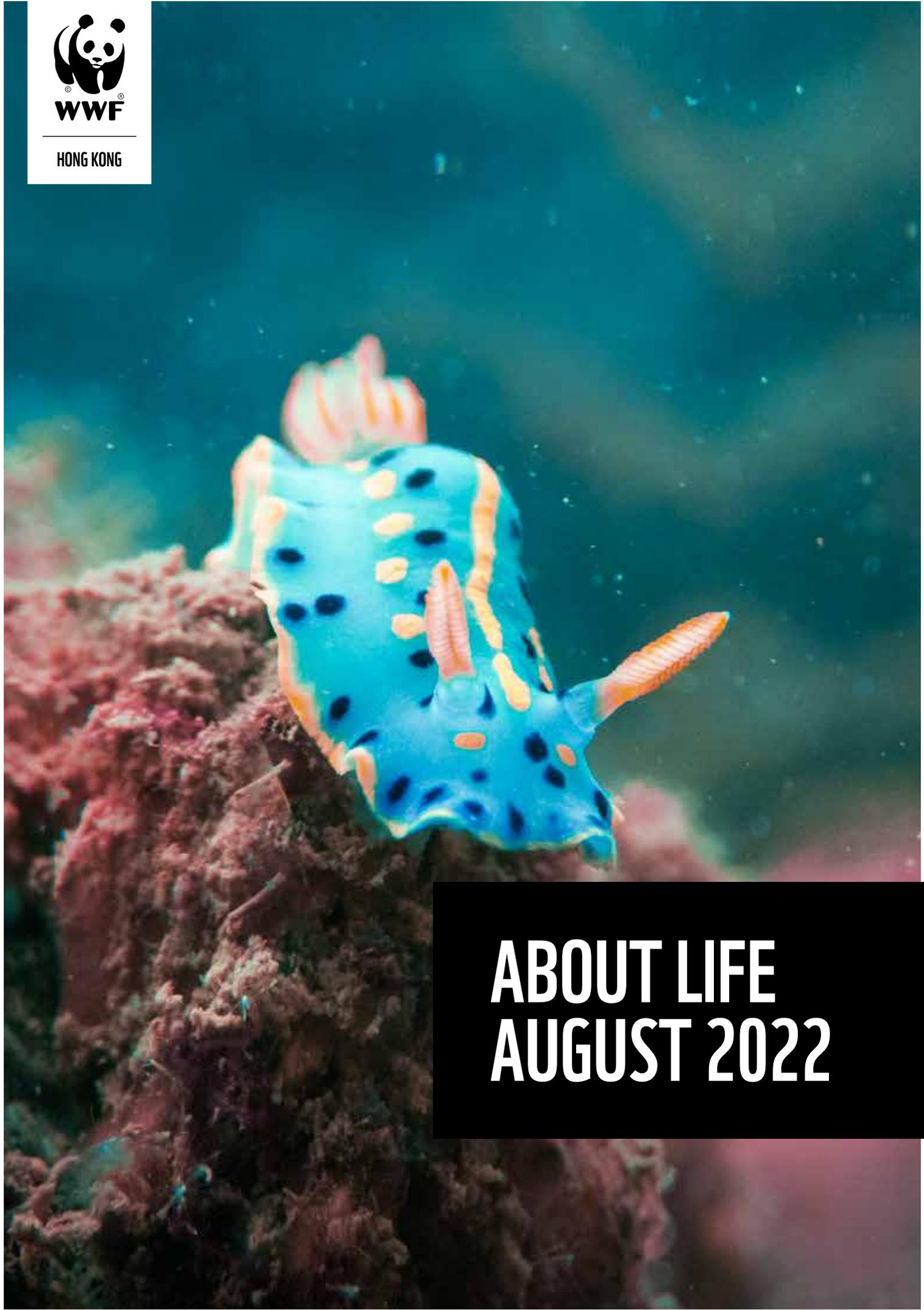




HONG KONG



ABOUT LIFE AUGUST 2022



森林保護者 TIGERS PROTECT HABITATS



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN OUR TIGER CONSERVATION WORKS!

CHAIRMAN & CEO MESSAGE



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This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. With the new administration have come new plans for housing and the economy, WWF continues to believe that nature conservation goals should be integrated with development goals to transform Hong Kong into a liveable city.

Hong Kong constantly reinvents itself. Today, the city has the ability to transform itself into a smart, green world city that is nature positive, WWF sees this happening by 2030, but to support the holistic conservation policies necessary to this transformation, ambitious, comprehensive planning is required. WWF is thus making recommendations to the government, including integrating wetland conservation into the Northern Metropolis design and deploying robust, forward-looking marine spatial planning strategies. These ideas will protect Hong Kong's extraordinary biodiversity and improve the well-being and living standards of its citizens.

In the meantime, as a major trade hub, Hong Kong should take a leading role fighting global extinction crisis and contributing to the movement reversing biodiversity loss worldwide. WWF has been supporting global conservation projects saving endangered species. Tiger conservation is a big one – during this summer's "Tigers Protect Habitats" event, we'll share tiger conservation success stories, explain their importance to natural habitats, wildlife and human beings, and gather support to conserve these guardians of the ecosystem.

