The Hong Kong Garden
Project Scope and brief

HKSAR was invited to take part in the 2011 Xi’an International Horticultural Exposition (the Expo) which opens from 28 April until 22 October 2011 in Xi’an. The scope of works for the Contractor in this project comprises the design and construction of the Hong Kong Garden and the maintenance during the 2011 Xi’an Expo period.

The main theme of the 2011 Xi’an Expo is “Eternal peace & harmony between nature & mankind, nurturing the future earth – a city for nature, co-existing in peace”

The design theme for the Hong Kong Garden is “Hong Kong Style and Flavour” (香港風味) highlighting:

(1) Hong Kong’s natural resources, including its ecological and geological landscape; and
(2) Hong Kong’s development in a human and sustainable living environment.

Main features of the Garden include:

(1) “Tree-ZE”
(2) Hexagonal volcanic rock column feature and hexagonal eco-glass pavers
(3) Water features
(4) Display installation to showcase Hong Kong Butterfly / Bauhinia / volcanic rock.
(5) Three-green-belt thematic planting scheme showing plant species native to Hong Kong, southern provinces of China and Xi’an.

The Expo provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Hong Kong’s latest achievement in landscaping, after our debut appearance at the Kunming edition of the Expo in 1999. According to the organizer, there are 105 domestic and foreign cities to take part including Macau SAR and Taiwan and the expected number of visitors is estimated to reach 12 million.

Upon completion of the Expo, the facilities in the Hong Kong Garden will be retained and handed over to the Expo organizer for future management.
Design Philosophy

With “Hong Kong Style and Flavour” as the theme, the design of the Hong Kong Garden is people-oriented, green and respectful to nature. Elements such as a variety of robust-growing plants, wind, mountain and water, take visitors back to our roots in nature and provide a joyful experience amongst.

The centre piece is a six-metre high "Tree-ZE" composed of 360 mini-windmills generating energy to circulate water from the pond base to the top of the pergola. The water then cascades down the climbers coiling around the pergola back into the pond – representing recycling in nature. The movement of the windmills and water aim also to trigger emotional reflections from the visitors.

Soft Landscape

In terms of plant selection, a three-green-belts concept was adopted. Firstly, indigenous Hong Kong species and plants commonly seen in Hong Kong are planted in the centre of the garden. These are surrounded by species from the southern regions of the Changjiang River, and in the outermost ring, native plants of Xi’an are displayed. The three green belts design not only create an eye-catching, spatial and layering effect, but also, through blending plants from different geographical origins, underscores Hong Kong’s amicable relationships with neighbouring regions and the host of the 2011 Expo, Xi’an.

Altogether, there are 7 tree species and 31 shrub and groundcover species. The most representative tree of Hong Kong Garden is the Hong Kong orchid tree (Bauhinia blakeana). There are also 14 species of flowering shrubs and groundcovers which are commonly seen in Hong Kong. These include Dwarf Red Ixora (Ixora stricta), Chinese Hibiscus (Hibiscus rosa-sinensis), Bougainvillea (Bougainvillea glabra), Rhododendron (Rhododendron), and fragrant shrubs such as Banana Shrub (Michelia figo), Sweet Osmanthus (Osmanthus fragrans) as well as ground covers such as Lantana (Lantana mista). Apart from the above, there are also 17 shrub species and 6 tree species from other provinces of China (from Southern China to Xi’an).
Since the Bauhinia blooms normally from early November to March of the following year, it was anticipated that Bauhinia trees would unlikely flower during the Expo period. Therefore, the landscape architect introduced the idea of making crystal exhibits from carefully collected Bauhinia flower specimens to display in the garden. In this way, visitors can admire Hong Kong’s floral emblem, always in full bloom. Surprisingly, the Bauhinia trees transplanted to Hong Kong Garden from the south adapted very well to the new environment. They even bloomed large, beautiful purple flowers in June – mid-summer in Xi’an.

Usually Hong Kong plants do not survive through Xi’an’s freezing winter. They have to be transported to site for planting until the weather gets warmer. To ensure the quality of plants during the exhibition period, spare plants have been kept at a local nursery for immediate replacement as necessary. While the above arrangement will ensure the quality of plants during the exhibition period, all Hong Kong plants will be replaced by local species after the exhibition opens to maintain a full, green effect in the long run.

