



WWF

HONG KONG

# OUR HABITAT

我們的棲息地·我們的家

# OUR HOME



ANNUAL REVIEW  
2020



© Martin Harvey

Hoi Ha Wan was among the first batch of marine protected areas designated in Hong Kong in 1996 and is home to WWF's marine life centre. We urge the Hong Kong government to increase Marine Protected Areas (MPA) to cover 30% of Hong Kong waters by 2030, with no-take reserves as a foundation. Only 5% of Hong Kong's waters are designated or planned to be established as MPAs by 2023 is not enough.

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# Chairman Message



In September, Chinese president Xi Jinping announced that China would be carbon neutral by 2060. In Carrie Lam's 2020 policy address, the Hong Kong government announced an even more stringent target of being carbon neutral by 2050. This is a game changer.

We look forward to getting more details on the "proactive strategies and measures to reduce carbon emissions" that the government plans to implement and are now engaging with them on this issue ahead of the update to Hong Kong's climate action plan in the middle of next year.

It is up to all of us to work together to take the actions that are necessary to make Hong Kong a liveable city that embraces innovation, and initiatives to lower our Ecological Footprint.

We need to change the way we live in our consumption of food and clothing, and have a bold vision for transportation and energy solutions. We need to recognise the impact we are having on our planet's biodiversity and take the steps necessary to restore habitats and species. We need a game changing "new deal for nature and people from ridge to reef". This can be a defining moment for Hong Kong.

Today, we are excited to share with you WWF-Hong Kong's bold vision to regenerate our local biodiversity – the largest and most innovative wildlife, landscape and oceans regeneration program in our 40 year history.

The plan rose from the COVID-19 crisis when we all

put our lives on pause and started to reconnect with each other and our city's natural environments. This is our chance to address our Ecological Footprint and restore and revitalise our city's natural places. The magnitude of our climate and environmental crisis requires us to respond at scale, but we can't achieve it alone. It needs the support of all of you.

Over the past year, we undertook a review with academics on what it will take to restore our oceans with an emergency recovery plan and coordinated marine spatial planning across the Greater Bay Area. We need to meet national targets in marine protected areas. With this commitment our latest scientific report on watershed and wetland areas provides a blueprint of what needs to be done across terrestrial areas in Lantau today and across seven priority conservation areas in Hong Kong waters. We want to see the adoption of climate resilient planning for wetlands and communities at risk from the climate crisis.

Regeneration from ridge to reef is our HK\$40 million program to help restore habitats, species and rejuvenate communities. We cannot do this alone and need your support to realise our ambition.

Together, let's future-proof our world.

**Edward M. Ho**  
 Chairman, Executive Council  
 of WWF-Hong Kong



## Edward M. Ho

*Chairman,  
Executive Council of WWF-Hong Kong (2014-2020)*

The end of 2020 sees the completion of Edward Ho's tenure as Chairman of WWF-Hong Kong after serving as head of Hong Kong's largest environmental NGO for the past six years.

Since assuming the helm in 2014, Edward has steered the organisation's development focus on conservation education, spearheading the Mai Po Infrastructure Upgrade Project that will convert Mai Po Nature Reserve into a 21st century classroom.

The project will unveil a new Peter Scott Field Studies that will be accessible to all visitors, including those with disabilities, and enhance capacity for wetlands training and research, providing space for community forums and workshops.

Edward has been with WWF since 2012 as a member of the Finance Committee and Development Committee, bringing his financial expertise and commercial experience to the non-profit community and will continue doing so in his capacity as member of the Executive Council.

Edward hands over the helm to incoming Chairman Daniel Bradshaw with WWF in solid footing. We want to extend our deepest gratitude for Edward's dedication and passion for conservation and WWF over the years and look forward to his continued contribution to the future growth of the organisation.

The Mai Po upgrade project is funded by a HK\$347.86 million grant from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The grant covers elements that make it possible for the Mai Po Community to have the facilities needed by students, teachers, and those interested in wetlands research and wetlands training.

Mai Po Nature Reserve serves as a benchmark for the sustainable use of wetlands and a hub of biodiversity with over 2,050 recorded species. This project aligns with the local, regional and global sustainability goals undertaken as part of a mission to create a New Deal for Nature and People.

The Peter Scott rebuild will enhance capacity for wetland training and research, providing space for community forums and workshops. This will bring groups together to tackle threats to biodiversity and the issues surrounding the protection of Deep Bay wetlands and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

Education has been a cornerstone of Mai Po since the early days and the refurbishment of the Mai Po Education Centre will provide enhanced exhibition and interactive learning areas for students, members or the public and citizen scientists.

