
Chapter 1

Economic Development and Innovation and Technology

Preamble

Continuous and sustainable economic growth is a prerequisite for Hong Kong to tackle housing, poverty, ageing population and environmental problems. Promoting economic development is therefore of utmost importance. We are committed to maintaining a business-friendly environment with a simple and low tax regime. It is pivotal for us to continue to invest in world-class infrastructure and promote the development of innovation and technology to support sustainable economic growth and sharpen our competitive edge.

To promote economic development, the Government will stay “appropriately proactive” and, through such channels as the Economic Development Commission and the Financial Services Development Council, gather industries’ views on the on-going formulation of a holistic industrial policy and ways to further Hong Kong’s economic success. The Government will consolidate and enhance Hong Kong’s position as a major platform of capital raising and financing for Mainland and overseas enterprises, broaden and deepen our co-operation with the Mainland in diverse fields, and give full play to Hong Kong’s combined advantages under “One Country” and “Two Systems” as well as its unique role in external liaison by capitalising on the enormous growth opportunities arising from the implementation of the National 13th Five-Year Plan and the Belt and Road Initiative.

We are striving for co-development of Hong Kong and our country while continuing to enhance our competitiveness.

The trading and logistics industry is a major contributor to Hong Kong's economy. We will continue to strengthen our relations with trading partners to secure better access to their markets. In particular, we will assist our business and service industries in tapping the Mainland market by taking advantage of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA). Meanwhile, we will continue to actively promote high value-added logistics, maritime and aviation services, and collaborate with the industries to reinforce and enhance Hong Kong's position as an international maritime and aviation centre, including our role as a global aviation hub.

In maintaining Hong Kong's status as an international financial centre and the competitive edge of our financial services industry, the Government works actively to modernise the regulatory framework, strengthen investor protection and foster the diversification of services and products.

Hong Kong's economic success is built on our adherence to and respect for the rule of law. We will continue with the development of Hong Kong as an international legal and dispute resolution services centre in the Asia-Pacific region, seeking to enhance our status in the international legal, dispute resolution and business arenas.

New Initiatives

We will:

Centre for International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services in the Asia-Pacific Region

- Further promote Hong Kong's legal and dispute resolution services so that enterprises in the Mainland and in jurisdictions along the Belt and Road will make use of Hong Kong's professional services in their business development pursuant to the Belt and Road Initiative. (DoJ)
- Study the desirability of amending the relevant legislation (including the Arbitration Ordinance, Cap. 609) with a view to attracting more parties to resolve their intellectual property disputes by arbitration in Hong Kong. (DoJ)
- Explore the use of evaluative mediation (in addition to facilitative mediation) for resolving intellectual property disputes. (DoJ)
- Consider the introduction of an apology legislation to facilitate the resolution of disputes by clarifying the legal consequences of making an apology. (DoJ)

International Maritime and Aviation Centre

- Establish a new maritime body named the “Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board”, to be chaired by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, to enhance engagement with the industry to formulate and implement strategies to foster the growth of high value-added maritime services and nurture talents, thereby promoting the development of maritime services and enhancing Hong Kong’s position as an international maritime and aviation centre. (THB)

Financial Services Sector

- Discuss with the Central Government and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) the specific arrangements for Hong Kong to join the AIIB and ways to support the work of the AIIB by leveraging on Hong Kong’s status as an international financial centre (including our capital markets). (FSTB)
- Examine the existing regulatory arrangements of money lenders and related intermediaries to enhance protection for borrowers, and review the relevant provisions in the existing Money Lenders Ordinance when necessary; as well as step up public education to raise people’s awareness of debt management. (FSTB)

Enhancing External Links

- Prepare for the establishment of a new overseas Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Indonesia, with a view to strengthening ties with the ASEAN countries; and plan for setting up an ETO in Seoul to enhance trade and cultural exchanges with Korea. (CEDB)

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- Provide \$200 million funding to support the professional services sector of Hong Kong in their exchange, promotion and co-operation efforts with countries along the Belt and Road and other external markets (including Mainland China). (CEDB)

Creative Industries

- Develop and promote location filming and film production services in the Pearl River Delta Region (including Hong Kong), with a view to attracting overseas production crews to shoot films in the region and encouraging film production activities in Hong Kong. (CEDB)
- Support the trade to set up a theme-based exhibition area featuring local comic characters adjacent to the Golden Bauhinia Square for promoting the local animation and comics industry to the public and tourists, as well as enriching the experience of tourists. (CEDB)

