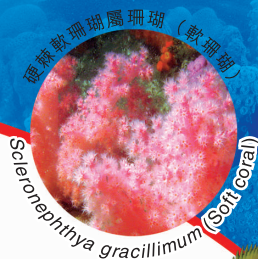
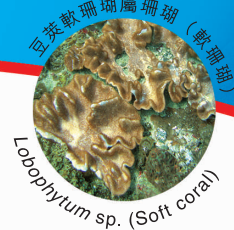
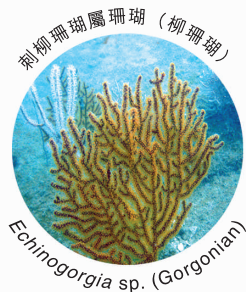
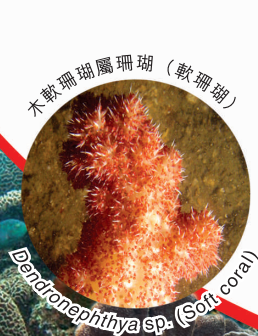


## 香港有多少種石珊瑚？

在印度太平洋熱帶地區，一個珊瑚礁已有超過200種的石珊瑚，有些甚至有300至400種之多。因為本地氣候、水文情況及其他人為因素，香港只有來自28個屬84種造礁珊瑚品種。這些珊瑚品種能抵受年中海水溫度及鹹度的大幅變化，也可抵受不時吹襲的颱風。牠們主要是表覆形或團塊形的蜂巢珊瑚及濱珊瑚。

## 香港有其他種類的珊瑚嗎？

除了石珊瑚之外，香港還有軟珊瑚、柳珊瑚、黑珊瑚和海筆等，最少有來自14個屬的29種軟珊瑚已被辨認及記錄。此外，香港有19個屬38種柳珊瑚，大多生長在鹹度變化較小的東面水域，牠們需要固著在堅穩的基質上，最喜歡生長在水深20至25米的地方。目前香港錄得有2個屬的6種黑珊瑚，牠們大多生長在東北水域水深10至20米的地方。



## How many species of stony corals are found in Hong Kong waters?

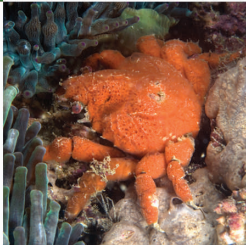
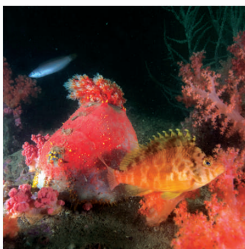
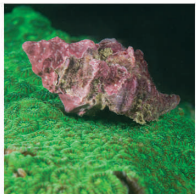
In the heart of the tropical Indo-Pacific, there are over 200 species of stony corals on a single reef. Some sites may house as many as 300 to 400 species of stony corals. Under the influence of local weather, hydrological conditions and anthropogenic perturbations, Hong Kong supports only 84 species of reef-building corals from 28 genera. Those coral species can tolerate wide annual fluctuations in water temperature and salinity as well as periodic typhoons and monsoons. The dominant species of reef-building corals are mainly encrusting or massive faviids and poritids.

## What is the diversity of other corals in Hong Kong?

In addition to stony corals, soft corals, gorgonians, black corals and sea pens are also found in Hong Kong water. 29 species of soft corals from 14 genera have been recorded. In addition, there are 38 species of gorgonians from 19 genera found in Hong Kong waters. Gorgonians prevail in the eastern waters of less variable salinity. They require a firm substratum for anchorage and reach maximum abundance at about 20-25M deep. Six species of black corals from 2 genera have been recorded in Hong Kong waters. Most of them are found in the north-eastern waters at a depth of 10-20M.

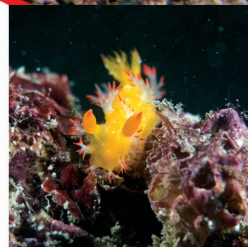
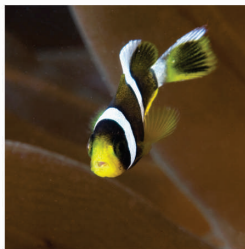
## 香港珊瑚群落的海洋生物

雖然香港沒有珊瑚礁，但大型珊瑚群落一樣可提供棲所、屏障及基質給其他生物附著及生長。與珊瑚礁一樣，大型珊瑚群落的初級生產力很高，能夠提供充裕的食物給眾多生物。依靠珊瑚群落的動物很多，例如海綿、海葵、海星、海膽及珊瑚魚等，棲身珊瑚群落的魚類更多達320種。



## Coral-associated marine life of Hong Kong

Although there has no reef structure in Hong Kong, large coral community can provide hiding spaces, shelters and substrata for other organisms to settle and grow. Similar to coral reef, large coral community has also high primary productivity and therefore can provide numerous organisms with abundant food resources. The coral-associated animals found in Hong Kong are very diverse. Examples are sponge, sea anemone, starfish, sea urchin and reef fish. Some 320 fish species were recorded around local rocky reefs and coral communities.







