



Sustainability Review of Central and Wan Chai Harbourfront

Introduction

1. This paper argues for a sustainability review of Central and Wan Chai Harbourfront and proposes an inclusive multi-stakeholder-oriented participatory process to conduct such a review.

An Engineering Review is Inadequate

2. Controversies over Harbour reclamation in recent months have laid bare the fact that Harbour reclamation is not just a piece of engineering work. In fact, panel experts in a Citizen Hearing run by CE@H on 'Harbour planning and reclamation' in December 2003 published a report advocating, among other things, an integrated planning for quality of life through an inclusive and participatory consensus building process.
3. Obviously, good quality of life requires first class infrastructure that is not just functional in moving vehicles and people around but is also aesthetically sound, environmental and people friendly so that it can serve our city for many generations to come. Hence, we need a sustainability review, not just an engineering review, of our harbourfront infrastructure.

What is a Sustainability Review?

4. Sustainability review allows us to systematically examine the socio-economic, environmental and institutional implications of carrying out certain policies, programmes or projects. However, in face of various kinds of uncertainties (of information, values and related decision areas), a multi-dimensional and comprehensive understanding can seldom be achieved by 'experts' alone.
5. A sustainability review calls for active participation of different stakeholders to use their collective wisdom in assessing various impacts of a proposed policy, programme or project. This contrasts with the conventional 'planning and engineering' approach that at best, gives marginal importance to views outside the 'professional' circle. Hence, CE@H proposes a *Sustainability Review of the Central and Wan Chai Harbourfront*.

The proposal (please refer to full proposal in the Appendix)

6. Through the building of partnership and consensus, a sustainability review process is suggested which consists of two phases:
 - A preliminary sustainability review by professionals; and
 - A series of participatory programmes to engage different stakeholders, including the general public, in reviewing the sustainability of proposed projects.
7. The Sustainability Review aims at identifying principles, objectives, planning strategies and preliminary options which will serve as valuable inputs to the 'Wan Chai Development Phase II Planning and Engineering Review' by the commissioned consultant.
8. A tripartite partnership governing structure consisting of HEC, CE@H and the government is proposed to steer and run the review. Details please refer to Section 5 of the Appendix.

Your decision

9. HEC members are invited to comment on the paper and consider endorsing the proposal as listed in paragraphs 6 – 8 above.



SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW OF CENTRAL AND WAN CHAI HARBOURFRONT

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Submitted to Harbourfront Enhancement Committee
by
Citizen Envisioning @ Harbour

Date: 18th June 2004

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1. Background and Objectives

1.1 Can you imagine Central, Wan Chai and Causeway Bay's cityscape when the Central-Wan Chai Bypass links with the existing Island Eastern Corridor? After the Central-Wan Chai Bypass was first announced, there has been great concern among the community over the quality of the future harbourfront environment. Will the needs and aspirations of the community for an enjoyable harbourfront be fully satisfied then?

1.2 The 'Wan Chai Development Phase II Planning and Engineering Review' (henceforth the Review) was discussed in the first Harbourfront Enhancement Committee (HEC) Meeting. Recent controversies and expressed concerns over the Harbour point to an urgent need of an integrated understanding of various factors including public opinions in harbourfront developments. Hence, HEC members generally considered that the conventional approach adopted in the Review is no longer adequate. Some HEC members have requested a Transport Review based on comprehensive considerations of various public opinions and the Review should naturally include the harbourfront along Central, Wan Chai and Causeway.

1.3 In light of these circumstances, Citizen Envisioning @ Harbour ([CE@H](#)) submits this Project Proposal on "Sustainability Review of Central and Wan Chai Harbourfront" to HEC for consideration. This Project is proposed with the following objectives:

- To implement the objectives of HEC regarding the provision of advice on the "*means to enlist greater public involvement in the planning and design of the harbour-front areas*"
- To undertake a Preliminary Sustainability Review of the harbourfront design, planning and development from a wide spectrum of perspectives, which are collectively classified as economic, environmental and social considerations
- To scrutinise the Preliminary Sustainability Review with value and option inputs from the general public;
- To provide a Participation Programme with ample opportunities for the public to be informed, participate and contribute in the reviewing process
- To deliver a mechanism for consensus building with multi-stakeholder involvement and interaction with the Government and various organizations
- To identify the fundamental principles, key objectives, and if possible, strategies and options with and for the general public to act as a basis for the Government and the Consultant to review and revise the plans and engineering proposals

2. Scope

2.1 The study area of this Project is the harbourfront in Central, Wan Chai, Causeway Bay and the nearby areas. For convenience sake, the title of this Project will be “Sustainability Review of Central and Wan Chai Harbourfront”, which geographically embodies the said geographical scope.

2.2 The current ‘Wan Chai Development Phase II Planning and Engineering Review’ focuses on the engineering, land uses and to a certain extent environmental aspects. This is considered grossly inadequate from a sustainable development perspective. Hence, this Project proposes a Sustainability Review of the Central and Wanchai Harbourfront development. Sustainability Review or more technically sustainability impact assessment (SIA) can be done either technically (by experts) or politically (involving the stakeholders). Due to financial and technical constraints of this Project, a full-blown Sustainability Review will not be adopted. However, the fundamental scope of sustainable factors listed below will be considered as far as possible (Table 1).