Technological Research and Development

- Earmark \$2 billion for the Innovation and Technology Bureau for encouraging universities to carry out more mid-stream applied research projects which are translational and theme-based in key technology areas, to promote the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong. (ITB)

- Continue to promote collaboration with scientific research institutions in other places. This year, the five new Hong Kong branches of the Chinese National Engineering Research Centres (CNERCs), together with 16 Partner State Key Laboratories and one CNERC already established, will conduct research and development (R&D) activities in a diverse range of disciplines such as infectious disease, molecular neuroscience, synthetic chemistry and precious metals material engineering. An annual funding of over \$100 million will be provided to support these projects. (ITB)

Developing High Value-added and Technology Industries

- Provide an injection of \$2,878 million and a guarantee for a commercial loan of \$1,107 million for the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) to finance the expansion of the Science Park, with a view to promoting the diversification and sustainable development of our economy through supporting the innovation and technology industries. (ITB)
- Leverage “re-industrialisation” as an opportunity for Hong Kong to look for new areas of economic growth. The Government and the HKSTPC have adjusted the industrial estate policy by developing high-efficiency multi-storey buildings in industrial estates and recovering lands on which corporates have ceased operation to promote smart manufacturing and attract high value-added technology industries as well as high value-added production processes suitable for Hong Kong, with a view to creating quality and diversified employment opportunities. (ITB)

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- Identify suitable land near Lian Tong/Heung Yuen Wai for the long-term development of Science Park and Industrial Estates. (ITB)

Supporting Technology Start-ups

- Cyberport will increase the annual quotas for its incubation programme and increase its Smart-Space small offices and workstation facilities by 50% within the next year to cater for the development needs of the local information and communications technology (ICT) sector. (ITB)
- Cyberport will allocate \$200 million to set up a new Cyberport Macro Fund to invest in its ICT start-ups. (ITB)
- Earmark \$2 billion for the Innovation and Technology Bureau to set up the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund for co-investing with private funds on a matching basis to enhance investments in technology start-ups. (ITB)

Digital Development and Smart City

- Further develop public Wi-Fi services by progressively doubling the coverage of free Wi-Fi services to 34 000 hotspots within three years through public-private sectors collaboration to provide such services for the public at locations of high patronage, including: public rental housing and public hospitals, markets, parks, sitting-out areas, promenades, tourist spots, public transport interchanges and land boundary control points. The existing Wi-Fi connection speed in government venues will also be progressively raised by 100% and the security of Wi-Fi service will be further enhanced. We will offer free Wi-Fi at all youth services centres and study rooms run by the Government and non-profit-making organisations and work with schools to improve the quality of their Wi-Fi service for supporting e-learning. (ITB)
- Together with research and academic institutions as well as public and private organisations, examine the details of developing Hong Kong into a smart city, and draw up a set of digital framework and standards suitable for developing smart city in Hong Kong. (ITB)

Innovation and Technology and Living

- Earmark \$500 million for the Innovation and Technology Bureau to set up the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living to provide funding for projects that make use of innovative ideas and technologies to improve people's daily living. (ITB)

Construction Cost

- Establish a dedicated office to devise, promote and co-ordinate project cost control and related cost reduction initiatives, with a view to bringing down the high construction cost in Hong Kong. (DEVB)
- The Central Government's Belt and Road Initiative will provide opportunities. We will study how to establish an effective platform for the relevant professions of the Hong Kong construction industry to participate in the associated infrastructural projects. (DEVB)

New Agriculture Policy

- Implement the New Agriculture Policy by adopting a more proactive approach in promoting the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture. Major measures include:
 - establishing an Agricultural Park;
 - commissioning a consultancy to study the feasibility of designating agricultural priority areas;
 - establishing a \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund;
 - strengthening support for the sector to help farmers move up the value chain, including the marketing of products and brand building; and

- promoting leisure and educational activities that are related to agriculture. (FHB)
- Integrate the New Agriculture Policy with existing supportive measures for the agricultural and fisheries sectors, and strive to enhance the quality assurance of local agricultural and fisheries products to ensure food safety. (FHB)

Broadcasting and Telecommunications

- Prepare for the re-assignment of the 198.6 MHz of frequency spectrum in the 900 MHz and 1 800 MHz bands upon expiry of the existing assignments in 2020-21, including the launch of public consultation. (CEDB)

