

						
<div data-bbox="31 484 251 532"> <div>4</div> <div>尋覓錦田河</div> </div> <p>政府為了解決錦田區的水浸問題，在錦田河下游南生圍一段開鑿大片魚塘，闢出一條約120米寬，約三公里長的人工新河道。錦田河原來的下游已經不與錦田河相連。相比人工的新河道，舊河道狹窄得多，而且有迂迴彎曲的河曲，景致與寬直的新河道截然不同。</p>	<div data-bbox="684 484 903 532"> <div>5</div> <div>錦田河河盆</div> </div> <p>錦田河發源於香港第一高峰大帽山，它的幹流和支流被大刀屭（東）、大帽山西延的山脊（南）、蠔殼山（西）和雞公嶺（北）的山脊（分水嶺）包圍形成44.3平方公里的菱形河流域，雨水落到流域上就匯聚成錦田河。</p>	<div data-bbox="1337 484 1483 532"> <div>6</div> <div>魚塘</div> </div> <p>元朗有很多魚塘，但因城市發展，不少魚塘已經消失。例如錦田河的新河道，正正是把眾多魚塘的壘鑿開而建成的。</p> <p>魚塘除可養殖魚類，還甚具生態價值。有不少雀鳥會在魚塘覓食。這大片魚塘有助穩定微氣候，並在暴雨時發揮蓄水緩洪的功能。</p>	<div data-bbox="1989 484 2245 532"> <div>7</div> <div>河岸的紅樹林</div> </div> <p>當局為了補償因工程而損失的濕地，在錦田河新河道和山貝河河道兩旁種植紅樹－秋茄樹和桐花樹，以及類紅樹老鼠簕。紅樹林生長於河口和受潮汐影響的下游河道（感潮河），不但有助孕育生態，更能加固河岸。</p>	<div data-bbox="2642 484 2898 532"> <div>8</div> <div>拉姆薩爾濕地</div> </div> <p>米埔及內後海灣約1,500公頃的拉姆薩爾濕地，是水鳥覓食、棲息和繁殖的重要地方。</p> <p>錦田河和山貝河為這片濕地帶來沉積物和養分，是濕地重要的一部分。所以在兩河的整治工程時，在河口保留了一些魚塘，及保留河床的天然泥土底質，以保護拉姆薩爾濕地的生態。</p>	<div data-bbox="3295 484 3459 532"> <div>9</div> <div>鹹水草</div> </div> <p>鹹水草的學名是短葉茼蒿 (<i>Cyperus malaccensis</i> Lam. var. <i>brevifolius</i> Boeck.)，生長於鹹淡水交界的水邊，所以有鹹水草之稱。鹹水草收割曬乾後，即可作綑綁繩子和編織之用，昔日廣泛用於買菜、扎糉、織帽，差不多是必需品。不過隨著塑料日益普及，鹹水草已被取代。</p>	<div data-bbox="3947 484 4162 532"> <div>10</div> <div>兩河交匯</div> </div> <p>錦田河天然舊河道與山貝河交匯之處，昔日較現在繁盛得多，清朝時有街渡由大窰山（即大嶼山）往元朗墟。山貝涌口村沿河而建，以往附近更有船廠，現時仍可見到築在河邊的棚屋。</p>
<div data-bbox="31 854 419 902"> <div>4</div> <div>In Search of Kam Tin River</div> </div> <p>To solve the flooding problem in Kam Tin area, the government excavated a large strip of fishponds, in the midst of Nam Sang Wai, to build a 120m wide, 3km long new channel. The lower course of Kam Tin River has become disconnected from Kam Tin River now. You can observe its narrow, windy meanders that differs considerably from the wide, straight new channel.</p>	<div data-bbox="684 854 994 902"> <div>5</div> <div>Kam Tin River Basin</div> </div> <p>Kam Tin River originates from Hong Kong's highest peak, Tai Mo Shan. Its main stream and tributaries are bounded by the ridges (watersheds) of Tai To Yan (to the east), western ridge of Tai Mo Shan (south), Ho Hok Shan (west) and Kai Kung Leng (north), forming a 44.3-sq km rhombus-shaped river basin. Rainwater falling on this river basin will be converged into Kam Tin River.</p>	<div data-bbox="1337 854 1547 902"> <div>6</div> <div>Fishponds</div> </div> <p>There are many fishponds in Yuen Long, but many were lost to urban development. The new channel of Kam Tin River was created from several fish ponds, by breaking their bunds.</p> <p>Fishponds have high ecological value in addition to their aquaculture functions. Many birds forage in fishponds. The fishponds could also stabilize the microclimate and serve to prevent flooding.</p>	<div data-bbox="1989 854 2377 902"> <div>7</div> <div>Mangroves on Riverbanks</div> </div> <p>The government planted mangroves including Kandelia and River Mangrove and mangrove associates such as Spiny Bears Breech along the banks of Kam Tin River new channel and Shan Pui River, as compensation for the wetland loss due to the river works. Mangroves grow in estuaries and lower courses of tidal rivers, they form rich ecosystems, and can stabilise the riverbanks.</p>	<div data-bbox="2642 854 2879 902"> <div>8</div> <div>RAMSAR Site</div> </div> <p>A 1,500 hectares of wetland at Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay – the Ramsar site is an important habitat where waterfowl feed and rest.</p> <p>Kam Tin and Shan Pui River are important parts of the wetland system as they bring sediments and nutrients to the wetland. During the associated river training works, several measures were adopted at the estuary to protect the Ramsar site's ecology, including retaining some fish ponds, and natural mud is kept as the bottom substance.</p>	<div data-bbox="3295 854 3751 902"> <div>9</div> <div>Short-leaved Malacca Galingale</div> </div> <p>Short-leaved Malacca Ganlingale (<i>Cyperus malaccensis</i> Lam. var. <i>brevifolius</i> Boeck.) grows in estuary areas, so is commonly known as “Sea Water Weed” in Chinese. Dried Short-leaved Malacca Ganlingale is good for using as rope and for knitting. People used it while shopping, to make dumplings, or even to make hats. However, it has been virtually all replaced by popular plastic products.</p>	<div data-bbox="3947 854 4344 902"> <div>10</div> <div>Confluence of Two Rivers</div> </div> <p>The area around the conjunction of natural Kam Tin River old channel and Shan Pui River was more prosperous in the past. During the Qing Dynasty, people travelled by small boats between Lantau Island and Yuen Long Market. Shan Pui Chung Hau Tsuen was a village established by the river with a boat factory nearby. Nowadays, stilt houses are still found along the riverbanks.</p>