

# Formulating a **BSAP** for Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China

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# Greetings from Hong Kong



- Area: 1,104 km<sup>2</sup>
- International financial centre
- Shopping / gourmet paradise
- Densely-populated city





# Our Natural Assets

- Over 40% land area protected by law
- Topography + sub-tropical climatic environment → diverse habitats







# Our Natural Assets



**Birds**  
**520 species**



**Butterflies**  
**236 species**



**Terrestrial mammals**  
**55 species**



**Amphibians**  
**24 species**



**Freshwater fishes**  
**185 species**



**Vascular plants**  
**>2100 native species**



**Reptiles**  
**86 species**



**Dragonflies**  
**117 species**



**Hard corals**  
**84 species**



**Marine fishes**  
**997 species**





# Our Natural Assets







# Extension of CBD to Hong Kong



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

May 2011



Source: <http://education.nationalgeographic.com>



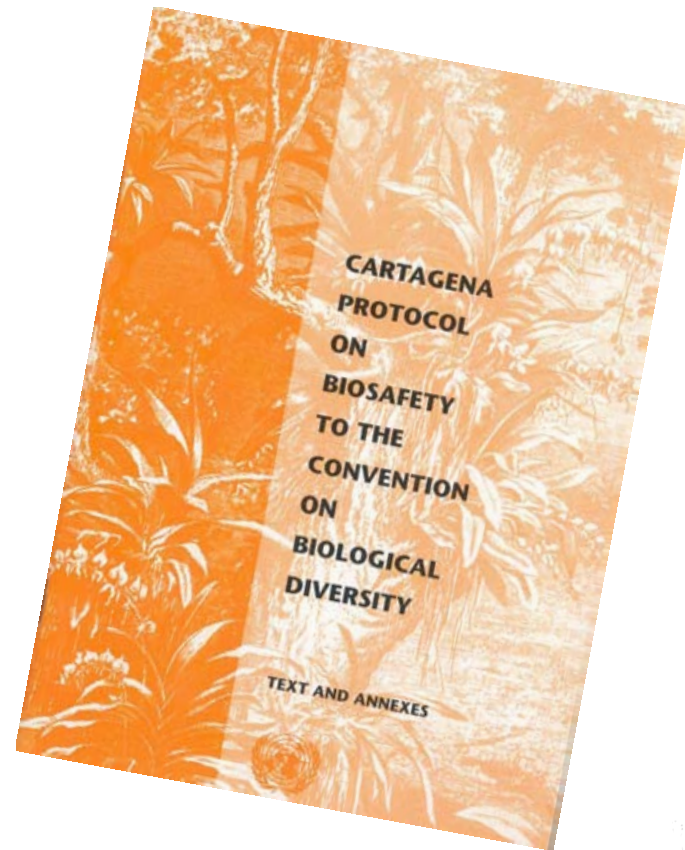


# Major Tasks Following the Extension

## New Legislation:

Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Ordinance (Cap. 607)

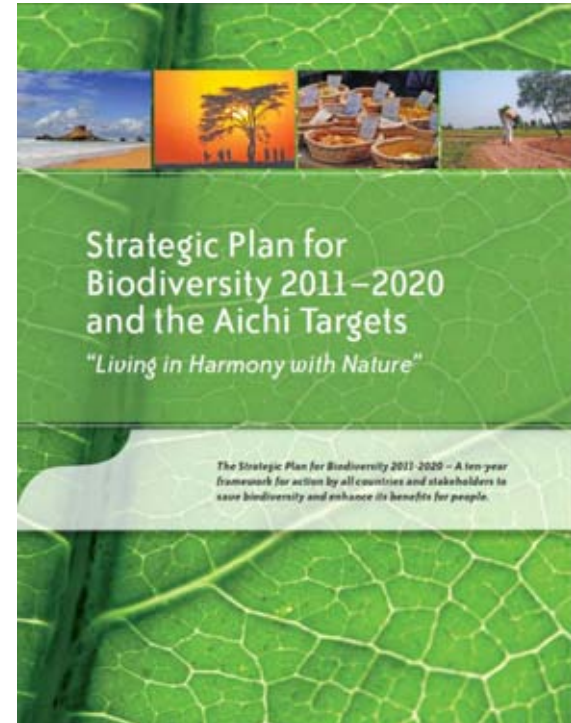
- Enacted in March 2011.
- To implement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Hong Kong.





