Experience is the best teacher. People benefit much from experience, especially children, whom most information and learning about life in general are collected through experience. However, in this current time, unlike the past, children are often not allowed to freely experience the outdoor environment anymore. Mainly it is due to safety reason and parents’ lack of trust. This problem is normally seen in urban areas. The increasing number of vehicles and higher crime rate against a reduction in numbers of open space close to home and the declining sense of community have caused our city a lesser healthy place to grow up. This condition has negatively affected urban inhabitants, especially children whose freedom of movement has been compromised. This project focuses on a site with high child distribution in Subang Jaya, with approximately 155 children in 1 hectare area. Vehicle and pedestrian conflicts are identified and given treatment to elevate pedestrian safety. Some measures proposed, especially to benefit the children sense of direction and freedom are improving the streetscape quality to create interest with local character so that pedestrians can identify/recognize the place, therefore enhance the sense of place at the area. The legibility of the site is also emphasized – by accentuating landmarks, nodes, path and edges. Introduction of vibrant colours and shapes create fun and dynamic environment for the streetscape as well as visual-friendly for children. The design provides ample and safe green spaces to promote socialization among children so that they can walk safely without depending on others, meet friends, play with each other in the neighborhood and participate in local activities.
Sustainable Tropical Environmental Design Exhibition 2012

Child_02

Child_03

Child_04

Lim Mei Fang