### Legislative Council Panel on Commerce, Industry, Innovation and Technology

#### Hong Kong's Participation in the Belt and Road Initiative

### **Purpose**

This paper briefs Members on the latest work of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) in promoting Hong Kong's participation in the Belt and Road Initiative (B&RI).

### Hong Kong's Promotion of B&RI

- 2. B&RI is a long-term national development strategy. In alignment with the Silk Road spirit characterised by peace and co-operation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit, B&RI promotes all-round and multi-field connectivity under the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, and has been constantly expanding the horizon of shared development.
- 3. Hong Kong is an active participant, contributor and beneficiary of B&RI. On the basis of leveraging Hong Kong's advantages to serve the country's needs, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) has been fully participating in and contributing to B&RI with our distinctive advantages of enjoying strong support of the Motherland and being closely connected to the world under "one country, two systems". We serve as a functional platform for the Belt and Road (B&R) and are committed to giving full play to our role as a "super connector" and "super value-adder", thereby deepening international exchanges and co-operation, complementing the latest national development as well as assisting Hong Kong companies and professional sectors in exploring B&R opportunities.
- 4. In 2017, the HKSAR Government and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) entered into the "Arrangement between the National Development and Reform Commission and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for Advancing Hong Kong's Full Participation in

and Contribution to the Belt and Road Initiative", which provides the directions and blueprint for Hong Kong's full participation in and contribution to B&RI. The Joint Conference mechanism was also set up to discuss relevant matters, with meetings convened at least once a year. Eight Joint Conference meetings have been held so far.

5. To better integrate into the overall development of the country, the Chief Executive (CE) established the Steering Group on Integration into National Development (Steering Group) in December 2022 to provide steer for bureaux and departments to proactively dovetail with the national strategies, including B&RI. Under the Steering Group, the Working Group for Belt and Road Development (Working Group) was set up with the Secretary for Justice and the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (SCED) as Chairperson and Secretary respectively, while the Belt and Road Office (BRO) would be responsible for its secretariat work. Since its establishment in December 2022, the Working Group has been assisting the Steering Group in formulating a comprehensive and macro strategy so as to take forward the high-quality development of cooperation in such areas as trade and commerce, professional services and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and B&R countries. A total of eight meetings have been convened so far.

### The Work and Outlook of Hong Kong's Full Participation in B&RI

- The HKSAR Government has been adopting a wholegovernment strategic approach, under which BRO of CEDB is tasked to lead and co-ordinate Hong Kong's participation in B&RI to take forward the work on promoting all-round and multi-field connectivity. CEDB has been deepening the co-operation with B&R countries to forge more extensive economic and trade co-operation ties through a range of In 2023, Hong Kong's outward direct investment in B&R countries surpassed US\$133 billion, which is 3.6 times the figure in 2013. In 2024, Hong Kong's merchandise trade volume with B&R countries reached US\$276.1 billion, an increase of nearly 78% compared with 2013. Also, there are currently around 1 400 B&R enterprises in Hong Kong, and over 100 B&R enterprises are listed in Hong Kong. These figures demonstrate that Hong Kong has continued to expand its economic and trade co-operation with B&R countries, and better seize the vast business opportunities under B&RI.
- 7. People-to-people bonds are the social foundations of B&RI. Hong Kong plays the bridging role in promoting people and culture exchanges under B&RI, developing in full steam into an East-meets-West

centre for international cultural exchange. Hong Kong boasts five of the world's top 100 universities, attracts around 4 000 students from B&R countries each year to study at courses funded by the University Grants Committee in Hong Kong, while the HKSAR Government offers 150 places under the Belt and Road Scholarship. The Asia+ Festival, held from September to November annually, will feature over 100 performances and activities this year, with a focus on Asia while also connecting with B&R countries and regions in Europe, Africa and the Americas. Meanwhile, Hong Kong ranks third in Muslim-friendly destinations among non-Organisation of Islamic Cooperation destinations, while nationals of around 110 B&R countries may visit Hong Kong visa-free.

8. CEDB's main work in taking forward B&RI are detailed in the ensuing paragraphs.

#### Expanding Economic and Trade Networks

- 9. As one of the most open economies in the world, Hong Kong has long championed free market principles and staunchly supports the rules-based multilateral trading system. With our tariff-free regime, we are committed to providing enterprises an open, stable and predictable business environment to promote common economic development. The HKSAR Government is also dedicated to strengthening Hong Kong's economic and trade ties with other markets through various measures, such as expanding the network of Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs), forging Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements (IPPAs) etc., with a view to deepening international exchanges and co-operation.
- 10. Currently, the HKSAR Government has 16 offices/liaison units on the Chinese Mainland and 14 overseas ETOs. Together with the offices of Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) worldwide, Hong Kong has set up offices in 68 cities around the world, covering 129 countries. It was announced in the 2025 Policy Address that the HKSAR Government would implement further measures to deepen our economic and trade network. others, the HKSAR Government has wrapped up the discussions with the Malaysian Government regarding the establishment of Kuala Lumpur We are pressing ahead in full steam with the preparatory work, and the new ETO is expected to commence phased operation by the end of this With the establishment of Kuala Lumpur ETO, we plan to expand the coverage of existing ETOs in Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) accordingly to deepen economic and trade promotion in ASEAN

and neighbouring countries. Meanwhile, we will continue to follow up actively with the Government of Saudi Arabia on our plan of establishing an ETO in Riyadh. In addition to strengthening ties with the Middle East market, we also plan to expand the coverage of existing ETOs to Latin America and Central Asia with a view to strengthening Hong Kong's economic and trade ties with these emerging markets and exploring more business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises.

11. Moreover, InvestHK set up consultant offices in Cairo, Egypt and Izmir, Türkiye in July 2024 and January this year respectively, attracting capital and enterprises from high-potential emerging countries in the Middle East and North Africa. These are the third and the fourth consultant offices set up by the current-term Government since it took office, after the ones established in Nairobi, Kenya and Almaty, Kazakhstan. HKTDC also established a consultant office in Cambodia earlier this year to support the HKSAR Government's effort to expand Hong Kong's economic and trade network.

#### Negotiating and Signing Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements

The HKSAR Government signed an FTA with Peru in November 2024. To date, we have entered into nine FTAs¹ with 21 economies, including 14 B&R countries. In addition, the IPPA signed by the HKSAR Government with Bahrain in 2024 entered into force in March this year. To date, the HKSAR Government has signed 24 IPPAs² with 33 economies, including around 20 B&R countries. Furthermore, the HKSAR Government and Qatar have largely concluded IPPA negotiations in mid-2025, which will be signed after the completion of respective internal procedures. We are also exploring the signing of new IPPAs with Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Egypt and Peru, while continuing to proactively explore the possibility of FTAs with economies with potential.