Our work strives to sustain the natural world for both human beings and wildlife. We believe that every action, no matter how big or how small, counts and that habits accumulate. If we all change our habits to protect habitats, the impact cannot be ignored. So let's work together for a better future for us and our future generations!

Daniel R Bradshaw
Chairman, Executive Council of
WWF-Hong Kong

Nicole Wong
Chief Executive Officer,
WWF-Hong Kong

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ABOUT LIFE

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KPIS FOR A SUSTAINABLE, LIVEABLE AND HAPPY CITY

We all want to tell the world good stories of Hong Kong’s biodiversity conservation, it is vital that Hong Kong integrates conservation with development: we must formulate and implement policies using a people-centered approach to achieve President Xi’s ecological civilisation, help accomplish the government’s Greater Bay Area plan and fulfil our obligations under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

1. Beautify urban spaces through comprehensive spatial planning

Housing is Mr Lee’s top priority, something that is fundamental to people’s well-being and happiness. However, housing should not be developed at the expense of the environment – nature is vital to physical well-being and happiness, and people deprived of an environment with green spaces and clean air and water face mental stress and impaired cognitive development. Scoring well on happiness indices is an important KPI, in addition to the number of housing units provided.

The proposed Northern Metropolis has the potential to become a sustainable development paradigm for other regions. Flanked by the globally-important Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site, with its surrounding wetlands and adjacent mountain range, the area provides many ecosystem services: food, clean air, clean water, natural flood and climate control, disease mitigation, carbon storage, and more. WWF believes that wetland conservation should be integrated into the Northern Metropolis design through a proactive conservation strategy that preserves its economic and social benefits.

Specifically, we recommend extending the current Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site to create a wetland landscape coast and establishing a Sustainable Northern Metropolis Office to assist with consultation and stakeholder engagement. The Northern Metropolis can also become a “smart sponge city”, integrating green infrastructure to protect from future climate change impacts.

2. Become a net-zero carbon city and green finance hub

When devising climate solutions, we must avoid creating new problems while trying to solve old ones. For example, new offshore wind farms may further threaten Hong Kong’s already-stressed marine biodiversity. Robust, forward-looking marine spatial planning can ensure that development in Hong Kong’s marine spaces recognises biodiversity conservation priorities and aids the sustainable development of local fisheries.

As an international finance centre, Hong Kong’s climate footprint extends beyond its borders. Capital markets can and must leverage their power to address the environmental challenges of our generation. The city’s sharp acceleration of green bond issuance over the past several years was evidence of the market’s power for change, however, it also presents opportunities for greenwashing. Effective and credible standards and a Taxonomy are urgently needed to strengthen the credibility of Hong Kong’s green bond market.

Hong Kong can become an international green finance hub and attract significant foreign investments by developing effective and credible standards for the fast-growing green finance market.

3. Transition to a circular economy

To achieve zero plastic in nature by 2030, the government has to solve existing issues with waste disposal and the reuse of resources, and develop a holistic waste management system that will allow Hong Kong to become a circular, plastic-smart city by using bold, legally-binding instruments. Taking the Producer Responsibility Scheme on Plastic Beverage Containers as an example, WWF proposes the “CATCH” principle for this system, an acronym of “circular, adaptive, transparent, convenient, and holistic”. CATCH will ensure that current recycling loopholes are fixed and that public trust in our recycling system is restored.

4. Strengthen marine biodiversity

Mr Lee believes in Hong Kong’s unique strengths – three of these are our intertidal shores, coastal waters and marine biodiversity. Strengthening marine biodiversity creates significant socio-economic benefits, including outdoor recreation, eco-tourism, scuba diving, and fisheries. It is now a global goal to protect 30 per cent of the world’s oceans by 2030, Hong Kong must lead the way by highlighting our commitment to protecting our waters and quantifying the proactive nature conservation strategy. Specifically, by 2025, WWF advocates setting up a disturbance-free core conservation zone in Shui Hau sandflat in South Lantau.

Additionally, to protect Chinese white dolphins, WWF advocates setting up a core conservation zone on the Shui Hau sandflat in southern Lantau by 2025.

5. Encourage the sustainable development of local fisheries

A United Nations report has warned that a million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, and Hongkongers’ love for seafood is a key driver. Unknowingly, we consume species that are threatened, endangered or illegally sourced. To increase the transparency and reliability of the seafood supply chain, Mr Lee’s administration should establish a credible seafood labelling system that discloses the source country, production method and scientific name on all pre-packaged seafood products. Last but not least, the government should raise public’s awareness on selecting sustainable products. 🌱



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MAKING A SPLASH: OUR NEW SCUBA DIVING CUE CARDS



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Summer is here and so is scuba diving season! Oversea travel is still out of reach for most of us, so Hong Kong’s divers are flocking to local diving hotspots like Sai Kung to jump in and witness the incredible wildlife under the surface of our waters. While this is a wonderful thing for marine awareness, the recent increase in the number of local scuba divers also points to an urgent need to improve these divers’ knowledge of conservation.

Meanwhile, a WWF survey conducted by citizen scientists during the last diving season revealed that most divers tend to underestimate their impact on the marine environment. WWF is addressing this issue head-on by creating the first set of dive-training cue cards to contain conservation information.

