Sustainable Development Promotion Award
for Students of Higher Education Institutions

Rules of Competition

1. Background

1.1 Sustainable development ("SD"), according to the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development, is:

“development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” [“Our Common Future”, 1987]

1.2 In Hong Kong, SD is generally defined as a balance of “social, economic, environmental and resource needs, both for present and future generations, simultaneously achieving a vibrant economy, social progress and a high quality environment, locally, nationally and internationally, through the efforts of the community and the Government” [Final Report on the “Study on Sustainable Development for the 21st Century in Hong Kong”, 2000].

1.3 In 1999, the then Chief Executive articulated in his Policy Address the need for the community to work in partnership to achieve SD by:

(a) finding ways to increase prosperity and improve the quality of life while reducing overall pollution and waste;

(b) meeting our own needs and aspirations without doing damage to the prospects of future generations; and

(c) reducing the environmental burden we put on our neighbours and helping to preserve common resources.
1.4 In 2003, the Council for Sustainable Development (“SDC”) was established to promote sustainability in Hong Kong\(^1\). There have been a number of publicity and education activities held under the steer of SDC for various sectors of the community\(^2\). The Sustainable Development Promotion Award for Students of Higher Education Institutions (“SDPA”) is an initiative designed for students of higher education institutions\(^3\).

2. **Objectives**

2.1 The SDPA aims at:

(a) promoting the concept of SD to students of higher education institutions in Hong Kong, and raise their awareness of the importance of SD; and

(b) encouraging students of higher education institutions in Hong Kong to apply sustainable practices in their daily lives, and spread the messages to their peers, families and the community.

3. **Eligibility**

3.1 The SDPA is open to all existing full-time students enrolling in a local undergraduate programme of the higher education institutions in Hong Kong.

3.2 Eligible students may compete on an individual or team basis.

3.3 There is no limit on the number of members in each team.

3.4 A team may comprise students of different institutions. A student may join more than one team. For entries involving a student joining several teams, the concerned entrants should explain how the manpower will be deployed for effective implementation of the projects.

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4. **Components of the Award**

4.1 The whole competition comprises two phases and there are awards in each phase. All winners in the Proposal Phase (paragraphs 4.1.1 – 4.1.3 below) are expected to proceed to implement their projects in the Implementation Phase (paragraphs 4.1.4 – 4.1.9 below).

**Proposal Phase**

4.1.1 To compete for the Proposal Award, each entrant is required to submit a project proposal of no more than 4 pages in A4 size (excluding photos or other attachments) which should:

(a) set out what the proposal is;

(b) explain how the objectives as set out in paragraph 2.1 above could be met; and

(c) include an implementation schedule covering all activities to be carried out.

4.1.2 A proposal modelled on an on-going or previously completed project is also acceptable provided that the proposal is to be implemented as a fresh project under the Implementation Phase.

4.1.3 The best five proposals will each be given the Proposal Award which will comprise a cash prize of $3,000 and a certificate.

**Implementation Phase**

4.1.4 All Proposal Award winners are expected to participate in this phase. Upon the following conditions being met, each winner/team of winners will be awarded another cash prize of $7,000 and a certificate:

(a) implementation of the project meeting the targets, outcome and timeframe set out in the project proposal;

(b) arrangement of on-site inspections of the activities held
under the project at the request of SDC Secretariat;

(c) submission of an evaluation report to the satisfaction of the Adjudication Panel (see paragraph 5.1 below) upon completion of the project and no later than 16 November 2018; and

(d) fulfilling all relevant requirements set out in these Rules.

4.1.5 The entrant which performs the best among the winners of Implementation Award will be given the Outstanding Project Award with another cash prize of $10,000 and a certificate.

4.1.6 The composition of the team should remain the same during the Proposal and Implementation Phases. If there are unforeseen circumstances that necessitate changes in composition, the entrants should seek prior approval from SDC Secretariat.

4.1.7 Entrants should implement their projects in accordance with the project proposals submitted in the Proposal Phase. If there are unforeseen circumstances that necessitate changes to that set out in the project proposal, the entrants should seek prior approval from SDC Secretariat.

4.1.8 Entrants shall be responsible for all duties, obligations, liabilities, etc. for the implementation of their projects. No subsidies will be given and SDC or SDC Secretariat has no duties, obligations or liabilities in respect of the implementation of the projects.

4.1.9 In the event SDC or SDC Secretariat decides to hold a forum for the award winners to share their experience in the planning and implementation of their projects, entrants are expected to attend and participate in the forum.

5. Assessment and Announcement of Results

5.1 An Adjudication Panel (“AP”) will be formed by SDC to assess the entries. If necessary, entrants may be invited to provide supplementary information
and/or to present their proposals and/or evaluation reports to the AP. The decisions of the AP shall be final.

5.2 The criteria for assessing the entries for the Proposal Award are set out in Annex.

5.3 The Implementation Award will be given to those winners of the Proposal Award who meet the requirements under paragraph 4.1.4 above. The Outstanding Project Award will be given to the one to be determined by the AP having regard to the quality of the project proposal submitted in the Proposal Phase and the entrant’s performance in the Implementation Phase.

5.4 The decisions in respect of the Proposal Award and Implementation Award/Outstanding Project Award are expected to be announced by May and December 2018 respectively.

6. How to enter?

6.1 Entrants have to fill out an entry form which can be downloaded from http://www.enb.gov.hk/en/susdev/public/sdpa.htm. Completed entry forms should be e-mailed to sdinfo@enb.gov.hk or delivered to:

Secretariat to the Council for Sustainable Development
c/o Sustainable Development Division
Environment Bureau
46/F, Revenue Tower
5 Gloucester Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong

6.2 All entries must reach the SDC Secretariat before 5:00 pm, 29 March 2018. Entries received after the deadline will not be considered.

7. Enquiry

7.1 Details regarding the SDPA are available at http://www.enb.gov.hk/en/susdev/public/sdpa.htm. Enquiries can be addressed to:
8. **Interpretation of the Rules of Competition**

8.1 The SDC and SDC Secretariat reserve the right to interpret and revise these Rules without prior notices or any liabilities, including the right to make final decisions on any disputes arising from the arrangement relating to the SDPA.

*Secretariat to the Council for Sustainable Development*
*December 2017*
Annex

Assessment Criteria for the Proposal Award

I. Objectives and Significance (30%)

a. How well the project would promote understanding of sustainable development (“SD”) and/or sustainable practices/life-style; and

b. whether the project would promote sustainable consumption of biological resources.

II. Innovation (30%)

- How well the project would provide a fresh approach, methodology or idea for the promotion of SD.

III. Project Quality (25%)

a. Whether the proposal has clear targets and outcome;

b. how feasible the proposal is; and

c. whether the proposal has a realistic implementation schedule.

IV. Sustainability of the Project (15%)

- Whether the project has potential to continue after the competition ends.