

Bringing More Outdoor Event Places to Hong Kong

Site selection of outdoor gathering places for cultural events in Hong Kong

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SUMMARY BRIEF

This project is aimed to solve two delimmas that Hong Kong is facing:
1. the limited event places cannot meet people's growing demand for cultural events;
2. new venue construction is constrained by environmental issues and an inadequate supply of land and workers.

We adovate to use existing open spaces as an alternative to building new entities to host cultural events.

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Building new entities requires land, materials, and resources, which can have a significant impact on the environment. By utilizing existing open spaces, we can minimize the need for new construction and the associated environmental costs. This aligns with the goal of reducing our ecological footprint and promoting sustainable practices.

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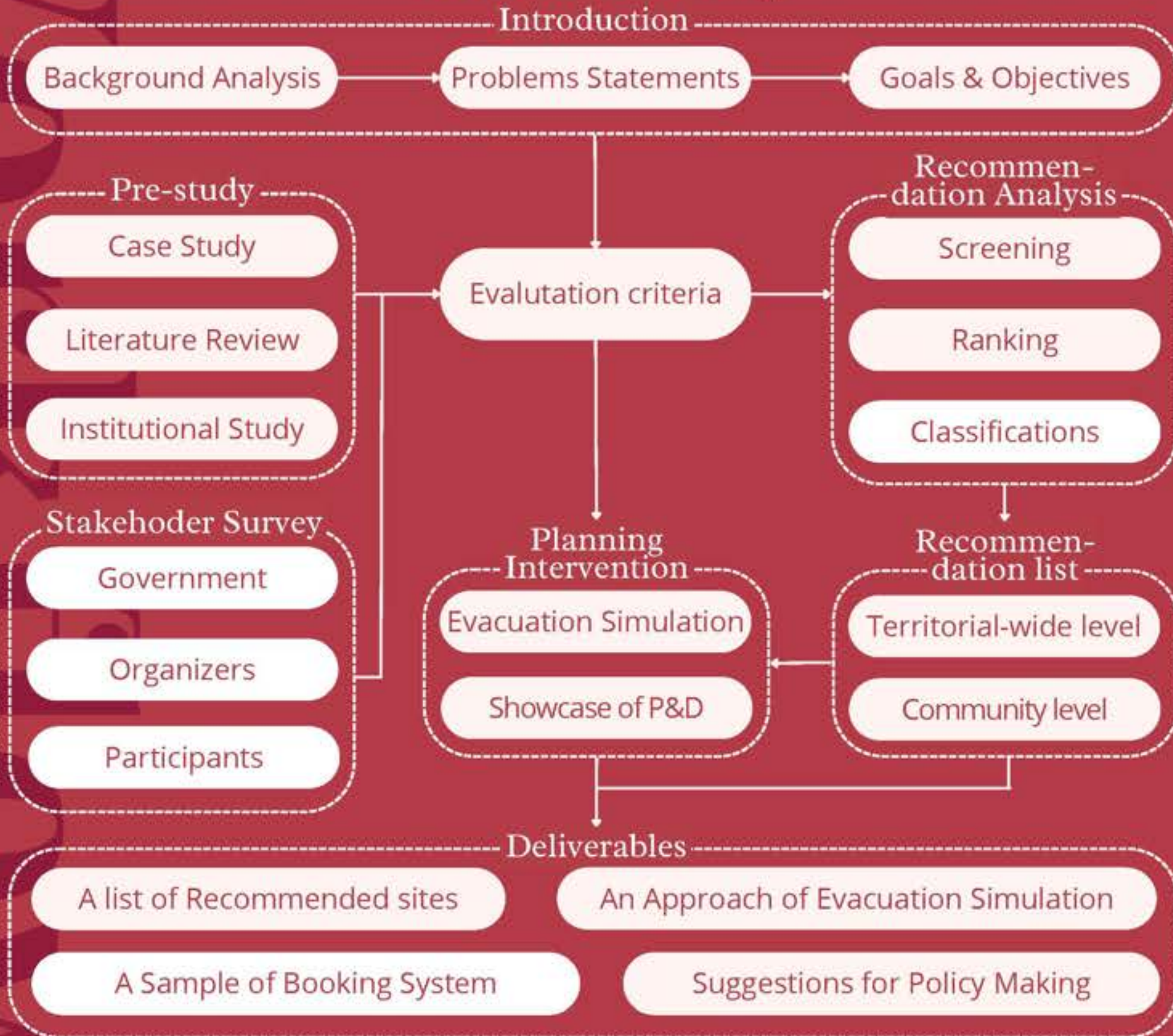
Open spaces, such as parks or public squares, are often valued by communities as communal gathering spaces. Utilizing these spaces for cultural events can foster a sense of community participation and engagement. It can also provide opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to come together and celebrate cultural diversity, promoting social cohesion and inclusivity.

