

## Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Project

<b>ECF Project:</b>	ECF 2018-76
<b>Project Title:</b>	Impact of microplastics on life-history stages of hard corals
<b>Applicant:</b>	Dr Fang Kar Hei, James, Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
<b>Total Approved Grant:</b>	\$1,697,000
<b>Duration:</b>	1/5/2019 to 30/4/2022
<b>Project Status/Remarks:</b>	On-going
<b>Project Scope:</b>	This study aims to investigate the impact of microplastics on various life-history stages of hard corals, including larval settlement, acquisition of zooxanthellae (symbiotic microalgae), development of coral polyps and the adult stage. In addition, a field survey will be carried out to estimate the amounts of microplastics on major coral grounds in Hong Kong. This project will provide novel and comprehensive information about the impact of microplastics on hard corals at the most important stages in their life cycle, and important insights for policymakers to evaluate and address this rather detrimental threat to the local coral populations.
<b>Summary of the Findings/Outcomes:</b>	To be available upon completion of the project