

For reference only / Not for redistribution

GLTMS/DEVB's Disclaimer: This presentation file is extracted from Webinar "Enhancing Biodiversity & Sustainability Through Systematic Management of Pioneer Tree Species" held by GLTMS/DEVB on 16.1.2025:

- Reflects information accurate at time of delivery
- May contain time-sensitive content
- Not intended as legal advice

Phased Replacement of Senescent *Acacia confusa* and *Peltophorum pterocarpum* at Yuen Chau Kok, Sha Tin

16.01.2025

Landscape Division / HYD

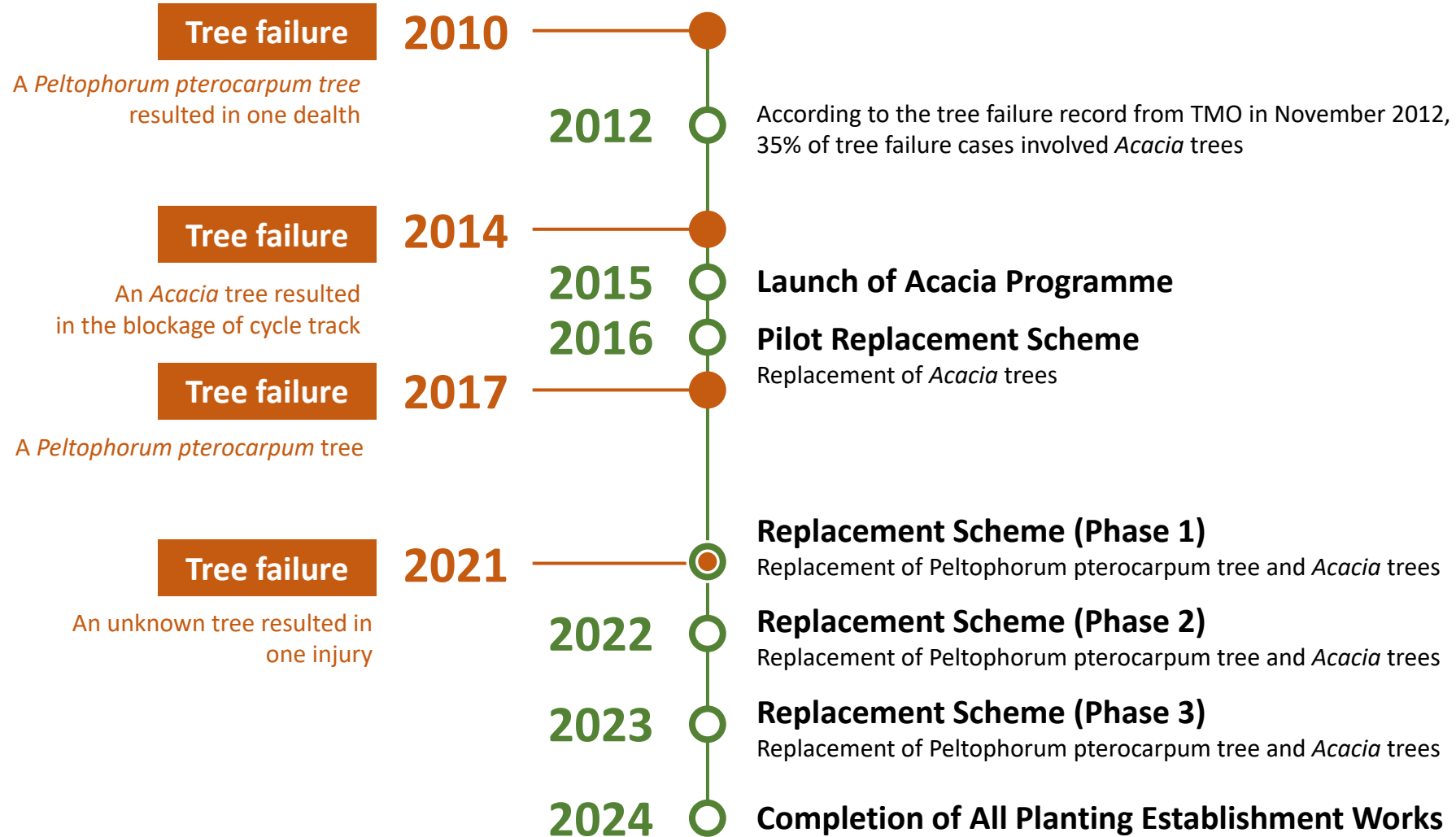
ABOUT YUEN CHAU KOK

圓洲角

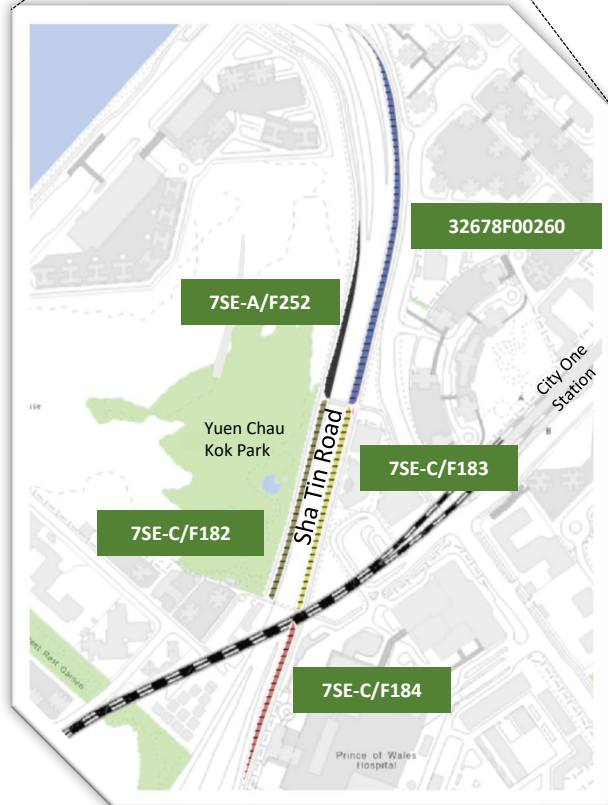
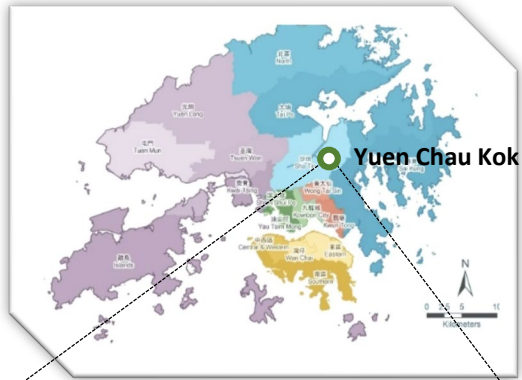
ABOUT

再生班
恩相
灣
台

BACKGROUND OF TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME AT YUEN CHAU KOK



BACKGROUND OF TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME AT YUEN CHAU KOK

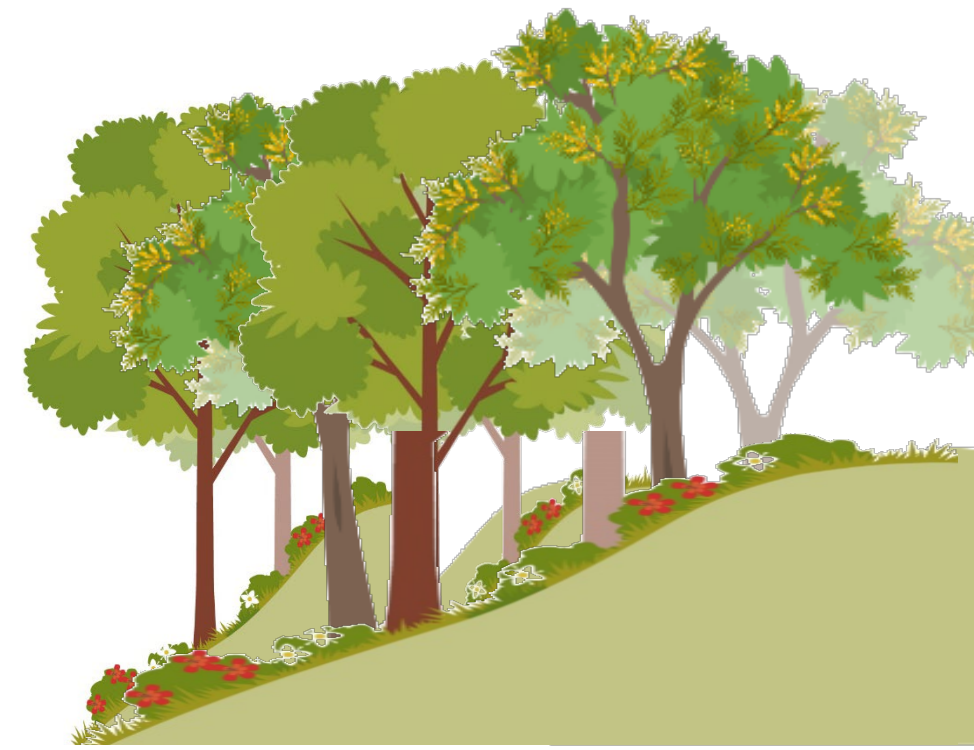
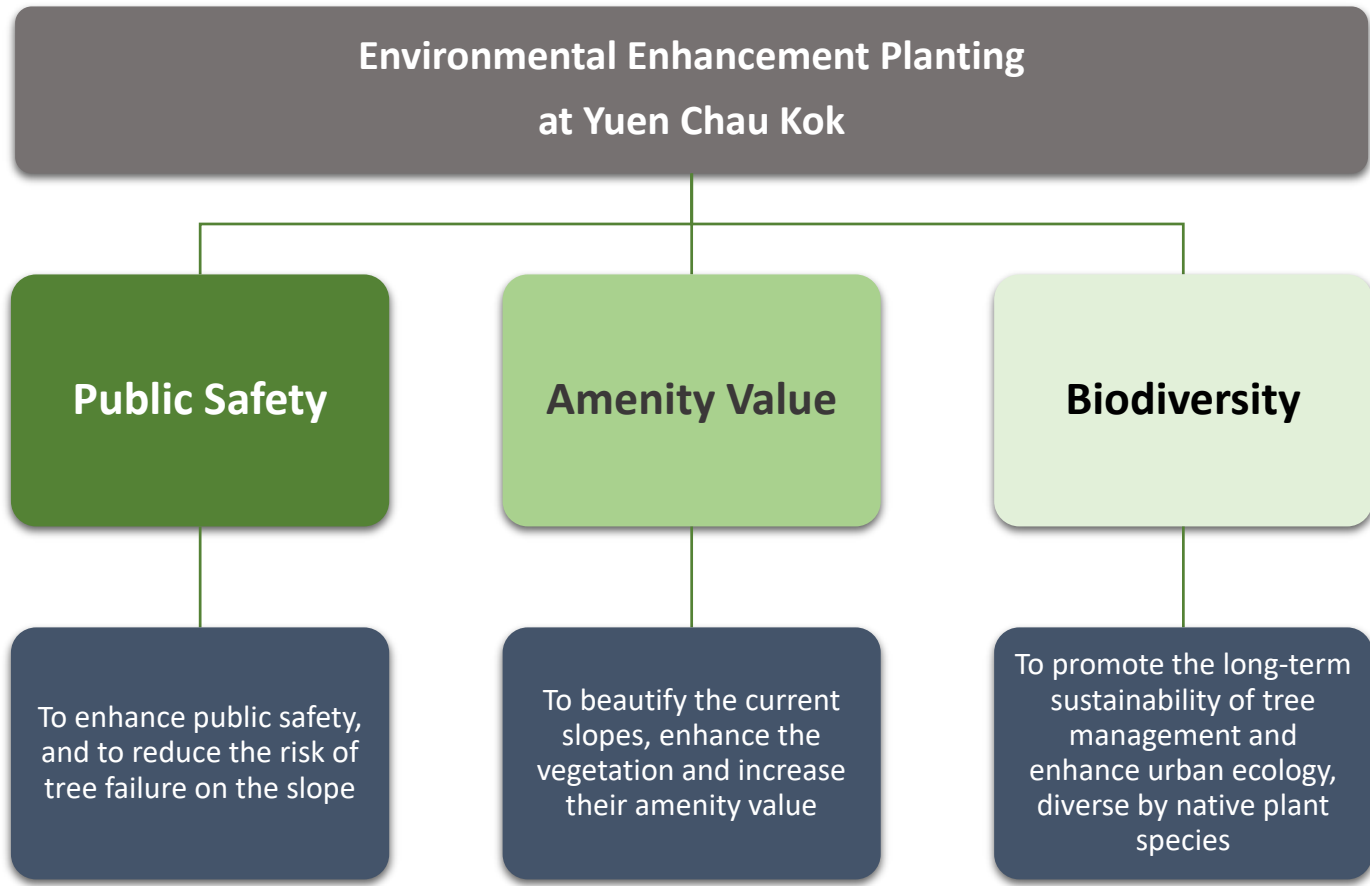


