Video transcript

The wonders of wildlife for all

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JS: Vehicles, crowds - that's what I often hear downtown. It feels so claustrophobic, not really alive. It's very green here. I can hear birds chirping now. Is that a dove? Wait! I heard a bug fly by just now.

C: This is Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hong Kong's biggest ecological treasure. I first visited Mai Po two years ago, doing scientific research in the nature reserve. It's quite easy for me to come down here to enjoy what nature has to offer. But it's not at all easy for some people. In 2015 WWF started Nature with No Barriers with a grant from HSBC's 150 Community Fund. I've come to Mai Po today to see what this project has to offer visitors with special needs.

LTK: We believe nature belongs to all of us. With HSBC support, we've been able to enhance the experience of this natural habitat and upgrade the facilities for visitors. For example, ramps to access the bird hides. We have installed bird models, braille boards and audio devices at the education centre. With that, we hope more visitors with special needs can come to visit and get first-hand experience of the amazing ecosystem here.

SHF: I was born with brain paralysis and have been in a wheelchair ever since. I've wanted to come to Mai Po since childhood. 'I see that ibis! It's eating a fish!' My first time at Mai Po! It really broadens my horizon. Now I know what a black-faced spoonbill looks like.

JS: Because of the degeneration of my retina, I only have about 5 per cent vision left. Here in Mai Po, the surroundings are very refreshing. There are ponds, the sound of water, plenty of vegetation, all with unique scents and birds that are rarely seen downtown. The downside is that I cannot tell exactly what they look like. How different are they from what's in my mind? Wow! So different!

C: Yes. Touch and feel what's unique about this bird.

JS: Its wingspan is wide. Wow! Its bill is so long, and so pointy!

C: Jacky and Sin Heng help me to slow down and look at nature more intimately and with different senses. Nature with No Barriers doesn't only offer people with special needs a unique access to nature, it also reminds us how precious nature is and how we should cherish it.