New Application

Project Number	11/2013
Project Title	Construction of DNA barcoding database for rapid taxonomic identification of marine fauna in Hong Kong
Principal Investigator (PI)	Prof. CHU Ka-hou, School of Life Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Project summary	This project aims to construct a DNA barcoding database (mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase subunit I, COI) from >600 common marine species in Hong Kong, which will provide a rapid, accurate and inexpensive platform for the identification of marine species. DNA data obtained could be used to validate and revise past records on the marine species list in Hong Kong. As construction works, reclamation and pollution impact Hong Kong coastal waters, the construction of this database will play an efficient role in local ecological surveys and conservation management. A public website will be constructed containing photo images of all vouchered marine species, to educate and arouse public interests.
Research Theme	Ecological and geo conservation
Project Duration	30 months
Proposed Budget	The total budget is $1,163,080, comprising the following items:

Item	**Amount Requested ($)**
Manpower - 2 Research Assistant II, one for 30 months and one for 6 months @ $14,330/month each	515,880
General expenses - including chemicals, reagents, primers and other consumables required for DNA extraction, PCR amplification, product purification and lab consumables (plastic ware, photos, etc.)	290,000
DNA sequencing	307,200
Fieldwork expenses	50,000
Total	**1,163,080**

Assessments/Remarks	See Appendix. Members are invited to advise whether the application should be supported and if supported, the exact amount of fund to be granted.

Secretariat, ECF Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee
February 2014