



# 第一章 Chapter 1

## 引言 INTRODUCTION

1.1 在很多人的心目中，香港只是一個地少人多、發展密集的城市 — 摩天大廈林立，街道繁忙。不過，隨著越來越多人發現香港優美的自然環境，並懂得欣賞這些引人入勝的自然景貌和種類繁多的野生生物，這個形象已迅速改變。今日香港，不僅是其中一個重要的商業中心，也是遠足和觀鳥的勝地。

1.2 香港地勢多變，海岸線綿長，自然美景令人目不暇給 — 低處有石灘和潮間帶泥灘，高處有林地和青草遍地的山野。香港雖只是彈丸之地，卻有著多姿多采的自然景貌，鮮有別處可以媲美。香港自然環境的價值不只在於優美的景色。我們有各種不同的生境，為林林總總的動植物提供棲息和生長的地方，其中一些動植物更是

1.1 To many people, Hong Kong is just a small, densely populated and developed city with tall concrete skyscrapers and crowded streets. However, this image is fast changing when more and more people discover and learn to appreciate the beauty of our natural environment that bears fascinating landscapes and a diversity of wildlife. Today, Hong Kong is not only one of the world's leading business centres, but also a good place for hiking and bird watching.

1.2 Hong Kong has a varied topography and a long coastline. Scenically, it has a great deal to offer – a landscape rising from rocky foreshores and inter-tidal mudflats to woodlands, hilly areas covered by open grassland, and a variety of scenic vistas that are rarely matched despite Hong Kong's small area. The value of our natural landscape goes beyond the beautiful scenery. It provides a wide range of habitats to support a variety of animals and plants including some that were first found in and named after Hong Kong, and a few



中區及維多利亞港  
Central and Victoria Harbour

在香港首次發現並以香港命名，另有數種則屬本港特有物種。香港處於溫帶與熱帶動物地理區域的交界，因此得天獨厚，生物品種豐富繁多。此外，香港也位於北極、東亞與澳洲之間的主要候鳥遷徙路線上，不少候鳥每年都會飛到這裡逗留。

1.3 我們的自然環境也為發展康樂、旅遊和教育活動，提供了必須的資源。香港愈趨都市化，這些天然資產也愈加重要。我們需要休憩用地舒展身心；優美恬靜的自然環境能使我們精神煥發。此外，大自然除了是一間活生生的教室外，也有助發展生態旅遊，既可發揮公眾教育的功能，又可帶來經濟收益。

1.4 保護這項寶貴的天然資產需要大家共同努力。政府作牽頭，自一九七六年開始設立郊野公園以來，在過去約三十年持續推行自然保育的計劃。由於鄉郊地區的發展需求與日俱增，政府後來實施土地用途分區管制，改善這些土地的規劃和發展，包括保存它們的自然景貌。《環境影響評估條例》亦在一九九八年生效，列明土地使用者及發展商為保護環境須考慮的參數。

other species that are endemics. Hong Kong's strategic location at the junction of the temperate and tropical zoogeographical regions has contributed to the rich biodiversity of the territory. Moreover, as Hong Kong is located along a major pathway of migratory birds across the Arctic, Oriental, and Australian Regions, many migratory birds visit Hong Kong every year.

1.3 Our natural environment also provides vital resources for recreational, tourism and educational activities. This natural asset is increasingly important as Hong Kong becomes more and more urbanized. We need open space for relaxation. The tranquility and beauty of the natural environment can freshen our minds. Apart from serving as a living classroom for students, our natural environment also facilitates the development of eco-tourism that can both serve public education functions and generate economic values.

1.4 Protection of this valuable natural asset requires the joint efforts of all. The Government takes the lead and over the last three decades has been implementing a continuous programme of conservation with the launching of designation of country parks in 1976. In the light of the increasing development pressure in the rural areas, zoning control was later introduced to regulate land uses for better planning and development including conservation of natural landscape and features. The Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, which came into operation in 1998, provides clear protection parameters for users and developers of land.



八仙嶺郊野公園  
Pat Sin Leng Country Park





1.5 本港的土地資源有限，我們既要滿足經濟需要，亦要迎合社會其他需求。發展計劃和相關的人類活動難免會對自然環境造成不良影響，有時甚至與自然保育的目的互相抵觸。我們必須在兩者之間取得平衡，確保在滿足香港的發展需要的同時，不會對自然環境造成不能接受的破壞。

1.6 對於某一個地點是否確實值得保育，近年不時引起爭論。假如有人計劃發展有關地點，爭論尤其熱烈。此外，也有人批評現行的自然保育政策和措施有不足之處，未能充分保育私人土地上具重要生態價值的地點，政府必須就有關事宜作出回應。現在是適當時候檢討現

1.5 There are always competing demands for land to meet economic and social needs. Developments and the associated human activities would unavoidably have an adverse impact on the natural environment and may, in some cases, conflict with the nature conservation objective. We need to strike a proper balance to ensure that Hong Kong's development needs are met without doing unacceptable damage to the natural environment.

1.6 In recent years, there have been debates on whether a particular site really deserves conservation especially when there are plans to develop the site. There are also criticisms about the limitations of the existing nature conservation policy and measures in conserving ecologically important sites that fall under private ownership. The Government has to be responsive and it is highly appropriate that we should conduct a review on the existing nature conservation policy and measures with the objective of identifying areas for further improvement in those regards. Although nature



行的自然保育政策和措施，以找出可予改善的地方。雖然自然保育的對象包括陸地和海洋生境及物種，但這次檢討主要集中於陸地生態的保育事宜，原因是這方面引起最多爭論和批評。

1.7 本文件載述現行的自然保育政策和措施，以及上述檢討的結果，並就以下事宜徵詢市民及關注團體的意見 —

- (a) 實施計分制，以更客觀和有系統的方式，評估不同地點在生態方面的相對重要性，以期與社會各界就須優先加強保育的地點達成共識；以及
- (b) 尋求切實可行的方法，以有限的資源加強保育私人土地上具重要生態價值的地點。

conservation covers both terrestrial and marine habitats and species, the review is mainly focused on terrestrial conservation that is the centre of the debates and criticisms.

1.7 This document sets out the existing nature conservation policy and measures, and the results of our review. It seeks views from the public and interested bodies on –

- (a) the introduction of a scoring system for assessing, in a more objective and systematic manner, the relative ecological importance of sites with the objective of reaching a consensus within the community on the priority sites for enhanced conservation; and
- (b) practicable ways to better conserve ecologically important sites that are under private ownership within limited resources.

