

# Waterfront Design & Uses

Group D is the Best!!!

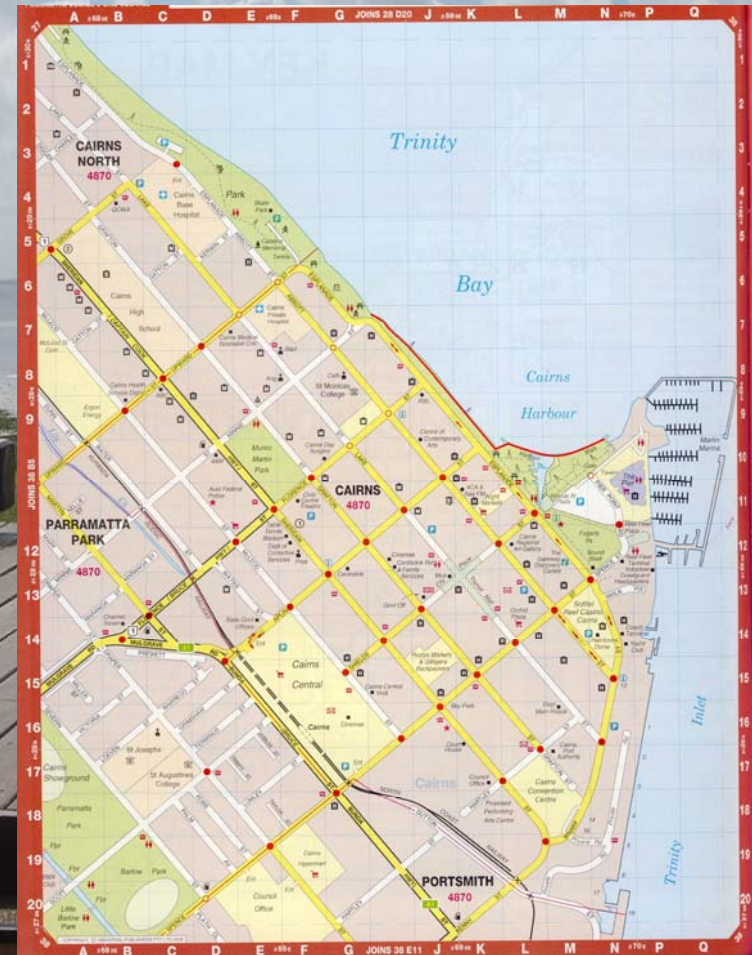
# Outline of Presentation

- Basic Information of Waterfront in Cairns
- Field Survey on Waterfront Usage
- Description and Comparison Between Waterfront Areas in Cairns and Hong Kong
- Features Showing Connections Between Facilities and People
- Conclusion

