

Appendix A: Revised Page of EcoIA Report

6 IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION OF IMPACTS

6.1 Assessment Methodology

6.1.1 The potential direct and indirect ecological impacts arising from the proposed development are identified and assessed in this section in accordance with Annexes 8 and 16 of the EIAO-TM.

6.2 Proposed Development of Tai Po Kau Nature Academy

6.2.1 The Application Site is currently vacant with weedy and ruderal vegetation cover. There are several single-storey existing structures. A field study/education/visitor centre with ancillary camping facilities known as “Tai Po Kau Nature Academy” is proposed for the Application Site, where two of the existing structures would be demolished while the remaining three would be redeveloped into the Academy.

6.2.2 The proposed Tai Po Kau Nature Academy will mainly consist of three single-storey buildings which will be redeveloped from the existing structures. There will be a visitor centre, an activity centre and a plant nursery for nature education and field studies. Outdoor spaces with footpaths will be reserved for activity ground, viewing deck, event lawn and plant nursery area for field study/research purpose. A camping ground will be used for overnight educational activities/programme for up to 18 persons.

6.2.3 The proposed development parameters are provided below in **Table 16**.

Table 16. Proposed Development Parameters

Proposed Development Parameters			
Site Area	About 0.9 ha		
Total GFA	About 560 m ²		
No. of Blocks	3		
Structure Details			
Structure No.	Use	Covered Area (approx.) (m ²)	No. of Storey
1	Visitor Centre	220	1
2	Activity Centre	146	1
3	Plant Nursery	194	1
Total		560	/

The Visitor Centre

6.2.4 The visitor centre will be the main welcoming space located near the visitor entrance at the centre of the application site. It will be redeveloped from an existing structure. Some elements from the existing dilapidated structure will be salvaged to be installed in the visitor centre. **It will provide a multi-purpose activity area, storage, office, and a toilet.**

The Activity Centre

6.2.5 The activity centre will be located at an uphill location to the west of the visitor centre. An activity area with ancillary storage, toilet and changing rooms will be provided. It will also be redeveloped from an existing dilapidated structure on an existing platform.

The Plant Nursery

6.2.6 Another block to the northeast of the visitor centre will be the proposed plant nursery equipped with storage, working area, toilets and changing room. It will serve as the working area for the native plant nursery and field study works. It will provide storage for equipment for handling plants as well as processing and storage of seeds. Outdoor plant nursery areas and seed preparation areas will be provided. There will also be ancillary facilities including a sewerage treatment plant and other E&M facilities. To allow materials/tools to be transported to and from the plant nursery, one private car parking space and one loading/unloading space for staff are proposed in this area.