We know that Government has been trying to improve air quality for the last two decades without a satisfactory result, as the efforts spent failed to catch up with the rapid growth of the city and complexity of the emissions from rampant manufacturing in the Pearl River Delta. The biggest challenge ahead lies in how to persuade and assist the wider community to adopt cleaner fuels, such a natural gas, which will inevitably incur higher costs or warm to, climate-friendly, nuclear with other perceived safety and legacy challenges. Herein, Government must urgently, build capacity and inform community, business, green groups and LegCo on the pros, cons and costs of different and difficult fuel mix choices and stimulate the community's willingness to pay. Then Government must advance their optimum fuel mix policy for Hong Kong and stand behind their decision with resolve.

On the waste management side, we are glad to see the Government taking more progressive steps to reduce waste at source, demonstrated by the recent launch of public consultation on new producer responsibility scheme for glass beverage bottles and waste electrical and electronic equipment. We, however, anticipate that the recycling industry can only survive, let alone prosper, with significant future financial, technical and land assistance from the Government. Related industries can, not only diversify Hong Kong's

economy, but also contribute to the city's sustainability, if assisted and nurtured by Government.

Talking of sustainability: it is important to note that 'sustainable development' and 'sustainability', as HKIEIA members understands it, was not mentioned anywhere in the seventy two pages of the 2013-2014 Policy Address..... And, in which regard, with the development plans in existing green field sites such as the Northern New Territories and on intensification of housing on G/IC sites, formal EIA and environmental assessments supporting planning rezoning applications, will become more important in ensuring the developments are without material and unacceptable residual environmental impacts.

Going forward, HKIEIA, thus, has an increasingly important role to play and will continue to support the Government through technical EIA.

*Timothy J. PEIRSON-SMITH*  
*Newsletter Editor*

## Chairman's Remarks

Dear Members,

In the past few months, there were many discussions on EIA practices for Lung Mei beach, and the Sha Lo Tung development, and debates on EIA quality practice are still ongoing. Many questions are being raised on whether there is a need to review Hong Kong's existing EIA system.

The Institute has been taking a proactive approach in sharing its views concerning the quality of EIA practices in various forums and interview over the past few months. EIA practices and the EIA report preparation following both local and international standards to satisfy the study requirements under EIAO were clearly explained by the Institute during these events.

**Strengthening Mutual Trust** is one of the key solutions to minimise the difference in views between stakeholders. However, it still requires high degree of commitment and openness by all parties. In this regard, I am delighted to inform you all that Clara and I have been working closely with a special taskforce, led by Freeman Cheung, ExCo members and representatives from the CUHK, in organising a Regional EIA Symposium to be held early 2014 to discuss the many challenges.

**Shaping EIA for the Future** compress the main theme of this conference. The main objectives of this conference are to explore the changing focus of EIA and to identify opportunities to shape EIA for the future to improve the effectiveness of EIA in Asia. We will organise a special poster session for our students to help our future generation to express their ideas and visions on how to improve the existing EIA system. The first announcement of the conference has already been made earlier, for information, please refer to: [www.regionaleia2014.com](http://www.regionaleia2014.com). As an EIA practitioner, it will be your responsibility to participate in this conference and to provide your support to this meaningful event for our profession.



**SHAPING EIA FOR THE FUTURE**  
**Regional EIA Symposium**  
**9 - 11 January 2014**  
**Hong Kong**

**First Announcement**  
**Call for Papers & Posters**  
 Abstracts for papers and posters are being accepted now. Engage with and inspire other EIA practitioners, legislators and academics, through your research and professional experience, to improve the effectiveness of EIA in Asia.

**Important Dates:**  
 Registration Opens: 1 May 2013  
 Call for Abstracts Closes: 15 Aug 2013  
 Paper Submission Closes: 15 Oct 2013  
 Conference Commences: 9 Jan 2014

[www.regionaleia2014.com](http://www.regionaleia2014.com)

Students submissions are encouraged. See overleaf for details.

Venue: The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Co-organized by:



**Henry LEUNG**  
 Chairman

## From the Secretary

I am sure most of our members should have heard about our AMP scheme. AMP is “Accredited Monitoring Professional” which has been established under HKIEIA for 15 years already. It is a recognition of our professionals who are knowledgeable in environmental regulations in Hong Kong and environmental monitoring and audit (EM&A) methodologies. It is important that what we have assessed and recommended in the EIA stage are implemented in the real situation. We need well-experienced professionals, like a goalkeeper, to monitor and ensure the proper implementation of the environmental recommendations on site. Through this AMP scheme, we also hope that the project proponents and employers would be able to easily identify the right professionals for undertaking the EM&A works.

In order to obtain this accreditation, you must be our corporate member with at least 3 years of practical experience in the undertaking and management of the EM&A methodologies, and have no less than 15 hours of HKIEIA-recognised Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training in the previous 12 months. Our Accreditation Panel will then assess the applicant’s compliance with the requirements. For details, please visit our website: <http://www.hkieia.org.hk/amp/guidelines.htm>.