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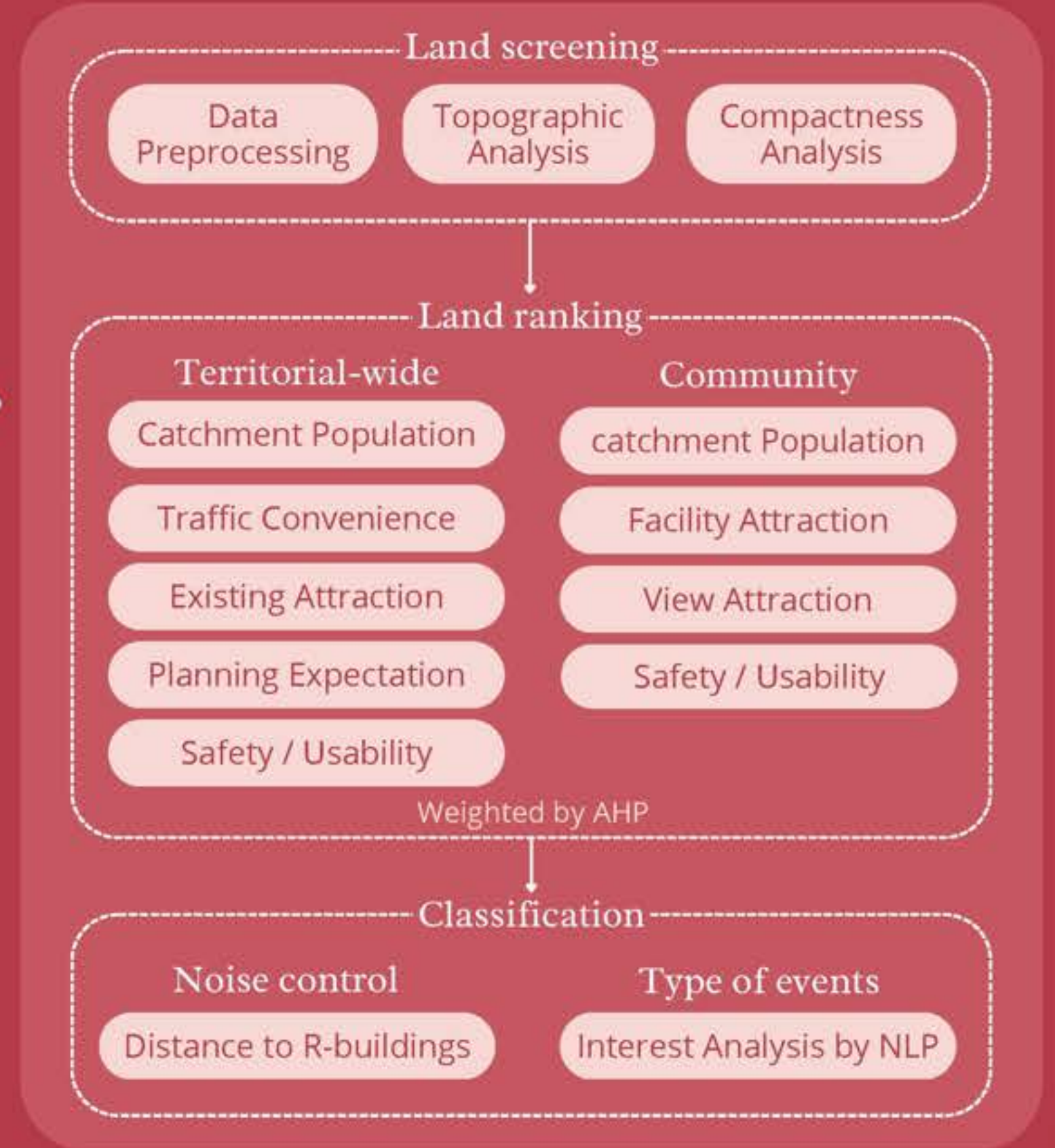
Using existing open spaces for cultural events can be a responsible governance decision as it demonstrates efficient use of existing resources. It may also reduce the need for additional infrastructure funding and maintenance costs, which could be allocated for other priority areas.

