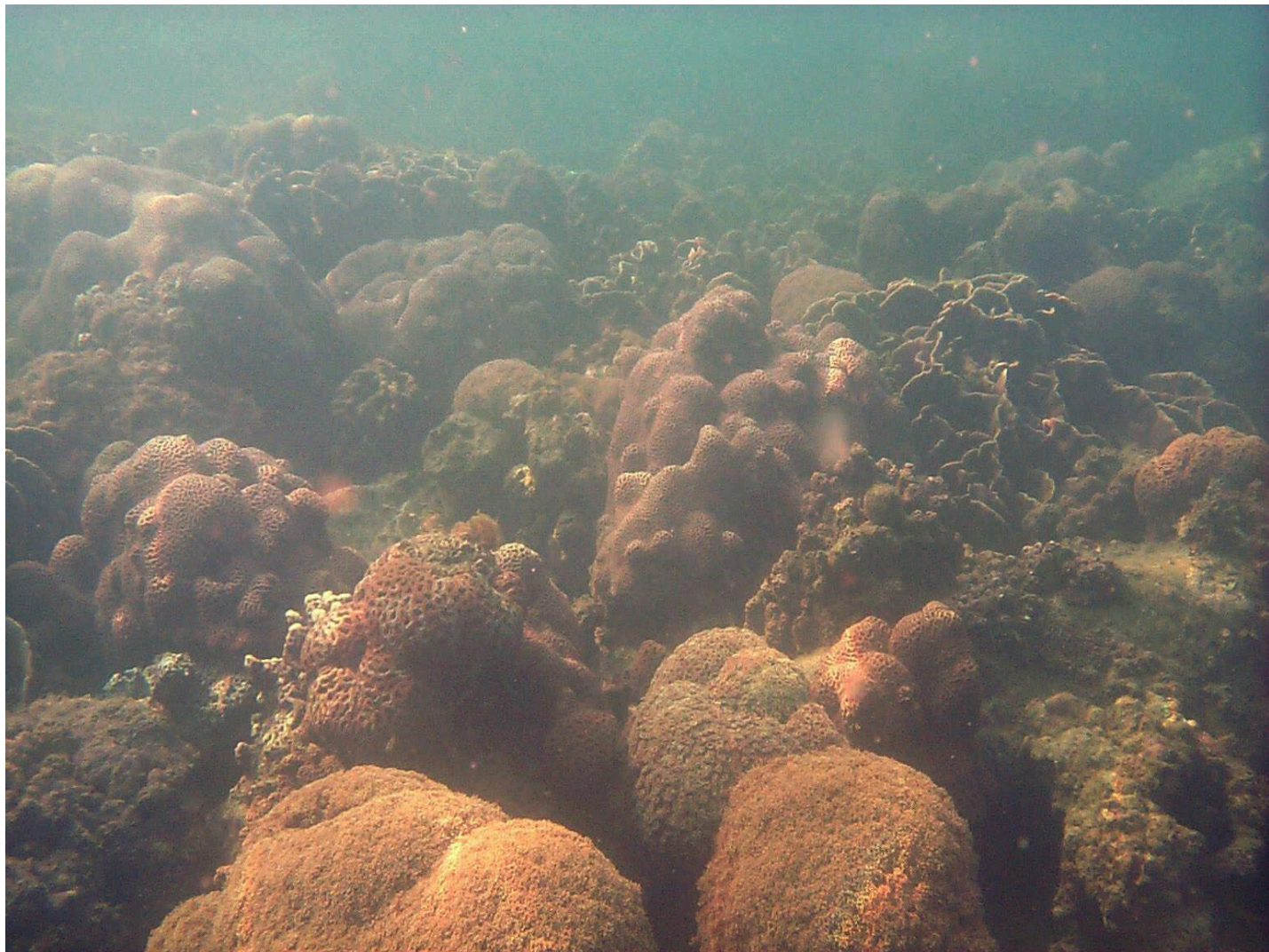


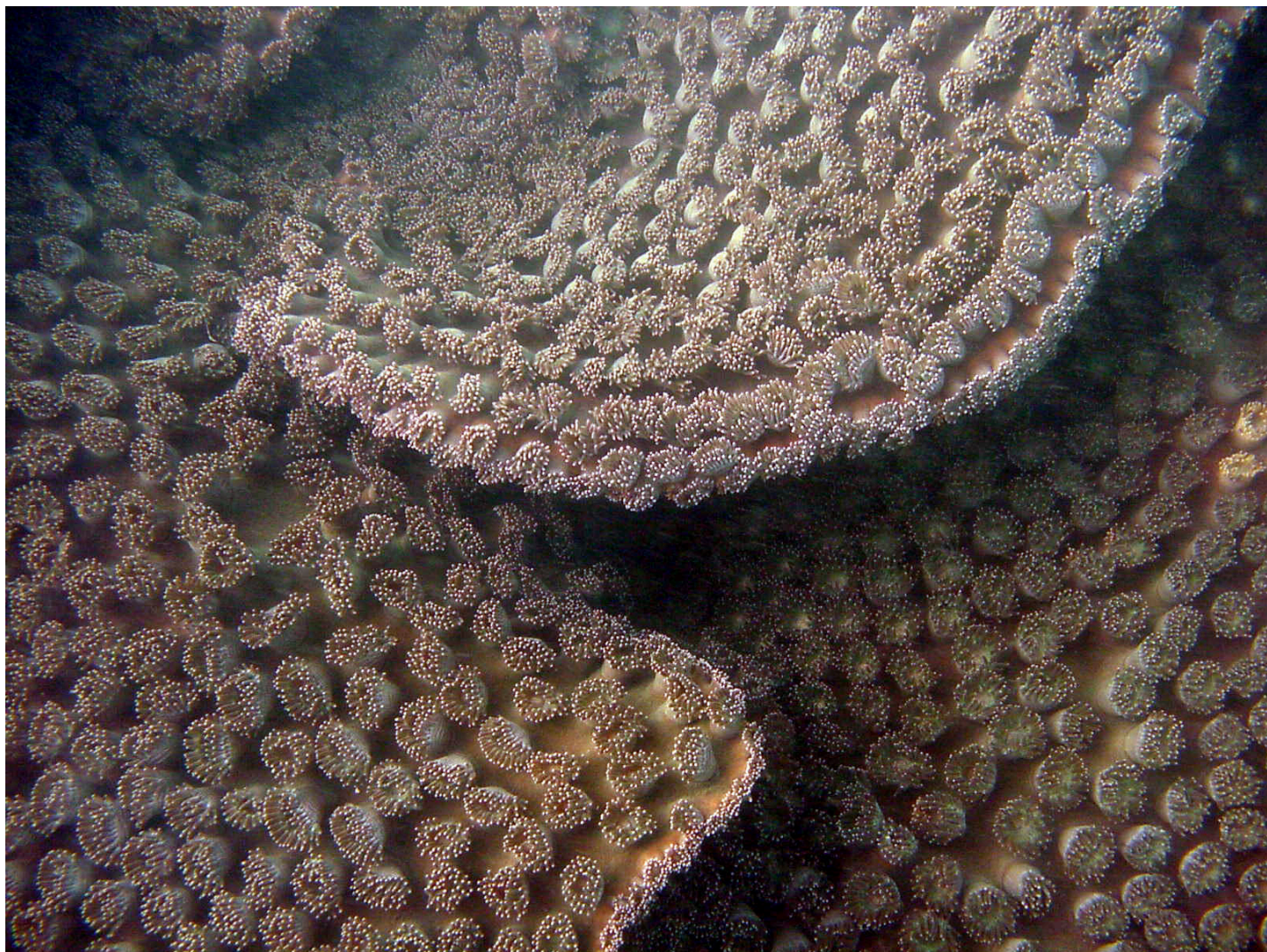
The Hong Kong Marine Environment

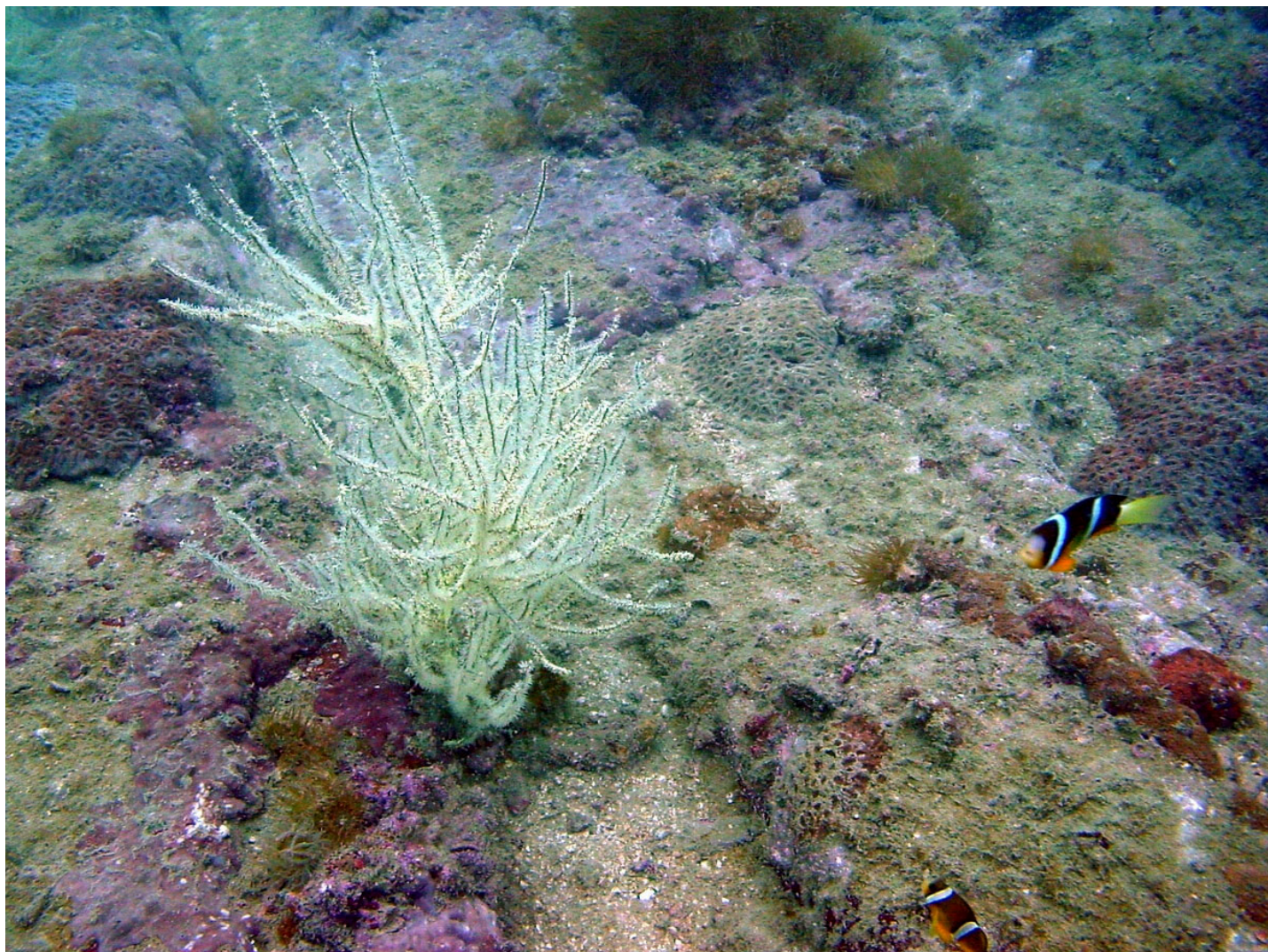
Lost Opportunities

Current Status

- The Marine Environment in Hong Kong is:
 - Suffering from Continuous Degradation.
 - Inadequately Protected.
 - Not being mitigated.
 - Still being taken for granted.
 - Considered not important enough to warrant serious action.





