

GOING **GREEN**  
AND STAYING **GREEN**

Urban Forestry Strategies in Hong Kong



The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government  
Development Bureau

# Overview of Vegetated Area in Hong Kong



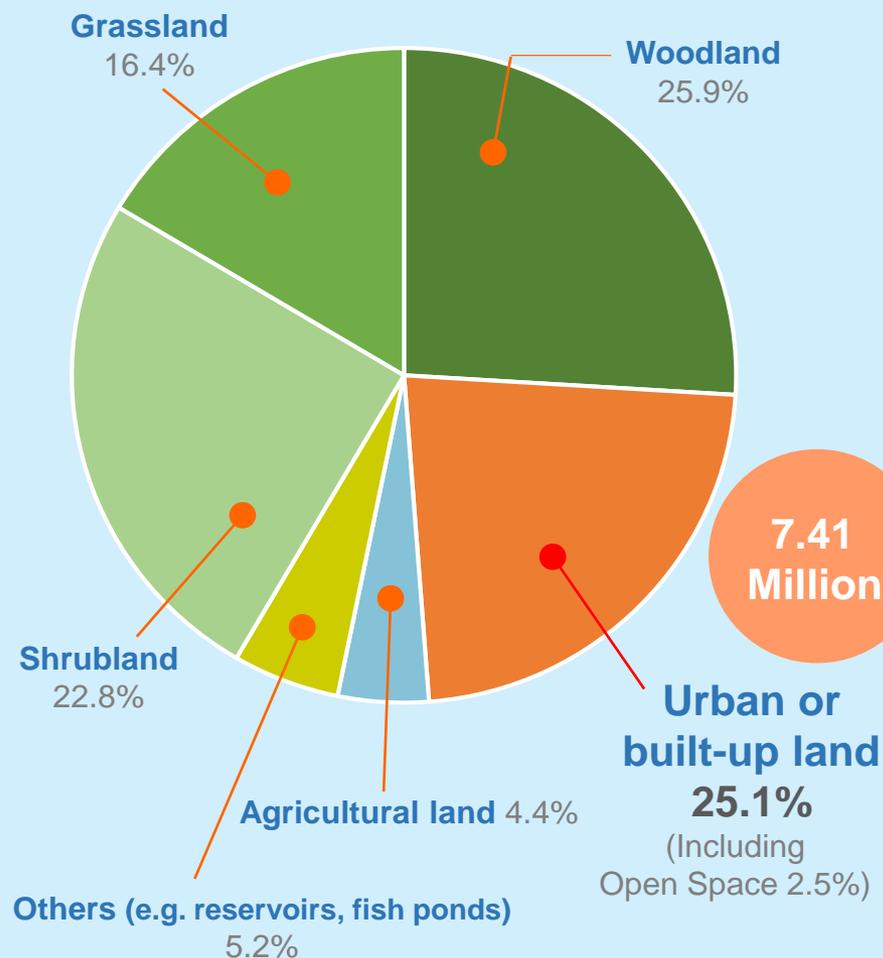
總土地面積  
Total land area  
**1,114** 平方公里  
km<sup>2</sup>

已建設區總面積  
Total built-up areas  
**280** 平方公里  
km<sup>2</sup>

Country Park, Special areas  
and Mai Po Ramsar Site  
**41.6%**

Population  
**7.41 Million**

As at 2020



**7.41 Million**

Land Utilisation in Hong Kong

Source: [https://www.pland.gov.hk/pland\\_en/info\\_serv/statistic/landu.html](https://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/info_serv/statistic/landu.html)  
<https://www.census2021.gov.hk/doc/pub/21c-key-statistics.pdf>  
[https://www.pland.gov.hk/pland\\_en/p\\_study/comp\\_s/hk2030plus/document/2030+\\_booklet.pdf](https://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/p_study/comp_s/hk2030plus/document/2030+_booklet.pdf)



# Urban Forest



Forest assets are vital components to a city. They include both **natural greenery in urban and rural areas**, as well as the network formed by **different landscaped areas** planted with trees and other vegetation, forming the backbone of an urban forest.



Slope greening



AFCD  
Countryside



Urban Parks



Sitting-out areas



CEDD  
Roadside greening areas



LCSD  
Community greening areas

# Benefits of Urban Forestry



- Creates pleasing outdoor spaces
- Encourages people to exercise and relax
- Indirectly promotes a healthier lifestyle.
- Outdoor spaces help to connect a community by establishing networks and strengthening cohesion.

# Hong Kong's Urban Forestry Strategies

To strengthen Hong Kong's resilience against climate change for becoming a more liveable and sustainable city.