# Major Tasks Following the Extension

## Formulation of our City BSAP



Aichi Biodiversity Target 17:

*“...**by 2015**, each Party has developed, adopted...and commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national BSAP.”*







# Approach to BSAP formulation

## 1. Cyclical and adaptive



**Figure 1 Basic Steps for Biodiversity Planning: A Cyclical and Adaptive Process**

Adapted from Miller, K. R. and S. M. Lanou. 1995. *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World*. Washington D.C., Nairobi, Gland: WRI, UNEP, and IUCN.



# Approach to BSAP Formulation

## 2. Open and Participatory

**Engage the society**

Raise awareness and encourage participation



**Set up a three-tier advisory committee**

Deliberate on the strategy and action plans





# Three-tier Advisory Committee

## Steering Committee

Provide overall steer, monitor the progress, identify priority issues, consider and prioritise action plans

## 3 Working Groups

Examine the status of biodiversity and conservation mechanisms; study priority issues and formulate action plans

## 12 Focus Groups

Focus on one issue; feed comments from interested parties to the committee

Government  
Professional bodies  
Indigenous representatives  
NGOs / civic groups  
Scholars  
Private sector

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Scholars / experts  
Private sector

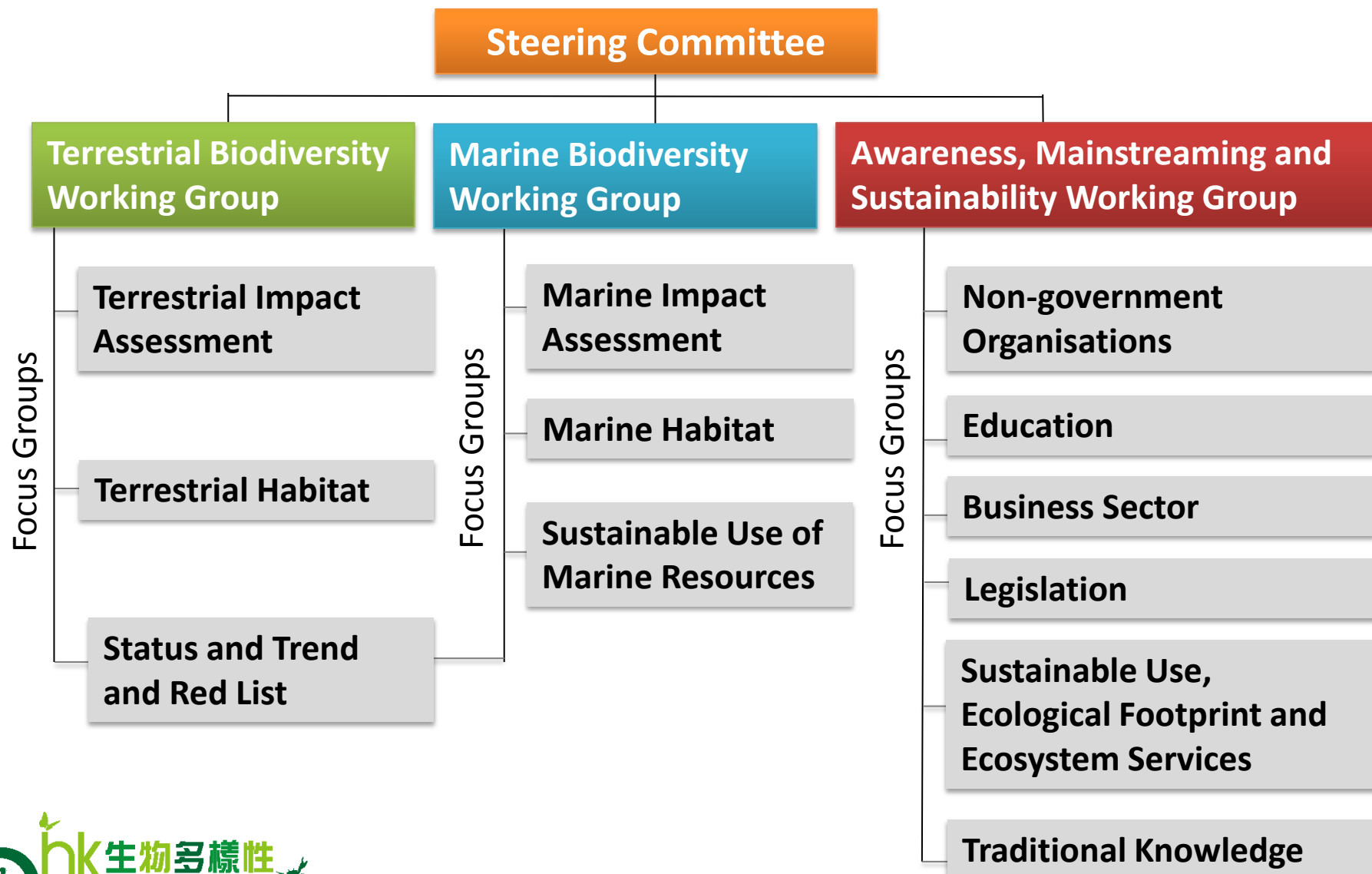
Any person interested in the topic







# Three-tier Advisory Committee





# SC / WGs Meetings and FGs Activities



>20 SC / WG meetings for this year



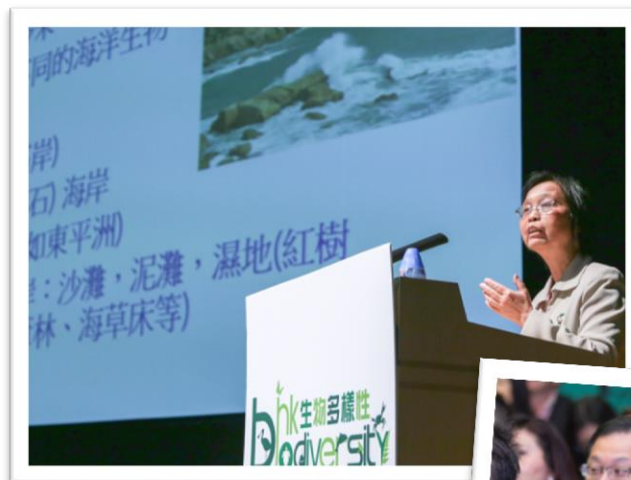
>22 FGs meetings / forums





# Engaging the Society

## Public lectures, roving exhibitions







# Engaging the Society

## Website, YouTube channel, short videos





# Engaging the Society



## Our Rich Biodiversity





# Engaging the Society



## Engagement meetings

### Direct:

- Questionnaire
- Focus Groups
- Public Forums (June 2014)
- Consultation (early 2015)

### Indirect:

- Parallel process by civic groups
- Hong Kong Green Drinks







# Challenges and Opportunities



## Capacity building

First BSAP, to be  
compiled in 2 years



Engage the experts in  
the society

Experience, resources  
and support needed



so we are here!





# Challenges and Opportunities



## Expectation management

New concepts –  
“biodiversity”,  
“ecosystem services”



Co-learning, sharing of  
information

“We want action now!”