As part of last year’s “ECF – Dive for Ocean” project, the underwater survey, which aimed to better understand divers’ underwater behaviours and potential impacts on the marine ecosystem, was conducted by 52 citizen scientists between June and December 2021. A total of 102 recreational divers were observed during the survey, with over 60% of participants being either open water divers or advanced open water divers. The citizen scientists recorded 1,088 seabed contacts from these divers, including 124 direct coral contacts. Hand and fin contacts were the most common, accounting for 70% of the total.

These findings revealed some alarming facts. Extrapolating from the data, we determined that scuba divers in Hong Kong will come into contact with corals as many as 200,000 times per year. We also found a significant gap between perceived and actual diving behaviour. Divers were observed to have an average of 10.7 contacts with the seabed per dive – this was around six more contacts than they perceived they had had.



© WWF-Hong Kong



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As divers’ professional qualifications and experience improve, their environmental awareness grows and seabed contacts like the above are generally reduced. This highlights that training is essential to establishing responsible diving behaviours.

WWF’s new scuba diving cue cards are designed to promote ocean-friendly diving behaviour and fill in conservation information gaps in current diving training. Designed with proactive help from the Hong Kong diving community, the initial set of cards focus on Sharp Island, a local diving hotspot with rich biodiversity and one of the seven priority sites for marine conservation identified by Hong Kong experts. The cards take a “train-the-trainer” approach to help diving instructors select appropriate training sites, equip their students with fundamental coral knowledge and ensure that trainees follow the correct diving protocols.

The set includes a Sharp Island dive training guide map, a pre-dive briefing pack, a code of conduct for scuba divers, and a list of common hard coral species. The first of its kind in Hong Kong, the guide map was designed to help diving instructors select suitable sandy areas for training exercises and depicts the distribution of corals and sandy areas around Sharp Island based on the findings of 35 advanced divers and instructors.

WWF-Hong Kong and 80 partner diving instructors, instructor trainers and course directors from the four major diving agencies – PADI, NAUI, SDI and SSI – co-created the pre-dive briefing pack and code of conduct. The code is a set of rules for rookie divers, including essential rules like “make sure your gear is fastened”, “control your buoyancy”, “be aware of your kicks”, and others which guide new divers’ actions both before they enter the water and when they enter a coral area. The set also comes with basic coral knowledge and a list of the eight most common hard coral species in Hong Kong.

The launch of this pilot project illustrates the significance and simplicity with which conservation can be integrated into recreational activities when there is strong partner support – especially from industry experts. It also echoes and emphasises WWF’s advocacy work to ensure that 30% of Hong Kong waters are dedicated as Marine Protected Areas by 2030 with effective site-specific management; and our on-going work to urge the government to implement a roadmap to safeguard Hong Kong’s precious marine resources as soon as possible. 🌊

DEVELOPING BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT IN SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD



Last year, WWF-Hong Kong launched an updated version of our iconic Seafood Guide. The new version provides up-to-date sustainability-related information on various types of seafood to help people make informed choices about what they eat. The response to the new guide has been excellent, but we want to go further. Now, we strengthen our engagement work with the seafood supply chain and retail sector to raise further awareness and drive behavioural change through our brand-new Sustainable Seafood Business Membership Programme, which we launched ahead of this year's World Oceans Day on 8 June.

Funded by the KPMG Foundation, the new programme aims to tackle persistent challenges faced by the F&B industry regarding obtaining information on sustainable seafood suppliers. Targeting suppliers, restaurants and retailers, the programme includes a real-time sustainable seafood e-directory where members can quickly and easily search for ocean-friendly seafood. The sustainability of all products listed is assessed and verified by WWF-Hong Kong.

Members can have their menu or products evaluated by WWF-Hong Kong. They will be granted the right to use our Sustainable Seafood Badge to differentiate their items from non-sustainable seafood. Their sustainable seafood items will also be listed on WWF-Hong Kong's Seafood Guide

website, giving consumers a list of eco-friendly dining options. We hope that these recognitions will help consumers make more environmentally sound seafood choices, as recent statistics show that over half of the city's consumers are more willing to purchase seafood products recommended by environmental NGOs like WWF-Hong Kong.

WWF-Hong Kong is committed to working with different businesses partners in sectors across the spectrum that share our vision: to design, plan and implement innovative business solutions to build a resilient future where people and nature thrive. 