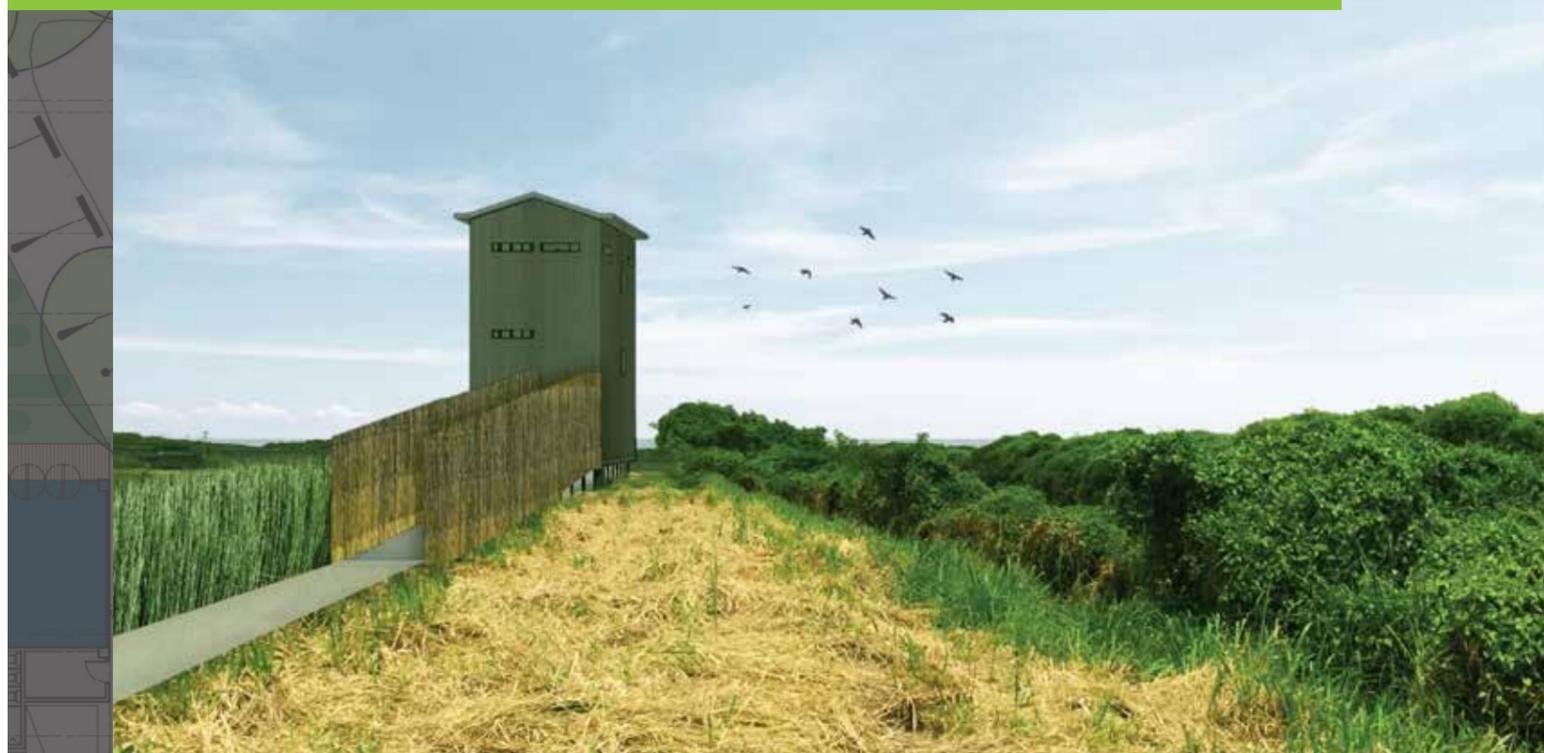


Visit our  
project website  
to learn more



An upgrade planned to the existing footpath that connects Mai Po's various facilities with the construction of a wooden boardwalk includes widening to universal accessibility standards. The new boardwalk design will be a minimum width of 1.65 metres with a safety lip for wheelchairs. There will be in total six education areas with signage at points along the 1 km route, and seven passing bays for wheelchair users.

Bird hides are one of the most important elements of Mai Po Nature Reserve, allowing visitors to observe the globally endangered and migratory birds that pass through the reserve without causing disturbance. The two proposed tower hides will provide opportunities for our Mai Po community to observe the reserve's bird community and Connect with Nature.





# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

As a leading non-profit conservation organization, WWF-Hong Kong commands a high degree of public trust due to our professionalism, integrity and transparency.

WWF-Hong Kong's governing body is the Executive Council. Its members, professionals from conservation, scientific, education and business fields, are strongly committed to nature conservation. They serve on a voluntary basis, providing advice from their professional perspectives, approving strategic direction, conservation programmes and annual budget, and monitoring operations of WWF-Hong Kong.

Members of the Executive Council must be trustee members of WWF-Hong Kong and are elected by other trustee members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Each council member shall hold office until the third AGM next following his or her election when he or she shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of three years. Members may serve a maximum of six years, unless decided otherwise by the Executive Council.

A number of sub-committees, composed of experts in the relevant fields, enhance the breadth and depth of the Executive Council's work. Each sub-committee provides professional advice in areas of conservation, education, development, finance and the management of the Mai Po Nature Reserve.

WWF-Hong Kong understands that voluntary disclosure is essential in establishing public confidence. To ensure that our financial resources are spent appropriately, we are committed to providing clear, accurate and transparent financial information for public scrutiny. Our financial accounts, prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, are independently audited by BDO Limited and published yearly in our annual report.

## THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(Members as at 30 June 2020)

Chairman

**Mr Edward M. HO**

Chairman Designate

**Mr Daniel R. BRADSHAW**

Members

**Dr Timothy BONEBRAKE**

**Ms Sylvia CHAN, MH**

**Ms Irene N.Y. CHU**

**Professor David DUDGEON**

**Mr William W. FLANZ**

**Mr David M.H. FONG, BBS, JP**

**Mr Alun C. GRASSICK**

**Mr Alexandre MACAIRE**

**Mr Philip MOK**

**Mr Arthur MUI**

**Ms Katherine NG**

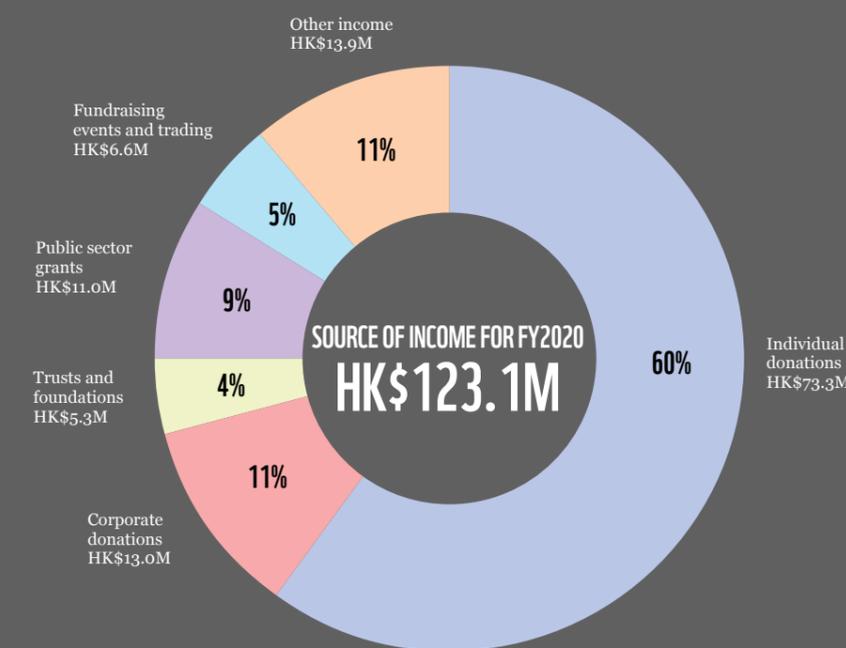
**Mr Douglas C.K. WOO, JP, Hon. LHD**

# FINANCIALS

The following highlights provide an analysis of the Annual Report and Accounts of WWF-Hong Kong for the year ended 30 June 2020. The Annual Report and Accounts have been audited by BDO Limited and are prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards.

