HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
香港環境影響評估學會

Newsletter

Updating Hong Kong on Environmental Impact Assessment

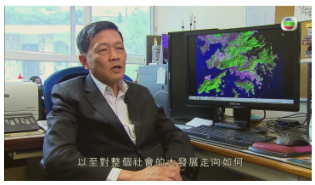
Issue May 2015

Chairman's Remarks

By the end of May 2015, I would have completed my 3-years chairmanship terms. I wish to give my sincere thanks to all my Executive Committee members for their hard work and contribution over these years in driving many initiatives which have led to many positive outcomes. I am certain these results cannot be achieved without their efforts and dedication as well as the support of our members and friends of the HKIEIA.

Current Positions in Hong Kong

Over these years, I have been working with many of you in different sharing sessions at local and regional forums, interviews and BSAP. Many of us have agreed that the current EIA system in Hong Kong is well developed, in particular on the post EIA follow up actions and the adoption of Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) for application in the EIA process. Hong Kong is definitely many steps ahead of many countries.



2015 *- TVB(新聞透視, 評環評)*

2014 *- Regional EIA Symposium (left), BSAP Focus Group Meeting, (right)*

2014 *- Customizing EIA soft skill training program with professional trainers (left), BSAP Forum for various Chambers of Commerce (right)*

2013 *– Interview & Public Forum on EIA Practice for Major Construction Works in HK by AES, (left), HKU Public Forum, (right)*

In order to enhance the practice on EIA stakeholder engagement, territory-wide SEA, biodiversity data sharing mechanism and professional accreditation, many good initiatives had been reviewed and brought forward to the industry for adoption. The ultimate goal is to further uplift the overall EIA practice and strengthen the trust of the public. However, this is a long journey which will need your continual support and contribution.

Gearing up for Global Collaborations with Impact Assessment (IA) Practitioners

Benchmarking the recognized and long established globe IA practices seems to be another catalyst to strengthen our EIA system. Further to the signing of

Published by HKIEIA

HK Institute of EIA P. O. Box 28756, Gloucester Road Post Office, Hong Kong
E-mail – Webmaster@hkieia.org.hk Website - www.hkieia.org.hk

the MOU with Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) in 2014, we had recently met with Mr. Tim Balcon, the Chief Executive of IEMA, Mr. Josh Fothergill, the Policy and Engagement Lead of IEMA and the UK Authorities and European practitioners to map out the way forward in aligning the globe IA practices as well as to establish together an effective international standard for adoption in the future.

***2015** – Exploring further collaboration opportunities with IEMA (Left), European Bank of Reconstruction & Development and others (Right)*

I am glad to inform you that the meeting was a fruitful one. The IEMA have agreed with us on a knowledge exchange programme to enhance our member's understanding on the overseas IA practice. This programme will allow the sharing of knowledge among the two institutes through the IEMA's on-line training platform - webinar, where our members can enrol onto the IEMA's training sessions. Meanwhile, our good IA practices can also be shared with members of the IEMA on this platform. Details of the webinar arrangements will be announced later.

What's more, at the IAIA15 conference in April, the HKIEIA had been invited by the past IAIA President, Prof. Luis Sanchez, current Professor at Polytechnic School, University of São Paulo, Brazil, to provide his students an on-line tutorial about the adoption of ICT in EIA.

Forward…. Through the relentless efforts we have put in over these years, our members have grown by almost 15% from 322 to 367 members and more than double on the AMP:

- **Honorary / Fellow:** 25 to 26
- **Corporate:** 222 to 241
- **Associate / Student:** 68 to 100
- **AMP:** 50 to 120+

Although I will be stepping down from the Chairmanship after May 2015, I will continue to work with the ExCo members to solidify the status of the HKIEIA through more institutional collaborations and nurture our younger members as the pillar for the EIA industry.

Henry Leung
Chairman

From the Secretary

What a fruitful year! As you can see from our Chairman's Remark that we have been exploring different professional development opportunities and enriching our members' knowledge through various exposures, such as the UK Exchange Forum, IAIA, soft skills training series and technical visits.

Without the members' support, we would not be able to go that far. Throughout all these years, more and more connections with local, overseas and mainland environmental practitioners have been established through various events and activities. The seeds are growing strongly day by day. We hope that more young members could join us in helping them grow and bloom.