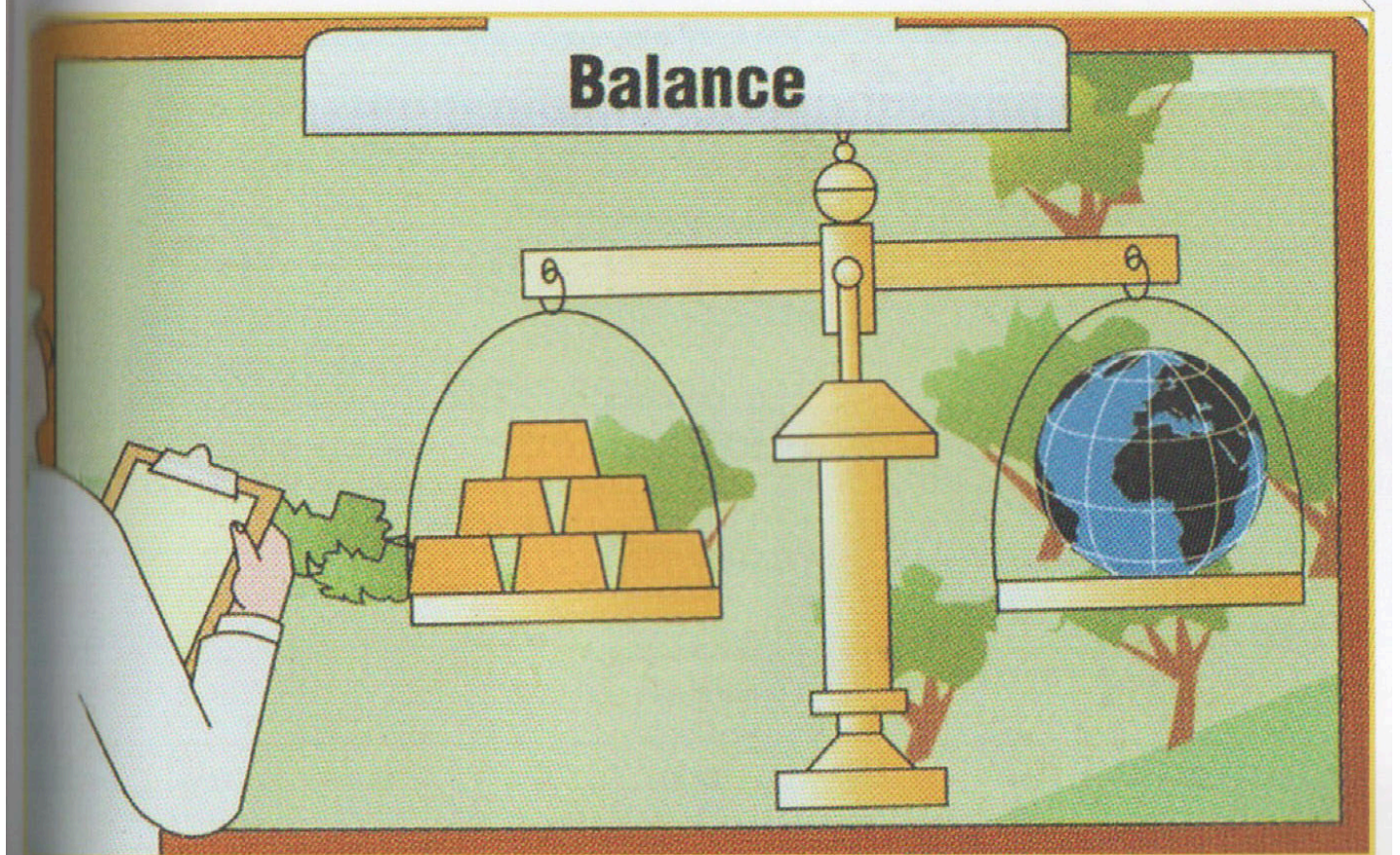




Preservation?

- The EIAO is actually quite good but is being circumvented by everybody, including Government.
 - Many things are “minor maintenance works”.
 - Areas are not thoroughly investigated.
 - Impacts are guessed by unqualified individuals.
 - Associated projects are assessed individually, not collectively.
 - Projects are broken up to circumvent the law.
 - Developers are responsible for the EIA, not an independent body.

Mindset



Information?

- The Government doesn't like to look at a whole picture, only part of it.
 - Pollution figures are not based upon international standards.
 - Targets are set high so that they can be easily achieved.
 - Irrelevant values are used for reference.
 - Important matters are just not considered.

Action?

- Fishing policy?
- Marine recreational policy?
- Marine area zoning?
- Marine area mitigation policy?
- Response to Climate Change?
- Does the Government really act on the recommendations of the environmental reports and studies it commissions?

Local Tourist Business

- There are 12 times the number of local tourists to an area than international ones.
- There are many local recreational activities missing from Hong Kong:
 - Small boat recreational fishing.
 - Marathon swimming events.
 - Promotion of diving.
 - Water skiing and wake-boarding competitions.
 - More windsurfing competitions.

