

RGC Ref. No.: <u>UGC/IIDS25/H01/17</u> (please insert ref. above)
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**RESEARCH GRANTS COUNCIL  
COMPETITIVE RESEARCH FUNDING SCHEMES FOR  
THE LOCAL SELF-FINANCING DEGREE SECTOR**

**INTER-INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (IIDS)**

**Completion Report**  
(for completed projects only)

<p><b><u>Submission Deadlines:</u></b> 1. The unspent balance, if applicable, and auditor's report: within <b>six</b> months of the approved project completion date. 2. Completion report: within <b>12</b> months of the approved project completion date.</p>
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**Part A: The Project and Investigator(s)**

**1. Project Title**

SUSTAINABLE PLACEMAKING

Seminar Series on Strategic Approaches in Design and Environment

**2. Investigator(s) and Academic Department(s) / Unit(s) Involved**

Research Team	Name / Post	Unit / Department / Institution
Principal Investigator	Ms. KEE, Tristance Yee-chun	Faculty of Design and Environment, THEi
Co-Principal Investigator(s)	Mr. KING, Alex	Faculty of Design and Environment, THEi
Co-Investigator(s)	Dr. Winnie Law	Hong Kong University
Others		

**3. Project Duration**

	Original	Revised	Date of RGC / Institution Approval (must be quoted)
Project Start Date	1 January 2018	N/A	N/A
Project Completion Date	31 December 2018	N/A	N/A
Duration (in month)	12	N/A	N/A
Deadline for Submission of Completion Report	31/12/2019	N/A	N/A

## **Part B: The Final Report**

### 5. Collaboration with Other Self-Financing Degree-Awarding Institutions

	<b>Name of Institution(s)</b>	<b>% of Participation</b>	<b>Distinctive <u>Element(s)</u> of the Institution in Responsible Project</b>
<b>Applying Institution</b>	THEi	100%	N/A
<b>Collaborating Institution(s) (If any) #</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total:</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>N/A</b>

# If no other eligible local self-financing degree-awarding institutions are involved, please input "N/A" in this table.

### 6. Project Objectives

#### 6.1 Objectives as per original application

1. To promote Sustainable Place making where academics, professional practitioners, students, Government Officials and the general public can gain knowledge on the subject
2. To provide a cross-disciplinary knowledge sharing platform to generate more potential research collaborations and research projects with various experts in multiple fields.
3. To enable Hong Kong students and academics to keep updated with the latest innovation and newest design developments in the fields.
4. To create teaching relevancy and high impact research output in design and environmental sustainability that can be shared with various disciplines such as architecture, urban design and product design.

#### 6.2 Revised objectives

Date of approval from the RGC: N/A

Reasons for the change: N/A

- 1.
- 2.
3. ....

### 6.3 Realisation of the objectives

*(Maximum 1 page; please state how and to what extent the project objectives have been achieved; give reasons for under-achievements and outline attempts to overcome problems, if any)*

The programme entails three academic seminars in 2018, which have been held in May, September and November 2018. The seminar series was arranged on Saturday mornings where international speakers and local speakers shared either theories on design public spaces and real-life practical case studies to demonstrate the relevancies to the theme on Sustainable Place making. It was intended that the diverse backgrounds of scholars and practitioners can bring a balance of research theories and practical advices on the planning, implementation and management of good public spaces. The result for each seminar has been exceptionally good, with over subscription and full house attendance in some incidence. The sharing sessions offered an interactive platform for panel speakers to interact with audience and in-depth discussions were held to enhance the understanding of the topics. The feedback from both industry participants and outside guests has been positive in offering a platform for academic exchange on pressing issues related to the urban setting of Hong Kong.

The seminars directly benefit Hong Kong students in developing critical thinking, creative innovation, and effective communications skills. This exchange of knowledge brings in high impact educational values to both academics and students to be exposed to international design philosophy. The programmes strategically contribute to current pedagogical approach and research agenda at the Faculty of Design and Environment at THEi where both teaching and research profiles revolve around Urban and Environmental Sustainability. The seminar series were highly complement on-going teaching and research direction at THEi. Some of the sharing and topics were further discussed in classes and the success of this series of IIDS inspired the next round of research proposal applications.