## OUR INCOME

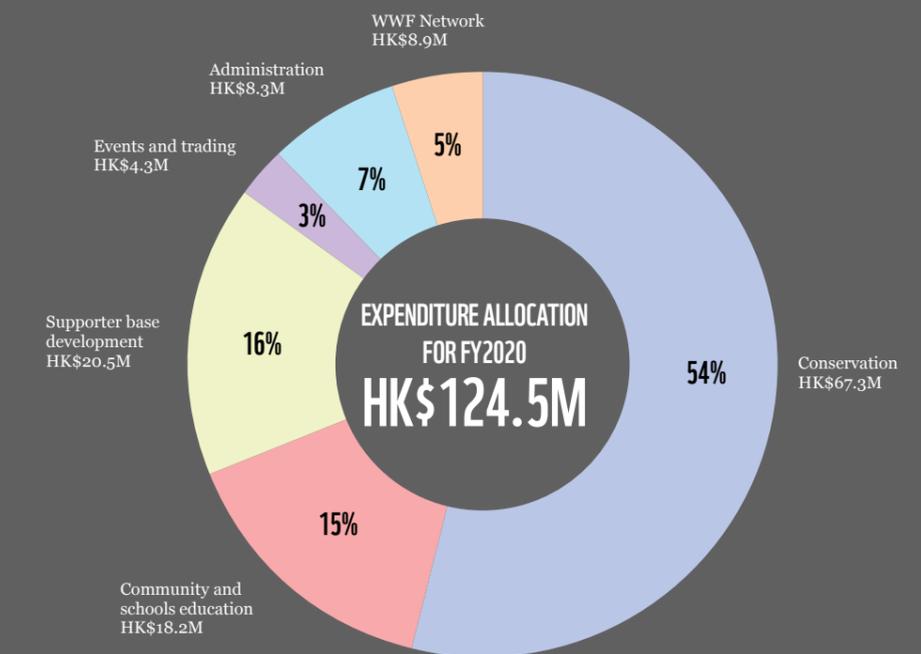
WWF-Hong Kong's income increased by 1.7% to HK\$123.1 million in FY20. Support from individual donations which continue to be the largest income source, grew at 4.4%, and representing 60% of the total income for FY20. Corporate donations, including income from our Corporate Membership Programme, corporate partnership on plastics campaigns, and a service fee from a financial institution's e-statement initiative. Trust and foundation income included the second year of Making Zero Impact Fashionable initiative, the Sea For Future project, and public sector grants, such as the Sea Without Litter. Other income mainly represented support for our centre-based activities, school partnerships and wetland management training run by WWF-Hong Kong.



## DELIVERING IMPACT AND RESULTS

Total expenditure for FY20 amounted to HK\$124.5 million. Conservation, and community and schools' education, remained our major investments in FY20, represented 69% of the total expenditure. We continued to strive to achieve strong conservation impact, our conservation programmes were delivered in areas including Mai Po and wetlands, oceans, wildlife, local biodiversity and sustainability, green cities, and community engagement and education. We contributed 5% of the total expenditure to the WWF network to deliver global objectives.

WWF-Hong Kong's conservation strategy is focused 2020-2025 to deliver conservation impact at scale and be engaged with other partnered and network offices. Our focus is on youth and understanding our supporter base with improved segmentation to enhance supporter journeys and support for a New deal for Nature and People.





# OUR THANKS

**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS**

## Organization

2019 World Rowing Coastal Championships Limited  
AFSC Operations Limited  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
AIA International Limited  
AIA Vitality  
Asia Miles  
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited  
BDO Limited  
Beauskin Medical  
Blue Ant Entertainment Limited

Broadway Circuit  
Burberry Asia Limited  
Canon Hongkong Company Limited  
Chevalier Group  
China Aircraft Leasing Group Holdings Limited  
China Everbright Environment Group Limited  
China Minsheng Financial Holding Corporation Limited  
China Tonghai International Financial Limited  
China Unicom (Hong Kong) Operations Limited  
Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited  
Cinda International Holdings Limited  
Citi Hong Kong  
CNT Group Ltd.  
Colgate-Palmolive (HK) Limited  
Como Como  
Concord Alliance Limited  
COSCO SHIPPING International (Hong Kong) Co., Ltd.  
Covestro (Hong Kong) Limited  
Crystal International Group Limited  
Dah Chong Hong Holdings Limited  
Davines Asia Limited  
DKSH Hong Kong Limited  
E-PAC Packaging Services Co. Ltd.  
EAST Hong Kong  
Ecostore  
Education Bureau - Curriculum Development  
Moral and Civic Ed  
Elite Partners CPA Limited  
Eternal Optical & Perfumery (Far East) Ltd.  
Facebook (Hong Kong)  
First Shanghai Securities Limited  
Gammon Construction Limited  
Genlink Education Institute Limited  
Geox Asia Pacific Ltd.  
Gilead Sciences HK Ltd.  
H&M HENNES & MAURITZ (MACAU) LIMITED  
H&M HENNES & MAURITZ HOLDING ASIA LIMITED  
Hang Seng Bank  
Harbour City

Hayco (Hong Kong) Limited  
Health And Happiness (H&H) Hong Kong Limited  
Henderson Land Development Co. Ltd.  
Hinrich Foundation Limited  
hko1  
HKSAR Information Services Department  
Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited  
Hong Kong Housing Society  
Hong Kong Tramways Limited  
Hongkong International Theme Parks Limited  
Hongkong Land Limited  
HSBC  
Hung Fook Tong Holdings Limited  
Hysan Development Co Ltd  
Hysan Property Management Limited - Hysan Place  
Intertek Testing Services Hong Kong Limited  
Jardine Matheson Limited  
Jebsen & Co. Ltd  
Jecka Limited  
Johnson Matthey Pacific Limited  
Jones Land LaSalle Limited  
K. Wah International Holdings Limited  
Kai Shing Management Services Ltd - Tai Po Mega Mall  
MSO  
Kai Shing Management Services Ltd - YOHO Town  
Kao (Hong Kong) Ltd  
Kerry Holdings Limited  
KMB The Kowloon Motor Bus Co (1933) Ltd  
Kowloon Development Company Limited  
KPMG  
L'Oreal Hong Kong Limited  
Langham Place Shopping Mall  
Latham & Watkins  
Lee Hysan Foundation  
Lee Kum Kee Family Foundation  
Li & Fung Foundation Limited  
Li Ka Shing Foundation Limited  
LIDL Hong Kong Limited  
Lombard Odier (Hong Kong) Limited

Lululemon HK Ltd  
Man Cheong Metals & Building Materials Co Ltd  
Manulife (International) Limited  
McDonald's Restaurants (Hong Kong) Limited  
MCM Fashion Group Limited  
Medical Professional Foundation Limited  
Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Ltd  
Modern Terminals Limited  
MTR Corporation Limited  
MUJI (Hong Kong) Company Limited  
New Media Group Holdings Limited  
New World Development Company Limited  
New World First Ferry Services Limited  
Niin Limited  
Olympian City  
Olympus Capital Holdings Asia  
Otaly Hong Kong  
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited  
Pacific Tiger Group Limited  
PIE Strategy Limited  
Plaza Hollywood  
Pokfulam Development Co Ltd  
Polytec Asset Holdings Limited  
Popcorn  
PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited  
Qeelin Limited  
Regal Hotels International Limited  
Richemont Asia Pacific Limited - Van Cleef and Arpels  
Runner's World  
S.C. Johnson Limited  
Shaw & Sons Limited  
Shenzhen International Group Holdings Limited  
Simatelex Group  
Simmons Bedding & Furniture (HK) Ltd  
Sino Group  
Sino Property Services - Citywalk  
Sogo Hong Kong Co Ltd  
South China Media  
Spintec Precision Manufactory Limited

Starcom Media  
Sun Hung Kai Properties - MOKO  
Sun Hung Kai Properties - V City  
Swire Properties Limited  
Tat Ming Wallpaper Co Ltd  
Telford Plaza  
Telstra HK  
Texwinca Holdings Limited  
The Bank of East Asia, Limited  
The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited  
The Hong Kong Jockey Club  
The Hongkong Bank Foundation  
The Mari-Cha Group Limited  
The Swire Group Charitable Trust  
The Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Co. (HK) Ltd.  
The Wharf (Holdings) Limited  
Thermos Hong Kong Limited  
Times Square Limited  
TMT Plaza  
Vasplex Motor Company Limited  
VF Hong Kong Limited  
Watsons Water  
Willey Construction & Engineering Company Limited  
YTT Charity Fund Limited

