FRESHWATER AND WETLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL
EDUCATION PROGRAMME
For Secondary 1 to 6 students
September 2013 to August 2014

Learning IN the environment is an effective strategy for Education for Sustainable Development. The Mai Po Nature Reserve is an open-air classroom for enriching students’ real life learning experiences by developing their interest in, understanding of and concern about our wetland environment and its conservation, and the relationships with us.

A. EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The Programme aims to promote understanding of wetland ecology and awareness of and concern about the conservation of Mai Po Inner Deep Bay – a Wetland of International Importance under Ramsar Convention. SIX PROGRAMME OPTIONS have been developed to suit students’ different levels and learning needs.

1. **Wetland Encounter**  (**For Secondary 1 to 3**)
The programme specially designed for junior secondary students. Students can better understand the uniqueness of wetlands through different interactive activities, including introductory wildlife survey and photo sharing.

2. **Who wants to be a Wetland Reserve Officer?**  (**For Secondary 1 to 6**)
A field-based programme which enables students to understand the basic concepts and importance of conservation management through action and participation. Students will learn basic ecological surveying techniques and participate in field works in the reserve. *(This programme is opened for application on Tuesdays and Thursdays)*

3. **Mangrove Ecology in Deep Bay**  (**For Secondary 4 to 6**)
Through investigating local mangrove species, its adaptation features and ecology, students will understand the important functions of wetlands, their roles and threats under various human activities including climate change, then concern about mangrove conservation worldwide.

4. **Urban Planner @ Deep Bay**  (**For Secondary 4 to 6**)
This programme highlights the different land uses changes and conflicts in and around the Ramsar Site, in order to enrich students’ understanding of the different stakeholders’ perspectives on urban development, and the land use planning mechanisms in Hong Kong and the importance of planning.

5. **Wetland Ecologist**  (**For Secondary 4 to 6**)
Through interpretation, wildlife survey, field studies and discussions, students will learn about the value and importance of biodiversity, and lastly enhance awareness and concern about wetland conservation.

6. **Mai Po Multiplex**  (**For Secondary 4 to 6**)
Through introductory trip, interviews and issue-enquiry approach discussions, students will understand the effect of individual actions, social characteristics and sustainable development on environmental changes and their interconnectedness. Students will play as the role of journalist, using controversial real-life examples in Mai Po and Deep Bay and surrounding wetlands as discussion topics, adopt multiple perspectives to analyze the interrelationship between the issues and society, economy and environment.

B. EDUCATIONAL APPROACH

With an issue-enquiry approach, the Programme serves as a case study for students to do Project Learning in studying environmental issues. It is conducted through a wide range of learning activities, which include role-playing, interactive games, hands-on experience, wildlife observation and identification, interpretation and debate. Visit route covers our bird watching hide(s), Mai Po Visitor Centre and Education Centre, gei wai and boardwalk in the Mai Po Nature Reserve and nearby fishponds *(Remark: only programme option 3 & 4 will cover Floating Boardwalk).*

Related information can be downloaded from WWF Schools and Outreach Education Programmes website <http://www.wwf.org.hk/en/whatwedo/education/schoolsoutreach/secondaryprog/>

C. BOOKING INFORMATION

**Date of Programme:** Weekdays, except Wednesdays and Public Holidays. (Option 2: Tuesdays and Thursday only)

**Time for Programme:** AM Session (09:00 to 13:00 hrs) OR PM Session (13:00 to 17:00 hrs)

**Guidance:** WWF Education Officer

**Group Size:** 30-38 students + at least 2 teachers, but not more than 4 (except special cases), must accompany with students for safety and discipline control

**Charge:** Free of charge (Procurement of service by Education Bureau)

**Application Procedure:** Complete the online registration and application at http://www.wwf.org.hk/en/whatwedo/education/schoolsoutreach/secondaryprog/

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **1st round application:** The application period is 1 June to 30 June, 2013. WWF will process application submitted within this period with the following mechanism, and notify schools by 20 July.
  1. In view of the limited quota available, all applications will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis.
  2. Each school may apply for a maximum of five Freshwater and Wetland Secondary Education Programmes.
  3. WWF will primarily process each school’s first two applications, other applications will be considered after reviewing the overall application status.
  4. Schools which have not joined the Freshwater and Wetland Secondary Education Programmes during the previous two school years will enjoy priority booking.

