

East-meets-West Centre for International Cultural Exchange

Extracts from the National 14th Five-Year Plan

National Development Strategy

“Strengthen cultural exchange with foreign countries...”
(Section 3, Chapter 35)

“...actively develop foreign cultural trade, open up overseas cultural markets...” (Section 1, Chapter 36)

Central Government’s Support for Hong Kong

“...support Hong Kong to develop into an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange...”
(Section 1, Chapter 61)

Hong Kong’s Strengths

- As a melting pot of Chinese and Western cultures and with extensive international connections, Hong Kong has brought together local and foreign talents to promote cultural exchange between East and West.
- Bring modern art to Hong Kong and Chinese culture to the world, enabling Hong Kong to develop into a hub to showcase Chinese arts and culture and display the soft power of Chinese culture to the world.

Present Situation

World-class arts and cultural facilities

- Facilities in the West Kowloon Cultural District (“WKCD”) will be rolled out gradually, including M+ Museum (this November) and Hong Kong Palace Museum (mid-2022). Together with Hong Kong Museum of Art (“HKMoA”), the three will form a museum cluster that brings rich cultural experiences to visitors.
- A total of 16 government performance venues, 14 museums, two visual arts centres and one film archive.

World-class arts and cultural events

- The Hong Kong Arts Festival has been a major international arts festival for almost 50 years. Since its debut in Hong Kong in 2013, Art Basel Hong Kong features over 200 prominent galleries from around the world every year. Art Central also showcases avant-garde work by emerging artists from more than 100 contemporary art galleries every year.

Art Basel Hong Kong 2021



- In 2020, Hong Kong became the second largest art trading centre in the world. Total imports and exports value of collectors’ pieces of art and antiques amounted to HK\$33.6 billion in 2020, almost doubling the value in 2017.

Strengthen cultural exchange and co-operation with Mainland and other places

- Since 2017, signed 14 agreements on cultural co-operation with the Mainland authorities, as well as Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural Co-operation with five countries and two overseas museums.
- Since 2017, subsidised over 670 performances of local arts groups or artists to perform overseas.

Promote exchanges through performing arts and exhibitions

- Since 2017, co-organised 23 and 14 mega exhibitions with museums in the Mainland and overseas respectively.
- Hosted Hong Kong Week in Shanghai and Guangzhou in 2019 and 2021 respectively.
- Organised and supported various performances and arts festivals of different genres, such as the Newvision Arts Festival, Chinese Opera Festival and International Arts Carnival.
- HKMoA will lend the Chih Lo Lou Collection to the Museum of the Asian Arts of Paris of Musée Cernuschi in France for the first time in end-2021.
- Host the Mid-year Congress of the International Society for the Performing Arts in 2022; Hong Kong becomes the first Asian city to host the congress twice.

Hong Kong Arts Festival at Tai Kwun 2021



Promote development of creative industries

- Injected total \$3 billion and \$1.54 billion into the CreateSmart Initiative and Film Development Fund respectively to sponsor international flagship events (e.g. Business of Design Week and Hong Kong International Film and TV Market), nurture talent, open up markets etc.

Strategy and Measures

- Adopt a multi-pronged approach to implement the new positioning, including developing world-class cultural facilities and pluralistic cultural environment; strengthening links with overseas arts and culture organisations; strengthening cultural exchange and co-operation with the Mainland; developing cultural industry; leveraging on technology; and nurturing talents.
- Expand the diversity and contents of popular culture brands like Art Basel Hong Kong and Hong Kong Arts Festival and hold large-scale arts markets.
- Showcase the arts and cultural achievements of Hong Kong and promote cultural exchanges through Hong Kong Week and similar activities. Co-operate with the Mainland and overseas cultural institutions to solicit exhibition of their precious cultural relics in Hong Kong and to lend to them Hong Kong's arts and cultural collections.
- Expand further Hong Kong's cultural links with the Mainland and overseas. Strengthen co-operation between different theatres in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area to provide more performance opportunities for local arts groups and broaden the audience of Hong Kong's arts and cultural programmes.

- Encourage Hong Kong's creative sectors to participate in the domestic circulation of the Mainland's economic development to foster diversified development and jointly open up overseas market and promote Chinese culture.
- Use international flagship events of the creative industries to attract participation of talent from different places and enhance Hong Kong's profile as the top-choice venue for global collaboration among the creative sectors.
- Leverage on the well-developed hardware facilities to talent grooming and exchanges. The opening of M+ Museum and Hong Kong Palace Museum of WKCD will showcase to visitors contemporary visual culture and exquisite collections of the Palace Museum respectively; commissioning of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre in 2023 will be a major venue and incubator for arts technology; and the Lyric Theatre Complex of WKCD, to be completed in 2024, will be another top-class performance venue for dance and theatre.

Hong Kong Palace Museum



M+ Museum



Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government October 2021

Hong Kong Museum of Art 香港藝術館

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