



# Green Hong Kong



同心耕耘廿五載 共創綠色新世代

25 Years of Sustained Effort for a Greener Future



## GREEN EVENT

# Fund to boost green transport technologies



To help improve roadside air quality and reduce carbon emissions, applications are now being invited from the \$300 million [Pilot Green Transport Fund](#).

This initiative seeks to encourage the transport sector to test out green and innovative technologies.

Motor vehicles are the main source of our roadside air pollution and they also contribute about 18% of local greenhouse gas emissions. The transport sector (including road and marine transport) is the second largest air pollution source in Hong Kong, accounting for about 37% of the local respirable suspended particulates and nitrogen oxides each and 6% of sulphur dioxide.

The Fund supported technologies that outperform their conventional counterparts by emitting less air pollutants or greenhouse gases, or offer better fuel economy.

Applications are welcome from local transport operators meeting the requirements of the Fund.

Technologies eligible for applications include a new vehicle type, equipment or machinery related to transport activities, or a new retrofit system. Moreover, they should not already be in common use by the relevant local transport trade in its day-to-day operation

The subsidy will cover part of the product's

cost, including installation if applicable, but not any associated recurrent expenditure. If the product is a vehicle, for example, the subsidy will cover the price difference between a conventional vehicle and the alternative-fuelled vehicle, or 50% of the latter's cost, whichever is higher.

A transport operator may apply for the Fund to try out different green products subject to a maximum of \$9 million subsidy for each application and \$12 million in total.

### Steering Committee formed

A Steering Committee comprising members drawn from academic institutions and transport trades as well as representatives from relevant Government departments has been formed to assess and advise on applications.

Attending the Steering Committee's first meeting on March 21, Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, thanked members for supporting the initiative.

He called on the transport sector to make use of the Fund to test out green and innovative transport technologies, thus contributing to better air quality and health for people living in Hong Kong.

Promoting green transport will not only improve air quality but also reduce carbon

Pilot Green Transport Fund is open for application from 30 March 2011 until the HK\$300 million budget is fully utilized.

emissions and open up business opportunities for green transport technologies.

The Fund will be deployed to support the testing of green and innovative technologies applicable to the public transport sector including ferries, taxis, public light buses, vehicles of charitable or non-profit making organizations providing services to their clients, franchised buses and non-franchised public buses, as well as goods vehicles.

The Fund would only accept a technology that stands a good chance of both coping with local operational demands and being adopted by the relevant transport trade should the trial be successful.

To ensure that the trial is conducted in accordance with the application and approval conditions, and to verify the environmental performance of the new technology under test, an independent third-party assessor will be engaged to evaluate the environmental performance of the innovative green product.

The cost of this assessment will be met from the Fund. ■



# Electric Vehicle Charging Network Expands

The charging network for electric vehicles has been expanded to cover all 18 districts and 300 charging points are now available for public use.



The charging network for electric vehicles has been expanded to cover all 18 districts in order to support the rising number of electric vehicles on Hong Kong's roads.

300 charging points are now available for public use across the city.

Speaking at an electric vehicle publicity event on March 15, Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang, said this sends a strong message to our community that Hong Kong is preparing to become an electric vehicle-friendly city by establishing the essential infrastructural support in anticipation of the growth of our electric vehicle fleet.

Over the past two years, the Steering Committee on the Promotion of Electric Vehicles has been actively promoting the use of such vehicles through various policy initiatives and measures.



Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang officiates at launch ceremony for territory-wide EV charging points.

EV users can easily plug in at the charging stations installed at convenient locations.

## 1 Government to buy more electric vehicles

In his 2011-12 Budget announced in February, Mr Tsang said priority would be given to electric vehicles when replacing government vehicles in the two financial years of 2011-12 and 2012-13, subject to the availability of suitable models on the market and the operational needs of bureaux and departments.

"We expect to have an intake of close to 200 electric vehicles of various types in these two years. In addition, we plan to install more charging facilities for electric vehicles in government car parks for public use."

He added this would encourage the business and non-government sectors to join hands in expanding the charging network across the city.



Electric vehicles enjoy a full waiver on First Registration Tax as part of the government's efforts to promote their use. This is one of the EV model that the government has bought.

