

# Ping Che Evolving: Understanding Its Community in Response to “City Development”



中大人社區  
CUHK in Communities

## Ping Che (坪輦)

A rural area @ The New Territories

Consists of 6 villages

Replanned in 2015: from North East New Territories New Development Areas Planning (新界東北發展計劃) to New Territories North Study (新界北研究)

Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant  
(TDLEG) Project 2016 - 2019  
Jointly presented by

Ms. WONG Ka Po,  
Research Assistant, CUHK in Communities

Dr. CHAN Yin Ha,  
Senior Lecturer, Independent Learning Center

Prof. FAN Sin Piu,  
Associate Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Literature

Dr. YIP Ka Wing,  
Lecturer, Department of Chinese Language and Literature

Dr. MA Muk Chi,  
Lecturer, Department of History

Prof. SUEN Yiu Tung,  
Assistant Professor & Graduate Division Head, Gender Studies Programme

Dr. CHENG Wai Pang,  
Lecturer, General Education Foundation Programme

Mr. MA Fai Hung,  
Head, New Asia College Ch'ien Mu Library &  
United College Wu Chung Multimedia Library

Dr. AU Ka Lun,  
Professional Consultant, School of Journalism and Communication

Prof. POON Tat Pui,  
Associate Professor of Practice, School of Journalism and Communication

Ms. CHUNG Siu Mui,  
Arts Administrator, The Office of the Arts Administrator

## CUHK in Ping Che (中大人坪輦)

An 8-month on-site participatory learning project, provides students first-hand observation and chances to review the concepts learnt in class (land justice, community-initiated development, equal participation in civil society & the pursuit of good life)

21 CU students recruited (mainly from Arts & Social Science)

Led by independent curator and urbanist Dr. Wong Yu Hin, Sampson

Sept 15, 2018

### Tour around Ping Che:

A general touch of the villages' physical environment, figured out the local spatial pattern.

Induction of the program, raised three main questions:

1. What is community/social group?
2. What is rural/urban area in Hong Kong?
3. What is community art? What are its functions?



Sept 24, 2018

### Mid-Autumn Fire Dragon experience:

Participated in the newly-established festive activity held by non-indigenous inhabitants & social activists.

Understood how it revives rural cultures, connects indigenous and non-indigenous people, and constructs the identity of Ping Che people.



Oct 6, 2018

### Sharing talk by external organizers and social activists:

An introduction of the history of the government's planning and the process of empowering locals to resist the biased urban planning.

Understood more about land justice and why/how they tried to actualize the concepts of civil society in Ping Che.



Oct 20, 2018

### Guided tour by expert on local agriculture:

A site visit to various kinds of farms (Aquaponics, Hydroponics & Conventional).

Understood agriculture in Ping Che context, including its economic, environmental and social impacts, the difficulties in operation and the functions of farmers' co-op.



Nov 10, 2018

### Sharing talk by local farmer and external organizers:

A reflection of the community dynamics.

Learnt from various stakeholders their success, conflicts and difficulties during community building process.



### Work in Progress

#### (Spring Term 2019):

To organize a community art festival/  
to publish the historical records and  
stories of Ping Che community.



## Students' Reflections (in Chinese)

今天劉海龍先生的分享，讓我反思農業的角色。我們一向對農業的想像，只停留在傳統、常規的東西，除了經濟效益以外，其他方面我們很少討論。其實農業亦可以作為介入社區的方法，坪輦魚菜共生農場財哥的理念非常有啟發性。

梁恩寧／文化研究四年級

聽到關於蔬菜合作社的作用，我覺得很新鮮（雖然並非預料之外）。也許農村／鄉郊在還未被工業化影響之前，種植、養殖這些基本生產活動之間的彼此協作，是最傳統亦最久遠的「共同體」雛型。之後我希望能進一步探索到，傳統社區協作與現代（如壁畫藝術）社區創造的關係，以及它們內在的發展脈絡。

王澤恩／哲學五年級

（導賞裡）最印象深刻是，我親身明白傾倒建築廢料是甚麼。尤其意識到自己就站在城市的碎片廢墟上時，我反思到香港的現代性問題。

佚名