## Individual

Ms Amy Pun  
Mr Andrew Liu  
Mr Chan Wing Chung Anthony  
Mr Choi Yeung Bun  
Ms Gu Yiyang  
Mr Ho Man Tat Edward  
Mr Laurent Bertinotti  
Dr Lee Shau Kee  
Mr Leung Chi Wai Thomas  
Mr Lo Kit Sang  
Miss Margarita Lau  
Mr Oisín Crawley  
Mr Peter Cornthwaite

Mr Robert W. Miller  
Mrs So Tam Kit Ying Susanna  
Mr Tang King Him  
Mrs Wendy Kwok

**We would like to extend our gratitude to the following organizations for joining our centre activities and events**

723 Studio Limited  
AQ Communications Limited  
Arup  
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited  
Big Silver  
CDB Aviation HK Ltd.  
China BOCOM Insurance Co., Ltd.  
China Minsheng Financial Holdings Corporation Limited  
China Tonghai International Financial Limited  
China Unicom (Hong Kong) Operations Ltd.  
Chun Wo Development Holdings Ltd.  
Citic Telecom International Holdings Limited  
City Super Limited  
CLP Holdings Limited  
Como Como  
Covestro (Hong Kong) Limited  
Crystal International Group Limited  
Davines Asia Limited  
DP World Asia Holdings Limited  
EcoVadis Hong Kong Ltd  
Elite Partners CPA Limited  
Eternal Optical & Perfumery (Far East) Ltd  
Everbright Environment Charitable Foundation Company Limited  
First Shanghai Group  
Gammon Construction Limited  
GEOX Asia Pacific Limited  
H&H Group

Haitong International Securities Group Limited  
Hang Seng Bank  
Hayco (Hong Kong ) Limited  
Henderson Land Group  
Hermes Asia Pacific Ltd.  
Hewlett-Packard HKSAR Limited  
Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited  
Hong Kong Housing Society  
Hongkong Land (Property Management) Ltd.  
Jebsen Group  
John Lewis & Partners  
Johnson Matthey Pacific Limited  
K. Wah International Holdings Limited  
Kao (Hong Kong) Ltd.  
Kerry Holdings Limited  
KPMG  
L'Oreal Hong Kong Limited  
LaSalle Investment Management Securities Hong Kong Ltd.  
LAWSGROUP  
Lidl Hong Kong Limited  
Lululemon HK Ltd  
Make The Right Call  
Man Cheong Metals And Building Materials Company Limited  
Markant Trading Organisation (Far East) Ltd.  
Mayer Brown  
Medtronic Hong Kong Medical Ltd.  
MegaBox Management Services Limited  
Meiriki Japan Company Limited  
MF Jebsen International Limited  
Modern Terminals Limited  
National Arts Entertainment and Culture Group Limited  
Netsphere Solution Ltd.  
New World Development (China) Limited  
New World Development Company Limited

PayPal Hong Kong Limited  
Pokfulam Development Company Limited  
Regal Hotels International Limited  
Road Coop Hong Kong Commercial Radio  
Rotary Club of Hong Kong Northwest  
Securities and Futures Commission  
Shangri-La International Hotel Management Ltd.  
Shaw and Sons Limited  
Shunk Tak Holdings Limited  
Sino Group  
SoaperDelights  
Spintec Precision Manufactory Limited  
Standard Chartered Bank (HK) Limited  
Suga International Holdings Limited  
Swire Properties Limited  
Tat Ming Wallpaper Co Ltd  
Tchibo Merchandising Hong Kong LP  
The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management Hong Kong  
The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited  
The Hong Kong Jockey Club  
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd.  
The Tokio Marine & Fire Insurance Co. (HK) Ltd.  
The Wharf (Holdings) Limited  
Thermos Hong Kong Limited  
Transamerica Life (Bermuda) Ltd  
Vasplex Motor Co. Limited  
Venture Studio (HK) Ltd  
VF Hong Kong Limited  
Willey Construction & Engineering Company Limited  
Yan Chai Hospital Social Services Department

# CORPORATE MEMBERS LIST 2020

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of our corporate and individual donors for enabling us to carry out our mission, making our conservation and education goals possible. With generous support from all of you, a small number of whom are recognized here, our endeavours have been such a success as we work to transform Hong Kong into Asia's most sustainable city.

## Double Diamond members

China Everbright Environment Group Limited  
Jebsen Group  
Kerry Holdings Limited  
MF Jebsen International Limited  
The Hong Kong Jockey Club  
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd.  
The Mari-Cha Group Limited  
The Wharf (Holdings) Limited

## Diamond members

Citi  
Man Cheong Metals and Building Materials Company Limited  
Pacific Tiger Group Limited  
Shaw & Sons Limited  
S.C. Johnson Ltd

## Gold members

Crystal International Group Limited  
Hang Seng Bank  
Hayco Group  
Henderson Land Group  
MUJI (Hong Kong) Company Limited  
Thermos Hong Kong Limited

## Pearl members

Dah Chong Hong Holdings Ltd  
Kowloon Development Company Limited  
Polytec Asset Holdings Limited  
Simatelex Group  
Swire Properties Limited

## Silver members

AFSC Operations Limited  
Arup  
Canon Hongkong Company Limited  
Chevalier Group  
China Aircraft Leasing Group Holdings Limited  
China Tonghai International Financial Limited  
Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited  
Cinda International Holdings Limited  
COMO COMO  
COSCO SHIPPING International (Hong Kong) Co., Ltd.  
Elite Partners CPA Limited  
E-pac Packaging Services Co. LTD  
First Shanghai Group  
Hinrich Foundation

Hysan Development Company Limited  
Inchcape Hong Kong  
Jardine Matheson Limited  
Johnson Matthey Pacific Limited  
Kao (Hong Kong) Ltd.  
KPMG  
Li and Fung Foundation  
Lidl Asia Pte Ltd.  
Lombard Odier  
Manulife (International) Limited  
Mayer Brown  
McDonald's Hong Kong  
MCM Fashion Group Limited  
Meiriki Japan Company Limited

Modern Terminals Limited  
MTR Corporation Limited  
New World Development Company Limited  
Olympus Capital Asia / Asia Environmental Partners  
Pokfulam Development Co Ltd  
Shenzhou International Group Holdings Limited  
Simmons Bedding & Furniture (HK) Limited  
Texwinca Holdings Limited  
The Bank of East Asia, Limited  
The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited  
Willey Construction & Engineering Company Limited



**Discover our programmes  
for corporates**



## DR DAVID OLSON

*Director of Conservation,  
WWF-Hong Kong*

“Over 5,000 species have been recorded as being traded or transported through Hong Kong, often in high numbers. Much of it is moved through to southern China, some is transhipped to other destinations in Asia, and there is also local consumption. Many of these species are endangered. Tackling the illegal wildlife trade requires a concerted regional effort among conservation organizations,

law enforcement agencies, financial institutions, scientists, the transport sector, and other area of government. WWF-Hong Kong will play a leading role in facilitating impactful synergy by harnessing the expertise within the network and among other stakeholders.”



