

Another Landmark Year for Social Entrepreneurship Development in HK HKSEF Chairman's Report, 2012-13

By Patrick Cheung

Our mission: To create and sustain a civic movement of social entrepreneurship

The year 2012/13 marked the wider and more in-depth development of social entrepreneurship movement in different social segments of Hong Kong.

1. Flourishing social entrepreneurship education programs

Taking advantage of the new additional year of study for students at universities, most of the universities have launched some kind of social entrepreneurship learning programs for their students. The diversity of departments offering SE courses demonstrated the breadth of social entrepreneurship. Besides department of social science, department of education and department of business administration, there were also cross-disciplinary partnerships between different faculties to develop SE courses. City University has even set up a cross-departmental project, **Project Flame**, to spearhead the development of courses and programs for their students.

For the first time, the **Home Affairs Department** of HKSAR Government initiated and sponsored teaching courses in social entrepreneurship. Two courses, aiming at management level and practical level respectively, were well received and attended. **HKU Space** continued to offer their "Management of Social Enterprises" program. **Education for Good (EFG)**, the first SE dedicated to SE education, also held two classes in "Certified Entrepreneurial Manager for Social Enterprise".

The Inter-University Faculty Training Workshops in 2012 helped to shape the current landscape of SE education programs. The workshops were organized by EFG in conjunction with Social Enterprise Summit. 75 scholars and practitioners attended two separate workshops delivered by the Founder and Executive Director of **Ashoka U** from the U.S..

2. Increasing interest and coverage by media on social entrepreneurship and social innovation

Unlike past stories about "heroes" trying to do good, this year's media reports focused more on the concepts behind social entrepreneurship and their impact on the society as a whole. Public TV programs, radio stations and printed media were all competing with each other in featuring innovative SEs. Compared with the previous year, there were more success stories and much less reporting related to the poor performance of SEs sponsored by the government.

More media are looking for long term partnership with the SE community. A good example is **Hong Kong Economic Times**, which built **SE Gallery**, an electronic platform featuring products and services from local SEs. **Commercial Radio** is currently discussing with Dialogue in the Dark to launch new programs based on the concept of DiD.

Most exciting of all was the birth of the first social enterprise within the media sector. **Solution on Wheels** found by Vincent Wong will introduce solution journalism to Hong Kong. Hopefully the positive reporting style will bring enough energy to every Hong Kong citizen for them to start taking positive actions to change our city.

3. Social enterprises funded privately is the fastest growing segment in the SE community. SEs from NGO sectors show increasing innovative power.

According to a survey by SEBC (Social Enterprise Business Centre), the number of SEs has increased by 36% from 2008 to 2011. The fastest growing segment was from those which are not registered as NGOs.

Diamond Cab won international recognition in the UK this year. **Dialogue in the Dark**, **D.light Design**, **Education for Good**, **Inter-Cultural Education**, **Green Monday**, **Table for Two**, **Nature School**, etc. all brought about value shift in their respective fields.

HKSCA (平安鐘), **Green Ladies**, **330 身心靈**, **I-Bakery**, **MentalCare Connect** and **Biciline** are all successful NGO-based SEs which have demonstrated good business skills, careful market positioning, professional branding and innovative business models.

4. Collaborative working space for SEs is enhancing cross fertilization between different SEs and supporting platforms

The launch of **The Good Lab** in September 2012 marked a new era for the SE community. This new 20,000 sq. ft. facility houses 5 social entrepreneurship and social innovation platforms: **HKSEF**, **MaD**, **SE Summit**, **SVHK** and **DiD HK**. One hundred members representing more than 25 SEs are currently operating at this facility. Proximity among members allows close communication, which further leads to more partnerships. The Good Lab also enables cross fertilization of ideas to trigger off innovation.

Since The Good Lab houses so many SEs and SE supporting platforms, it naturally becomes the MUST visit site for international guests. One of the objectives of The Good Lab team is to build a network of collaborative working hubs within Greater China to allow the sharing of best practices in the region. Currently The Good Lab is building an alliance with **Institute of Civic Studies in Guangzhou** and **Xindanwei in Shanghai** to allow mutual recognition of membership benefits. With this alliance, The Good Lab could further develop itself into a regional hub for SEs in Asia.