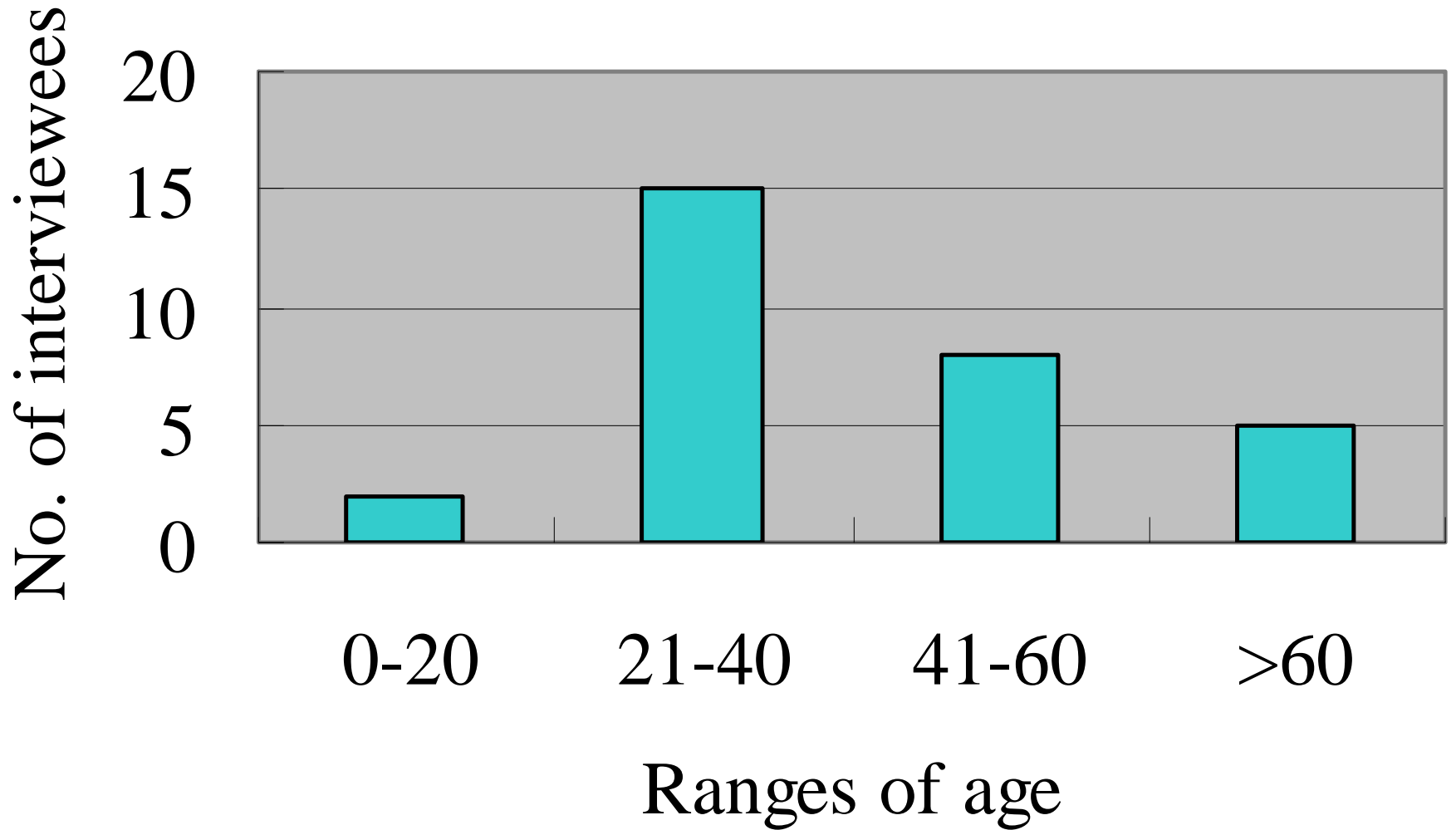


# Basic Information of Waterfront in Cairns

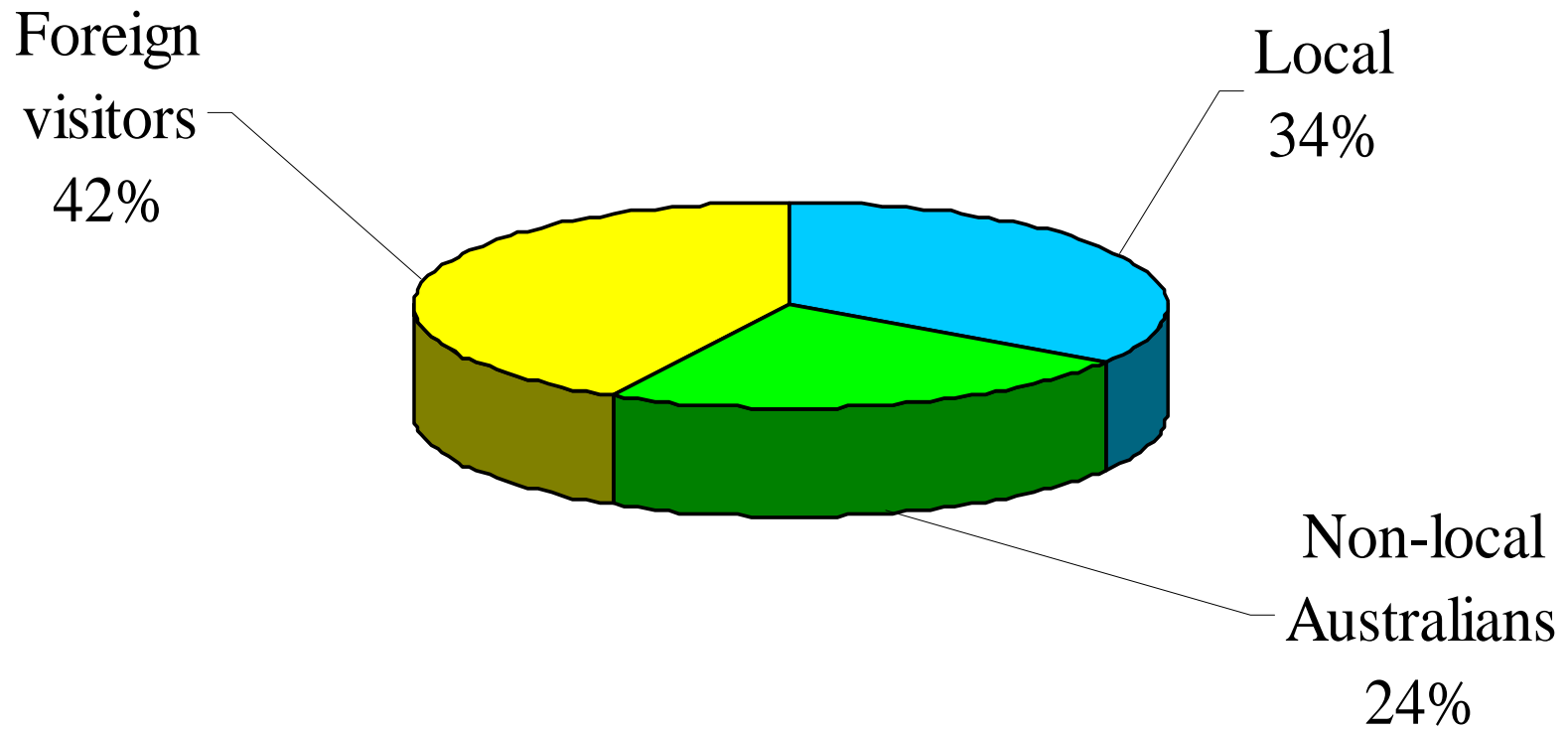
- Location: Eastern Coast of Cairns
- Length: about **3** km
- Attraction to **both locals and foreign tourists**
- Government Intervention