We strongly encourage our corporate members who fulfil the above requirements to be our AMP. This is our profession’s recognition in EM&A. For those who have already obtained the AMP qualification, please remember to renew and update us your status, as appropriate, or through the renewal form as attached in our AGM pack every year.

We look forward to your joining as one of our AMPs.

**Claudine LEE**  
 Honorary Secretary

## HKIEIA Events/Activities

### - Events / Activities Review

#### *Technical Visit to the Hong Kong International Airport (9 Nov)*

Peter Lee, General Manager, Environment of the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) together with his colleagues warmly received the participants for the visit. They introduced the participants to the process of the ongoing EIA study for the **Three Runway System**, including the engagement of the individual experts on aircraft noise, air quality and dolphin in the EIA study.

Peter had also explained about the stakeholder engagement protocol adopted by the AAHK for the project including the setting up of the Technical Briefing Groups to solicit views from various stakeholders. Environmental management work, such as carbon management for the operation of the airport was also discussed and followed by visiting various airport operations within the restricted areas and explanation of how the AAHK's carbon reduction measures are being implemented.

The Institute would like to express our sincerely thanks to Peter and his colleagues for organising the visit for the members.



*A souvenir presented to Peter Lee (2nd right) and the team by Henry Leung (right)*



*Group photo on the airport apron*

**Henry LEUNG**

#### *Christmas Party 2012 (11 December 2012)*

HKIEIA members enjoyed a wonderful evening on 11 December, 2012.

This year, the HKIEIA organised a Christmas Party jointly with Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics (HKIOA) and the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) at World Trade Centre Club Hong Kong in Causeway Bay. This is the first one in HKIEIA records since its establishment in 1996.

We were delighted to have the Vice Chairlady of HKIEIA and Chairman of CIWEM be our MCs, who first broke the ice among participants of different institutes through an exciting Bingo game. In this game, all participants were invited to obtain signatures of friends that they newly met in the party on the Bingo card given in advance. All enjoyed and had so much fun from this game.

People were already quite excited after the ice breaking game. It then came to the inter-institute beer drinking competition. This definitely brought the party to a climax. At last, Mo Mo Chiu of AECOM representing HKIEIA was the champion. Hurrah!



From left to right: Mo Mo Chiu (HKIEIA), MK Cheung (HKIOA) and Ir Lee Ping Kuen JP (CIWEM) in the Inter-institute Beer Drinking Competition



In the middle with Santa hat: Mo Mo Chiu representing HKIEIA was the winner of the Inter-institute Beer Drinking Competition.

After rounds of food and wine, participants had an excellent time at the party. The party was actually a very successful networking event which brought all professionals in HKIEIA, HKIOA and CIWEM together, sharing not only the fun, but paving the way for exchange of expertise knowledge in future. Would you be same as me looking forward to another one in 2014?



A successful Christmas party jointly organized by HKIEIA, HKIOA and CIWEM

**Felice WONG**  
*Newsletter Editor*

**IAIA 2012 – Energy Future Debriefing (7 March 2013)**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment 2012 (IAIA12), with the theme “Energy Future – The Role of Impact Assessment”, was held from 27 May to 1 June 2012 in Porto, Portugal. A number of Institute members attended and presented their papers at this conference. A debriefing session was held on 7 March 2013 at AECOM’s office for these members to share their experience.

The session was well attended by about 50 participants. The speakers included Mr. Josh Lam, Mrs. Shirley Lee, Mr. Henry Leung, Dr. Ng Cho-nam, and Professor Lam Kin-che. The presentations spanned a wide spectrum of subjects relating to impact assessment, including:

- Using landscape and visual impact assessment as an indicator of EIA effectiveness (Mr. Josh Lam);
- Managing trade-offs in impact assessment decision-making (Mrs. Shirley Lee);
- Enhancing legal compliance and management efficiency with information technology (Mr. Henry Leung);
- Stakeholder engagement in the EIA follow-up in Hong Kong (Dr. Ng Cho-nam); and
- Role of urban development SEAs in tackling climate change in China (Professor Lam Kin-che).



An attentive audience at the debriefing session busily taking notes



*Professor Lam Kin-che sharing his experience at IAIA12 with the audience*

The presentations were followed by an Q&A session and discussions were opened to the floor. The enthusiasm of the audience remained extremely high. The speakers and the audience had to reluctantly cut short their exchange and interactions with the time running late and the air-conditioning running out. All would certainly be looking forward to an opportunity for similar sharing after the IAIA13 conference to be held in Calgary, Canada in May 2013.