(All text and images courtesy of Architectural Services Department, HKSARG)

Movie Review:
My Architect – A Son’s Journey

“*My Architect – A Son’s Journey*” is a documentary film about the American Architect Louis Kahn’s career and private life. It was nominated for the Oscar’s Academy Award for Documentary Feature in 2003.

The film was made by Nathaniel Kahn, the son of Louis Kahn with Landscape Architect Harriet Pattison, who attempts to understand his father’s way of design and thinking by visiting his father’s buildings including the Yale Center for British Art, the Salk Institute and Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad. The film also features interviews with famous architects including Frank Gehry and IM Pei, whom have worked with Louis Kahn.

More information about the film can be found in http://www.myarchitectfilm.com/
Taipei International Flora Exposition 2011 and Associated Exchange Activities

25 to 28 March 2011  Isabella Tsui

HKILA has co-organized a joint visit with the Hong Kong Institute of Planners (HKIP) to Taipei International Flora Exposition in March 2011 with a total of 20 participants.

Our visit on 25 March 2011 to the Taipei International Flora Exposition was guided by three Taiwan landscape designers and one architect. They introduced us about the site interpretations and design concepts while we toured around the Exposition site. Members also had walked along a trail on the green roof of the Pavilion of Future to have an overall view of the Exposition site.

The exchange activities on 26 March 2011 were a tremendous success. We were supported by various Taiwan parties including the followings:

- Department of Horticulture, National Taiwan University 国立台灣大學園藝學系
- College of Environmental Design and Department of Landscape Architecture, Chinese Culture University 中國文化大學環境設計學院及景觀學系
- Chinese Taiwan Landscape Architects Society (CTLAS) 台灣造園景觀學會
- Chinese Institute of Landscape Architects in Taiwan (CILAT) 中華民國景觀學會
- Taiwan Institute of Urban Planning (TIUP) 中華民國都市計劃學會
- Bureau of Urban Development, Taipei City Government 台北市政府都市發展局

For suggestions and contributions, please send to postmaster@hkila.com
After the presentations by our President Mr. Evans Lu, Ms. Monica Kuo, Dean of Chinese Culture University delivered a very comprehensive introduction on the development of Taiwan Landscape and related policy implementation. Mr. Yanxing Xu of TIUP also gave a presentation on "Urban Regeneration Station, Taipei".

Members were guided by professionals in Taiwan to visit various landscape and planning projects, including landscape improvement works in National Taiwan University, 3 pocket park projects and 2 urban revitalization projects.

The trip was a huge success full of great learning opportunities and delightful moments. It was encouraging to know that community greening initiatives and conservation are actively promoted in Taiwan. We look forward that Hong Kong would receive the same level of public and private support in greening and landscaping in near future.
As a continuous effort to share useful information and promote quality landscape and greening in Hong Kong, Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section of Development Bureau has recently updated several sections of the “Greening” website (http://www.greening.gov.hk) which you may find interesting and relevant to your work.

These updates include:

- Government’s greening works on “Landscape Rehabilitation”
- Information on the use of native species
- Greening newsletters
- Proper planting practices – revision and addition of “Staking and Guying”
- Introduction to brown root rot disease
- Skysrse greenery
- Tree management videos

Check out on the updating of the “Greening” website from time to time and suggestions are most welcome.

Facts

Stakes should be placed at around 1/3 or at a suitable height of the tree to allow some trunk movement.

Support should be used as few as possible. As staking/guying may restrict trunk movement, limits the development of the trunk and the root system, and therefore weakens the tree’s stability in the long run.

Some flexibility should be allowed because slight movement in wind encourages root growth and trunk taper development.

Tree grille is used to protect trees from root compaction only and would not provide structural support of tree. Tree grille may girdle the trunk if centre hole is too small.
A roving exhibition on “Rural and Urban Forests in Hong Kong” for the 2011 International Year of Forests

September 17th - December 9th, 2011

The United Nations declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests to raise public awareness of sustainable management, conservation and development of all types of forests.

To further spread the message of sustainable management, conservation and development of forests and trees, the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section of Development Bureau is holding a roving exhibition from September 17 to December 9 at Kowloon Park, Hong Kong Park, North District Park and Sha Tin Park.