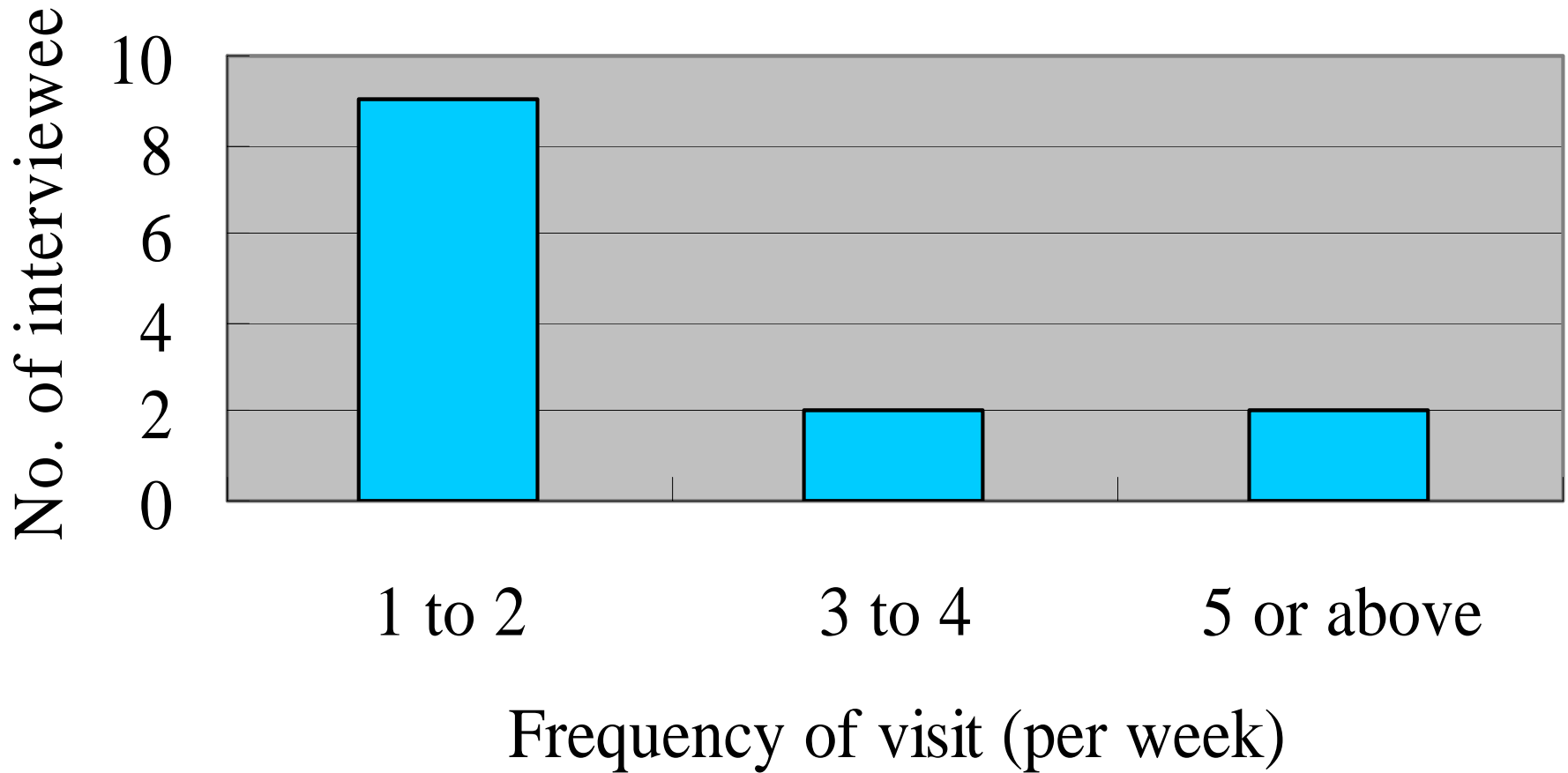
# Age distribution



# Origin of the visitors

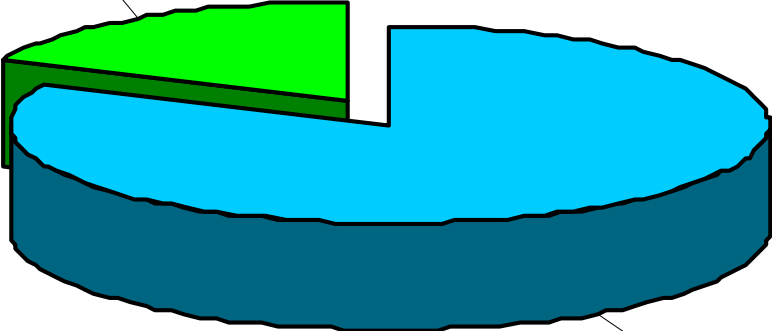


# How often do you visit the waterfront?



# Purpose of visit

Work  
18%



Relaxation  
82%