Table 1: Scope of Sustainable Factors for Consideration

Aspects of Scope	Attributes and Factors
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income • Employment effects (person-years) • Other quantifiable effects • Non-quantifiable effects • Government finances (Budget and net revenue impacts)
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora & fauna (biodiversity / urban ecology / conservation) • Land • Renewable/non-renewable resources • Water (surface/ground) • Air • Noise • Climate • Visual landscape • Visual amenity • Open space & recreation • Pollution (air, water, noise, solid wastes, toxic substance) • Land impacts: area potentially affected • Utilities • Transportation (linkages) • Telecommunications • Buildings and sites • Risk/hazard
Social / Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population • Service impacts: education, social security, housing, transportation, mobility, accessibility, etc. • Impact on identity and sense of belonging • Health and hygiene • Cultural & heritage impacts • The impacted communities, e.g. current owners/occupiers, users of site, employees, tourists, visitors, NGOs, etc. • The functional community, e.g. developer/ financier • The administrative community, e.g. the Government and Departments including the planning authorities • The community of the whole city • The public interest, e.g. taxpayers

2.3 The above list will form a guiding framework for participants to review four main areas, i.e. (1) pattern of land uses and activities and urban design, (2) traffic and transportation arrangement, (3) infrastructure development and (4) detailed design of the Harbourfront. After a preliminary sustainability review is done, an inclusive multi-stakeholder oriented participation programme will be undertaken to establish principles, guidelines, preliminary options and strategies as the bases for Government and the commissioned Consultant to revise the Review.

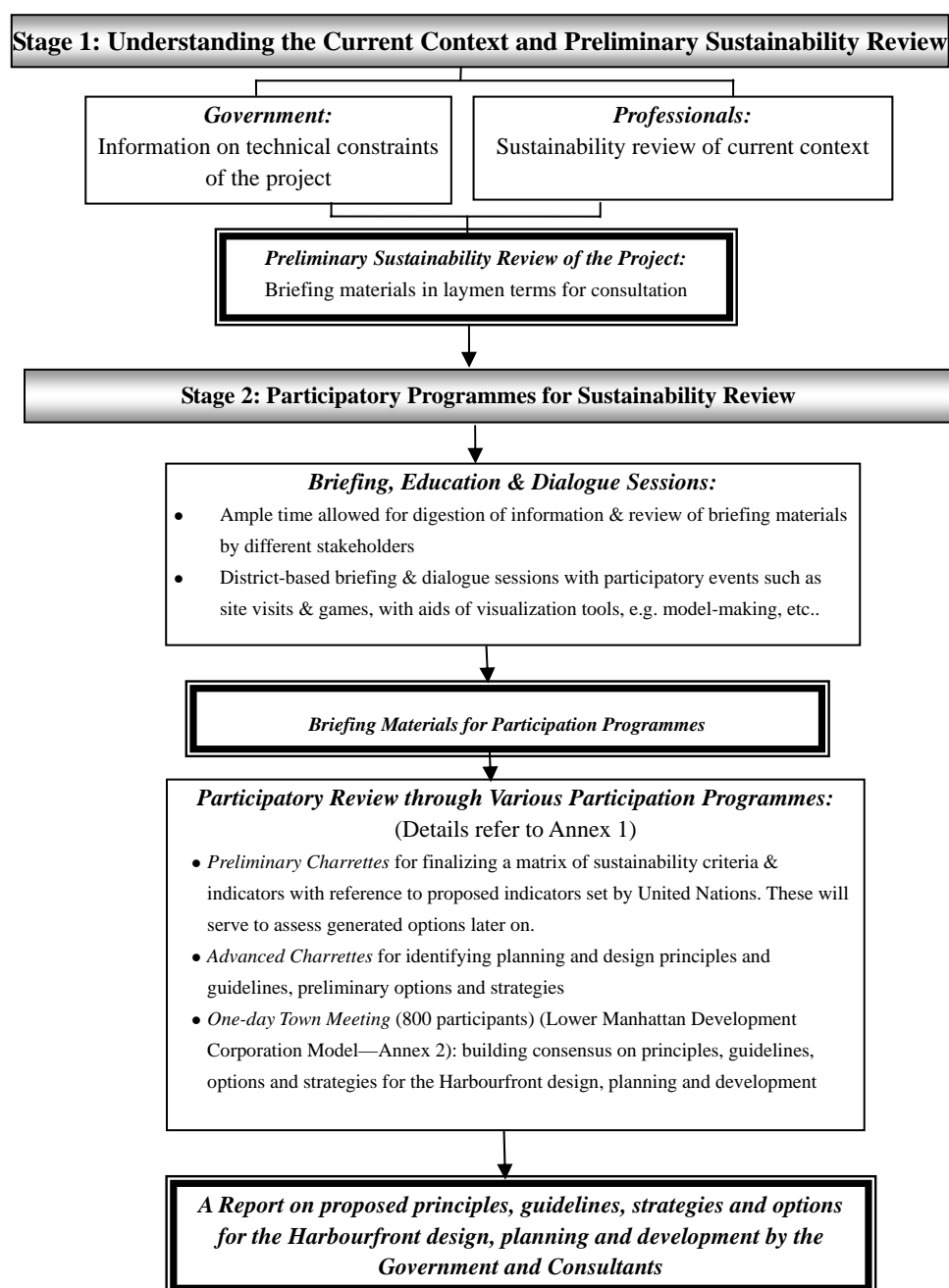
3. Principles

3.1 This Project will be implemented on the basis of the principles that are originated from the concept of ‘Sustainable Development’ HEC is now pursuing. These principles are already set out in a [CE@H](#) paper which was tabled for consideration by HEC in its first meeting. The main principles are as follows:

- **An inclusive and participatory consensus building process:** only this can allow a comprehensive understanding of the issues, problems, evaluations and solutions surrounding Harbour planning and development:
 - The process has to be fair, open and inclusive; and
 - The process should be supported by quality information, good science and skilful mediation.
- **Integrated planning for better quality of life:** integrated transport, land uses, environmental and socio-economic Harbour planning should be adopted to enhance quality of life for the community.
- **Fair gain for all:** the planning gains achieved through planning and designing of the Harbour should be fairly distributed to the entire spectrum of the community.
- **Single accountability principle:** a single or an integrated authority should be in place to ensure reasonable collaborative work, and smooth and comprehensive implementation.
- **Precautionary principle:** scientific projections and foresight, risk analysis, sustainability assessment and broad consensus should be utilized so that the costs and benefits of different proposals can be appreciated by different stakeholders.
- **Subsidiarity principle:** ensuring that decisions are taken as close as possible to those who are likely to be most affected by the results of those decisions.