## 珊瑚現正受到甚麼威脅？

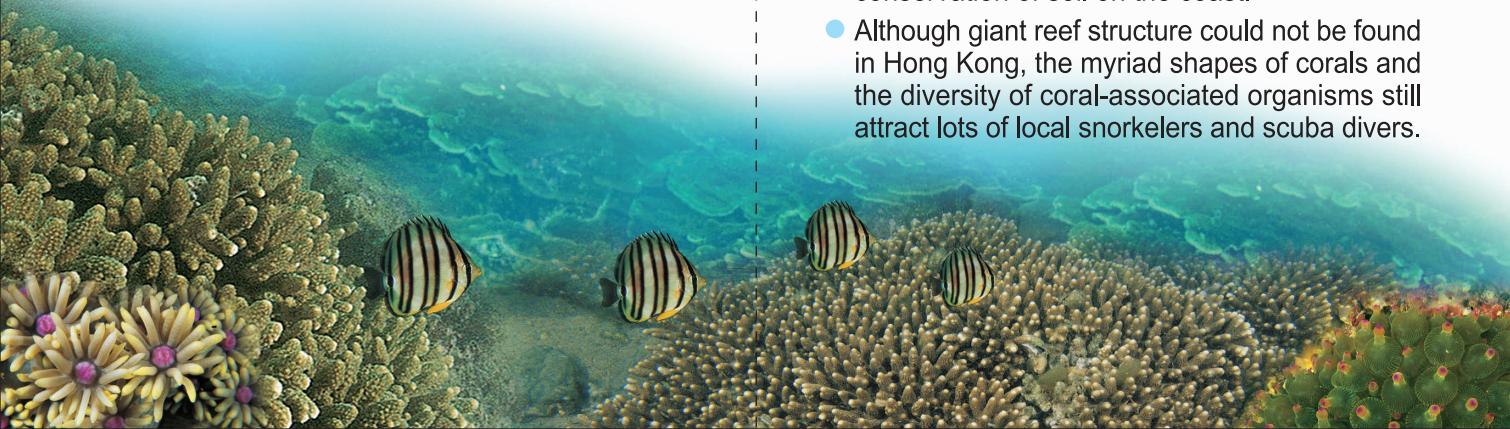
在香港，甚至世界各地，珊瑚都受到同樣的威脅，包括：

- 船錨破壞
- 沿岸發展
- 濫捕及破壞性捕魚活動
- 污染
- 被過度使用



## 為甚麼我們要保護珊瑚？

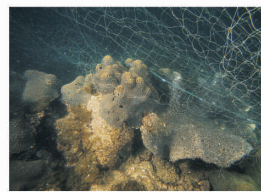
- 牠們是許多重要食用魚、蝦、蟹及貝類的產卵場及育苗場。
- 許多珊瑚及珊瑚群落的生物體內含有豐富的自然藥物，可用來治療疾病。
- 珊瑚不僅能製造石灰及海灘，沿岸的群落還可以保護及穩固海岸，防止海岸被風浪侵蝕。
- 雖然香港沒有龐大的珊瑚礁，但珊瑚千變萬化的形狀及其區內多姿多彩的海洋生物，實在是一美麗的景觀，更是無價的觀光資源。



## What are the threats to corals?

In Hong Kong and other places in the world, corals are threatened by:

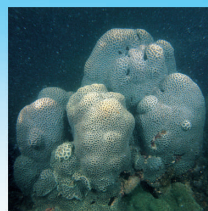
- Anchor damage
- Coastal development
- Overexploitation and destructive fishing practices
- Inland and marine-based pollution
- Extensive recreational use



## Why do we need to protect corals?

- Local coral communities are important spawning grounds and nursery grounds for many commercially significant fishery resources, such as fish, shrimps, crabs, and shellfish.
- Corals and many coral-associated organisms contain natural products which are important pharmaceutical resources.
- Corals not only deposit limestone and create beaches, but also protect the coastline and stabilize the substrata from wave action and storms. They are extremely important to the conservation of soil on the coast.
- Although giant reef structure could not be found in Hong Kong, the myriad shapes of corals and the diversity of coral-associated organisms still attract lots of local snorkelers and scuba divers.





## 如何保護珊瑚？

遵守下列指引，有助保護香港珊瑚：

### 航行及其他船艇活動

- 切勿在珊瑚區域下錨，改在沙質或碎石的海床下錨。
- 如有的話，使用繫泊浮泡。
- 不要放長錨繩或錨鏈，以免船隻拖錨。

### 沿岸發展

- 施工前測繪有關水域的珊瑚位置和分佈。
- 計劃、管制和監察影響珊瑚區的污水排放和沉積作用。

## How to conserve corals?

The following guidelines will help to conserve corals in Hong Kong:

### Boating

- Do not anchor in coral areas, choose sandy or rubble seabed instead.
- Use mooring buoys where provided.
- Keep anchoring rope or chain short to avoid dragging.

### Coastal development

- Map the location and distribution of corals in the areas of concern prior to commencement of works.
- Plan, control and monitor the sewage discharge and sedimentation affecting coral areas.

