



# Agenda

- 1. What is Web Accessibility?
- 2. Why Web Accessibility?
- 3. International Standards and Testing Methods
- 4. Government Policy

# Digital 21 Strategy

#### One of five key areas of 2008 Digital 21 Strategy

- Building an inclusive, knowledge-based society
  - Bring the benefit of ICT to under-privileged groups
  - Enhance their quality of life
  - Maximise their potentials in a knowledge-based society

# Digital Inclusion (數碼共融)

## Social groups mainly affected by "Digital Divide"

- Elderly
- New arrivals
- Female homemakers
- Single parents
- Children of low-income families
- Persons with disabilities
- Ethnic minorities

# **Digital Inclusion – Priority Groups**



#### Students in low income families

 have Internet access at home and do not lose educational opportunity because of financial difficulties or lack of support



#### **Elderly**

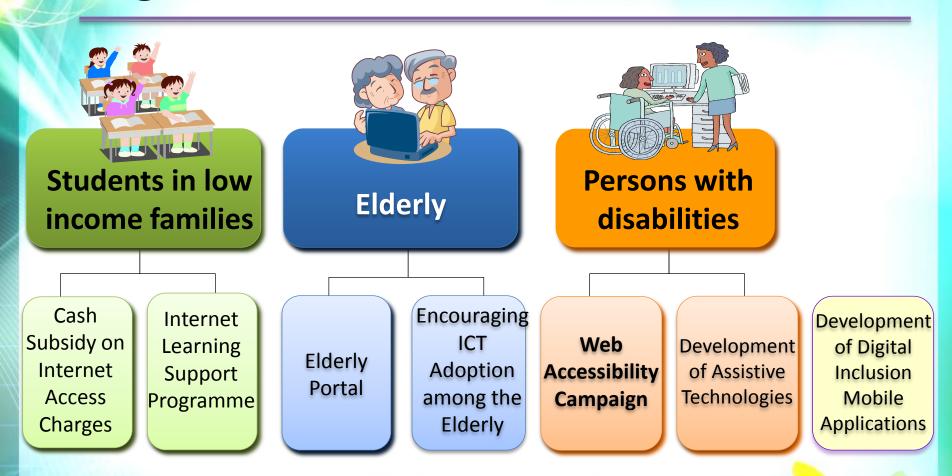
- provide technical knowledge
- Encourage use of ICT in their daily lives



#### **Persons with disabilities**

- minimise the barriers on the use of ICT
- drive wider adoption of ICT to improve their quality of life

# **Digital Inclusion Initiatives**



- Public library computer facilities
- GovWiFi
- District Cyber Centres

# What is Web Accessibility?

- Making website Content available for ALL
- **ALL** people of the community
- Including persons with disabilities (361,000 about 5.2% of total population)











# **Four Major Categories of Disabilities**

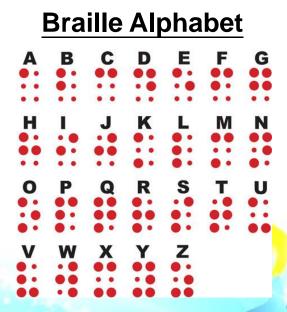
- Visual Impairment
  - ➤ blind, low vision, colour blindness
- Physical Impairment
  - missing limbs, reduced control of limbs, suffer from dexterity problems, epilepsy
- Hearing Impairment
  - completely or partially deaf
- Cognitive Impairment
  - have difficulties in learning

# Visual Impairment

#### Reading with Refreshable Braille Display Device

- Electrical device connected to computer
- Contents of webpage in text format can be converted to Braille (點字) display on the device





# Visual Impairment

#### **Reading with Screen Reading Software**



 Use text-to-speech (TTS) engine to interpret what is displayed on the screen



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# Visual Impairment

#### **Reading with Screen Magnification Tools**

 Zoom into sections of a screen and change contrast level to assist users with poor or low vision



# **Physical Impairment**

#### **Barrier-free Input Device**

Special hardware and software for accessing webpages







# **Physical Impairment**

#### **Brain-Computer Interface System**

 User concentrates on the characters and strokes displayed which flashed sequentially on the screen



System monitors brain activity





# **Hearing Impairment**

#### **Provision of content in different mediums**

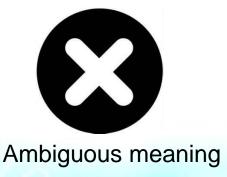
- If information is conveyed in audio, ensure to provide an alternative way to access this information
- Provide a text transcript, subtitles or sign language



# **Cognitive Impairment**

# May not require special tools to use websites but some design considerations, e.g.

- Ensure that navigation is consistent throughout a website
- Similar interface elements and similar interactions
- Avoid distractions (e.g. animation, unusual font faces)
- Pair icons or graphics with text to provide contextual cues