Before 2021

- Dominant trees species in Yuen Chau Kok
 - *Peltophorum pterocarpum* (盾柱木)
 - *Acacia confusa* (台灣相思)
- Most of the tree forms are *imbalanced*
- Most of the trees are *leaning* toward the pathway and cycle track, *imposing potential dangers* to the pedestrians and the cyclists



OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THE WORKS

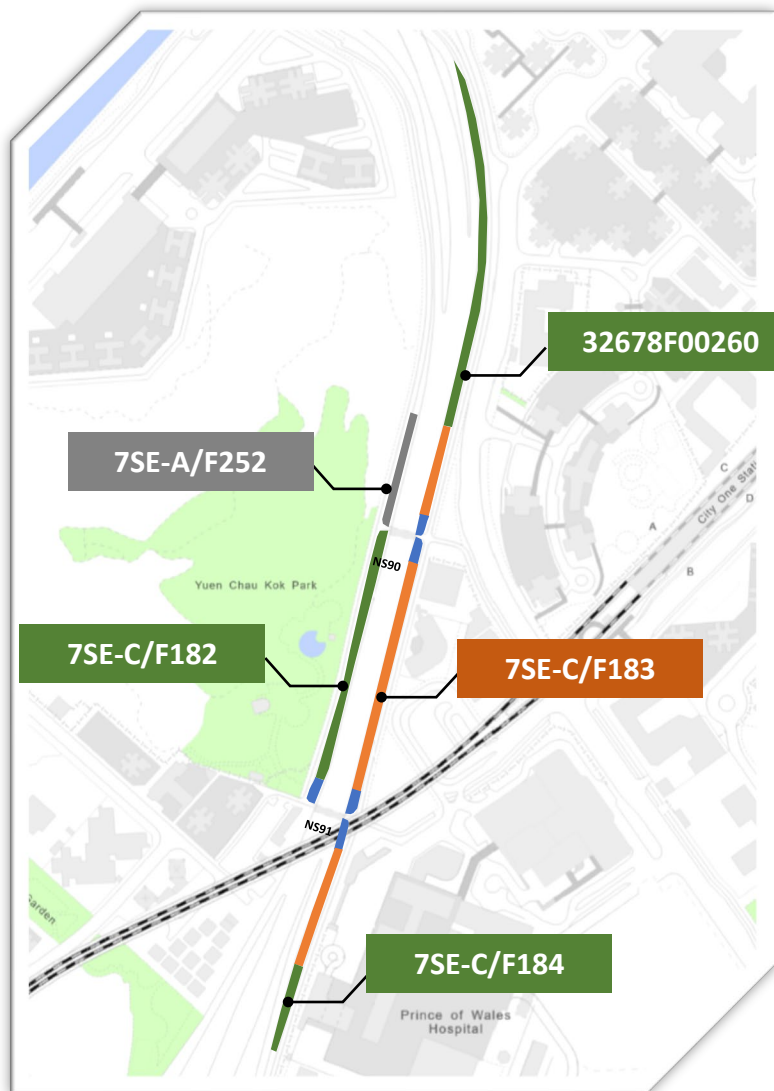


ABOUT

REPLACEMENT SCHEMES AT YUEN CHAU KOK

大正
再生班
恩
相
灣
台
生
長
於

IMPLEMENTATION IN STAGES



2016

Pilot Replacement Scheme

A slope next to cycling track

- Pioneer scheme to replace *Acacia* trees



2022

Replacement Scheme (Phase 1)

