

**Legislative Council Special Meeting to receive public views on the proposal to construct artificial islands in Central Waters, Hong Kong  
Submission on behalf of Jenny Quinton**

I have many objections with the LTV. I would suggest its real intentions are not being made transparent by our government and that it is in most part a plan for the GBA. This is a logical deduction, emphasized by the disclosure at end of March 2019 of a Chinese plan to join the Lantau reclamation by rail, with a direct high speed rail link to China. If then its real intention is to provide a 'jewel' in the Greater Bay Area plan, I would like to suggest a much better jewel that it could provide for the GBA, that would bring long-lasting benefits to the GBA and the globally through referencing the paper by Jenna Ho Marris

She suggests the Lantau Tomorrow Vision has an exciting possibility to become a world showcase to achieve a **transformation to ecological civilization**.

**The Principle of ecological civilization** is clean air, clean water, jobs, housing, education, entrepreneurial opportunity and access to nature. These are the vital components to nurture good citizens and 21st century knowledge workers. It follows the 13th Five Year Plan, the Greater Bay Area Plan, Hong Kong 2030+ Plan and the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals

The GBA has a current population of 68 million forecast to reach 100 million by 2035. It is already the biggest Bay Area in the world. How can it also become the most valuable and productive? Answer - By utilizing and developing its most productive functions for the benefit of the region and making the GBA the fore-runner of the world as an ecological civilization.

Right now, every major financial and industrial city is struggling to achieve ecological civilization according to carbon emissions, air quality, water quality, population health, crime and other indicators.

GBA is unique for its size, as well as its location within the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot. By pursuing ecological civilization GBA could become the pre-eminent example in the world of Green-Blue Urban Development. In fact Hong Kong and the GBA already have an advantage due to the world leading public transport network and valuable natural assets.

To achieve this the following is recommended

- Lantau can be made into a unique and ambitious South China National Park and internationally recognised City Level UN Biosphere Reserve supporting sustainable, low impact, high tech industry. A Biosphere Reserve is a framework with exclusion zones for conservation, but also includes zones permitting recreational/ economic use of the protected area as pilot for sustainable development of high tech, creative/ knowledge worker industry HK was actually the first city studied as pilot by UNESCO Man and Biosphere programme, re Biosphere Reserves back in 1970s. it's all about big city with nature
1. It supports a Lantau University that is **the** world leader in biodiversity, conservation and restoration. It would offer green learning throughout GBA and globally. It would be a world leader in remote learning. Like OpenU is biggest UK with 170K students. Most popular MOOCS have had 500K to 1mln students, combining tech, innovation, green and health/wellness. It would also offer cutting edge eco-education to all ages from kindergarten to the wisdom of elderly sharing. The value of Lantau as a carbon sink for the GBA, green wilderness, country park and marine wilderness in South China including the endangered Chinese White Dolphin and Finless Porpoise, which are iconic symbols of the Pearl River would make it a fore-runner in conducting scientific and economic appraisal of the ecosystem and cultural services of countries and territories. It would also serve as fore-runner in preserving and further restoring environment such as re-introducing species such as incense trees, and highly endangered Chinese pangolin etc. It would be a Massive carbon sink in terms of actual campus, activities and student mindsets. Its -infrastructural sites would be cutting edge architecture that stipulates buildings must substantially increase ecology. Dispersed and non impact It can for instance use geometric domes like the Eden Project and re-use old building.
- To serve housing needs - these should be shifted to brownfield only sites in Lantau, Hong Kong and adjacent GBA cities, land reclamation should now be avoided at all costs. This pivot would be applauded globally.
  - Investment should be diverted to upgrading Hong kong urban areas and other cities in GBA for low carbon development in view of the new IPCC targets, as well as aggressive new national targets on emissions, and

national recognition of the need for high quality growth and new kind of urbanisation

- The overall outcome would be a transformation to ecological civilization and high-quality growth of world's biggest and greenest Bay Area, while meeting or exceeding Hong Kong and GBA's targets on urban carbon emissions.