Clear meaning

#### 1. No alternatives for non-text content

 Persons with visual impairment cannot perceive the image content





Alt = "Officiating guests attending the Launch Ceremony of the Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme"

✓ e.g. contain descriptive text alternative for image

#### 2. Inaccessible PDF Files

Screen reader cannot read the content

Affected Group: All Persons with Disabilities

PDF documents should only be used for certain situations. This is generally when you have a piece of content that you would like people to download and read offline. In this way, PDF documents can be helpful for persons with disabilities because they can download and read them with the

We have to ensure that PDF documents are accessible to assistive technologies, such as screen readers. We should produce a PDF document from a text-based source document so that it is readable by Braille devices that the produced by scanning should be converted into text-based documents, with Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software prior to

Affected Group: All Persons with Disabilities

PDF documents should only be used for certain situations. This is generally when you have a piece of content that you would like people to download and read offline. In this way, PDF documents can be helpful for persons with disabilities because they can download and read them with the assistive functions built into PDF reading software.

We have to ensure that PDF documents are accessible to assistive technologies, such as screen readers. We should produce a PDF document from a text-based source document so that it is readable by Braille devices used by persons with visual impairments. Image-based documents, such as TIF files produced by scanning, should be converted into text-based documents with Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software prior to producing the PDF document.

#### Scanned Image not accessible

#### **Text-based accessible PDF**

- ✓ e.g. use proper PDF generator to produce a PDF document from a text-based source document;
- ✓ use Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software after scanning

#### 3. Text in Image is not accessible

Information is not conveyed to all

Seminar for Public

Time: 2:30 - 5:30 pm

Venue: Conference Hall,

Central Government Offices

**Seminar for Public** 

Time: 2:30 - 5:30 pm

Venue: Conference Hall,

Central Government Offices

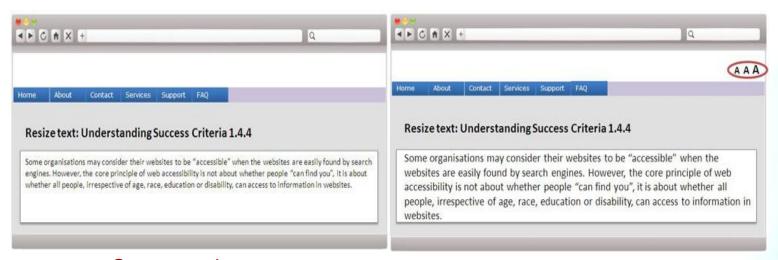
Text in image

Accessible text on a webpage

- ✓ Avoid to convey information of wide public interest
- ✓ If avoidable, provide descriptive text alternatives

#### 4. Small font sizes

Persons with low vision cannot read the text



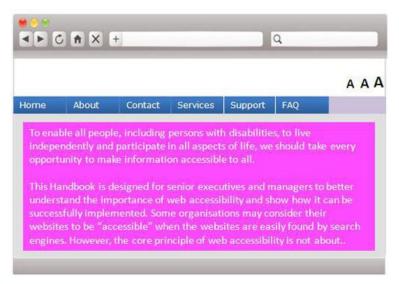
Cannot resize text

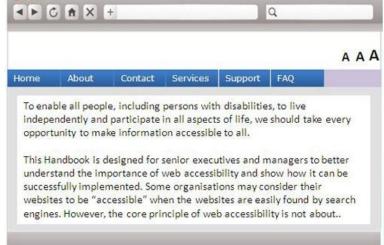
Can resize text

✓ e.g. provide text resize function

#### 5. Insufficient colour contrast

 Persons with low vision have difficulty reading text that does not contrast with its background





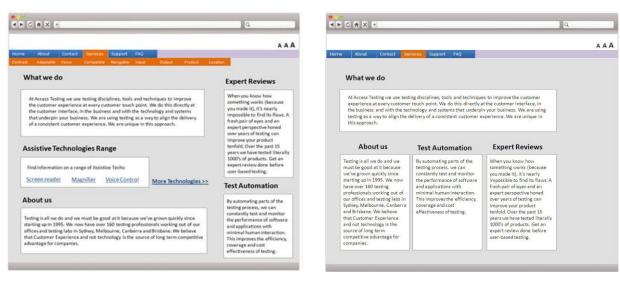
Poor background contrast

Easier to read with higher contrast

✓ e.g. provide sufficient contrast ratio

#### 6. Complicated website infrastructure

Persons with cognitive impairment have difficulty reading complex website structures