## Go Green



### Promotion of Quality Greening

Green Coverage

Greening from Dots to Lines

### Blue-Green Infrastructure

Rain Garden

Rainwater Harvesting System

River Revitalisation and Eco-shoreline

### Greening Master Plan



## Stay Green



Preserving Landscape Resources and Trees

Life-cycle Management

Nurturing Expertise

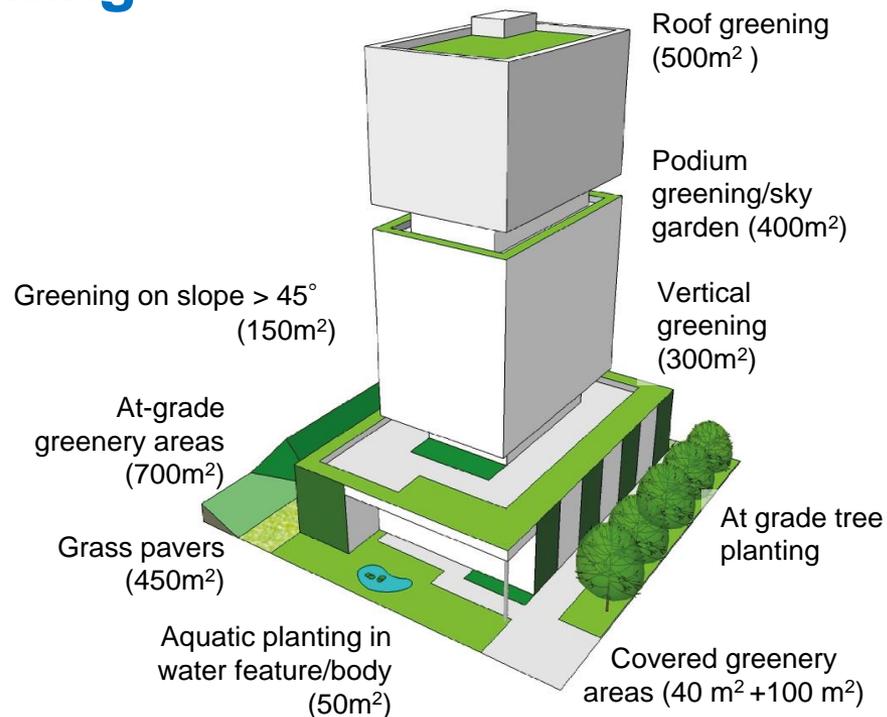
Public Participation

# Promotion of Quality Greening

## Green Coverage

For new **government** building projects  
(DEVB TCW No. 3/2012):

Area of the Site	Minimum Site Coverage of Greenery	
	Total Greenery Areas	At-grade Greenery Areas
$\geq 20\,000\text{ m}^2$	30%	15%
$\geq 1\,000\text{ m}^2$ , but $< 20\,000\text{ m}^2$	20%	10%



A Worked Example for Calculation of Site Coverage of Greenery

For **private** building projects

(Sustainable Building Design Guidelines) (PNAP- APP152):

Site Area (A)	Minimum Site Coverage of Greenery (i.e. percentage of greenery area over site area)		
	Pedestrian zone	Other locations	Total greenery areas
$1,000\text{ m}^2 \leq A < 20,000\text{ m}^2$	10%	no limit	20%
$A \geq 20,000\text{ m}^2$	15%	no limit	30%

## Greening from Dots to Lines

*Green Dots*

To promote quality greening, the Government sets out basic planting requirements and mandates all new works projects to reserve area for planting, and earmarks plant maintenance resources to ensure vegetation sustainability.





