

## Action Model of Sustainable Development at Long Valley

The Conservancy Association

Long Valley is the largest single piece of freshwater wetland in Hong Kong. It provides an important habitat for birds and supports thriving biodiversity. There are also several indigenous villages with many villagers still practicing traditional agriculture for a living. The local communities, the traditional indigenous culture and many historical structures have been well preserved.

This project aims to demonstrate a sustainable development model that integrates the environmental, social and economic aspects in Long Valley as well as its surrounding villages. The project's objectives are to –

- Protect and enhance the long-term ecological value of Long Valley;
- Enhance capacity building and community cohesion in villages;
- Promote the educational value of Long Valley and provide a research and training ground for freshwater wetland conservation; and
- Develop Long Valley into a popular ecotourism spot and generate new job opportunities.

### Project Activities

Since the project commenced in June 2005, a number of activities have been carried out:

#### *Local engagement activities*

We have established a good social network with the local community through various visits and gatherings:

- Kickoff ceremony
- Hong Kong Island eco & heritage tours

#### *Community enhancement activities*

Action-oriented activities have been organized in the local villages to enhance both community cohesion and the environment.

- Rubbish cleanup
- Mikania removal
- Narcissus crafting class and competition

#### *Freshwater wetland conservation management*

To preserve this largest piece of freshwater wetland in Hong Kong, we have organized:

- Ecological studies and habitat surveys
- Organic farming and associated training for farmers
- Sustainable conservation plan formulation

#### *Ecotourism and local business*

From December 2005 until now, different activities have also been organized to develop community-based ecotourism in Long Valley:

- Local eco-guides training
- Local eco-guides graduation ceremony and first ecotour
- Local organic farm produce promotion

### Upcoming events

- Maintenance of Feng Shui Wood and associated training
- Long Valley Green Village Market
- Promotion of Long Valley eco-tours and design of more eco-tour routes

首屆居民生態導賞員訓練畢業生  
The first graduates of Local Guides Training