13. Besides, Hong Kong has all along been actively seeking early accession to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). The HKSAR Government has, upon the coming into force of RCEP on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The economies are the Chinese Mainland, New Zealand, the Member States of the European Free Trade Association (i.e. Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), Chile, Macao SAR, the ten ASEAN Member States (i.e. Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam), Georgia, Australia and Peru. Except for the FTA signed with Peru, all FTAs have entered into force.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The remaining economies are the ten ASEAN Member States, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United Kingdom.

- 1 January 2022, promptly submitted Hong Kong's formal request to join RCEP. At the same time, we welcome the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Accession Working Group at the RCEP Ministerial Meeting recently held in September, in which the RCEP Joint Committee was tasked to proceed with the consideration of the request of accession in accordance with the Procedures for Accession to the RCEP Agreement. We will proactively work with RCEP regarding the accession of new members.
- 14. Hong Kong not only signed an Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) with South Africa in December 2024, the first MRA concluded with a customs administration in Africa, but also another AEO Mutual Recognition Memorandum (MRM) with Saudi Arabia in June 2025. Together, they bring the total number of AEO MRAs/MRMs between Hong Kong and other customs administrations to 17 (including 11 with B&R economies). To expand the network of MRAs/MRMs and facilitate customs clearance, Hong Kong will continue to accord priority to relevant discussions with B&R economies, particularly member states of the ASEAN and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), as well as African and South American countries.
- 15. BRO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on co-operation with the Ministry of Investment of Saudi Arabia (MISA) on 29 August this year to enhance information exchange in relation to the fields of infrastructure and construction, and for MISA to provide support to related professional services in Hong Kong to access the Saudi Arabian market. Under the MOU, MISA would provide information on infrastructure and construction projects to Hong Kong and seek to overcome obstacles that Hong Kong companies may face in accessing the Saudi Arabian market, while BRO would share information on Hong Kong's professional services with the MISA, with a view to utilising each other's platform for investment promotion, tendering and fundraising.

#### **Organising Outbound Visits**

16. The HKSAR Government proactively visits various countries and regions to promote Hong Kong's strengths and opportunities, telling the world the good stories of Hong Kong. Since 2024, CEDB (including BRO) has organised or assisted in co-ordinating various business missions to B&R countries to deepen international exchanges and co-operation, to assist Hong Kong enterprises and professional services sectors in expand

business opportunities, and to promote the strengths of Hong Kong as a functional platform for B&RI. These missions included –

- (a) on 16 25 May 2024, BRO and the Ministry of Commerce coled an around 70-strong Hong Kong cum Mainland business delegation to visit Hungary and Kazakhstan, and returned via Xinjiang, encouraging Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises as well as Hong Kong's professional services in jointly exploring B&R markets. The Hong Kong delegation signed 10 MOUs, covering areas including market collaboration, financial payment technology, start-up ecosystem, investment cooperation and logistics;
- (b) on 28 July 2 August 2024, CE led a 45-strong delegation to visit Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, with a total of 55 MOUs and agreements signed in areas including trade and economic partnerships, investment, customs collaboration, education, logistics co-operation, tourism promotions, technological co-operation, aviation services, as well as financial, banking and capital market development;
- (c) on 28 31 October 2024, the Financial Secretary led a business delegation of over 100 members, including representatives from the finance as well as innovation and technology (I&T) sectors, on a visit to Saudi Arabia to strengthen and deepen connections between Hong Kong and the Middle East in trade, finance and I&T, as well as participate in the 8th Future Investment Initiative Conference, and facilitated a number of joint projects;
- (d) on 4 6 December 2024, SCED led a business delegation to Urumqi, Xinjiang, during which delegation members attended a co-operation and exchange forum between China (Xinjiang, Hong Kong) and Kazakhstan to promote Hong Kong's advantages, as well as promote economic and trade co-operation and people-to-people exchanges with Xinjiang and Kazakhstan, with a view to jointly exploring the full range of opportunities arising from B&RI;
- (e) on 10 15 May 2025, CE led a delegation of more than 50 representatives from the business community of Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises to visit Qatar and Kuwait. The major goals for the mission were to strengthen government-to-government relations, to explore new areas of co-operation, and

to make friends and expand our network. The mission yielded fruitful results, including a total of 59 MOUs and agreements covering trade, investment, financial services, technology, legal, logistics, aviation services, post-secondary education, etc., and further building relations with the GCC countries; and

- (f) on 22 26 June 2025, the Commissioner for Belt and Road (CBR) led a delegation to Indonesia and Malaysia to promote Hong Kong's professional services related to infrastructure and construction and to explore opportunities for co-operation. The delegation also signed 21 MOUs with their partners in Indonesia and Malaysia, covering such areas as business collaboration and exchanges in professional services.
- 17. To further explore priority markets, CEDB will continue to organise outbound visit missions and lead business and professional services delegations to B&R markets, promoting Hong Kong's role as a "super connector" and "super value-adder" and acting as a bridge to serve enterprises in going global and attracting external investment, to open up more business opportunities for Hong Kong companies (including small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and professional services).

### Organising Major Events

18. As the functional platform for B&RI, Hong Kong boasts internationally aligned professional services, covering investment and financing, insurance, risk management, architectural and engineering design, legal, accounting and consultancy services etc. The HKSAR Government is committed to deepening the co-operation with B&R countries through various measures by contributing to signature projects or "small and beautiful" projects for meeting people's livelihood in B&R countries. CEDB will continue to actively organise various major events to promote Hong Kong's advantages and facilitate business matching and project participation between Hong Kong and B&R countries.

### **Belt and Road Summit**

19. Hong Kong has been organising the Belt and Road Summit (Summit) annually since 2016, and the Summit has been recognised by our country as a case of significance for the implementation of B&RI in building a global community of shared future. It is Hong Kong's flagship event in our participation in and contribution to B&RI, and has established itself as one of the largest and most important international commerce,

investment and business platforms for promoting collaboration of Hong Kong, Mainland and overseas enterprises in B&R projects.

- 20. The tenth Summit, held on 10 to 11 September 2025, attracted around 6 200 participants, including more than 90 government and business speakers, as well as over 100 delegations and 270 representatives from 40 state-owned enterprises from the Mainland to explore opportunities in areas such as trade and commerce, investment, I&T and 45 MOUs, a record high, were witnessed at the green development. Summit, including nine government/public and 36 business MOUs. total value of these MOUs, together with new projects and deals closed leading to the Summit, is close to US\$1 billion, highlighting Hong Kong's role as the functional platform for B&RI. Over 300 matched investment projects were showcased, and more than 800 one-to-one project matching meetings were arranged during the Summit. In addition, the Summit was attended by over 200 youths, including Belt and Road Scholarship recipients, local university students, Youth Link members, and Youth Development Commission Youth Ambassadors.
- 21. BRO encouraged relevant organisations to organise events around the tenth Summit period for achieving synergies. A list of B&R-themed events organised by the Government and related organisations has been put together on BRO's website, covering areas such as trade and business, arts and culture, music, sports, academia and anti-corruption, to encourage participation of the business sector, professionals and members of the public.

