

OUTLOOK



Planning of the WKCD has taken a giant step forward during the year under review. At the beginning of the year, abstract views and aspirations collected during the Stage 1 Public Engagement Exercise (“PE1”) were turned into Conceptual Plan Options by three world renowned planning teams and unveiled for public comments.

A preferred Conceptual Plan was chosen towards the end of the financial year and the WKCD is now refining the preferred Conceptual Plan into the Development Plan (“DP”), taking consideration of public and stakeholders’ views with due regard to technical and financial constraints. Planning will enter the statutory town planning process when the WKCD submits the DP around the end of 2011 after unveiling the related information in PE3 this autumn. Construction will begin once the process is completed.



While hardware development is progressing on schedule, the WKCDA has not lost sight of the need to embark on programmes for capacity and audience building as well as talent nurturing. These efforts cannot be successful without involving the education sector, arts and culture and community groups.

Some initial steps have been taken in this direction and in the year to come, the WKCDA will commit more effort and resources to present more performing arts and visual arts programmes by collaborating with interested groups. Furthermore, the WKCDA is examining the feasibility of turning a site inside the District into a temporary venue for performances and exhibitions.

There has been increasing resonance from the arts and culture community as well as the community at large in recent years to ask the WKCDA “to walk the walk, not talk the talk”. The WKCDA has answered the call with firm action and the team is poised to take it further.