**Project Title:** The Second International Conference on Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation of Marine Ecosystems (BECoME-2022)

**Principal Investigator:** Professor Leung Mei Yee Kenneth, Department of Chemistry & State Key Laboratory of Marine Pollution, City University of Hong Kong (CityU)

**Total Approved Grant:** $500,000 or 70% of the total actual expenditure, whichever would be the less

**Duration:** 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022

**Project Status/Remarks:** On-going

**Project Scope:** With the great support from ECF, the First International Conference on Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation of Marine Ecosystems (BECOME-2015) was successfully held during 1-4 June 2015 at The University of Hong Kong. This first conference attracted 280 participants from 26 countries, and received over 200 abstracts. Building on this success, the Second BECoME Conference will be held during 2-8 January 2022 at CityU. This conference will strongly support the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) of the government which was launched in December 2016. BSAP will have accomplished its first 5-year plan by end of 2021 when our government departments (e.g., AFCD, EPD, CEDD) and local marine researchers will have completed many projects related to biodiversity, ecology and conservation of marine ecosystems in Hong Kong. This conference will serve as a timely and essential platform for them to share their findings and achievements with local stakeholders and overseas’ researchers, and showcase our BSAP efforts.

The BECoME-2022 conference aims to provide a platform for knowledge transfer and idea exchange; foster research collaborations; identify knowledge gaps and prioritise research areas; train young scientists and environmental practitioners, and solicit experts’ advices on practical issues related to local marine biodiversity conservation and fisheries management. Target participants would be from 200 to 300.

**Summary of the Findings/Outcomes:** To be available upon completion of the project