

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE
Digest of meeting held on 6 June 2005

Members Present

Chair : Ms Christine Fang

Members : Dr Andrew Thomson

Mr Michael Lai

Mrs Mei Ng

Mr Tai Hay-lap

Mr Plato Yip

Mrs Juliana Chen, Deputy Director of Information Services

Apologies Dr Alvin Kwok

Mr Chong Chan-yau

Ms Jacqueline Cheng

In attendance Mrs Susan Mak, Deputy Director of Administration (DD of Admin)

Ms Vivian Tsang, Senior Town Planner, SDU

Ms Caroline Pang, Town Planner, SDU

Mr C. P. Li, Senior Executive Officer, SDU

Secretary : Mr Jonathan McKinley, Assistant Director of Administration (Sustainable Development) 2

Item 1 – “Sustainable Development Fund – Potential Priority Areas for Consideration in the Third Round Applications” (Paper 04/05)

The Chair invited Members’ views on the potential priority areas for the third round of Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) applications. Members agreed that projects which focus on the following areas should receive particular consideration:

- Publicity that is consistent with the SDF objectives and that includes a strong element of community involvement;
- Making a measurable impact on SD in Hong Kong and creating a legacy for sustainable practices within the community;
- Capacity building and collaboration across various sectors, with particular reference to raising awareness of the three Pilot Areas of the first SD Strategy - solid waste management, renewable energy and urban living space - and participation in activities that would contribute to implementation and further development of the strategy.

Members also advised that projects with the above focus that specifically involve enhancing young people’s knowledge of and capacity to practice SD principles would be supported. Members agreed to hold a public forum on 23 June 2005 to launch the third round of applications to the SDF and to publicise the priority areas for applications.

Item 2: “Sustainability Reporting Initiative” (Paper No. 05/05)

The Chair informed Members that the Council supported a sustainability reporting initiative for Hong Kong as a tool to help raise public awareness of SD and to benchmark Hong Kong’s sustainability. Members discussed the way forward and agreed that -

- The Council should invite submissions to conduct a sustainability reporting project under the third round of SDF applications
- A set of specific requirements should be provided to potential applicants
- The aim should be to develop a set of SD indicators specifically for Hong Kong that were applicable to the local context
- Reference could be made to the CASET tool, the GRI and other SD assessment and reporting mechanisms
- A sustainability reporting project should be developed with community participation
- The project deliverable should be suitable for use by District Councils, local community groups and government departments.

Members also agreed to include the sustainability reporting initiative as a priority project in the third round of applications.

Item 3: “Progress Report on the ‘Play Your Part in Sustainable Development’ Design Competition” (Paper No. 06/05)

Members noted the progress of the competition since its official launch on 24 April. The

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Chair also informed Members that the Exhibition Hall on 1/F of the City Hall had been booked for the competition's prize presentation ceremony on 9 August.

Item 4 – “Sustainable Development Fund – Brief Report on Evaluation of Specific Projects” (Paper No. 07/05)

Members noted the brief evaluation of the activities organized by four SDF grant recipients and attended by Members of the project monitoring sub-groups and SDU staff. They would continue to attend events organized by grant recipients to monitor progress and evaluate outcomes.

The Chair proposed that a meeting be organized with the SDF grant recipients to discuss progress and to hear about any difficulties encountered in running their projects. Members also agreed that a set of evaluation criteria on the performance of the SDF projects should be developed.

Item 5 – Any Other Business

Liberal Studies Curriculum

Members noted that SD would likely be one of the core topics in the new liberal studies curriculum for secondary schools and agreed to invite a representative of the Education and Manpower Bureau to an EPSC meeting to brief Members on its current proposals and the way forward.

Allocations from SDF for Council Projects

The Secretary informed Members that the Council for SD had confirmed its earlier advice that up to \$2 million annually could be drawn from the SDF to fund the Council's own programmes and initiatives. Members were invited to advise as to whether \$175,000 from the SDF should be allocated to support a stakeholder forum to help the Council decide on Priority Areas for the next round of the SD Strategy and about \$14,000 for the public forum to launch the next round of SDF applications on 23 June.

Members agreed to endorse the use of the SDF to support the two Council initiatives subject to the preparation of a schedule of annual Council initiatives with detailed breakdowns of cost.

Item 6 – Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting would be scheduled for October.

Council Secretariat
October 2005