

**Policy Recommendations for a Sustainable and Liveable
Hong Kong:
WWF Hong Kong's Position**



May 2022

Executive Summary

Despite the efforts in balancing “development” and “biodiversity conservation”, tension between these two is growing due to increasing social demands. However, our lives depend on a healthy planet, and the ecosystem goods and services it provides, such as air, water, food, and medicines. Thus, a flourishing economy is dependent on an environment where both people and biodiversity have a stable and comfortable home; where space for housing and nature can—and must—coexist to make Hong Kong a sustainable, liveable and happy city.

To achieve such a vision and goal for Hong Kong, we need a comprehensive, ambitious, and exemplary implementation plan, with a holistic nature conservation policy shaped and informed by integrative, whole-of-government contributions. Here, we suggest five key, achievable actionable recommendations towards a policy that will support developing a vision of a Hong Kong where people live in harmony with Nature to create a futuristic, liveable city. These recommendations are based on China’s 14th Five-Year Plan, Greater Bay Area Policy Areas, and the Current Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Later this year, China will host the Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the conservation targets proposed for Hong Kong will also be supported and enabled by the policies.

Hong Kong is blessed with beautiful, awe-inspiring natural coastal lines, wetlands, and mountain ranges with regenerating forests.

Studies have shown that these natural spaces are essential for the physical, physiological, and psychological well-being of people who spend most of their time in built-up areas. Nature or green spaces can provide enormous benefit to human health, for example, reduce depression, anxiety and mood disorder. Access

to nature improves sleep and reduces stress, increases happiness and reduces negative emotions, promotes positive social interactions and even helps to generate a sense of meaning to life. The numbers of Hong Kongers flocking to these natural spaces is testament to their appreciation for nature. Healthy, happy people contribute to economic productivity and, eventually, to stable governance.

Thus, by integrating sustainability and biodiversity conservation elements in development, Hong Kong has the potential to be a unique, world-class city that can showcase the “*Ecological Civilisation*” concept proposed by President Xi. We can create a liveable, beautiful metropolis where developed areas and nature are interlinked, and residents have a comfortable home with nature in their backyard.

Key recommendations for a Hong Kong based on the Ecological Civilization concept of development:

- 1. All land and sea areas are subjected to inclusive, integrated spatial planning to harmonize development and conservation.*
- 2. Address both biodiversity and climate crises in an integrated approach to build climate resilience.*
- 3. Ensure harvesting, trade, and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health.*
- 4. Include at least 30% of coastal waters within marine protected areas for a sustainable fishery and conservation of threatened species and ecosystems.*
- 5. Eliminate single-use plastic and textile pollution in transitioning to a circular economy.*

Preamble

Biodiversity and the benefits from intact, diverse ecosystems are fundamental to a healthy planet and to the well-being of everyone on this planet. Biodiversity is our planet's life-supporting 'safety net'¹, and a healthy planet is the foundation of social and economic needs. However, despite ongoing efforts, biodiversity is deteriorating and eroding locally and globally, and this decline is projected to continue or worsen under business-as-usual scenarios. For example, Marine resources in the South China Sea have been fished down to between 5% and 30% compared with 1950s levels. If not urgently reversed, biodiversity loss will have major threats on Hong Kong's economy and security. Communities, infrastructure, and economic development will become vulnerable, especially as the impacts of climate change become more severely manifested.

Human well-being is linked to the natural environment. Research has shown nature or green spaces can provide enormous benefits to human health; for example, reduction of depression, anxiety, and mood disorder. Access to nature has also been found to improve sleep and reduce stress, increase happiness and reduce negative emotions, promote positive social interactions and even help generate a sense of meaning to life. Being in green environments boosts various aspects of thinking, including attention, memory and creativity. These positive feedbacks will have important consequences for Hong Kong's economic productivity and health sectors.

Hong Kong's influence on biodiversity loss also extends well beyond our borders given our consumption, trade, and other regional and international business dealings. Thus, Hong Kong also has a global obligation to contribute to planetary health.

