INFORMATION NOTE NO. 12
IMPLICATIONS OF THE 2003 POLICY ADDRESS
FOR THE HK2030 STUDY

Background

1. On 8.1.2003, the Chief Executive announced his 2003 Policy Address, setting out recent broad directions in various policy areas. The 2003 Policy Address focuses on five major issues\(^1\), in which, “The Road to Economic Recovery” and “Closer Economic Co-operation with the Mainland” are of particular relevance to the HK2030 Study.

2. In preparing the Reference Scenario and Development Options in Stage 3 of the HK2030 Study, the Study Team has examined these policy directions and where relevant, translated them into strategic planning requirements and proposed land reservation and provision of appropriate facilities to help achieve the policy directions and initiatives.

Implications of the 2003 Policy Address for the HK2030 Study

3. Two tables illustrating how the directions and initiatives set out in the 2003 Policy Address and Policy Agenda have been taken forward in preparing the Reference Scenario and Development Options in Stage 3 of the HK2030 Study are attached at Annexes A and B.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
NOVEMBER 2003

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\(^{1}\) The 5 major issues are “Concerted Efforts to Meet the Challenges”, “The Road to Economic Recovery”, “Closer Economic Co-operation with the Mainland”, “Sharing Responsibility to Tackle the Deficit”, and “Legislating on Article 23 of the Basic Law”
Annex A
Implications of the 2003 Policy Address for the HK2030 Study

Economic Recovery

◊ Building Hong Kong as Asia’s World City, consolidating and developing our position as an international financial centre, a producer services centre, a hub for information services and logistics and a premier tourist destination.

◊ Strive to foster further economic growth by applying new knowledge, new technologies and through providing high value-added services.

◊ To be more specific, strengthened economic ties with the Mainland, greater emphasis on investment in human resources and a reinvigorated services sector will form the main thrusts of our economic revival.

To Focus on the Following Areas in Promoting Economic Restructuring:

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<tr>
<th>Key Points Raised in Policy Address</th>
<th>Implications for the HK2030 Study</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improving the Business Environment</strong></td>
<td>A good business environment, which is an important basis for Hong Kong to become Asia’s World City, facilitates steady economic growth throughout the planning period.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To reduce business costs by cutting red tape, embarking on de-regulation, streamlining procedures and enhancing administrative efficiency.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Enhancing Core Industries</strong></td>
<td>HK to be maintained as an international financial centre has been assumed in the Study. This will affect the projections of sectoral employment and the requirement of office land, especially high-grade offices at prime locations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| (a) To consolidate our status as an international financial centre, and strive to be a major financial centre of China by:  
  • further improving our market structure and corporate governance to meet international standards;  
  • promoting the development of the bond market and fund management businesses; and  
  • facilitating the development of new financial products, especially derivatives. |  |
<p>| (b) To maintain HK’s position as a centre of trading, apart from further promoting our re-exports, we will develop Hong Kong as a multi-modal trade management and operations centre. | This direction has been taken into account in the projections of employment land requirements and identification of appropriate locations. |
| (c) To strengthen our position as Asia’s premier |  |</p>
<table>
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<th>Key Points Raised in Policy Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>transportation and logistics hub by:</td>
<td>• This has been taken into account in assessing the land requirements and identifying appropriate locations for the logistics industry and air cargo terminal;</td>
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<tr>
<td>• facilitating the development of Hong Kong International Airport’s logistics centre and express cargo terminal;</td>
<td>• Such development has been assumed in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• building a modern Logistics Park on North Lantau Island;</td>
<td>• These have been taken as guiding principles.</td>
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<td>• enhancing Hong Kong’s information connectivity, upgrading the necessary infrastructure, ensuring a smooth flow of cargo between Guangdong and Hong Kong and striving to reduce operating costs;</td>
<td>• Enhancing closer links with the Mainland has been identified as a planning objective in the Study which will be given in-depth examination in the study process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• promoting closer co-operation with other cities in the PRD to develop appropriate standards and division of labour and to expand business opportunities; and</td>
<td>• The requirement and feasibility of CT10 are being examined in the Port 2020 Study, the findings and recommendations of which will be taken into account in the Study.</td>
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<td>• exploring the feasibility of Container Terminal 10 to strengthen Hong Kong’s leading position in container throughput.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(d) To reinforce our function as a regional business operations center by:</td>
<td>• The implications for office land requirement and locations have been incorporated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• attracting multinational corporations to set up regional headquarters or offices, and Mainland enterprises to set up branch offices in Hong Kong; and</td>
<td>• The implications for convention and exhibition land requirement and locations have been assessed in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• enhancing our convention and exhibition facilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(e) To consolidate Hong Kong’s position as a premier tourist destination by:</td>
<td>• Must ensure adequate provision of cultural, recreational, sports and arts facilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• enhancing cultural, recreational, sports and arts activities; and</td>
<td>• Has been adopted as a planning principle in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• preserving and promoting our heritage and cultural relics.</td>
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**Encouraging Diversified Development**

To support small and medium enterprises and complement the development of traditional industries and local community economy.  