## 6.4 Summary of objectives addressed to date

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Addressed</b> <i>(please tick)</i>	<b>Percentage Achieved</b> <i>(please estimate)</i>
1. To promote Sustainable Place making where academics, professional practitioners, students, Government Officials and the general public can gain knowledge on the subject.	✓	100%
2. To provide a cross-disciplinary knowledge sharing platform to generate more potential research collaborations and research projects with various experts in multiple fields.	✓	100%
3. To enable Hong Kong students and academics to keep updated with the latest innovation and newest design developments in the fields.	✓	100%
4. To create teaching relevancy and high impact research output in design and environmental sustainability that can be shared with various disciplines such as architecture, urban design and product design.	✓	100%

## 6.5 Project progress

<b>Original Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Revised Implementation Schedule</b> <b>(Date of RGC's Approval)</b>	<b>Updated Progress</b>
Seminar 1: Urban Sustainability – Smart City and Liveability on 19 May 2018	/	Seminar 1 had been completed on 19 May 2018. Over 80 participants attended including Director from Urbis, students from Secondary School, HKDI and THEi, members from professional institutions and general public.
Seminar 2: Strategic Design, Landscape and Environmental Approaches on 29 September 2018	/	Seminar 2 had been completed on 29 September 2018. Over 250 participants attended including Director from Urbis, students from Secondary School, HKDI and THEi, members from professional institutions and

		general public.
Seminar 3: Energizing Urban Spaces and Sustainable Place making Strategies on 3 November 2018	24 November 2018	Seminar 3 had been completed on 24 November 2018. Over 80 participants attended including Director from Urbis, students from Secondary School, HKDI and THEi, members from professional institutions and general public.

## 6.6 Speaker(s)

<b>Title / Name</b> (Surname in Capital Letters)	<b>Post / Institution</b>	<b>Title / Topic of Presentation / Course</b>	<b>Previous Research Links with Hong Kong Institutions</b> (Nature and Date (Month / Year))
<b>Seminar 1: Urban Sustainability – Smart City and Liveability</b>			
Associate Professor Matthew PRYOR	Associate Professor, Head of Division of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Architecture, HKU	Green Design and Environmental Sustainability	Professor PRYOR is an Associate Professor, Head of Division of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Architecture, HKU and an ongoing research and academic partner with THEi.
Dr. Winnie LAW	Associate Director & Principal Lecturer, Policy for Sustainability Lab, Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU	Community Building for Urban Sustainability	Dr. LAW has been engaged in numerous academic conferences promoting sustainability.
Professor Stephen TANG, BBS	President, Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design	Planning and Architecture Case Studies	Professor TANG is a visiting scholar at DUPAD in HKU.
Professor John NG	Former Director and Chairman, Green Labelling Committee, HKGBC; Former Chairperson, Former Chairperson	Sustainable Neighbourhood and Urban Liveability	Professor NG is a visiting scholar at HKU
<b>Seminar 2: Strategic Design, Landscape and Environmental Approaches</b>			
Ms. Deborah KUH	Head of Greening,	Place-based Landscape	Ms. KUH has collaborated with THEi, Poly U and other tertiary

	Landscape and Tree Management Section, Development Bureau, HKSAR	Opportunities for Hong Kong	institution on greening issues.
Dr. Peter COOKSON SMITH	Founder, URBIS Limited; Past President, Hong Kong Institute of Planners and Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design	Achieving a Liveability Paradigm	Dr. COOKSON SMITH is an active speaker in all HK universities.
Ms. Caroline SOHIE	Co-Founder / Principal, INSTINCT; Guest Professor, KU Leuven University, Faculty of Architecture, International Masters	Sustainable Cities   Recognising the Power of Kinetic Space	Ms. SOHIE was a guest in the HKIUD in 2017.
Ms. Linda CORKERY	Associate Professor, Faculty of Built Environment, University of New South Wales, Sydney	Green City, Resilient City	Ms. CORKERY has been involved in teaching matters and practice in HK previously
Seminar 3: Energizing Urban Spaces and Sustainable Place making Strategies			
Mr. Edwin WONG	Deputy Head, Energizing Kowloon East Office, Development Bureau, HKSAR	Creative and Sustainable Place making Strategies in Kowloon East	N/A
Dr. Allen ZHANG	Assistant Professor and Programme Leader,	Arboriculture, Horticulture and Landscape Management	Dr. ZHANG is currently the Assistant Professor and Programme Leader, Faculty of Design and Environment, THEi