Workflow

Workflow of Study



Workflow fo Recommendation Analysis



Indicator System of Site Selection

Layer I	Layer II	Layer III	T-level	C-level	Data Sources	Data Processing Tools
Catchment Population	Catchment population of resident	Catchment population of resident	✓	✓	2021 Census Population POI	Fishnet Buffer Spatial Join Google MAPS API Network Analysis Calculate Geometry Attributes Minimum Bounding Geometry
	Catchment number of visitors	a. Hotels, b. Ports of entry and exit	✓	○		
Traffic Convenience	Transportation choices in 10 mins walk	a. MTR stations, b. Bus stops, c. Public car parks	✓	○	CSDI POI	Network Analysis Spatial Join Google MAPS API
	Shortest walking time to T-facilities	a. MTR stations, b. Bus stops, c. Public car parks	✓	○		
Traffic Convenience	Tourist destination attraction	a. Tourist attraction, b. Shopping attraction	✓	○	POI CSDI	Fishnet Buffer Spatial Join Near Network Analysis Calculate Geometry Attributes Minimum Bounding Geometry Google MAPS API
	Local amenity attraction	a. Eat & drink, b. Shops, c. Recreating facilities	✓	✓		
	View attraction	a. Sea, b. Inland water	✓	✓		
Safety / Usability	Internal environmental walkability	a. Slope, b. Stairs, c. Obstacles	✓	✓	CSDI Building Traffic Flow Census	Intersect Spatial Join Network Analysis Pandas Numpy Math
	External environment safety	a. Average traffic flow, b. Evacuation space	✓	○		
Planning Expectation	Population expectation	Population density of OZPs	✓	✓	HK 2030+ Pamphlets of NTPs Notes of OZPs	Spatial Join Pandas Numpy Math
	Visitor flow expectation	a. HK 2030+, b. New Town Plans, c. OZPs	✓	○		

[*] T-level: territorial-wide level; C-level: community level

Result

Territorial-wide level

After ranking and classification, we recommend 37 territorial-wide level sites, out of which 8 are on Hong Kong Island, 15 are in Kowloon, and 14 are in New Territories. There are 10 places where noisy activities are permitted.