Subway Entrances

- Introduce conspicuous flowers to highlight the subway entrances



2023

Replacement Scheme (Phase 2)

Slopes with higher priority

- Replanting native trees and shrubs with high ecological value and seasonal changes



2024

Replacement Scheme (Phase 3)

Remaining slopes

- Maintain the amenity value while strengthen on the ecological development of planting

IMPLEMENTATION IN STAGES – PHASE 1

P
H
A
S
E

1

2021 Replacement Scheme (Phase 1)



Feature Planting Species

Native trees with
conspicuous flowers

Reevesia thyrsoidea
梭羅樹

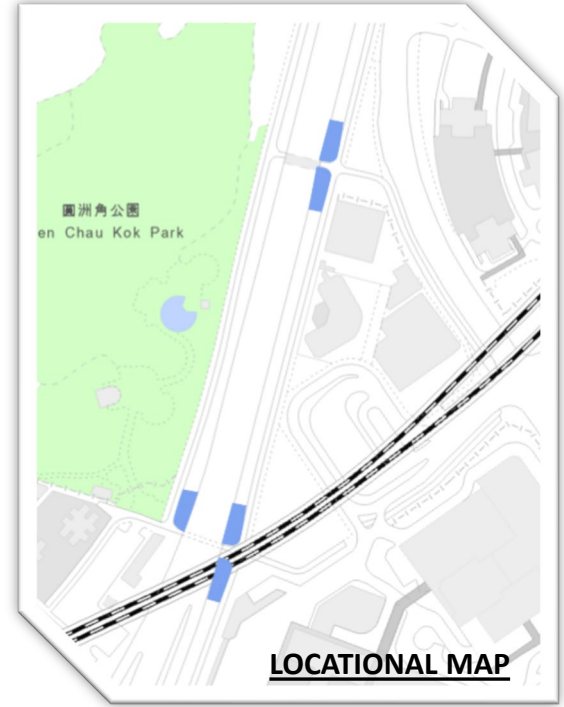
Camellia japonica
山茶

Shrubs with flowering
and seasonal changes

Gardenia jasminoides
梔子

Lespedeza formosa
美麗胡枝子

Hemerocallis fulva
萱草



COMPLETION PHOTOS – PHASE 1

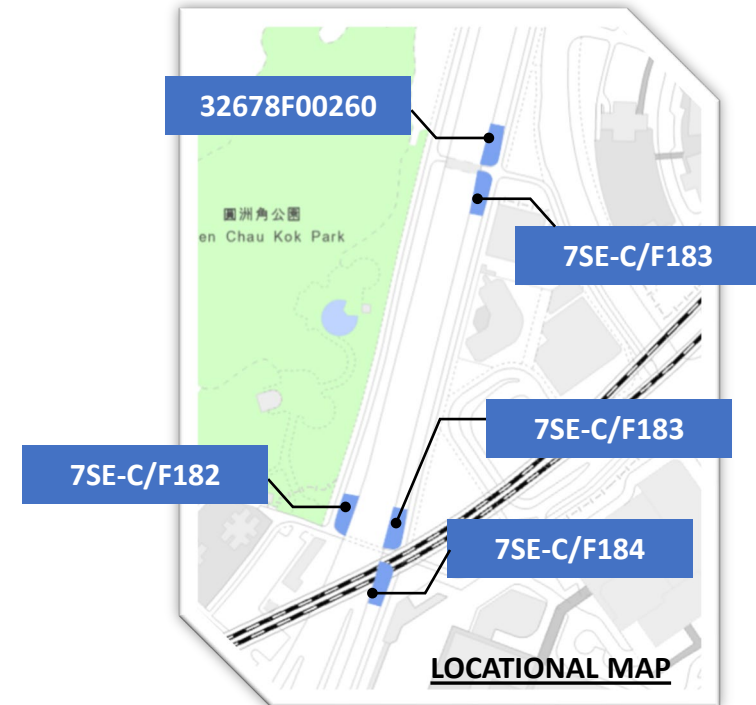
P
H
A
S
E

1



Improvements at Subway Entrances

- Remove aging trees identified as posing risks
- Introduce conspicuous flowers to highlight the subway entrances
- Restore understory vegetation



2022

Replacement Scheme (Phase 2)