## 2 Private Sector adds more chargers

Hong Kong's two power companies and the property development sector have joined hands to install around 300 charging points for electric vehicles, including three quick chargers.

The property development and property management sectors have also committed to installing an additional 200 chargers in 2011 and around 500 more from 2012 onwards.

Among the existing chargers, two major contributors are the Sino Group and Hopewell Holdings, with 107 and 47 chargers, respectively.

For 2011, Swire Properties, Wharf (Holdings) and Sun Hung Kai Properties each plan to contribute around 30 - 50 chargers; while from 2012 onwards, Henderson Land Development Limited is targeting the installation of more than 110 chargers and Hang Lung Properties has committed to 220.

## 3 Nissan LEAF in Hong Kong

A number of electric vehicle models have been rolled out on the local market with the "Nissan LEAF" making its debut at the publicity event in March.

"We thank Nissan for supporting electric vehicle development in Hong Kong, and for selecting Hong Kong as the first Asian city outside Japan for the supply of its LEAF electric vehicles," said Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang.

Electric vehicles enjoy a full waiver on First Registration Tax as part of the government's efforts to promote their use.

The LEAF is the first five-seater electric saloon to enter the local market. With a maximum speed of 145kph and a driving range of more than 160km per full charge, the LEAF offers a green and practical proposition for many urban drivers.

It was introduced to the Hong Kong market under the electric vehicle pilot programme established by the Government and Nissan. A quota of 200 cars for corporate clients in Hong Kong has been set aside from the first batch of LEAFs under commercial production.



"Nissan LEAF" making its debut at the publicity event in March.



# Spending on environment



**G**overnment spending for the Environment Bureau and departments under the portfolio of the Secretary for the Environment will rise by 29.8% in the 2011-12 financial year over the revised estimate for 2010-11.

The total allocation is about \$12.8 billion, representing a net increase of about \$2.9 billion.

Operating expenditure accounts for about \$6.3 billion, up \$1.2 billion net or 23.1% as compared with the revised estimate for 2010-11.

The additional allocation is mainly for injection into the Environment and Conservation Fund, handling the additional public fill arising from major infrastructure projects, continuing with the scheme on cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill, implementing the Pilot Green Transport Fund, as well as paying for the increasing operation fees of waste facilities.

The provision for capital expenditure in 2011-12 is about \$6.5 billion, representing a net increase of \$1.8 billion or 36.9% as compared with the revised estimate for 2010-11. This is mainly due to the increased cash flow requirements and commencement of some capital works projects, in particular sludge treatment facilities and the latest stage of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme.

## Environmental industries highlighted in 2011-12 Budget

Unveiling the [2011-12 Budget](#) on February 23, Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang, highlighted the impressive growth of environmental industries in Hong Kong.

While at an initial stage of development, in 2009 the value added by the green industries rose by 12.4% and the number of employees increased by 3.6%.

"We have been promoting the development of environmental industries and a green economy through multi-pronged policies and initiatives," Mr Tsang said.

These include enhancing building energy efficiency and promoting the use of energy-saving household appliances by legislation, setting up the Pilot Green Transport Fund, making more use of electric vehicles, and taking forward other measures such as expanding the list of products with green specifications for government procurement, piloting the use of new green materials in public works, encouraging scientific research on environmental protection and building environmental infrastructure.



↑ The 2011-12 Budget.

## Progress in energy saving

The Financial Secretary also mentioned the good progress that is being made in promoting energy saving and improving energy efficiency.

For example, with the mandatory compliance of the Building Energy Codes, which will take effect shortly, it is estimated that 2.8 billion kWh of electricity will be saved for new buildings and carbon emissions will be reduced by about 1.9 million tonnes in the first 10 years.

Mr Tsang pointed out that the construction of the first district cooling system at the Kai Tak Development will commence this year.

Upon its completion, this will produce savings of as much as 85 million kWh of electricity and reduce carbon emissions by approximately 60,000 tonnes each year.

"Participation of the environmental industries is essential to the implementation of these energy saving and emission reduction measures which will in turn create business opportunities for them," Mr Tsang added. ■

## New Push for Green Procurement

**T**he Chief Executive announced after the fifth meeting of the Task Force on Economic Challenges that the Government would take the lead in making Hong Kong a green city through a number of measures including the expansion of green procurement in the Government.

