



Editorial

COP15 – The End of the Beginning

The undersigned attended COP15. While many maybe disappointed by the nature and scope of the final outcome, there must be a commitment to work more closely with our Governments to achieve more substantive results. For my part I assisted in representing public transport and integrated land planning as a national mitigation policy under the UNFCCC and as a mechanism under the CDM. You can read more about our efforts in ‘Bridging the Gap’ at www.sutp.org/bridgingthegap/.

We have witnessed the deficiency of the UN consensus mechanism - the end of the beginning. We cannot wait for agreements from on high. Reduction of carbon emissions must be the outcome of daily decisions taken by billions of people. We must reduce our consumption. Do your part. Three simple things: become vegetarian, use compact fluorescents, and use and support public transport.

Glenn FROMMER

Chairman’s Remarks

Happy New Year to you all and hope all our members will have a prosperous 2010!!!

Last year, EPD launched two consultation exercises which were directly related to our practice in the field of environmental assessment. The Institute submitted our position paper to EPD for the first consultation exercise on “Air Quality Objectives Review” on 30 November 2009. We

will follow up with EPD later on to see how we can further contribute to finalize a set of Air Quality Objectives for the benefit of Hong Kong citizens. We also look forward to future opportunities of contributing in consultation exercises on specific technical issues.

We are organizing a seminar with a speaker from EPD giving our members further information about the second consultation exercise on “Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives”. We attended the first public seminar on 31 October 2009 and recognized it will be of benefit to our members for EPD to give us a more in-depth technical presentation.

With the Government commenced the construction of the new mega infrastructure projects from second quarter of 2009 onward and the review of the green building design, a lot of opportunities arise for our practitioners to develop our knowledge and practice in the environmental fields in various positions and levels.

In the next few months, there will be many exciting events organized for our members. Please look out for the details through our quarterly newsletter and the web site of the Institute.

David YEUNG

From the Secretary

At this time of the year, it is common for people to reflect on the year past and plan for the one ahead. About a year ago, I was writing in this space on the global financial crisis and how it might affect the environmental profession. While we cannot say for sure whether the financial crisis is over, another

news topic has certainly stolen the limelight – climate change and COP15 in Copenhagen.

The outcome of COP15, as many critics and environmentalists have put it, was rather disappointing with the negotiations failed to reach any legally binding agreement. What COP15 has failed to achieve should cause concerns and what measures the different nations are prepared to take for reducing carbon emissions would no doubt warrant careful examination - these aside, there are still a lot we can do as individuals to contribute to the common goal of emission reduction through a slight change in habits or an adjustment in lifestyles. As professionals trained in environmental science, we should be working harder than others on helping to overcome the challenges that climate change has posed and we should have this bigger agenda in mind when we think about environmental impacts.

I wish you all a very happy and productive but low carbon new year!

Marcus IP

HKIEIA Activities

- Upcoming Events / Activities

IAIA 2010 Geneva Annual Conference in April 2010

Similar to past years arrangement, we still have credit available for our member to attend the annual conference with the registration fee waived. Don't waste this opportunity! If you are interested, please contact us for registration.

Contact person: Ms Clara U

Email: clara.u.hkieia@gmail.com

Technical Meeting on Review of Water Quality Objectives (WQO) for Hong Kong - Major Challenges and Opportunities on 4 February 2010

Following EPD's public engagement seminar held on 31 Oct 2009, a dedicated session on WQO review has been arranged for the environmental professionals of

CIWEM, HKIEIA, IAHR-HK and HKIE. Limited seating is available. Applications will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis. Please reply us on or before 24 January 2010 if you would like to attend the Technical Meeting.

Contact person: Ms Clara U

Email: clara.u.hkieia@gmail.com

- Events / Activities Review

Sai Kung East Country Park Geo-tour cum Hiking on 7 November 2009

Hong Kong's first National Geopark was officially opened on 3rd November 2009. Only four days after its official opening, HKIEIA had arranged a visit to the Geopark and a hiking to the Sai Kung East Country Park. It was our honour to have Professor Lam Kin-Chee to accompany us to the East Dam of the High Island Reservoir where he explained to our members and friends the formation of the well arranged hexagonal columnar rocks (六柱石) which were formed over 100 million years ago. The hexagonal columns could be as big as three metres in diameter and as tall as several hundreds metres. In fact, the attractions about these hexagonal volcanic rocks are not only unique and beautiful, but also of great important value for geological and topographical studies in Hong Kong.



