

The Environmental Management Association of Hong Kong



Volume 1, Spring 2011

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The Environmental
Management
Association Hong
Kong

<http://emahk.org>

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President's Letter

For me, it is indeed a great honour and pleasure to be associated with the Environmental Management Association of Hong Kong. In fact it was my son who prompted me to enroll in the MSc. ENVM Course at the University of Hong Kong, when he constantly complained about how difficult it was to keep up with his homework, and I wanted to lead by example. For what has started as a “hobby” course to enrich myself, I still find it difficult to believe that we have created a body on environmental management for Hong Kong.

The idea of setting up the Association in fact came from the Faculty and Dr. Kenny Leung in particular, to whom I wish to thank sincerely. I recall the day when the Preparatory Committee first met where we debated on the vision and mission of the Association. The lively debate was typical of an intellectual discourse with clear objectives and outcomes. This is what I wish the Association to adopt as its culture. Eventually the discussion ended up in our going into a few areas: environmental policy influence, environmental education, membership networking and benefits, as well as the long term goal of making environmental managers a recognized profession.

As we all worked part-time on this, the initial progress for the setting up of the Association was not as quick as we all wanted it to be. Although the committee members are all busy with their day jobs, we have managed to organize quite several activities in just a few months. A visit to the modern incineration facility in Macau was organized in July 2011. We organized with the Faculty a seminar on the paper entitled “Public Consultation on Hong Kong’s Climate Change and Action Agenda” to be our AGM activity. Various comments were received and we have collated attendees’ comments and have submitted it to the government. You may refer to this Link <http://emahk.org/> to review our comments. We had organized [The First Career Forum of Susdev 2011](#) in April for those who wish to develop their career in this field; and a visit to the Lamma Island Power Generation Plant in June. This visit focuses more on the experimental wind power generation in Hong Kong.

In addition to these, we are looking at the education side. Many of us believe in learning through playing and great ideas are being developed to create educational software for carbon reduction, separating waste at source and sustainable development. I cannot say too much but if you are interested, please send [Miss Peggy Li](#) an email. We are also looking at the possibility of making a visit outside Hong Kong to understand what our neighboring countries are doing to improve the sustainability of their communities. If you have any other ideas for the Association and our membership in terms of activities, please by all means send it to [Miss Sui Lau](#), [Miss Mable Lau](#) or [Mr. Shaun Martin](#).

The size of membership was over 400 as at time of going to Press. You may notice that we primarily have graduates of the MSc Environmental Management of HKU as members. Our membership, however, is designed to be inclusive. We welcome all those who have higher degrees in the area to be a member of our Association.

Lastly, I wish to thank Professor Peter Hills and Dr. Kenny Leung for agreeing to be our Honorary Advisors. In addition, I must thank Mr. Stanley Wong, an internationally acclaimed creative professional and artist, also known as Anothermountainman, for designing the visual identity of the Association. Mr. Wong has also accepted our invitation to be an Honorary Member of our Association. I would also like to thank all members of the Preparatory Committee and the current Executive Committee in a great job well done!

Please remember, though it is slightly cliché, that this is your Association and you are the only ones who can shape it into an effective and influential body for the betterment of the environment in Hong Kong!

Clement Lam

Prof. Peter Hills's Letter

Some Reflections on the M.Sc. in Environmental Management Programme

It is sometimes hard to imagine that almost 25 years have passed since I was first involved in developing the M.Sc. programme. Work on designing the programme actually commenced in 1986 after the University Grants Committee informed the University that it would welcome proposals for new academic programmes in the environmental field to strengthen local human resource capabilities in this area. A Working Party was set up with members drawn from various faculties and departments. I worked closely with Brian Morton and John Hodgkiss to develop the initial programme structure and curriculum. Later on I took over as Chair of the Steering Group charged with overseeing the introduction of the M.Sc. and after that I became the first coordinator with John as the deputy. Despite our different academic backgrounds, John and I worked together very effectively and one of my lasting impressions of this period is just how committed everyone was to making the programme a success and how important the idea of an interdisciplinary perspective on environmental management was to all of us. Developing interdisciplinary activities at HKU has never been easy due to the rigid structure of our faculty-based system. Nonetheless, the M.Sc. still stands out as a great success and demonstrates that this kind of initiative can work with the appropriate people and level of commitment. I think that one other factor also helped: my former centre (the Centre of Urban Studies and Urban Planning, later known as the Centre of Urban Planning and Environmental Management) was centrally involved in the M.Sc. from the very beginning. As a small, non-faculty unit we were able to engage with colleagues from across the University without being regarded as advancing a particular faculty view or interests. In 1989 Bill Barron joined the Centre and played a key role in the M.Sc. for many years including taking on the role as coordinator and he helped to reinforce the interdisciplinary perspective. The Kadoorie



Institute has continued this tradition of involvement with a predominantly new group of young academics contributing to the programme.

