

EngageHK

A HONG KONG COMMUNITY MAPPING INITIATIVE

An aerial, high-angle photograph of Hong Kong, showing the dense urban landscape of the island. The city is built on a steep, hilly terrain, with numerous high-rise buildings and residential blocks. The Victoria Harbour is visible in the center, with several boats and ships. The surrounding mountains are covered in green vegetation. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

Regional Dialogue: Experiences in Social Impact Assessment

28 November 2012

Our Vision

“To foster the creation of a collaborative ecosystem
optimizing the flow of ideas and capital
for a sustainable Hong Kong”

We will achieve this goal through a community
mapping initiative involving a diverse group of
key Hong Kong stakeholders.

Co-Convenors: Ming Wong & Philo Alto

Advisor: Jed Emerson

Sponsor: RS Group

Methodology & Progress to Date

Literature review

- 24 local reports and 20 international reports
- Consultation with researchers in the field



In-depth interviews

- 90+ sector leaders representing 70+ organizations
- Quotes on opinions and comments



Thematic analysis

- Formulation of propositions



Three advisory council meetings

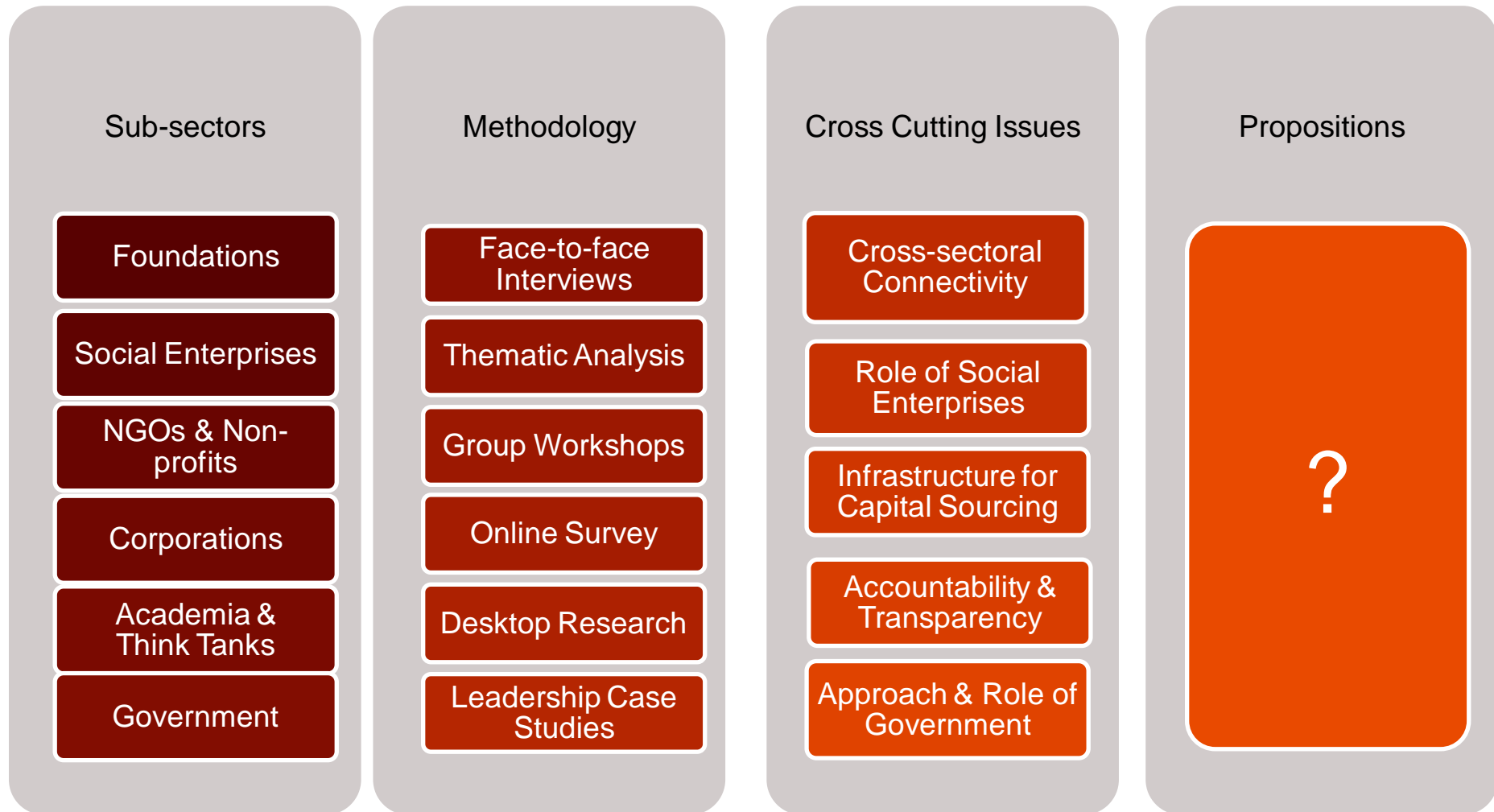
- 50+ thought leaders
- AC1: validation of cross-cutting issues
- AC2: policy suggestions and organizational strategy
- AC3: validation of propositions and recommendations



Online Surveys

- 85 respondents so far, aiming for at least 100 respondents
- Survey reveals the key findings most resonate with respondents from all sectors

Hong Kong Blended Value Map



Selected Quotes related to Impact Assessment

- “Donors don't ask the right questions and don't hold people accountable.” (*Foundation1*)
- “Universities and researchers can help develop benchmarks which are useful for donors.” (*Foundation2*)
- “There should be an objective way to measure how much good [organizations] are actually producing.” (*Corporation1*)
- “We use stories from our beneficiaries & employees to showcase the impact of our CSR programs.” (*Corporation2*)

Selected Comments from 3rd Workshop

- Social impact assessment (SIA) is an important tool of communication between funders and beneficiaries. Funders can justify their use of funds and beneficiaries can prove their real impact. SIA should evaluate both quantitative and qualitative data.
- Building a standardized impact metrics takes time and requires knowledge sharing and risk taking.
- A number of global projects on SIA have gained prominence in recent years – could they be modified for local use?

Selected Comments from 3rd Workshop

- Universal measurement might not be appropriate for Hong Kong at this stage because of rapid changes in the social space, resistance to change in policy framework and infrastructure, and lack of openness and disclosure of information.
- Due to different interpretations of measurement results, there are always trade-offs. Small-scale, decentralized impact assessment initiatives at sector and organization levels are good starting points for flexibility and experimenting.
- Knowledge sharing among players of the ecosystem has to be encouraged.