**INSTITUTION** – Tuen Mun Tsang Tsui Columbarium and Garden of Remembrance  
Images from ArchSD

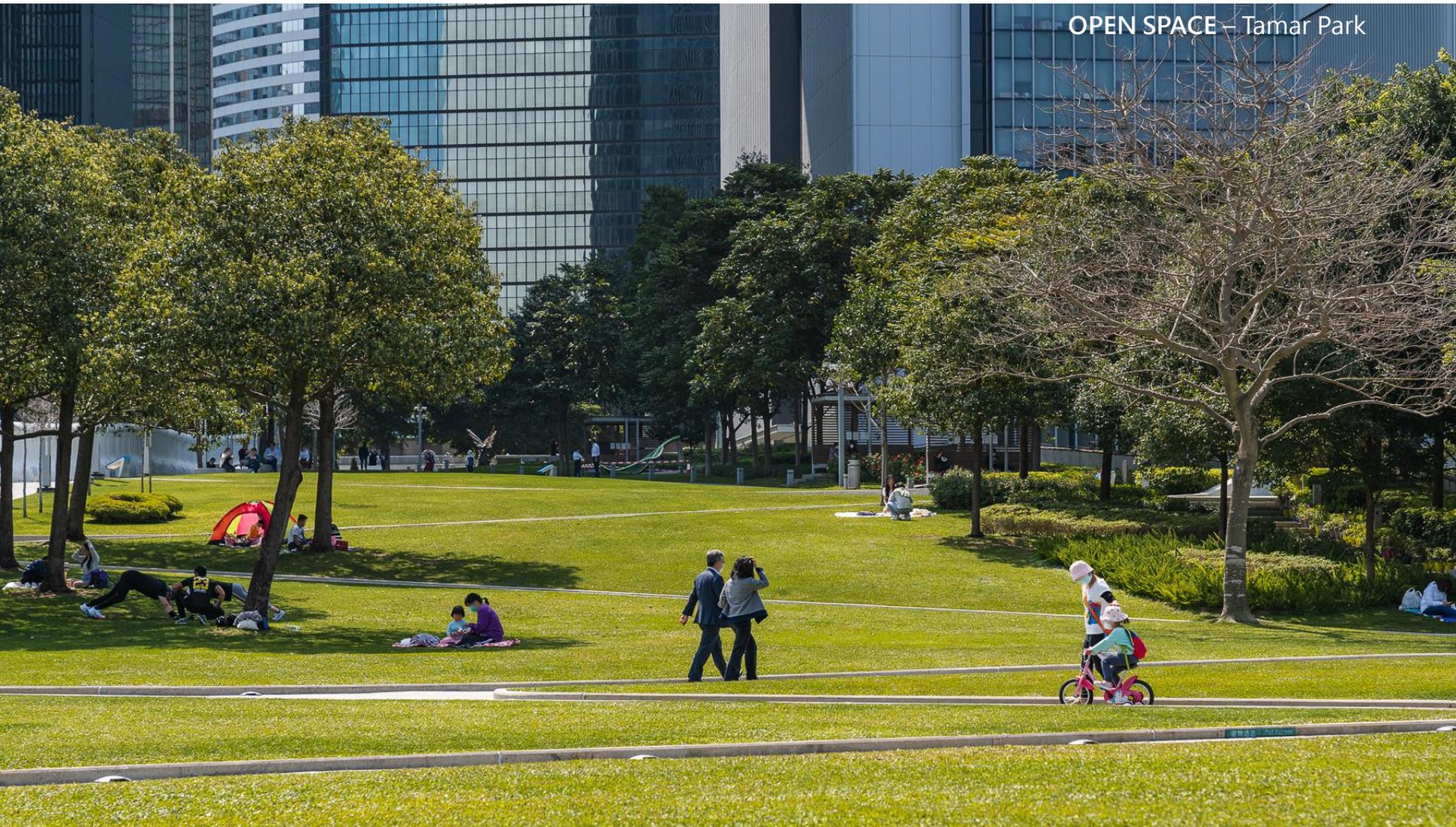
**RECREATIONAL** Ko Shan Theatre New Wing