Complex structures

Simple structure

✓ e.g. provide simpler and ordered website structure

7. Unable to skip inaccessible Adobe Flash and moving objects



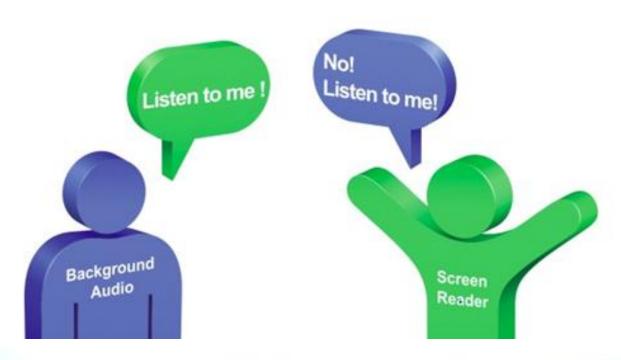


Unable to skip

✓ e.g. add a skip function

Skip function added

#### 8. Websites with background audio



✓ e.g. add a turn off function

#### 9. Video without captions and audio description

 Persons with visual or hearing impairments have difficulty to understand the video



✓ e.g. provide captions and audio description

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# **Reasons for Web Accessibility**

#### Equal opportunities

- United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap 487) has created a legal duty for organisations to ensure their services are available to everyone

#### Social responsibility

- Build positive corporate image
- > contribute to a more caring and inclusive society

# **Reasons for Web Accessibility**

- Search engine friendly
  - get more prominent ranking in search engine results
- Widest possible reach-out
  - > reach out to more online customers
- Lower costs in the long term
  - easier to maintain and is compatible with different web browsers and devices, which saves time and money in the long term
  - avoid unnecessary lawsuits

# **Legislation / Guideline**

Country	Legislation / Guideline
Australia	<ul> <li>Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) of 1992</li> <li>WWW Access: DDA Advisory Notes</li> <li>The Guide to Minimum Website Standards</li> </ul>
Canada	<ul> <li>Canadian Human Rights Act of 1977</li> <li>The Government of Canada Internet Guide</li> </ul>
China	• 國務院令第622號 - 《無障礙環境建設條例》
United Kingdom	<ul> <li>The Equality Act 2010</li> <li>Formal investigation report on Web Accessibility</li> </ul>
United States	<ul> <li>American with Disability Act (ADA)</li> <li>Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act</li> <li>Assistive Technology Act of 1998</li> <li>Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996</li> </ul>
European Union	<ul> <li>Accessibility of Public Websites – Accessibility for PWDs: Council Resolutions, 2002</li> </ul>

# **Legislation in China**

## 《無障礙環境建設條例》

- 縣級以上人民政府發布重要政府信息和與殘疾 人相關的信息,應為殘疾人提供語音和文字提 示;
- 國家舉辦的考試(如:升學、職業資格等),應 當為視力殘疾人提供盲文試卷、電子試卷等;
- 設區的市級以上人民政府設立的電視台在播出電視節目時配備字幕,每周播放至少一次配播手語的新聞節目;

# **Legislation in China**

- 設區的市級以上人民政府設立的公共圖書館應 當開設視力殘疾人閱覽室;
- 殘疾人士組織的網站應當達到無障礙網站設計標準,設區的市級以上人民政府網站、政府公益活動網站,逐步達到無障礙網站設計標準。

http://www.gov.cn/zwgk/2012-07/10/content\_2179864.htm

# Australia - inaccessibility of Olympic Games 2000 website

A person with visual impairment, lodged a complaint against Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games 2000

- No alternative text for image
- Contained inaccessible image map

# Australia - inaccessibility of Olympic Games 2000 website

#### Settlement

- Respondent was ordered to make the website accessible including alternative text on all images and image map links together with other features
- Compensation sum of AU\$20K paid by respondent

## **USA** - inaccessibility of Target.com

The National Federation of the Blind filed a classaction suit, with 50,000 names

- No alternative text for image
- Contained inaccessible image maps and other graphical features
- Website required the use of a mouse to complete an online purchase

## **USA** - inaccessibility of Target.com

#### Settlement

- In Sep 2006, the Federal District Court sustained the claims against Target.com
- Set a precedent case that retailers must make their websites accessible under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)
- Target made the website fully accessible
- Settled the class suitcase by set up a fund US\$6M for claims

## **Local Complaint Cases**

- A NGO issued a press release in June 2012
- Complained about inaccessible PDFs published on Government website



【本報訊】選舉事務處在核實選民登記冊時涉觸犯《殘疾歧視條例》。香港失明 人士協進會會長莊陳有昨去信平機會,指選舉事務處在本月15日公佈的臨時選民 登記冊及抽樣調查信件,只提供一般文字版本,視障人士無法查閱,隨時在不知 情的情況下喪失選民資格。

莊陳有指失明人士看不見選舉事務處發出的抽樣信件,可能連需要核實身份也不知道。「事務處嘅網頁都係只得文字,欠缺無障礙設施,香港話就話無障礙城市,事實仲好落後。」莊陳有已在本月15日去信選舉管理委員會主席馮驊,要求改善,至今仍未獲回覆。