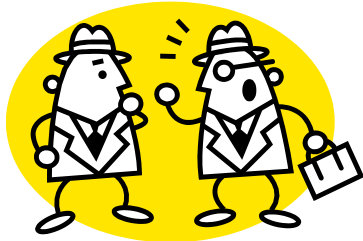


Regular communication  
with stakeholders





# Challenges and Opportunities



## Government to do everything?

Where is the funding,  
and how to get them



Engage new partners

On keeping the  
momentum



Identify supporting  
points / organisations







# B.S.A.P.

- **BUY-IN:** endeavour to seek maximum buy-in from stakeholders including those in Government, NGOs and land/business sectors;
- **STRATEGIC:** focus on aspects and issues that are relevant and important for achieving the vision, mission and targets;
- **ACHIEVABLE:** the work plan, recommendations and the proposed BSAP should be realistic and achievable; and
- **PRIORITISATION:** to prioritise issues, actions and resource allocation; and seek consensus wherever possible on the various priorities.





# Thank you!

HKBSAP Website: [www.afcd.gov.hk/bsap](http://www.afcd.gov.hk/bsap)

YouTube: 'HKBSAP' channel

Secretariat: Mr Simon CHAN

Email: [kf\\_chan@afcd.gov.hk](mailto:kf_chan@afcd.gov.hk)

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# Backstage







# Part I: Biodiversity of Hong Kong



**Most of Hong Kong hillsides were deforested during and shortly after the Japanese occupation (1941 – 1946).**

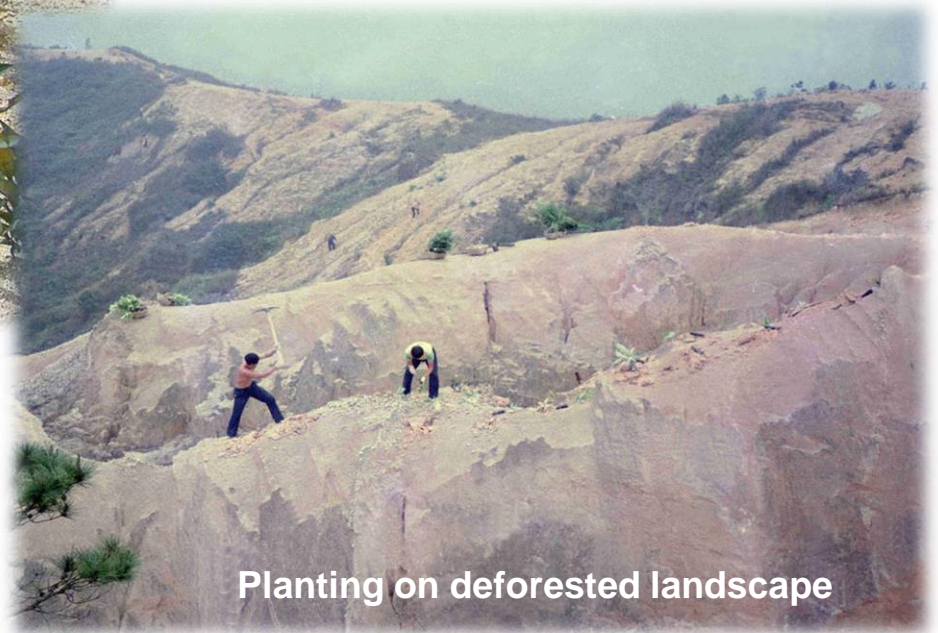






# Afforestation

- Territory-wide afforestation programme initiated in 1953
- To prevent soil erosion of the barren countryside and to restore the vegetation







# Tree Species for Afforestation

- Hardy, fast growing exotic pioneer species (mostly Australian species) that would grow well in sites of poor soil
- laid the successful foundation of Hong Kong's later greening



*Pinus massoniana*



*Casuarina equisetifolia*



*Eucalyptus robusta*



*Acacia confusa*



*Lophostemon confertus*



*Melaleuca cajuputi cumingiana*





# Years of Afforestation Efforts

- Erosion control
- Soil and water conservation
- Habitat restoration and Rehabilitation



Year	No. of Tree Planted inside Country Parks
91/92	354,300
92/93	320,200
93/94	323,200
94/95	317,600
95/96	333,200
96/97	344,900
97/98	334,200
98/99	553,500
99/00	664,053
2000/01	643,044
2001/02	790,000
2002/03	899,000
2003/04	1,051,578
2004/05	735,000
2005/06	855,000
2006/07	903,000
2007/08	933,000
2008/09	905,000
2009/10	736,000
2010/11	738,000
2011/12	740,000
2012/13	723,000