Sustainable Exploitation

- Small study:
 - Recreational fishing
 - 48 million per year on the eastern side of HK alone.



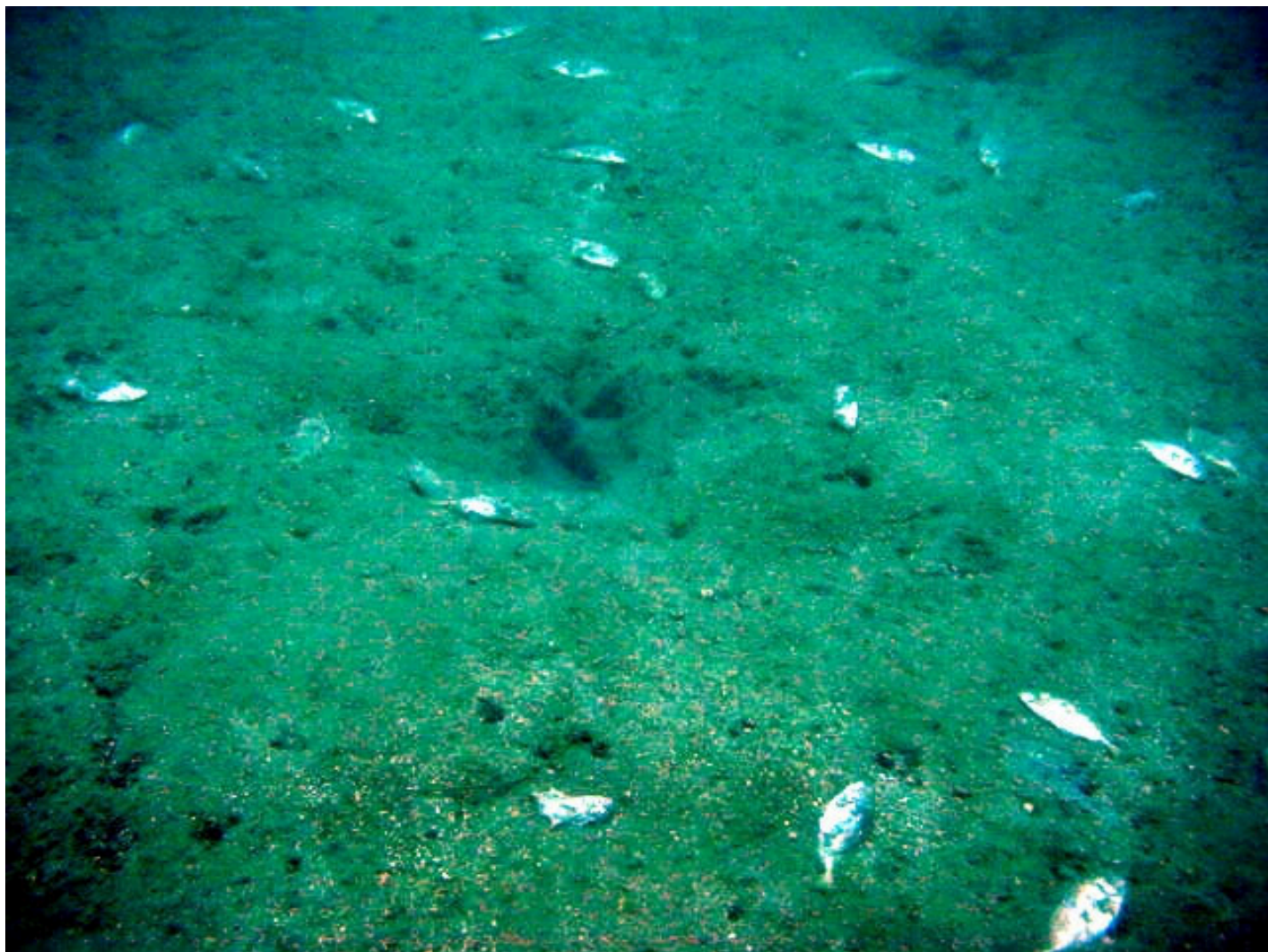
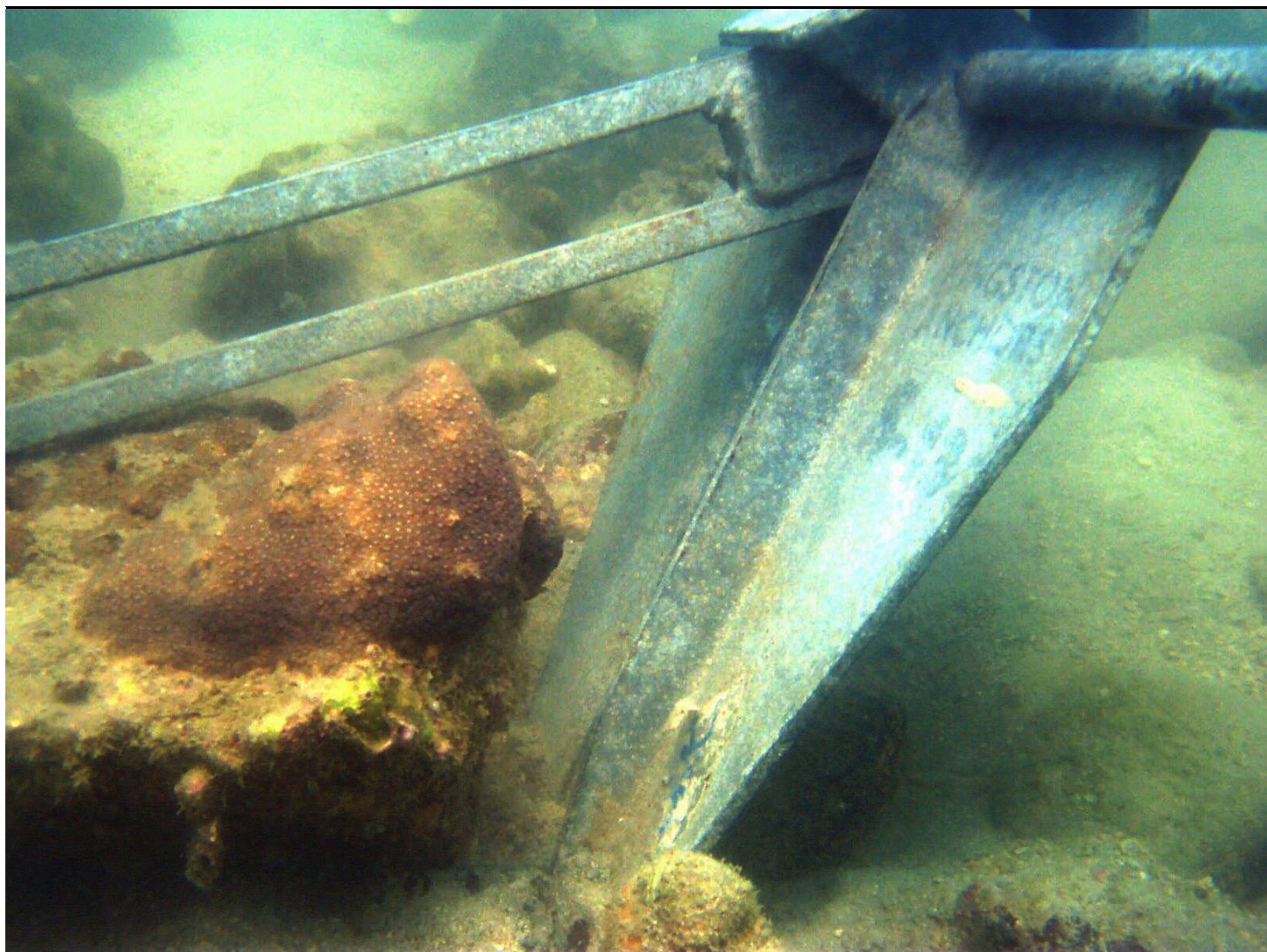
Commitment?

- The Hong Kong Government is not committed to an overall plan towards the rehabilitation of the marine environment.
 - HATS solves a human problem no money to rehabilitate the already damaged areas.
 - The Marine Parks programme is stalled.
 - We need 10% of the marine area designated as Marine Parks.
 - These things are done in steps. When will we see the next step?
 - They have been talking about Soko's and the SW Lantau Marine Parks since 2000. This needs to happen now.

(It will take only 20M increase in yearly spending in the MP programme to initiate the next phase)

Result?

- The slow deterioration of the local Marine Environment.
- Once it is gone it will not return.
- It will be replaced with something else.









Questions?