Feature Planting Species

Native trees with vibrant foliage

Sterculia lanceolata
假蘋婆

Machilus chekiangensis
浙江潤楠

Shrubs with flowering and seasonal changes

Rhaphiolepis indica
車輪梅

Psychotria asiatica
九節

Rhodomyrtus tomentosa
桃金娘



LOCATIONAL MAP

COMPLETION PHOTOS – PHASE 2

P
H
A
S
E

2

7SE-C/F183

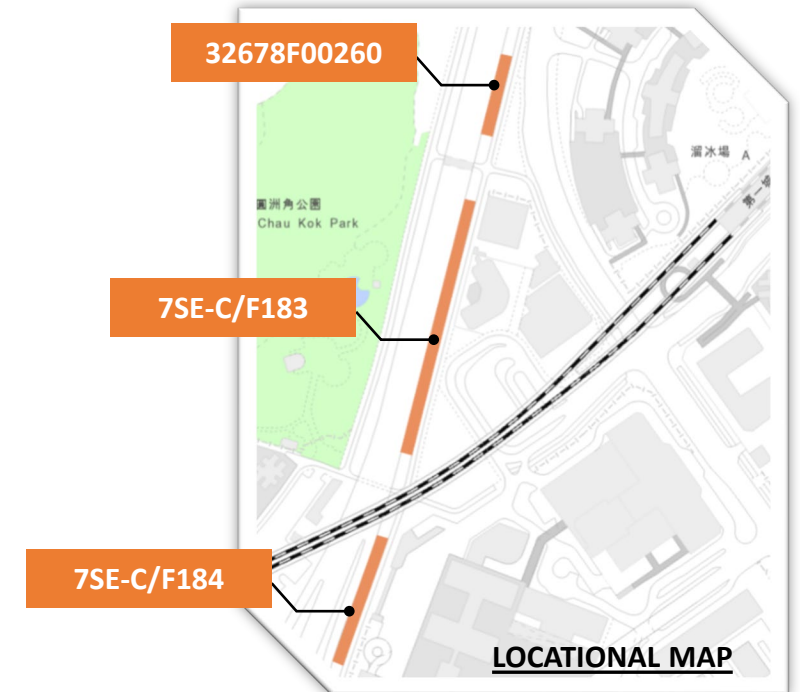


7SE-C/F184



Slopes with higher priority

- Remove aging trees identified as posing risks
- Replanting native trees and shrubs with high ecological value and seasonal changes
- Restore understory vegetation



2023 Replacement Scheme (Phase 3)



Feature Planting Species

Native trees with
ecological value

Ilex rotunda Thunb
小果鐵冬青

Viburnum odoratissimum
珊瑚樹

Shrubs contrasting in
colors and textures

Duranta repens L.
假連翹

Ixora chinensis Lam.
龍船花

Pennisetum alopecuroides
狼尾草



COMPLETION PHOTOS – PHASE 3

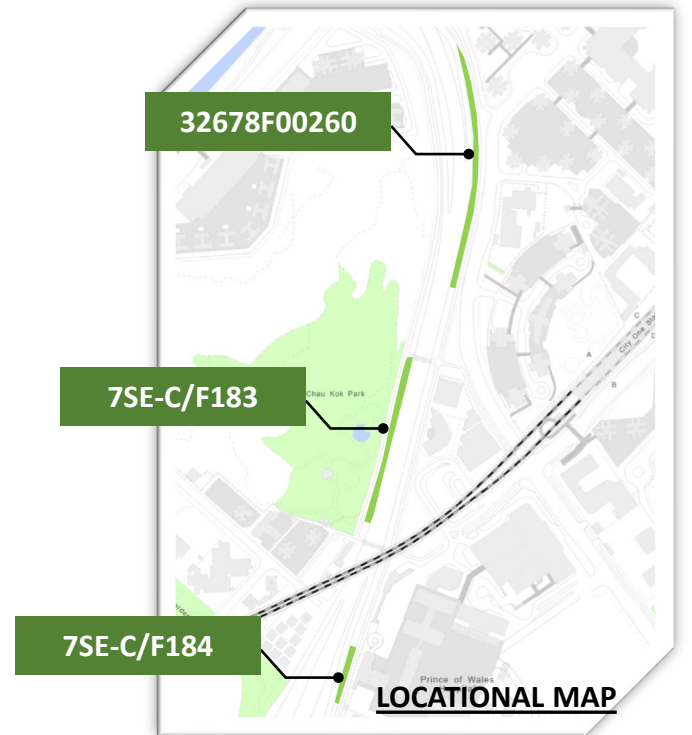
P
H
A
S
E

3



Slopes with lower priority

- Remove aging trees identified as posing risks
- Replanting native trees and shrubs with high ecological value and seasonal changes
- Restore understory vegetation
- Introduce plants with higher amenity value



ABOUT

**ENHANCEMENT
SUMMARY
AT YUEN CHAU KOK**

大正
再生班
恩相
灣
台
生

ABOUT

**OBSERVATION and
WAY FORWARD**

再生班
感恩、
轉相、
台長於
生

TRIAL ON MODE OF MAINTENANCE

J
U
N
2
0
2
4



Maintenance mode

- Planting works were completed in June 2023
- Standard landscape maintenance were adopted to the slopes during the Establishment Period
- Establishment Period was completed in June 2024
- The slope was handed over to the HyD M&M Term Contractor for maintenance in July 2024, with standard landscape maintenance works scheduled every 6 months

