

Seminar: **The Universal Accessibility Approach towards Inclusive Society for All**

Speaker: **Joseph Kwan**
Global Chair
RI - ICTA (Rehabilitation International - International Commission on Technology and Accessibility)
Work Programme Director
UIA (International Union of Architects) Region IV
"Architecture for All"

Date & Time: November 21st, 2009 (Saturday) 15:00 – 16:30

Languages: Cantonese & English

Registration: Free

Venue: Hall D1 Albergue SCM

Agenda:

14:45 Registration
15:00 The Universal Accessibility Approach towards Inclusive Society for All
15:45 Break
15:55 Epilogue of the presentation
16:10 Discussion
16:30 End

Organizer: Albergue SCM
Co-organizer: AAM – The Architects Association Macau
CAC – Círculo dos Amigos da Cultura de Macau

Supported by: Associação Recreativa dos Deficientes de Macau

Associação Pessoal Enfermagem Macau

Sponsor: Macau Foundation

Management: Sociedade de Artes Bambú, Lda.

Abstract:

Title: **The Universal Accessibility Approach towards Inclusive Society for All**

In times of economic uncertainty, it is easy for everyone to focus on seemingly more important matters of concern than the needs of a seemingly small minority group, the elderly and people with disabilities (PwD's).

Architects and Designers, City Planners, Building and Public Transportation Providers must address the issues relating to the elimination of physical barriers and move forward towards a design and access strategy with a ***Universal Accessibility Approach***.

The design of our buildings must be fully accessible to all its users including those with vision and hearing impairments. Our current and future housing stock must be user-friendly, adaptable, and barrier-free to all its visitors and occupants, including children, mothers, elderly, people with disabilities, and a whole host of building/maintenance related personnel who may also have some kind of disabilities.

This presentation will focus on achieving a universally inclusive and accessible community for individuals of all abilities. To achieve true equal access, all our buildings, transportation, and outdoor spaces must be universally accessible, connected with accessible routes and be fully barrier-free to all.

Joseph Kwan's Profile:

Mr. JOSEPH KWAN was a UIA Council Member for Region IV, and has been the Director of the UIA Work Programme "**Architecture for All**" since the XX UIA World Congress held in Beijing in 1999. As the WP Director, he has been instrumental in organizing educational Seminars and Workshops in association with ARCASIA (Architects Regional Council of Asia) within Region IV on topics relating to Universal Accessibility for All, including the elderly and people with disabilities. These Seminars and Workshops were held in Singapore, in association with the Singapore Institute of Architects (2001); in Dhaka, in association with the Institute of Architects of Bangladesh (2003); in Macau, in association with the Association of Architects of Macau (2004); and in Latvia, in association with the Baltic Architecture Center and the Baltic Academy of Arts (2009).

Joseph Kwan received his architectural training at the Queensland Institute of Technology (1976) and later studied a M.Sc. in Environmental Psychology at the University of Surrey (1979). He has practiced architecture in Australia, in England and in France. He was the Director/Consultant of EAS in Hong Kong from 1987 to 2005. Recently, he founded the practice **UDA Consultants Ltd.**, a specialist consultancy on **Universal Design and Accessibility**.

With respect to international architectural experiences, Mr. Kwan has been actively involved with ARCASIA over the past years, having attended Council Meetings, ACA's and Forums since the 1992 ACA in Lahore, Pakistan. He is also a Member of the ARCASIA Fellowship.

Mr. Kwan's participations in the HKIA Affairs are both wide and varied, having served on numerous Committees and Boards, as Board Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Vice President of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects.

Locally, he has been a Speaker and as an External Reviewer for the Universities' Schools of Architecture and School of Design in Hong Kong. He was an Assistant Professor of the Department of Architecture at the University of Hong Kong.



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Due to the limited registration, please contact the following for reservation at your earliest convenience:

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Organizer:
Albergue SCM

Co-organizers:
CAC - Circulos
dos Amigos da
Cultura de Macau

AAM - The Architects
Association of Macau

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