Vision 2050: People living in harmony with nature.

Goal: By 2030, a people- and nature-positive Hong Kong by transforming our relationship nature.

As we approach the Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), hosted by China, we encourage our incoming Chief Executive set out a comprehensive, ambitious, and exemplary plan to implement a holistic nature conservation policy. Such a policy would be complementary to, and supportive of, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and can help to create exemplary realizations of President Xi's "ecological civilization" ideology in Hong Kong (Appendix 1).

The implementation of such a policy requires integrative governance and whole-of-government approaches to ensure policy coherence and effectiveness, political will, and recognition at the highest levels of government. Therefore, we propose a vision, goal, and five key recommendations, with specific examples for immediate action, that would form the framework of a holistic nature conservation policy.

Details of Key Policy Recommendations.

1. Ensure that all land and sea areas are under inclusive and integrated spatial planning, and formalize implementation of Strategic Environmental Assessments

Below, we present examples of where such planning is essential and even urgent, and a holistic nature conservation policy is necessary.

1. WWF envisions the Northern Metropolis to be a sustainable, liveable, and happy city, where space for housing and nature can coexist. To achieve this vision, biodiversity conservation and

¹ International Union for Conservation of Nature, *IUCN Position on UPDATED ZERO DRAFT of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework*, 20 Apr. 2021, Available at: www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/iucn_position_on_the_updated_zero_draft_of_the_post-2020_global_biodiversity_framework_-_april_2021.pdf (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

sustainability elements must be integrated in the planning and development process. WWF-Hong Kong manages the Mai Po Nature Reserve, embedded in the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site. However, many wetlands in the surrounding Wetland Conservation Area and Wetland Buffer Area are less well managed and are vulnerable to change and degradation from mismanagement and land conversion. Conserving and restoring wetlands will not only provide recreation opportunities for Hong Kong's people, but also protect the local residents from future sea level rise, storm surges from severe typhoons, and act as a carbon sink to mitigate climate change. Here is an opportunity to create an example of an ecological civilization-based city using integrated, inclusive spatial planning that can be presented to the world by Hong Kong

2. A holistic nature conservation policy cannot be credible and successful unless it clearly identifies the sectors driving biodiversity loss and proposes concrete actions to address those sectors. Urban, coastal, and marine development have large impacts on biodiversity. Under our proposed 'Holistic Nature Conservation Policy' the government must formulate and adopt landscape-scale conservation plans in areas where environmental conservation is paramount, but with multi-sectoral engagement.

Such an approach is urgently required for the watersheds of South Lantau to safeguard vital ecological connectivity—from the protected ridges to the coastlines and waters of South Lantau. To achieve this, there is an urgent need to address the loophole in the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131), to regulate incompatible land uses in South Lantau, especially if we are to avoid negative impacts on a proposed marine park at Shui Hau sandflat and Tong Fuk (proposed by the late Prof. Brian Morton and colleagues²). This Park would protect critical intertidal and subtidal habitats for endangered horseshoe crabs and clams. In addition to the ecological importance, the clams are socio-economically important for South Lantau³.

3. In addition to spatial planning, it is critical to improve governance to ensure impacts from urban, marine, and coastal development are minimized, especially in areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. This requires monitoring to ensure that infrastructure and development must not undermine Hong Kong's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the objectives of Hong Kong's own Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. This does not mean there can be no development; instead, it means that development and biodiversity conservation would be integrated in mutual ways to sustain both social need and planetary health. An official biodiversity indicator report is needed to provide robust information for reporting biodiversity changes and to guide ongoing actions to conserve biodiversity.

WWF Hong Kong recommends the following specific measures be adopted by the government to address some of the major gaps that can provide a holistic nature conservation policy to support an integrated development and conservation vision as Hong Kong takes on more ambitious development trajectories, but also meets its nature conservation goals and targets.