Wildlife



WWF and the Association of Certified Anti-money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS), a global association of financial crime prevention professionals, have launched an initiative to empower compliance professionals to face growing threats linked to the illegal wildlife trade. The new initiative seeks to drive collaboration among financial institutions, transport, online commerce companies, UN agencies, governmental bodies and non-profit groups in the fight against a major trans-national crime that fuels corruption and threatens biodiversity worldwide.

Actions taken by Hong Kong can help tackle the illegal trade and reduce its impact. With its free trade policy, geographical proximity to mainland China, and well-developed port infrastructure, Hong Kong, Asia’s World City, has unfortunately become a global hub for the illegal wildlife trade. Large seizures of elephant ivory, pangolin scales, and shark fin in the past year has shown how serious the problem is in Hong Kong.

The initiative aims to help financial intelligence units and compliance investigators, and seeks to initiate regional and national operations targeting suspicious transactions or ongoing cases with red flags for illegal wildlife trade financial flows. The effort will also offer a free, first-of-its-kind professional certificate course outlining the steps financial sector actors should take to identify, report, mitigate and remedy the risks associated with each stage of an illegal wildlife supply chain.

## Our Wildlife Work

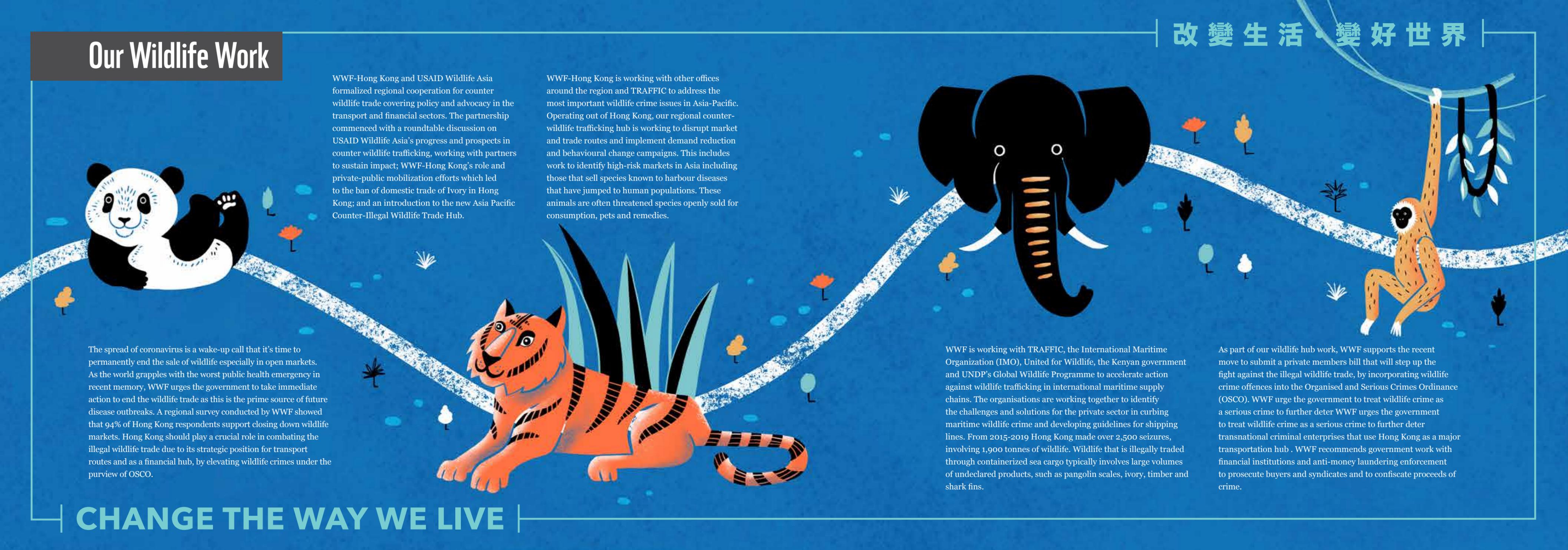
WWF-Hong Kong and USAID Wildlife Asia formalized regional cooperation for counter wildlife trade covering policy and advocacy in the transport and financial sectors. The partnership commenced with a roundtable discussion on USAID Wildlife Asia's progress and prospects in counter wildlife trafficking, working with partners to sustain impact; WWF-Hong Kong's role and private-public mobilization efforts which led to the ban of domestic trade of Ivory in Hong Kong; and an introduction to the new Asia Pacific Counter-Illegal Wildlife Trade Hub.

WWF-Hong Kong is working with other offices around the region and TRAFFIC to address the most important wildlife crime issues in Asia-Pacific. Operating out of Hong Kong, our regional counter-wildlife trafficking hub is working to disrupt market and trade routes and implement demand reduction and behavioural change campaigns. This includes work to identify high-risk markets in Asia including those that sell species known to harbour diseases that have jumped to human populations. These animals are often threatened species openly sold for consumption, pets and remedies.

The spread of coronavirus is a wake-up call that it's time to permanently end the sale of wildlife especially in open markets. As the world grapples with the worst public health emergency in recent memory, WWF urges the government to take immediate action to end the wildlife trade as this is the prime source of future disease outbreaks. A regional survey conducted by WWF showed that 94% of Hong Kong respondents support closing down wildlife markets. Hong Kong should play a crucial role in combating the illegal wildlife trade due to its strategic position for transport routes and as a financial hub, by elevating wildlife crimes under the purview of OSCO.

WWF is working with TRAFFIC, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), United for Wildlife, the Kenyan government and UNDP's Global Wildlife Programme to accelerate action against wildlife trafficking in international maritime supply chains. The organisations are working together to identify the challenges and solutions for the private sector in curbing maritime wildlife crime and developing guidelines for shipping lines. From 2015-2019 Hong Kong made over 2,500 seizures, involving 1,900 tonnes of wildlife. Wildlife that is illegally traded through containerized sea cargo typically involves large volumes of undeclared products, such as pangolin scales, ivory, timber and shark fins.

As part of our wildlife hub work, WWF supports the recent move to submit a private members bill that will step up the fight against the illegal wildlife trade, by incorporating wildlife crime offences into the Organised and Serious Crimes Ordinance (OSCO). WWF urge the government to treat wildlife crime as a serious crime to further deter WWF urges the government to treat wildlife crime as a serious crime to further deter transnational criminal enterprises that use Hong Kong as a major transportation hub . WWF recommends government work with financial institutions and anti-money laundering enforcement to prosecute buyers and syndicates and to confiscate proceeds of crime.





## DR ERIC WIKRAMANAYAKE

Director of Wildlife and Wetlands,  
WWF-Hong Kong

“Hong Kong’s wetlands have a critically important role in sustaining the migrations of millions of birds each year along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF). WWF’s role in managing Mai Po, a key stopover and wintering site for migrants, and in building capacity of wetland managers throughout the flyway remains an important responsibility. We will work with other WWF offices, the EAAF

Partnership and stakeholders to lead WWF’s Asian Flyways Initiative and position WWF-Hong Kong as a leader in pushing a conservation agenda for the flyway. WWF will also work to make Mai Po’s critical habitats resilient to climate change.”



