

Hong Kong Shark Tale

Date 19 Jan (Fri.)

Time 16:00 (UTC+8)

Venue 3N01 & Zoom



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Sharks were once abundant in Hong Kong waters, but overfishing has led to the collapse of all local shark fisheries. While sociological surveys have indicated a reduced demand for shark fin consumption locally, Hong Kong remains an importer of shark fin products for re-export to other destinations, and research using DNA identification of shark fin samples obtained from the local retail market has identified 80+ species sold as shark fin. In 2022, decisions made at CITES CoP19 has put more than 90% of the international trade in sharks under regulation. For Hong Kong, one of the world's biggest trade hubs in shark fin and related products, this has serious implications for local implementation and enforcement. In particular, success for the shark fin trade will give much needed confidence for the application of similar research and policy methods to other commonly traded dried seafood products involving threatened species, such as sea cucumber and fish maw.



About speaker:

Stan Shea is a marine ecologist, an avid diver and an educator. Now, as the Marine Programme Director at BLOOM Association Hong Kong and ADM Capital Foundation, Stan spearheads research projects addressing holes in knowledge of the local live reef food fish and dried seafood trades and marine biodiversity, providing critical information to inform efforts for the conservation of marine resources and habitats.

All are welcome!