37 Total

★ **10** Noise allowed

★ **27** Noise forbidden

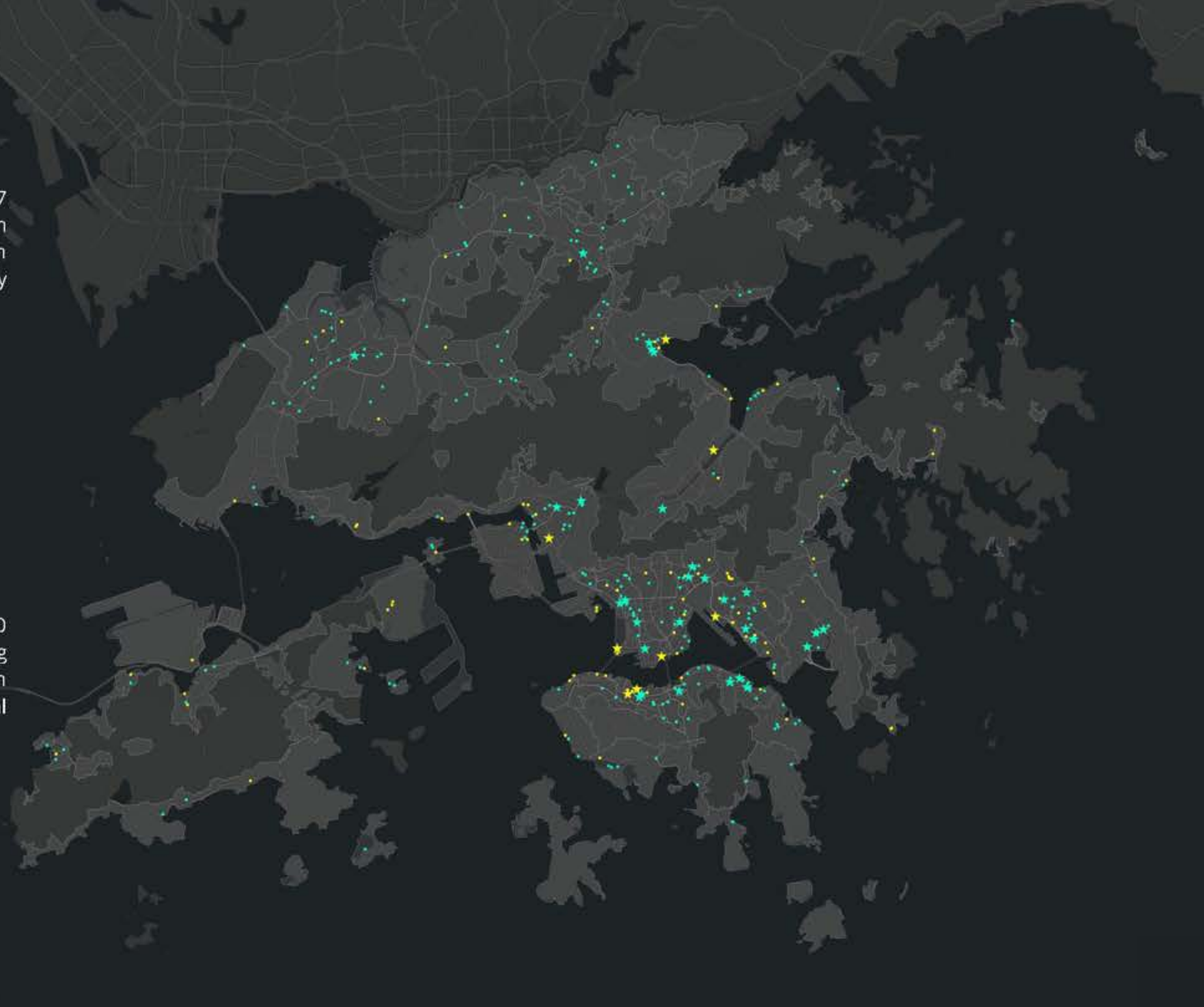
Community level

As for community level sites, we recommend 2 to 10 sites for each OZP area based on the existing population. There are 306 recommended sites in total, of which 100 can be used for noisy cultural events.

306 Total

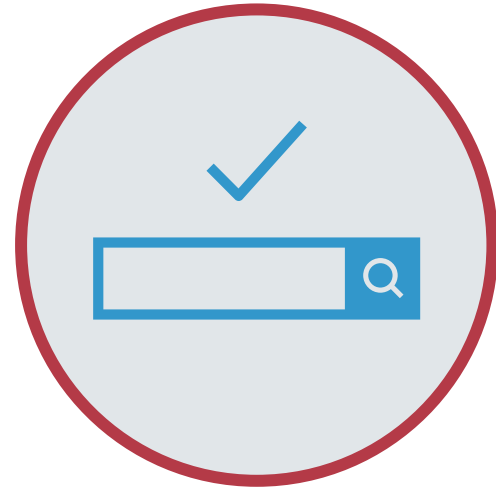
• **100** Noise allowed

• **206** Noise forbidden



Deliverables

A Sample of Booking System



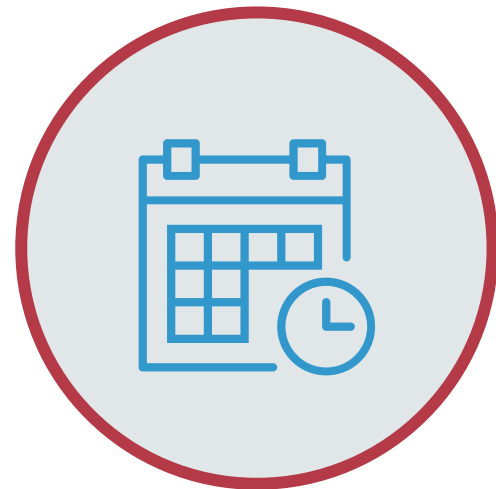
VENUE SEARCHING

The convenient search function helps you find a venue that meets your needs faster by combining ChatGPT and multi-dimensional information such as location, type of event, size of the event, and more.