The commitment to an interdisciplinary approach has always been a distinguishing feature of the programme. But so too has our concern with management. It was never intended to be a programme about environmental science, or studies, or technology. The objective of integrating scientific, technical and policy aspects of the environment has always helped us retain a clear focus on the key management dimension. Of course, the programme has evolved and developed in response to new and emerging themes and issues. Soon after it was launched we started to introduce discussion of sustainable development. More recently we have incorporated coverage of climate change issues. The programme has never been static or set in stone. The teachers involved in the programme have changed over the years and have shaped individual courses around their own particular areas of interest and expertise. This has helped to maintain vitality and dynamism in the programme. However, the basic structure of the programme has changed relatively little since its inception. I like to think this is because we were on target at the beginning and although there have been some adjustments over the years the present programme would still seem familiar to our earliest students.

Over the years we have graduated around 700 students, many of whom still work in Hong Kong and now occupy senior positions in government, the private sector and academia. The programme itself successfully navigated the transition from government-subsidized to self-financing status some years ago. It remains a distinctive and attractive option for graduate students interested in the environmental field. I am confident we will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in the not too distant future!

Vision and Mission of EMAHK

Establish the Association as a leading and recognized contributor to environmental management and sustainable development discourse, as well as to the advancement of environmental management as a professional field.

MISSION

We will engage all stakeholders, including corporate, government, the public, special interest groups and NGOs to encourage transparent, purposeful and informed dialogue on environmental issues.

We are active principally in Hong Kong but also the rest of the region

We want to promote an active exchange of knowledge amongst our members, thereby creating a dynamic resource for the whole community to use.

We seek to raise environmental awareness among the general public.

We are committed to acting objectively and impartially in the interest sound environmental management and sustainable development.

We encourage and enhance the development of environmental management skills and their application by individuals as well as institutions.

Our Exco-Members

President: Mr. Clement LAM

BBA CUHK, MSc (ENVM) HKU

In the past 26 years, Mr. Lam works in various areas in Cathay Pacific and the Swire Group. He is interested in making Hong Kong a better place to live in, in environmental and sustainability terms.

Vice President (Internal): Mr. Wa Tat YAN

B. Soc. Sc. HKU, MSc (ENVM) HKU, MA (Econ) Warwick

Mr. Yan is a veteran in the financial sector. He specializes in consulting listed companies on renewable energy businesses. He is currently a director of HTC Securities.

Vice President (External): Mr. Albert LI

MSc (ENVM) HKU

Mr. Li is a very experienced educator and currently working in charge of Department of xxx Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education.

Vice President (Training): Mr. Wilson, Bing Cheung TSUI

MSc (ENVM) HKU

Mr. Tsui has involved in the environmental business over 19 years, mainly for the air monitoring equipment and projects. Through the EMAHK, he would like to promote the importance of environmental management to the others in order to promote an environmental sustainable development.

Vice President (Training): Ms. Melody, Hoi Yin LAU

MSc (ENVM) HKU

Ms. Lau has previously worked in the manufacturing, toy and airline industries and is currently working as a part-time research assistant in HKU.

Vice President (Activities): Ms. Mabel LAU

MSc (ENVM) HKU

Ms. Lau is currently employed as Quality & Environmental Manager in an electronic company. She set up the ISO 14001 management system for the company, and is responsible for the planning and execution of the environmental program.

Vice President (Activities): Mr. Shaun Martin

BSc (Env. Science) Plymouth, MSc (ENVM) HKU

Mr. Martin has lived in Hong Kong since 2002 and has been teaching a variety of students. He is keen to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Hong Kong.

Vice President (Policy Research): Ms. Equeen LEUNG

MSc(ENVM) HKU

Ms. Leung loves hiking in Nepal and Taiwan, and can be very chatty about her expedition experience. She is now working in HKU as executive officer.

Vice President (Policy Research): Mr. Victor CHAN

MSc(ENVM) HKU

Mr. Chan has worked in the healthcare field for over a decade. He is with a vision to synchronize the steps of health protection and environmental management. He hopes to bring about higher awareness of environmental protection among healthcare workers.

General Secretary: Ms. Sui, Sui Ying LAU

BSc (Global Supply Chain Management) Poly, MSc (ENVM) HKU

Ms. Lau is now a senior environmental sustainability planner in a Canadian based company. Through joining and serving the EMAHK, she hopes to promote environmental management in supply chain and help to shape a better living environment for all.

Treasure: Mr. Ritar, Kam Ping CHU

BBA, MSc(ENVM) HKU, MBA(Strategy Marketing)

Chartered Marketer, MCIM, DipM, PCEE, ISO14001 & ISO9001 Lead Auditor.