### Belt and Road Cross-professional Forum

- 22. BRO held the Belt and Road Cross-professional Forum (the Forum) on 14 February this year to promote Hong Kong's professional services and deepen the sector's collaboration with business communities of B&R countries and the Mainland. It also provided a platform for enterprises from the three sides to exchange views on collaboration projects in various areas such as multinational supply chain management and construction. The Forum attracted over 250 business participants from Hong Kong, the Mainland and B&R countries to engage in high-level exchanges, and showcased a number of B&R business cases and potential projects in areas such as finance, construction and engineering, transport and logistics, legal, green technology and I&T.
- 23. In the future, we will continue to organise outbound missions to B&R markets, and will organise roadshows of the Forum to promote Hong

Kong's cross-professional strengths to facilitate Hong Kong enterprises and professional services to further expand business opportunities.

#### **Project Matching Events**

- 24. On 22 26 June 2025, CBR led a delegation to visit Indonesia and Malaysia, during which the delegation attended presentations of signature projects in the two places, directly connecting with representatives of local enterprises to explore commercially viable investment and co-operation. They also attended business luncheons hosted in the two places by BRO with the support of Jakarta ETO to promote Hong Kong's business advantages to around 200 local business leaders.
- 25. The tenth Summit held in September 2025 featured new B&R signature projects sessions that introduced urban development projects in Thailand and Saudi Arabia. BRO, together with the Hong Kong Construction Industry Council and HKTDC, launched an information sharing mechanism to assist Hong Kong enterprises and professional services in tapping the business opportunities in projects in ASEAN and the Middle East.
- 26. In addition to organising project matching events, the HKSAR Government has helped facilitate B&R countries to organise their project matching events in Hong Kong, including
  - (a) in April 2024, BRO partnered with NEOM of Saudi Arabia to co-organise a roadshow in Hong Kong and two related business matching sessions;
  - (b) in May 2025, the Astana International Financial Centre of Kazakhstan organised a business exchange event in Hong Kong. Its Chairman was a speaker at the tenth Summit; and
  - (c) in September 2025, Investopia, a leading UAE investment platform and ecosystem, held a business summit in Hong Kong, which was its inaugural summit in Greater China.
- 27. BRO will continue to organise project matching events and exchange sessions to showcase our strengths in professional services, with a view to expanding business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises and professional services. In addition, we will proactively reach out to

agencies in charge of projects in B&R countries and regions to introduce more B&R project matching opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises and professional services through multilateral collaboration.

#### **Capacity Building Platform**

- 28. B&RI has given rise to demands for "soft connectivity" of professional rules and standards across economies, expanding horizon on business opportunities. Hong Kong can give play to its role as a capacity building hub by leveraging the soft power of its professional services, thereby capitalising on the broader business opportunities and ample room for collaboration brought by B&R connectivity, and laying a solid foundation for long-term co-operation of our country and Hong Kong with B&R countries.
- 29. BRO will co-ordinate with public bodies and institutes in Hong Kong to provide training for personnel in B&R countries to enhance Hong Kong's soft power branding, showcasing Hong Kong to overseas and the Mainland as a partner in cross-professional and cross-regional "soft connectivity" of rules and standards, and expanding horizon on the potential opportunities for development along B&R brought by relevant co-operation. We have co-ordinated with over 20 relevant public bodies and institutions in Hong Kong and consolidated a list of Belt and Road Capacity Building Platforms in Hong Kong at Annex 1.
- 30. At the Summit this year, BRO arranged a roundtable session themed "Building collaborative capacity for sustainable development through Hong Kong". The session brought together over 100 representatives from B&R countries to share Hong Kong's experiences in areas such as smart city development, green building standards, green finance, and anti-corruption, providing practical measures to support sustainable development in B&R regions. Subsequently, a number of participants engaged with these public bodies and institutions in Hong Kong for further exchanges.

#### **HKTDC** Belt and Road Portal

31. CEDB continues to support HKTDC in enhancing its business matching services. The HKTDC Belt and Road Portal is a one-stop B&R platform that provides information on B&R markets and business opportunities as well as success cases to investors, project owners and related enterprises interested in B&R markets and projects. The Portal currently carries listings of over 680 projects and 370 Hong Kong-based

professional service providers, with synergies to the deal-making sessions at the Summit. HKTDC also collects business needs from enterprises through the Summit.

### **Diversified Promotion**

- 32. Since November 2023, BRO has organised 10 exchange sessions and has adopted short videos, media interviews and social media, inviting Consuls-General from B&R countries in Hong Kong as well as representatives of professional bodies, enterprises and youths to share B&R opportunities and relevant experience. At the same time, BRO maintains close liaison with Consuls of B&R countries in Hong Kong, as well as relevant professional and business associations, chambers of commerce and community groups.
- Also, BRO actively takes forward various promotion efforts, including Announcements in the Public Interest, media interviews, television programmes promoting Hong Kong's work on B&RI produced by Radio Television Hong Kong, B&R-themed inflight dining menus and promotional videos by local airlines, as well as support to local chambers of commerce for production of success stories on Hong Kong's B&R participation. In addition, BRO published a booklet on Hong Kong as a participant, contributor and beneficiary of B&RI, which was distributed for promotion at the tenth Summit and other related events. The booklet is enclosed at **Annex 2**.
- 34. HKTDC has set up the Belt and Road Global Forum (Global Forum) since 2018. The Global Forum gathers important stakeholders of Hong Kong, the Mainland, and international associations to exchange information, connect, and explore B&RI business collaborations through Hong Kong as the platform. It comprises over 180 member organisations covering more than 40 countries and regions, with the annual roundtable held in conjunction with the Summit with a view to creating synergy.
- 35. We will continue to strengthen the diversified promotion work on B&RI through various channels, organise relevant promotional programmes and networking sessions, reach out to professional and business associations, chambers and community groups, and share information on B&R opportunities and business expansion experiences through industry interviews, BRO newsletters, and social media, etc.
- 36. Looking ahead, BRO will actively complement our country's latest strategies on B&RI, leverage Hong Kong's role as the B&R

functional platform, and deepen international exchanges and co-operation, thereby better aligning with our country's B&R work focuses and integrating into the overall national development, as well as exploring more B&R business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises and professional sectors.

### **Advice Sought**

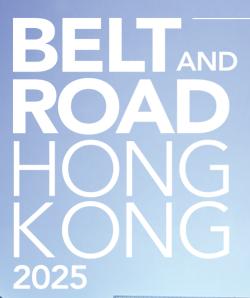
37. Members are invited to note the content of this paper and provide views.