J
A
N
2
0
2
5

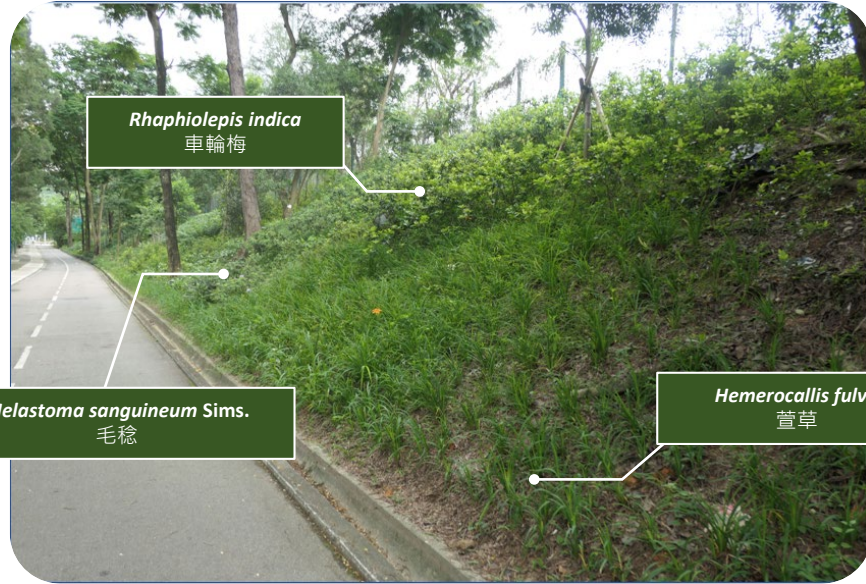


Observation

- Maintained under HyD M&M Term contractor for 7 months
- The slope is about 35°
- Understory vegetation is observed to be covered by weeds
- *Lespedeza formosa* has been observed to perform particularly well under low maintenance conditions; however, attention has to be paid to the problem of overgrowth.

TRIAL ON MODE OF MAINTENANCE

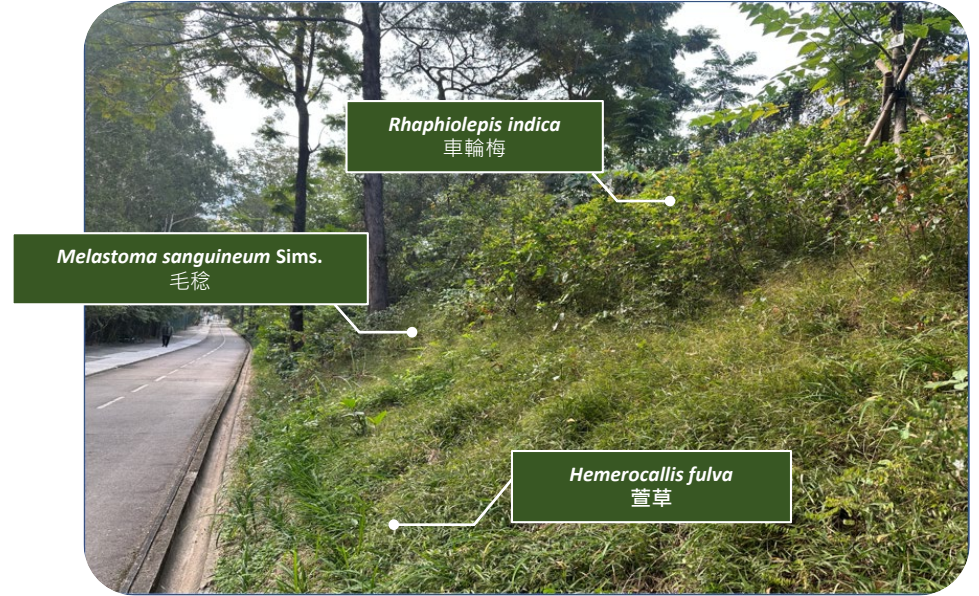
J
U
N
2
0
2
4



Maintenance mode

- Planting works were completed in October 2022
- Standard landscape maintenance were adopted to the slopes during the Establishment Period
- Establishment Period was completed in June 2024
- The slope was handed over to the HyD M&M Term Contractor for maintenance in July 2024, with standard landscape maintenance works scheduled every 6 months

J
A
N
2
0
2
5



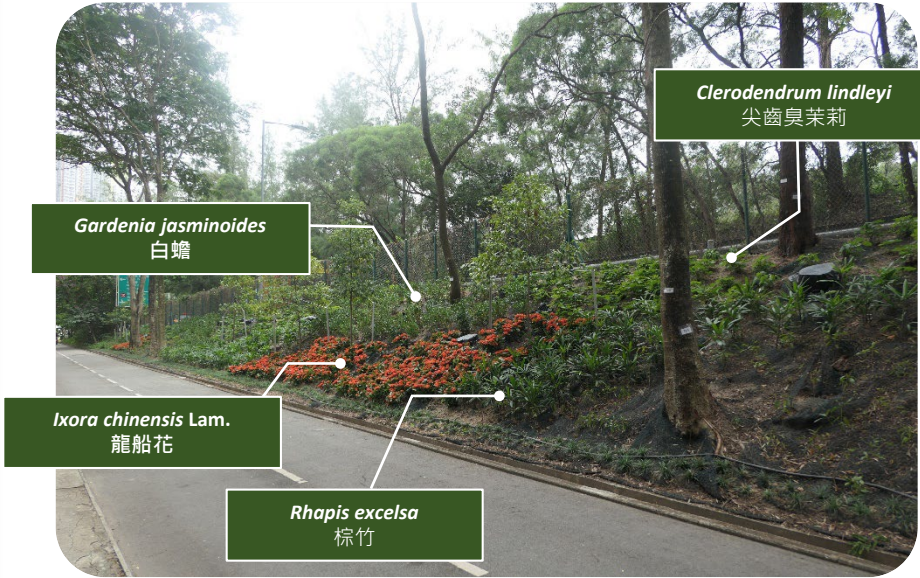
Observation

- Maintained under HyD M&M Term contractor for 7 months
- The slope is about 35°
- Understory vegetation is observed to be covered by weeds
- *Rhaphiolepis indica* has been noted to perform well in low-maintenance conditions, on high gradients slope, and in partially shaded environments.