After  
afforestation



Seriously eroded badlands



Vegetated hillsides







# Diverse habitats

- Sub-tropical climate
- Diverse topography, diverse habitats
- >40% land area protected by law





# High Biodiversity in a Small Area



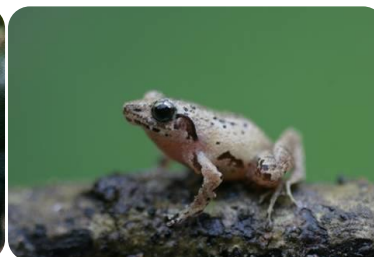
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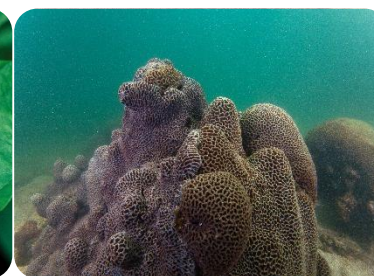
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# Threatened Species

- Globally threatened species makes Hong Kong their home



*Xenophrys brachykolos*



*Platalea minor*



*Orthetrum p. poecilops*



*Cuora trifasciata*



*Platysternon megacephalum*



*Manis pentadactyla auritus*



*Liuixalus romeri*



*Gomphidia kelloggi*



*Chroicocephalus saundersi*



*Chelonia mydas*





# Endemic Species

- Species unique to Hong Kong



*Halpe paupera walthewi*



*Fukienogomphus choifongae*



*Sinopora hongkongensis*



*Dibamus bogadeki*



*Leptogomphus hongkongensis*







# Species New to Science

- Species which have not been described by scientists before



## Hong Kong Bent-winged Firefly *Pteroptyx maipo* (2009)

- First found by AFCD at Hong Kong Wetland Park in 2009
- First record of the genus *Pteroptyx* from mainland China and Hong Kong
- Also known to occur at Mai Po, Lut Chau, Tsim Bei Tsui.
- Endemic to Hong Kong
- Zootaxa 2931:8-34 (2011)



## Hong Kong Tusk-tail *Fukienogomphus choifongae* (2004)

- First found by AFCD at Wu Kau Tang in 2004
- Only known to occur at Wu Kau Tang
- Endemic to Hong Kong
- Odonatologica 35(1):81-87 (2006)





# Species New to Hong Kong

- Species which have not been recorded in Hong Kong

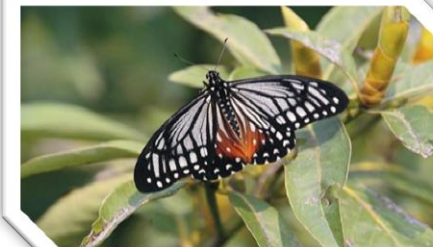
*Tylonycteris robustula* (2005)



*Puffinus tenuirostris* (2004)



*Chilasa agestor* (2002)



*Cephalaeschna klotsi* (2003)



*Halophila minor* (2005)



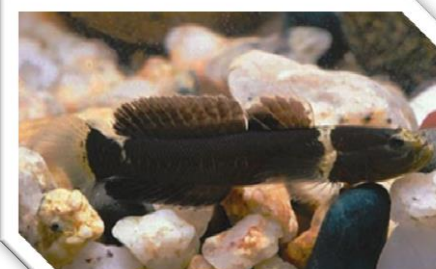
*Myotis muricola* (2005)



*Pipistrellus tenuis* (2005)



*Mangarinus waterousi* (2002)





## Part II: Biodiversity Conservation in Hong Kong





# Practices for Conservation in Hong Kong



## Conservation Authority

AFCD is responsible for the nature conservation of Hong Kong

## Aims of Conservation Works

- To conserve flora, fauna and natural habitats
- To designate and manage country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves
- To control international trade in endangered species of animals and plants in Hong Kong







# Nature Conservation in Hong Kong

- Nature conservation is essentially the **conservation of biodiversity**. It embraces **protection, maintenance, sustainable utilization, restoration and enhancement** of the natural environment.
- Nature conservation is **positive and proactive**. It requires proper management of human use of the living world so that it may provide maximum benefit to the **present generations** while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of **future generations**.