Belt and Road Office Commerce and Economic Development Bureau October 2025

**Belt and Road Capacity Building Platforms in Hong Kong** 

Annex 1

Transport and logistics 2. MTR Academy 2. MTR Academy 3. Capacity-building Alliance of Sustainable Investment — partner of the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority 4. Core Climate 5. Financial Services Development Council Legal and dispute resolution 7. International Organization for Mediation Services 8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre	<b>7</b>	7.1
Transport and logistics 2. MTR Academy  Financial 3. Capacity-building Alliance of Sustainable Investment — partner of the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority 4. Core Climate 5. Financial Services Development Council  Legal and dispute 7. International Organization for Mediation Services 8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre Development 9. Building Technology Research Institute and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong Productivity Council 18. Hong Kong Productivity Council 19. Traditional Chinese Medicine	Professional Field	List of Platforms
Services   Capacity-building Alliance of Sustainable Investment — partner of the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority   A. Core Climate   5. Financial Services Development Council		1 Hong Kong International Aviation Academy
Financial services  3. Capacity-building Alliance of Sustainable Investment — partner of the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority  4. Core Climate 5. Financial Services Development Council  Legal and dispute resolution services  7. International Organization for Mediation services  8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre  Development and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology  14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology Innovation and technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	_	
Services  Investment — partner of the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority  4. Core Climate 5. Financial Services Development Council  Legal and dispute resolution Services  7. International Organization for Mediation Services  8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre  Development and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology  14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		Ÿ
Facilitation Office of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority 4. Core Climate 5. Financial Services Development Council  Legal and dispute resolution Services 8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre  Development and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		1 5
Authority 4. Core Climate 5. Financial Services Development Council  Legal and dispute resolution services  8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre  Development and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council Environment and ecology 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
5. Financial Services Development Council  Legal and dispute resolution 7. International Organization for Mediation 8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre Poevelopment and 10. Spatial Data Office 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
Legal and dispute resolution services6. Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy7. International Organization for Mediation services8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration CentreDevelopment and construction9. Building Technology Research Institute10. Spatial Data Office construction11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building CouncilEnvironment and ecology14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)Innovation and technology16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited19. Hong Kong Productivity CouncilHealth20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		4. Core Climate
dispute resolution 7. International Organization for Mediation 8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre Povelopment and 10. Spatial Data Office 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		5. Financial Services Development Council
resolution services  8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre  Pevelopment and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	Legal and	6. Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training
8. Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre  9. Building Technology Research Institute and 10. Spatial Data Office 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	dispute	Academy
Development and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council Environment and ecology 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026) Innovation and 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	resolution	7. International Organization for Mediation
Development and 10. Spatial Data Office construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council Environment and ecology 14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026) Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	services	
and construction 11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
construction  11. Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders 12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology  14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  Innovation and 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation 17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	Development	
12. Construction Industry Council 13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  Environment and ecology  14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries 15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  Innovation and T		•
Environment and ecology  13. Hong Kong Green Building Council  14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries  15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  Innovation and Technol	construction	
Environment and ecology  14. Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries  15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  Innovation and Technology  Innovation and Technology  Innovation and Technology  Innovation Archive Company  Innovation Archive Compan		•
and ecology  15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation  17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited  18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited  19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health  20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
15. Belt and Road Sustainable Green Development Training Centre (to be set up in 2026)  Innovation and technology  16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation  17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited  18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited  19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health  20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		•
Innovation and 16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks technology  17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited  18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited  19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health  20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	and ecology	
Innovation and technology    16. Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks   Corporation    17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company   Limited    18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology   Park Limited    19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health    20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese   Medicine		•
technology  Corporation  17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited  18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited  19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  Health  20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	T 1	-
17. Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
Limited 18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine	technology	•
18. Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
Park Limited 19. Hong Kong Productivity Council Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
Health  19. Hong Kong Productivity Council  20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
Health 20. The Belt and Road Alliance for Traditional Chinese Medicine		
Medicine	Health	
in the state of th		
Accreditation Research Center		•
	Integrity	
Corruption		



#HONGKONG
#BELTANDROAD
#FUNCTIONALPLATFORM
#SUPERCONNECTOR
#SUPERVALUEADDER
#BELTANDROAD INITIATIVE · HONG KONG

### HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVENESS

### Premier functional platform for Belt and Road (B&R) Initiative

Internationally aligned professional services: investment and financing, insurance, risk management, architectural and engineering design, legal, accounting and consultancy services, etc.

### No. 1 World's freest economy

Canada-based Fraser Institute: Economic Freedom of the World 2024 Annual Report

## No. 3 Global Financial Centre Index

UK-based Z/Yen and China Development Institute from Shenzhen in March 2025

### **5** Global top 100 universities

**QS World University Rankings 2026** 

# No. 3 World's most competitive economy 2025

1 from no. 5 in 2022

2025 World Competitiveness Yearbook, International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Switzerland

# No. 2 Most preferred seat for arbitration in the world

2025 International Arbitration Survey conducted by Queen Mary University of London

### PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EXCHANGES

### 4 000+ B&R students

in UGC-funded programmes in Hong Kong (2024/25 academic year)

### 150 annual quota of B&R Scholarship

for students from B&R regions every year

### ~1 400 young people

participated in various youth internship and exchange programmes with B&R countries (2024/25 academic year)

# No. 4 World Talent Ranking 2025, IMD

from no.16 in 2023, ranking first in Asia

### No. 3 Muslim-friendly Destination

(non-Organisation of Islamic Cooperation), Global Muslim Travel Index (GMTI) 2025

### Nationals from about 110 B&R countries

may visit Hong Kong visa-free for periods ranging from 7 to 180 days

### 114 B&R countries

granted visa-free access or visa-on-arrival to HKSAR passport holders

### TRADE AND BUSINESS

~US\$276.1 billion

Hong Kong trade with B&R countries and regions 2024

↑ 78% vs 2013 3.2X that of Hong Kong's overall trade growth

US\$133+billion

(2023) Hong Kong's outward direct investment (ODI) position in B&R countries and regions

3.6X of 2013 4X that of Hong Kong's overall ODI growth

~1 400
B&R companies

in Hong Kong (2024)

↑ from 1 200 companies in 2023

# No. 1 Air cargo throughput

in the world in terms of volume for 14 times since 2010

Hong Kong operates scheduled flights

(passenger and cargo flights) to/from

~60 B&R destinations (as of 31st July 2025)

100+ B&R companies listed in Hong Kong (as of July 2025)

### Free Trade Agreements

with 21 economies, including

14 B&R countries

### 24 Investment Agreements

with overseas economies, including

~20 B&R economies

129 countries covered by Economic and Trade Offices, Hong Kong Trade Development Council and InvestHK overseas offices, including