Image from LCSD



**ROAD** – Central - Wan Chai Bypass  
Image from HyD

OPEN SPACE – Tamar Park



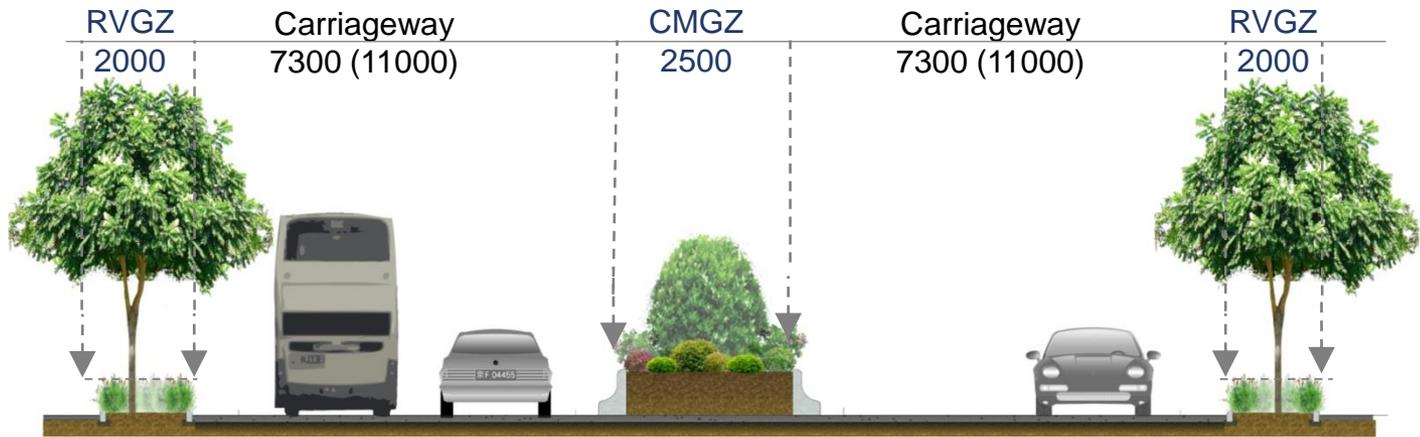
# Greening from Dots to Lines



*Green Lines*

Image from HyD

Setting spatial requirements for quality greening and landscape works on roads, apply to new at-grade roads projects



# Blue-Green Infrastructure

Blue-green resources are crucial elements in a city's sustainable development.

Through comprehensive planning and enhancement of green assets (e.g. vegetation and leisure spaces) and blue assets (e.g. water bodies and river channels), these resources can be designed with the natural ecosystem to form infrastructure network, to promote biodiversity and to prepare for climate change.

