



Friends of the Earth (HK) submission for the development and future planning of the harbourfront, and the uses and management of harbourfront sites

Harbourfront areas are important for their economic, tourism, cultural, and environmental contributions. They serve as transportation hubs, attract tourists, hold historical value, drive urban development, and contribute to environmental conservation. Friends of the Earth (HK) believe that a collaborative and inclusive approach is essential to ensure the sustainable development and effective management of the harbourfront for the benefit of all stakeholders.

Friends of the Earth (HK) provides the below suggestions to enhance the development and future planning of the harbourfront:

1. Green Corridor

Establish a continuous green corridor along the harbourfront, incorporating native vegetation, urban forests, and green spaces. This will not only enhance the aesthetic value but also provide valuable habitats for local flora and fauna.

2. Sustainable Design

Incorporate ecological principles into the design and development of harbourfront projects. This includes the use of sustainable materials, rainwater harvesting systems, and green roofs to promote biodiversity and reduce the ecological footprint.

3. Pedestrian-Friendly Design

Create well-designed pedestrian promenades with adequate seating areas, shade, and amenities to encourage walking and cycling along the harbourfront. The different sections of the waterfront must be connected to enhance connectivity and promote accessibility for all.

4. Climate Change Adaptation

Incorporate climate change adaptation strategies into harbourfront planning, including measures to account for and mitigate the impacts of rising sea levels, storm surges, and extreme weather events. This includes creating green buffer zones, building flood-resilient infrastructure, implementing absorbent urban landscape designs and integrating nature-based solutions.



5. Renewable Energy

Integrate renewable energy generation into harbourfront developments. This may include solar panels, wind turbines, and other innovative technologies to promote clean energy production.

6. Zero Waste

Promote a zero waste environment at the harbourfront by discouraging the provision and use of disposable plastic bottles, food containers, and such. Water fountains and water filling stations should be installed to provide waterfront users means to rehydrate.

7. Community Spaces and Facilities

Establish waterfront parks and recreational facilities that cater to diverse interests and age groups. These may include playgrounds, sports facilities, picnic areas, and waterfront plazas, providing opportunities for relaxation, exercise, and community gatherings.

The development and future planning of the harbourfront should prioritise conservation, public access, and sustainability. By adopting a holistic and environmentally conscious approach, we can ensure that the harbourfront remains a vibrant and cherished asset for current and future generations.