99B&R countries

### Comprehensive Double Taxation Agreements/ Arrangements

with 53 tax jurisdictions, including

37 B&R jurisdictions

# Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Arrangements

with 17 economies, including

11 B&R economies

### **Contents**

6

The Belt and Road Initiative 8

Hong Kong's top-level supervision work 12

Hong Kong's advantages



14

Building a multidimensional B&R connectivity network

18

Supporting an open world economy

22

Carrying out practical co-operation 28

Promoting green development

32

Advancing scientific and technological innovation

36

Supporting people-to-people exchanges

40

Promoting integrity-based B&R co-operation

44

Strengthening institutiona building for international B&R co-operation







Policy co-ordination

Infrastructure connectivity

Unimpeded trade

Financial integration

People-to-people bonds

Co-operation in new fields

The year 2024 marked the beginning of a new golden decade for the joint pursuit of the Belt and Road Initiative. Under "one country, two systems", Hong Kong plays a pivotal role in connecting the Mainland with the rest of the world. As an active participant, contributor and beneficiary of the Belt and Road Initiative. Hong Kong is fully aligned with the eight major steps taken by our country to support high-quality Belt and Road development, with focus on co-operation in new areas such as green development, digitalisation, innovation and health. Hong Kong leverages its unique advantage of having strong support of the Motherland while being closely connected with the world, giving full play to its role as a "super connector" and "super value-adder", and capitalising its position as a functional platform for the Belt and Road Initiative.



### HONG KONG'S TOP-LEVEL SUPERVISION WORK

 In December 2017, the HKSAR Government signed the "Arrangement between the National Development and Reform Commission and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for Advancing Hong Kong's Full Participation in and Contribution to the Belt and Road Initiative"



The Arrangement focuses on six key areas of finance and investment, infrastructure and maritime services, economic and trade facilitation, people-to-people bonds, taking forward the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development and enhancing collaboration in project interfacing and dispute resolution services. A Joint Conference mechanism has also been set up to serve as a platform of direct communication between the HKSAR Government and the Central Authorities for regular dialogues on the work priorities and proposals with respect to Hong Kong's participation in the B&R Initiative.



The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, chaired the third meeting of the Steering Group on Integration into National Development.

The Chief Executive established the
Steering Group on Integration into National
Development in 2022, under which the
Working Group on Belt and Road Development
chaired by the Secretary for Justice was set up
to proactively take forward the high-quality
development of co-operation in such areas as
trade and commerce and professional services
between Hong Kong and B&R countries.



6 Key Areas

Finance and investment

Economic and trade facilitation

Infrastructure and maritime services

People-topeople bonds



Taking forward the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Enhancing collaboration in project interfacing and dispute resolution services

Hong Kong's advantages closely align with the **eight major steps** our country takes to support the joint pursuit of high-quality B&R development:

Building a multidimensional B&R connectivity network

Supporting an open world

economy

3

Carrying out practical co-operation



4

Promoting green development









Supporting people exchanges



integrity-based B&R

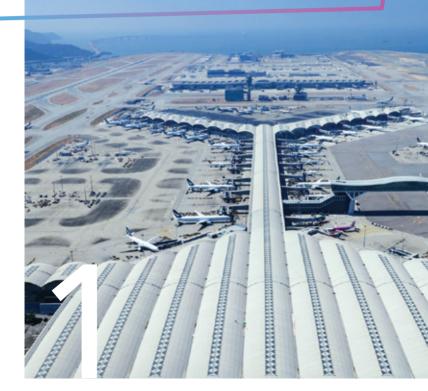


institutional building for



12

# Building a multidimensional B&R connectivity network



#### **Aviation**

- Hong Kong is in the heart of the Asia-Pacific region, and is within a five-hour flight from about half of the world's population.
- Hong Kong International
   Airport (HKIA) is named one of
   the world's top airports and has
   been the world's busiest cargo
   airport in terms of total volume
   for 14 times since 2010
- The Three-Runway System of HKIA has an expected capacity to handle 120 million passengers and 10 million tonnes of cargo per annum in about next 10 years' time.
- As at the end of June 2025, we have signed 80 bilateral civil aviation agreements. Among these, 30 aviation partners have fully opened their flight capacities, enabling airlines to adjust their services in response to market demands at any time.
- Among the more than 150 countries along the B&R, Hong Kong has signed Air Services Agreements or Air Services Transit Agreements with about 50 of them. Hong Kong operates scheduled flights (including passenger and cargo flights) to/from 33 B&R countries (approximately 60 destinations in total).

- Over the past two years. Hong Kong has expanded bilateral air services arrangements with a number of aviation partners, including B&R countries such as the United Arab Emirates, Myanmar, Luxembourg, Qatar, the Philippines, Türkiye and Egypt. Airlines have been encouraged to launch or increase flight services to support Hong Kong's overall development. Direct passenger flights launched in 2024 and 2025 included flights to Riyadh in Saudi Arabia, and Guilin. Zhangjiajie, Urumgi, Hailar, Yiwu and Changzhou in Mainland China.
- The Hong Kong International Aviation Academy is the second institution in the world to obtain dual certification from Airports Council International and International Civil Aviation Organization TRAINAIR PLUS Programme. The Academy has also launched Advanced Master Programmes in collaboration with the Ecole Nationale de l'Aviation Civile of France and provides aviation-related courses and training to students in the local and mainland aviation industries and countries along the B&R.





### **Maritime Development**

- Hong Kong is one of the world's busiest and most efficient ports, ranking 4th in the International Shipping Centre Development Index. The HKSAR Government will continue to build a high-end port brand through green transformation, digitalisation and smart transition.
- Hong Kong has high-quality shipping registration services, ranking
   4th globally in terms of gross tonnage.
   The HKSAR Government will

enhance the existing tax concession measures for maritime service enterprises, and attract commodity trading enterprises to set up businesses in Hong Kong by offering a half-rate profits tax concession, thereby driving the development of the maritime services sector. The Government will also encourage maritime service enterprises from relevant B&R countries to establish a presence in Hong Kong or make use of maritime services provided by Hong Kong companies.



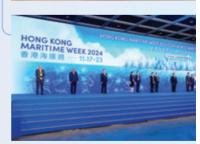
#### **Railway**

 MTR Corporation established the MTR Academy to train talents in railway management and operation. To support the B&R Initiative, the MTR Academy promotes the export of Hong Kong's professional railway industrial skills and knowledge. In the first half of 2025, delegates from 10 B&R countries participated in the Academy's training programmes.