- A. Safeguard the integrity of Deep Bay ecosystems for their conservation values and as Nature-based Solutions to build climate resilience and contribute towards climate mitigation. This will include creating a wetland landscape along the Deep Bay coast by echoing the Northern Metropolis Development Strategy by:
 - a. extending the current Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site to include the three proposed Wetland Conservation Parks, Hong Kong Wetland Park and its extension, the Tsim Bei

² Morton, B., Leung, S.F., and Leung, K.F. (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. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rsma.2021.101842> (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

³ So, K.J.Y., Cheang, C.C., Hui, T. Y., and 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. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2021.128259> (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

- Tsui/Lau Fau Shan/Pak Nai Coastal Protection Park and Waterfront Promenade, and Long Valley Nature Park.
- b. establishing a sustainable Northern Metropolis Office to kick-start consultation and stakeholder engagement.
 - c. restoring the fishponds in Lut Chau, Nam Sang Wai, Fung Lok Wai, and Tsim Bei Tsui into gei wai, to adopt an integrated management strategy for both biodiversity and fishermen livelihood.
 - d. embracing a Smart City design and integrating green infrastructure into the Northern Metropolis under the sponge city concept and to qualify for Ramsar Wetland City status.
- B. Formulate and adopt holistic, long-term land- and marine-scape conservation plans to protect ecologically important habitats in South Lantau watersheds and the Inner Deep Bay.
 - C. Identify marine conservation areas through a marine spatial planning process that engages all relevant stakeholders.
 - a. establish a Marine Spatial Planning authority and allocate adequate funding to kick-start the first stage of marine spatial planning.
 - D. Include all land under statutory land use planning requirements with Development Permission Area Plans, and regulate land uses under Outline Zoning Plans.
 - E. Formalize the procedures for conducting Strategic Environmental Assessments⁴ to incorporate principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including no net loss, precautionary principles, wide stakeholder participation, and incorporating traditional and scientific knowledge.
 - F. Institutionalize an inclusive, transparent, and participatory integrated, multi-sectoral spatial planning process for landscapes and seascapes within the Planning Department to clearly demarcate land-use, including conservation areas.
 - G. Publish a biodiversity indicator report for Hong Kong on a regular basis, with associated obligations in response to any indications of biodiversity loss.
 - H. Accelerate the consultancy study on Agricultural Priority Areas commissioned by AFCD and provide a clear timeline of its corresponding stakeholder engagement exercise.

2. Address both the biodiversity and climate crises in an integrated approach to develop Nature-based Solutions for sustainable development and build climate resilience

Climate change and biodiversity collapse are the two significant threats facing both people and nature today, in Hong Kong and globally. These crises are intertwined and must be addressed jointly. Nature-based Solutions can be very effective to address these crises, and we should grab opportunities before options are lost. Therefore, both biodiversity values and climate impacts must be integrated into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, accounts, and assessments of environmental impacts at all levels of government and across all sectors of the economy, ensuring that all activities and financial flows (public and private) are aligned with biodiversity values and climate impacts.

The recently launched IPCC Sixth Assessment Report states “*Global warming of 1.5°C and 2°C will be exceeded during the 21st century unless deep reductions in carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades. With further global warming, every region is projected to increasingly experience concurrent and multiple changes in climatic impact-drivers. Changes in several climatic impact-drivers would be more widespread at 2°C compared to 1.5°C global warming*”⁵.

⁴ Cornish, A. (2013). *The Potential for Strategic Environmental Assessment to Assist in Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Decision Making in Hong Kong*, Civic Exchange. Retrieved from https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_bsap/bsap_bio_clearing_house/files/common/20131212SEA.pdf (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

⁵ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2021). Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Cambridge University Press. In Press. Retrieved from https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_SPM_final.pdf (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

We are already witnessing and experiencing catastrophic events, such as severe heatwaves, wildfires, serious flooding following severe storms interspersed with prolonged droughts, as the consequences of climate change unfold. Hong Kong is not immune; we are seriously vulnerable to severe typhoons, storm-surges and floods as sea-levels rise, and these events will have devastating socio-economic consequences. To ensure Hong Kong remains a liveable city in 2030 and beyond, there is an urgency for the city to build climate resilience and adopt the mid-century 1.5°C net zero pathway approach, which aligns with the IPCC's goals set during the COP26 held in late 2021.