4. Methodology and Deliverables

4.1 The participation model that [CE@H](#) has adopted last year including exhibition, charrette and citizen hearing as three linked forms of participation provides high reference value for the design of effective Participation Programmes for this Sustainability Review. In this Project, the model will be modified into two stages. Professionals will first be involved to provide technical inputs and background understanding for the general public so that they can be meaningfully involved in a second stage, at a much larger scale in comparison to the [CE@H](#) Model. The relationships of these two stages are briefly captured in the following flowchart.



4.2 It should be noted that since this Project is pursuing a Sustainability Review, though not at full-scale, the whole participatory process will always make reference to the scope of sustainable development factors for consideration as shown in Table 1 and the agreed sustainable criteria and indicators as derived in Participation Programmes.

4.3 Upon the One-day Town Meeting, a Report will be prepared for submission to the Government to revise the Review. The Report will also be sent to the District Councils for collection by the general public to review and assess the Government's revised Review.

4.4 The Report will include the following items:

- A Preliminary Sustainability Review of the Central-Wan Chai Bypass
- Indicators and Criteria of Sustainability
- The Consensus-building Process
- Agreed Principles, Guidelines, Options and Strategies for the Harbourfront Design, Planning and Development

4.5 In the Participation Programmes, participants refer to, among others, the following parties (also see Flowchart 3 below):

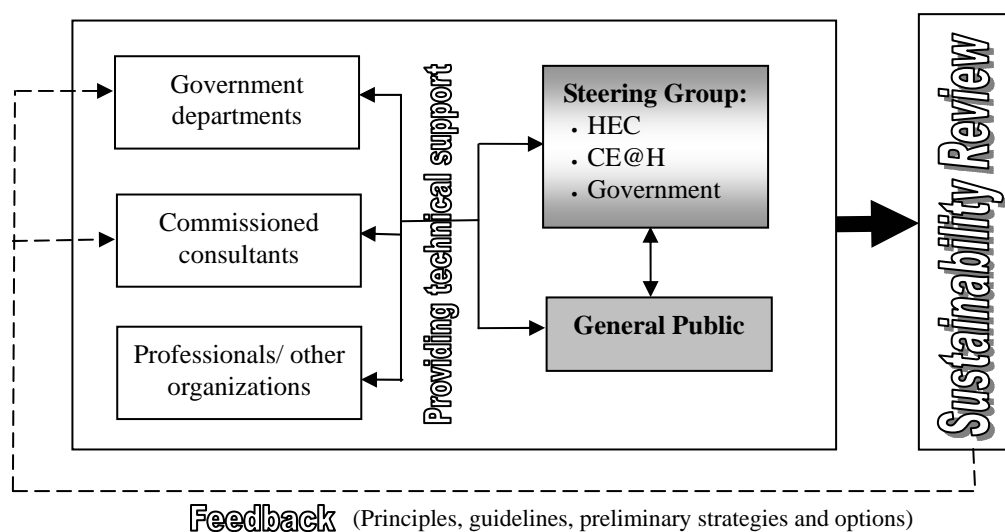
- The general public
- HEC members
- [CE@H](#) members
- Government Officials
- The Consultant commissioned to conduct the Review
- The concerned professionals

5. Institutional Arrangement

5.1 It is proposed that this Project will be implemented by a partnership model, to be jointly organized by HEC and [CE@H](#). A steering group responsible for project execution should be set up at the outset of this Project and should comprise representatives from HEC, [CE@H](#) and the Government.

In addition, institutional, professional and technical resources from the concerned Government Departments, the commissioned Consultant and the concerned professional institutes / individuals are required throughout the project implementation process. The framework of the institutional arrangement is captured in the following flowchart:

Institutional Arrangement for Conducting the Sustainability Review



5.2 Each of the components in the framework of institutional arrangement has their particular roles and responsibilities.

HEC

- A partner of [CE@H](#) to –
 - i. seek / provide financial resources
 - ii. provide advice on application for funding schemes as necessary
 - iii. seek technical/professional resources
 - iv. liaise with Government to set up a steering group
 - v. implement and coordinate the Sustainability Review
 - vi. conduct the Report
- A participant of the Sustainability Review to –
 - i. take part in the Participation Programmes
 - ii. listen to and give instant feedback to public views

CE@H

- A partner of HEC to –
 - i. liaise with professional organizations and pursue their assistance and support
 - ii. seek support and technical assistance from Government
 - iii. provide advice on the implementation of the Sustainability Review
 - iv. monitor the progress of the Sustainability Review

- v. liaise with local / community organizations and invite their participation
- A participant of the Sustainability Review to –
 - i. conduct the General Assessment of the current context and the Review and prepare the Briefing Materials in cooperation with the professionals
 - ii. take part in the Participation Programme
 - iii. perform as facilitators in the Participation Programme

Government Departments

- An information-provider of the Steering Group –
 - i. contribute a technical constraints list for [CE@H](#), HEC and professionals to review and understand how far the current context can be improved towards a higher sustainable standard
- A participant of the Sustainability Review to –
 - i. take part in the Participation Programmes
 - ii. listen to and give instant feedback to public views
 - iii. review the Report and revise the Review

Commissioned Consultant

- A participant of the Sustainability Review to –
 - i. take part in the Participation Programmes
 - ii. listen to and give instant feedback to public views
 - iii. review the Report and revise the Review