Source: Apple Daily Newspaper

## **Local Complaint Cases**

Complained about restaurant websites causing issues in online ordering



http://life.mingpao.com/cfm/basicref3b.cfm?File=201 20723/braa02a/gma1.txt

#### 盲人勝利 麥當勞網頁去障礙 多間連鎖餐廳網頁 視障者難叫外賣

文章日期:2012年7月23日

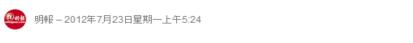
【明報專訊】本港不少連鎖餐廳均會在網頁提供「網上訂購」服務,但有視障者組織留意到本港大型連鎖餐廳網頁不設「無障礙」文字版,令視障者無法透過屏幕報讀軟件瀏覽網頁,致全港約12萬名視障者在網上叫外賣障礙重重。有失明者早前透過報讀軟件上網,到麥當勞網頁叫外賣,但該網主頁不斷重複播放音樂,干擾報讀軟件,令他苦無辦法讀到外賣電話及餐單落單,遂於今年2月透過香港失明人協進會向平機會投訴。本報與視障者測試另外相間連鎖餐廳,亦發現不設無障礙文字版,令視障者難「叫外賣」。

# **Local Complaint Cases**



http://hk.news.yahoo.com

### 上網叫外賣薄餅 找半小時食白果



【明報專訊】失明者鄺灼培(John)和任博輝網上訂購外賣屢試屢敗,兩人早前協助檢視本港主要連鎖快餐店的網頁,令記者體會他們叫外賣之艱。

🝱 列印

g +1

例如兩人登入必勝客網頁,由於頁面沒有文字描述或替代文字(ALT Text),報讀軟件只能讀出網頁圖片的檔案名字,兩人呆聽30分鐘,才聽到「delivery(外賣)」,但點進去又再遇到大量圖案,要逐一打開,才能知悉按鈕代表的是一人套餐、必勝批還是升級優惠,阿輝無奈說:「那些連結有如抽屜,我們永遠不知裏面有什麼,要逐個逐個打開。」兩人最後決定作器。

### 圖像動畫充斥 報讀器讀不到

■ 推薦 < 0

電野 🔛

肯德基網頁情况亦類近,兩人登入「網上訂購」頁面,軟件可讀到首頁「今期推介」的文字,其他頁面的按鈕只附連結,無文字描述。如想改打電話叫外賣,網頁的熱線電話亦只以圖片顯示,報讀軟件無法讀出,兩人最終亦無法完成外賣程序。

至於吉野家,首頁是Flash動畫配以直排的文字圖片,軟件斷續讀出不相干的單字,最終兩人找不到方法登入。另一連鎖店板長壽司的網頁,首頁同樣是Flash動畫,一般人可看到頁頂的外賣電話,但由於整頁以沒載有文字描述的圖片組成,軟件只能重複讀出「板長壽司,和之味集團成員;板長壽司,和之味集團成員。」沒完沒了,兩人最終亦決定作罷。

-A +A

# **Local Complaint Cases**



### 聯招網兩障礙 視障生難改選

[昔日文章]

文章日期:2012年07月23日



【明報專訊】在剛放榜的中學文憑試,考生只可在「大學聯合招生辦法」網頁修改選科,但該網頁設計為視障生帶來兩大障礙,一是要使用視障生無法操作的滑鼠;二是網頁圖片不設文字描述,令屏幕報讀軟件無法閱讀。平機會檢測後亦指聯招網不太有利視障生,促作改善。

聯招處回覆,將為完全失明學生作特別安排,並繼續檢視需改善地方,但為維持網頁穩定性,今年難以改正所有頁面。

聯招處:將檢視需改善處

香港失明人協進會項目經理高碧姬稱,近月接獲視障學生投訴無法使用聯招網,主要問題是要使用拖拉形式(drag-and-drop)進行學科改選,即要求使用者以滑鼠按着按鈕,拉至另一位置放下,對於只能使用鍵盤操作網頁的視障學生來說並不可行。

http://life.mingpao.com/htm/hkdse/cfm/news3.cfm?File=20120723/news/gma3.txt

# **Agenda**

- 1. What is Web Accessibility?
- 2. Why Web Accessibility?
- 3. International Standards and Testing Methods
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### **International Standards**

- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) consists of people from industries, disability organisations, governments, and research labs from around the world, develops strategies, guidelines, and resources to help make the web accessible to people with disabilities
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)
  have been developed over the years by W3C
- Version 1.0 in 1999; version 2.0 in 2008
   <a href="http://www.w3.org/WAI/">http://www.w3.org/WAI/</a>