An Inter-departmental Working Group on Green Government Procurement has been set up, and in January and March 2011, the Group endorsed two circulars which encouraged the use of green and recycled materials in public works projects and pursuing green procurement in the Government respectively.

For general stores and services procurement, the circular laid down guidelines for bureaux and departments, including:

(a) to adopt green specifications for products in their purchases as far as practicable. Examples of products with green specifications include those with improved recyclability, reduced packaging, greater durability, better energy efficiency, reduced water consumption, utilisation of clean technology and/or clean fuel among others;

(b) to make annual reports on green product purchases to the Environmental Protection Department;

(c) to incorporate green guidelines into their new cleansing contracts; and

(d) to incorporate the emission standards into their invitation of tender of new vehicle hiring services contracts.

Under the circular, Works Departments, bureaux and departments are also further encouraged to kick start trial use of new green products and green construction materials which become available on the market, even when there are less than three suppliers. Where the trials are successful, and subject to purchasing guidelines, these green products can be considered for wider application. ■





# Energy Policy with Safety as Top Priority



↑ The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, meets the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Li Ganjie (left), to exchange views on issues of mutual concern.



**S**ecretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, led a delegation to Beijing in April for a meeting with the National Nuclear Safety Administration.

The exchange aimed to enhance understanding of the Mainland's energy safety and development and its stepped-up monitoring of environmental radiation levels and safety measures at nuclear facilities in response to the recent Fukushima nuclear incident in Japan.

The Security Bureau, which takes charge of co-ordinating emergency response to nuclear events in Hong Kong, also joined the visit. The Bureau, together with relevant departments, briefed the Mainland counterparts on relevant monitoring and contingency measures adopted in Hong Kong.

The visit has enhanced understanding of the nuclear safety regime in the Mainland. It has also provided a platform for communication between the relevant government departments and nuclear experts on both sides. The exchange and discussion facilitates our consideration on the ways to disseminate information on energy development and nuclear safety through public education and information sharing to enhance the understanding of members of the public.

## Safe energy supply

There are four guiding principles underlying our energy policy, namely safety, reliabil-

ity, environmental protection and affordability. The top priority is safety.

In 2009, coal accounted for about 54% of the fuel mix for power generation in Hong Kong, followed by natural gas and imported nuclear power, each accounting for about 23%. Power generation is currently the largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Hong Kong, and accounts for 67% of our total GHG emissions. Among the various fuel sources, coal assumes the highest carbon emission factor, and is a primary source of air pollution.

To combat climate change, the Environment Bureau issued last year the consultation document and proposed to revamp the future fuel mix for power generation. We proposed to reduce the use of coal, which assumed the highest carbon emission factor, gradually phase out existing coal-fired power generation units, and increase the share of non-fossil, clean and low carbon fuel, such as renewable energy and imported nuclear power. Moreover, the Government would strive to enhance energy efficiency, promote green buildings, encourage energy savings, promote low carbon transportation and develop waste-to-energy facilities, etc.

Different fuel sources have their own merits. The ideal fuel mix should represent a balance of different considerations.

The Government acknowledged the impact of the recent Fukushima Incident in Japan on the discussion on local fuel mix. Many

countries which are developing or using nuclear power have already started reviewing the use of nuclear power. Hong Kong is no exception.

As a user of nuclear power, the Government will closely monitor relevant development of nuclear power. We would embrace an objective attitude, scientific spirit and rational approach to further deliberate the plan in the use of nuclear power in future. Safety will be our top priority. We should not jump to any hasty conclusion on future fuel mix, nor should we give up nuclear power in the fuel mix altogether.

## China and other countries review nuclear safety

The Central Government indicated that safety must be the top priority in the development of nuclear power. The State Council decided on 16 March 2011 that comprehensive safety inspection of existing nuclear facilities should be organized immediately, and a comprehensive review of nuclear power plants under construction should be commissioned. The approval of new nuclear projects would also be temporarily suspended, pending comprehensive safety inspection and completion of nuclear safety planning.

Countries across the world have similarly undertaken to review nuclear safety in light of the accident in Japan. ■





# Plan to dim excessive external lighting



According to the research on the usage of external lighting in various areas found that light nuisance is a "localised" problem, which mainly occurs in busy commercial-cum-residential districts like Mongkok and Causeway Bay.