	Faculty of Design and Environment, THEi		
Mr. Joel CHAN	President, Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design; Director, P&T Group	Mainstreaming Urban Design in Hong Kong – Towards a Liveable and Sustainable World Class City	Mr. CHAN participates in lectures in various HK institutions.
Ms. Tristance KEE	Associate Professor and Programme Leader, Faculty of Design and Environment, THEi	Sustainable Place-making Strategies in Hong Kong – “This is just the beginning”	In replacement of Mr. Tihamer Salij in view of his emergency absence from the Netherlands.

- 6.7 Please provide details of the activities organized, including the theme / objectives of the activities, targeted participants, attendance, analysis of participants, e.g. country of origin, research background, etc., evaluation forms of the activities and a summary of the participants’ evaluation. (Photos of the activities are preferred.)

Seminar 1: Urban Sustainability – Smart City and Liveability

The 1<sup>st</sup> seminar focus on

- Development and implementation of projects related to urban sustainability;
- Urban and rural sustainable development issues and smart strategies in integrating sustainability theories into practice;
- Urban visions to integrate multiple information and communication technology (ICT) and other smart city solutions to manage a city's assets;

It has been completed on 19 May 2018. Over 80 participants attended including Director from Urbis, students from local secondary and tertiary schools, HKDI and THEi, members from various professional institutions and the general public.



Speaker Prof Pryor explained the case studies at HKU for Sustainability and how his roof top gardens have supported many students research missions in HKU.



Prof Winnie Law has worked in the discipline of Sustainability for many years and shared her experienced in how public engagment is essential.





Prof. John Ng is both a practitioner and a scholar. Through a video and a powerpoint presentation, the concept of HK housing revolution and sustainability has been explained.



Prof Stephen Tang as the President of HKIUD and Government officer explained the Government mission in the work of sustainable development in urban Hong Kong.



Post conference discussions were held with the speaker and Tris asked speakers about how can we improve awareness in the public so the concept can be both theoretical and practical.



Many audience raised questions as felt this is a timely topic. The overall feedback on the quality of conference was very high. Many viewed that it is a professionally held conference.



Over 150 audience attended and many included general public, scholars, working professionals and government officials.

### Seminar 2: Strategic Design, Landscape and Environmental Approaches

The 2nd seminar focus on

- Discussion on innovative and low carbon design with green features;
- Strategies on greening, physical appearance and surroundings of key streets and pedestrian walkways in an urban context;
- Enhancement on streetscape and public open space systems;
- How to adopt Place making approaches in urban design and facilitate urban events in public spaces;

It has been completed on 29 September 2018. Over 250 participants attended including Director from Urbis, students from local secondary and tertiary schools, HKDI and THEi, members from various professional institutions and the general public. The event was highly complemented by the overseas speakers in bring good value discussions.



Dr. Peter Cookson Smith has over thirty years of urban planning experience and was able to give an overall history of how Hong Kong evolved into a sustainable city.



As the government official who looked after tree management, the typhoon in August 2018 was a challenging tasks for both the government and the citizen. It made the topic of resilient city ever more relevant.



Carolyn Sohie looked at how Design and Design Thinking can play a part in sustainable development.



Professor Linda Corkery shared her experience in Australia and many audience resonnated her sharing on how Hong Kong can follow suite.



The discussions were of high academic quality and many questions raised to respond to the speakers presentations.



### Seminar 3: Energizing Urban Spaces and Sustainable Place making Strategies

The 3<sup>rd</sup> seminar focus on

- Concept on Design, Branding and Connectivity in relationship with Urban Place making;
- Branding as a strategy in urban design to achieve global significance;
- How to promote urban connectivity by smart network and innovative urban infrastructure systems;
- Strategies on enhancing citizens' perception on urban design, restructuring of land uses and streetscape improvement.

It has been completed on 24 November 2018. Over 80 participants attended including Director from Urbis, students from local secondary and tertiary schools, HKDI and THEi, members from various professional institutions and the general public.



Speaker Dr. Allen Zhang, who is the programme leader of Horticulture, shared his view of how THEi has contributed to the sustainability of the city.