Mai Po & Wetlands



Read more



The AWCF is seeking corporate support to deliver on-the-ground conservation impact across the 22 countries in the EAAF.

The Asian Waterbird Conservation Fund (AWCF), established in July 2005, has extended its reach this year. In addition to providing support for projects at sites of importance for migratory waterbirds along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, it is now supporting sites along the Central Asian Flyway. Two new grants have also been established under the AWCF programme: the Asian Flyways Initiative Grant; and the WWF Dr Lew Young Grant, in honour of Dr Young’s dedication and contribution to wetland conservation. One project has already been funded under the WWF Dr Lew Young Grant and three projects under the Asian Flyways Initiative Grant.

AWCF was established with the aim of supporting projects across Asia that will lead to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their important wetland habitats. We have established many partnerships that bring benefits to the local communities at AWCF project sites. Since 2005, a total of 37 AWCF funded projects have been launched across 11 Asian countries.

By working with local communities and other stakeholders we can ensure that waterbirds can migrate between their breeding and wintering grounds via a network of sustainably managed wetlands, such as Mai Po, secure vital ecosystem services, and build resilience for people and nature.

# Our Wetlands Work

改變生活 · 變好世界

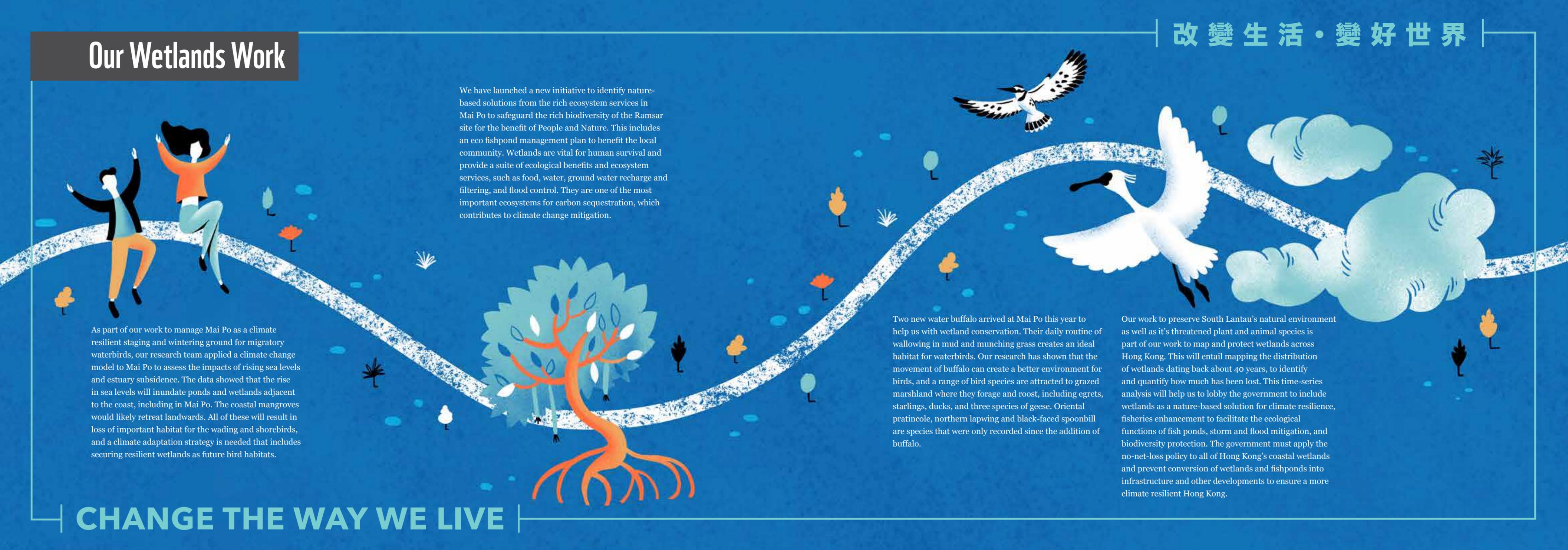
We have launched a new initiative to identify nature-based solutions from the rich ecosystem services in Mai Po to safeguard the rich biodiversity of the Ramsar site for the benefit of People and Nature. This includes an eco fishpond management plan to benefit the local community. Wetlands are vital for human survival and provide a suite of ecological benefits and ecosystem services, such as food, water, ground water recharge and filtering, and flood control. They are one of the most important ecosystems for carbon sequestration, which contributes to climate change mitigation.

As part of our work to manage Mai Po as a climate resilient staging and wintering ground for migratory waterbirds, our research team applied a climate change model to Mai Po to assess the impacts of rising sea levels and estuary subsidence. The data showed that the rise in sea levels will inundate ponds and wetlands adjacent to the coast, including in Mai Po. The coastal mangroves would likely retreat landwards. All of these will result in loss of important habitat for the wading and shorebirds, and a climate adaptation strategy is needed that includes securing resilient wetlands as future bird habitats.

Two new water buffalo arrived at Mai Po this year to help us with wetland conservation. Their daily routine of wallowing in mud and munching grass creates an ideal habitat for waterbirds. Our research has shown that the movement of buffalo can create a better environment for birds, and a range of bird species are attracted to grazed marshland where they forage and roost, including egrets, starlings, ducks, and three species of geese. Oriental pratincole, northern lapwing and black-faced spoonbill are species that were only recorded since the addition of buffalo.

Our work to preserve South Lantau's natural environment as well as its threatened plant and animal species is part of our work to map and protect wetlands across Hong Kong. This will entail mapping the distribution of wetlands dating back about 40 years, to identify and quantify how much has been lost. This time-series analysis will help us to lobby the government to include wetlands as a nature-based solution for climate resilience, fisheries enhancement to facilitate the ecological functions of fish ponds, storm and flood mitigation, and biodiversity protection. The government must apply the no-net-loss policy to all of Hong Kong's coastal wetlands and prevent conversion of wetlands and fishponds into infrastructure and other developments to ensure a more climate resilient Hong Kong.

CHANGE THE WAY WE LIVE





**PROF. LAURENCE MCCOOK**

Head of Oceans Conservation,  
WWF-Hong Kong

Our oceans conservation programme emphasises increasing the size and effectiveness of marine protected areas, protecting critical species such as the Chinese white dolphin, and reducing the damaging effects of human activities on the oceans around Hong Kong and the planet. We always place our work in the context of the Greater Bay Area, through close partnership with WWF-China and relevant conservation, government and research organisations in Hong Kong, Guangdong and wider China.

As an example, the *Emergency Action Plan for Pearl River Delta population of the Chinese white dolphin* urges both governments to establish integrated core and buffer protected areas for the dolphins, and to eliminate and manage threats, such as boat strikes, underwater noise pollution, and toxic runoff that harms the dolphins and the ecosystem.