The lighting in our city is part and parcel of the spectacular night scene of Hong Kong. It also contributes to the safe environment in our streets after nightfall. That said, the community is aware of the impact external lighting may have on their daily life.

In 2009 and 2010, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 213 and 226 complaints respectively against external lighting caused by private organisations. Most of them were on light nuisance, in particular from advertisement signboards, decorative lightings or spotlights on the external wall of buildings.

Upon receipt of complaints, EPD takes fol-

low up action through liaison and mediation. At present, there is no legislation, regulation or guideline on light nuisance or energy wastage caused by external lighting installations.

## Consultancy Study

In order to help us determine the way forward, the Environment Bureau commissioned in 2009 a consultancy study on energy wastage and light nuisances of external lighting.

The study looked at the experience of metropolises similar to Hong Kong in handling external lighting problems; namely Tokyo, Singapore, Shanghai, Sydney, New York, Los

Angeles, London and Frankfurt.

It also included a survey on views of relevant stakeholders.

On public opinion, the survey found that while the majority (over 70%) of respondents considered that there was "light pollution", many also considered external lighting helped beautify the city (78%) and contributed to the safe environment (87%) of Hong Kong.

Meanwhile, research on the usage of external lighting in various areas in Hong Kong found that light nuisance is a "localised" problem, which mainly occurs in busy commercial-cum-residential districts like Mongkok and Causeway Bay.

## The way forward

In view of the findings, the Environment Bureau proposes the following measures to address concerns on external lighting:

(a) introducing a set of Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations to encourage voluntary action to minimise light nuisance and energy wastage;

(b) Government setting the example by switching off external lightings which are for decorative and promotional purposes by 11 pm as far as possible; and

(c) establishing a Task Force to step up publicity and public education in the area of external lighting, advise on the development of technical standards, as well as to advise on the way forward to tackle nuisance and energy wastage caused by external lighting. ■

# Beach water quality improves



The Environmental Protection Department monitors water quality at bathing beaches by regularly collecting and analysing water samples.

## Water quality improves along Tsuen Wan coast

The higher overall compliance rate in 2010 is largely attributable to the improvement of three beaches along the Tsuen Wan coast, namely Anglers', Approach and Gemini beaches from 'Poor' in 2009 to 'Fair' in 2010.

The water quality improvement was brought about by the Government's continuous effort in providing new public sewers in phases along Castle Peak Road, and in enforcing environmental legislation.

In addition, after the commissioning of the Advance Disinfection Facilities at the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works (STW) on March 1, 2010, the treated effluent from the STW now undergoes disinfection before being discharged through the submarine outfall. It further improves the water quality of the Tsuen Wan beaches and facilitates the early re-opening of some of the beaches in the coming bathing season. ■

A significant improvement in water quality at Hong Kong's bathing beaches was recorded during the past year, according to a 2010 report which summarises the annual ranking of gazetted beaches.

In 2010, all 41 gazetted beaches had an annual ranking of either 'Good' or 'Fair', and for the first time all achieved full compliance with

the Water Quality Objective promulgated for bathing waters since our monitoring programme was established in 1986.

That represents further improvement from 93% compliance in 2009, and 83% from 2003 to 2008, as well as substantial progress from the 63% compliance rate recorded in 1997.





# Island Site Preferred for IWMF



**A**n artificial island off Shek Kwu Chau has been identified as the preferred site to develop Hong Kong's first **Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF)**.

At present, Hong Kong relies on landfills alone to dispose of municipal solid waste, and the existing three landfills are expected to reach their capacities one-by-one in 2014, 2016 and 2018.

There is, therefore, a pressing need to develop facilities such as the IWMF that will use advanced technologies to reduce waste disposal to landfills and to recover useful resources.

"Although Hong Kong has achieved good progress in recycling municipal solid waste and reducing waste disposal in the past years, current waste disposal practices in Hong Kong are not sustainable," the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, said.

## Detailed Site Selection

The site selection process involved more than 20 sites to start with.

In 2008, the government identified Tsang Tsui in Tuen Mun and an artificial island off Shek Kwu Chau as two potential sites for developing the IWMF.

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study for developing the IWMF at these shortlisted sites was completed. The EIA report was available for the public to comment from February 17 to March 18, 2011 and is being processed under the EIA Ordinance.

