

## Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Project

<b>ECF Project:</b>	ECF 2019-105
<b>Project Title:</b>	Baseline evaluation of Hong Kong's rocky shore biodiversity
<b>Applicant:</b>	Professor Gray A. Williams, The Swire Institute of Marine Science, The University of Hong Kong
<b>Total Approved Grant:</b>	\$2,657,800
<b>Duration:</b>	1/8/2020 to 28/2/2023
<b>Project Status/Remarks:</b>	On-going
<b>Project Scope:</b>	<p>The Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) commits the Hong Kong SAR Government to the conservation of our natural biodiversity. In order to effectively manage and conserve our biodiversity it is important to identify and address gaps in our knowledge. Whilst many habitats have been the subject of detailed studies, one clear knowledge gap lies in the documenting and understanding the biodiversity of Hong Kong's rocky shore communities. Preliminary surveys suggest that this environment harbours a rich biodiversity which is shaped by unique local characteristics of the Hong Kong environment, yet imminent impacts from land use and climate changes are largely unknown.</p> <p>This project aims to document this biodiversity, providing a state-of-the art collection of species found on rocky shores, which can be accessed through an online GIS database. By integrating data on species distributions with quantitative surveys at different locations and over different time scales, this database will identify biodiversity hotspots and map the distributions of ecologically important species. By the combination of species identification, cataloguing, and measurement of the community dynamics, the proposed project will contribute towards Hong Kong's BSAP in facilitating conservation and management planning.</p>
<b>Summary of the Findings/Outcomes:</b>	To be available upon completion of the project