Mr. Chu currently works as a project development manager in Waylung Waste Service Limited. He holds professional certificate in environmental engineering.

Publication: Ms. Peggy, Yee Man LI

BSc (LSGI), MSc(ENVM) HKU

IEMA, HKIES, Carbon Auditor.

Miss. Li currently works as a GIS Specialist in the Airport-GIS project for the Hong Kong International Airport, she previously worked as research assistant in HKU and some environmental consultant, Miss Li is also a contributed reporter, specialized in environmental issue of Hong Kong In-media.

Consultation Paper of Climate Change Policy

EMAHK submitted our feedback on the Consultation Paper (THE PAPER) “Hong Kong’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan” on Dec 10, 2010

1. This submission constitutes the opinion of the Association and the feedback from the speakers and the audience at the Public Forum jointly organized by the EMAHK and the MSc. Environmental Management Programme of the University of Hong Kong on 20th November 2010. There were over 40 members of the Association attending this Forum, including academics, consultants, managers, engineers, governmental officers, businessmen and current postgraduate students from the University local University.
2. The feedback in this paper will be grouped under four sections:
 - a. An overview (i.e. executive summary);
 - b. Comments on the questions raised in the paper;
 - c. Comments outside the scope of the paper; and
 - d. Suggestions from the EMAHK.
3. The EMAHK welcomes the consultation. It is a good step towards engaging the Public on the issue of climate change, and the likely responsibility of Hong Kong to act on this particular subject.
4. The facts and figures produced in the paper are very much in line with the current situation. However, EMAHK believes that there is a severe shortage of absolute figures. We believe it is much more suitable to express total emission figures in terms of emissions targets (e.g. tonnes of CO₂ or GHG per annum). The Government can be a lot more generous in sharing such data with the public while conducted more detailed scientific studies to accurately determine the inventory of our CO₂, GHG, and energy budget across various potential sources.

5. The EMAHK believes that the scope of the paper is much narrower than desired. The paper correctly identified emissions from power generation as the main source of emission in Hong Kong, and went on to propose a change in the composition of power generation by sources. It did not fully address the issue of vehicular emission, aviation and shipping emission, or did it address the opportunity to reduce power consumption. Education, while briefly mentioned, was not given sufficient focus in the paper. The issue of both solid wastes, and wastewater treatments was again insufficiently covered.
6. We believe that using 2020 as a benchmark year is did not reflect the reality. The international community, led by UNFCCC, generally request for targets beyond 2020 and up to 2050.
7. The issue of climate change is not going to resolve by itself 2020. In fact, setting a target for 2050 should entail and facilitate longer term planning. We must have both mid- and long-term goals for GHG reduction in Hong Kong, given that the Government shall take a leading role, she should also plan ahead with a view to achieve sustainable development and balanced growth of our economy without being asked by the public “What is next?”
8. There was little mention on how the goals in the paper are to be achieved. For example, how certain sources of energy can be obtained? Where will the nuclear mentioned in the paper come from? How it is going to affect Public finance and cost of energy? If substantially reducing the use of coal, what shall we do with the existing coal-based power plants (which are newly installed with advance and expansive scrubbing system to remove sulfur)? How much will Hong Kong pay to attain the limited goals as detailed in the paper?

9. *Question (1) Do you notice more extreme weather in Hong Kong, such as more hot days and heavier rainfall? Do you think climate change is affecting us?*

Yes, it is sensed that the weather of Hong Kong is getting hotter in recent years and the figures provided from the consultation document also proved that.

Climate change could be one of the factors caused such weather and we also believed other factors such as urban heat island effect also lead to extreme weather, particularly high temperature in the urban area.

It is no doubt that all extreme weather would affect us in different ways, thus properly addressing all root causes is essential

10. *Question (2) In the light of international and national developments, do you agree that Hong Kong should adopt a carbon intensity target to guide our futures actions to control GHG emissions?*

EMAHK agrees that a target to be set but using carbon intensity with relative measure based on GDP is insufficient. Hong Kong should alternatively consider a target of emission per capita as well.

11. *Question (3) Do you agree that the community should conserve energy and use greener transport to reduce local GHG emissions? What do you think you could do as an individual or as a business enterprise?*

Yes. It is essential to conserve energy and reduce GHG emission at source. Bus is the major source of GHG emission from vehicles in Hong Kong, changing to ERUO 5 engine should be set as immediate target. Consideration in using other cleaner fuel like LPG and electricity should also be given and promoted.

EMAHK is a group of individuals that believe we could do something, like providing our professional opinions to help shape a better environment. We also would like to make environmental management a more reachable subject and transfer knowledge to general public, thus every individual can do their part.