# What activities does visitors do in the waterfront?

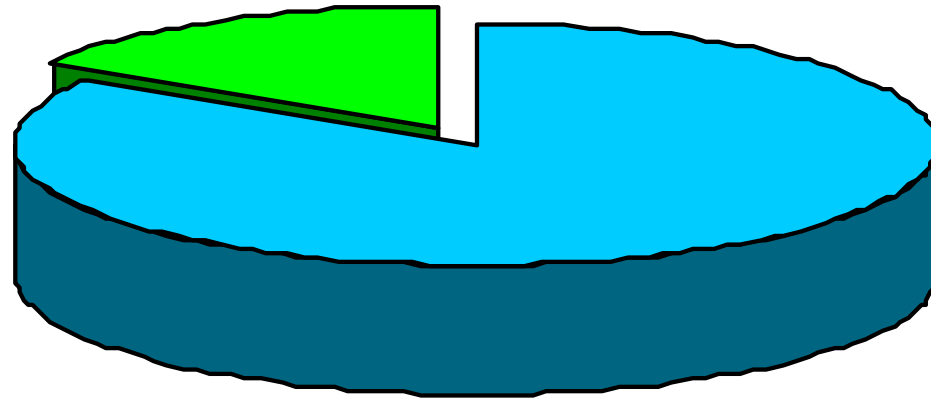


shopping	sightseeing	exercise
swimming	eating	games
reading	walking	jogging
sunbathing	working	bird chasing



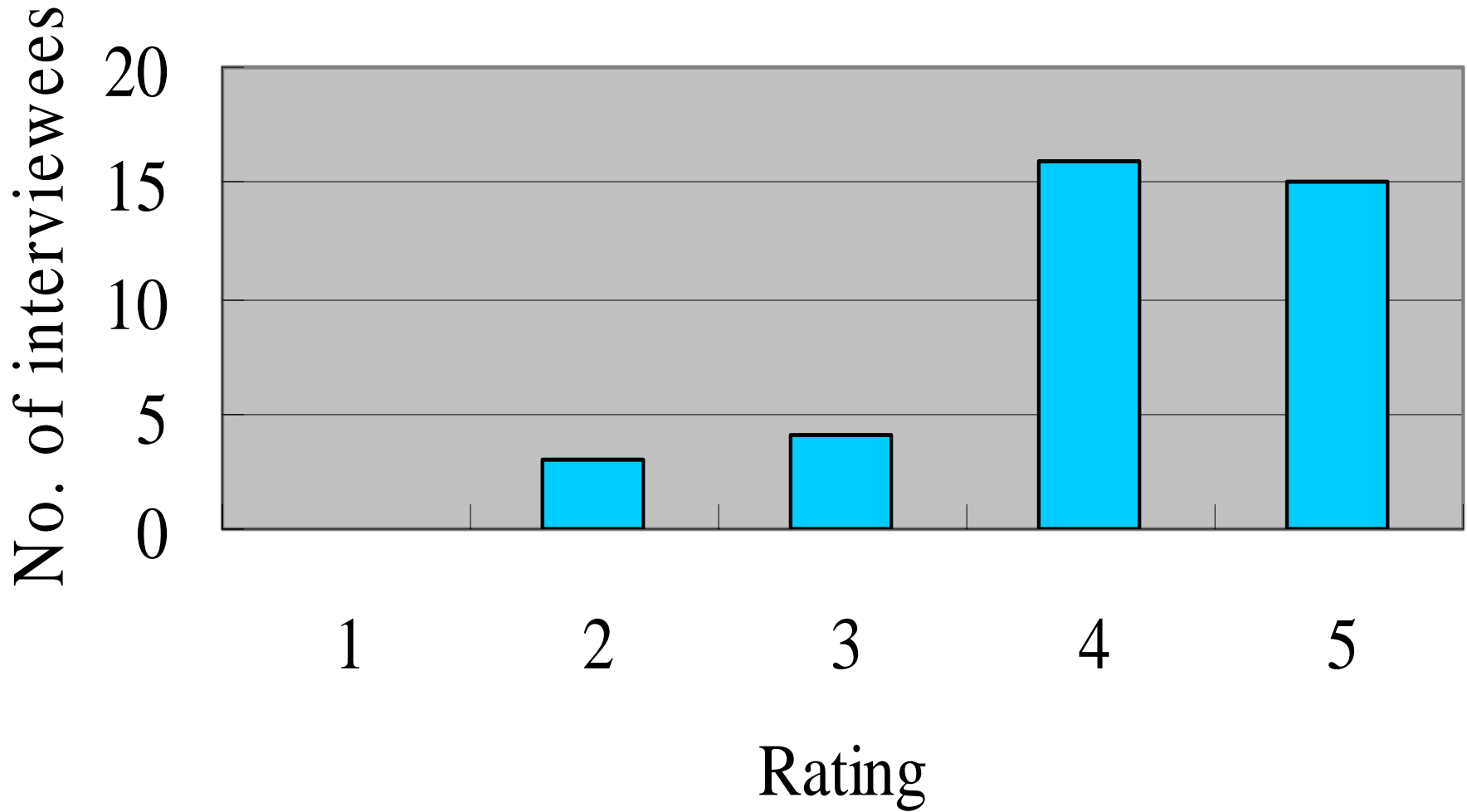
Do you think the facilities are adequate?