Support Hong Kong Residents and Enterprises in the Mainland

- Set up more liaison units to further strengthen the work of Mainland offices. (CMAB)
- Set up an Immigration Division under the Shanghai Economic and Trade Office to provide better support for Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. (CMAB/SB)

Intellectual Property

- Review our copyright regime to ensure that it will meet the actual needs of Hong Kong and keep pace with international developments. (CEDB)

Ethical Governance

- Enhance ethical governance in the business sector through launching a three-year ethics promotion programme comprising the compilation and promulgation of a practical guide and training package for the senior management of listed companies. (ICAC)

Testing and Transportation Hub for Competition Horses

- Take advantages of Hong Kong's strength in high-performance horse racing, and our collaboration with the Mainland on the development of Hong Kong Jockey Club's Equine Training Centre and the Equine-Disease Free Zone in Conghua, Guangzhou, strengthen Hong Kong's testing services for equine diseases in the interest of facilitating Hong Kong's development into a testing centre and transportation hub for international high-performance competition horses. (FHB)

On-going Initiatives

We are:

Economic Development Commission

- Supporting the work of the Economic Development Commission to explore and identify sectors or clusters of sectors which present opportunities for Hong Kong's further economic growth. The commission will continue to recommend possible policies and other support measures for the relevant industries for the Government's consideration and implementation. (CEDB)
- Constructing a convention centre above the Exhibition Station of the Shatin to Central Link upon the latter's completion in around 2020. The Hong Kong Trade Development Council is currently working on the preliminary design of the centre. (CEDB)

Economic and Trade Relations with the Mainland and Regional Co-operation

(a) National Five-Year Plan

- Actively co-ordinating the implementation of the policy initiatives related to Hong Kong pursuant to the promulgation of the National 13th Five-Year Plan this year to consolidate and enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness and complement the nation's long-term development. (CMAB)

(b) CEPA

- Seeking to enrich the content of CEPA, with a view to securing for our businesses better access to the Mainland market. (CEDB)
- Working with the Mainland authorities through the CEPA Joint Working Group to assist our businesses in using CEPA to tap the Mainland market. (CEDB)

(c) Regional Co-operation

- Deepening regional co-operation through our co-operation mechanisms with the Pan-Pearl River Delta region, the Guangdong and Fujian Provinces, the municipalities of Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen and the Macao Special Administrative Region. (CMAB)
- Continuing to co-operate with the Guangdong provincial government as well as the municipal governments of Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Shenzhen to promote the development of Nansha, Hengqin and Qianhai respectively under the principle of “One Country, Two Systems”. (CMAB)
- Strengthening exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan in trade, tourism, culture, social livelihood and other fronts through the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan. (CMAB/CEDB/HAB)

- Enhancing legal co-operation with Guangdong pursuant to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation. (DoJ)
- (d) Supporting Hong Kong Residents and Enterprises in the Mainland
- Supporting Hong Kong enterprises in developing brands, upgrading and restructuring operations, and exploring the domestic sales market through the \$1 billion Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales. (CEDB)
 - Enhancing legal co-operation in civil and commercial matters between Hong Kong and the Mainland, so as to facilitate the resolution of civil and commercial disputes in a more cost-effective manner. (DoJ)
- (e) Encouraging Investment in Hong Kong
- Encouraging more enterprises from the Mainland, Taiwan and overseas (including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and other countries along the Belt and Road) to invest in Hong Kong and strengthening aftercare services to encourage those enterprises already established in Hong Kong to upgrade their presence. We will continue to attract global start-ups to set up business in Hong Kong and promote Hong Kong as a leading hub for start-ups and entrepreneurship. (CEDB)

Economic and Trade Relations with Overseas Countries

- Seeking to enter into trade arrangements and investment agreements with more overseas economies and continuing to participate in the negotiations for a trade in services agreement to secure for our businesses better access to those markets. (CEDB)
- Continuing the negotiation of a free trade agreement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations with a view to concluding the negotiation by 2016, thereby securing for our businesses more favourable access to the relevant markets. (CEDB)
- Strengthening economic ties and co-operation with countries along the Belt and Road and other emerging economies by promoting high-level reciprocal visits and exploring trade arrangements and investment agreements. (CEDB)
- Continuing to liaise with countries and regions with which we have close relationship on tourism and economic development for implementing reciprocal use of automated immigration clearance service for visitors. We have concluded agreements in this respect with Korea, Germany, Singapore and Australia. (SB)