12. *Question (4) Will you agree to the proposed strategy of reducing use of coal and increasing use of natural gas and non-fossil fuels in meeting local electricity demand? Do you think the proposed fuel mix is appropriate for Hong Kong in 2020, with regard to such considerations as better environment, availability, reliability and cost?*

In response to the aggressive proposal of increasing the nuclear energy from 23% to 50% in 2020, the EMAHK supports the use of nuclear power only as an interim solution before clean energy can be economically used. We need the Government to inform the public on the source of such energy, the cost to Hong Kong importantly, the government gives assurance on the safety aspect of the building and operation of nuclear power plants. In addition, there should be a complete evaluation of the carbon footprint including the building of nuclear power plant, mining and handling nuclear wastes.

It is clear that Hong Kong lacks its own control on energy source if we start were importing nuclear energy. However, in the proposal there is only 3-4% in renewable energy. Grid storage for power generated by wind farms must become a high priority in our action plan.

It is reasonable to expect that prices of oil, gas and coal will continue to rise; when uranium ore comes scarce and demand are increasing (China, Russia, India are all increasing the number of nuclear plants in 10-20 years time).

With a drastic proposal to reduce coal to <10% , our further question is how to handle the current infrastructure? Many of the coal fire generation plants in Hong Kong are rather new. Will they be replaced who is to bear the cost of such premature asset disposal

The paper correctly identified emissions from power generation as the main source of emissions in Hong Kong, and went on to propose a change in the composition of power generation by source of power. Without a rigorous evaluation on the carbon footprint of substitution, it may or may not yield the climate change result as expected. Apart from that, the paper has not fully address the issue of vehicular emission, aviation and shipping emission, or did it address the opportunity to reduce power consumption. For this area, we have more comments in other sections.

13. *Question (5) To build Hong Kong as a green city, do you agree to the proposed target to reduce the carbon intensity of Hong Kong by 50 – 60 % by 2020?*

If the reduction target is a solely relative measure based on GDP, EMAHK does not think it is sufficient. Since the emission could be offset by an increase of GDP, we believe Hong Kong should support international studies that suggested achieving a maximum emission at 450ppmv of Carbon Dioxide by 2050. Hong Kong should alternatively consider a target of emission per capita as well.

We believe that using 2020 as the benchmark year did not reflect the reality. The international community, led by UNFCCC, generally request for targets beyond 2025 and up to 2050. The issue of climate change is not likely to be solved by 2020. In fact, setting a target for 2050 should entail and facilitate longer term planning.

14. *Question (6) Do you support the Government's proposed direction and action agenda in achieving the proposed carbon intensity reduction target?*

As comment in other section, Hong Kong should alternatively consider a target of emission per capita.

EMAHK believes that the scope of the paper is much narrower than desired. The paper correctly identified emission from power generation is the main source of emission in Hong Kong, and went on to propose a change power generation by sources. It did not fully address the issue of vehicular emission, aviation and shipping emission, or did it address the opportunity to reduce power consumption. Education, while briefly mentioned, was not given sufficient focus in the paper. The issue of waste treatment was again insufficiently covered. Thus EMAHK has the following comments and suggestions:

Buildings Electricity Conservation – There is hardly anything mentioned on how Hong Kong can carry on its present living style with reduced resources. As a matter of fact, the use of excessive electricity due buildings, neon display, and road illumination can be mitigated through rules, regulations and codes. In other countries such as Australia, building codes have been established and energy use of buildings is graded. We strongly believe that Hong Kong should follow this path. Create building codes and reward owners of energy efficient buildings. This can be done through proper legislations or administrative practices. Reducing rate for energy efficiency building and increasing rates for energy inefficient ones should be considered. Administrative measures and education are needed to drive the reduction of resources use. In California, power charges vary according to usage. The higher consumption is charged on peak rates all the time. In Australia, civilians can sell the power generated through their solar cells to the grid, thereby reducing their electricity charges. These are good examples we can learn from developed countries. In terms of education, we must communicate frequently to student and other communication channels on the need to reduce.

Development of clean energy: Wind and solar are the key clean energy of Hong Kong. It follows that we must make the best use of these energy sources. There are issues with power generated by wind farms and solar power facilities. Much of these relate to the intermittency of power generated, causing instability of electrical frequency that will damage power grids. Building grid storages in Hong Kong

may solve the problem. Recent scientific development is very optimistic towards building viable grid storage infrastructure, which can also regulate electricity generation at peak demand periods.

Road side pollution – after the successful campaign to replace pre-Euro diesel engines, there is no clear effort on the part of the government to further enhance the scheme, at least not in this paper. We advocate the immediate adoption of EURO V emission standard heavy vehicles, and at the same time, we should ban import of non-environmentally friendly cars which reward the use of electrical vehicles

Use of biofuel – use of biofuel has been discussed in the paper and is presented as a viable alternative to coal and gas power plants. We are of the opinion that a 10/90 fuel mixture would not help a lot in terms of emissions reduction as the biofuel sustainability is in question. In fact we believe mass production at economic prices will have to precede any claim that biofuel for power generation may attribute to reducing emissions.