To reach this goal, the government can establish policy frameworks, backed by commitments, mandates, laws and regulations that support the integration of climate change adaptation objectives and strategies into development planning across the whole territory, but especially in the ocean and coastal areas. These measures would clearly complement and support policies and initiatives at the national level.

WWF Hong Kong proposes the following be adopted by the government as a matter of climate urgency:

- A. Raise the bar of the existing climate change and decarbonization plan, with target-setting grounded in science-based approaches that align with the mid-century 1.5°C net zero pathway.
- B. Fully integrate and mandate biodiversity values and climate impact in policies, regulations, planning, development processes, accounts, and assessments of at all levels and portfolios of government and across all sectors of the economy.
- C. Establish a Climate Action Authority to ensure the mainstreaming of climate action.
- D. Meet a minimum 10% renewable energy (RE) target by 2030, with integration of biodiversity protection during all stages of planning, construction, and operation.
- E. Diversify Hong Kong's RE portfolio through regional collaboration, with application of certified sustainably sourced biofuel to abate "international emissions" from the aviation sector.
- F. Apply a 'no further conversion of wetlands' policy underlain by supporting regulations to all of Hong Kong's coastal wetlands as a Nature-based Solution to counter the impacts of climate change.
- G. Establish a regulated Land Trust to provide feasible alternatives for landowners, such as land swaps, to resolve the current land rights deadlock on wetland use and management, while securing land for biodiversity conservation and Nature-based Solutions to climate change through negotiation and long-term financing.
- H. Require financial institutions to measure, assess, disclose, and account for risks, dependencies and impacts associated with biodiversity loss and climate impacts by 2023⁶.
- I. Establish a dedicated funding facility for sustainable development, and in particular for climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation and restoration.

3. Ensure that the direct and indirect harvesting, trade, and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health

To reverse biodiversity loss, a transformation of the drivers of biodiversity loss is necessary. Unsustainable production and consumption must be addressed while meeting Hong Kong people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing. A milestone to halve the footprint of production and consumption by 2030 and targets covering all drivers, including food systems, diets and infrastructure, is needed. The government must ensure that the direct and indirect harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health, including by applying the ecosystem approach to fisheries, and urgently take actions to stop the supply and sale of illegal wildlife products.

WWF urges the government to:

- A. Stricter regulations of wildlife markets and the exotic pet trade. The spread of Covid 19 across the world and the recent transmission of the virus from hamsters to humans demonstrates the risk and need for stricter regulations of the exotic pet trade.

⁶ Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures. (2021). Letter from new TNFD Co-Chairs announcing the launch of the TNFD. Retrieved from <https://tnfd.info/news/letter-from-the-tnfd-co-chairs/> (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

- a. end the sale of high disease-risk and endangered wildlife in both physical and online markets, including the exotic pet markets, by 2023.
 - b. strengthen the traceability, regulation, monitoring, and enforcement of Hong Kong's exotic pet trade markets, with priority on parrots and tortoises.
- B. Establish a Seafood Labelling System to provide transparent information on i) source country, ii) production method and iii) scientific names on pre-packaged seafood products and establish a Sustainable Aquaculture Policy to mandate biofiltration/ filter system in all aquaculture farms.
- C. Strengthen regulatory protection for marine animals, such as whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) and the two species of horseshoe crab (*Tachypleus tridentatus* and *Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda*) found in Hong Kong⁷.
- D. Urgently strengthen measures to address illegal fishing, including stronger collaboration between government agencies, cross-boundary collaboration with Guangdong authorities, and strengthening penalties and awareness of enforcement agencies and judiciary.
- E. Enhance fisheries management, including developing an AIS system to monitor fishing activities within Hong Kong and across the boundary, provide monetary rewards to whistleblowers of illegal fishing, and establish a user-friendly reporting system facilitating voluntary whistleblowing