No, 16%



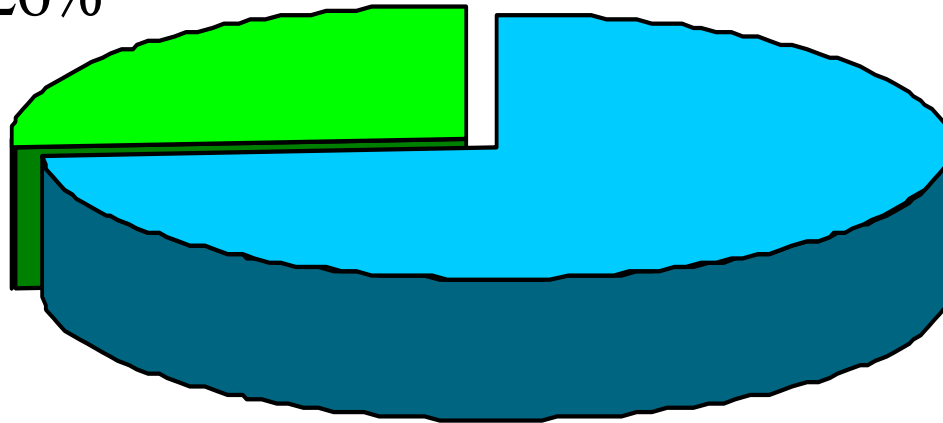
Yes, 84%

# How are you satisfied with the waterfront?




Can the waterfront bring you closer to the nature?


No 26%



Yes 74%



- 
- A person is sitting on a dark wooden bench on a wooden deck, looking out over a large body of water. The sky is blue with many white, fluffy clouds. In the distance, there are some small structures or boats on the water. The foreground shows the wooden planks of the deck and a dark metal railing.
- How Cairns is better:
    - New
    - More natural
    - Cleaner water
    - Presence of tides, mud and promenade
    - Less pollution

- 
- A person is sitting on a wooden deck, looking out over a large body of water. The sky is filled with white, fluffy clouds. In the distance, there are some small structures or boats on the water. The deck is made of wooden planks and has a dark metal railing. The person is wearing a dark shirt and shorts. The overall scene is a peaceful outdoor setting.
- How Cairns is worse:
    - Absence of swimming pools and natural beaches
    - Unpleasant weather (too hot and humid)
    - Presence of crocodiles
    - Water is too muddy



# Description and comparison between waterfront areas in Cairns and Hong Kong

- Case Study: West Kowloon Waterfront Corridor  
西九海濱長廊
- Government concern
- To develop into recreational hub
- Design integrates with natural environment
- Same target → same performance ?