Taxes and incentives – these are tools that the Government can use to motivate clean air operators and penalize polluters. We firmly believe this is a sure way of achieving reduced emissions.

Solid waste treatment – modern ultra-high incineration facilities can reduce waste volume by roughly 90% and generate power at the same time. This has to be part of Hong Kong's action plan towards climate change. Instead of building mega size incineration plants, the Government may also consider building smaller district treatment plants. We must learn from Japan, Taiwan and Northern Europe in their success in instituting such facilities.

Greenify Hong Kong – another main resource of Hong Kong is its countryside. The built area of Hong Kong is only a fraction of its own volume. The planting of efficiency oxygen producing plants would be a good way to beautify Hong Kong's countryside and reduce Hong Kong's carbon foot-print. It is recommended that a large scale tree planting movement should be implemented. We should also study experience and legislation of nearby countries and China on statutory green zone requirement when granting land for buildings

Transparency – new policies would generally face skepticism and opposition. This is an instituted element of any open society. In achieving social agreement on emission reduction, the Government needs to be open about the current difficulties. A case in point is that under the Control Scheme for electricity companies, early disposal of assets will cause burden on the part of the Government as compensation may be needed. We support the government's clear and thorough sharing of its problems so to ensure the public is on the same page. To begin with, the Environmental Protection Department should share the consultancy report that it mentioned so many times in the paper. If the EPD were willing to disclose the consultancy report, we would support the extension of this consultation for another three months.

Who bears the costs? A substantial number of our members were born post 80. They expressed a clear question in their minds that with an aging population, they will be the group of people who would bear the consequences of bad decision making at this time. It is reasonable to expect that prices of oil, gas

and coal will continue to rise; when uranium ore becomes scarce, their price would definitely come up too. Every power generation facility will have its used and needs to be renewed. It would be our responsibility to think for the younger generation, and so that we leave behind a sustainable society

15. Question (7) Do you agree that we should strengthen regional co-operation in the Pearl River Delta Region in moving along the low carbon pathway, and aspire to become one of the greenest cities in China?

EMAHK agrees that there should be stronger regional co-operation in Pearl River Delta (PRD) region. Being geographically and socially connection, the emission from PRD greatly influence Hong Kong.

It is an encouraging step to see HKSAR government set up pilot project with Guangdong Province from emission trading for thermal power plants. This is.

We believe this kind of project should extend from institute to business sector in enhancing cooperation.

16. Question (8) Do you think that as an individual, you know enough about climate change? Are you prepared to make changes to your lifestyle to help combat climate change? If so, how do you think you can contribute?

The answer depends on the definition of “enough”. We have knowledge in climate change and the research of climate change is continued. There is a need to continuous update our knowledge on the issue.

EMAHK would like to take the role in communicating climate change issue with general public and make it a more understandable topic for all.

We are planning to provide talks to secondary and primary students, our future generations, on environmental management and climate change.

17. *Question (9) How do you think climate change will impact the vulnerable areas as identified in this consultation paper? What are your views on the proposed framework of adaptation options?*

EMAHK believes climate change would have negative impacts in many.

Besides the five Adaptation Options and Measures mentioned in the consultation paper, more effort should be placed on reduction at source, such as increase energy efficiency buildings. Reduction is through education, which again should become part of action plan of Hong Kong's emission reduction.

18. Use of nuclear power – the EMAHK supports the use of nuclear power as an interim solution before clean energy can be economically used and viable. However, we need the Government to inform the Public on the source of such energy, the cost to Hong Kong, and most importantly to give assurance on the safety aspect of building and operation of nuclear power plants.

19. As-build nuclear power plants provide a base loading of the energy demand, the peak surge of energy consumption shall be met by other means such as natural gas or coal based power plants. It is a well-known fact that the effectiveness of wind power highly depends on season, wind direction and speed etc. and thus the energy supply from wind power may not be reliable. If using a mixed energy mode, how the Government can ensure the reliable, consistent and continuous energy supply to Hong Kong people (please see also Clause 22).

20. Use of biofuel has been discussed in the paper and is presented as a viable alternative to coal and gas power plants. We are of the opinion that a 10/90 fuel mixture would not help a lot in terms of emission reduction. The biofuel sustainability is in question. In fact we believe mass production at economic prices will have to precede any claim that biofuel for power generation may attribute to reducing emission and overall global carbon footprint. Nonetheless, the transformation of used industrial and cooking oils into fuel oil is highly encouraged as it acts as one stone for reducing waste oils and the use of fossil fuel.