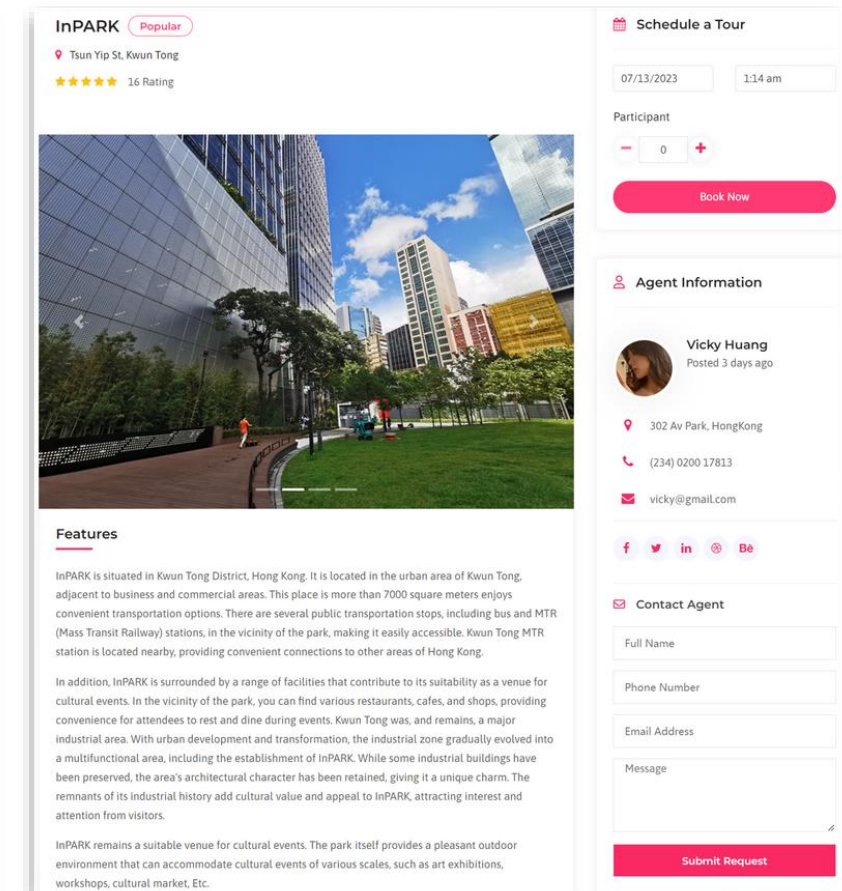
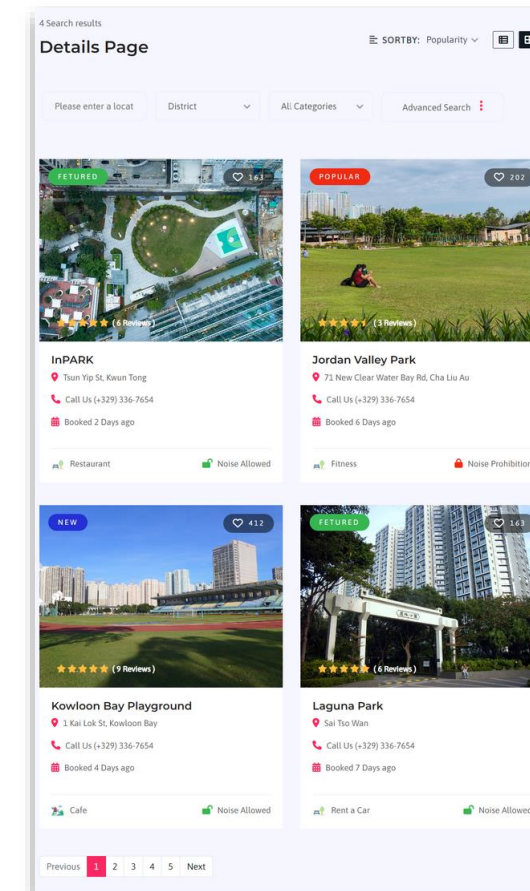
