

# Expert Group on Conservation for Sha Lo Tung convenes first meeting (with photo)

The Expert Group on Conservation for Sha Lo Tung convened the first meeting today (June 14). The Expert Group focused the discussion on the priority tasks to conserve the ecology and biodiversity of Sha Lo Tung.

At the meeting, officers from the Countryside Conservation Office of the Environment and Ecology Bureau and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department briefed the Expert Group on the implementation status of the past and current conservation work at Sha Lo Tung. The Expert Group focused the discussion on the priority tasks that need to be implemented to maintain and enhance the rich ecology of Sha Lo Tung, including restoring key wetland habitats through studies to improve the hydrological regime and conducting more comprehensive environmental and ecological baseline surveys. The Expert Group is of the opinion that these measures will be beneficial for enhancing the biodiversity of Sha Lo Tung.

The Convener of the Expert Group, Professor Lam Kin-che, said, "Sha Lo Tung has very high ecological value, ranking second among the 12 Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy. The Expert Group considered that proactive conservation measures are necessary to maintain the freshwater wetland habitats of Sha Lo Tung. The Expert Group will render full support to the Government in formulating and implementing the long-term strategies for conserving Sha Lo Tung."

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The Expert Group was established on March 1, 2024, to assist the Government in mapping out the long-term strategies for the conservation of ecology and biodiversity in Sha Lo Tung, advise the Government on measures to promote scientific research and eco-recreation in Sha Lo Tung, steer the implementation of conservation studies and projects carried out in Sha Lo Tung, etc. Members of the Expert Group include experts and scholars from fields of nature conservation or related sectors involved in promoting conservation work, as well as representatives of the relevant government bureau and department. The membership of the Expert Group is set out in the Annex.

