



Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Hong Kong Country Parks Education Kit for Secondary Schools

Case Study 1: The Airport Project

Background information

The urbanization of large parts of our countryside in recent decades has caused disturbance to the natural environment and wildlife habitats in Hong Kong. But is this impact inevitable? The United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development defines 'sustainable development' as follows:

'Sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'

Regarding the environmental aspects of sustainable development, we should avoid developing society and the economy at a rate that exceeds the carrying capacity of the environment. For example, the viability of different organisms in the development of infrastructure like the Hong Kong International Airport on Chek Lap Kok should be considered. Environmental pollution should also be alleviated to provide our offspring with at least the environmental conditions we currently enjoy.

Teaching objective

To help students become aware of the different concerns in sustainable development and the challenges that the environment faces

Suggested study mode

Classroom activities

Suggested procedures

1. Explain the concept of sustainable development and have students complete [Worksheet LS-1](#).
2. Distribute [Worksheet LS-2](#) and have students finish part A. Have them list the concerns of the various stakeholders about the construction of the airport.
3. Arrange the students in groups of five to seven. Assign each of the group members a role. Encourage them to engage in an in-depth discussion, and at the end have each group choose a presenter.
4. Assign Part C of the worksheet. Suggest students go to the [AFCD](#) website and other appropriate websites to search for the necessary information to complete the table in Part C.
5. Have the students complete Part D in the lesson. Consider giving them information about Romer's tree frog and the airport project to assist their progress.