

Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Project

Project Number:	ECF 33/2017
Project Title:	PLEA2018: Smart and healthy within the 2-degree Limit
Principal Investigator:	Professor Edward NG Yan Yung, School of Architecture, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Total Approved Grant:	\$500,000 or 70% of the total actual expenditure, whichever would be the less
Duration:	1/9/2017 to 28/2/2019
Project Status:	Completed
Project Scope:	<p>PLEA stands for “Passive and Low Energy Architecture”, a commitment to the development, documentation and diffusion of the principles of bioclimatic design and the application of natural and innovative techniques for sustainable architecture and urban design.</p> <p>PLEA is a renowned, highly regarded international annual conference to discuss and promote the development of bioclimatic design and the application of natural and innovation techniques for sustainable architecture and design. PLEA pursues its objectives through international conferences and workshops; expert group meetings and consultancies; scientific and technical publications; and architectural competitions and exhibitions.</p> <p>Since 1982, PLEA has organised conferences and events across the globe. The annual conference of PLEA is highly regarded, attracting academics and practicing architects in equal numbers. Past conferences have taken place in United States, Europe, South America, Asia, Africa and Australia. It is the first time that the PLEA conference comes to Hong Kong. The juxtaposition of Hong Kong’s compact and high-density living and scenic countryside makes it an intriguing case of urban sustainability and climate resilience. The city’s latest Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Transcending 2030 further promotes the idea of smart, green and resilient cities, with a special focus on green buildings and blue-green infrastructure.</p> <p>With the theme “Smart and Healthy within the 2-degree Limit” and four tracks of “Science & Technology”, “People & Community”, “Design & Practice” and “Education & Training”, the conference strives to address the different facets of smart and healthy living. It is the aim of the conference to bring together designers, academics, researchers, students, and professionals in the building industry in the pursuit of a better and more sustainable urban and built environment.</p>
Summary of the Findings/Outcomes:	(a). The Conference has achieved its aims to advance and facilitate the exchange of expertise, knowledge and experience on urban sustainability within Hong Kong’s architecture and construction industry. Two special sessions of the Architectural Services Department and the Hong Kong Housing Authority were organized to promote Hong Kong’s sustainable and low-energy housing and architectural projects to international architecture and building community;

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">(b). The officiating remarks given by the Chief Executive of HKSAR and the Secretary for the Environment introduced the government policies on climate change, environment and sustainable architecture in Hong Kong to the participants. The presentations on building technology and sustainable design gave an insight into the implementation and facilitation of the concept of smart, green and resilient city as stated in “Hong Kong 2030+” document;(c). The Conference has provided an opportunity for young people, especially Master/PhD students (about 40% of the registered participants) to present their research / design work and build up their exposure and network in the industry. Student design competition was held which attracted 38 student teams from 15 countries to participate, with the shortlisted design works exhibited during the whole conference;(d). Hong Kong is the first Chinese city to host this highly ranked annual conference of PLEA. Local architects and architectural firms have been awarded PLEA annual awards as a recognition of their contributions to green building development in Hong Kong;(e). Two posters, one for the conference and the other for the student design competition, and a programme booklet were produced;(f). Conference news was announced on the online event platforms and websites to arouse interest and the participation of both international and local community. Conference announcement was also disseminated through local supporting organisations;(g). Press release was issued. The HKSAR Government also issued a press release for the speech given by the Chief Executive;(h). A three-volume set of conference proceedings is available for download from the conference website and the official PLEA website. Only electronic version of the conference proceedings (including all registered papers and papers from the special sessions) has been produced; and(i). The official event website will stay for five years from 2018. Keynote lectures are available on both event website and YouTube. Twitter account and Facebook page have been created. |
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