The implications for secondary office land, street and marketplace culture etc. will be taken into account.

**Opening up New Horizons**

To devise a concrete plan and create the necessary favourable environment to promote and facilitate the development of creative industries.  

Obsolete factory buildings could provide opportunity to accommodate creative industries.
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Resources Development</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) To nurture local talent by optimising the use of educational resources, improving the quality of education, encouraging life-long learning and enhancing manpower training.</td>
<td>Need to consider how educational facilities, especially universities, could be consolidated for optimisation of usage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(b) To attract:</td>
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<td>• talented people from around the world, particularly the Mainland talent and professionals;</td>
<td>These factors have been taken into account in the population assumptions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• entrepreneurs from the Mainland to come to invest in Hong Kong; and</td>
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<td>• to encourage more overseas investors to settle in Hong Kong.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In the long run, we need to upgrade the quality of our people. The Government is considering the followings:</td>
<td>• Steady employment level is assumed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• population policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>• provide diversified training and enhancement of the employability of our young people</td>
<td>• Implications of the Population Policy have been taken into account in the population assumptions.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Stabilising the Property Market</th>
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<td>A stable property market is one of the important elements in revitalising Hong Kong’s economy. The Government has re-defined its role in the property market and launched a package of measures to stabilise it, which will be effective in the long term.</td>
<td>HK2030 will ensure that adequate land is available in time to meet housing and economic needs.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Asia’s World City</th>
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<tr>
<td>Continue to consolidate and build on Hong Kong’s identify as Asia's World City in the following aspects:</td>
<td>These aspects have been assumed in the HK2030 Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• a fair and independent judicial system</td>
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<td>• “big market, small government” policy and a simple and low tax regime</td>
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<td>• an efficient government and favourable business environment</td>
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<td>• free flow of information and capital, and protected freedoms and rights</td>
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<td>• good law and order</td>
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<td>• clean environment and beautiful surroundings</td>
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<td>• biliterate and trilingual proficiency of our citizens</td>
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<td>• development of sports</td>
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<td>• development in the interplay of different cultures to stimulate diversity and inspire creativity</td>
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**Closer Economic Co-operation with the Mainland**

- To elevate Hong Kong from its traditional role as an intermediary to a major hub connecting the Mainland and the international markets.
- Enhance our position as the financial and commercial centre of China.

**Measures to promote economic co-operation with the Mainland:**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Closer Partnership in Trade</strong></td>
<td>The implementation of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement may increase the interflow of capital, goods and people. Its implications for the provision of cross-boundary infrastructure will be taken into account.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Central Government has agreed to speed up discussions on Hong Kong entering into a Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement with the Mainland, with a view to reaching an arrangement on the main parts by June 2003.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Speeding up and Improving Boundary Crossings</strong></td>
<td>These measures may further increase the volume of passenger and vehicle flows crossing the boundary, which have been taken into account in the traffic impact assessment of options. Consideration will also be given to the need for additional cross-boundary links.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) Improving conditions at boundary crossings to facilitate the flow of passengers, vehicles and goods between Hong Kong and the Mainland by:</td>
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<td>• implementing 24-hour passenger clearance at Lok Ma Chau/Huanggang with effect from 27 January 2003;</td>
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<td>• improving conditions at other crossings such as Lo Wu and Sha Tau Kok; and</td>
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<tr>
<td>• targeting at completing normal clearance procedures on both sides of the boundary within 30 minutes for passengers, and 60 minutes for goods vehicles.</td>
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<td>(b) To accelerate the construction of the Shenzhen Western Corridor for completion in the latter half of 2005; and to complete the Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line as soon as possible.</td>
<td>The completion dates of these two new cross-boundary links have been taken on board in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Individual Travellers from Guangdong Province</strong></td>
<td>This has been taken into account in the assessment of cross-boundary traffic in the Study. There would also be implications for tourist facilities such as hotels.</td>
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<td>To study further relaxation of current restrictions to facilitate Mainland residents visiting Hong Kong, including allowing residents within Guangdong Province to visit in their personal capacity.</td>
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**Expediting Economic Integration with the PRD:**

* We should make the PRD the economic hinterland supporting development in the rest of the Mainland. In turn, the PRD can use Hong Kong’s strengths to elevate its status and competitiveness to become a global player.