Group photo at East Dam

Published Quarterly 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

Our sincere gratitude to Mr Lawrence Ngo, who took over the hiking part of the event and led an unforgettable hike up to the Sai Wan Shan. We stopped for lunch at the Long Ke beach and then walked up to Sai Wan where we could have a good panorama view of the famous four beaches of Tai Long Wan.



Tai Long Wan panorama

We all enjoyed the outing very much. Needless to say, we all appreciate the need to conserve these unique and beautiful landscapes.

Clara U

Technical Meeting on Green Building in Australia on 20 Nov 2009

Technical Meeting on Green Building in Australia, 20 November 2009 Subsequent to the promulgation of the new policies in Hong Kong on Carbon Audit and Green Building, there has been a growing interest amongst members on these topics. It was our honour to have invited Ms Romilly Madew, the Chief Executive of the Green Building Council Australia, to share with us the experiences on Green Building in Australia. The seminar was jointly organised with the The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management Hong Kong.

Romilly introduced the internationally recognized green building system and the rapid development

of the industry in Australia. She discussed the importance of industry leadership, green building rating tools and the government policy. She also provided the latest development of the World Green Building Council and the opportunities for Hong Kong Green Building Council. For member who wants to know more about carbon audit and green building in Hong Kong, please visit the following sites for more information:- Green Hong Kong

Carbon Audit:

http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/climate_change/ca_intro.html

Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes:

<http://www.building-energy-funds.gov.hk/en/index.html>

Publications:

<http://www.building-energy-funds.gov.hk/en/publications/index.html>



Souvenir presented to Ms. Romilly Madew (middle) by the representatives from HKIEIA, Mr. Marcus Ip (right) and CIWEM, Mr. Fredrick Leong (left)

Clara U

Published Quarterly 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

Regional Conference on Sustainable Waste Management in Carbon Conscious Cities 27 Nov 2009

With the rapid development of economy and urbanization, the amount of solid waste in Asia has been growing in a tremendous pace. The management of municipal and industrial wastes is an emerging challenge to environmental, social and economic development of the Region.

In view of the upcoming operation of the Sludge Treatment Facility and Integrated Waste Management Facility in Hong Kong, we have co-organised a One-day seminar on the same theme again. The seminar has focused on (a) incineration of solid wastes; (b) Asian cities experiences such as from Taiwan and Japan (c) the human risks and ecological impacts associated with the operation of the facilities.

Speakers from Taiwan and Hong Kong have shared recent technologies advancement in waste management and its applicability to Asia and exchanged view on strategic waste management. Key stakeholders were brought together to identify priority issues and action for achieving the goal of sustainable development through waste management.

Claudine LEE

Cocktail and dinner with Prof. Hodgkiss

A Cocktail reception was held at Foreign Correspondents' Club for the visit by Professor John Hodgkiss on 3 Dec 2009. This is indeed our first joint social cocktail reception with CIWEM HK (both organisations do want to make it a regular event) where members of HKIEIA and CIWEM. This event also provided us rendezvous to see friends and working partners of the environmental industries. With the presence of Professor Hodgkiss, there was a lot of catching up conversations in that evening too.



Cocktail reception



Dinner after cocktail reception

Claudine LEE

HKIEIA Membership

The Institute has currently a total of 241 members, including 22 Fellows, 176 Corporate Members, 37 Associate Members, 3 Student Members and 3 Honorary Members.

Members are reminded to make your annual membership renewal together with the completed CPD record immediately to Ms. Clara U.

Clara U

HKIEIA Finances

Thanks to our members who have paid their subscriptions in a timely manner to maintain a healthy balance of HK\$820,015 in our Bank Accounts at the end of September. For those who have not paid their dues, please send the cheques to the Hon Treasurer.

Freeman CHEUNG

Published Quarterly 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