### **International Standards**

The WCAG consist of four parts —

4 Principles

12 Guidelines

61 Success Criteria

Many Techniques

### **4 Principles**

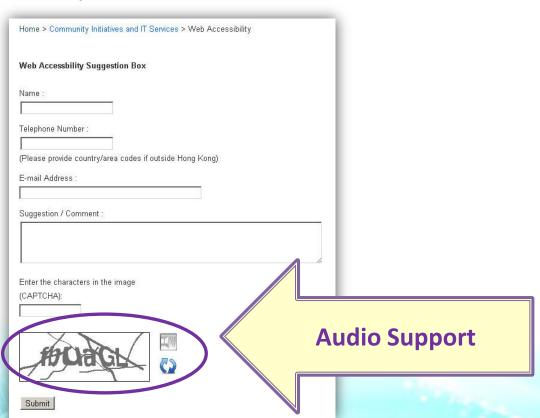
- Content is Perceivable
- User interface components and navigation are Operable
- Information and operation are Understandable
- Content is Robust enough to be interpreted reliably by a wide range of web browsers, assistive technologies, etc.

### **Guidelines for Principle 1 - Perceivable**

- 1.1 **Text Alternatives**: Provide text alternatives for any non-text content so that it can be changed into other forms people need, such as large print, braille, speech, symbols or simpler language
- 1.2 **Time-based Audio and Video Media**: Provide alternatives for time-based media
- 1.3 **Adaptable**: Create content that can be presented in different ways without losing information or structure
- 1.4 **Distinguishable**: Make it easier for users to see and hear content including separating foreground from background

### **Principle 1 - Perceivable**

Example - Audio CAPTCHA



### **Principle 1 - Perceivable**

Example - Sufficient colour contrast 4.5:1



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### **Guidelines for Principle 2 - Operable**

- 2.1 **Keyboard Accessible**: Make all functionality available from a keyboard
- 2.2 **Enough Time**: Provide users enough time to read and use content
- 2.3 **Seizures**: Do not design content in a way that is known to cause seizures
- 2.4 **Navigable**: Provide ways to help users navigate, find content, and determine where they are

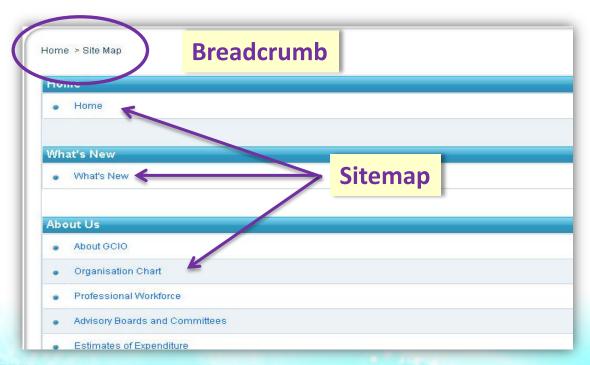
### **Principle 2 - Operable**

Example - Provide users enough time to read and use content



### **Principle 2 - Operable**

 Example - More than one way to help users navigate and find content

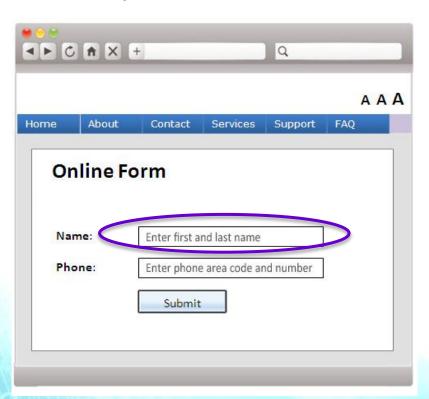


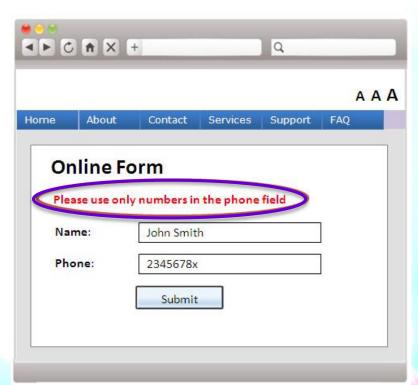
### **Guidelines for Principle 3 and 4**

- 3.1 **Readable**: Make text content readable and understandable
- 3.2 **Predictable**: Make Web pages appear and operate in predictable ways
- 3.3 Input Assistance: Help users avoid and correct mistakes
- 4.1 **Compatible**: Maximise compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies

### **Principle 3 – Understandable**

Example - Clear label with cue and error identification





### Principle 4 – Robust



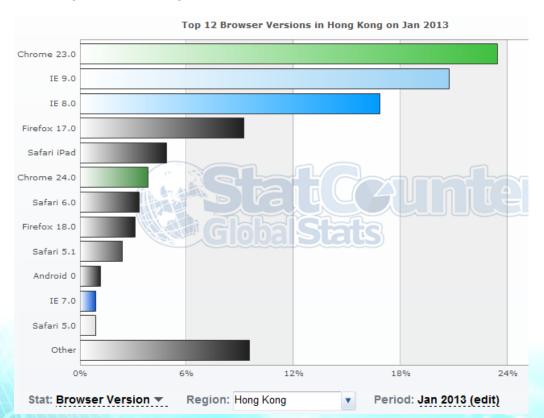








Compatibility with browsers



http://gs.statcounter.com/

### **WCAG - Conformance**

- Latest version of W3C WCAG 2.0 promulgated in end 2008
- There are three Levels of conformance –