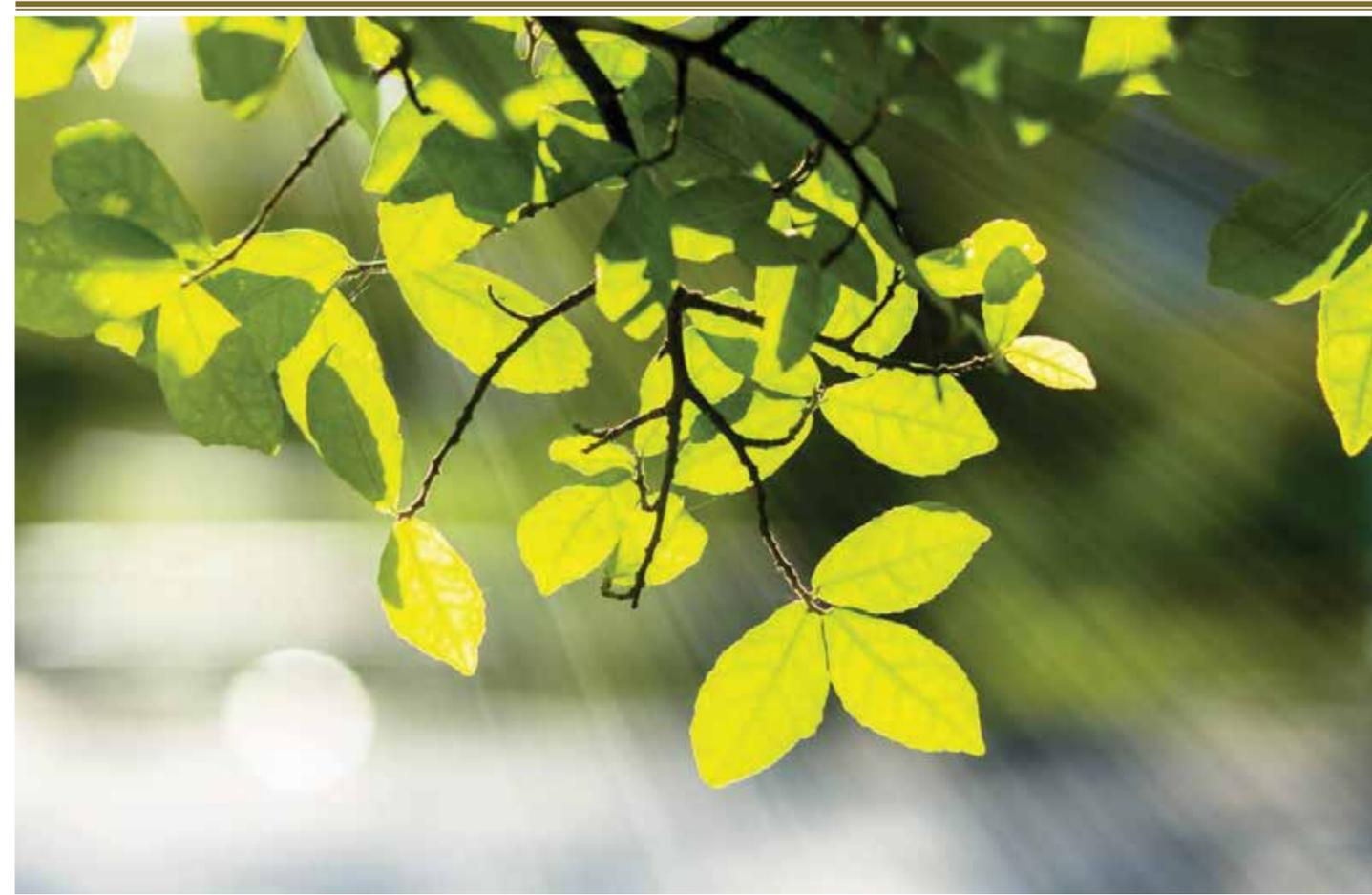


Find out more about the programme here



THE MARI-CHA GROUP

Continues to support WWF-Hong Kong in its work to protect and improve the environment for a sustainable future.



LET'S MAKE SHUI HAU MORE SUSTAINABLE



© WWF-Hong Kong

A secluded area in south Lantau called Shui Hau Wan is home to diverse ecological habitats that nurture an incredible diversity of life, including the “living fossil” horseshoe crab. Shui Hau also suffers from massive human disturbances, including the popular but currently unregulated activity of clam digging. Though Shui Hau is partially protected by a terrestrial Coastal Protection Area, its inter-tidal sand and mud flats remains unprotected, leading to severe consequences for animals and habitats.

To improve the situation, WWF, in conjunction with The University of Hong Kong and The Education University of Hong Kong, released a paper in the *Journal of Cleaner Production* last year that analysed the behaviour of clam diggers. The paper revealed a gap between clam diggers’ environmental attitudes and their actual behaviour¹.

Hong Kong’s first in-depth study investigating the difference between

perceived and actual behaviour in local clam diggers examined harvesting pressure employed a photographic survey of the clam harvest and a self-reported questionnaire to explore the clam diggers’ behaviour. The results revealed that, in general, clam diggers believe their activities are environmentally friendly. Many consider themselves to be more environmentally responsible, yet due to perceptual differences, many of the clams they harvested were smaller than the recommended minimum harvest size.

Using this baseline data, WWF has developed a set of clam gauges showing the recommended harvest size of five clam species at Shui Hau, encouraging clam diggers to release smaller clams. We hope this size guide will help maintain Shui Hau’s clam population and showcase a feasible approach so that the government can adopt a sustainable management approach for the area. This underlines our on-going ask that the government designate a Marine Protected

Area at Shui Hau for its ecological value, advocated by the renowned Professor Brian Morton in his posthumous paper².