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<tr>
<td><strong>New Areas of Co-operation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) Development of the PRD, Macao and Hong Kong into a major modernised economic region which will be a production and manufacturing base, a centre of modern services such as logistics, professional and financial services, tourism and entertainment, communication as well as consumer and personal services.</td>
<td>The implications for land requirement and location to support these co-operation activities as well as the provision of adequate and appropriate cross-boundary links within the economic region have been examined in HK2030 Study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) To explore new areas of co-operation, e.g. in the financial sector, in improving market regulation and in education.</td>
<td>The implications on land requirement and infrastructure provision are unlikely to be significant.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A Bridge Linking Hong Kong to the Western PRD</strong></td>
<td>The construction of the Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macao Bridge has been assumed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject to the findings of the detailed feasibility study, that is, if the proposed bridge linking Hong Kong to Macao and the western part of PRD is feasible from the environmental, transportation and economic perspectives, the bridge will be built as soon as possible through the joint efforts of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.</td>
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<td><strong>New Business Model</strong></td>
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<td>♦ We will help overseas small and medium enterprises to use Hong Kong as a base to operate businesses in the PRD – i.e. with regional offices in Hong Kong whereas investment, procurement and production in the PRD. These overseas enterprises will be able to improve their operational efficiency and reinforce their competitiveness back home.</td>
<td>The land use implications of the “new business model” have been examined in the Study, e.g. a ‘trade expo’ at the Lok Ma Chau Loop has been proposed to facilitate such activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ We will also help PRD enterprises to establish outlets in Hong Kong so that they can sell directly to foreign companies, and develop ties with trading partners.</td>
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Annex B
Implications of the Policy Agenda for the HK2030 Study

The policy agenda is listed under the five guiding principles of Effective Governance, Vibrant Economy, Caring and Just Society, Enlightened People with a Rich Culture, and Environmentally Responsible Development.

Effective Governance

- To maintain the rule of law in Hong Kong, and to take forward our constitutional development in accordance with the Basic Law.
- To restore our fiscal balance to foster an environment conducive to continued economic growth and success.
- To maintain a small but responsive and accountable government, and a permanent, meritocratic, professional, politically neutral and clean civil service.

The policy initiatives under “Effective Governance” are concerned about such aspects as budget strategy, pay adjustment of civil servants, elections of Legislative and District Councils members, administrative efficiency and effectiveness of bureaux and departments, and enactment of legislation to implement Article 23 of the Basic Law etc., which do not have direct and significant implications for the HK2030 Study.

Vibrant Economy

- To attract and develop talent and to boost Hong Kong’s role in the Pearl River Delta.
- To promote sectors that generate higher value for our economy, including financial, logistics, professional, and producer services, as well as sectors like tourism and local community economy which provide more job opportunities for the people.
- To maintain our traditional institutional strengths including the rule of law, a level playing field, clean and efficient Government, free flow of information, low and simple taxes and good order.
### New Initiatives

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<td>1.</td>
<td>Foster interaction with the PRD as a key to economic revival in Hong Kong. A bridge linking Hong Kong (Lantau Island), Macao and Zhuhai is being pursued as a priority project.</td>
<td>The proposed bridge has been assumed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Pursue a series of measures to facilitate the movement of people and goods across the boundary including co-location of immigration and customs facilities, preparation for automated passenger clearance and automated vehicle clearance and a new bridge to connect Lok Ma Chau and Huanggang.</td>
<td>The implications for cross-boundary passenger and vehicle flows have been examined in the Study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Study the feasibility of a new express railway linking Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou.</td>
<td>The proposed Guangzhou-Shenzhen-HK Express Rail Link has been assumed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Select a suitable site in North Lantau for the development of a modern Logistics Park to provide efficient and high value-added logistics services.</td>
<td>The proposed Logistics Park has been assumed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Relocate departments now occupying the Central Police Station, Victoria Prison and former Magistracy to enable the private sector to convert the compound into a retail, dining, cultural and entertainment area.</td>
<td>The proposed conversion of the Central Police Station compound for other uses has been taken into account in the assessment of employment-related land.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Work with industry and professional representatives to devise a programme to position Hong Kong as a fashion hub for the region, and to promote innovation and design in industry and strengthen the design industry in this process.</td>
<td>The possible land use requirements will be incorporated subject to the availability of further information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Implement the series of housing measures set out in the Statement on Housing Policy made by the Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands on 13 November 2002.</td>
<td>The series of housing measures have been taken on board in the Study.</td>
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### Ongoing Initiatives