WWF's ongoing Sea for Future initiative aims to protect Hong Kong from further biodiversity loss by identifying seven of the city's most sensitive marine areas for the establishment of a Marine Protected Area (MPA) network in the territory. These areas are West Lantau, South Lantau, Shui Hau, Sharp and Shelter islands (in Port Shelter), Ninepin Group, Tolo Channel and Harbour, and Pak Nai, in addition to the existing MPA at Hoi Ha Wan, home to WWF's Marine Life Centre.

Following the Sea For Future touring exhibition, which launched in the city last summer, we held a series of events and workshops at our Oceans Celebration at Hoi Ha Wan Marine Life Centre in May. The festival moved to Lee Tung Avenue in June and was followed by the Tales of Ocean exhibition at Harbour City starting in October 2020.

Our work to raise public awareness of marine conservation issues in Hong Kong includes documenting the loss of marine biodiversity, due to rapid development and economic growth, by collecting memories and stories of Hong Kong's marine past. The stories give a voice to Hong Kongers on how the changes they have seen over the years have affected them.

We urge the Hong Kong government to conserve at least 30% of local waters as MPAs by 2030 to address human threats and improve marine ecosystems, while bringing socio-economic benefits to local communities. Less than 5% of our waters as MPAs by 2023 is not enough!



Read more



\* Marine park for compensation of construction of third runway project.

## Our Oceans Work

A team of citizen scientists led by WWF's oceans conversation team undertook a ghost gear baseline study starting in June 2019, sponsored by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF). An innovative GPS device has been developed to retrieve the exact GPS coordinates of the found ghost gear. The survey looked at the distribution and quantity of ghost nets in Hong Kong waters with 156 reports made across 39 dive sites and 172 pieces of ghost gear documented – some as big as a bus. Our ghost gear programme is part of our work to tackle Hong Kong's marine litter crisis. The data contributed to a ghost gear retrieval operation conducted by AFCD.

Our work to reduce the demand for shark fin in the city continues to show promising results, with a 40% drop in year-on-year imports in 2019 to 2,792 tonnes, representing a 70% drop over the past decade. As part of WWF's work to reduce the unsustainable consumption of shark fin, it launched the WWF Sharkulator, an accounting tool that estimates the number of sharks can be saved when consumers choose to go fin-free. Sharkulator is based on a new scientific methodology developed by WWF-Hong Kong, that accounts for the variability in shark species, sizes of individuals, types of fin, and the different fin cuts used. Over the last financial year, seven corporations representing more than 5,000 staff members have signed our No Shark & Ray Corporate Policy. This translates to an estimated total of 657 sharks saved every year!

Our 2019 supermarket scorecard revealed that seven out of nine major supermarket groups in the city have stepped up their commitments and actions to supply sustainable seafood for customers since the previous scorecard. In Hong Kong, seafood sourcing is concentrated in supermarket chains, so their purchasing practices play a significant role in promoting sustainable seafood for consumers. With the business sector's increasing commitment to sustainable seafood and higher public awareness of its importance, we encourage taking from the ocean in a responsible way so that we can enjoy continuous supply of seafood in the future.

The ECF Sustainable Shui Hau project aims to preserve the high ecological value of the area, to lower the human disturbance from ecotourism, and to encourage the long-term sustainable use of coastal resources. The Shui Hau mudflats are one of the few remaining nursery and spawning habitats in Hong Kong for the endangered horseshoe crab. Their numbers are decreasing and more protection is needed to help them cope with increasing threats. Our citizen science survey helped to determine important information, such the crossover between the horseshoe crab distribution and the intensive clamming zone, to strengthen our call for zoning to protect the most ecologically sensitive areas.

An *Emergency Action Plan for the Pearl River Delta Population of Chinese White Dolphin* was released by WWF-Hong Kong and partners, possibly representing our last chance to save the species. Due to severe threats from human activities, there are only about 2,000 individuals left in the PRD and the population appears to be rapidly heading below the minimum number needed to sustain it. In view of the local decline of 70% in dolphin numbers in the past 16 years, we are strengthening our call for the Hong Kong government to designate a development-free Dolphin Conservation Management Area that will protect critical dolphin foraging and socialising habitats in western and southern Lantau waters by 2024.

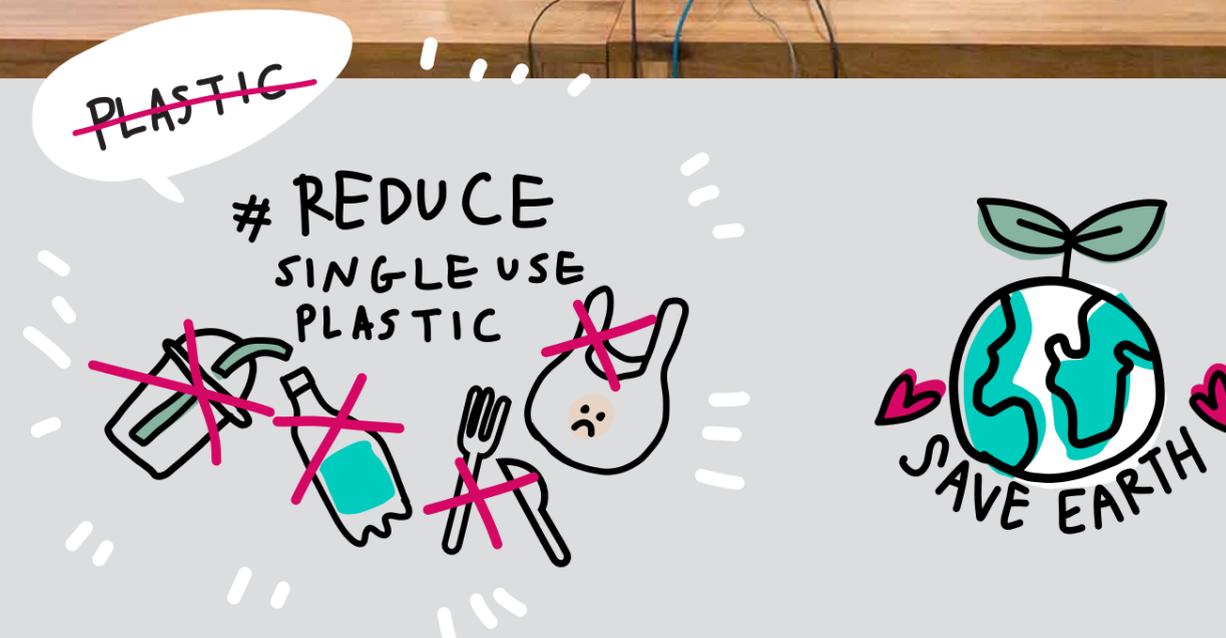


## KAREN HO

Head of Corporate and Community Sustainability,  
WWF-Hong Kong

“The sustainability of cities requires people from all walks of life to recognize that natural resources are finite. Reducing Hong Kong’s Ecological Footprint locally and around the world covers work in areas such as clothing, transportation and electricity. This includes our work to drive economically viable solutions for climate, species and habitats by redirecting capital flows towards green investment and sustainable development. We work with fashion industry partners to address the

environmental cost behind apparel production along the entire production chain; lobby government to phase-out fossil fuel-based private vehicles and promote the use of electric vehicles; and work with government and industry to reach our decarbonisation targets to limit global warming to 1.5°C, with solutions that include the use of solar PV technology.”