Centre for International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services in the Asia-Pacific Region

- Enhancing co-operation with the Mainland authorities, the local legal profession, and arbitration and mediation institutions in Hong Kong to facilitate the provision of legal and dispute resolution services in the Mainland by Hong Kong professionals. (DoJ)

- Fostering the development of mediation services in Hong Kong with the efforts of the Steering Committee on Mediation by organising events, providing training and taking other relevant measures to enhance the awareness of the general public and targeted sectors for mediation and promote its wider use, as well as monitoring the effectiveness of the Mediation Ordinance and the operation of the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association in maintaining the standard of mediators. (DoJ)
- Building a favourable environment and infrastructure so as to facilitate legal and dispute resolution institutions (especially world-class institutions) to develop services or establish in Hong Kong. Relevant measures include providing such institutions with certain office space in the West Wing of the former Central Government Offices and the former French Mission Building. (DoJ)
- Following up on the study conducted in conjunction with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council on the development of arbitration in Hong Kong and the challenges and opportunities faced by Hong Kong as a centre for international arbitration in the Asia-Pacific region. (DoJ)
- Enhancing the promotion of legal and dispute resolution services of Hong Kong among emerging economies in the Asia-Pacific region through, among other things, active participation in a sub-group on strengthening economic and legal infrastructure under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. (DoJ)

International Maritime and Aviation Centre

- Continuing to actively assist the Airport Authority in taking forward the development of the three-runway system at the Hong Kong International Airport to meet the long-term air traffic demand of Hong Kong. To ensure that the public and the main stakeholders can participate in the implementation of the three-runway system project more effectively, the Transport and Housing Bureau has set up the Aviation Development and Three-runway System Advisory Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, to advise the Government on matters relating to the implementation of the project and to assist the Government in monitoring project implementation. (THB)
- Actively taking forward various initiatives and incentive schemes under the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund and continuing to promote tripartite collaboration with the industries and the academia with a view to supporting the manpower development of the maritime and aviation industries. (THB)
- Following up the results of a feasibility study and examining the detailed arrangements for the establishment of a civil aviation training institute with the support of the Working Group on Transportation under the Economic Development Commission. The institute aims at enhancing the skills of local and overseas practitioners of the aviation industry, thereby nurturing talents for the industry, enhancing the safety and efficiency of air transport, and further strengthening Hong Kong's leading status as a major aviation hub in the region. (THB)

- Progressively implementing port improvement measures including the provision of additional terminal yard space and barge berths in phases, enhancement of container handling capacity of the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals and better use of back-up land of the terminals to maintain the competitiveness of Hong Kong Port. (THB)
- Facilitating the provision of high value-added third-party logistics services in Hong Kong by continuing to work with the departments concerned to identify suitable sites for the development of modern logistics facilities. (THB)

Financial Services Sector

(a) Financial Services Development Council

- Continuing our support for the work of the Financial Services Development Council, a high-level cross-sectoral advisory body to the Government, in collecting views from the industry and formulating strategic proposals for the development of our financial services industry. (FSTB)

(b) Promoting Market Development

- Consolidating and enhancing Hong Kong's position as a major platform of capital raising and financing for Mainland and overseas enterprises, and serving as a vital bridge between our country and countries along the Belt and Road by capitalising on the opportunities presented by the national Belt and Road Initiative. (FSTB)

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- Reinforcing the status of Hong Kong as a global hub for offshore Renminbi business, advancing financial co-operation with the Mainland, deepening the mutual access between Hong Kong and Mainland financial markets, enhancing our Renminbi business links with overseas markets by strengthening our market infrastructure and financial platforms, and promoting Hong Kong's offshore Renminbi business. (FSTB)

 - Consolidating our leading role as an asset management centre in the Asia-Pacific region, and promoting a more comprehensive development of Hong Kong's fund and asset management industry through:
 - continuing to promote arrangement for mutual recognition of funds between the Mainland and Hong Kong, attracting more funds to domicile in Hong Kong, building up our fund manufacturing capabilities to complement the existing fund distribution network, and developing Hong Kong into a full fund service centre;

 - introducing an open-ended fund company structure to facilitate the setting up of investment funds by amending the Securities and Futures Ordinance; and

 - attracting multinational and Mainland enterprises to manage their global or regional treasury activities through the financial platform of Hong Kong by amending the Inland Revenue Ordinance. (FSTB)