¹ So, K. J. Y., Cheang, C. C., Hui, T. Y., & Chan, J. K. Y. (2021). Understanding the behavioural gap between perceived and actual environmental behaviour: Investigating the clam-harvesting pattern in Hong Kong SAR, China. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 316. doi:10.1016/j.jclepro.2021.128259

² Morton, B., Leung, SF., & Leung, KF. (2021). The biology and functional morphology of *Meretrix cf. meretrix* (Bivalvia: Veneridae: Meretricinae) at Tong Fuk Miu Wan, Shui Hau, Lantau Island, Hong Kong. *Regional Studies in Marine Science*, 45, 101842. doi:10.1016/j.rsma.2021.101842



Read the full paper



Learn more about our work in Shui Hau Wan

Building a Sustainable Community for our Future Generations

Backed by a long standing mission of “Building for Tomorrow”, the Wharf Group strives to contribute to the sustainability of the community in which we conduct business and operate.

Wharf spares no effort in supporting community programmes for the needy for decades. Upholding the long tradition of giving back to society, the Group spearheaded “Business-in-Community” (“BIC”) in 2011 which advocates direct reach-out and support for the less-privileged beyond “cheque-book philanthropy”. The Group joins hands with companies, organisations and individuals from all sectors, offers financial aid and mobilises staff volunteers to actively engage the community and help the vulnerable.

Wharf remains committed to building a sustainable community through the Group’s own BIC initiatives as well as supporting our NGO partners.

The Wharf Group are Constituent Members of “Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index” in 2022, an index that covers the top 30 corporate sustainability leaders in Hong Kong. The Wharf (Holdings) and Wharf REIC have also been awarded AA and AA+ of Sustainability Rating by Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency respectively in recognition of the sustainability commitment and effort. Both companies are awarded “CSR Index Plus Mark” as well by HKQAA. The Group is also awarded Top 2 Donor of the Community Chest of Hong Kong for two consecutive years.



NEW HOPE FOR THREATENED SHARKS AND RAYS



© Antonio Busiello / WWF-US

Sadly, many species of sharks and rays are threatened with extinction. WWF believes in acting fast to save species at risk. That's why we've partnered with other leading conservation experts to form the Shark and Ray Recovery Initiative (SARRI).

SARRI seeks to protect the critical habitats of some of the 200+ most-threatened shark and ray species and promote recovery efforts on a global scale by working closely with stakeholders including coastal communities, partners and experts. Together, we'll initiate comprehensive recovery plans that restore shark and ray populations in priority areas, and leverage our collective experience to develop a blueprint for the recovery of other endangered shark and ray species globally.

But why do sharks and rays matter so much? They're crucial to ocean health and the well-being of millions of people around the world. They're also powerful allies in curbing climate change – take tiger sharks, for example. They actually protect seagrass meadows from overgrazing by turtles and dugongs – and seagrass can capture climate-warming carbon up to 35 times faster than tropical forests. Deep-diving shark and ray species also help make oceans more productive by helping phytoplankton – the first link in the marine food chain – to grow. But these marine predators are now at extreme risk: the IUCN Red List records 37% of the 1,200+ shark and ray species as threatened with extinction. The main threat is overfishing, driven by the unsustainable demand for their meat and fins; they also become bycatch when fishing for other species. Many sharks and rays have slow reproductive rates, making them even more vulnerable to fishing.

Want to help SARRI save sharks and rays by changing your daily habits? Here's how:

- Avoid buying or consuming any shark or ray products. Say no to shark fin soup!
- Learn why sharks and rays are important – then educate others.
- Be a responsible ocean lover – when diving or snorkelling, use responsible tourism operators that protect wildlife, aid ocean conservation and benefit local communities.
- Choose sustainable seafood using our Seafood Guide at wwf.hk/seafood-guide-en
- Join our global movement to help sharks and rays recover– follow SARRI's recovery mission on their official website sarri.org
- Spread the word by sharing SARRI-related news with your friends and family. ♻️



Know more about SARRI



SAVE THE EARTH

Energy Saving



Founded in 1983, Hayco has been the partner of choice for the world's leading FMCG companies and retailers. Headquartered in Hong Kong, with three manufacturing sites in Mainland China and one LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum facility in the Dominican Republic, we are an experienced team of over 6,000. Together, we oversee all stages of production, from product development to molding, and from packaging to supply-chain solutions.

Hayco works closely with partners to understand the complexities of their business and deliver a simple, seamless production solution. Our relationships are built on our extraordinary levels of engagement because we know this is what it takes to truly deliver innovative solutions and manufacturing excellence.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Hayco means that we see accountability and sustainability issues as critical to the running of a modern business. We hold ourselves to high moral standards and recognize the role we play in shaping the future and making things a little bit better in every way we can. In fact, it has been our bedrock family belief since the beginning.

REUSE



SAVING



SAVING



ECO WATER



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REUSE



TAGGING BIRDS TO PROTECT THEIR HABITATS



© Kevin Lok

Migratory birds are critical to connecting ecosystems and keeping the natural world healthy. Sadly, populations of migratory birds along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) have been dwindling for decades. Identifying and protecting wetlands, their critical habitats, is one of the four priorities of WWF’s three-year Wetland Incubator Project, supported by the Hongkong Bank Foundation.