TRIAL ON MODE OF MAINTENANCE

J
U
N

2
0
2
4



Maintenance mode

- Planting works completed on December 2023
- Standard landscape maintenance were adopted to the slopes during the Establishment Period
- Establishment Period completed on December 2024
- The slope will be handed over to the HyD M&M Term Contractor for maintenance in February 2025, with standard landscape maintenance works scheduled every 6 months



Observation

- The slope is about 35°
- More intensive watering is required to ensure the plants at the top of the slope establish well
- The overall planting performance under regular landscape maintenance is satisfactory



Way Forward



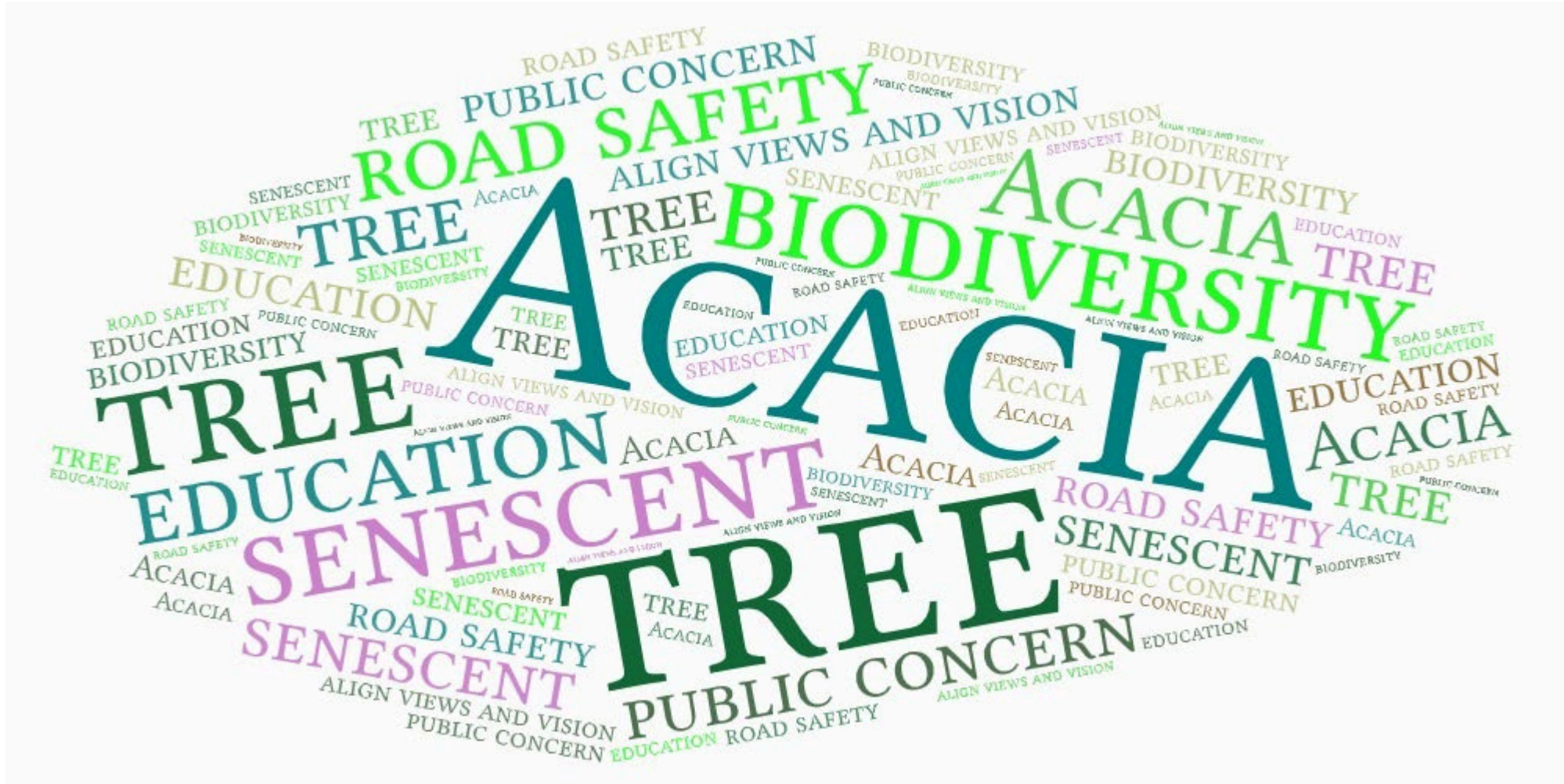
Monthly Inspection



On slopes with public enquiry:
Monthly inspection + Landscape
maintenance operation in 3
monthly basis when necessary



Transfer of maintenance works to M&M Term
Contractor and maintain the planting in a 6 monthly
Routine Horticultural Inspection + Horticultural
Maintenance Operation



Public Expectation Management

Best practice for Expectation Management to the public:

- 1 month prior to the removal of senescent trees;
- Contractor to post up bi-lingual posters on slopes where trees are going to be removed;
- Response to public enquiry and provide contact point.

