

Introduction:

Beached yachts, torn up pavements, and devastated coastlines – Typhoon Mangkhut once again demonstrated how vulnerable Hong Kong is against climate change. The city receives around 2,400 mm of rainfall yearly, 80 percent of which occurs during the typhoon season. As a subtropical coastal megacity with long coastlines and low-lying areas, Hong Kong is frequently subjected to floods and storms. Typhoon Hato in 2017 caused HK\$8 billion in losses; Mangkhut is expected to exceed that.

Global warming will worsen flood events by making them more frequent and severe. It is predicted that the Nationally Determined Contributions put forth by countries for the Paris Agreement will create a "Hothouse Earth", leaving the world with global temperatures 4-5°C above pre-industrial levels and 10-60m higher sea level than today. By 2100, as a result of sea

level rise and changing rainfall patterns, what we call 50-year floods would reoccur every three years or less in Hong Kong.

Although Hong Kong is designed against 50-year floods, it is anticipated that more than 687,000 people and HK\$9.3 trillion of assets in the city will be at risk to climate change in the future. In spite of this knowledge and recent events, the Lantau Tomorrow Vision is being proposed to reclaim 1,700 hectares off the east coast of Lantau Island. The artificial islands, intended to house 1.1 million people, would put an even greater populace at risk.

Cities around the world are adopting flood protection standards against 100-year events. The Netherlands can even withstand 10,000-year floods. To become a resilient city, we must be able to answer the following questions: How will the city be impacted by floods in the coming century? How can we properly communicate flood risk to city planners and property developers to mitigate and minimise losses? Can we rely on natural ecosystems to make us more resilient against coastal floods? Do we have response plans against flood disasters in place when they strike? And the most important question of all – can we design and build a city that can respond to 100-year or even 1,000-year floods?

Programme Details

| Date: | March 22 nd 2019 (Friday) |
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| Time: | 9:00 a.m 12:55 p.m. |
| Venue: | 1501- 02, 15/F Hong Kong Club Building, 3A Chater Road, Central |
| Language: | English and Chinese (SI services will be provided) |
| Fee: | Free of charge |
| Registration link: | https://goo.gl/forms/Kc2siNzfMUGxaItw2 |

| Water Forum 2019 | | |
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| Climate risk, Coastal Preparedness, Financial implications | | |
| for Hong Kong and Greater Bay Area | | |
| 0830 - 0900 | Registration | |
| 0900 - 0905 | Welcoming Address: Mrs. Mei NG, BBS, Chairman of Friends of the Earth (HK) | |
| 0905 - 0915 | Opening Ceremony: Photos and Ceremony | |
| 0915 - 0945 | Keynote Speech: Extreme Weather a Wake Up Call to Climate Change | |
| | Prof. Ho Kin Chung, BBS, JP , President, Hong Kong Academy of Environmental Science and, Founder of Polar Research Institute of Hong Kong | |
| Theme: Climate Preparedness in Coastal Cities | | |
| 0945 - 1010 | Designing Coastal Defence Infrastructures to Withstand 100-Year Floods in the | |
| | Greater Bay Area | |
| | Dr. Faith Chan, Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences, University of | |
| | Nottingham Ningbo China | |
| 1010 - 1035 | Coastal Threats and Solutions for the Greater Bay Area | |
| | Mr. He Zhibo (何治波先生), Vice Chief Engineer & Director of Flood Control and | |
| | Drought Relief Office of Pearl River Water Resources Commission, MWR | |
| 1035 - 1105 | Panel Discussion: How to Transform Hong Kong into a Resilient City Under the | |
| | Imminent Threat of Climate Change? | |
| | Panelists: | |
| | 1. Dr. Faith Chan, Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences, University of | |
| | Nottingham Ningbo China | |
| | 2. Mr. He Zhibo (何治波先生), Vice Chief Engineer & Director of Flood Control | |
| | and Drought Relief Office of Pearl River Water Resources Commission, MWR | |
| | 3. Mr. Wong Chi Pan, Ricky, Deputy Head of Civil Engineering Office (Port & | |
| | Land), Civil Engineering and Development Department | |
| | 4. Dr. Ander Chow , Associate Director, Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd. | |
| | Moderator: Prof. Ho Kin Chung, BBS, JP, President, Hong Kong Academy of | |
| | Environmental Science and, Founder of Polar Research Institute of Hong Kong | |
| 1105 - 1120 | Coffee Break | |

| Theme: Green Finance and Climate Change | | |
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| 1120 - 1145 | Managing the Financial Risk of Climate Change | |
| | Mr. James A Maguire, Partner, Sustainable Development Capital LLP | |
| 1145 - 1210 | Green Financing and How to Measure Their Impacts | |
| | Mr. Robin How, Author and Independent Analyst | |
| 1210 - 1225 | Announcement of FoE's Green Finance Roadmap | |
| | Mr. Anthony Cheung, Board Member, Friends of the Earth (HK) | |
| 1225 - 1255 | Panel Discussion: How to Deploy Efficient Economic Instruments in the Fight | |
| | Against Climate Change? | |
| | Panelists: | |
| | 1. Mr. James A Maguire, Partner, Sustainable Development Capital LLP | |
| | 2. Mr. Robin How, Author and Independent Analyst | |
| | 3. Prof. Entela Benz-Saliasi, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of | |
| | Finance, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology | |
| | 4. Ms. Alexandra Boakes Tracy, Founder and President, Hoi Ping Ventures | |
| | Moderator: Mr. Anthony Cheung, Board Member, Friends of the Earth (HK) | |
| 1255 | End of Forum | |