The new HKIUD President, Mr. Joel Chen, shared how a practitioner and the industry can support and work with various stakeholders to work towards sustainable issues.



Dr. Tris Kee, Programme Leader of PD at THEi, spoke about her research on sustainable city. She has published numerous books and papers on sustainable development and how to adaptively reuse Hong Kong old buildings.





The three conferences were well attended and achieved the goals set out at the proposal. With a minor change of speaker due to illness, the conferences maintained all the original content and speakers. The audience feedback was most positive. The speakers said it was one of the most professional conference they have attended.



## 7. Research-Related Outcome

### 7.1 Potential for development into research proposal and the proposed course of action (Maximum half a page)

The topic as a relevant urban issue for Hong Kong raised many interest amongst the participants. It will be an inspiration for future IIDS proposals. A draft is under formulation for the next round of submission to RGC.

## 7.2 Research collaboration achieved

*(Please give details on the achievement and its relevant impact)*

This IIDS seminar series has successfully obtained support from a number of local professional institutions, namely they are the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design, The professional Green Building Council, the Hong Kong Architecture Centre, the Hong Kong Green Building Council and the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects.

With their support, the events were able to reach to more sectors of professionals and practitioners and be able to attract many of their members to attend the event.

The impact of the IIDS is significant and can be witnessed in the full house attendance in some occasions.

## 7.3 Any new development and/or challenging research topic(s) has / have been identified and any new initiative(s) for future research has / have been inspired.

Yes, the topic inspired other research topics and teaching materials and will continue to be developed into useful learning and teaching materials.

## 8. The Layman's Summary

*(Describe in layman's language the nature, significance and value of the research activities, in no more than 200 words)*

The topic of SUSTAINABLE PLACEMAKING has been closely aligned in theme with the awarded IDS on Research on Sustainable Living obtained by the Faculty. It is most relevant to contemporary Hong Kong context as our citizens are often confronted with the lack of public spaces in this highly-populated city. The current urban land development system is stringent and the design of Hong Kong public spaces often under-estimates the importance of good design and good planning practices. Therefore, the seminar series could fill in the gap in research area by providing an interactive platform for intellectual exchange and discussion with Secondary students, undergraduate students, academics, professionals and the government. Furthermore, it could generate future cross-disciplinary collaborations to benefit Hong Kong academia. The diverse backgrounds of speakers will allow further joint research projects and joint academic publications on the topic. The seminar series also encourages research collaborations between engineers, architects, product designers, landscape designers and urban planners in the future. Last but not least, the value and impact is the relevancy to our pedagogy as the research will directly inform teaching at the Faculty of Design and Environment at THEi.

**Part C: Research Output****9. Recognized Conference(s) Paper(s) Related To This Project Was / Were Delivered (As Applicable)***(Please attach a copy of each conference abstract)*

<b>Month / Year / Place</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Conference Name</b>	<b>Submitted to RGC</b> <i>(indicate the year ending of the relevant progress report)</i>	<b>Attached to this Report</b> <i>(Yes or No)</i>	<b>Acknowledged the Support of RGC</b> <i>(Yes or No)</i>
Conference Location: Memorial Hall University of Oxford, Queen's College, Oxford, U.K. August 14 - 15, 2018	Sustainable Universal Design in Public Housing for Globally Aging Population	International Conference on Sustainable Development 2018 Oxford, U.K.	No	No	Yes

**10. Research Personnel Trained (As Applicable)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
NIL	NIL

**11. Other Impact (As Applicable)***(e.g. prizes, collaboration with other research institutions, technology transfer, etc.)*

NIL

**12. Statistics on Research Outputs**

	<b>Peer-reviewed Journal Publications</b>	<b>Conference Papers</b>	<b>Scholarly Books, Monographs and Chapters</b>	<b>Patents Awarded</b>	<b>Other Research Outputs (please specify)</b>	
<b>No. of outputs arising directly from this project</b>	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	Type	No.
					NIL	NIL

**13. Public Access Of Completion Report**

*(Please specify the information, if any, that cannot be provided for public access and give the reasons.)*

<b>Information that Cannot Be Provided for Public Access</b>	<b>Reasons</b>
NIL	NIL