Level A 25 success criteria	Level AA +13 success criteria	Level AAA +23 success criteria
Basic	Recommended	Ideal

Level AA Conformance







## **WCAG - Conformance**

### Example - Audio and Video Requirements

	Level A	Level AA	Level AAA
Pre-recorded Audio only	Text-transcript		Sign language
Pre-recorded Video only	Text-transcript / audio track		Sign language
Pre-recorded Video	Captions + (audio description / text transcript)	Captions + audio description	Extended audio description + Text description + Sign language
Live Video		Captions	
Live Audio only			Live text caption / provide a link to a text transcript of a prepared script

### **Overseas Government Practices**

Governments websites adopting WCAG

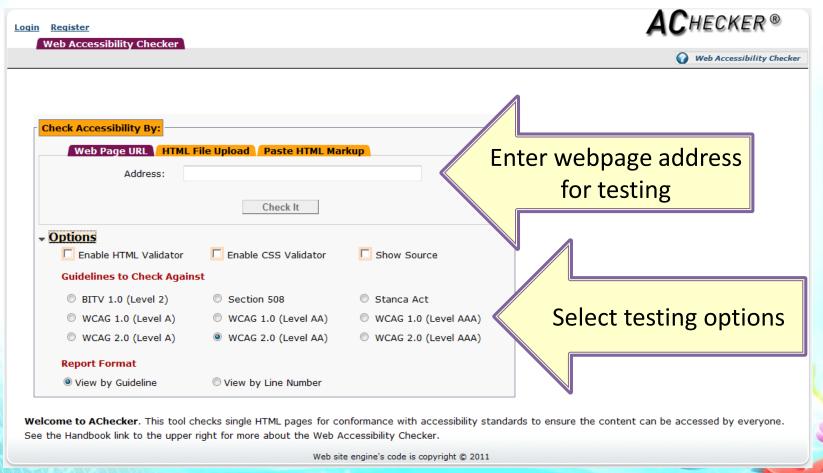
Country	Standard	Timeline to achieve standard
New Zealand	WCAG 2.0 Level AA	June 2010
United Kingdom	WCAG 1.0 Level AA	March 2011
Hong Kong	WCAG 2.0 Level AA	January 2013
Canada	WCAG 2.0 Level AA	July 2013
Singapore	WCAG 1.0 and key aspects of WCAG 2.0	December 2013
Australia	WCAG 2.0 Level A & AA	December 2014

### 1. Code scanning

- Many accessibility issues can be detected automatically using specialist software and tools
- Example tools
  - AChecker
  - WAVE
  - PDF Accessibility Checker

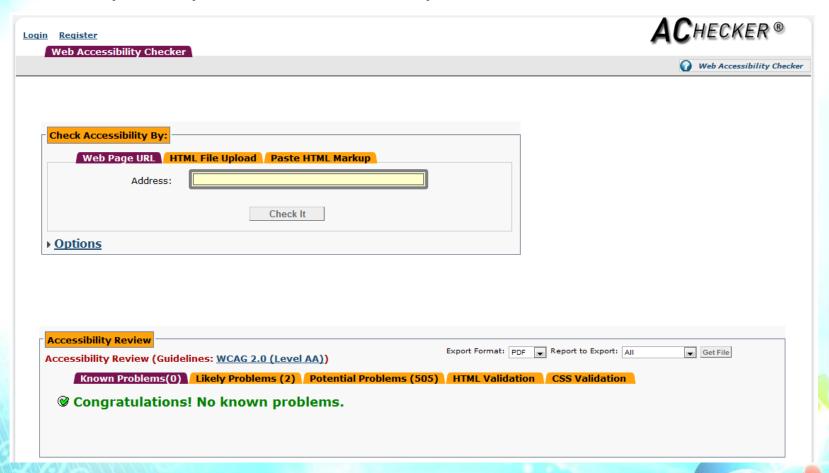
# **Code Scanning**

http://achecker.ca/checker/index.php



# **Code Scanning**

Sample report - no known problem



# **Code Scanning**

Sample report – known web accessibility problem

```
Accessibility Review
Accessibility Review (Guidelines: WCAG 2.0 (Level AA))
      Known Problems (9) Likely Problems (1) Potential Problems (215)
1.1 Text Alternatives: Provide text alternatives for any non-text content
   Success Criteria 1.1.1 Non-text Content (A)
     Check 1: img element missing alt attribute.
         Repair: Add an alt attribute to your img element.
2.4 Navigable: Provide ways to help users navigate, find content, and determine
where they are.
   Success Criteria 2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (A)
     Check 174: Anchor contains no text.
         Repair: Add text to the a element or the title attribute of the a element or,
              Line 228, Column 39:
```

