



# Checklist for Management of Senescent Pioneer Tree Species



## Introduction


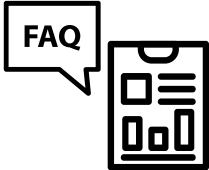

The government began extensive planting of *Acacia confusa* and other pioneer species, mainly on slopes, back in the 1950-60s, so as to establish vegetation cover quickly, stabilise slopes and to prevent soil erosion and landslide.

Due to ageing and various environmental factors, these pioneer trees species are generally reaching senescent stage and are gradually deteriorating in health or structural stability.

## Proactive Management of Senescent Pioneer Tree Species

To tackle the issue, government departments have been launching enhancement programmes to replace pioneer species with structure and health issues mainly by native or localised species as a proactive measure, with the objectives to enhance public safety, biodiversity and sustainability.

Key Stage	Checklist for Implementation
<b>Preparation</b>	
(i) <b>Work Prioritisation</b>	✓ Conduct field inspection and tree risk assessment to identify pioneer trees with health and structural problems.
(ii) <b>Removal Plan</b> 	✓ Prioritise work based on risk and resource level.  ✓ Consider a balanced approach from the risk management, public support and technical perspectives.
(iii) <b>Replanting Plan</b> 	✓ Select replacement planting based on the principle of 'Right Plant, Right Place'.  ✓ Refer to "GEO Publication No. 1/2011" for planting based on slope gradient, in general: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plant trees on less steep slope;</li><li>• Plant shrubs and ground covers on steep slope;</li><li>• Plant climbers on hard surfacing slope (e.g. shotcrete, tree ring);</li><li>• Provide screen planting near the slope if slope planting is not feasible.</li></ul> ✓ Aim at enhancing ecological and aesthetic values through different approaches including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the use of native and localised species;</li><li>• vegetation diversity; and</li><li>• thematic planting.</li></ul>

<p><b>(iv) Stakeholder Engagement</b></p>  	<p>✓ Notify stakeholders (e.g. local communities and residents, District Council members) of the replacement and replanting plan (explaining why, how, when), with reference images if appropriate.</p> <p>✓ Post notices on-site to keep the public informed; and ensure the notices include key contents in the following table, and are clear, bilingual and displayed at various prominent locations:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Notice (告示)</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1. <u>Department (部門)</u></td> <td>2. <u>Programme Title (計劃名稱)</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• XXX</td> <td>• XXX's Enhancement Programme</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. <u>Location (位置)</u></td> <td>4. <u>Anticipated Programme (預計日期): MM/YYYY</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. <u>Programme objectives (計劃目標)</u></td> <td>6. <u>Scope of Works (工作範圍)</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Public safety, sustainable development, enhance biodiversity, etc.</td> <td>• Removal (e.g. trees with poor health and/or structure) • Replanting (e.g. trees, shrubs, ground cover and/or climbers)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">7. <u>Enquiry (查詢)</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">• Contact Person: xxxx xxxx; Tel. Number.: xxxx xxxx</td> </tr> </table>	Notice (告示)		1. <u>Department (部門)</u>	2. <u>Programme Title (計劃名稱)</u>	• XXX	• XXX's Enhancement Programme	3. <u>Location (位置)</u>	4. <u>Anticipated Programme (預計日期): MM/YYYY</u>	5. <u>Programme objectives (計劃目標)</u>	6. <u>Scope of Works (工作範圍)</u>	• Public safety, sustainable development, enhance biodiversity, etc.	• Removal (e.g. trees with poor health and/or structure) • Replanting (e.g. trees, shrubs, ground cover and/or climbers)	7. <u>Enquiry (查詢)</u>		• Contact Person: xxxx xxxx; Tel. Number.: xxxx xxxx	
Notice (告示)																	
1. <u>Department (部門)</u>	2. <u>Programme Title (計劃名稱)</u>																
• XXX	• XXX's Enhancement Programme																
3. <u>Location (位置)</u>	4. <u>Anticipated Programme (預計日期): MM/YYYY</u>																
5. <u>Programme objectives (計劃目標)</u>	6. <u>Scope of Works (工作範圍)</u>																
• Public safety, sustainable development, enhance biodiversity, etc.	• Removal (e.g. trees with poor health and/or structure) • Replanting (e.g. trees, shrubs, ground cover and/or climbers)																
7. <u>Enquiry (查詢)</u>																	
• Contact Person: xxxx xxxx; Tel. Number.: xxxx xxxx																	
<p><b>Yard Waste Management</b></p>																	
<p><b>(v) Upcycling</b></p> 	<p>✓ Approach EPD's Y-Park or collaborate with industry practitioners for recycling / upcycling of materials as appropriate (e.g. biochar, wood planks etc.).</p>																
<p><b>Useful Links / Further Information</b></p>																	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development Bureau (DEVB)'s Webinar on Management of Pioneer Tree Species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.greening.gov.hk/en/community-outreach/public-seminars-talks-and-workshops/index.html">https://www.greening.gov.hk/en/community-outreach/public-seminars-talks-and-workshops/index.html</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>Highways Department's E-booklet on Replacement Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/our_services/streetscape/vegetation/acacia/doc/booklet_e.pdf">https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/our_services/streetscape/vegetation/acacia/doc/booklet_e.pdf</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>Problems and Management of Acacia-Dominated Urban Forests on Man-Made Slopes in a Subtropical, High-Density City: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/12/3/323">https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/12/3/323</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>Other relevant information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/home/Blog_Archives1/index_id_178.html">https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/home/Blog_Archives1/index_id_178.html</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>For replanting plan, refer to "GEO Publication No. 1/2011 Technical Guidelines on Landscape Treatment for Slopes" as appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.cedd.gov.hk/filemanager/eng/content_151/ep1_2011.pdf">https://www.cedd.gov.hk/filemanager/eng/content_151/ep1_2011.pdf</a></li> </ul> </li> </ol>																	