4. Ensure that at least 30% of coastal waters are included within marine protected areas

Currently, 5% of Hong Kong's waters are designated or planned to be established as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2023. Most are compensation for developments. This extent falls short of Hong Kong's commitments to the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity), nor to conserve Hong Kong's representative marine biodiversity. WWF argues that MPAs can provide significant socio-economic benefits during the post-COVID green recovery period, inter alia, from outdoor recreation, eco-tourism, scuba-diving, and fisheries. We urge the government to take a proactive and precautionary approach and commit to a specific and timebound roadmap for increasing coverage of effectively managed MPAs to 30% of Hong Kong waters by 2030, which is the CBD target. The MPA network should be based on a science-based planning exercise that includes strict no-take reserves, Fisheries Protection Areas (FPAs), species-specific conservation zones, community-based fisheries reserves, and other MPA designations. The establishment of FPAs has been postponed indefinitely and the progress is not transparent. The government should review the establishment schedule and provide progress update regularly.

Under the proposed Holistic Nature Conservation Policy, an all-round management plan must be implemented in all MPAs and proposed FPAs to conserve and restore the ecosystems through appropriate zoning and use practices, from strict no-take zones to enforcing sustainable fishery practices.

To prevent the extirpation of the Pearl River Delta population of Chinese white dolphins (*Sousa chinensis*) (CWD), the Hong Kong government must work closely with the Guangdong authorities to activate timely conservation actions. Governments can refer to the *Emergency Action Plan for Chinese White Dolphins*⁸, formulated jointly by authorities, academics, conservationists and specialists from Hong Kong and the broader Greater Bay Area for developing a regional management plan to preserve key habitats and mitigate major human impacts. Key actions include establishment of buffer areas connecting key dolphin habitats and diversion of major shipping lanes.

WWF advocates the following actions from the government:

⁷ Whitford, A.S., Cornish, A., Griffiths, R., Woodhouse, F.M. (2013). A Review of Hong Kong's Wild Animal and Plant Protection Laws. Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong. Retrieved from <http://www.cpaohku.hk/media/130917lawreview.pdf> (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

⁸ Woo, K.Y. (Editor), (2020). *Emergency Action Plan for the Pearl River Delta Population of the Chinese White Dolphin (Sousa chinensis) 2020*. WWF-China, WWF-Hong Kong, Shenzhen & Hong Kong SAR. 45 pp. Available at: https://d3q9070b7kewus.cloudfront.net/downloads/cwd_emergency_action_plan_for_the_prd_population_2020.pdf (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

- A. Establish and commit to, by 2023, a roadmap for MPAs to cover 30% of Hong Kong waters by 2030, with effective site-specific management plans.
- B. Establish a development-free Dolphin Conservation Management Area off western and southern Lantau by 2024 with increased coverage and effectiveness than the current MPA.
- C. Update the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) to effectively mitigate underwater noise impacts by mandating acoustic propagation modelling studies.
- D. Establish, by 2025, a Shui Hau Marine Protected Area, with zoning that provides strict protection to the most ecologically sensitive area and allows regulated activities in the outer zone.
- E. Establish a Ninepins MPA by 2026 to drive socio-economic benefits, enhance climate resilience and facilitate fisheries resources recovery.
- F. Accelerate the designation of the FPAs, with the aim of recovering depleted fish stocks to sustain fisher livelihoods.
- G. Update the Marine Parks and Marine Reserves Regulation (Cap.476A) to implement species-specific measures within designated marine parks.
- H. Expedite cross-boundary management of protected areas throughout the Greater Bay Area.