The EIA studies indicate that developing the IWMF at either or both of the two potential sites would be environmentally acceptable.

"Based on the result of the EIA studies, the Government has assessed carefully the mer-

its of the two shortlisted sites and considers the artificial island near Shek Kwu Chau as the preferred site for the first IWMF in Hong Kong," Mr Yau said.

The Secretary for the Environment explained that there were four major considerations which made the location at Shek Kwu Chau more favourable compared to Tsang Tsui.

## 4 Key Factors

1. The distance for waste to be transported from refuse transfer stations is at least one third or one quarter shorter to Shek Kwu Chau compared to the route to Tuen Mun.

2. Shek Kwu Chau is further away from the major population centres, so the accumulative environmental effect will be less.

3. The potential for positive economic synergy, including employment opportunities and other benefits to be brought about to the neighbouring areas by the construction of IWMF, the new education centre and other facilities.

4. The well-balanced spatial distribution for waste management facilities throughout the territory.

# Modern Technology, Green Features

**A**s part of its strategy for improved waste management, the Government plans to build an Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) with a daily capacity of 3,000 tonnes.

Using advanced incineration as the core technology, the facility will reduce the volume of municipal solid waste (MSW) treated by 90%.

The IWMF will also include a mechanical sorting and recycling facility. It will recover energy from the waste to generate sufficient electricity for some 100,000 households, achieving a reduction of 440,000 tonnes of

carbon dioxide each year.

"To protect public health and the environment, the IWMF will adopt the most stringent European Union (EU) emission standards," explained Mr Yau.

## Consult Stakeholders

The EIA reports were released for a one-month public consultation. The Advisory Council on the Environment also offered advice on the reports.

Mr Yau said that the Government would

continue to actively consult relevant stakeholders in the planning and implementation of the IWMF project including the design of the facility, as well as the ancillary facilities to suit the community's needs.

Subject to the approval of the EIA reports, the Government plans to seek funding from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in the first half of 2012 with a view to building the IWMF for commissioning by 2018. ■





# Glass Recycling Schemes

## Yield Good Results

**M**ore than 1,000 tonnes of glass bottles have been recovered through a glass container recycling programme for the hotel sector which was launched in 2008 by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Hong Kong Hotels Association.

The Government has also encouraged hotels and large catering service providers that have not joined the scheme to organise their own glass-bottle recycling.

Speaking to lawmakers on March 2, Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, said the department also supports local non-profit making organisations to arrange glass-bottle recycling activities locally and provides them with advice and assistance.

A 12-month pilot programme on source separation of glass bottles was launched in mid-December 2010 at six public rental housing estates in East Kowloon. In its first two months, a total of 5.2 tonnes of glass have been successfully recovered.

"Before considering to extend the existing waste-separation and recovery system to

cover waste glass bottles, we must ensure the availability of suitable and sustainable outlets for waste glass," Mr Yau said.

### Green Procurement

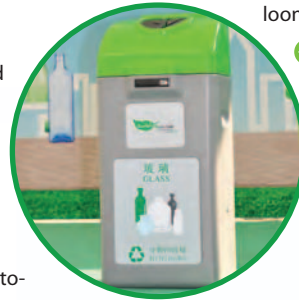
To this end, the EPD funded a study carried out by a local university in 2004 which successfully used the granules from crushed glass bottles for the production of paving blocks.

Mr Yau added that since October 2010, the Highways Department has stipulated in its public road maintenance contracts that priority should be given to the use of eco-paving blocks containing recycled glass for concrete block pavements, which could help promote the development of the glass-bottle recycling industry.

In January 2011, the Government issued a circular to all departments to further encourage the use of recycled and other green ma-

terials in public works projects.

The Government will study furthering the recovery of glass bottles in Hong Kong with reference to the results of the East Kowloon pilot programme. ■



← The new light green recycling bins have a special internal design, which reduce the impact and noise generated by glass bottles being discarded into the bins.



# Change Waste to Gold



↑ The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, and other guests officiate at the "Change Waste to Gold" launching ceremony.

**S**ecretary for the Environment Mr Edward Yau called on the community to join hands to maintain Hong Kong's sustainable development by reducing waste and achieving proper waste management.