(c) Enhancing Market Quality and Investor Confidence

- Implementing the Insurance Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 2015 in phases and preparing for the establishment of an Independent Insurance Authority to facilitate the sustainable development of the insurance industry. Arrangements will also be put in place to ensure a smooth transition to the new regime. (FSTB)
- Preparing legislation for the establishment of a policyholders' protection fund for better protection of policyholders. (FSTB)
- Promoting the quality of our financial markets through enhancing the regulatory regime and financial infrastructure, including working with the Legislative Council (LegCo) in their examination of the Financial Institutions (Resolution) Bill, which aims at establishing a regime to facilitate orderly resolution of financial institutions when risks are posed by their non-viability to the stability and effective working of the financial system of Hong Kong. (FSTB)
- Working with LegCo in the scrutiny of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Bill 2015, which aims at improving and modernising Hong Kong's corporate winding-up regime, and preparing legislation for the introduction of a statutory corporate rescue procedure and further discussing the drafting of the provisions with the relevant stakeholders. (FSTB)

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- Robustly pursuing anti-money laundering measures, enhancing risk assessment and participating actively in the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering. (FSTB)
 - Preparing legislation for improving the regulatory regime for listed entity auditors to ensure that the regime is independent from the audit profession and is benchmarked against international standards and practices. (FSTB)
 - Working out the detailed proposals of a risk-based capital regime for the insurance industry and carrying out quantitative impact studies, which aim to align Hong Kong's regulatory regime with international standards and make capital requirements more sensitive to the level of risk borne by insurance companies. (FSTB)

Tourism

- Continuing with the drafting of legislation for establishing the Travel Industry Authority and implementing a new regulatory framework for the tourism sector. We will seek to secure the passage of the bill by the LegCo as soon as possible. (CEDB)
- Overseeing the business development and operation of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, continuing to support the Hong Kong Tourism Board's promotion of cruise tourism and working closely with the Advisory Committee on Cruise Industry and the trade to develop Hong Kong into a leading cruise hub in the region. (CEDB)

- Supporting the Hong Kong Tourism Board in its continued promotion work in target source markets, particularly the markets relating to meetings, conventions and exhibitions, and incentive travels. (CEDB)
- Facilitating the Ocean Park in its implementation of the waterpark and hotel projects. (CEDB)
- Overseeing the expansion of the Hong Kong Disneyland, which includes a new themed area based on Marvel's Iron Man franchise and a new hotel with a theme dedicated to the spirit of exploration, to ensure completion of the two projects in 2016 and 2017 respectively. (CEDB)
- Discussing with The Walt Disney Company the Phase 2 development of the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort. (CEDB)

Creative Industries

- Encouraging local film production activities and nurturing local film talent through the Film Production Financing Scheme and the Film Production Grant Scheme under the Film Development Fund. (CEDB)
- Implementing the First Feature Film Initiative to continue grooming new filmmakers and their production teams. (CEDB)
- Supporting and encouraging the trade to organise programmes at the Comix Home Base and PMQ for promoting the development of creative industries. (CEDB/DEVB)

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- Implementing audience-building initiatives to promote film appreciation among students and young people, thereby fostering the development of the local film industry. (CEDB)
 - Implementing the recommendations of the Economic Development Commission by launching measures on a pilot basis in the next three years to promote the development of the fashion industry. (CEDB)

Innovation and Technology Industries

(a) Promoting R&D

- Promoting applied R&D, and supporting commercialisation of R&D outcomes and R&D in the private sector through financial support under the Innovation and Technology Fund and R&D Cash Rebate Scheme as well as the work of the R&D Centres. (ITB)
- Enhancing collaboration with the Mainland on science and technology and promoting realisation of R&D outcomes. (ITB)
- Working closely with the HKSTPC on the expansion project of the Science Park and implementing a Revised Industrial Estate Programme. (ITB)
- Organising a wide range of promotional activities in 2016, including the InnoTech Month, to enhance the community's awareness of innovation and technology. (ITB)

(b) Promoting ICT

- Facilitating the development of the local ICT industry by:
 - encouraging collaboration and exchanges with the Mainland to explore business opportunities;
 - organising ICT awards to recognise and promote Hong Kong's ICT achievements; and
 - launching the Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools through the running of information technology (IT) classes in eight secondary schools to groom IT talent; and organising some 50 IT activities each year for secondary schools across the territory to develop a pro-IT atmosphere and stimulate interest in IT in the school community. (ITB)
- Working with our technology partners and the ICT industry to organise the International IT Fest in 2016 to showcase Hong Kong's developments and accomplishments as a regional ICT hub. (ITB)
- Providing support to assist interested enterprises in setting up data centres in Hong Kong with a view to promoting the development of the data centre sector. (ITB)

