

Work Plan of Section V of the Economic Analysis Division of the Economic Analysis and Business Facilitation Unit

Since its establishment in 2013, Section V of the Economic Analysis Division of the Economic Analysis and Business Facilitation Unit under the Financial Secretary's Office is responsible for providing dedicated support to two high-level Committees, viz. the Commission on Poverty (CoP) and the Steering Committee on Population Policy (SCPP), both chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration. In this regard, work plan of Section V can be divided into the following two main categories.

I. Poverty analysis and assessment on effectiveness of poverty alleviation policies

(a) Major works in the past three years

- Provided technical support in setting the first official “poverty line” appropriate to Hong Kong’s unique circumstances.
- Released Hong Kong Poverty Situation Annual Report (from 2013 onwards).
- Conducted focused analysis of the poverty situation of selected disadvantaged groups, including single-parent households, new-arrival households, households with persons with disabilities and ethnic minority households.
- Undertaken a detailed study on the earnings mobility of recent post-secondary graduates from grass-roots families in Hong Kong.

(b) Major works in future

- Continue to render analytical support to CoP and its Task Forces.
- Monitor Hong Kong’s poverty situation on a regular basis, assessing its underlying causes, evaluating the effectiveness of poverty alleviation measures, and publishing the Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report every year; and examine the poverty line analytical framework from time to time and explore the feasibility of introducing enhancements to the framework.
- Other research projects in the work plan:
 - 2016: analyse the expenditure pattern of different groups based on results of the “2014/15 Household Expenditure Survey”; compare poverty situations defined in terms of household income and expenditure, as a supplementary analysis of income poverty; and conduct additional analysis of poverty situation by the age of household heads.

- 2017-18: update the poverty situation of ethnic minorities and the study on income disparity based on the 2016 Population By-census results.

II. Population policy

(a) Major works in the past three years

- Conducted analysis of the manpower resources trends and dynamics in Hong Kong with a discussion on future challenges.
- Assessed the economic implications of demographic trends in Hong Kong, including potential economic growth trend, long-term fiscal sustainability and so forth.

(b) Major works in future

- Offer continuous support to SCPP's policy deliberations in terms of rendering data and analyses from the economic perspective.

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