5. Eliminate single-use plastic and textile pollution in transitioning to a circular economy

Plastic pollution is a global crisis. WWF is urging cities worldwide to fight for a world with no plastic in nature by 2030. It's a world where our oceans teem with marine life, not discarded nets, bottles and bags. Currently, plastic is flowing into our natural environment at an unprecedented rate – every minute, one garbage truck of plastic is dumped into our oceans. The global situation is so bad, that a recent study has found microplastic in human blood circulatory systems⁹. The government must stop the flow of plastics from entering nature through elimination of unnecessary plastic; doubling reuse, recycling and recovery; and ensuring the remaining plastic is sourced responsibly. Effective waste management systems and bold and legally binding instruments are therefore needed to combat marine plastic pollution.

In 2019, Hong Kong sent 123,735 tonnes of textile waste to landfills. Hong Kong people's high consumption level has tremendous social and environmental impacts locally and globally. A Fashion and Textile Policy is urgently needed to tackle the waste and pollution from the sector. Under the proposed Holistic Nature Conservation Policy Framework, the government must support transition of business to climate and nature-positive models and stimulate the large-scale adoption of circular economy business models. Conscious and informed choices should be encouraged, and consumers should have access to relevant sustainability information and alternatives. Currently, we lack the policies and measures to stimulate the demand and supply for sustainable products and services.

Therefore, WWF suggests the following actions from the government:

- A. Accelerate the ban legislation process for single-use plastic cutlery and polystyrene tableware by 2023, and phase out other single-use plastic and biodegradable tableware for both dine-in and takeaway services by 2025, including individual packaging for tableware items.
- B. Establish an aid fund for the F&B industry to roll out incentive schemes for customers to bring their own tableware.
- C. Provide clear and comprehensive guidelines for the industry to implement regulations towards sustainable practices.
- D. Set a high levy on single-use shopping bags of any material, with minimal exemptions, by 2022.
- E. Expand the Plastic Recycling Pilot Scheme to all districts.
- F. Speed up the introduction and implementation of municipal solid waste (MSW) charging scheme in Hong Kong.

⁹ Leslie H., et al (2022). Discovery and quantification of plastic particle pollution in human blood. *Environment International*, 316. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2022.107199> (Accessed: 27 April 2022)

Appendix 1. Foundation for WWF’s policy recommendations

WWF’s Policy Address Action Targets	China’s 14th Five-Year Plan ¹ (Part – Article – Session)	Greater Bay Area Policy Areas ²	First Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework ³
Ensure that all land and sea areas are under inclusive and integrated spatial planning, and formalize implementation of Strategic Environmental Assessments.	9-33-2, 11-37-1, 11-37-2, 11-37-3, 11-38-5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the approach of green development. • To strengthen the protection and enhancement of wetlands. • To enhance the protection of green mountain and blue bay, establish ecological protection barriers for forest ecology. 	Target 1, Target 21.
Address both the biodiversity and climate crises in an integrated approach through Nature-based Solutions.	1-1-3, 9-33-2, 11-37-2, 11-37-3, 11-38-4, 11-39.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the adoption of green and low-carbon production methods and lifestyles as well as modes of urban development and operation. • To nurture and develop industries such as new energy, energy conservation and environmental protection, and new energy vehicles, and form a belt of industry aggregation with R&D of energy conservation and environmental protection technologies as well as the development of headquarters and bases as its core. 	Target 8, Target 14, Target 15.
Ensure that the direct and indirect harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health.	9-33-1, 11-37-3, 11-38-5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To put into practice ideas on ecological conservation, make full use of modern information technology. • To enhance the conservation of marine resources. 	Target 5.
Ensure that at least 30% of coastal waters are included within marine protected areas.	9-33-2, 11-37-1, 11-37-2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pleasant ecological environment should essentially be formed. • To step up cooperation in ecological and environmental protection among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, and enhance ecological and environmental systems in a concerted manner. • Establishing ecological protection barriers. • Establish marine ecological belt. • To enhance the conservation of marine environment. 	Target 3.
Eliminate single-use plastic and textile pollution by transitioning to a circular economy.	11-38-2, 11-39-2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On cleaner production, to enhance promotion of cleaner production technologies and practices. 	Target 7.