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- Continuing to foster wider development and use of cloud computing service in Hong Kong through promoting the adoption of information security management system standards and good practices on the provision and use of cloud services, and encouraging better utilisation of innovative technology such as the Internet of Things and big data analytics in the Government and in the industries. (ITB)
 - Continuing to raise public awareness of the importance of information security, including the proper use of ICT facilities, measures to prevent cyber crime and ways to protect ICT resources and information assets. (ITB)

Testing and Certification Industry

- Working closely with the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification to continue:
 - implementing its market-oriented development plan to support development of the industry; and
 - exploring business opportunities through enhancing the promotion of testing and certification services required by selected trades. (ITB)

Construction Industry

- Investing in infrastructure development to promote economic growth, create employment opportunities and enhance the long-term competitiveness of Hong Kong. (DEVB)

- Continuing efforts in the following respects with a view to building up the overall capacity and capability of the construction industry, facilitating its healthy growth and encouraging innovation and creativity:
 - timely reviewing and enhancing the current procurement system for public works to facilitate participation of more contractors in public works, introduce new knowledge and technology and promote fair competition;
 - improving the management practice and procedures of public works projects from design to construction so as to enhance the constructability of works, increase productivity, encourage innovation and creativity and strengthen cost control; and
 - promoting manpower development. (DEVB)
- Collating the views received during the public consultation on the proposed Security of Payment Legislation for the Construction Industry which has been completed. We will then proceed with the drafting of legislation on the security of payment for the construction industry. The new legislation aims to enhance the security of payment in construction-related contracts to improve cash flow of the supply chain in the construction industry. (DEVB)
- Enhancing our capability to resolve cross-bureau and cross-departmental issues relating to the delivery of major infrastructure projects, and addressing strategic issues which might impede the progress in such projects. (DEVB)

Enhancing Wine Trading

- Supporting wine trading and distribution businesses in Hong Kong, riding on the growing demand across Asia. (CEDB)

Broadcasting and Telecommunications

- Monitoring the implementation of digital terrestrial television services and continuing publicity efforts to further boost the take-up rate. (CEDB)
- Monitoring the implementation of digital audio broadcasting services and reviewing the development of such services in Hong Kong. (CEDB)
- Handling the television/sound broadcasting licensing and regulatory matters. (CEDB)
- Implementing the arrangements for re-assignment of the frequency spectrum currently used for the provision of 3G mobile services upon expiry of the existing assignments in October 2016, including the licensing relating to the spectrum and the co-ordination of spectrum handover between operators. (CEDB)
- Monitoring the long-term implementation and effectiveness of the industry's Customer Complaint Settlement Scheme since May 2015. The scheme is aimed at helping resolve, through mediation, billing disputes in deadlock between telecommunications service providers and their customers. (CEDB)
- Overseeing the development plans for Radio Television Hong Kong as a public service broadcaster. (CEDB)

- Progressively commencing the review of the Broadcasting Ordinance and the Telecommunications Ordinance with a view to enhancing the regulatory regime for the broadcasting and telecommunications sectors. (CEDB)

Reviewing Future Demand and Supply of Economic Land Use

- Reviewing and updating the long-term land use planning and development strategy in the light of the latest projection on future land requirement of major economic uses, including industrial uses. (DEVB in collaboration with relevant bureaux)

Improving Regulatory Infrastructure

- Putting in place the legislation required for implementing the new standard for automatic exchange of tax information with a view to meeting the international standard for enhancing tax transparency and preventing tax evasion. (FSTB)
- Fully implementing the Competition Ordinance to uphold market competition. (CEDB)
- Continuing with the full implementation of the amended Trade Descriptions Ordinance to enhance protection for consumers against unfair trade practices. (CEDB)
- Working closely with stakeholders, including the Judiciary, to continue to work on amendments to the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance. (CEDB)

Intellectual Property

- Working to develop and implement an Original Grant Patent System that would be commensurate with the efforts to develop Hong Kong into a regional innovation and technology hub. (CEDB)

Fisheries Development

- Sustaining and promoting the development of the local fisheries sector through measures that help make it more competitive. They include making optimal use of the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund. (FHB)