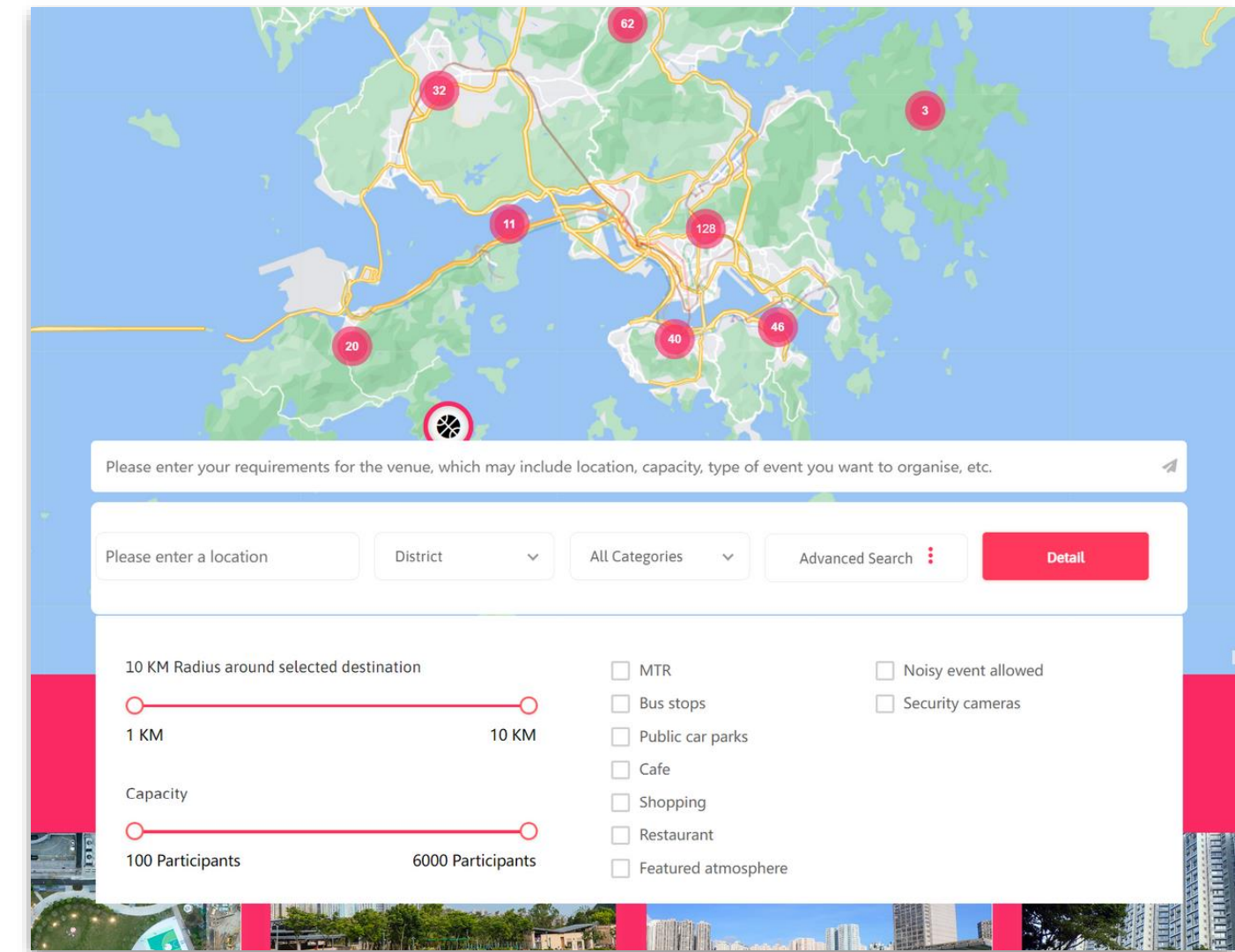
VENUE DISPLAY