21. What about the current infrastructure? Some of the coal fire generation plants in Hong Kong are rather new with newly installed device to remove sulfur. Will they be replaced and if so, who would bear the cost of such premature asset disposal?

22. Development of clean energy in Hong Kong – Wind and solar energy is the key resource in Hong Kong. It follows that we must make the best use of these sources. There are issues with power generated by wind farms and solar power facilities. Much of these relate to the intermittency of power generated, causing instability of electrical frequency that will damage power grids. EMAHK recommends that this problem can be resolved by building grid storages in Hong Kong. Recent scientific development is very optimistic towards building viable grid storage infrastructure, which can also serve to regulate electricity generation at peak demand periods.

23. It is apparently economically viable for village houses to install solar system to generate hot water and limited amount of electricity. To promote such low carbon energy utilization, we recommend that the Government should consider the model of Australian Government to provide economic incentive such as tax redemption for village people who install such green energy device(s) in their house.

24. Thinking outside the box, another main resource of Hong Kong is its countryside. The built area of Hong Kong is only a fraction of its own area. The planting of high efficiency carbon synthesizing plants would be a good way to beautify Hong Kong's countryside and reduce Hong Kong's carbon footprint, should carbon trading come into play. Please be noted that the Chinese Government also treats tree plantation as one of the strategies to reduce its carbon footprints and to promote environmental awareness. We highly advocate that the HKSAR Government should set a more aggressive target in reforestation within and outside country-parks, and most importantly establish more effective and preventive measures to reduce local hill fires.

25. Roadside pollution – after the successful campaign to replace pre-Euro diesel engines, there is no clear effort on Government part to further enhance the scheme, apart from encouraging the use of electric vehicles. The issue of emission from existing heavy vehicles was not clearly addressed in this paper.

26. Solid waste treatment – modern ultra-high incineration facilities can reduce waste volume by roughly 90%, and generate power at the same time. We view that this has to be part of Hong Kong's action plan towards climate change.

27. Reduction – there is hardly any mention on how Hong Kong can carry on with its present style of living with reduced resources. As a matter of fact, the use of excessive electricity due to design of buildings, neon display, road illumination can be mitigated through rules, regulations, and codes. In other countries such as Australia, building codes have been established and the energy efficiency of buildings is graded. We strongly believe that Hong Kong should follow this path. In terms of excessive lighting, we needs to be controlling rules and regulations.

28. Education – we opine that emission reduction is not only the work of the Government. It should be the collective effort of all sectors. The key to mobilizing the society at large to support emission reduction is through education, which again should become part of Hong Kong’s action plan. Also, we shall engage more young people to start thinking of their future as they will suffer more from the impacts of climate change. They should be one of the key stakeholders involved in the decision-making on how we should respond and adapt to climate change.

29. Taxes and incentives – these are tools that the Government can use to motivate clean air operators and penalize polluters. We firmly believe this is an important way of achieving reduced emission.

30. Who should bear the costs? A substantial number of our members were born after the 80’s. They expressed a clear question that with an aging population, they will be the group of people who have to bear the consequences of bad decision made by us. It is reasonable to expect that price of oil, gas, and coal will continue to rise; when uranium ore comes scarce their price will definitely come up too. Every power generation facility will have its use-by date and needs to be renewed. Such costs of energy will only go higher unless we start investing more efficiency power generation.

31. **Extend the reach of emission target to 2050.** We believe Hong Kong should support international studies, which suggested implementing the goal of achieving a maximum emission at 450 ppm of CO₂ by 2050. In so doing, using emission intensity, a relative measure based on GDP, is insufficient. Hong Kong should alternatively consider a target of emissions per capita (e.g., tonnes CO₂ per capita per year) as well.

32. **Invest heavily in the research of clean and renewable energy in Hong Kong.** It is clear that Hong Kong lacks its own control on energy source if we start further import nuclear energy. Grid storage for power generated by wind farms must become a high priority in our action plan.

33. **Create building codes and reward owners of energy efficient buildings -** The impending legislation on Building Energy Efficiency is a correct step towards this direction. We believe a merit system should be considered, for instance, reduce Government rate for energy-efficient buildings and increase that of the energy-inefficient ones.

34. **“Further greenification”.** As mentioned in Clause 22, it is recommended that a large scale tree planting movement should be implemented. We should also study experience and legislation of nearby countries, and China on statutory green zone requirement when granting land for buildings. It is of foremost importance that the HKSAR Government implements more effective and preventive measures to stop local hill fires which damaged thousands of trees annual.

35. **Why use of energy.** Administrative measures and education are needed to drive the reduction of resources use. In California, power charges vary according to usage. The bigger power user is charged on peak rates all the time. In Australia, civilians can sell the power generated through their solar cells to the grid, thereby reducing their electricity charges. These are good examples we can learn from developed countries. In terms of education, we must communicate frequently to the Public in schools and other communication channels on the need to reduce energy consumption and enhance energy efficiency.