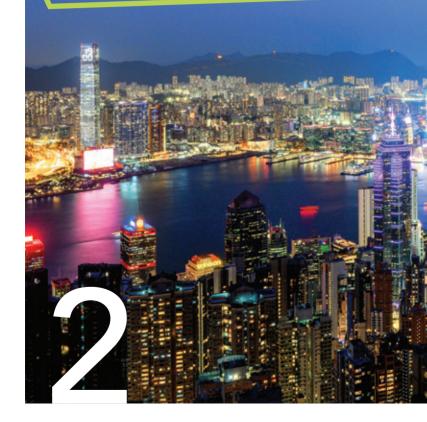




 Hong Kong Maritime Week is a major annual event of the maritime and port industries in Hong Kong, bringing together maritime leaders home and abroad that reinforce Hong Kong's position as an international maritime centre. Hong Kong is listed by the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) in the BIMCO Law and Arbitration Clause 2020 as one of the four designated arbitration venues in the standard contracts for the global maritime industry.









↑78% to ~US\$276.1 billion (2024)

\* excluding trade with Mainland China







- Hong Kong is an international trading centre and ranks as the world's freest economy (Canada-based Fraser Institute: Economic Freedom of the World 2024 Annual Report).
- Hong Kong is home to around 1 400 B&R companies in 2024 and Hong Kong's outward direct investment to B&R countries and regions in 2023 exceeded US\$133 billion.
- As a founding member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Hong Kong is firmly committed to the rules-based multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core.
- Hong Kong has set up 16 offices/ liaison units in the Mainland and 14 overseas Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs). The HKSAR Government is actively following up with the governments of Malaysia and Saudi Arabia on plans to set up ETOs.
- InvestHK has also established new consultant offices in Cairo, Egypt in July 2024 and in Izmir, Türkiye in January 2025, with a view to attracting capital and enterprises from high-potential emerging markets such as the Middle East and North Africa. Together with the offices of InvestHK and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) worldwide, Hong Kong has set up offices in 68 cities around the world, covering 129 countries, including 99 B&R countries (as of 31st July 2025).
- Hong Kong has signed nine free trade agreements with 21 economies (including 14 B&R countries), and a total of 24 investment agreements with 33 overseas economies (including about 20 B&R economies).





- Hong Kong has signed Comprehensive Double Taxation Agreements/Arrangements with 53 tax jurisdictions, including 37 B&R jurisdictions, helping investors better assess their potential tax liabilities from cross-border economic activities.
- Hong Kong has concluded Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Arrangements with 17 economies, including 11 B&R economies, with up to 90% reduction inspection rate in customs clearance for cargoes imported into Hong Kong. In 2024, 13.9% of Hong Kong trade value was under such arrangements, up from 12.2% in 2023.
- The HKSAR Government established the HK\$200 million Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme (PASS) to provide financial support for non-profitmaking projects aimed at increasing exchanges and co-operation of

- Hong Kong's professional services with counterparts in external markets, promoting publicity activities, and enhancing the standards and external competitiveness of Hong Kong's professional services. The Government has also set aside HK\$50 million under PASS for the "Professionals Participation Subsidy Programme" to subsidise the participation of major professional bodies in relevant activities organised by the Government and HKTDC.
- The HKSAR Government provides financial support to small and medium enterprises through the Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund) to assist them in participating in export promotion activities as well as developing brands, upgrading and restructuring operations and promoting sales in the Mainland and overseas markets and enhancing their competitiveness.





#### **Finance**

- Hong Kong is an international financial centre, ranking third globally and first in Asia-Pacific in the Global Financial Centres Index (published by UK-based Z/Yen and China Development Institute from Shenzhen in March 2025).
- Hong Kong IPO market remained active, with a total of 42 initial public offerings completed in the first half of 2025, raising over HK\$107 billion, which represents an increase of about 22% compared to the full-year total in 2024, ranking first globally so far.
- Hong Kong is the world's largest offshore renminbi (RMB) business centre, providing diversified RMB investment, financing and risk management products. Hong Kong has the world's deepest offshore RMB liquidity pool of around RMB 1 trillion, and settles around 80% of the world's RMB offshore payments.
- Importers and exporters in B&R economies can settle their trade in RMB through Hong Kong's payment system. Investors can also invest their RMB funds in "dim sum" bonds or a wide range of RMBdenominated financial products available in the Hong Kong market.
- Hong Kong is the world's 6<sup>th</sup> largest and Asia's 3'<sup>d</sup> largest stock market by market capitalisation among exchanges as at end-May 2025 (US\$5.2 trillion). The Hong Kong stock market recorded an average daily turnover of about US\$30.8 billion in the first half of 2025.



- As one of Asia's top asset management centres and an international risk management centre, Hong Kong can meet the demand for wealth, insurance and risk management services generated by B&R projects.
- The HKSAR Government has successfully issued three Islamic bonds (Sukuk), demonstrating to B&R countries and to the world the diversity and viability of Hong Kong's bond market as a fundraising platform for Islamic jurisdictions.
- The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) established the Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office (IFFO) in 2016.
   It serves as an exchange platform to facilitate infrastructure investment and financing by organising training workshops, high-level seminars and investor roundtables for key stakeholders. So far, around
   10 local, overseas and Mainland organisations have joined IFFO as its partners.



- HKMA expanded investments in B&R regions through the jointly established "BNR HK Flagship Impact Fund" with the Silk Road Fund Company Limited, with an initial capital of US\$1 billion or equivalent in RMB in the first phase.
- HKMA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund to anchor a joint US\$1 billion fund to invest in companies with Hong Kong nexus expanding to Saudi Arabia to drive localisation of key industries, including manufacturing, renewables, fintech and healthcare.
- The HKSAR Government is promoting the management of more global capital in Hong Kong, including facilitating new distribution channels for private equity funds through the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. At present, over 100 B&R enterprises are listed in Hong Kong.
- Hong Kong is dedicated to being an ideal destination for issuing insurance-linked securities (ILS).
   A regulatory regime and pilot grant scheme for ILS was announced in

- 2021 to assist enterprises in managing weather and emerging risks in B&R projects by issuing catastrophe bonds and other tools for transferring risks.
- The HKSAR Government supports and encourages enterprises to set up captive insurance companies in Hong Kong, enhancing enterprises' comprehensive risk management capacities and improving their risk management systems, strategic planning and resource allocation for B&R business development.

#### Legal

- On May 30, 2025, the Signing Ceremony of the Convention on the Establishment of the International Organization for Mediation (IOMed) was held in Hong Kong, with 33 countries signing the Convention on site. The IOMed upon its establishment would be headquartered in Hong Kong.
- Hong Kong is an international legal and dispute resolution services centre in the region, and is ranked as the No.1 most preferred seat of arbitration in the Asia-Pacific

region and the No.2 most preferred seat for arbitration in the world (tied with Singapore) in the 2025 International Arbitration Survey conducted by Queen Mary University of London.