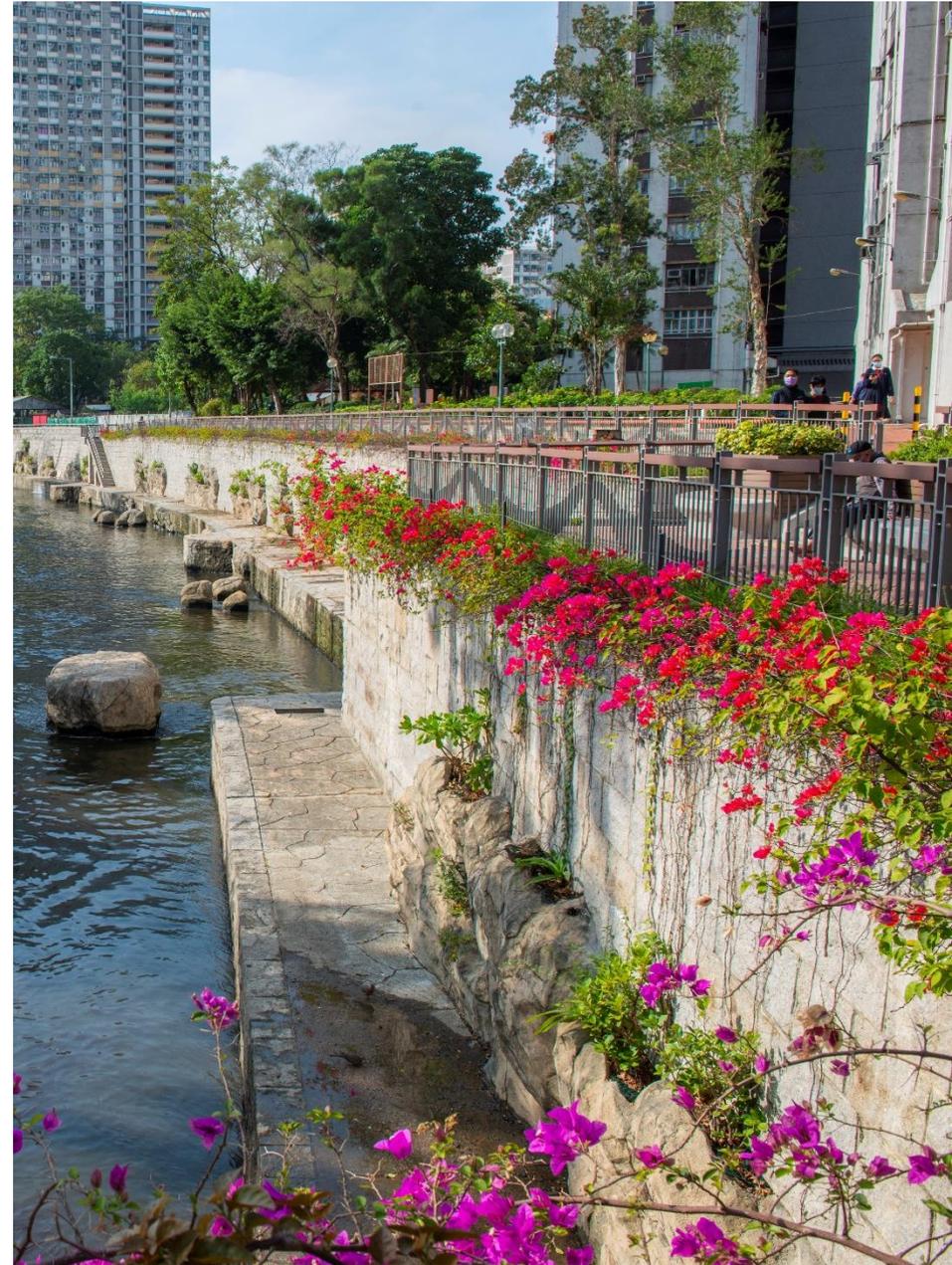


Image from DSD

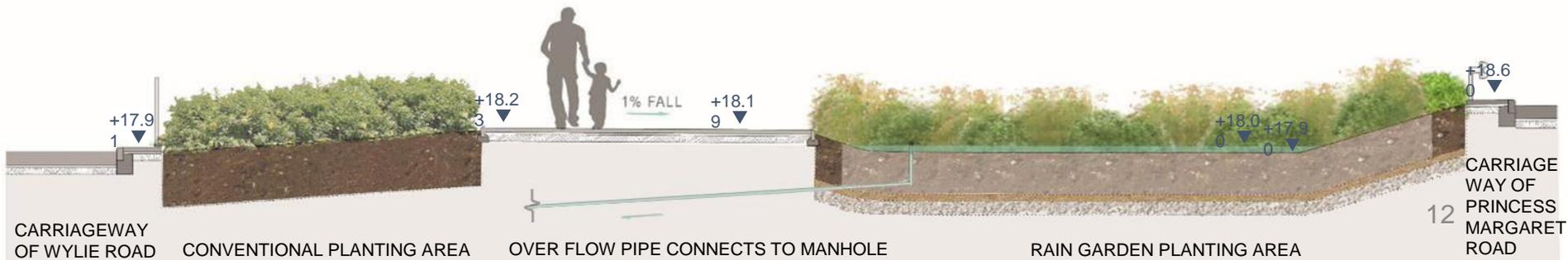
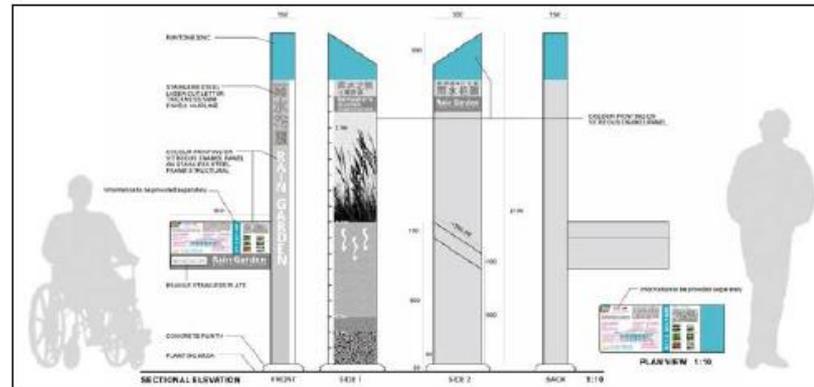
# Rain Garden



Rain Garden at Wylie x Princess Margaret Road



## EDUCATIONAL



# Rainwater Harvesting System for Irrigation

## Town Park, Indoor Velodrome-cum Sports Centre in Area 45 Tseung Kwan O

- High water consumption for irrigation of town park greenery
- Rainwater irrigation can save valuable potable water