Professionals / other supporting organizations

- Participants of the Sustainability Review to –
 - i. conduct the General Assessment of the current context and the Review
 - ii. prepare the Briefing Materials
 - iii. perform as facilitators / Moderators in the Participation Programmes
 - iv. translate professional / technical jargons into everyday language of the general public

The General Public

- Participants of the Sustainability Review to
 - i. understand the general background of the Harbourfront
 - ii. provide comments in the Participation Programmes

6. Budget Plan

6.1 The financial budget for this Project is expected to be a total of HK\$ 1.5 million.

6.2 As mentioned in Para. 5.2, HEC will have to decide how and where to obtain the financial resources.

6.3 The expenses will have two main parts. One part is on the technical aspect for professional advice / services including (1) the conduct of preliminary sustainability assessment of the current context and the Review; (2) facilitating and moderating the Participation Programmes and translating professional / technical jargons into laymen terms; and (3) the training of the above 2 services. The other part is on the participatory process which refers to the expenses resulted from the operation of the Participatory Programmes.

6.4 A total of HK\$ 475,000 will be reserved for Technical Expenses. While most of the professional inputs especially from CE@H members will be on a voluntary basis, some specific tasks / positions will require time-charge employment of Consultants / individual professionals / experts, who have experiences in conducting sustainability reviews, to complete / perform, such as:

- Adviser/Leader to conduct a preliminary sustainability review of the current context and the engineering review
- Trainer(s) of facilitators and moderators in charrettes and town meeting
- Facilitators and moderators
- Guest speakers in the participation programmes

6.5 Table 2 below is the breakdown of the budget plan:

Table 2: Breakdown of the Budget Plan

Expenses Items	Aug 04-Apr 05 (9 months) (HK\$)	Remarks
(A) Manpower		
● Project Officer (1)	252,000 (28,000 x 9months)	5% MPF included
● Project Assistant (1)	162,000 (18,000 x 9 months)	5% MPF included
● Part-time activity helpers	60,000	3 teams, each team has 2 part-time helpers \$50/hr x 50 hrs/wk x 8 wks/team
● Part-time documentation helpers	16,000	
● Part-time web page maintenance helpers	30,000	
Sub-total (A)	520,000	

Expenses Items	Aug 04-Apr 05 (9 months) (HK\$)	Remarks
(B) Other Direct Costs		
(1) Consumables (photocopy, video tapes, stationeries, CD-R, printing)	20,000	
(2) Organizing Briefing Sessions / exhibitions (Briefing Materials, posters, rental of display panels, transportation, printing of panels)	100,000	
(3) Organizing Participatory Events (Site visit, games, model-making, posters, transportation, etc.)	60,000	
(4) Organizing Charrettes (charrettes materials, posters, setting up, banner, model-making, transportation, insurance, permit fee)	100,000	
(5) Organizing town meeting (posters, flyer printing, setting up, audio/visual equipment, simultaneous interpretation, transportation, venue rental, etc.)	120,000	It is initially expected that the Town Meeting can be organized at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.
(6) Establishing and maintaining a project web page (domain name registration, web design, web hosting, e-mail accounts, web security and backup services)	15,000	
(7) Documentation and publication Printing / editing / photography / mailing for distribution	50,000	The Report will be submitted to the Government and limited copies will be disseminated to District Councils for collection by the public. The softcopy of the report will be uploaded to the website for public to download.
(8) Postage / advertisement / transportation / letters	25,000	
(9) Audit fee	15,000	
Subtotal (B)	505,000	
Technical Expenses Subtotal (C)	475,000*	
Total (A) + (B) + (C)	1,500,000	

* Most of the contributions of professionals / experts are on a voluntary basis except for some specific tasks on Technical Expenses (see Para. 6.4 above). It is estimated that free professional input from CE@H members will be much higher than HK\$475,000.

Remarks

1. Basic equipments such as cameras, video recorders, computers and notebooks are assumed to be available.
2. Overhead and staff working space are not included assuming that they will be absorbed in either the financial budget for the Secretariat Office of HEC or CE@H organization members.
3. Rentals of venues for briefing sessions, charrettes and participatory events (some) are not included which may be sponsored by the Government or the organization members of [CE@H](#).
4. If the project web-page is included in HEC's web, this will not be required.
5. *Project audit fee may be excluded if the Government conducts the audit and bears the cost.*

7. Work Programme

7.1 The duration of this Project is from August 2004 to April 2005, 9 months in duration. The details of the Work Programme are listed in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Work Programme

Events / Tasks	Remarks
Preparatory Stage (2.5 months)	
(1) Searching for and arrangement of financial resources	Preparation for Tasks 1 to 5 should be commenced once this Project Proposal is approved by HEC.
(2) Pursuit of voluntary professional support	
(3) Setting up of Project Steering Group	
(4) Employment of professionals / consultants	
(5) Preparation and promotion	
Stage 1 of Sustainability Review (2.5 months)	
(6) Conduct of preliminary sustainability review of the current context and the Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing sessions for the general public to give feedback on briefing materials - Some sessions will be undertaken in the evenings of the weekdays and some in the daytime of Saturdays and Sundays.
(7) Preparation of briefing materials	
(8) Conduct of district-based briefing sessions	
(9) Conduct of participatory events	
(10) Preparation of Baseline reference / Charrettes materials	
Stage 2 of Sustainability Review (3 months)	
(11) Conduct of Preliminary Charrettes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some sessions will be undertaken in the evenings of the weekdays and some in the daytime of Saturdays and Sundays. - For preparation of the Town Meeting - For dissemination to the general public via the project website
(12) Conduct of Advanced Charrettes	
(13) Compilation of the proposed principles, guidelines, preliminary options and strategies	
(14) Conduct of Town Meeting	
Documentation Stage (1 month)	
(15) Completion and dissemination of the Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For submission to the Government - For dissemination to the District Councils

