## Countryside Conservation Funding Scheme Research Activities on Countryside Conservation and Revitalisation

| Project Number       | EP86/27/24/11-23   |
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| Project Proponent    | Environmental Association Limited  |
| Project Title        | Conservation and Revitalisation Strategies for Historical and                  |
|                      | Ecological Heritages of Grass Island: A Case Study of a More Than              |
|                      | 400 Years of History Island's Sustainability                                   |
| Target Site          | Grass Island (Tap Mun)   |
| Project Description* | Grass Island (also named as Tap Mun) is located in Sai Kung North              |
|                      | at the northeastern part of Hong Kong, between Mirs Bay and the                |
|                      | Tolo Channel. Chasing back to the history of the island, in 1573 it            |
|                      | was registered under the administration of the Dongguan County                 |
|                      | as part of Mirs Bay. The Tin Hau Temple built in late Ming and early           |
|                      | Qing is historical evidence to show the vital and significant position         |
|                      | in fishing industry in the 16 <sup>th</sup> century. At its peak, Grass Island |
|                      | had 2,000 residents, however, the population and culture are                   |
|                      | diminishing due to the outflow together with the sunset fishing                |
|                      | industry. Nowadays, there are still residents running a couple of              |
|                      | stores and restaurants on the island and it is a popular camping               |
|                      | and tourist spot. Unfortunately, the island is facing the loss of              |
|                      | traditional custom and decline of ecological resources. To                     |
|                      | conserve and revive the valuable historical and ecological                     |
|                      | heritages to be recognised and utilized by the public, we propose a            |
|                      | comprehensive and feasible research on the (1) revitalisation on               |
|                      | cultural heritages; (2) conservation of the biodiversity and (3) find          |
|                      | out the feasible solution and implementation strategies to reduce              |
|                      | the anthropogenic influence. With the benefits of public                       |
|                      | engagements, the project is able to raise the public awareness and             |
|                      | their supporting on sustainability rural island.                               |
| Project Period       | 1 April 2022 –31 March 2025  |
| Grant Approved       | \$2,988,200  |

\*The project description is provided by the project proponent.