承思·續後：斜坡植林優化計劃
SUCCEED • SUSTAIN SLOPESCAPE: Enhancement Programme of Vegetated Slopes



1 | 位置圖



地點: 屯門青雲路
斜坡編號: SSE-B/F24

3 | 場地現況

本署在最近的巡查及評估中發現，上述斜坡的台灣相思樹的結構及健康狀況欠佳，但未有即時倒塌的風險。

4 | 計劃目的
斜坡植林優化計劃目的

由於此樹群位處於頻繁使用的路段，為保障公眾安全，本署為上述斜坡進行「斜坡植林優化計劃」，逐步移除老化、健康及結構有問題的台灣相思樹，並會重新種植合適的植被。



公眾道路安全 可持續發展 生物多樣性

5 | 預計施工日程

預計動工日期：2023年第4季 → 預計完工日期：2024年第2季

2 | 計劃內容



路政署負責保養轄下斜坡上和快速公路範圍內的植物，提升市區的生態面貌。當中包括五、六十年代，在香港大量種植的台灣相思等幾種「先鋒樹」，增加斜坡的植被，以捉緊泥土和鞏固斜坡。

台灣相思和人一樣，都會經歷生、老、病、死。相思樹平均只有50至60年壽命，它們經歷半世紀風霜，已步入老年期，有些更可能會出現倒塌風險，對市民，特別是道路使用者構成安全威脅。

路政署自2016年起推出「承思·續後：斜坡植林優化計劃」，逐步並有系統地更替轄下路旁斜坡上老化和結構不穩的相思樹，換成本地原生的樹苗和灌木，被移除的樹木透過回收再造，重返我們的日常生活之中，得以延續第二生命，做到「承思·續後」。

聯絡我們
如有查詢，請致電：_____


For enquiry, please contact us at _____

6 | 種植計劃

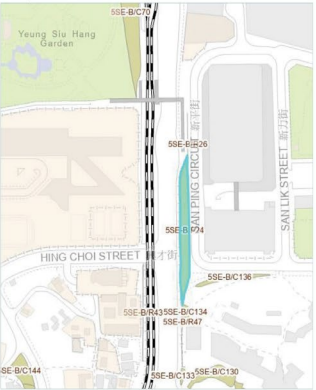


紅花菜 (*Rhodoleia championii*) 羅漢草 (*Justicia brandegeana*)
紫萼 (*Clerodendranthus spicatus*) 藍雪花 (*Plumbago auriculata*)

SUCCEED • SUSTAIN SLOPESCAPE:
Enhancement Programme of Vegetated Slopes



1 | Location Plan




Location: Tsing Wun Road, Tuen Mun
Slope No.: SSE-B/F24

3 | Site Condition

HyD conducted comprehensive tree inspections on the slope, identified senescent and defective *Acacia* trees, and planned to carry out removal work.

4 | Programme Objectives
Strategy of Enhancement Programme for Vegetated Slopes

Our department is implementing the 'Enhancement Programme for Vegetated Slopes' for the aforementioned slope in order to ensure public safety due to the high volume of traffic on this road section. After removing the senescent and defective trees, replanting work will be carried out based on the "Right Plant, Right Place" principle.




Public Safety Sustainable Development Enhance Biodiversity

5 | Tentative Works Schedule

Tentative Commencement Date: Q4 2023 → Tentative Completion Date: Q2 2024

2 | Programme Background

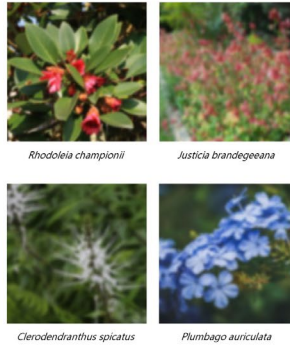


During the rapid development of Hong Kong in the 1950s and 60s, extensive infrastructure and road networks led to the creation of numerous man-made slopes that required vegetation cover. To address this, the government introduced rapid-growing exotic tree species, like *Acacia confusa*, as "pioneer trees" to bolster and stabilize these slopes. However, *Acacia* trees have a relatively short lifespan of 50 to 60 years and at senescent stage tend to become susceptible to wind, drought, compaction, and pathogens when injury occurs, making them prone to collapsing, thereby posing safety hazards. In addition, *Acacia* trees provide limited ecological value, with minimal support for biodiversity and inhibiting undergrowth development of other plants.

Growing in dense slope environments with restricted root development, many *Acacia* trees, having endured five decades of harsh conditions, are now entering senescence. Primarily located on slopes adjacent to roads with high pedestrian and vehicular traffic, the potential for tree failure and branch breakage poses significant risks to road users.

To proactively manage trees for safeguarding public safety, enriching biodiversity and promoting the long-term sustainability of highways landscape, HyD has been implementing the Programme to replace senescent *Acacia* trees with structural and health issues. The details of the Programme is available on HyD's website: https://www.hyd.gov.hk/en/our_services/streetscape/vegetation/acacia/index.html

6 | Replanting Programme



Clerodendranthus spicatus *Plumbago auriculata*

Contact Us
For enquiry, please contact us at _____

THANK YOU