8. Justifications

8.1 [CE@H](#) cordially invites HEC to consider this Proposal which is justifiable as follows:

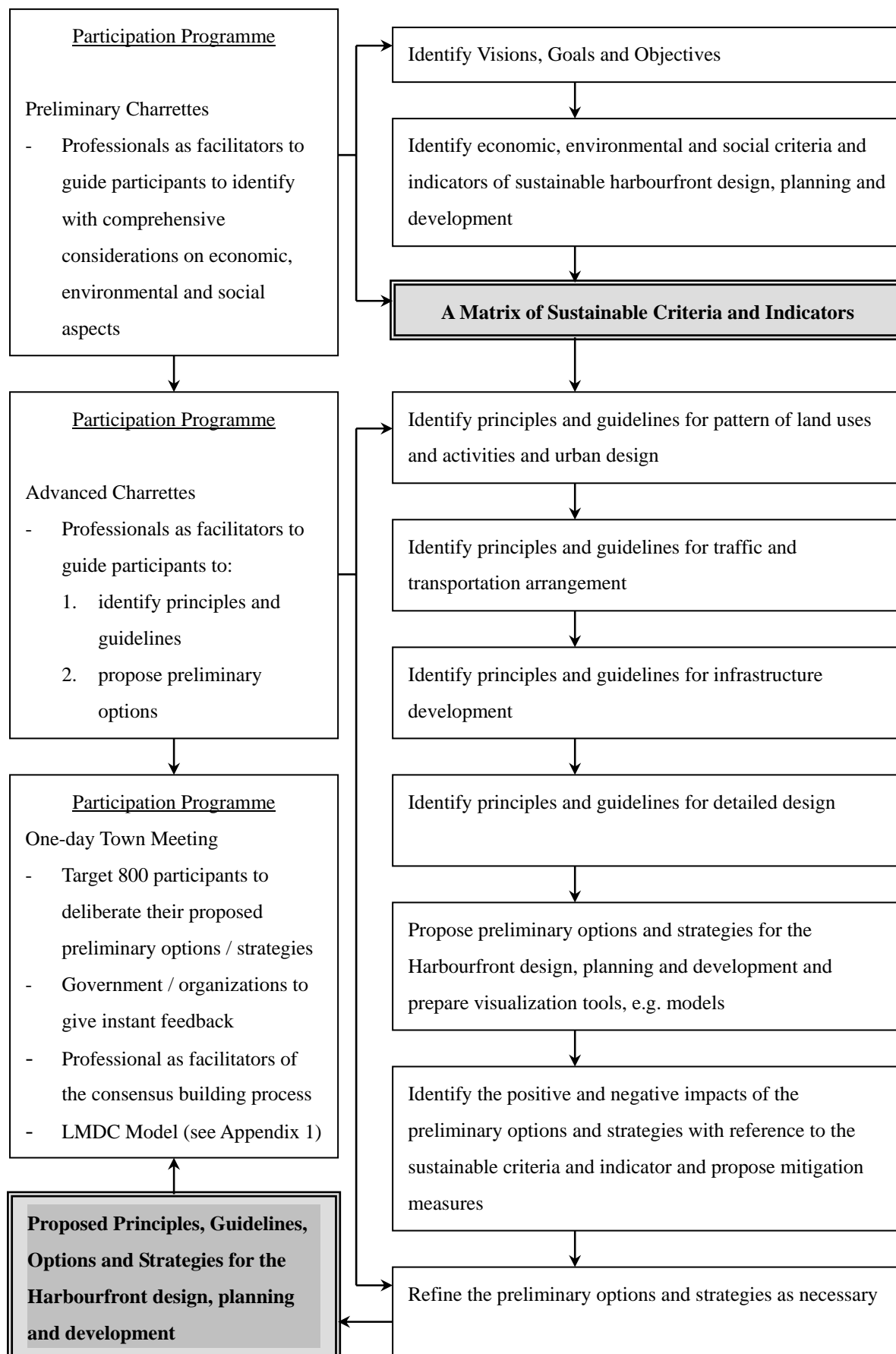
- Providing an alternative to the conventional approach of the Review conducted by the commissioned Consultant
- Demonstrating a participatory and sustainable approach to planning and designing the Harbour area
- Provision of ample opportunities for inclusive multi-stakeholder involvement
- Ensuring accountability in the process as all the results of every stage are widely disseminated to the public

- Respect for public comments and ensuring that public comments will be duly considered by the Government and the Commissioned Consultant
- Optimizing financial resources as the Project is not-for-profit and will benefit the public at large on a long term basis

8.2 We would like to draw HEC's particular attention to the fact that there are many real overseas examples of public participation in a planning, designing and development process. In our city, public participation exists but it not enough. For example, over the past ten years, Environmental Protection Department has been promoting the use of different tools such as administrative consultative committees, legislation, website, web cam system and 3D visualization aids to facilitate wider public participation. These marked important milestones of participation history in Hong Kong (Details see Annex 3). However, a lot more can be done in the planning process. This Project will provide a golden opportunity for Hong Kong to take a bigger step forward with participatory planning practice guided by a sustainable development framework. CE@H looks forward to partnering with HEC to facilitate citizen participation and engagement in creating a better harbourfront for our beautiful Victoria Harbour.