Image from ArchSD

Automatic irrigation system at Grand Lawn

Rainwater collection at roof level



Image from ArchSD

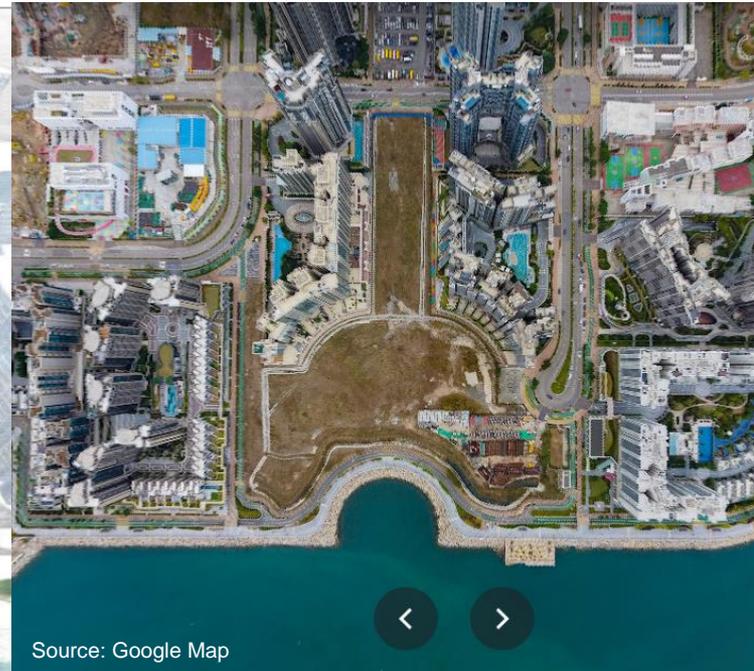
Manual irrigation system for other planters

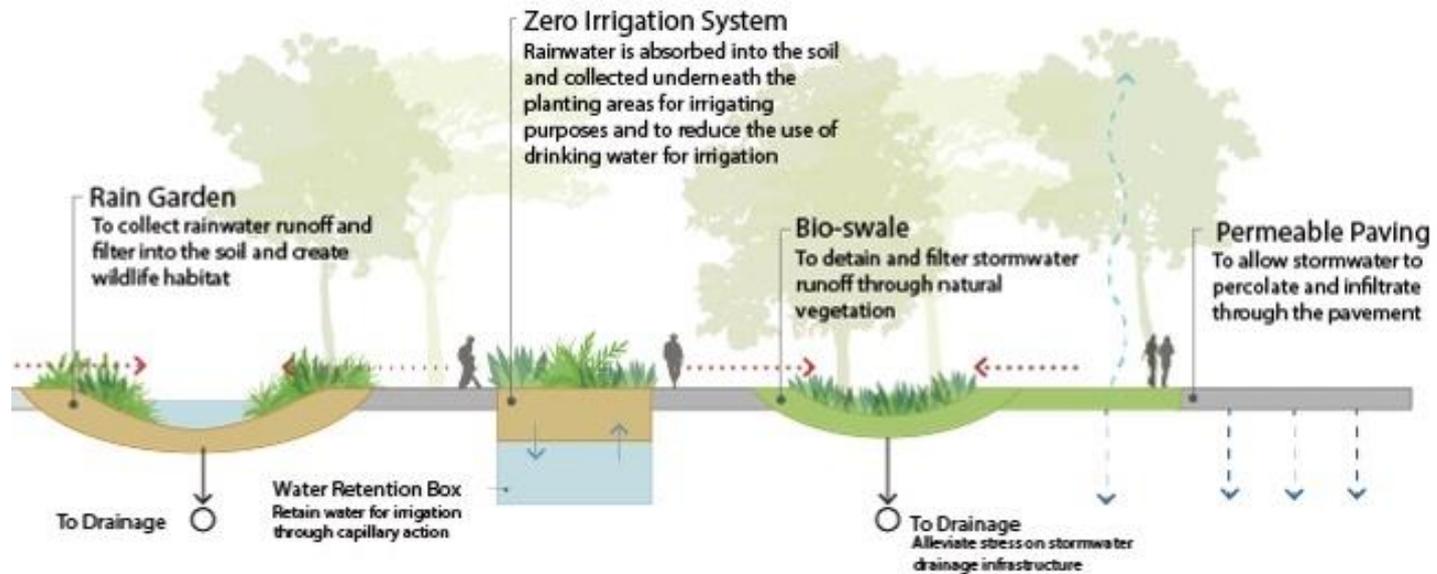
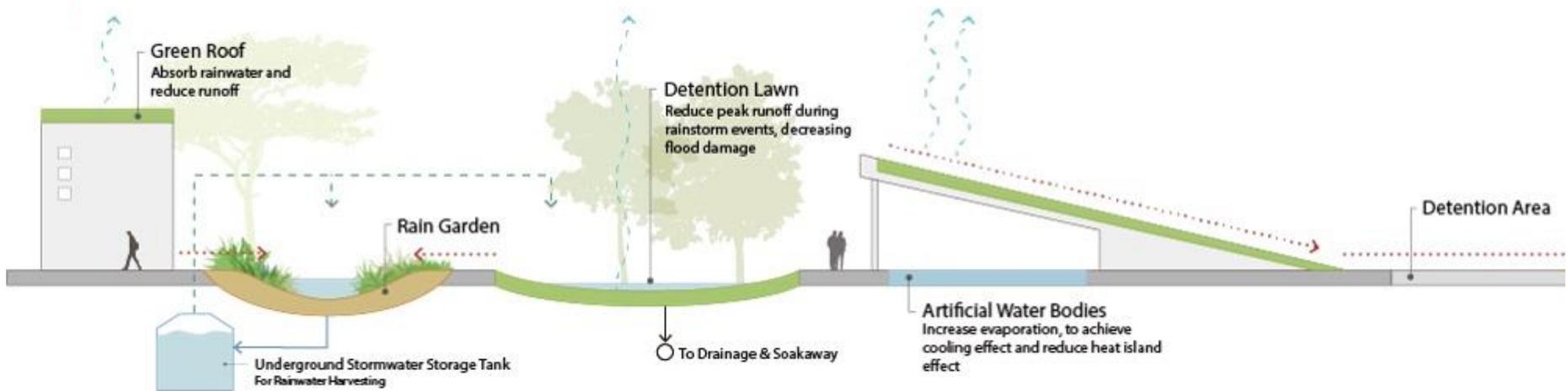
Rainwater recycling plant at G/F