In the coming year, I am sure the next term of Executive Committee will continue the effort in professional development and building connections with environmental practitioners for the benefit of our members and our industry. Your active participation and support are much appreciated.

Claudine LEE
Honorary Secretary

HKIEIA Events/Activities

- ***Events / Activities Review***

There were many interesting events and activities carried out in the past few months, including:

- Technical Seminar EIA for Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a Three-Runway System (9 Dec 14)
- Debriefing on the 3rd Japan-Korea-China Tripartite EIA & SEA Conference, "Impact Assessment as Manners of a Sustainable Society", Tokyo (18 Dec 14)
- JCEIA Annual Conference – Municipal Solid Waste (24 Jan 15)
- Seminar on Construction Noise Permit (9 Feb 15) – Clara
- Technical Seminar on Application of Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) for the betterment of Built Environment (8 Apr 15)
- UK Exchange Forum (16 & 17 Apr 15)
- CIWEM HK Conference 2015 Smart City – A New Paradigm in Environmental Management (8 May 15)

Below are the reviews of some activities:

Debriefing on the 3rd Japan-Korea-China Tripartite EIA & SEA Conference, "Impact Assessment as Manners of a Sustainable Society", Tokyo (18 Dec 14)

The 3rd China-Japan-Korea Tripartite EIA & SEA Conference, with the theme 'Impact Assessment as Manners of a Sustainable Society', was held from 7 to 9 November 2013 in Ichikawa City, Chiba Prefecture, Japan. Five members of the Institute attended the conference and two of them shared their presentations and experience on 18 December 2014. Our Fellow and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) guru, Professor K C Lam, discussed the challenges of SEA in China where a strong planning tradition prevails. Marcus Ip, on the other hand, reviewed the situation on the integration of climate change considerations into EIA systems worldwide.

Professor K C Lam sharing with an enthusiastic audience

Souvenir presentation to speakers

Marcus Ip

35th Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA15) – IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN THE DIGITAL ERA, Florence, Italy (20 to 23 April 2015)

Like in the previous years, this year HKIEIA has also sponsored members to participate in the

conference who contributed by giving very attentive presentations.

This year not only the number of countries participating has increased to 87 but also saw the largest grown in participants for up to about 1000. This implies that more and more people are concerned on the social & environmental impacts we are facing in the daily life and means to mitigate for the sustainable living and learnt how technologies can enable the low carbon economy in the information age.

Next year, the conference will be held in Japan. Details will be announced in the near future. We take this opportunity to once again ask our young members to actively take part in the conference and enrich their knowledge. Open your eyes and ears to see and listen to how impact assessment is tackled elsewhere in the world and whether such practices can be employed in Hong Kong.

A debriefing session will be organized to enable members who were unable to go to Florence, to attend.

M.H. Isa
Professional Development

The Control of Construction Noise via a Permit System (9 Feb 15)

The seminar was successfully held at Duke of Windsor Social Welfare Service Centre in Wanchai on 9 Feb 2015. We have an overwhelming number of participants in this seminar. Mr. Geli Ma, Environmental Protection Officer of the Environmental Protection Department was invited to provide an overview of the regulatory control on construction noise in Hong Kong and share with us the key factors and considerations of the application of a Construction Noise Permit (CNP).

Claudine Lee
Honorary Secretary

- ***Upcoming Activities***

Don't miss our upcoming activities! We need your support.

- HKIEIA AGM 2015 on 28 May 15
- Lung Fu Shan Night Safari on 13 Jun 15
- Visit to ASB-Biodiesel Plant in Tseung Kwan O on 27 Jun 15
- Soft Skills and Competency Enhancement Series for Environmental Professionals in Q3 & Q4 of 2015

HKIEIA Membership

The Institute currently has a total of 367 members, including 4 Honorary Members, 26 Fellows, 241 Corporate Members, 100 Associate Members / Student Members.

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

Clara U
Vice Chairlady

HKIEIA Finances

The accounts remain healthy with accumulated fund of HK$1,338,177 as at 31 March 2015. 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.

Hong Kong Institute of Environmental Impact Assessment
c/o Mr. David Yeung (Honorary Treasurer)
Room 2403, Jubilee Centre,
18 Fenwick Street
Wanchai, Hong Kong

David Yeung
Honorary Treasurer