### 2. Visual review

- A simple look at a website can reveal many potential web accessibility issues for persons with disabilities
  - Can the content be easily read?
  - Is the text too small?
  - Does it use pale coloured text on a pale background, making the text hard to read?
  - Move around the webpage using just a keyboard.
    Can we access all the links and functions?
- Example tools
  - Vischeck
  - Colour Contrast Check

### Vischeck

- http://www.vischeck.com/vischeck/
- showing you what things look like to someone who is colour blind



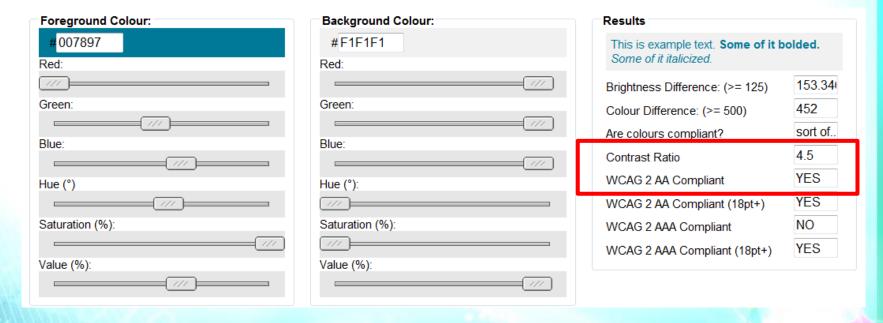
www.ogcio.gov.hk



How the webpage looks to a person with a red/green color deficit (deuteranopia)

### **Colour Contrast Check**

- http://snook.ca/technical/colour\_contrast/colour.html
- Text have a contrast ratio of at least 4.5: 1 between the background and the foreground



### 3. Manual testing with screen readers

- Navigate website and access the content through the screen readers
- Example tools
  - Jaws
  - > NVDA
  - VoiceOver

### 4. Manual testing with other assistive technologies

- Screen magnification tools and voice control tools
- Example tools
  - ZoomText
  - Dragon Naturally Speaking

### 5. Human testing

- The most thorough approach to ensure web accessibility is to test a website by persons with disabilities
- Some organisations supporting persons with disabilities offer human testing services

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# **Policy in Hong Kong**

- Government has been implementing web accessibility guidelines since 1999
- Internal guidelines has been updated to follow latest international standard - W3C WCAG 2.0
- Require all government websites including thematic websites, except archive materials, to achieve W3C
   WCAG 2.0 Level AA conformance by January 2013 within practicable means
- Ask quasi-government and public service organisations to take corresponding action

# **Policy in Hong Kong**

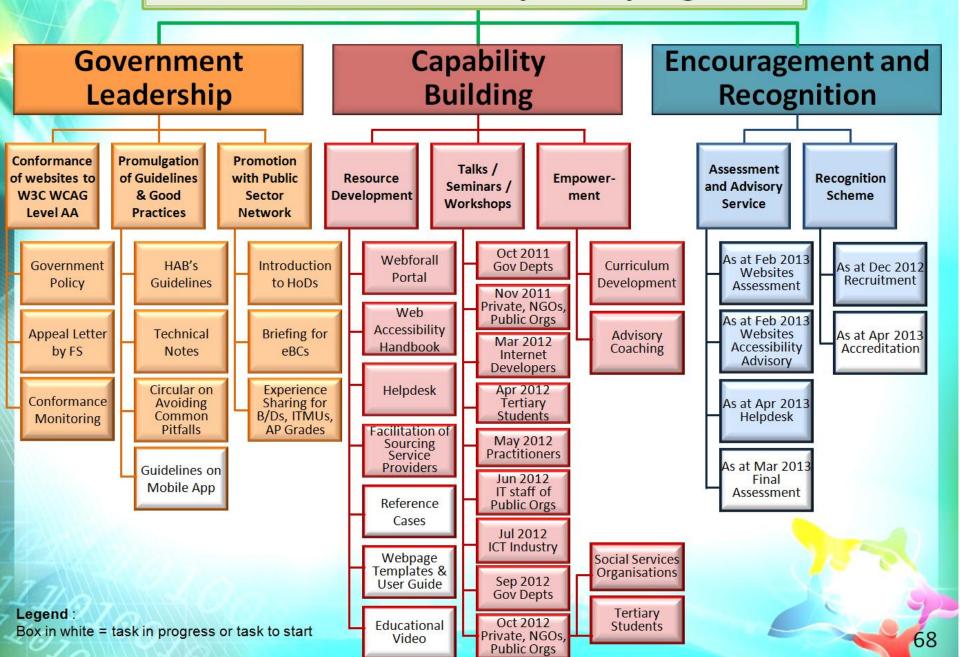
### Web Accessibility Campaign since October 2011