# Habitat Conservation - Protected Areas



- Country Parks & Special Areas
- Restricted Areas
- Marine Parks & Marine Reserve
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Conservation Areas & Coastal Protection Areas

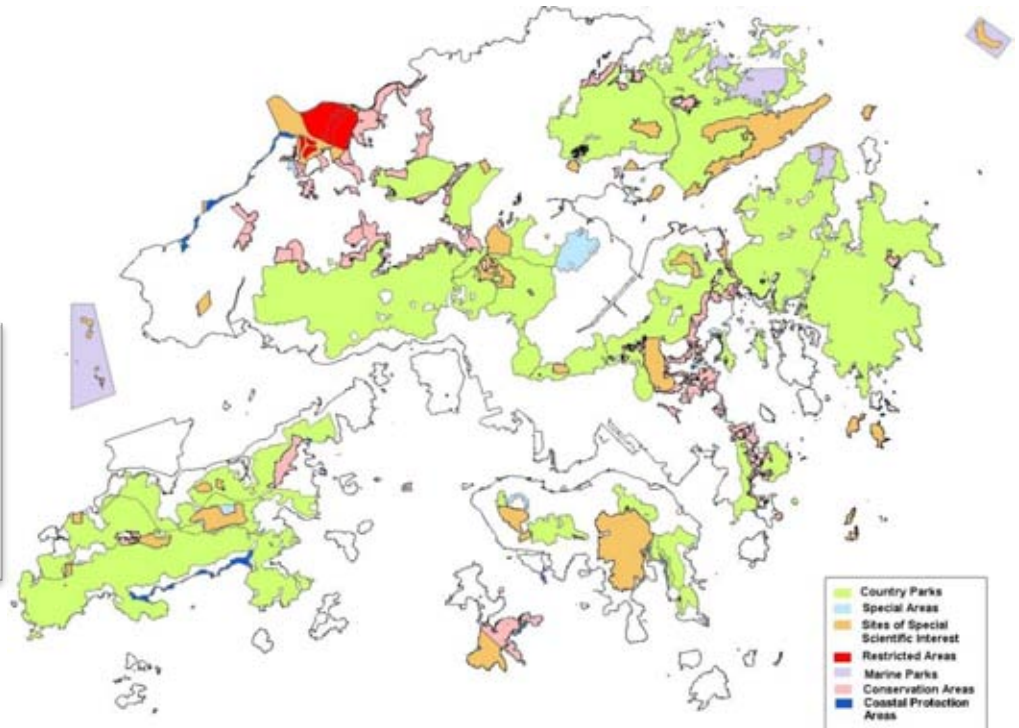






# Protected Areas in Hong Kong

- Cover over 40% of land areas in Hong Kong
- Largely ecologically connected
- Over 98% of terrestrial and freshwater species of the major faunal groups have representative populations within the protected areas