As part of this project, WWF-Hong Kong aims to identify migration routes and critical sites along the EAAF by closely working with the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS) and the Hong Kong Waterbird Ringing Group to deploy satellite tags on targeted species – specifically, mid- to large-size shorebirds. So far, 10 shorebirds have been tagged, including the near-threatened Eurasian Curlew, Black-tailed Godwit, and the endangered Nordmann’s Greenshank.

Bird tagging is a widely accepted and effective scientific method commonly used around the world to track migratory birds. Today’s advanced technology uses satellite tags – these unique locators produce more accurate records and allow for collecting precise locations of the tagged birds. The tags send signals to orbiting satellites, providing information on the latitude and longitude of the tagged birds. This location data is then sent to an online platform and made available to users. Out of the 10 tagged birds, eight of them have left their breeding grounds and are on their southward migrating journeys. Two of them have reached Vietnam and others are in Mainland China. You can track the birds yourself using the QR code below!



Check out their latest locations and migration routes

To ensure the birds’ safety and welfare, all bird ringing activities conducted in Mai Po Nature Reserve is controlled by permits issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), and only experienced bird ringers are allowed to fit the satellite tags to the birds. To minimize the impact to the birds, the tag’s weight is also limited to below 3% of the bird’s weight, and will naturally fall off after a few years.

Analysing the migration routes of migratory birds allows us to gather data for regional conservation strategies, including site protection along the EAAF. One last thing: If you spot birds with leg flags anywhere, jot down the information, take a photo if you can, and let us know! 📷



© Joanne Li / WWF-Hong Kong

Bird ringer gently holding the Eurasian Curlew C1 with satellite tag attached.

POWERING OUR WETLANDS

Wetlands include mangroves, marshes, swamps, ponds, lakes. They are among the world’s most productive and important ecosystems, with high biodiversity, including combinations of species that swim, fly, and walk. Mangroves and mudflats also provide stability along coastal areas, and act as buffers against climate change impacts, especially the much more severe storms expected to make landfall in Hong Kong. Loss of these wetland buffers will leave the coastal communities and infrastructure vulnerable, with loss of livelihoods, lives, and economic stability. Typhoon Mankhut provided a prelude to what we can expect in the future.

Hong Kong has protected some wetlands by declaring nature reserves and parks, such as Mai Po, that is home and habitat for tens of thousands of migratory birds that arrive in Hong Kong each winter. But over the years Hong Kong’s natural wetlands have been converted, many into fishponds. A climate change analysis conducted by WWF-Hong Kong shows that wetlands closer to the coast, including in Mai Po could become submerged due to rising sea levels and stronger tides. Under such scenarios, the fishponds in the Inner Deep Bay’s Wetland Conservation Area will become important habitats for migratory birds and other wetland biodiversity. Therefore, the fishponds should be conserved.

But many fishpond operators, unable to upkeep the ponds due to loss of market share from price competition from China, are giving up their livelihoods. Supported by the Hongkong Bank Foundation, the “Powering Our Wetlands” project has been launched last year to strengthen preservation of the Mai Po wetlands. One of the project’s main workstreams is designed to find ways to provide additional revenue streams to the pond operators as economic incentives. The pilot project will test the use of floating solar panels on fishponds to generate renewable energy that will earn feed-in-tariff revenues to the pond operators. If the pilot project is successful, it can be replicated in other fishponds in the Inner Deep Bay and beyond and serve to conserve the wetlands as a climate adaptation strategy to conserve bird migrations, build coastal resilience, and contribute to Hong Kong’s renewable energy targets. 🌞

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THE "OH MY OTTER" FESTIVAL



Did you know that Eurasian Otters (*Lutra lutra*) call Hong Kong's Deep Bay their home? Not many people do! That's why, to celebrate these lovely creatures on World Otter Day, WWF-Hong Kong hosted our first-ever otter festival at Island House Conservation Studies Centre on 28th-29th May, 2022. The event was put together by our Otter Education Design Team as part of the Wetland Incubator project supported by the Hongkong Bank Foundation.

The team works to raise awareness on local otters and the importance of conserving their habitats through a series of public awareness-building activities. Our 10 education design incubators formulated otter actions, which have so far included a "Little Otter Painters Colouring Competition", an interactive storybook for young kids and the most recent "Oh My Otter" Festival.

Here's what two of our incubators had to say about their experience!

Cecilia Lam

Q: What's a highlight of working with the team?

It must be smelling and searching for otter spraints in Mai Po Nature Reserve. I had no idea that their faeces could be so important! I've also learned a lot about other local wildlife. Hong Kong may be a commercial metropolis, but local wildlife are still vitally important.



The weekend festival attracted 460 attendees, with fun activities taking visitors on a three-zone journey to learn about Eurasian Otters and their habitats: a local crafts market, a themed "Oh My Otter" exhibition and an exclusive DIY scented wax melt workshop. The exhibition presented interesting facts about Eurasian Otters along with insights on the field research techniques used by experts. The market with otter-themed products not only support local businesses, but also remind participants of otter conservation and learn to live a sustainable lifestyle.

Shirley Wong

Q: Which part of this project did you like the most?

I loved making the otter sculptures, because I think it's important to address environmental education in creative ways to raise public awareness of otter conservation. The participants' feedback were very encouraging and has inspired me to do more in the future. The research we did for the sculptures also helped us to learn how to distinguish the different otter species, and the threats they face in different countries.