- The Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy organises practical training courses, seminars, international exchange programmes, leveraging on Hong Kong's bilingual common law system and international status. The academy will offer more capacity building events to promote talent exchanges along the B&R.
- AALCO Hong Kong Regional
   Arbitration Centre has been
   recognised by our country as a case of
   significance for the implementation of
   the B&R Initiative in building a global
   community of shared future. The
   Centre provides solutions for
   multilateral disputes in B&R
   co-operation, promoting trade and
   investment in the Asian-African region.

#### **Intellectual Property**

 Our unique advantage in IP development is a major reason why overseas enterprises choose to set up international headquarters, IP management centres and R&D centres in Hong Kong. The HKSAR Government will strengthen the protection of the products of innovation and creativity yielded by R&D efforts, strengthen our position as a regional IP trading centre, as well as contributing to the country's strategies of building an IP powerhouse to serve the B&R markets. According to the World Competitiveness Yearbook 2025 published by the IMD, Hong Kong's ranking in the "Intellectual Property Rights" category has risen two places to sixth globally.

#### **Construction Sector**

 Building Technology Research Institute issues certifications for building materials and products under the "Construction Materials Certification Scheme", which facilitates the adoption of highquality or innovative Mainland materials and products in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area, and promotes their export to B&R countries via Hong Kong as a platform, supporting the alignment of the country's construction technologies and products with international markets.



## Missions relating to B&R (2024-2025)

# 2024 MAY

- Belt and Road Office
- **Q** Hungary and Kazakhstan
- Around 70

# OCT

- Financial Secretary
- 🤶 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- **100+**
- Attended 8th FII and facilitated a series of collaborative projects

# 2025 MAY

- Chief Executive
- **Q** Qatar and Kuwait
- **50+**
- **59** MoUs and co-operation agreements were concluded



## JUL

- Chief Executive
- **Q** Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam
- **30**
- **6** 55 MoUs were signed

# **DEC**

- Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
- **Q** Urumqi, Xinjiang
- Promoted Hong Kong's business opportunities

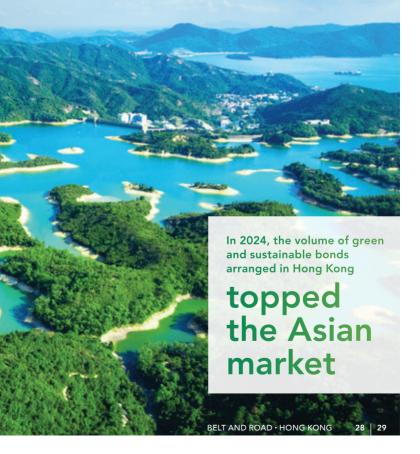
## JUN

- Belt and Road Office
- **Q** Indonesia and Malaysia
- Around 20 MoUs were signed





Hong Kong is committed to promoting green development and green transformation and achieving carbon neutrality. As an international financial centre, Hong Kong strives to promote the development of green finance. Drawing together global capital as well as top-notch financial institutions and talents while offering diverse and abundant financing channels, Hong Kong is Asia's green finance hub as well as an ideal partner for B&R projects (including green development projects).



#### **Green Finance**

- Corporations in the B&R countries and regions can make use of the international carbon marketplace
   Core Climate of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited to facilitate capital flow to green projects.
   Core Climate provides the market with carbon credit projects from
   B&R countries and regions, primarily in Asia, Latin America and Africa.
- HKMA and HKEX joined the Green Investment and Finance Partnership (the Partnership) initiated by the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) as inaugural members in October 2023. In March 2024, HKMA's IFFO and BRIGC co-organised a seminar on Financing the Green Development of the Belt & Road Initiative, the first event of the Partnership held outside the Mainland.
- In June 2025, the HKSAR
   Government successfully issued
   multi-tranche green bonds totalling
   around HK\$21 billion equivalent
   and denominated in RMB, Euro and
   US dollars. Among which, the 20-year
   RMB green bonds, which were first
   introduced in July 2024, continued
   to receive strong support from

investors, with the issuance size doubled from the inaugural offering. In 2024, the volume of green and sustainable bonds arranged in Hong Kong topped the Asian market, capturing around 45% of the regional total.

# **Environment and Ecology**

 The HKSAR Government utilises the annual Eco Expo Asia as a platform to bring together international exhibitors and industry professionals to showcase cutting-edge green solutions. In the meantime, delegations from B&R countries and the Mainland are invited to participate in the Expo with a view to enhancing and strengthening connectivity with B&R countries and regions, and realising the goals of environmental protection and sustainable development. In the 19th Eco Expo Asia held in late October last year, high-level delegations from six B&R countries including Myanmar, Malaysia, Laos, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia and Brunei Darussalam took part in the event.











- The HKSAR Government is actively exploring the opportunity to entering into MoU pertaining to environmental protection with B&R countries. Sri Lanka, Singapore and New Zealand are some of the B&R countries which have signed MoUs on co-operation in environmental protection with the HKSAR Government.
- The Environment and Ecology Bureau and the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (Research Center) signed the Cooperation Arrangement for Implementation of Ecological and **Environmental Protection under** the Belt and Road Initiative in September 2023, which has leveraged the resources and connections of the Research Centre to further explore environmental exchanges and co-operation with other B&R countries.

## Meteorology

- The Meteorological Training Centre for Belt and Road Countries (Training Centre) was established in December 2024. Its first workshop took place in the same month with the theme of aviation meteorological science and service development, attracting over 90 participants from more than 45 countries
- The Hong Kong Observatory and the China Meteorological Administration jointly promote the activities of the Training Centre. with the aim to enhance the capacity of meteorological personnel from B&R regions in responding to adverse weather and resisting natural disasters, and enhance meteorological co-operation and development.







- The Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau continues to promote innovation and technology (I&T) exchanges and co-operation among enterprises and organisations from the Mainland and overseas, including those from B&R countries and regions, with a view to advancing I&T development and deepening cross-sectoral collaboration in areas such as artificial intelligence, digital infrastructure, cross-boundary data flow and digital security.
- Three major organisations of I&T parks in Hong Kong (Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited and Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited) and the Hong Kong Productivity Council will continue to promote exchanges and co-operation between enterprises from the B&R countries and regions and Hong Kong through various channels.





**Belt and Road Traditional Medicine Summit Forum** 





- On the development of Chinese Medicine (CM), Hong Kong will fully leverage its advantages in healthcare system, regulatory regime, standard-setting, clinical research, trade and other areas to develop Hong Kong into a bridgehead for the internationalisation of CM, and promote the expansion of the CM market to B&R countries.
- Regarding healthcare standards, two public hospitals in Hong Kong have already obtained accreditation under international accreditation standards developed based on national Tier 3A hospital accreditation standards. The research centre which formulated the standards has set up an office in Hong Kong to promote national standards to B&R countries.