# 3. Man- land Interaction

## In Land-to-Man Direction

### Cairns

- Many facilities include cycling paths, BBQ sites, playground, grassland, exercise court... etc
- Provide enjoyment, recreation, leisure, self-achievement, relaxation, fun, gathering opportunities, cultural exchange and self-growth

### West Kowloon

- Provide similar functions but, however with fewer facilities
- Thus, lower recreation function







# 1. Location

## Cairns

- Surrounded by commercial land use like restaurants and hotels
- Located within tourism area

## West Kowloon

- Situated in coastal area
- Surrounded by high-class residential buildings and performance stadium







## 2. Connectivity

### Cairns

- Bus as the major transportation mode



### West Kowloon

- More transportation modes include bus, mini-bus and MTR
- Situated near the entrance of Western Cross Harbour Tunnel

# 3. Man- land Interaction

## In Man-to-Land Direction

### Cairns

- Appreciation of nature
- Tourism development brings higher conservation incentives

### West Kowloon

- Less linkage with nature!!!!
- Lower variety of facilities
- More restrictions to enjoy the natural environment
- Natural attractiveness deteriorated by packed buildings



# 4. Use of Material

## Cairns

- Wooden floors
  - Wooden chairs and tables
  - Steel roofs
- Simple materials with nature-based design create less disturbance to the environment

## West Kowloon

- Wooden floors
  - Concrete chairs and tables
  - Steel fences
- More artificial materials used







# Features at waterfront that connects people with nature

- Material
  - Wooden planks for pavement
  - Design of railings





# Features at waterfront that connects people with nature

- Design
  - Co-existence of people and nature
    - No restrictions and boundaries
    - Accessible – convenient to walk in
    - BBQ stoves in the waterfront area
    - Trees and shading
    - Lagoon




**Esplanade**  
Cairns City Council advises  
that the Esplanade Lagoon  
will be closed for routine  
maintenance from  
**Monday 19th May until  
Monday 30th June, 2008**  
We apologise for any  
inconvenience caused as  
a result of these works.  
For any enquiries please  
contact Council's  
Office



# Features at waterfront that connects people with nature

- Design
  - Open space
    - Cultural divergence
    - Different activities and encourage the gathering of people and animals
  - Visual tranquility
    - Signs are not too big
    - Visual corridor
  - Natural bondage and connection with people



**SEASONAL LINE:**  
SUGGESTION BY COLOUR ABSTRACTION, OF CONVERGENCE AND  
CHANGE, ALLUDING TO TROPICAL SEASONS OF WET AND DRY.  
WITHIN THE LINE CONSTRUCT ARE POINTS OF INTEREST MARKING  
THE PRESENCE OF MANKIND WITHIN SEASONAL CYCLES.

MEDIUM VITRIFIED CERAMIC

PETER THOMPSON: 2002





# Features at waterfront that connects people with nature

- Facilities
  - BBQ stoves
  - Toilets
  - Benches
  - Car park/ bus station
  - Podium
  - Playground
  - Utilities are designed to complement the environment  
e.g. the exteriors of rubbish bins and toilets are made out of wooden strips





# Possible features applicable to Hong Kong

- Include grass lands in open space
- Replace stakes around trees with environmentally-friendly designs
- Remove boundaries of open space





# Features not applicable to Hong Kong

- Fences – not able to be lowered
- Use of wooden planks along water fronts
  - Does not match with surrounding area
  - Maintenance problem
- BBQ – not possible at harbour front
- Hong Kong as a market economy society, but not welfare economy.
  - Failure to provide as many facilities

# Conclusion

- Good example for Hong Kong to learn from
- Differences between the background of two places
  - Society
  - People's mindset and behaviour
  - Cultural background
  - Physical Constraints

