

# Feature Story : Workshop on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) In Hong Kong



European Union Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment, known as the EU SEA Directive, came into full effect in July 2004. When SEA is applied properly at the earliest possible stage, benefits and values can be added to the formulation of **policies, plans and programmes (PPP)** and lead to environmentally sustainable outcomes. Hong Kong has more than 15-yr experience in implementing SEA. To facilitate wider application of SEA, a workshop was held in the Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre on 18 June 2005 and it was well attended by about 200 participants. It was a result of an excellent partnership effort, the first time that **EPD, the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management HK (CIWEM HK), HK Institute of Planners (HKIP), and HK Institute of Environmental Impact Assessment (HKIEIA)**, co-organized a workshop on SEA. The workshop covered a full spectrum of views and perspectives, and 6 distinguished speakers shared invaluable insights on SEA (presentation titles below).



**Keynote Speech by :** Professor K. C. Lam, Chairman of the Advisory Council on the Environment

**Presentations by :**

- Mr. Elvis Au, Assistant Director of EPD and Former President of International Association for Impact Assessment – “The SEA World Trend”
- Ir Otto Poon, Chairman of Energy Advisory Committee, Chairman of Strategy Subcommittee, Council for Sustainable Development, Committee Member of CIWEM HK – “Counting the Cost of Energy – An Innovative Approach to Sustainable Development”



- Dr. Anne Kerr, Past Chairperson of CIWEM HK – “Back to the Future”
  - Mr. H. M. Wong, Principal Environmental Protection Officer of EPD – “The HK SEA Manual”
  - Mr. Freeman Cheung, Chairman of HKIEIA – “Assessment Tools for SEA”
- Panel Discussion and Q & A chaired by Associate Professor C. N. Ng, Chairman of EIA Sub-committee, the Advisory Council on the Environment