5. Christian churches engaged in ethical consumption movement and Business as Mission movement

CH Kee as one of the HKSEF's Directors as well as the founder and Chairman of **Fullness Social Enterprise Society** has been the key driver in influencing the local Christian community to embrace the social entrepreneurship concept. The successful "**Business as Mission**" movement held two public talks on SE, one in October 2012 attended by almost 100 people and the other in November 2012 attended by almost 200 people. 75% of the participants gave very positive feedback.

The ethical consumption movement, the first of its kind in Hong Kong, helped local SEs sold more than HKD1.3 million worth of goods and services in 7,700 transactions. This “Business as Mission” campaign has effectively mobilized more Christians to support SEs in Hong Kong.

6. HKSAR Government endorsing the importance of social innovation and social entrepreneurship

Chief Executive CY Leung has announced the setting up of the HKD500 million Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund to help the further development of SE sector in Hong Kong. Chief Secretary Carrie Lam and Chairman of the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task Force Professor Stephen Cheung took the trouble of visiting UK talking to leading organizations such as UnLtd, Nesta and Big Society Foundation. They both believe social entrepreneurship could deliver innovative approaches to address social issues as well as bring the necessary social innovation to rejuvenate our city. The Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task Force was established under Chief Secretary to oversee the effective use of the HKD500 million fund. This structure allows SEs to develop beyond the social welfare mode and involves all other government departments.

Three of our Directors, CH Kee, Timothy Ma and Patrick Cheung, have been appointed members of the Task Force. We believe the Task Force has already bought in the concept of using the Fund to build a better ecosystem to support the growth of the SE community rather than granting money to individual SE projects. If this is really the case, we should be able to see a quantum leap in the progress of SE in Hong Kong.

7. Hong Kong as a regional hub for SE conferences and events

The **Social Enterprise Summit** held its fifth annual meeting last November with over 1,200 participants from the region. The Summit for the first time organized forums specifically designed for NGOs, academics, business people, philanthropists and religious faiths. The dedicated forum for each area allowed in-depth discussion in relation to that particular sector. We saw SE Summit attracting more and more overseas visitors every year and has good potential to develop into a regional event for social innovation.

MaD (Make a Difference) Conference last January attracted 1,600 young people from 170 cities in Asia. It has certainly established itself as the most WANTED conference for young changemakers in the region. The three-day program featured world-class inspiring speakers on various subjects. After running the conference for just 4 years, it has already built up its troupe of loyal followers.

MaD also took the lead to introduce world class SE and social innovation training to Hong Kong. Last June, **SIX (Social Innovation Exchange Forum)** for Asian region was held in Hong Kong. The international conference attracted participants from different hub sites in Asia. For 2013, MaD is planning to bring in the **Kaospilot** SE training course to Hong Kong. **Rockefeller Foundation** has also chosen Hong Kong as the regional site to host the first impact investing forum in Asia. The more vibrant nature of the civic SE community in Hong Kong was the main consideration in Rockefeller Foundation’s choice. Hopefully, the Government would give more support to the above events to make Hong Kong the regional hub for social innovation and entrepreneurship in Asia.

8. An ecosystem has started to emerge to allow young dreamers to use award monies to pursue their SE dreams

Last year we saw SE competitions proliferating. Starting with **Award for Small Action and Big Difference** targeting at secondary school changemakers, it was followed by **SE Challenge Award** for university students having good ideas, then **Young Social Entrepreneurship Award** handing out one-year living expenses for winners to realize their SE dreams, and finally **MaD Award** and **Social Innovation Award** for good SEs within Asian regions.

We heard that a few family foundations and SE platforms are planning to fund more awards in the coming year. So money is there, all we need is more good social entrepreneurs.

