

LSGI PUBLIC SEMINAR

The Nexus between Climate, Nature and People

📅 **13 MAY 2024 (FRI)**

🕒 **10:00 - 11:00 AM**

📍 **Z414, POLYU**

🌐 **ENGLISH**

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ABSTRACT

Humanity is facing multifaceted societal and environmental challenges stemming from climate change and nature loss. The World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Risks Report 2024 counts extreme weather events and critical change to Earth systems as the greatest concerns facing the world over the next decade. In Hong Kong, we have been experiencing rising temperatures alongside more frequent and intense extreme weather events, and recently witnessed a record-breaking rainstorm that wreaked havoc to our city. Prolonged heat waves, that exacerbate air pollution and pose health risks, have also become the norm. The HKSAR Government committed to achieve carbon neutrality before 2050. WWF-Hong Kong has been working on a wide range of conservation and educational programmes and co-creating climate proofing future with corporate and community partners. To name a few, the Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme (LCMP) aims to cut carbon emissions generated by manufacturing facilities and develop environmental social governance for manufacturers. Over 280,000 tonnes of carbon emissions had been avoided by the LCMP companies. Nature-based Solutions (NbS) leverage nature and the power of healthy ecosystems to protect people, optimise infrastructure and safeguard a stable and biodiverse future. NbS offer a promising approach to address many of the environmental and societal challenges facing Hong Kong. Our limited land and highly modified ecosystems mean we must make the most of working with nature. This seminar explores how WWF works with corporate and community partners to mitigate climate change, improve public health and well-being, and enhance biodiversity - all while creating more livable, sustainable communities.

BIOGRAPHY

Karen joined WWF in 2008 as Business Engagement Leader, Climate to work on climate and energy issues in Hong Kong and China, engage businesses and industries across the region to mitigate climate crisis and greenhouse gas emissions through Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme (LCMP) and Low-carbon Office Operation Programme (LOOP). She has also been invited to speak on sustainability at international and regional conferences. Karen assumed full responsibilities of the Head of Corporate and Community Sustainability since August 2017. She works with stakeholders across public and private sectors as well as civil society to make Hong Kong a sustainable city; explores collaboration opportunities to support community-based environmental protection projects and sustainable development goals (SDGs); promotes best practices of science-based target initiative (SBTi), measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosure, low-carbon transformation, nature-based solutions (NbS) and net-zero circular economy. An accomplished senior executive, Karen held senior management positions in Fortune 500 companies prior to joining WWF. Karen holds a Master degree of Business Administration from University of Surrey, UK and is accredited as Chartered Marketer by the Chartered Institute of Marketing, UK since 2001.

MODERATOR **Prof. George LIU, Associate Head (Partnership), LSGI**

All are welcome! Please register now to join us on-site!

For any enquiries, please contact Ms Stephanie Cheung at 3400 3662 or stephanie.sy.cheung@polyu.edu.hk.



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