Annex 1: Detailed flowchart showing the methodology of sustainability review

Participatory Review through Various Participation Programmes



Annex 2: Public Deliberation in the Lower Manhattan after 911

- The Model of Town Meeting adopted by Lower Manhattan Development Corporation
- (Extracted from the Research Page of the website of LIVE.Architecture Programme
<http://www.live-arch.net>)

Research **Public Deliberation in the Lower Manhattan after 911**

Nature Public Participation for Redevelopment of Downtown

Research Background While real estate interests have long driven New York City urban development that provoked battles between community groups and developers, the incidence of 911 altered the situation with the formation of a new institution taking care of the remembering, rebuilding and renewing works of the World Trade Centre Towers Site. That is **Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC)** . The launch of 21 st Century Town Meeting entitled “ Listening to the City ” demonstrates the adoption of a deliberative planning process successful in bringing together various stakeholders of conflicting interests and views to undergo a process of scrutiny and modifications to reach agreements with concessions.



The Establishment of LMDC It is created by Governor Pataki and then Mayor Giuliani, as a joint State-City corporation, to help plan and coordinate the rebuilding and revitalization of Lower Manhattan .

It is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors. Half of them are appointed by the Governor of New York and half by the Mayor of New York. They are either from the Government, Private Sector or NGOs.

It is operated by 6 specialized Departments and in close coordination with Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ).

The Structure of LMDC To ensure an open, inclusive, and transparent planning process, LMDC created several Advisory Councils representing a broad spectrum of groups to provide public input to LMDC for identifying guiding principles which will ultimately govern the redevelopment of Lower Manhattan .

The **Advisory Council Structure** is created with the General Advisory Council (GAC) as the chief council comprising of federal, state and city elected officials, business leaders and heads of major civic organizations, which represent their respective constituents in the revitalization process. Each member of the GAC serves as ex-officio on each of the other Advisory Councils to ensure their participation process.

Members of other Advisory Councils also include City Council members appointed as ex-officio, the Board Members of LMDC and others from the

relevant sectors.

Other Advisory Councils within the structure are:

- Arts, Education and Tourism Advisory Council
- Development Advisory Council
- Families Advisory Council
- Financial Services Council
- Professional Firms Council
- Residents Council
- Restaurants, Retailers and Small Business Advisory Council
- Transportation and Commuters Advisory Council

Outside the LMDC structure is a vivid context with a number of interconnected privately sponsored coalitions fostering the sharing of ideas with LMDC and the public. They include Imagine New York, Civic Alliance to Rebuild Downtown New York, New Work New Visions, etc.

The Mechanism of Public Participation The public participation mechanism for the redevelopment of the WTC Towers Site is not only on the basis of the contribution of LMDC, but also the philosophy of "Deliberation", which has been regarded in recent years by numerous scholars as "an answer to Americans' low level of participation and trust in political system" (Polletta & Wood, 2003).

Such a mechanism is dynamic allowing for reflexivity of agenda and procedure, discussion among different stakeholders with conflicting views and interests, and modifications of preexisting interests. This mechanism can be seen in the course of two major public deliberative efforts, i.e. "Listening to the City" and "Imagine New York ", which are embedded within the vivid context with LMDC and various privately-sponsored coalitions and community organizations facilitating or participating in the discursive and decision-making process.

Listening to the City

It was conceived by Civic Alliance, which is a coalition of environmental, planning and civic groups and led by Regional Plan Association. Later on, LMDC and PANYNJ signed on and sponsored a 4,500-person Town Meeting on 2 days (designed and run by a friend of Civic Alliance, AmericaSpeaks, specializes in conducting electronic town meetings) to give participants from the New York metropolitan area an opportunity to provide feedback on 6 concept plans, which are drafted and released by them. This is the largest public urban planning dialogue in history.

In addition, On-line Listening to the City Dialogue was

also provided for public comment and collation of public input.

The Town Meeting and the On-line Dialogue formed part of an Extensive Public Outreach Campaign, which is launched by LMDC as a tool for widespread notification and participation purposes. The Campaign is implemented via a scheduled public comment period, web-site, newsletter, press releases, forums, exhibitions, presentations, Community Board meetings, other public hearings / dialogues with various organizations and community groups, etc.

In the Town Meeting in a giant auditorium, LMDC actively participated in the Meeting and responded to participants' feedback.

Participants of different stakes were assigned to ten-person tables to discuss and provide responses, which were relayed via network to a theme team to synthesize at the same time and project the synthesis onto a screen in the auditorium for all participants to scrutinize.

After the deliberative process, the 6 site plans were rejected by the participants. LMDC finally announced to scrap the plans and arranged for developing new ideas for the Site based on the public comment.

Conversation Tables



(source: Stuart Ramson/AP WideWorld, attached to an article written by Amy Miller and entitled "WTC Future-A New Vision for Downtown New York", which was published on "Scholastic")



(source: <http://www.americaspeaks.org>)

In addition to the Town Meeting, LMDC also convened meetings with the Advisory Councils to present and discuss the concept plans. Other activities, such as public meetings, exhibitions, mailings, etc. which were arranged under the Extensive Public Outreach Campaign, were also to solicit public input and feedback and make sure widespread public participation at every stage of the planning process.

LMDC has completed a Preliminary Public Dialogue Report after the Phase 1 public comment period to consolidate the opportunities for public participation and the main ideas that emerged in the public participation process.

Imagine New York

It was organized by a coalition of civic, community and professional arts organizations and led by the Municipal Arts Society. LMDC did not involve in the public deliberative process, but seriously considered public ideas that were collected.

230 workshops held in 5 boroughs, which were undertaken in a deliberative approach, plus some focused design workshops and arts projects for adult and children, culled 19,000 ideas which were then synthesized into 49 draft Vision Statements.

The Vision Statements were then reviewed, amended and approved by the workshops participants at a Summit Meeting.

The final report was then released to the press and submitted to LMDC for consideration.

Significance **Composition of a Well Representative Organisation Structure** : LMDC is composed of members from government, private and community sectors to allow for the consideration of redevelopment from a wide spectrum of perspectives. Its creation of the Advisory Council Structure is particularly more important to ensure representative public consultation and participation to be initiated in the organization structure.