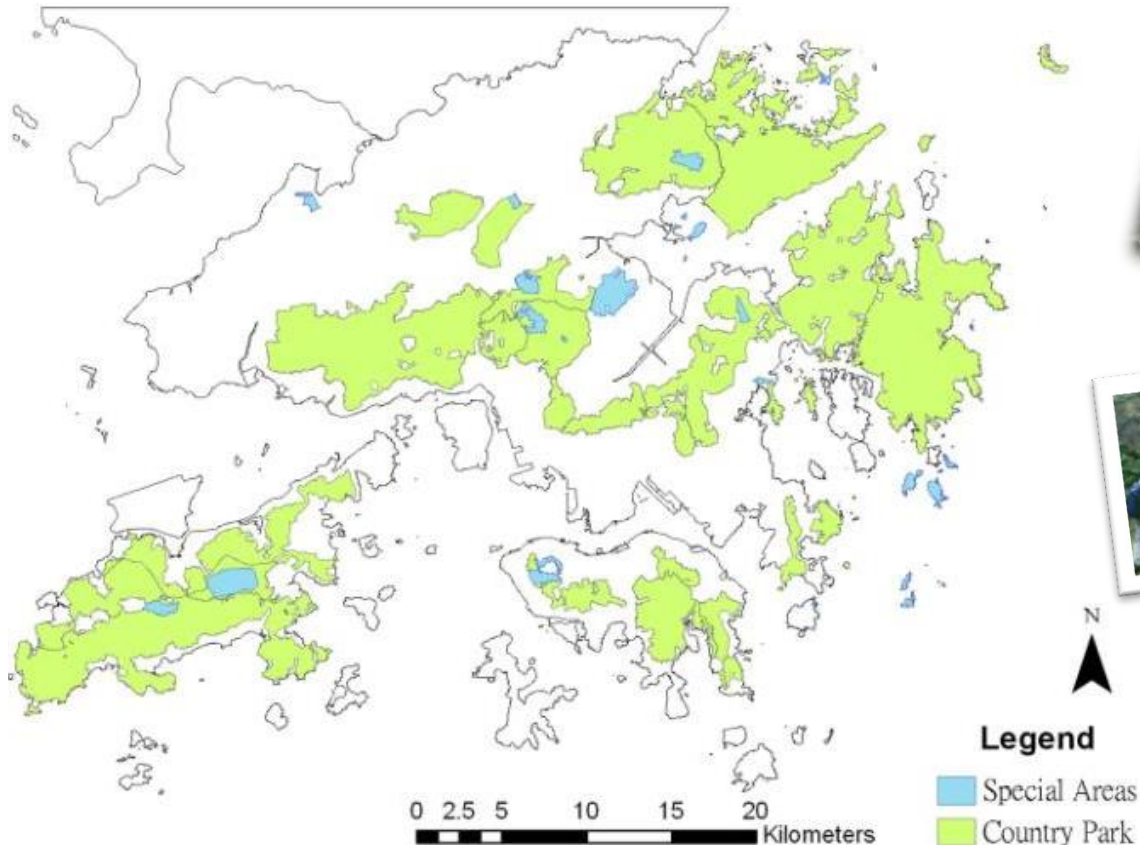


# Country Parks and Special Areas

- Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208), enacted in 1976.
- 3 main objectives: conservation, recreation and education



24 Country Parks  
22 Species Areas  
44,239 ha  
~40% land areas of HK





# Restricted Areas

- Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170)
- To protect ecologically important habitats from disturbance impacts.
- Access to these areas is restricted through a permit system administered by AFCD.
- Nature Wardens of AFCD carry out regular patrols to the Restricted Areas