36. **Road-side emission reduction.** We advocate immediate adoption of EURO V emission standard for heavy vehicles. At the same time, we should ban import of non-environmentally friendly cars and reward the use of electrical or hybrid vehicles.

37. **Introduce ultra high temperature incineration.** The advantage of which has been mentioned in Clause 24. Instead of building mega-size in incineration plants, the Government may also consider building smaller district treatment plants. We must learn success from Japan, Taiwan, Germany and Northern Europe in their instituting such facilities.

38. **Transparency.** New policy generally face skepticism and opposition. This is an instituted element of any open society. In achieving social agreement on emission reduction, the Government needs to be open about the difficulties face. A case in point is that under the Control Scheme for electricity companies, early disposal of assets will cause burden on the part of the Government as compensation may be needed. We support the government’s clear and thorough sharing of its problems so as to ensure that the Public is on the same page. To begin with, the Environmental Protection Department should share the consultancy report that it mentioned so many times in the paper, but such an important report, unfortunately, is sadly unavailable to the public.

39. Some believe that we need to extend the deadline of this consultation. We are of the opinion that this consultation has probably come too late. We in fact believe the EPD should gather the responses of this consultation and publish them within 2-3 months. EPD should also continue to consult the Public when specific policies are being contemplated.

For further information, please contact the following:

Sui Lau, General Secretary at secretary@emahk.org or Equeen Leung, Vice President Policy Research at vp_policyresearch@emahk.org

Past Events

Year 2011

Apr 16

[The First Career Forum of Susdev 2011](#)

Year 2010

Nov 20

**[A Public Consultation Forum on Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda](#)
and
[The First Annual General Meeting \(AGM\) of EMAHK](#)**

Oct 30

[The Symposium on Environmental Management in Pearl River Delta: Review, Challenges and Opportunities and the 20th Anniversary Reunion Dinner](#)

Jul 31

[Macau Incineration Plant Visit](#)

May 29

Special Talk: Pre and Post Remediation Ecological Risk Assessment of Volatile Chlorinated Hydrocarbon Contaminated Groundwater.

Our Member's Comment

After we completed the biggest mission in year 2009 - 2010, i.e. submission of the dissertation, almost half class joined the visit to the Macau Incineration Plant (MIP) in July 2010. This gathering just came at the right time that allowed us to learn and play together. Our time was filled with good chat and laughter since the moment we met in the ferry pier.

The Macau Incineration Plant (MIP) is a privately owned company equipped with pollution control systems, electricity generation and scrap metal recovery facilities. The staff gave us a talk about the operation of the MIP and then led us to visit different parts of the plant. It was comfortable to walk around in the MIP and it was unexpectedly clean. There wasn't any odour! The waste management issue has aroused hot debates in Hong Kong. On one hand, our existing landfills are going to be full soon; on the other hand, the siting of new landfill and incinerator has aroused intense disputes over the society. A visit to this kind of locally unwanted land uses can eliminate our prejudice over them. Of course, incineration alone cannot solve all the problems generated by solid waste. We still have to go back to the basic principle of "4Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Recover". We all have to change our living styles and make a green living.

After the visit, we enjoyed a Portuguese cuisine at a local restaurant. Then, some of us returned to Hong Kong while the others, including myself, continued our exploration of the excitement in Macau. Thanks to EMAHK for their endeavors in making this visit successful!

Vivian Tse
(2010 Graduate)



Lamma Power Station & Wind Power Station Visit

EMAHK is organizing a visit to Lamma Power Station & Wind Power Station for our members with details shown below:

Date: June 18, 2011

Fee: \$150 per person including lunch

Quota: 32 (First-come-first-served, based on time of receive of payment)

Each member can bring a maximum of 2 friends to the trip

Registration is required. Once registration is confirmed, you will receive a email from us on how to proceed with the payment. [Register Now](#).

Program

Time	Venue/Activity	Remarks
09:30am	Assemble at ALC Pier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depart for Lamma Power Station by ferry 	Map
10:25am – 10:45am	Arrive at Visitor Centre, LPS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing on Lamma Power Station, solar power system and showing of wind turbine model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To understand the operation of Lamma Power Station, the nerve system for power supply to Hong Kong and Lamma Island
10:50am – 11:15am	Depart for wind power station	A 25 minutes walk uphill to the wind power station
11:15am – 11:30am	Tour around wind power station and exhibition area at Tai Ling	To know more about the most common form of renewable energy, their strengths and limitations, and applications worldwide
11:30am	Depart for lunch at Lamma Island	End of program



Your participation is highly encouraged. [Register Now](#).

