Enhance Public Sustainability Awareness by Feng Shui

Patrick Lui – Cundall Hong Kong Limited
Dr Michael Mak – University of Newcastle, Australia
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1. Feng Shui – The Traditional Chinese Wisdom
Beginning of Feng Shui

Feng Shui evolved from Chinese philosophy and it earliest found in Yi Jing (易經)

Yin-Yang (陰陽) theory, Qi (氣) theory had distinct significance
Development of Feng Shui

In ancient time

In 1949

late 1970s
Objective of Feng Shui

[To enrich Health, Wealth, Luck]

Good Feng shui general condition is to have good Soil Condition sufficient water sources, nice Site orientation and good Site planning of settlement space
Feng Shui Fundamental concepts

(1) Unity between Heaven and Human
(2) Five Elements Cycle
(3) Yin and Yang Harmony
(4) Form School Model
(5) Balance between Interior and Exterior Spaces
2. Sustainable Design
Comparison of Feng Shui and Sustainable Design concept
(Source: Mak and So, 2015, p.152)

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<tr>
<th>Sustainable Design Concepts</th>
<th>Feng Shui Concepts</th>
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<td><strong>Balance and Harmony</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Constructivism</td>
<td>(1) Unity between heaven and human</td>
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<td>(4) Balance between natural and the built environment</td>
<td>(3) Yin and Yang harmony</td>
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<td><strong>Cycles Pattern</strong></td>
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<td>(2) Circular design</td>
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<td><strong>Sources and Consumption of Natural Resources</strong></td>
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<td>(3) Energy efficiency</td>
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<td>(5) Thinking global and buying local</td>
<td>(5) Balance between interior and exterior space</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3. Scientific Approach to Feng Shui
Ancient Time Feng Shui thinking

Make Observations
What do I see in nature? This can be from one's own experiences, thoughts, or reading.

Think of Interesting Questions
Why does that pattern occur?

Formulate Hypotheses
What are the general causes of the phenomenon I am wondering about?

Refine, Alter, Expand, or Reject Hypotheses

Develop Testable Predictions
If my hypothesis is correct, then I expect a, b, c,...

Gather Data to Test Predictions
Relevant data can come from the literature, new observations, or formal experiments. Thorough testing requires replication to verify results.

Develop General Theories
General theories must be consistent with most or all available data and with other current theories.
Logic of Scientific thinking

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Western Acceptance of Feng Shui knowledge

[Without any approach in terms of scientific methods, the study of Feng Shui would easily fall prey to superstition]
4. Comparison of Sustainable Design and Feng Shui
Comparison of the Principles of Sustainable Design with Feng Shui

(Source: Dong and Zuehl, 2009)
Practice of Feng Shui knowledge

- 龍脈 “Dragon” features ensure the sites are on elevated spots;
- The formation of 砂 “Sand” with surrounding hills protects the 穴 "Cave" from strong winds;
- 水 “Water” features of flowing streams provide a constant clean water supply;
- 向 “Direction” examines correct solar access; and
- 明堂 “Bright Court” facilitates farmland in front of villages
5. Comparison of BEAM Plus N.B. (version 1.2) and Feng Shui
# Results and Discussion

## BEAM Plus credits related to Feng Shui

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BEAM Plus NB v1.2 Considerations</th>
<th>Similar to Feng Shui Concepts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Site Aspect</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Material Aspect</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy Use</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Use</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor Environmental Quality</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
BEAM Plus credits related to Feng Shui Site Aspect

SAP1 - Minimum Landscape area
SA1 - Contaminated Land
SA4 - Site Design Appraisal
SA5 - Ecological Impact
SA7 - Landscaping and planters
SA8 - Microclimate Around Building
SA9 - Neighborhood Daylight Access
SA11 - Air Pollution during construction
SA12 - Noise During Construction
SA13 - Water pollution during Construction
SA14 - Noise from Building Equipment
SA15 - Light Pollution
BEAM Plus credits related to Feng Shui
Material Aspect

MA4 – Adaptability and Deconstruction
BEAM Plus credits related to Feng Shui

Energy Use

EU 13 – Energy Efficiency Building Layout

Energy Use
BEAM Plus credits related to Feng Shui Water Use

WuP1 – Water Quality Survey
BEAM Plus credits related to Feng Shui
Indoor Environmental Quality

IEQP1 – Minimum Ventilation Performance
IEQ2 – Plumbing and Drainage
IEQ 13 – Thermal Comfort in Air-conditioned Premises
IEQ 14 – Thermal Comfort in Natural Ventilated Premises
IEQ 15 – Natural Lighting

Indoor Environmental Quality
Conclusion

1) Both BEAM Plus and Feng Shui aims to provide a balance and harmonious built environment

2) BEAM Plus emphasizes on tangible measurement of efficiency & consumption of resources

3) Feng Shui emphasizes on Intangible evaluation of balance and relationship of space

4) Enhance Public Sustainability Awareness by Feng Shui

5) Applications of scientific Feng Shui to sustainable design
What’s next?
Thank you