Admission will be free for the roving exhibition. Event details are available at the Greening website of the Development Bureau (www.greening.gov.hk). For enquiries, please contact the GLTM Section by phone on 2848 2334, by fax at 2186-6932 or by e-mail at greening@devb.gov.hk.

For more information, see the website www.un.org/en/events/iyo2011/index.shtml.

International Arboriculture Summit - Hong Kong
IASHK 2011: Balancing Trees & Urban Spaces

the 4th annual conference
Balancing Trees & Urban Spaces
November 17th - 19th, 2011 in Hong Kong

Special keynote speakers:
Professor Edward Gilman and Dr. Gary Watson
Other speakers include Professor Francesco Ferrini, Professor Jason Grabosky, Dr. Alexios Stikes, Dr. Alvin Tang, Stuart Morton, Professor Zhu Ning, Lauren Lanphear, and Sharon Lilly.

The focus of this year’s conference will be on trees below ground - tree root development, soils, and the complexities of the urban environment. The purpose of this conference is to acquire a better understanding of how roots grow in the urban environment and how to best manage balancing trees and urban spaces. Attendees will receive practical information regarding how to best manage planting strategies in the urban environment, how to choose the right tree for the right place, and how to best manage and evaluate mature trees, and their root structures.

Dates:
November 17-19, 2011 (Thursday - Saturday)
Please note the registration deadline is November 1st

Venue:
For the 17th, the lectures will take place at BP International House on Austin Street, Kowloon. The lectures and practical field activities for the 18th and 19th will be held at Suen Douh Camp in Fanling, New Territories.

For more information, see the website: http://www.ias.hk/
1. Accreditation of Arboricultural Practitioner

Since the fatal tree falling incidents, various names like tree doctor, tree expert, tree work supervisor, certified arborist, qualified arborist, have been receiving great exposure in the construction industry job market and in the media. At the same time, construction professionals and the public are much confused by these names, their job nature, and most importantly, their competence, especially when there is currently no legal control and local accreditation framework on these names. Therefore, the last year’s Practice Committee have proposed an accreditation system for individuals practising arboricultural work in Hong Kong. The Practice Committee this year continues to materialize this accreditation system, which are scheduled to be in place around November 2011.

2. Briefing Session by the Buildings Department on Site Coverage of Greenery

Further to the Institute’s response document to the consultation “Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment” in 2009 and the subsequent issuance of the new practice PNAP APP-152, the Practice Committee continues to follow up on the topic. Regarding the new measures, our President sent a letter to the Buildings Department on 15 July 2011. It basically covers our enquiries as below:

1. To ensure the new measures do not result in a mere area calculation exercise but to allow quality landscape design
2. To ensure adequate provision of space and soil depth for future planting, and also commitment to their long term maintenance
3. Seek clarification as to the accountability to greenery of water features, vertical greening, and slope greening
4. Seek clarification on terminologies and wordings such as “pedestrian zone”, “greenery that has visual connection with a street”

The Buildings Department gave a briefing session on 6 September 2011. The event was held together with HKIS and HKIP.

---

1. Setting up of HKILA Discussion Facebook page

To encourage the involvement and discussion from various HKILA members, a Facebook page was set up early this year. The page is opened to all members for discussion.

2. Legco Member Hon. Regina Ip’s Article at Chinese Newspaper Ming Pao

Fatal tree falling incidents in recent years has drawn much public concern and discussion. The Government established the Tree Management Office (TMO) to deal with the issue. Several points in Hon. Regina Ip’s article were incorrect and were considered damaging to the reputation of our landscape architectural profession, such as:

- TMO lacked people who really understand trees and TMO was ‘led’ by landscape architects while there was only one landscape architect in TMO.
- Landscape architects prefer more concrete and little soil for tree planting while our profession is well-known to other construction professionals to strive for more soil and more trees.

Jointly with the Practice Committee, the Public Affairs Committee examined the article and drafted a reply for the Council’s further discussion. A reply letter was eventually signed by the President and sent to Ming Pao and Hon. Regina Ip’s office. A rough-translated English version was put onto our HKILA Discussion Facebook page. No formal reply from Hon. Regina Ip has been received so far. A letter from professor C.Y. Jim dated 20 September 2011 was received to clarify the case.

