

Community Advisory Unit - Progress Report

1. The Community Advisory Unit (CAU) was established in the Geotechnical Engineering Office of the Civil Engineering Department in April 1999 to enhance public awareness of slope safety and to provide community outreaching services to private slope owners on how to proceed with the slope maintenance and upgrading works.

2. The CAU carries out the following activities to disseminate the advisory and information services:

2.1 Organize slope safety and maintenance seminars and talks for private slope owners and bodies involving in slope maintenance;

2.2 Provide a meet-the-public service to answer queries and provide information on slope safety matters;

2.3 Meet private owners or their representatives who have received Dangerous Hillside Orders to advise them on how to proceed with the necessary slope upgrading works; and

2.4 Meet Owners' Corporations and Mutual Aid Committees to advise them on how to proceed with the necessary slope maintenance works.

Target customers of the CAU are private slope owners, Owners' Corporations and Mutual Aid Committees, including their representatives and maintenance staff, etc. The CAU undertakes a "proactive approach" to liaise and provide direct assistance to private slope owners on how to proceed with the necessary slope maintenance works. These services can encourage community participation on slope safety matters and assist owners to better understand the importance of slope maintenance.

3. Since its establishment, the CAU has served more than 1500 private slope owners and members of the public who have interests in slope safety/maintenance works. The numbers of cases handled by the Unit and persons participated in our functions are tabulated as follows (from April 1999 to October 2000):

Services	Cases/Nos.	Nos. of Participant
Slope Safety/Maintenance Seminars and Meet-the-Public Sessions	32	1227
Dangerous Hillside Orders	66	243
Slope Maintenance Advisory Services	55	119
	Total=153	Total=1589