

## **Steering Committee on Review of the Urban Renewal Strategy**

### **Partnering Organization Programme**

#### **Purpose**

This paper explains the design of the Partnering Organization Programme and invites members' comments on the proposed criteria for assessing the applications. We are also inviting interested members to join an assessment panel to review the applications and decide which applying organizations should be accepted as Partnering Organizations for the first phase of the Programme.

#### **Background**

2. The Partnering Organization Programme has been included as a public engagement initiative in the Inception Report of the public engagement consultant. The objective is to broaden the reach to the public and encourage their active participation in the Review of the Urban Renewal Strategy (URS).

3. The progress in working out the implementation details was reported at the Steering Committee meeting on 21 October 2008. Members were advised that the public engagement consultant will invite proposals from District Boards, schools, professional bodies and community organizations (non-profit making with proven track record).

#### **Programme Details**

4. The Programme is divided into two phases:

	<i>Invitation of proposals</i>	<i>Deadline for submission</i>
<b>Phase 1</b> (Projects commencing from February to June 2009)	Mid-December 2008	30 January 2009 (Friday)
<b>Phase 2</b> (Project commencing from July to November 2009)	April 2009 (tentative)	May 2009 (tentative)

5. Successful organizations will become Partnering Organizations of the URS Review and each organization may receive up to \$10,000 as a sponsorship for implementation of the proposed project.

6. These Partnering Organizations may use the premises at the Urban Renewal Strategy Idea Shop at Tai Yuen Street, Wan Chai as venue for organizing their proposed activities. We will endeavour to liaise with the Partnering Organizations to make available the premises for those who wish to hold their proposed activities there. The Idea Shop is scheduled to open in early-February 2009.

### **Proposed Activities**

7. The proposed activities may take the form of exhibitions, competitions, workshops and discussion forums. In order to be eligible for sponsorship, the proposed activities should be:

- non-profit making;
- involve at least 50 participants;
- principally related to the URS Review; and
- implemented in Hong Kong.

### **Publicity**

8. Invitation letters have been sent to District Councils, professional bodies, tertiary institutes, secondary schools by post. The Programme is also being promoted to secondary schools via the Hong Kong Education City

website. The consultant has also requested District Boards to help publicise the Programme to community organizations within their respective districts. Similarly, the Hong Kong Council of Social Service has been asked to help make available information about the Programme to non-government organizations. A press release was issued on 12 December 2008 to inform the media and, through them, the general public.

9. Programme details and application form are available on our URS Review website: [http://www.ursreview.gov.hk/eng/public\\_engagement\\_po.html](http://www.ursreview.gov.hk/eng/public_engagement_po.html). Future publicity will be arranged to generate and sustain interest of the media and stakeholders.

### **Assessment of Application for Sponsorship**

10. As we expect there will be more proposals requesting sponsorship than we can afford to entertain and there is a need to screen the applications to ensure that public resources are used properly, we will establish an assessment panel to assess the applications for Phase 1 of the Programme and decide which applications will be accepted as Partnering Organizations. Apart from representatives from the Development Bureau, Urban Renewal Authority and the public engagement consultant, we would also like to invite interested Steering Committee members to join the assessment panel. We think two volunteers from among the members will be optimal, but would defer to members' preference. As the deadline for application is end January 2009, meeting of the assessment panel is tentatively scheduled in mid-February 2009.

11. We propose to assess the project proposals according to the following criteria and weightings:

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Proposed Weightings</b>
Relevance of objectives	30%
Creativity and feasibility	30%
Scale of outreaching	20%
Cost effectiveness	10%
Applicants' experience in organizing similar events	10%

## **Advice Sought**

12. Members are invited to comment on the proposed assessment criteria and weightings in paragraph 11 and indicate their interest in joining the assessment panel.

**Secretariat, Steering Committee on Review of the Urban Renewal Strategy  
January 2009**