*An enthusiastic audience interacting with the speakers during the Q&A session*



*Tokens of thanks presented to the speakers*

*Marcus IP & Gigi LAM  
Josh LAM*

## *- Upcoming Activities*

### *Annual General Meeting 2013 (20 June 2013)*

Our Annual General Meeting 2013 will be held on 20 June 2013 at World Trade Centre Club. There will be a casual Chinese dinner after the AGM for socialising and catching up with fellows and friends. Please mark this down on your calendar.

*Claudine LEE*

### *Night Safari activity at Kadoorie Farm (July (Tentative))*

Would you like to have an exciting night safari experience at Kadoorie Farm? Here comes the chance!

We have lined up with Kadoorie Farm to organise this interesting event tentatively at a night in July. Through this event, we would like to enhance the knowledge of our members about wildlife conservation.

As you might expect, seats available for activity like this kind would be limited. Don't miss the chance! Registration details will be announced soon.

*Felice WONG*

## **Consultation Corner**

### *Review and Update of the Railway Development Strategy 2000*

The Government is reviewing and updating the Railway Development Strategy 2000. The Stage 2 public engagement exercise, which focuses on collecting more comprehensive public opinions on seven local enhancement schemes for relieving pressure on railway traffic during peak hours, was launched on 21 February 2013. The consultation ended on 20 May 2013, but information is still available at <http://www.ourfuturerailway.hk>.

*Tracy AU / Marcus IP*

### **North East New Territories New Development Areas Planning and Engineering Study**

The Stage 3 public engagement for the North East New Territories New Development Areas Planning and Engineering Study, which aimed at soliciting the public's view on the Recommended Outline Development Plans (RODPs) for the New Development Areas, was concluded in September 2012. A special meeting of the LegCo Panel on Development was held on 8 December 2012 to discuss public comments received during the Stage 3 public engagement exercise. In connection with this, the Institute submitted its views to the LegCo Panel on 27 November 2012. A copy of the Institute's submission can be found at our website <http://www.hkieia.org.hk>.

*Tracy AU / Marcus IP*

### **Enhancing Land Supply Strategy: Reclamation Outside Victoria Harbour and Rock Cavern Development**

The study aims to assess the feasibility of enhancing land supply through various land supply options: reclamation outside Victoria Harbour and rock cavern development. The Stage 2 public engagement is currently underway and the consultation digest is available at <http://www.landsupply.hk/preview/stage2PEDigest.php?lang=eng>. Written views may be submitted on or before 21 June 2013.

*Tracy AU / Marcus IP*

### **EIA Practices of Major Construction Works in Hong Kong - The Next Step**

Our Chairman, Henry Leung was interviewed by The Association of Engineering Professionals in Society (AES) and their appointed research team from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in January for their ongoing study on 'EIA Practices of Major Construction Works in Hong Kong - The Next Step'. The study was funded by Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA) and led by Ir. Dr. Raymond Ho Chung-tai. Henry had shared his views with the representatives from the construction industry in the interview and a subsequent forum in March, that EIA should be regarded as an effective tool for consensus building, to improve project design and to prevent subsequent legal challenges by providing a platform for stakeholders to

express their concerns. It is crucial that stakeholders can see how their input might be valued. He also added that EIA is regarded as an objective scientific approach to assess impacts arising from a project, where it is being conducted professionally to satisfy the EIA SB / TM on EIA Process before each and every approval is obtained from EPD.

The Institute will keep dialogue with the industry and the key point is that when knowledge is shared, trust can be maintained and it is surely a vital factor for success in environmental and sustainability oriented decision making.



*Souvenir presented by Ir. Thomas Ho (President of HKCA) to Henry Leung (right)*



*Forum on "Review of the EIA Practices of Major Construction Works in Hong Kong - The Next Step" and were well attended by over 150 people*

*Clara U  
Vice Chairlady*

### **Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP)**

HKIEIA has been consulted in ENB/AFCD's public engagement exercise held in January 2013 for developing the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) for Hong Kong. We have engaged interested members to form a small working group within HKIEIA to contribute constructively. If you have interest or comments, please contact Sophia LAU or Clara U (Membership Secretary) at [hkieia.hk@gmail.com](mailto:hkieia.hk@gmail.com).

*Shirley LEE  
Immediate Past Chairperson*

## HKIEIA Membership

The Institute currently has a total of 315 members, including 4 Honorary Members, 21 Fellows, 222 Corporate Members, 61 Associate Members and 7 Student Members.

Members are reminded to submit to me their **annual membership renewals** together with the **completed CPD records**.

*Clara U*

## HKIEIA Finances

The accounts remain healthy with accumulated fund of HK\$874,203.00 on 19 April 2013. You are reminded to remit your membership dues to the Honorary Treasurer in accordance with Clause 26 of the Institute's Memorandum, all members shall pay an annual subscription as decided by the Committee payable in advance on the first day of May each year. Please send your cheque, without delay, to the following address for my attention if you have not paid the membership subscription.

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*Freeman CHEUNG*  
*Honorary Treasurer*