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Together with the Pearl River Delta municipalities, attracting more overseas enterprises to invest in Hong Kong.</td>
<td>The land use implications will be examined in the Study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Assisting the Airport Authority to develop inter-modal connections such as transit passenger ferry service between the Hong Kong International Airport and the Pearl River Delta.</td>
<td>This has been taken into account in the traffic impact assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Developing a new exhibition centre at Chek Lap Kok jointly with the Airport Authority and a private sector consortium.</td>
<td>The provision of a new exhibition centre at Chek Lap Kok has been assumed.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Ongoing Initiatives | Implications for the HK2030 Study
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4. Furthering the development of the Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine as a centre of excellence in pioneering science and evidence-based Chinese medicine. | The Institute has been accommodated within the Science Park at Pak Shek Kok. Therefore, no additional land requirement is implied.
5. Providing a platform for the sports sector to engage business partners in organising international sports events. | Development of an international standard sports stadium at Southeast Kowloon has been assumed.
6. Inviting proposals to develop the former Marine Police Headquarters in Tsim Sha Tsui as a tourism project and to award the project in the first half of 2003 for completion in 2007. | The development of the former Marine Police Headquarters as a tourist attraction has been assumed in the Study.
7. Pressing ahead with the implementation of the Kowloon Southern Link; commencing detailed design of Shatin to Central Link; beginning construction of the Shenzhen Western Corridor/Deep Bay Link and assessing the viability and timing of the Island Line Extensions and South Hong Kong Island Line. | These proposed strategic roads/ rails and cross-boundary links have been examined in the traffic impact assessment.

Caring and Just Society

△ Create an environment in which all people get every opportunity to develop their potential.

△ Strengthen family solidarity and foster mutual care and support in the community, so that all individuals are embedded in a network of care, trust, support and reciprocity.

△ Introduce health, social and housing policies and initiatives that enable individuals to enhance their community involvement.

△ Ensure that there is a safety net so that those in need will also participate in economic and social life with dignity and self-reliance.

New Initiatives | Implications for the HK2030 Study
--- | ---
1. Establish a coherent and comprehensive population policy. | The implications of the Population Policy have been taken into account in the population assumptions.
2. Develop a fee assistance scheme to allow the elderly to have more choices and flexibility in using residential care services. | This would have significant implications for the planning for elderly facilities at the district level.
Ongoing Initiatives | Implications for the HK2030 Study
---|---
Maintaining supply of public rental housing for needy applicants within an average waiting time of three years. | The current practice has been assumed in the assessment of public housing requirements.

Enlightened People with a Rich Culture

We will create an environment which fosters innovative thinking, mutual respect and team spirit, and we hope citizens can cultivate their artistic interests and personal tastes for their spiritual enhancement and cultural enrichment.

New Initiatives | Implications for the HK2030 Study
---|---
1. Facilitate the development of creative industries and enhance our efforts in assisting local community economy. | Obsolete factory buildings could provide opportunity to accommodate creative industries.
2. Formulate a comprehensive development package for the integrated arts, cultural and entertainment district in West Kowloon. | The development in West Kowloon has been taken on board in the Study.
3. Develop a comprehensive approach to heritage preservation. | Would need to co-ordinate closely with HAB and other relevant departments to ensure that this new approach is taken on board in the Study.

Ongoing Initiatives | Implications for the HK2030 Study
---|---
1. Planning with schools still operating in bi-sessional mode to work towards enabling all primary school students to study in whole day schools. | This will have important bearing on the provision of schools at the district planning level.
2. Initiating a study on the feasibility of setting up a Hong Kong Visual Arts Academy. | A suitable site may need to be identified at the district level.

Environmentally Responsible Development

Environmentally responsible development is about the delivery of a better quality of life for every one of our citizens, for now and for generations to come.

We must tackle immediate pollution problems with renewed vigour and determination.