As part of WWF’s Plastic ACTION Initiative (PACT), leading food delivery companies in Hong Kong, Deliveroo and foodpanda signed an industry-wide commitment to reduce single-use plastics.

This is a major sectoral push for the industry to work collectively towards the common vision of No Plastic in Nature by 2030. Signatories to PACT commit to:

1. Implementing a default opt-out option for single-use plastic cutlery
2. Supporting consumer behaviour changes by adopting eco-friendly alternatives to plastic
3. Setting up a programme that encourages merchants and restaurants to continuously improve their packaging materials
4. Communicating successes in packaging sustainability improvements to stakeholders.

The two companies, representing over 90% of the food delivery industry, teamed up with WWF-Hong Kong to set up measurable actions to engage restaurants and consumers with the aim of removing all unsustainable packaging by 2025 and to establish a more circular economy for plastic in the city.

# Green Cities, Green Business

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Plastic manufacturers are facing increased global pressure to reduce plastic waste, primarily through recycling and shifting end-user behaviour to reduce consumption. We expect policies to prevent pollution in Asia will be implemented over the next decade, and regulatory pressure to suppress single-use plastics will increase. Our environmental finance team's latest report, *Shrinking Plastics: Implications of Tighter Regulations on the World Industry*, looks at the financial impact of potential plastics regulations driven by growing public awareness, and identifies companies that are most likely to experience pressure on profits, as well as growth opportunities in plastic recycling.

Results of a field survey that aims to explore the relationship between clothing labels and sustainable shopping decisions showed that 68% of respondents are willing to pay a higher price of clothes that have been sustainably produced, yet nearly 50% feel there's an inadequate supply of sustainably-produced clothes in retail outlets. The survey was conducted as part of Making Zero Impact Fashionable supported by HSBC. Results show that one of the problems customers face is sales' associates lack of knowledge on the sustainability of items in shops, with nearly 45% unable to explain in detail how clothing items should be taken care of. To combat this issue, WWF is educating consumer on reading clothing label to help them make decisions that allow their clothes to last longer.

Our work in environmental finance and capital markets includes the Climate Impact Asia Fund, established by Milltrust (UK) with WWF-Hong Kong providing environmental-related advisory services, monitoring its climate objectives and providing expertise on climate policies. This initiative will increase the resources available for investments in environmentally positive projects, connect investment flows with measurable environmental impact, and expand the range of mainstream green investments beyond renewable energy. Shortly after its launch, the fund was awarded Impact Initiative of the Year at the Environmental Finance Impact Awards 2020.

The inaugural One Planet Restaurant Awards recognised hotel and restaurant businesses for promoting sustainable consumption and the use of natural resources. In selecting the winners, we analyzed the food sustainability choices of 460 hotels and restaurants covering 36 groups across Hong Kong. We looked at the three major area of food purchasing, production and preparation, covering issues such as traceability, hormone and antibiotic-free products, safety, waste management and adoption of reusable tableware. WWF also looked at vegetarian restaurants which support plant-based diets requiring fewer carbon emissions than meat-based alternatives.

CHANGE THE WAY WE LIVE

## OUR CONSERVATION WORK

Our work to safeguard the future of Hong Kong and create a new deal for people and nature takes us to many parts of the city, from its open spaces and greenbelts, to its mangroves, mudflats and coastal waters. Every day we work with partners, stakeholders, and decision makers in our research and monitoring work as we address the challenges of environmental and ecological protection.



# ONE PLANET YOUTH



Today's youth will be tomorrow's decision makers, so it is important that they are given the chance to contribute to environmental protection and are equipped with the skills to be future conservationists. WWF's One Planet Youth (OPY) Education Programme seeks to provide them with just that.

"I have met many teenagers who are uncertain what to do for a career, but have a passion for conservation," said Shaun Martin, WWF's Head of Community Education. "The OPY programme was created to give them exposure to, and training in, conservation work."

One of most valuable experiences of the programme is the opportunity for young people to design and implement their own conservation projects under the guidance of WWF staff. These projects cover everything from promoting sustainable fashion to advocating for a stop to the consumption of endangered eels. The skills and expertise gained through these activities have even led some participants to a full-time career with WWF.

The OPY youth leadership training programmes taught me to put myself in the shoes of different stakeholders," said programme participant Judy Chen. "We had the opportunity to create the topic, plan the proposal and implement the activities all by ourselves in a group project. The experience taught me how local environmental protection

campaigns are implemented and how I could contribute to environmental protection actions."

Discussing her work on reducing consumption of endangered eels, OPY project leader SY Wong said, "We have results showing what kind of fish can be used to replace eel. I would like to do a follow-up to suggest to restaurants how to change their menus."

In the past year, over 1,000 active OPY members contributed to conservation through citizen science and engagement in our Connect with Nature activities and training. OPY member Amanda Wong was selected as a representative of WWF Global Youth Action Team working to amplify the youth voice in a New Deal for Nature and People.

WWF continues to organize the community activity City Nature Challenge with iNaturalist, and our sustainability centres have remained open, with enhanced hygiene measures, operating at Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hoi Ha Wan, Island House in Tai Po, and at Central (next to Hong Kong Park).

"I have always been interested in nature and this is a great opportunity for me to learn more," said Green Jobs for Youth participant Amenah Asla." I helped operate the solar mobile café to promote renewable energy and got members of the public to sign our petition for conserving the threatened Chinese white dolphin. I

have learnt about the local marine life and how diverse Hong Kong's plant and animal life is."

Additionally, over 100 young people partook in WWF's environmental surveys as citizen scientists in the past year, collecting important data on the state of local habitats. These projects include a microplastics survey at Mai Po Nature Reserve and Tolo Harbour – which found that over 96 per cent of the microplastics recorded at those location had broken down into pieces small enough to potentially enter the food chain – and an ongoing invasive species survey at Mai Po to map the distribution of red fire ants and the

rapid-growing weed *Mikania micrantha* – which will be used as a reference to more effectively control their spread.

"Contributing first-hand to conservation makes this a very rewarding experience" said OPY participant, Serene Kwok, of the surveys. One Planet Youth teaches skills in research, organisation and leadership useful for other careers. Perhaps most importantly, it instils a passion to continue spreading the word of the need to protect our planet. "The nine months spent with the OPY programme have had a profound influence on my world view," says OPY project leader Karol Fong. "With my passion, I hope to share the experience the beauty of nature."





The role of mangroves in coastal protection and resilience-building cannot be ignored as rising temperatures and sea levels intensify the ferocity of typhoons and wave surges.



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1 Tramway Path, Central, Hong Kong  
香港中環纜車徑一號

Tel 電話：(852) 2526 1011 Fax 傳真：(852) 2845 2764 Email 電郵：wwf@wwf.org.hk  
Registered Name 註冊名稱：World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong 世界自然（香港）基金會  
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