Cecilia Lam (L) and Shirley Wong (R) from the Otter Education Design Team helped create these Eurasian Otter sculptures, hoping that the public could get a sense of these nocturnal animals' features and appearance.

ENRICH PEOPLE'S LIVES ENRICH YOUR LIVES

Founded in 1895, Jebsen Group is a leading brand builder and a focused marketing, investment and distribution organisation. A family-owned private company with over 125 years of continuous presence in Greater China, Jebsen is committed to supporting our partners' needs in building market demand, generating sales, and connecting customers across the region. As a strategic co-pilot, Jebsen elevates the value of partnering brands and helps them achieve success.

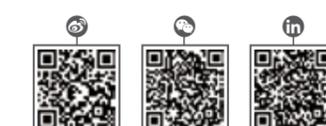
Under the master brand of Jebsen, the Group has four Core Business Lines – Motors, Beverage, Consumer and Jebsen Capital – and two further established business lines around Industrial and Logistics. Jebsen offers over 200 of the world's premium brands extensive and specialised local market access. Outside the region, Jebsen enjoys close ties with sister companies in Australia, South East Asia, Denmark and Germany.

With clear vision and commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR), Jebsen is determined to integrate economic, social and environmental considerations into organisational strategies and operations. The Group's main goals are to distribute quality products and services to customers, sustain business growth, and improve the environment and well-being of the local communities. Our people are Jebsen's most important assets, hence special care is placed on employees' ethical behaviour, values and quality of life. The Group believes CSR is an imperative and win-win solution for sustainable growth, in addition to contributing to environmental and social quality.



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SAVING TIGERS TO SAVE HABITATS

Tigers are the largest carnivores in Asia. These iconic apex predators contribute to shaping and structuring a range of ecosystems – mangroves, rainforests, the temperate forests of the Russian Far East, and even the high forests of Bhutan located over 4,000m above sea level. Though tigers have been locally extinct in Hong Kong since the 1940s, understanding the importance of tigers to humans and our natural habitats will help us promote better conservation approaches.

Tigers are easily recognised by their stripes. Each tiger’s stripe pattern is unique, meaning they can be individually identified and counted using camera trap images to estimate population numbers. They generally gain independence at around two and attain sexual maturity between three and five years of age, depending on their gender, then leave their mothers’ home range to search for new territory.

These solitary predators need large, healthy ranges to roam and thrive. As an umbrella species, their habitats overlap with 332 key biodiversity areas and globally important watersheds and forests – these are home to many of our planet’s most endangered species and a source of vital water supplies and carbon storage. By protecting the kingdoms of these magnificent creatures, we secure wildlife, habitats and the future of humanity.

Sadly, wild tiger numbers have dropped by more than 95% since the beginning of the 20th century, reflecting a concurrent loss of habitats. This is why WWF has been working hard to increase the number of tigers, collaborating with governments in tiger range countries to advocate coexistence approaches and integrating tiger conservation into the human development agenda. Now, for the first time in modern conservation history, wild tiger populations are on the rise. South Asia accounts for the vast majority of this increase – impressive, given that this is one of the most densely populated regions on Earth.

While encouraging, this recovery has been highly uneven between regions. We need to work together to bridge this gap and save tigers from multiple threats, including habitat loss, illegal poaching and trafficking, while protecting habitats for these mighty beasts, other wildlife and human beings.



Read the latest Living with Tigers Report



© Emmanuel Rondeau / WWF-UK

LOLO’S FLYING JOURNEY UPDATED

On 14 May, WWF celebrated World Migratory Bird Day by launching an updated education pack called “Lolo’s Flying Journey”. Designed to raise public awareness about the importance of protecting migratory birds and their habitats, the pack features the adventures of Lolo the Black-faced Spoonbill. “Lolo’s Flying Journey” was created in collaboration with the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and generously supported by the Incheon Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea and the Hanns Seidel Foundation.

The Black-faced Spoonbill is classified as “Endangered” on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. It is inherently vulnerable to extinction, with only over 6,000 individuals left in the world. Through a fun interactive game, participants (especially children aged 6-15) experience Lolo’s thrilling annual migration journey along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway southwards and further understand the vital importance of the flyway for these migratory waterbirds and the need to conserve different wetlands along it – including Mai Po Nature Reserve and Inner Deep Bay in Hong Kong, one of the wintering grounds of Black-faced Spoonbills; and the Songdo Tidal Flat in Incheon, Korea, their breeding ground.

At the same time, “Lolo’s Flying Journey” aims to enhance participants’ understanding of the inter-relationships between humans and nature, foster their interest in and concern for the natural world, particularly migratory birds and wetlands, widen their horizons on global issues, and encourage them to adopt a sustainable lifestyle. The pack comes with interpretation notes and a manual for educators. English, Chinese and Korean versions are available.

The original version of the education pack was used successfully for more than 10 years in local environmental education programmes. The updates were made under the Incheon-Hong Kong Sister Site Arrangement which was signed in 2019. The first batch of training and learning activities will debut in South Korea soon. WWF and the EAAFP hope that this updated pack will eventually reach users around the world.



