



# Sustainability of Deep Bay Wetlands

24 January 2019 (Thursday)

**Time** 9:00am - 1:00pm

**Venue** Diamond Room, 5th Floor, The Cityview Hotel

23 Waterloo Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong

The ecological values of Deep Bay wetlands that include a mixture of natural and man-modified habitats to migratory water birds are well recognised. This has led to the designation of Mai Po Nature Reserve in 1983 and the Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site in 1995 for their protection. In addition there are two Management Agreement schemes covering commercial fish ponds since 2012. However, large areas of fish ponds have been abandoned over the years and susceptible to the colonization by invasive exotic plants. This has significant impacts on the ecological and social value of the fish ponds.

How to sustain the Deep Bay wetlands will be discussed among the stakeholders in this Forum, drawing on overseas experiences of conserving and managing private wetlands and local knowledge on the changing Deep Bay ecosystem.

## **Speakers**

**Prof. Peter Hills,** Emeritus Professor, University of Hong Kong (HKU)

Dr. Michael Lau, Chairman, Hong Kong Wetlands Conservation Association (HKWCA)

Dr. Martin Spray, Chief Executive, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)

Dr. Lew Young, Chief Executive, Partnership for the East Asian - Australasian Flyway (EAAFP)

Mr. Yu Yat-Tung, Research Manager, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS)

## **Panel Chair-person**

Prof. Nora Tam, Chair Professor of Biology, City University of Hong Kong (CityU)

Registration Fee HK\$100

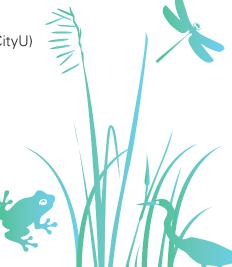
Registration Link http://bit.ly/HKWCAforum

Website: www.hkwca.org.hk Email: info.hkwca@gmail.com

Co-Organisers









## **Programme Rundown**

Time	Contents	Speaker
0900 - 0915	Registration	
0915 - 0920	Opening	
0920 - 0945	The Evolving Deep Bay Wetlands	Dr. Michael Lau, HKWCA
0945 - 1010	Nature Conservation Scheme in Hong Kong Fishponds	Mr. Yu Yat-Tung, HKBWS
1010 - 1035	WWT London Wetland Centre - The Integration of Development and Conservation	Dr. Martin Spray, WWT
1035 - 1105	Tea Break	
1105 - 1130	International Experiences in Wetland Conservation and Management	Dr. Lew Young, EAAFP
1130 - 1155	Win-win Approah for Deep Bay Wetlands Conservation	Prof. Peter Hills, HKU
1155 - 1240	Panel Discussion	Chaired by Prof. Nora Tam
1240 - 1245	Closing Remarks	
1245 - 1300	(Group Photos, End of Forum)	



## **Biography of Speakers**



**Prof. Peter Hills** Emeritus Professor, University of Hong Kong (HKU)

Peter Hills is an Emeritus Professor of the University of Hong Kong, having worked at the University from 1982 - 2016. He was appointed Professor in 1993 and was Director of the Centre of Urban Planning and Environmental Management from 1992 - 2008, and subsequently Director of the Kadoorie Institute from 2008 - 2012. He served on various statutory and advisory bodies in Hong Kong including the Advisory Council on the Environment, the Town Planning Board, the Energy Advisory Committee, the Environmental Campaign Committee and the Wetland Advisory Committee. He has worked as a consultant for various international organizations including the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, UNEP, ADB and the European Union. He specializes in sustainability studies, climate change and energy and environmental policy, and has published extensively in these areas.

### **Dr. Martin Spray** Chief Executive, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)

Martin Spray has been the Chief Executive of the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) since 2004. WWT is the leading UK NGO specialising in the conservation of wetlands across the world for wildlife and people. It manages 10 wetland centres, 6 Ramsar sites, and has over 200,000 members, a staff of 600 and over 1,000 volunteers. His career has spanned public, business and not for profit sectors. In 1988 he joined the conservation world with WWF UK and then to a local Wildlife Trust as its first Chief Executive. Prior to moving to WWT he was seconded to the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, the coordinating organisation for 47 Wildlife Trusts, for a year as its Chief Executive to steer it through a period of substantial change. Past roles have included various board chair and member roles.



He is currently a member the IUCN UK Committee, Greener UK, the Management Committee of the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership and chairman of its Strategic Planning Task Force, Chair of WWT Consulting, and Chair of Wildlife & Countryside Link, a UK consortium organisation of 48 NGOs. Martin was awarded the CBE by HMThe Queen in 2013 for services to nature conservation. The same year he received an Honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Roehampton.



#### Dr. Michael Lau Chairman, Hong Kong Wetlands Conservation Association (HKWCA)

Michael Lau is the Conservation & Ecology Director of Environmental Strategy, Conservation and Management Co. Ltd. He is also the Chairman of Hong Kong Wetlands Conservation Association (HKWCA). Prior to this, he was the Director of Water and Wetlands in World Wide Fund for Nature, Hong Kong and was the manager of Mai Po Nature Reserve in early 1990's.

He has a lot of experience in conducting field research and formulating conservation programme in Hong Kong and South China. He has written books, reports, papers and articles on biodiversity and conservation. He earned his doctorate degree in the Department of Ecology & Biodiversity at University of Hong Kong studying the habitat use of Hong Kong amphibians and the conservation of Romer's Tree Frogs. He has served in several Hong Kong Government advisory bodies and is a member of several specialist groups of IUCN Species Survival Commission.

#### Dr. Lew Young Chief Executive, Partnership for the East Asian - Australasian Flyway (EAAFP)

Lew Young graduated from the University of Hong Kong with a Ph.D. on habitat use by the herons and egrets in and around the Mai Po Nature Reserve. He was then appointed as the manager of MPNR from 1991 until 2008 where he lobbied for the wetlands in and around Deep Bay to be designated as a Ramsar Site. He also worked closely with stakeholders such as the government, local pond-fish farmers and the private sector for the sustainable use of the Site. In 2008, he moved to work for the Secretariat for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands where he supported the countries in the Asia-Oceania regions to implement the Convention. Since March 2018, he has been working as the Chief Executive of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership at their Secretariat office in the RO Korea.





#### Mr. Yu Yat-tung Research Manager, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS)

Yu Yat-tung, Research Manager of the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS), has extensive experience in bird surveys. He completed his M.Phil. study on the Black-faced Spoonbill, and currently is the coordinator of the international census of this globally endangered species, and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group. He also takes an active role in the project - Hong Kong Fishpond Conservation Scheme supported by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF). The main theme of this project is to enhance the ecological value of the fishponds in HK through partnerships with local fishpond operators.