Methodology of Deliberation: Different from traditional public consultation or hearing, deliberation allows stakeholders of conflicting interests and views to understand each other in a discussion and scrutiny process, recognize the validity of a range of, but not all, agreements, modify their preexisting self-interests and develop new ones of common interests.

Collaboration and Coordination with Coalitions: This forms a crucial network and provides external resources, knowledge and approaches in collation / consideration of public comment.

Establishment of an Extensive Public Outreach Programme: This allows for a systematic and orderly way for widespread public participation, notification and collation of public comment.

Consolidation of Public Participation Experiences: This provides opportunities for reviewing the pros and cons in the past and improving the ongoing and forthcoming practices.

Further Investigations Further Investigations are needed as follows:

The mechanism of getting the plan decided, approved and implemented in relation to the existing planning system

The integration of LMDC with the existing statutory planning and development framework and the legitimacy of the plan generated by LMDC in "statutory" terms

The relationship of LMDC with the existing administration and governance system

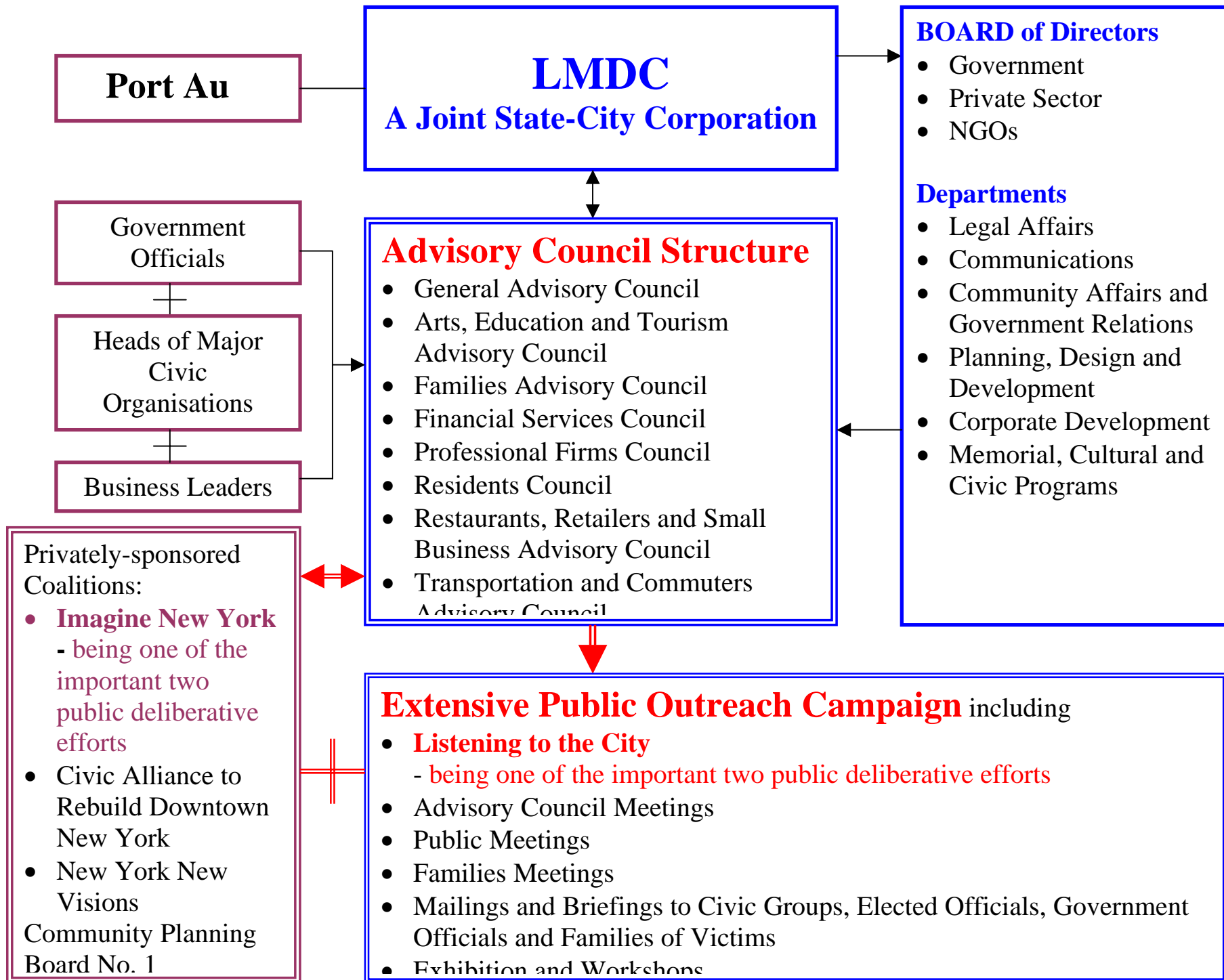
Sources <http://www.abcny.org/currentarticle/REDEVELOPMENT.html> ,
<http://www.renewnyc.com> ,
<http://www.americaspeaks.org>

Testimony of Lois Tomson President of LMCD, 25 Feb 2002

Preliminary Report on the Public Dialogue Phase 1, 24 Oct 2002

AmericaSpeaks, Deliberation for Community Planning and Economic Development, Sept 2003

