New Application

Project Number	19/2012
Project Title	Revealing historical profile of marine ecological degradation in Hong Kong using paleoecological approaches
Principal Investigator (PI)	Dr. Moriaki Yasuhara, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Hong Kong
Project summary	Through investigating the living, core-top, dead, and fossil ostracods, foraminifera, and bivalves in grab and core sediment samples, this project aims to (1) quantitatively evaluate the vulnerability of sub-tropical Hong Kong's marine ecosystem against human-induced environmental changes; (2) elucidate critical factor(s) for human-induced marine ecological degradation; (3) develop ecosystem health index using paleoecological data; and (4) reconstruct marine ecological degradation history and pre-impacted natural baseline for the past few hundreds of years in Hong Kong.
Research Theme	Ecological and geo conservation
Project Duration	36 months
Proposed Budget	The total budget is $500,000, comprising the following items:

Item	Amount requested ($)
Manpower - 1 Senior Research Assistant @$28,000/month × 13 months	364,000
Research consumables	49,000
A Stereomicroscope	20,000
Radio carbon dating	25,000
Cost for using Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) @$60 per hour × 200 hours	12,000
Hiring fishing boat and small truck for the sampling @$5,000 per day × 3 days	15,000
Overseas conference attendance	15,000
Total:	**500,000**

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

Secretariat, ECF Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee
November 2013