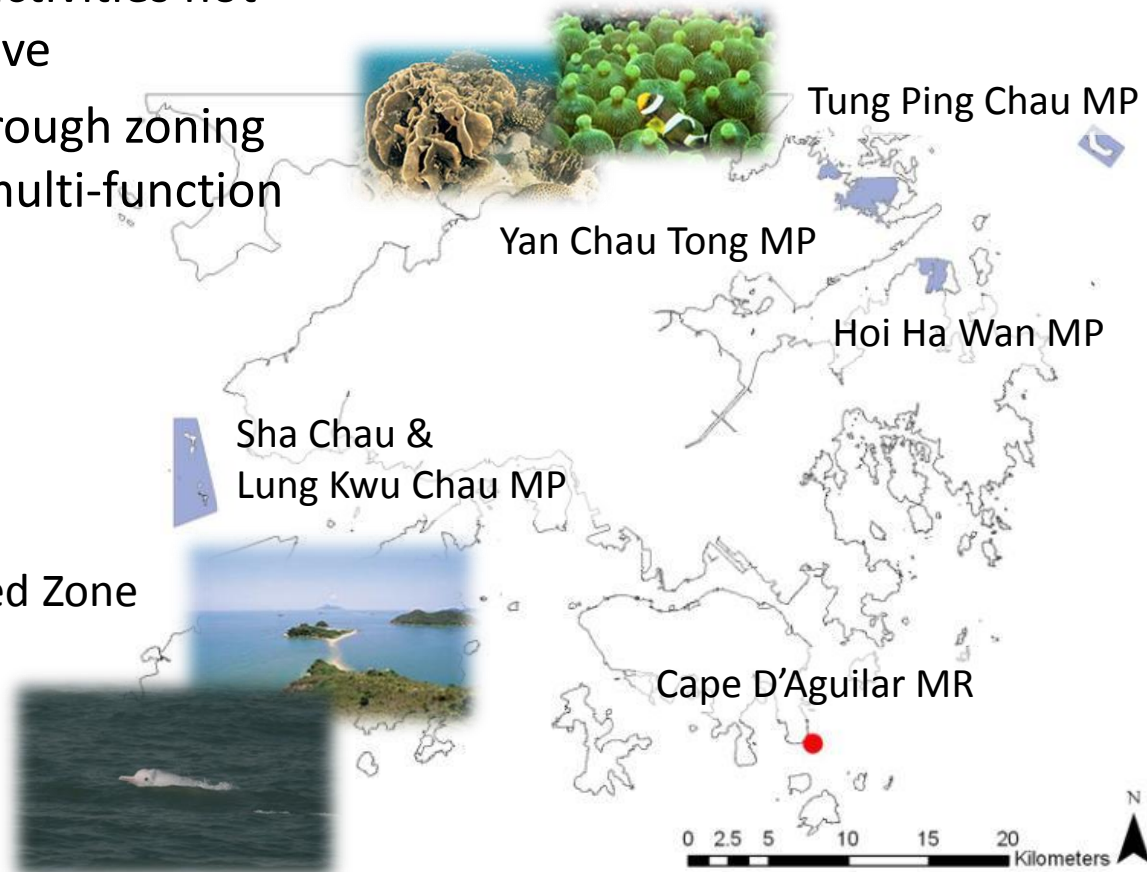




# Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

- Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476)
- Water sports and coastal activities not permitted in Marine Reserve
- Marine Parks managed through zoning plans, which achieve the multi-function purpose of the parks:
  - Anchoring Areas
  - Core Areas
  - Mechanised Vessels Prohibited Zone
  - Inboard Vessels Prohibited Zone

4 Marine Parks  
1 Marine Reserve







# Species Conservation - Legislation

- Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96)
- Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170)
- Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499)
- Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586)
- Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Ordinance (Cap. 607)



*Manis pentadactyla*



*Python bivittatus*



*Liui xalus romeri*



*Zosterops japonicus*





# Biodiversity Baseline Survey

- Programme initiated by AFCD in 2002
- Covers different habitats; the location, status and composition of important plant communities; and the distribution and abundance of over 1,200 animal species
- Surveyed fauna groups: mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, beetles, butterflies, and dragonflies





# Conservation Action Plans

- Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Management Plan
- Romer's Tree Frog Action Plan
- Black-faced Spoonbill Action Plan
- Green Turtle Action Plan
- Three-banded Box Turtle Action Plan
- Chinese White Dolphin Action Plan
- Flora Conservation Action Plan
- Butterfly Conservation Action Plan
- Installation of bird boxes and bat houses

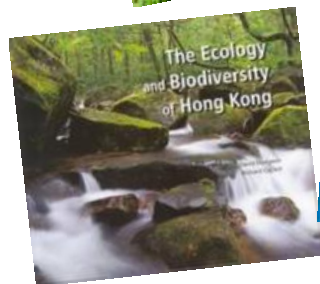






# Education and Publicity

- Education and volunteer programmes
- Guided tours
- Exhibition and seminar
- Publications





# International and Regional Cooperation

- Ramsar Convention
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)
- East Asian - Australasian Shorebird Site Network
- **Convention on Biological Diversity**



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