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Download the digital version of the updated “Lolo’s Flying Journey” here!

EARTH HOUR 2022 ONLINE MUSIC EVENT WRAP-UP

地球一小時 EARTHHOUR.HK

WWF's first-ever online music event for Earth Hour was held on 14 May. A continuation of the annual Earth Hour lights-out ceremony, held this year on 26 March, this event was another way for us to "go beyond the hour" and sustain the momentum of transforming our habits to safeguard the environment for future generations.

Held at our Island House Conservation Studies Centre, declared a heritage monument in 1983, WWF streamed the show into homes across the city through an online platform, with audiences using an event pass to watch. This year's Earth Hour ambassadors also took part in the event, presenting and performing songs and taking part in eco-themed games. These included Terence Lam, Anson Kong (AK), On Chan, Cath Wong, ToNick, and three hosts from Commercial Radio – Bonnie Wong, Elsie Lui and Eugene Yip, who also acted as the event's emcees.

Echoing this year's Earth Hour theme of "Habits Protect Habitats", the event was held on World Migratory Bird Day to spotlight some of the world's silent heroes – wetland habitats and the many species that rely on wetlands for survival, including migratory birds. The lights-out component of Earth Hour also underlined an important focus of this year's World Migratory Bird Day: light pollution and its impact on migratory birds. This critical message was shared by the three emcees as the event kicked off, reminding all the listeners that by taking a step further in our daily lives, we can all make positive changes for the environment.

Aside from these serious messages, the event was also filled with music and fun. The show began with a lively performance from our ambassadors Anson Kong and ToNick. Anson's songs included the solo "Deliberate", the first-ever performance of his new song "Shin No Maki", and "Rebound" with surprise



guest Alton Wong, his bandmate from prominent local group Mirror, and some enthusiastic dancers. Local group ToNick joined in and collaborated with Anson on the song "The Day We Slayed Demons", and a trio of songs – "I Want to Save the Earth", "Goodbye Painkillers" and "Riding a Hobby Saps One's Will to Kindle with Their Another Half". The performers then took part in a fun game called "Green Living Habits Charades", using body language to act out the answers and share sustainable lifestyle tips with the audience.

The emcees' performance of the song "Dear Future Self in 10 Years" kicked off part two of the show. During the lights-out ceremony on 26 March, we debuted a music video of a rearranged version of the song that featured our event ambassadors at Mai Po Nature Reserve expressing their hopes for the natural world. This performance radiated the same energy. On Chan then performed "The Last Words of a Polar Bear", talking about the threats from climate change to polar bears, along with songs "Searching for Love in the Wrong Universe" and "Unknown". Cath Wong then joined him and collaborated for the first time on the quick-rhythm songs "In the Name of Youth" and "Before Dawn". Cath followed this with three songs – "Little People", "Two Moons" and "Lissome" – calming things down and soothing the audience with sweet melodies.

As the event drew to a close, On Chan and Cath Wong played a game of Pictionary, drawing iconic wetland wildlife species to broaden their knowledge of our wetland residents. Afterwards, Terence Lam came

on to perform the song "Listen to the Sound of the Wind" with On and Cath. He then sang "Mosquito" and "Swallowtail Butterfly", wrapping up the night with a melodic wish for us to conserve our natural environment.

As the largest global environmental movement on the planet, Earth Hour signifies much more than just one hour of one day – it means going beyond the hour and making a commitment to take care of our planet and each other every hour of every day. Do not underestimate the effects of small changes in our daily lives: these can kickstart the sustainable use of the Earth's irreplaceable natural resources – our wetlands, oceans, wildlife, and more. Start now to learn how to live sustainably to shape a brighter future for us and the planet! 🌱



Learn how to go beyond Earth Hour in your daily life

VISIT OUR CENTRES

Our visitor centres are open with small group activities. We have enhanced our health precautions and adjusted opening hours to welcome your family and friends to Mai Po, Hoi Ha Wan, Island House in Tai Po, and our premise in Central!



Mai Po Nature Reserve



Island House Conservation Studies Centre



Hoi Ha Marine Life Centre



Central Sustainable Living Hub



GET INVOLVED!

WWF-Hong Kong hosts an array of activities for you to join.

KEY EVENTS & REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Check out the upcoming events and regular activities at our centres, which take place with small groups in the outdoors.



Open for Bookings

CENTRAL SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB

8-9 October Jewel Orchid Terrarium Workshop



HOI HA WAN FESTIVAL

22-23 October



WALK FOR NATURE

5-6 November



ISLAND HOUSE FESTIVAL

26-27 November, 3-4 & 10-11 December



BECOME A TIGER PROTECTOR NOW



Support Us Now



Wild tiger populations have declined by 95% since the beginning of the 20th century. The time for action is now.

JOIN OUR CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME



Book Now



Corporate members can join eco-guided visits and activities at our centres. Contact our team to organize eco-guided activities, shoreline clean-ups and sustainability workshops in a safe, outdoor environment.

**Around the world, WWF
and partners work to ensure
marine resources are managed
sustainably, so our ocean is
protected and productive
for future generations.**



Working to sustain the natural
world for people and wildlife
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