

To: panel_ea@legco.gov.hk
From: Kathryn Davies <[REDACTED]>
Date: 03/29/2016 01:48PM
Subject: Panel on BSAP comments

Dear EA Panel,

I am writing my comments regarding the Panel on the Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (BSAP) on March 29, 2016, as I did not receive a slot to voice my concerns.

I am not a biologist or environmentalist, but I am simply a citizen that is in awe of Hong Kong's amazing biodiversity and nature. I have lived in several countries and other major financial capitals, but none have the striking beauty and biodiversity that Hong Kong has. We have an opportunity here to transform Hong Kong into an emblem of a "green city", which is an opportunity other major world cities do not have! I am continually concerned about the discussion regarding development and welfare of society in *contrast* to the discussion to biodiversity. In fact, these two go *hand-in-hand*! We have a duty to protect species, water sources, forests, and so on, as they are *vital* to our well being and welfare. In a dense, crowded city, life would not be worth living if we did not have an escape of wonderful nature right at our door step. Likewise, as humans we simply *must* have air to breathe, water to drink, and food to eat, and this comes *before* economic and housing considerations. They are the essentials to our lives, and therefore we all have an inherent connection to our environment.

I have been so inspired by our environment that I created a RTHK CIBS radio show called "Green Hong Kong". Through the process of developing the radio show, I was continually amazed at the things I learned about our special city: corals, wild porcupines, sustainable urban farming, building greening, hiking in our country parks. Our city has so much to offer us, and we, as humans, have a sincere responsibility to protect that environment. At the same time, we are not doing a very good job: our landfills are nearly full, we don't think twice about our waste, our seas have been overfished, and we often opt for convenience over the bigger picture. Education on the environment is sorely lacking here.

I hope you will do everything within your power to implement the changes suggested by the BSAP, and strive to find new avenues for protecting our environment and transforming Hong Kong into a greener, more livable city!

Best wishes,
Kathryn
Producer & Host
Green Hong Kong Radio - Eco-friendly Living in a Big City
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