

Developing a

# vegetable garden/orchard

in the Lingnan University campus

Co-organizers:

Cultural Studies Department, Lingnan University

Lingnan Gardeners project, Kwan Fong Cultural Research and Development Programme, Lingnan University

Office of Service-Learning, Lingnan University

An organic vegetable garden/orchard started on campus on 22 September 2014. Over 100 varieties of herbs, vegetables, grains, fruits and trees have been grown. 175 students from 9 cohorts have practiced the experiential learning approach: nurturing the soil and understanding the conditions for different varieties of plants to grow; experiencing weather extremities such as the onslaught of Typhoon Mangkhut; learning food processing and preparing monthly lunch gatherings open to all on campus; taking up carpentry to make farm tools; visiting local farms in Hong Kong; and relating the predicaments of agriculture to issues of urbanization, energy, food safety and food sovereignty.

The team works with partners, such as assisting the Tuen Mun Hospital on its Mini Garden, and organizing exchange visits to the Little Donkey Farm in Beijing. Since 2017, with support from the Jockey Club "We Care, We Serve & We Learn @ Tuen Mun" Programme, 15 elderly volunteers worked with students, resulting in enhanced inter-generational harmony and extended farming networks.

Lingnan Gardeners has organized video-recorded monthly seminars and published a bilingual newsletter, all uploaded to Lingnan University library website for public access.

The project has been visible on campus, and received much media attention in and outside Hong Kong. Exchange visits have been made with farming communities and universities in mainland China, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, Switzerland, UK and Canada. The project contributes to the endeavours of the Lingnan University towards a transition campus, building local resilience against global warming and food insecurity.

## Project coordinators:



Professor Lau Kin Chi teaches Cultural Studies at Lingnan University.



Ms Au Yeung Lai Seung coordinates the Lingnan Gardeners project.



Ms Joy Lam coordinates Service-Learning projects in Lingnan University.



Ms Chloe Siu manages the Jockey Club "We Care, We Serve & We Learn @ Tuen Mun" Programme.



Instructors: Permaculture experts Mr Yan Xiaohui and Ms Jin Peiyun



Dendrobe



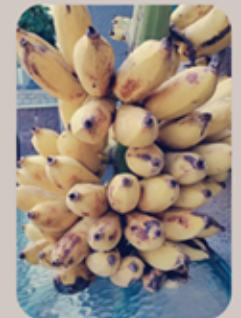
Roselle



Grape



Sorghum



Banana



Students work on natural healthy soil and grow over 100 varieties of plants



Lunch gatherings to taste food produced from Lingnan Garden or home-made by members



The team helped improve the Mini Garden of Tuen Mun Hospital



The team paid visits to a partner: Little Donkey Farm in Beijing

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