# Application of Sponge City Concept Features in Construction of Town Park in Area 68, Tseung Kwan O

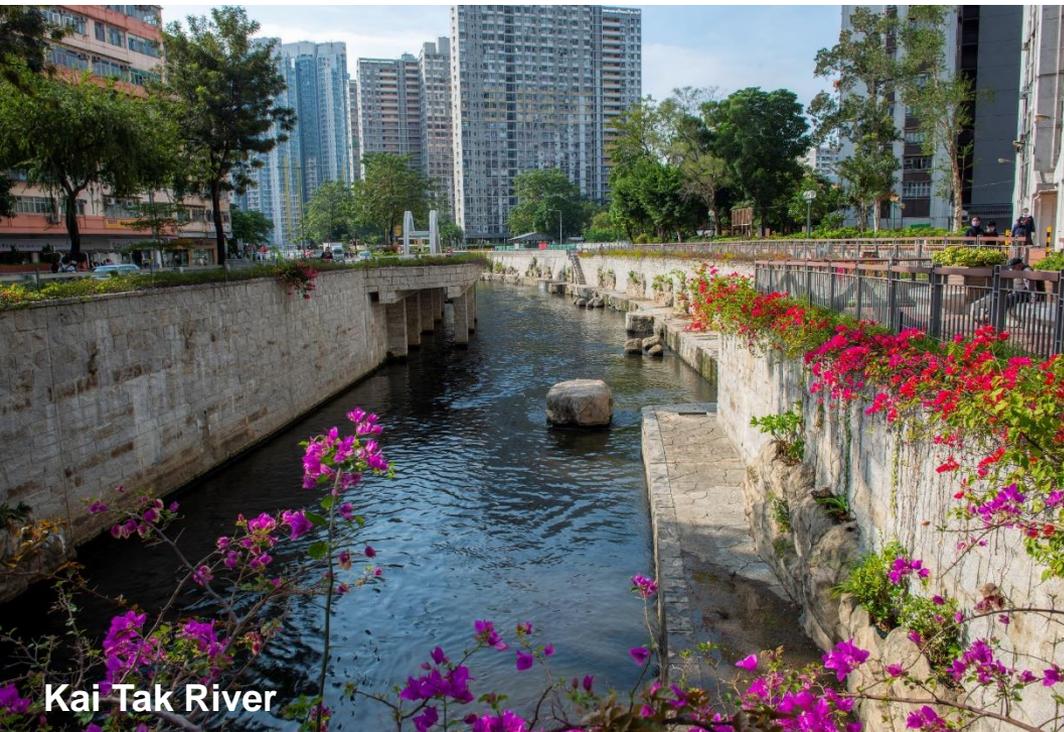


Image from ArchSD

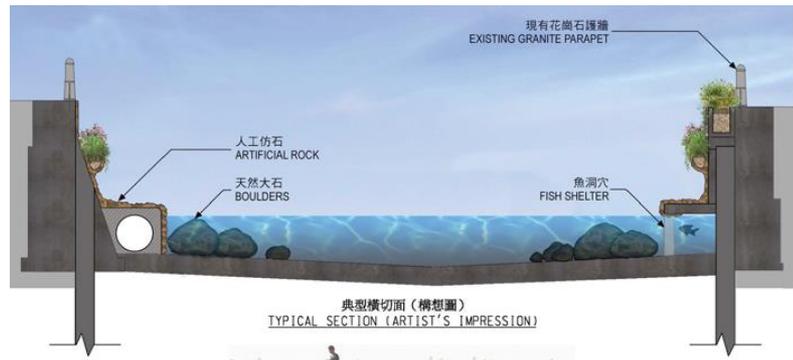




# River Revitalisation and Eco-shoreline



Kai Tak River



典型橫切面 (構想圖)  
TYPICAL SECTION (ARTIST'S IMPRESSION)