3. Tree Issue at Diocesan Girls’ School reported by Chinese Newspaper Apple Daily

Apple Daily reported what believed to be a malpractice on trees at Diocesan Girls’ School. The name “landscape architect” was somewhat mentioned in the article. In conjunction with the Practice Committee, the Public Affairs Committee took the initiative to arrange a meeting with the landscape architect to understand the case and subsequently reported to the Council on the same.
## Professional Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership no.</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Chinese Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M162</td>
<td>KO, Tean Yow</td>
<td>高天佑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M163</td>
<td>CHAN, Yuen King Paul</td>
<td>陳元敬</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M164</td>
<td>THOMAS, Michael Steven</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M165</td>
<td>CHUI, Chi Keung</td>
<td>徐志強</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M166</td>
<td>CHAN, Suet Yi</td>
<td>陳雪儀</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M167</td>
<td>SO, Hang Yan</td>
<td>蘇杏欣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M168</td>
<td>NGAI, Yuen Yi</td>
<td>魏姌儀</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M169</td>
<td>CHOW, Siu Hang</td>
<td>周兆珩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M170</td>
<td>CHIU, Chi Fai Francis</td>
<td>招志焯</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M171</td>
<td>SHIU, Yau Bun</td>
<td>蕭殿斌</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Associate Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership no.</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Chinese Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G258</td>
<td>NIP, Cynthia Sylwai</td>
<td>崔美華</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G259</td>
<td>SUM, Chak Wai</td>
<td>岑錦慧</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G260</td>
<td>Lam Chun Fung Peter</td>
<td>林雪樺</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G261</td>
<td>Pang Shun Chin</td>
<td>彭順千</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G262</td>
<td>Lau Wing Chi, Gigi</td>
<td>劉詠芝</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G263</td>
<td>Wang Sheng Ling</td>
<td>王勝靈</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G264</td>
<td>Zhao Titi</td>
<td>趙婉妮</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G265</td>
<td>JIANG, Ning</td>
<td>蔣寧</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G266</td>
<td>NG, Wai Chi</td>
<td>伍慧芝</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G267</td>
<td>LAM, Chi Hang</td>
<td>林知行</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G268</td>
<td>LAU, Ka Po</td>
<td>劉家寶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G269</td>
<td>NG, Siu Kan</td>
<td>吳少芹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G270</td>
<td>CHAN, Ming Chi</td>
<td>陳鏡芝</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G271</td>
<td>CHAN, Yin Lun</td>
<td>陳彥瑋</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G272</td>
<td>LAU, Ming Kei</td>
<td>劉銘琪</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G273</td>
<td>HOI, Lok Him</td>
<td>許樂謙</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G274</td>
<td>LEE, Hin Hang</td>
<td>李衍銘</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G275</td>
<td>CHAN, Yiu Pong</td>
<td>陳耀邦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G276</td>
<td>YUE, Chung Man</td>
<td>余志文</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Council Members for 2011/2012

- **President**: Mr. Evans Lu  
  email: president@hkila.com
- **Vice President**: Mr. Tak Y. Wong  
  email: vice-president1@hkila.com
- **Vice President**: Mr. Paul Chan  
  email: vice-president2@hkila.com
- **Honorary Secretary**: Ms. Yoyo Ng  
  email: secretary@hkila.com
- **Honorary Treasurer**: Ms. Hung Yee Man  
  email: treasurer@hkila.com
- **Education Committee**: Mr. S.C. Lo  
  email: education@hkila.com
- **Practice Committee**: Mr. Lai Sai Hong  
  email: practice@hkila.com
- **Public Affairs Committee**: Mr. Patrick Lau  
  email: affairs@hkila.com
- **Publication Committee**: Mr. Vincent Luk  
  email: publication@hkila.com
- **Registration Committee**: Mr. Simon Ng  
  email: registration@hkila.com
- **Functions and Events Committee**: Ms. Isabella Tsui  
  email: events@hkila.com
- **Council Member**: Mr. Leslie Chen  
  email: councilmember1@hkila.com
- **Council Member**: Mr. Patrick Lau  
  email: councilmember2@hkila.com
- **Council Member**: Mr. S.C. Lo  
  email: councilmember3@hkila.com
- **Council Member**: Ms. Jennifer Li  
  email: secretariat@hkila.com