- To facilitate access to online information and services for all segments of the community including persons with disabilities
- To promote wider adoption of web accessibility design in both public and private websites

### **Multi-pronged Approach**

- Government Leadership
- Capability Building
- Encouragement and Recognition

### **Web Accessibility Campaign**



### Webforall Portal: www.webforall.gov.hk

- Illustration examples of success criteria
   (WCAG 2.0 Levels A & AA)
   http://www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/community/web\_accessibility/handbook/live\_example.htm
- Presentation slides of seminars / technical workshops
- Government's best practices
- Web Accessibility Handbook
- Web Designers' Corner
- Frequently Asked Questions



### Web Accessibility Handbook

- Introduction and basic principles
- Top 10 concerns from persons with disabilities
- All WCAG 2.0 success criteria
- Success criteria checklist
- Testing techniques
- Introduction of testing tools



- Nov 2011 > Awareness Seminars for non-government sector
- Mar 2012 > Talk in World Internet Developers' Summit
- Apr 2012 > Seminars in Tertiary Institutions
- May 2012 > Workshops for ICT Practitioners
- Jun 2012 > Experience sharing with public organisations' IT staff
- Jul 2012 > Talk in ICT Industry Forum
- Oct 2012 > Seminar for non-government sector
- Dec 2012 > Talks for CIOs, Chamber, NGOs







# Inculcate future ICT workforce with professional knowledge and ethics

- Invited higher education institutions to incorporate
   Web Accessibility into relevant ICT Curriculum
  - ➤ Centennial College
  - City University of Hong Kong
  - ➤ Hong Kong Baptist University
  - ➤ Institute of Vocational Education
  - ➤ The Chinese University of HK
  - The HK Institute of Education

- ➤ The HK Polytechnic University
- ➤ The HK University of Science and Technology
- ➤ The Open University of HK
- ➤ The University of HK

Conduct talks for tertiary ICT students

# Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme

### **Objectives**

- Recognise efforts and accomplishments in adoption of web accessibility design
- Further raise the awareness in the community and encourage adoption

### **Structure**

- Co-organise with Equal Opportunities Commission
- Open to local businesses, NGOs, academia and quasigovernment organisations
- Not a competition or compliance audit

# Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme

### **Two-tier Accreditation System**

- 1st tier (Silver Award)
  - Websites incorporating basic web accessibility features

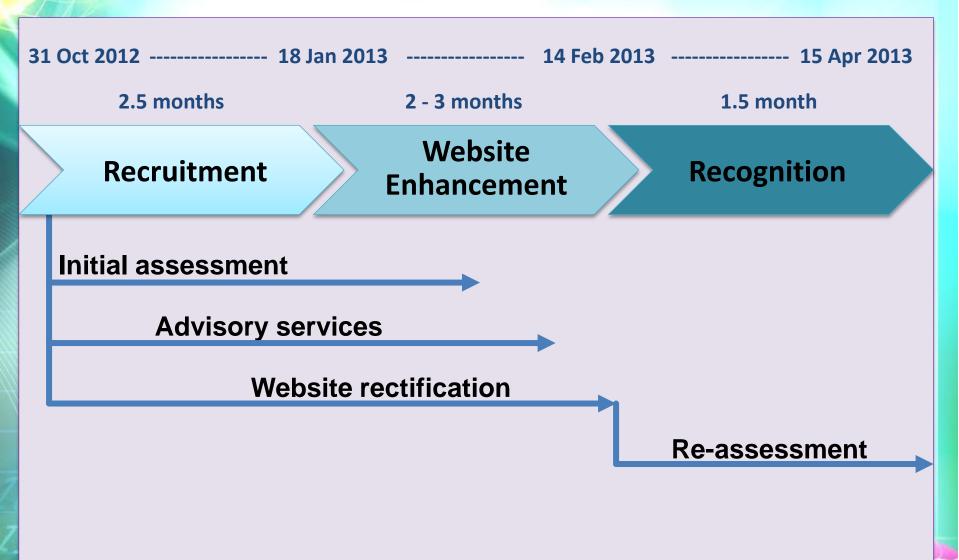


- 2nd tier (Gold Award)
  - Websites incorporating basic and key features



- Accreditation logos will be granted to awardees for display in their accredited websites
- The accreditation needs to be renewed annually

# Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme



# What you can help?

- Observe latest guidelines and standards
- Adopt web accessibility designs in institution
- Help business partners or clients aware of the importance and relevant skills
- Encourage and incorporate web accessibility elements in design stage in information and communication systems, products and services
- Uphold the professional ethics

# Let's join hands in making a digitally inclusive society Thank you!