立視圖 (構想圖)  
ELEVATION (ARTIST'S IMPRESSION)

Images from DSD



Tung Chung New Town Extension (under construction)

Images from CEDD

# Greening Master Plan

## Sheung Wan



## Mong Kok

Images from CEDD

The Government implemented a series of measures to conserve our precious natural landscape and vegetation resources. For example:

- Tree preservation guidelines and requirements have been laid down for both private developments and public works projects; and
- The establishment of the 'Register of Old and Valuable Trees' records trees of large size, precious or rare species, outstanding form, and cultural, historical or memorable significance with enhanced protection measures.

## Preserving Landscape Resources and Trees



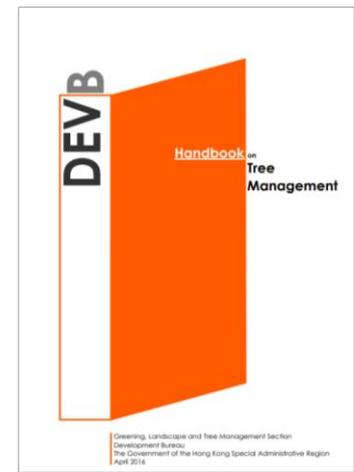
# Life-cycle Management

Trees, like other living organisms, have a natural cycle. They grow, age, become weak and die. Proper tree care is an effective means to minimise tree failure risks and is conducive to safeguarding public safety.

## Tree Risk Assessment and Management (TRAM)

The Government is maintaining about one million nos. of trees\* and the tree maintenance departments are conducting annual TRAM exercise to assess tree risk and implement necessary mitigation measures to minimise potential hazard to the public.

The Government has also developed the “Handbook on Tree Management” (HTM) to provide private property owners the guidelines and standards of good practices on tree management.



\*Source: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202107/21/P2021072100618.htm>

Trees on unleased and unallocated government land not maintained by any designated department are under non-routine maintenance by LandsD, and their number is not counted.

# Phased replacement of trees with potential risks is another life-cycle management initiative.

## Enhancement of Vegetated Slopes - Phased Replacement of Senescent Acacia



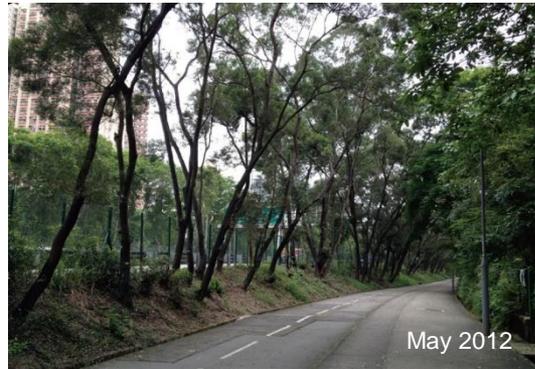
Public Safety

Senescent Acacia trees with poor health and structural condition

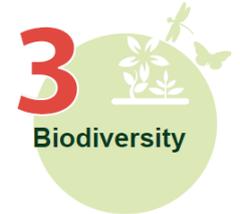


Sustainability

Before



After



Biodiversity

Flora and fauna observed in the restored habitats



*Gardenia jasminoides*



*Rhododendron simsii*



*Papilio memnon*



*Pycnonotus jocosus*

# Nurturing Expertise

In 2020, the Government established the **Urban Forestry Support Fund** to:

- Encouraging youngsters to join the arboriculture and horticulture industry,
- Uplifting the professional standards of industry practitioners, and
- Strengthening public awareness on proper tree care.



# Public participation



## Hong Kong 2022 International Urban Forestry Conference

Well-being: Our Urban Forest · Our Community



# Way Forward

Development of urban forestry plays a key role in making the city more liveable. Different aspects of urban forestry strategies can bring tremendous benefits to social health and our living environments.

Urban forestry strategies would also be crucial to the formation and sustaining of new urban forests in the future developments of Hong Kong.

We will continue to promote public participation and organize a wide range of activities for the public to understand and appreciate Hong Kong's urban forest. Together, we can establish and sustain a pleasant green community.

**THANK YOU**



More Information

<https://www.greening.gov.hk/>