- **2nd round application:** All applications submit on or latter than 1 July, 2013, will be allocated into the waiting list. The applications will be considered after reviewing the overall application status. WWF will notify the result within one month upon application submission.

- **Schools will be notified of their application result by EMAIL. If no notification received within the stated period, please contact WWF.**

- **For any enquiries, please contact our Administration Assistant on tel. no. 2526-1011 (choose 2 for English, then press 5, 1, 1) or by e-mail at ihcsc@wwf.org.hk.**
Urban Planner @ Deep Bay Rundown

**URBAN PLANNER @ DEEP BAY** is an outdoor “Education for Sustainable Development” Programme. This programme highlights the different land uses changes and conflicts in and around the Ramsar Site, in order to enrich students’ understanding of the different stakeholders’ perspectives on urban development, and the land use planning mechanisms in Hong Kong and the importance of planning.

**BEFORE THE VISIT:** Teachers are suggested to read through the visitor guidelines issued by WWF (Attachment 3). Students should be notified about what they are going / not going to do, what to bring / dress, and be encouraged to look for relevant background information from the internet. Teachers should divide students into 4 to 6 teams and dispatch one set of the **student worksheet** to each team. (Please download from WWF website http://online.wwf.org.hk/booking/en/info.html?type=ST&st=Secondary#15)

**PROGRAMME CONTENT:** The 4-hour programme will be conducted with an interactive approach through a wide range of activities, including field study in Mai Po Nature Reserve, role play and debate, etc. The route will cover Mai Po Visitor Centre, Bird Hide, Mai Po Education Centre, Floating boardwalk and nearby Fishponds. Teachers should encourage students to use the provided student worksheet during the programme in order to strengthen the learning experiences.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme Rundown*</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Approx. Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Welcome and programme introduction</td>
<td>Mai Po Visitor Centre</td>
<td>30mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Registration</td>
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<td>• Brief introduction on the landuse changes of Mai Po Inner Deep Bay</td>
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<td>• Introduction of current conservation measures (e.g. the designations of “Ramsar Site”, “Wetland Conservation and Buffer areas” etc.) in the areas</td>
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<td>• Materials distribution (including binocular, map, compass and Wildlife ID cards)</td>
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<td>2 Field Study</td>
<td>Mai Po Nature Reserve &amp; Frontier Closed Area</td>
<td>135 mins</td>
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<td>• Through observation, understanding wetland ecology and wildlife</td>
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<td>• Realizing the landuse patterns in and around Ramsar Site</td>
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<td>• Recognizing the potential conflicts in landuse of the areas</td>
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<td>• Understanding the importance of urban planning mechanism in Hong Kong.</td>
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<td>• Explore the relationship between urban planning and sustainable development.</td>
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<td>3 Case Study and Debate</td>
<td>Mai Po Education Centre</td>
<td>45 mins</td>
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<td>• Through role play and group debate activities, investigating the conflicts between nature conservation and development in Hong Kong, and the development direction for a sustainable future.</td>
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<td>4 Conclusion and Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Mai Po Education Centre</td>
<td>10 mins</td>
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<td>5 Return to Visitor Centre</td>
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<td>20mins</td>
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<td>6 End of Programme</td>
<td>Mai Po Visitor Centre</td>
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*Important note:* As the programme involves outdoor field studies in Mai Po Nature Reserve, the actual programme rundown on the day will very much depend on the local weather conditions (please refer to Attachment 4 **Poor Weather Condition Guidelines**) and the students’ discipline. WWF reserves the right to alter the rundown without prior notice.