Living Water & Community Revitalization: An Agricultural-led Action, Engagement and Incubation Programme at Lai Chi Wo (Sustainable Lai Chi Wo)

Internship Scheme - Sustainable Revitalization for Rural Communities in Hong Kong (2016-2017)

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

Organised by the Policy for Sustainability Lab, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong and supported by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Sustainable Lai Chi Wo is a multi-year rural development programme (The Programme) in a traditional local Hakka village, Lai Chi Wo. The Programme is carried out in collaboration with scholars from School of Biological Sciences and Department of Geography of HKU, Hong Kong Countryside Foundation, Produce Green Foundation, the Conservancy Association and the Lai Chi Wo Village with the below key objectives:

- To revitalize agricultural activities in a rural community in Hong Kong adopting enhanced farming methods including eco-agriculture, low carbon farming and organic farming;
- To initiate a whole catchment management approach in Lai Chi Wo on its water resources for sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation;
- To re-discover the community resources and capitals for social and cultural well-being;
- To develop the village as an environmental education hub to build awareness and knowledge on our relationship with water and the natural environment; and
- To develop diverse local products and services for sustainable local living.

The Programme attempts to achieve community revitalization and environmental enhancement through farming, training, education and lifestyle change.

WHAT CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?

To help in the Programme’s activities relating to farming, community research, and biodiversity management, we need a pool of determined and enthusiastic interns who want to learn outside the classroom and participate actively in the Programme’s activities.

TASKS:

GROUP 1 – AGRICULTURE REVITALIZATION TEAM
1. Assist terrace farm revitalization and other farming related works
2. Carry out mini research projects on farmlands and write report
Quota: 20
Target: All Disciplines

GROUP 2 – BIODIVERSITY MONITORING TEAM
1. Carry out Red Imported Fire Ants monitoring
2. Carry out Red Imported Fire Ants control and write report
Quota: 4
Target: Environmental Science, Biology and related subject background

**GROUP 3 – ORAL HISTORY TEAM**
1. Assist data treatment of oral history research
2. Coordinate and assist in oral history interview
Quota: 4
Target: Social Sciences, Geography, Anthropology and related subject background

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

After completing the internship scheme, you will be able to acquire the basic skills and knowledge in water, agriculture, ecology and biodiversity, village culture and sustainability on both conceptual and practical grounds conducted in Lai Chi Wo, which was once the largest and most prosperous Hakka walled-village in Hong Kong. Catch up the opportunity and be part of us!

**WHO ARE OUR TARGETS?**

If you are passionate about our environment/cultural heritage, like hiking and farming, willing to participate in consecutive days work, attend overnight camps in remote farming village and physically fit for working under hot sun, you are the one we are looking for! Priority will be given to students from environmental science, biology, geography and related subject background.

**QUOTA: 28 STUDENTS**

Please send us a 2-min video (in Chinese or English) before **1 November 2016** to introduce 1) yourself, 2) your reason of applying this Scheme and 3) your expectation for the Scheme. You will be notified the results by **7 November 2016**.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Selected candidates for **Agricultural Revitalization Team** are required to attend a **compulsory training workshop on 19 - 20 November 2016 (whole day)** and have to fulfil a **minimum of 120 service hours** during the internship period (from November, 2016 to May, 2017). Most of the service hours will be spent within Lai Chi Wo. Overnight working camps will be conducted once or twice per month and interns will be required to join at least a **3-day-2-night** for each stay in Lai Chi Wo. Interns can also group together and plan for longer stay in Lai Chi Wo in consent with our project staff. Interns usually visit Lai Chi Wo by hiking or taking boat from Sha Tau Kok. Travelling allowance from home to working places will be provided. Return boat transportation between Sha Tau Kok and Lai Chi Wo plus meals and accommodation (if necessary) will be provided also.

Selected candidates for **Biodiversity Monitoring Team** are required to attend a **compulsory training workshop on 20 November 2016 (whole day)** and have to fulfil a **minimum of 120 service hours** during the internship period (from November, 2016 to May, 2017). Most of the service hours will be spent within Lai Chi Wo. Overnight working camps may be required. Interns usually visit Lai Chi Wo...
by hiking or taking boat from Sha Tau Kok. Travelling allowance from home to working places will be provided. Return boat transportation between Sha Tau Kok and Lai Chi Wo plus meals and accommodation (if necessary) will be provided also.

Selected candidates for Oral History Team are required to fulfil \textbf{a minimum of 120 service hours} during the internship period (from November, 2016 to May, 2017). On-job training will be provided. Most of the service hours will be spent within our office at HKU. Traveling to the New Territories or other locations may be required for conducting interviews. Travelling allowance will be provided. No other form of allowance will be arranged.

\textbf{WHAT’S NEXT AND WHAT YOU CAN GET?}

If you are interested, join the Briefing Session to learn more about the Scheme, fill in the form and send it back via fax or email to us by \textbf{25 October, 2016}. The Briefing Session will be organized for interested teachers/potential tertiary students on \textbf{27 October 2016 at 6:30pm, CPD LG.07, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong}.

As a token of appreciation and recognition, every student will be given an \textbf{award letter with acknowledgement of your contribution upon completion of the Scheme} issued by the Policy for Sustainability Lab, the University of Hong Kong. You may use this Scheme to enroll in relevant internship course in your institute. We can also help fill in the evaluation form for you in the course of internship scheme.

\textbf{WANT TO KNOW MORE?}

If you wish to know more about the Scheme, please feel free to contact us at:
Ms. Regina LO – \textcolor{red}{reginalo@hku.hk} (Tel: 3917-4762)
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Enrollment Form for Briefing Session
(Enrollment Deadline: October 25, 2016)

To: Policy for Sustainability Lab, The University of Hong Kong

Enquiry Tel.: Ms Regina LO, Tel: 3917-4762

Fax: 2857-2521 Email: reginalo@hku.hk

Name: ____________________________

Name of Tertiary Institute: ____________________________

Contact Number: ____________________________

Email: ____________________________

Curriculum: ____________________________

Year of Study: ____________________________

Experience in Environmental/Cultural-Related Works

☐ Yes ☐ No

(if yes, please specify: ____________________________)

Online Registration: https://hkuems1.hku.hk/hkuems/ec_regform.aspx?guest=Y&ueid=46264