HONG KONG
STORYTELLING IN GARDEN ESTATE

DOCUMENTING ORAL HISTORY OF RESIDENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL KWUN TONG NEIGHBOURHOOD

Partnering with a local NGO Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service (KTMSS), iDiscover facilitated a series of engagement focus groups and in-depth interviews with long-time residents at Garden Estate, a soon-to-be-demolished public housing estate. We also produced a 40-min documentary and a book focusing on residents' experiences in the industrial days, one of very few attempts to archive the history of public housing in the city.

This project is part of the NGO's "Garden Estate Redevelopment Community Support Programme", which aims to strengthen residents' abilities, deepen neighbours' relationships, explore the assets of the community, unveil life experiences of different cultures and backgrounds, and improve residents' awareness of the redevelopment plan, ultimately imagine the future of the community collectively.

6-STEPS PARTICIPATORY MAPPING PROCESS

"It wasn't easy to strike a balance between work and family, and I wouldn't have been able to do it if I hadn't moved to Garden Estate in Kwun Tong"

- Jojo Ng

1. REVEAL neighbourhood narrative
2. MAP sites that matter
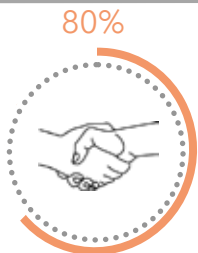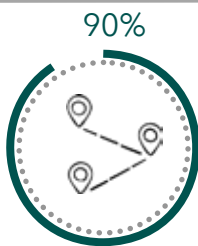3. CREATE content worth sharing
4. DESIGN artist map

OUTPUT

花園說書

DOCU-MENTARY

BOOKLET

> "EVERY KAIFONG IS A CRAFTSMAN, MAKING ENDS MEET WITH THEIR PAIRS OF HANDS, CREATING THEIR OWN LEGACY."
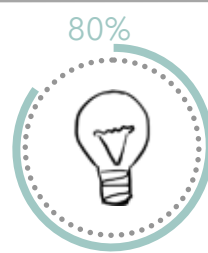
–Mr. Tang, KTMSS

IMPACT

80%

BUILDING BRIDGES

Elderly in this neighbourhood were connected through the workshops and developed new friendships throughout the process.

90%

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Participants developed a sense of belonging in a rapidly changing urban area. The archived stories will become important assets to build social fabric as the estate faces demolition.

80%

CULTURAL AWARENESS

Locals learnt about Kwun Tong's history from each other's sharing and through workshops.

50
Kaifong workshop participants

40
minutes documentary

10
stories of elderly residents produced

1st
mini-documentary for a public housing estate

80
pages book

12
in-depth interviews with elderly

2,165
minutes of interview footage filmed

Collaborative Partnership	Funded by	Duration	Budget
iDiscover 福道街浸信會社會服務處 KWUN TONG METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE 糖水師傅 福道街浸信會社會服務處 KWUN TONG METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE		June 2020 - Dec 2021	HK$ 100,000