He was speaking on March 12 at the "Change Waste to Gold" launching ceremony to promote waste reduction at source, waste recycling and waste-to-energy technology.

Mr Yau said that while Hong Kong's current waste recovery rate had reached 49%, however there are still about 9,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste disposed at landfills every day.

At this rate, the three existing landfills will reach capacity one after another from 2014 onwards.

### Comprehensive Strategy

To tackle the waste problem facing Hong Kong, Mr Yau said the Government had devised a comprehensive strategy and action plan including a number of initiatives to reduce waste at source.

The target is to further increase the waste recovery rate to 55% by 2015.

The "Change Waste to Gold" launching ceremony was held at Plaza Hollywood, Diamond Hill, and included guests from Advisory Council on the Environment, green companies and social enterprise who shared green tips in their daily lives and took part in games to enhance the public's awareness of environmental protection.

The event also invited participants of the Japan Eco Tour to share their observations on green facilities in Japan, including visits to Maishima Waste Treatment Centre and Yumenoshima Tropical Greenhouse Dome.

They suggested that Hong Kong could make reference to the waste management measures and facilities, pollution control and waste-to-energy technology there. ■





# EcoPark Expansion

← The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau interviewed at EcoPark.



**T**he Phase 2 expansion of Hong Kong's EcoPark is moving forward.

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has invited recycling operators with relevant experience and expertise to submit tenders for the leases of the first batch of six Phase 2 lots.

There are flexible lease terms and conditions, including open waste types to be freely proposed by tenderers, a 20-year tenancy period to allow tenants' long term capital investment under a stable and secure environment, and different lot sizes to suit tenderers' operational requirements.

The Government would continue to strengthen management services and offer full support to tenants in the development and operation of their recycling plants.

The six Phase I lots with a total area of 4 hectares have been awarded for recycling of waste wood, waste cooking oil, waste computer equipment, waste plastics, waste metals and waste batteries.

### Visitor Centre

Among other facilities, the EcoPark in Tuen Mun features a Visitor Centre equipped with

interesting and engaging exhibits, such as life-size model of landfill, virtual three-dimensional multimedia exhibit, interactive games and video.

The Centre aims to promote community environmental awareness through campaigns, publicity, education and action programmes, with a view to harnessing the community's support for, and contribution to achieving desired environmental goals, thereby securing a long term solution to environmental problems through development of an improved environmental ethic within the community. ■

## HK Geopark Strengthens Overseas Ties

**H**ong Kong National Geopark and Germany's Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald have signed a sister arrangement to foster a closer relationship with members of the Global Geoparks Network.

Establishing a partnership between the two geoparks offers further opportunities to share scientific information and experience in best management practices, and cooperate in areas such as tourism promotion, research, education and training.

The partnership will also allow the two geoparks to work together to raise public understanding and awareness of geoconservation through developing various programmes.

Hong Kong National Geopark was established in 2009 and covers a land area of 5,000 hectares. It includes two regions covering eight geo-areas: The Sai Kung Volcanic Rock Region displays spectacular hexagonal rock columns and the Northeast New Territories Sedimentary Rock Region represents the most comprehensive stratigraphy of sedimentary rocks in Hong Kong.

The Geopark provides further momentum



← To foster a closer relationship with members of the Global Geoparks Network, the Hong Kong National Geopark signed a sister arrangement with Germany's Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald on March 11 to enhance exchange and co-operation in geoconservation, geopark management and tourism promotion between the two geoparks. The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation, Mr Alan Wong (left), and Chief Executive Officer of Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald, Mr Reinhard Diehl (right) signed the arrangement.

for local nature conservation and is a focal point for action by the government and interested parties.

In addition, it helps to display to the world the nature conservation results which Hong Kong people are proud of.

The Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald is situated in the southwest of Germany. The territory takes in approximately 3,500 square kilometres between the Rhine valley in the west and the Main valley in the east. The region is on the United Nations Educational,

Scientific and Cultural Organisation's World Heritage List.

Hong Kong National Geopark has also established a sister arrangement with four other global geoparks - Kanawinka Geopark in Australia, Yangdanshan Geopark in China, Itiogawa Geopark in Japan and English Riviera Geopark in the United Kingdom, as part of efforts to enhance the sustainable development of geotourism, geo-education and geoheritage. ■

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