To preserve the environment through the promulgation of sound policies and implementation of effective programmes on nature conservation, waste reduction and recycling, total water management and greening.
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<tr>
<th>New Initiatives</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Introduce a pilot emissions trading scheme among power plants in Hong Kong and Guangdong to optimise the use of resources in the reduction of emissions in the same air shed as part of our current programme with the Guangdong Provincial Government to improve air quality in the Pearl River Delta Region.</td>
<td>This new initiative will be taken into account as one of the possible measures to reduce air pollution in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Implement the polluter pays principle and introduce a landfill charging scheme for construction and demolition waste in 2004. This is expected to provide economic incentives for waste producers to reduce such waste and carry out sorting to facilitate reuse/recycling.</td>
<td>This new initiative will have positive impact on extending the life span of existing landfills. It will be taken into account in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Introduce in 2003 a pilot scheme to test out the economics and logistics of wet-and-dry garbage sorting which, if successful, will be extended into large-scale domestic waste recycling as part of the overall integrated waste management programme. A benchmark for waste reduction will also be established.</td>
<td>This new initiative will have positive impact on extending the life span of existing landfills. It will be taken into account in the Study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Promulgate in 2003 a comprehensive nature conservation policy including practicable measures to better conserve ecologically important habitats in close partnership with academics and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Consider the introduction of a rating system for ecological values of different locations as well as benchmarking against other developed cities or states with similar climatic and physical conditions.</td>
<td>The nature conservation policy was under consultation between 17 July 2003 and 18 October 2003. Any policy and confirmed initiatives would be incorporated in the Study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Implement the Total Water Management programme in which water conservation and water resource protection are enhanced through education and promotion, while examining technologies for recycling and desalination through pilot schemes.</td>
<td>The relevant proposals under the HK2030 Study will be reviewed in light of the new initiative.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Develop a land use, transport and environment strategy under the Hong Kong 2030 study to guide the long-term development of Hong Kong.</td>
<td>Noted.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Consult various stakeholders with a view to making preliminary proposals on small house policy for more in depth discussion.</td>
<td>Pending the review of small house policy, the land use implications will be examined.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing Initiatives</td>
<td>Implications for the HK2030 Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Implementing incentive schemes to encourage replacement of diesel taxis with LPG taxis by end-2003 and replacement of diesel light buses with LPG or electric light buses by end-2005.</td>
<td>This initiative has been taken into account in the environmental assessment of Development Options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Promoting the installation of particulate traps and catalytic converters on pre-Euro diesel vehicles through provision of financial assistance and taking steps to introduce legislation to make the installation mandatory upon completion of retrofit programme.</td>
<td>This initiative has been taken into account in the environmental assessment of Development Options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Promoting the adoption of state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly technology by bus companies in their new fleet purchases and encouraging them to deploy cleaner vehicles along busy corridors. New franchise conditions will be introduced requiring bus companies to adopt the latest commercially available environmental technologies in their new buses. Operators who promote environmentally friendly measures will be given a better chance to secure the right to operate new bus route packages. Building on the existing arrangement whereby only Euro II and Euro III engine buses are deployed to bus routes operating in Causeway Bay corridors, we will work with bus companies to promote the use of more Euro II and Euro III engine buses in other busy corridors.</td>
<td>This initiative has been taken into account in the environmental assessment of Development Options.</td>
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<td>4. Exploring opportunities to reuse inert construction and demolition materials outside Hong Kong.</td>
<td>This initiative has been adopted as an assumption in the environmental assessment of Options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Encouraging the use of recycled construction and demolition materials in public works projects.</td>
<td>This initiative has been adopted as an assumption in the environmental assessment of Options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Striving to reduce by 2010 the emission of four major air pollutants in the region by such levels as will enable Hong Kong to achieve the current air quality objectives.</td>
<td>This initiative has been taken into account in the environmental assessment of Development Options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Concluding in 2003 the trials and studies on the four options recommended by the International Review Panel on the remaining stages of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme before public consultation in 2004.</td>
<td>The preferred option, if available in time, will be taken on board in the Study.</td>
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<td>8. Promoting the integration of sustainability in the Government and the community and</td>
<td>The overarching goal of HK2030 Study is adhering to the principle of sustainable</td>
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<td>Ongoing Initiatives</td>
<td>Implications for the HK2030 Study</td>
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<td>setting up the Council for Sustainable Development.</td>
<td>development.</td>
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<td>9. Implementing a comprehensive greening policy for Hong Kong through the</td>
<td>This initiative is consistent with HK2030’s objective to improve the quality of our living environment.</td>
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<td>collaboration of different departments and with the input of experts and</td>
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<td>specialists in the area, and aiming initially to develop the most sustainable</td>
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<td>greening programme for the urban areas.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Promoting the wider application of renewable energy.</td>
<td>If further information is available, this initiative will be incorporated in the Study.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>