For enquiries, please contact: activities@emahk.org

Field Study Trip to Macau

The Master of Science in Environmental Management (MSc EnvMan) of the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and The Environmental Management Association of Hong Kong (EMAHK) has the pleasure of inviting the current MSc EnvMan students and alumni, and EMAHK members to the following event:

Date: 25 June 2011 (Saturday)

Time: 8:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Fee: HK\$ 400 per person (including round trip Macau/Sheung Wan by **TurboJet ferry tickets**, lunch fee, local transportation by coach)

Quota:

HKU students: 23 (First-come-first-served)

EMAHK members: 12 (First-come-first-served)

Tentative Trip Schedule:	
0800	Gather at Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
0830	Ferry Depart – Duration: approx. 1 hr
0930	Arrive Macau
1015	Arrive Macau Incineration Plant
1030 – 1230	Visit Macau Incineration Plant
1300	Lunch at Camoes Portuguese Restaurant (新賈梅士葡國餐廳)
1445	Arrive Macao Water
1500-1630	Visit Macao Water



1630-	Free Time
On the same day	Arrive Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

* Please note: Trip schedule is subjected to change without further notice.

On successful completion of field study trip, you should be able to have an understanding of **waste management and water purification technologies and facilities**. This visit is part of the non-credit bearing Environmental Field Studies Course of the Master Programme in Environmental Management. Your participation is highly encouraged. If you wish to join this field study trip, please register at the following link **on or before 10 June 2011**:

[HKU MSc EnvMan Student Registration Link](#)

[EMAHK Member Registration Link](#)

Completed applications will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis. No applications will be received once the quota is filled or after the respective deadline, whichever comes first.

Should you have any queries, please contact Ms. Mabel Lau or Mr. Shaun Martin, VP Activities of EMAHK, (activities@emahk.org) or Dr. Janet KY Chan, Coordinator for MSc ENVM Environmental Field Studies Course (chanjky@hku.hk).



Green Calendar

January 1: New Year's Day: [Resolve to Go Green in 2011](#)

February 2: [World Wetlands Day](#)

March 21: [World Forestry Day](#)

March 22: [World Water Day](#)

March 23: [World Meteorological Day](#)

Last Saturday of March (3/26/2011): [Earth Hour](#)

April 22: [Earth Day](#)

Last Friday in April (4/29/2011): [Arbor Day](#)

Second Saturday in May (5/14/2011): [International Migratory Bird Day](#)

May 22: [International Day for Biological Diversity](#)

First Saturday of June (6/4/2011): [National Trails Day](#)

June 5: [World Environment Day](#)

June 8: [World Oceans Day](#)

June 15: [Global Wind Day](#)

July 11: [World Population Day](#)

September 4: [National Wildlife Day](#)

September 21: [International Day of Peace](#)

September 22: [World Car-Free Day](#)

First Week of October: [Junk Mail Awareness Week](#)

October 1: [World Vegetarian Day](#)

October 4: [World Animal Day](#)

November 1: [World Vegan Day](#)



Day After Thanksgiving (11/25/2011): [Buy Nothing Day](#)

Donation

The proposed pay-out of \$6,000 announced by the Financial Secretary must have come as a surprise. So if you have not made up your mind as to how best use this sum or have not yet committed it to some other worthy causes, why not consider donating it (or any part thereof) to help our association? We are looking forwards to your supporting.

The Environmental Management Association of Hong Kong (EMAHK)

Membership application form

Vision

Establish the Association as a leading and recognised contributor to environmental management and sustainable development discourse, as well as to the advancement of environmental management as a professional field.

The personal information will be kept **CONFIDENTIAL** and for internal use only

Personal information

Title (Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms): _____

Full Name (surname, first name): _____

Email Address: _____

Contact Telephone: _____

Membership type

Full member Graduate of MSc ENVM (HKU): Year of graduation _____

Non-graduate of MSc ENVM (HKU), please specific:

Programme completed: _____ *Year of graduation* _____

Institution: _____

Student member *Programme attending:* _____

Institution: _____

Associate member

Fellow member

Corporate Member *Name of corporation:* _____

Membership information

Full Member is open to any person who has completed a higher degree program in the environmental management field at the University of Hong Kong, or other universities.

Student Member is to open to any person who is presently or has been pursuing an undergraduate or postgraduate, diploma, certificate, School of Professional and Continuing Education or other extra-mural or part-time courses in the environmental management field at the University of Hong Kong, or other universities.

Associate Member is open to any person with a bona-fide interest in the Association, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Fellow Member is open to any full member who has made a distinguished contribution to the environmental affair in Hong Kong, at the discretion and invitation of the Executive Committee.

Corporate Member is open to any company and/or association which is interested in supporting the activities of the Association, at the discretion of the Executive Committee

For general enquiries, please email to: info@emahk.org

For membership enquiries, please email to: membership@emahk.org

For activities enquiries, please email to: activities@emahk.org