INVESTIGATING AIR QUALITY IN SUB-DIVIDED UNITS

photo source: https://goo.gl/AuMz0J
“I WAS SHOCKED THAT THE LIVING CONDITIONS WERE SO BAD AND I FELT DIZZY TOWARDS THE END OF THE VISIT”

Our volunteer
WHAT’S THE PROBLEM

AIR QUALITY IN SUBDIVIDED UNITS ARE WORSE THAN ROADSIDE
Subdivided flats in the city have excess pollutants, exceeding the WHO standard exponentially.

"Many of the subdivided flats are located in areas with busy traffic," said Loong Tsz-wai, community relations manager of CAN. "Some of the flats also do not have any windows, making it very hard for the PM2.5 pollutants to disperse."

He also said the "Street Canyon Effect" contributed to poor air quality, created when closely built high-rises, with heavy traffic in between, block ventilation and trap air pollutants.

After investigation, we found that residents’s health suffer poorly due to severe air quality in subdivided units.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES TO:

1. Support CAN’s educational programs, outreaching corporations and various communities.

2. Remaining proceeds (after campaign costs) support CAN’s air-proving initiatives.

VISIT TO SUBDIVIDED UNITS IS CAN’S NEWLY LAUNCHED PROGRAM SINCE 2016

SINCE 2016, 2 VISITS ARE HELD, MORE VISITS ARE PLANNED TO EXTEND REACH TO SCHOOLS AND CORPORATIONS IN THE FUTURE.
HOW CAN YOU HELP?

2015 is the 1st year subdivided home visit has been held, serving over 60 citizens. Volunteers will help monitor air quality in the flat, investigating pollution blackspots and educate resident ways to improve air quality at home.

60 Volunteers

20 Subdivided flat residents helped

2 Total home visits

Partners

Credit Suisse
Our volunteers also hit the road, identifying air pollution blackspot in the residents’ neighbourhood. So as to advice residents try avoiding such areas to protect their health.
Air quality in our visited units are so serious that it exceeds the WHO standard exponentially. Compare between both visits, we found that air quality in winter time is worse than in summer.
PAST PROGRAM SUCCESS STORIES

VISIT TO SUB-DIVIDED UNITS 2016:

1. **HIGH PARTICIPATION RATE:** Around 30 volunteers per tour

2. Successfully identifying over **20 AIR POLLUTION BLACKSPOTS** in the community.

3. Through first-hand data-collection, volunteers have **PROFOUND LEARNING EXPERIENCE ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POVERTY AND AIR POLLUTION.**

Wing, one of our visited residents has been living in sub-divided units for 6 years. Her home is very close to roadside. Since her has moved in, she and her son have suffered allergy and breathing problems. Frequent hospital visit is required to ease her medical condition. Her health has deteriorated so bad, she needs to quit her job eventually. Consequently air pollution has also damages her economical stability.
GRASSROOTS COMMUNITY TENDS TO SUFFER THE HARDEST, FACING AIR POLLUTION. ACT NOW TO SOLVE THIS SOCIAL INEQUALITY BY REDUCING ROADSIDE POLLUTION.

photo source: https://goo.gl/olrjjp
兩成屋邨居民超標逾一倍

本地 空氣污染嚴重 隨兩成居民超標逾一倍

根據環境局的最新報告，香港空氣污染問題亦十分嚴重。數據顯示，近兩成屋邨居民的PM2.5及PM10細小懸浮微粒濃度超標，達到國家及世界衞生組織的安全標準。

數據顯示，香港的空氣質素報告指出，各區PM2.5的平均濃度為36微克/立方米，其中部分區域的PM2.5濃度甚至超過50微克/立方米。此外，PM10的平均濃度為63微克/立方米，亦有部分區域的濃度超過80微克/立方米。這些建議表明，香港的空氣質素仍需改善。

專家建議，市民應儘量減少在室外長時間逗留，特別是在空氣污染嚴重的地區，如工業區和交通幹道附近。同時，居民應注意家中開窗通風，減少室內空氣污染的累積。此外，政府亦應積極推行減少空氣污染的措施，如改善交通工具的排放標準，減少工業排放等。

來源：環保署及衛生防護中心
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