Looking ahead

For Hong Kong Social Entrepreneurship Forum, we are optimistic about the future of SE movement. We feel the power of applying social entrepreneurship in making our world better is understood and supported by more and more people every day. More people understand now social innovation comes from trials spearheaded by the civic community. Successful social enterprises emerge from repeated failures. The government's role is to build and maintain the ecosystem, and not just pumping in money and upsetting the market mechanism. Even solutions to address social issues need to be tested by the invisible hands of market forces. HKSEF is committed to taking the lead in this movement, working with all stakeholders in the SE community as well as cross-sectoral partners, giving out our best effort to unite all changemakers and social entrepreneurs alike to elevate our civic movement to another level.

May I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your huge support to HKSEF in the past year. To our Board of Directors, I must express my sincere thanks to you, not only for your contribution within HKSEF, but also for your effort contributed through your own organizations.

How you could give us more support

Since its inception, HKSEF has been financially self-sustaining through income generation from membership fees, training and consulting services, and special projects.

With increasing demand on our effort to spreading and deepening the social entrepreneurship movement, we need more resources to sustain our operation.

This year, for the first time in our history, we will be organizing a fund-raising activity on May 18, 2013. It will be a very special event featuring a Silence la Cabaret dinner with details on the next page.

Do come to join us for a unique experience and provide support for our work.

社會創業論壇呈獻



社會創業論壇

Hong Kong Social Entrepreneurship Forum

「黑玫瑰之鬥智雙蘭」 無聲籌款晚宴

社會創業論壇於 2008 年 3 月成立，是本港推動及支持社會創業精神的主要機構。我們的使命，是努力不懈推動發揮社會創業精神的公民運動。是次晚宴所籌得善款，將全數撥捐社會創業論壇，作支持及推動本地社會企業的發展，包括社企探訪、研討會及師友計劃等。

節目內容簡介

是次活動將結合無聲晚宴與戲劇的餐飲體驗，透過這個創新的活動，為你帶來獨一無二的啟發，親身與聽障朋友互動交流，讓你一邊在輕鬆愉快的氣氛下進餐，一邊欣賞表演。

活動詳情

日期：2013 年 5 月 18 日(星期六)
時間：7:00pm – 10:00pm (6:45pm 接待)
地點：西九龍通州街 500 號星匯居 1 樓好單位
服飾：60 年代休閒服或黑色服飾
晚宴費用：\$3000/每位

報名方法

請填妥附上之報名表格，並於表格內列明付款方法。如選擇以郵寄方式，請把表格連同報名費支票(抬頭：社會創業論壇有限公司)或入數紙(匯豐銀行: 813-281029-001)郵寄至西九龍通州街 500 號星匯居 1 樓好單位社會創業論壇秘書處。

查詢

3568-3546(秘書處張小姐)

協辦機構：



THE
GOOD
LAB
好單位

社會創業論壇呈獻

「黑玫瑰之鬥智雙蘭」 無聲籌款晚宴



社會創業論壇
Hong Kong Social Entrepreneurship Forum

表演內容簡介：藝宴坊

藝宴坊(Silence Le Cabaret)是一個結合無聲晚宴與戲劇的餐飲體驗。參加者可親身與聽障朋友互動交流，並一邊在輕鬆愉快的氣氛下進餐，一邊欣賞表演。藝宴坊是由一群聽障人士擔綱負責一切製作及演出的表演項目，包括撰寫劇本、設計所有服飾、道具及情節等。這表演展示了商業及社會創新兩種元素完美結合的力量。我們選擇以此表演項目籌款，乃希望參加者在欣賞此表演之同時，亦可深刻地感受社會創業及社會創新的理念及威力。

故事簡介：黑玫瑰之鬥智雙蘭

故事是講述一個好色的老闆在其夜總會之遭遇。

這名老闆很喜歡歌舞坊內的當家歌女。為了要打動這名歌女的芳心，更特意送了一條價值連城的鑽石項鍊給她。為此，歌女對這色迷迷的老闆投懷送抱。就在此時，歌舞廳內突然燈光一暗，歌女身上的鑽石項鍊瞬間不翼而飛！正當各人慌張尋找之際，黑玫瑰突然出現於大家面前。究竟黑玫瑰出現的目的是什麼？真正的盜賊又是誰？



www.hksef.org

www.silence-le-cabaret.com