34



Youths travelled between Hong Kong and B&R countries under Working Holiday Scheme by end-June 2025:

**B&R** countries

Hong Kong 5 800+
7 700+

4 000+

students from B&R countries studied in Hong Kong's **University Grants** Committee-funded programmes in 2024/25 academic year

680+

students from 49 countries received B&R Scholarship to study full-time publiclyfunded undergraduate or research postgraduate degrees in Hong Kong since 2016/17 academic vear

+50%

annual quota of **B&R Scholarship** to 150 from the 2024/25 academic year

No. 4

**World Talent** Ranking 2025, IMD

from no.16 in 2023, ranking first in Asia





- Hong Kong is developing at full steam to be an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange, actively enhancing mutual learning amongst different civilisations and people-to-people exchanges.
- The Asia+ Festival is held annually from September to November, focusing on Asia and connecting with B&R countries and regions in Europe, Africa and the Americas, to showcase diverse and vibrant cultures.
- The Hong Kong Palace Museum collaborated with the Museum of Islamic Art under Qatar Museums to present a special exhibition "Wonders of Imperial Carpets: Masterpieces from the Museum of Islamic Art, Doha" from June to October 2025, marking Hong Kong's first exhibition dedicated to Islamic art. Meanwhile, the special exhibition "I. M. Pei: Life is Architecture" curated by M+ is on a global tour with a stop at Qatar Museums in Doha in November 2025.
- The HKSAR Government, through the CreateSmart Initiative, supports the co-production of television variety programmes by local television stations and Asian (including B&R countries) production teams to promote the unique pop culture of Hong Kong to audiences of various places, enhancing the cultural soft power of Hong Kong and opening up relevant markets.
- The HKSAR Government is actively encouraging various sectors of the community to enhance tourismsupport measures for creating a friendly environment for visitors, including providing information at the airport in Arabic and encouraging taxi fleets to provide fleet service information in Arabic; compiling a list of restaurants offering halal food; encouraging







more commercial establishments to provide appropriate facilities, such as worship facilities in hotels; and stepping up staff training to strengthen their knowledge on receiving visitors from different cultural backgrounds.

- In April 2025, the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism and the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) led a delegation of about 30 travel trade representatives from Hong Kong to Dubai to participate in the large-scale international travel fair, Arabian Travel Market (ATM), showcasing Hong Kong's tourism appeal to the travel trade and consumers in the Middle East. During ATM, HKTB also signed MoUs with major travel agents in the Middle East to step up promotion of Hong Kong tourism.
- The HKSAR Government continues to organise various youth internship and exchange programmes with B&R countries, including HYAB United Nations Volunteer Internship Programme, HYAB Funding Scheme for International Youth Exchange, and HYAB Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas. About 1 400 young people participated in these programmes in 2024/25.
- In the World Talent Ranking 2025 published by IMD, Hong Kong's ranking leapt markedly to fourth globally, marking the highest-ever ranking and ranking first in Asia.





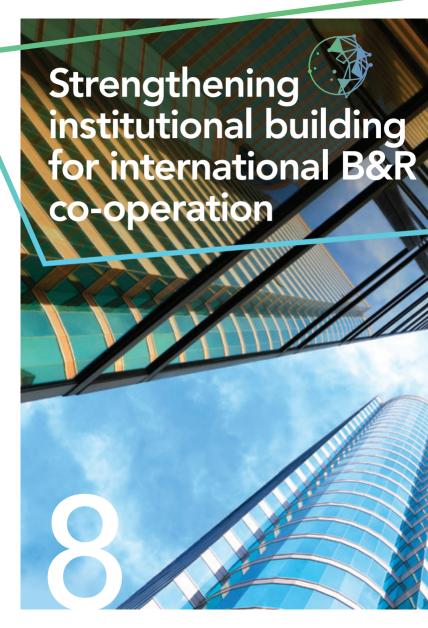


- Since the establishment of the Hong Kong International Academy Against Corruption (HKIAAC) in 2024, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) has organised 34 training and thematic programmes, including for participants from over 70 B&R countries, to strengthen the anti-graft capabilities of personnel from B&R countries and regions. Through sharing experience in combating and preventing corruption in infrastructure projects, the ICAC is contributing to building a clean Silk Road.
- The HKIAAC will proactively engage more B&R countries to explore co-operation, including providing tailor-made anti-corruption training and exchange programmes for their anti-graft and related agencies, signing memoranda of understanding, and conducting anti-corruption research.
- ICAC organised the 8th ICAC Symposium in May 2024 to exchange experiences in anticorruption, gathering over 500 representatives of 180 organisations engaged in anti-corruption work across 60 jurisdictions (including over 40 B&R countries).



• ICAC has signed MoUs with anti-corruption authorities of several B&R countries since 2024, including Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Saudi Arabia. South Africa and the United Arab Emirates to strengthen co-operation, exchanges and collaborative training in anticorruption. ICAC will also continue to collaborate with international organisations and platforms, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to advance more anti-corruption co-operation initiatives that benefit B&R countries.











# BELT AND ROAD SU

一帶一路高峰論壇





- Hong Kong will continue to proactively participate in the B&R Forum for International Cooperation organised by our country, contributing to telling good stories of our country.
- The HKSAR Government and HKTDC have been organising the B&R Summit annually since 2016, and the Summit has established itself as the largest and most important international commerce, business and investment platform for promoting B&R collaboration of Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas enterprises.









• The B&R Summit has been recognised by our country as a case of significance for the implementation of the B&R Initiative in building a global community of shared future and was included as one of the deliverables of the Third B&R Forum for International Cooperation during the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the B&R Initiative.



#### Photo Credit (In alphabetical order):

Hong Kong Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited

Hong Kong Stock Exchange

Hong Kong Tourism Board

West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

Information Services Department

#### Disclaimer:

This booklet is prepared and intended for general information and reference purposes only. The information contained reflects the position as at the date of publication and may change over time. The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is not responsible for any inaccuracies, errors or omissions in this publication, or for any loss, action, or inaction arising from the use of, or for advice based on, any information therein.



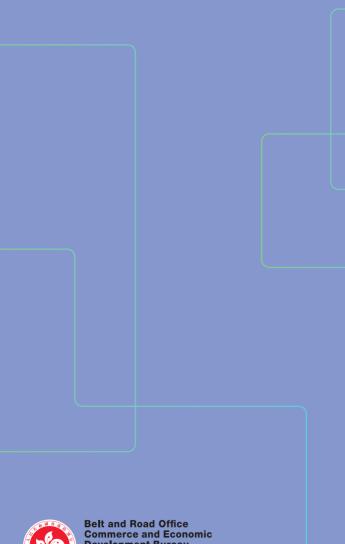


Follow our LinkedIn and visit our website!

Copyright © 2025 The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and contributors. All rights reserved.

(Sept 2025, Version 2)







Development Bureau
The Government of the
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China