Recommended ratings, pictures, features, neighbouring resources, booking prices, evacuation scheme and other rich and accurate venue details will help you get a comprehensive understanding of the venue you are interested in.



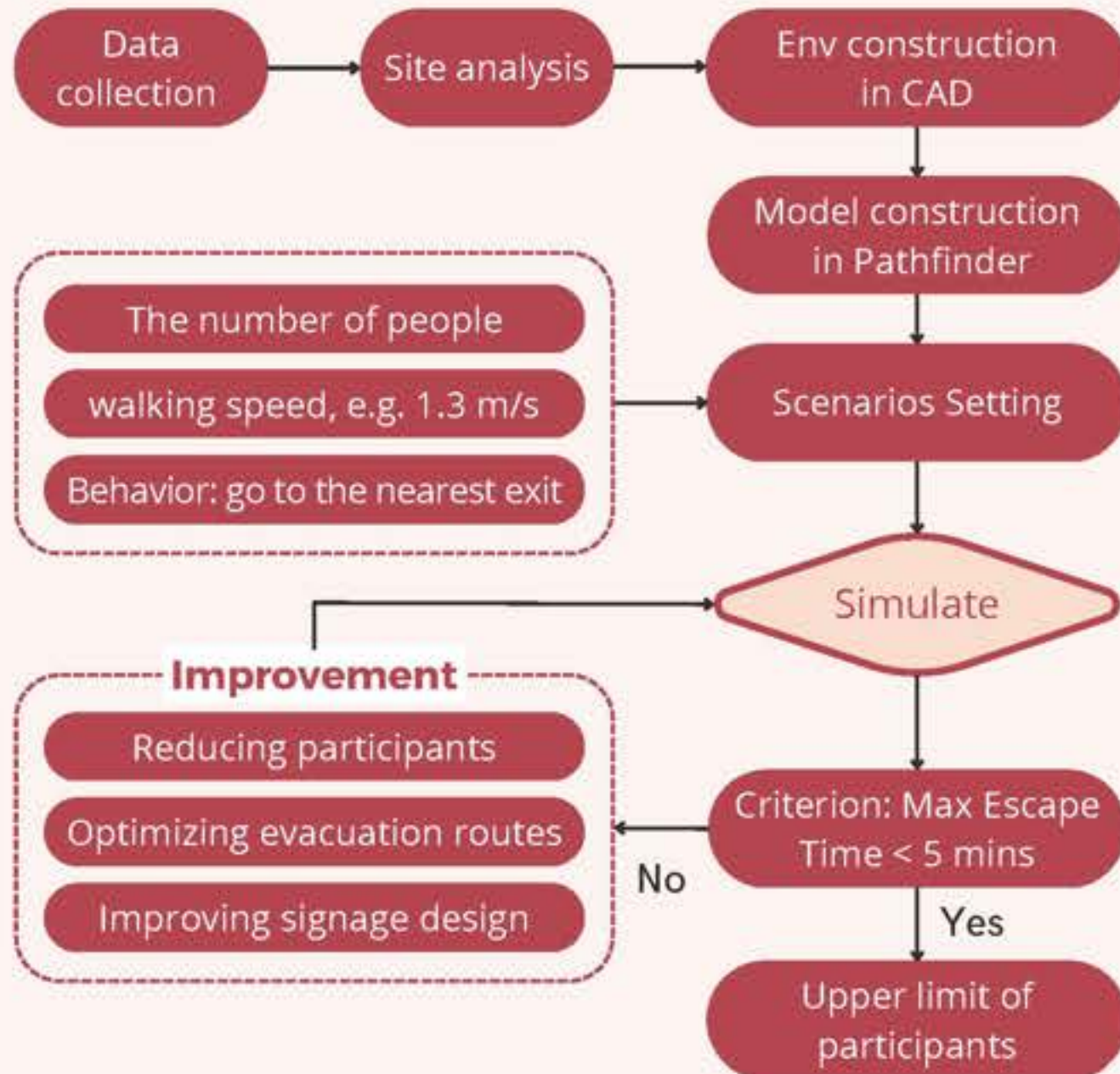
VENUE BOOKING

The quick and easy-to-use booking function offers a variety of payment options for you to choose from, as well as a way for you to submit your event layout. Please make sure your order information is correct before making payment.



Approach of Evacuation Simulation

Before each event place is listed in the booking system, it is recommended to simulate the upper limit of the number of participants first to provide a reference for the event organizer. We summarize a workflow of using Pathfinder as the following figure shows.



Suggestions for Policy Making

Create Inclusive Design Guidelines



By including features such as ramps, wheelchair-accessible paths, and seating options, the space becomes more inclusive and can be enjoyed by all. Additionally, creating open areas such as squares or lawns provides space for people to gather and participate in cultural activities, such as music festivals or art exhibitions. By designing spaces with inclusivity in mind, cultural events can be better attended and enjoyed by everyone, which can help foster a sense of community and promote cultural exchange.

Reutilize abandoned spaces

Redesigning underutilized spaces such as parking lots, and abandoned buildings for cultural uses. By investing in careful design and planning, these once-neglected areas can be transformed into vibrant cultural hubs that bring people together for art exhibits, music performances, theater productions, and more. These spaces not only provide much-needed venues for creative expression but also help revitalize communities by attracting visitors and stimulating local economies.



Planning and Programming Collaborations



Collaboration with community groups, cultural institutions, artists, and event organizers is a critical aspect of designing and managing public spaces. By closely working together, we can create vibrant and dynamic environments that reflect the unique character of the local area. Through this collaborative approach, we ensure that public spaces are not only functional but also engaging and inspiring.