Polletta Francesca and Wood Lesley, Public Deliberation After 911, Dec 2003



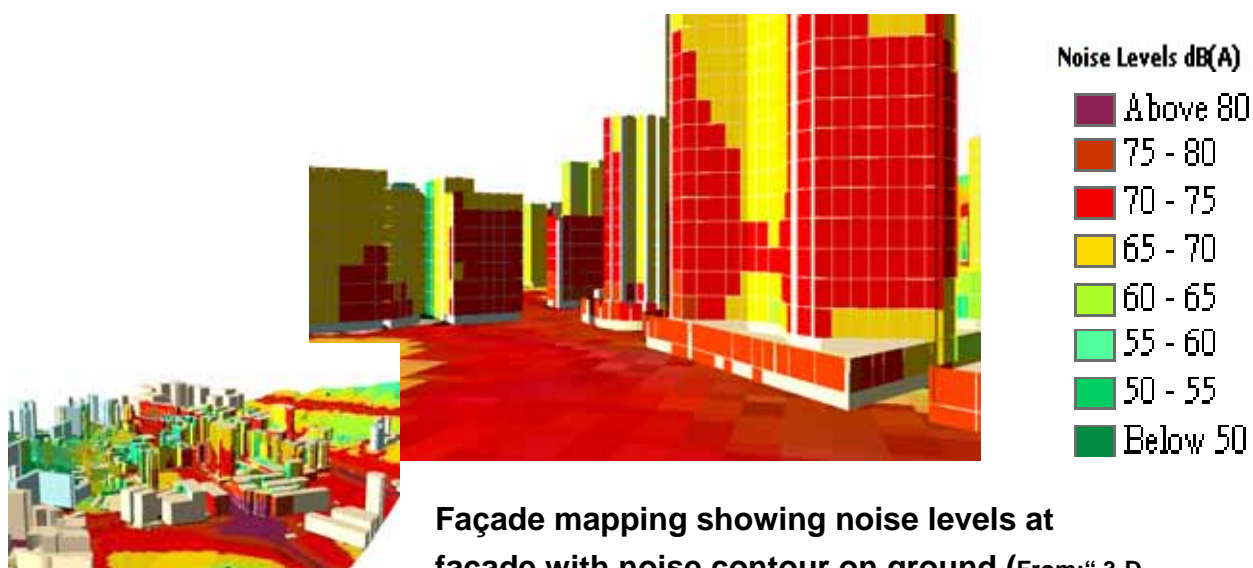
Annex 3: Example of Public Participation: Important Milestones in Public Involvement/Engagement by Environmental Protection Department

(Extracted from Briefing on the Philosophies of Continuous Public Involvement and 3-Dimensional Public Engagement Tool by Environmental Protection Department on June 12, 2004.)

- 1992: government circulars promulgated to require the release of government owned EIA reports to the public under administrative EIA system and the public consultation on EIA reports;
- 1994: setting up a dedicated EIA Sub-committee (comprising members from various walks of life including environmental organizations and industry representatives) to review major EIA reports;
- 1998: the EIA Ordinance came into operation, truly through the web and other means, to provide for two-stage statutory public consultation on EIA matters and with all EIA reports and other documents to be make available on the web 24 hours a day, 7days a week. The first ordinance in Hong Kong and the first of its kind in the world being fully operated on the web to enhance transparency and facilitate public involvement anywhere, anytime, any person;
- 1999: a statutory requirement included in the EIA study brief for EIA reports to be submitted in html format to facilitate public consumption of the information of the report and disseminate EIA knowledge via the web. The first of its kind in the world at that time;
- 2000: a policy objective and action laid down in the 2000 CE Policy Address: “To enhance public access to information on environmental performance of major projects – to set up a web-based database on project environmental performance for public access in 2000-2001”;
- 2000: a requirement included in the environmental permits for environmental monitoring and audit reports and the testing results and associated submissions to be made available to the public via proponents’ project websites;
- 2001: the EIAO web revamped to provide for the public to submit comments directly via the web template;
- 2001: the launch of the EIAO cyber help bench to provide round the clocks helps and assistance to all users of the EIAO and the public;
- 2001: a requirement included in the environmental permit for web cameras to be set up for major projects with considerable public interest to enable the public to understand and help monitor major projects round-the-clocks, anywhere, anytime;
- 2002: 3 major strategic environmental assessment reports were made available via EPD’s web site to facilitate public understanding of strategic environmental assessment as applied to strategies and plans and to disseminate knowledge to the public;
- 2002: project websites set up by proponents to enhance transparency and facilitate public engagement in the project implementation;
- January 2003: The first web cam system for a major civil project was formally launched in January 2003 to facilitate public understand and engagement in project implementation.
- September 2003: a new government circular on EIA promulgated with an explicit provision for Continuous Public Involvement:

“... Notwithstanding the document exchange procedures set out herein for the fulfillment of EIA process, proponent must appreciate the importance of making use of every opportunity for early consultation (formally or informally) with EPD, ACE, District Councils (DC), green groups and all interested parties, including those whose livelihoods might be affected by the project (Continuous Public Involvement (CPI) as promoted by DEP). The consultation can start long before the checking on whether the project is a designated project or in the project profile preparation stages. Early consultation is particularly important for large scale projects where matters such as alignment, choice of site or orientation maybe significant in terms of environmental impact. Proponent should treat EIA process as part of the design process for ensuring that a project does not adversely affect the environment, rather than some extra procedures that must be followed....”

- 4 May, 2004: a joint seminar among EPD and Hong Kong Institute of EIA on the “Continuous Public Involvement in EIA Process” attended by 210 engineers, professionals, consultants/proponents and contractors, with the release of the EPD’s pilot project on “3-Dimensional EIA Public Engagement Tool”.
- 17 May, 2004: a presentation to the ACE EIA Sub-committee on the Continuous Public Involvement and 3-D Public Engagement Tool
- 19 June 2004: a joint seminar among EPD, HKIOA, HKIEIA, CUHK, Highways Dept and Planning Dept on “Enhancing Continuous Public Involvement by Noise Mapping and 3-D Visualization Techniques”.



Façade mapping showing noise levels at façade with noise contour on ground (From: “3-D Visualization and Possible Applications” Noise Management and Planning Group, Environmental Assessment and Noise Division, May 2004)