

Chapter 19

Recreation, Sport and the Arts

Hong Kong people are hard working by nature but they also know how to relax and enjoy themselves through many different sports, cultural and recreational activities. A growing array of programmes and facilities enables people of all ages and abilities to participate and improve their quality of life.

Government policies on matters concerning sports, recreation, culture and heritage are co-ordinated by the Home Affairs Bureau. Organisations that help to draw up these policies include the Sports Commission and the Hong Kong Arts Development Council.

The Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited helps develop sports in Hong Kong with special emphasis on training athletes for high performance sports. The Government established the Sports Commission to advise on all matters relating to sports development. The commission oversees the Elite Sports, the Major Sports Events, and the Community Sports Committees advise on different aspects of sporting activities.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), an executive arm of the Home Affairs Bureau, provides the community with services to preserve its cultural heritage, enhance its physical environment, and foster co-operative interaction between sports, cultural and community organisations.

During 2010, the LCSD organised several large-scale exhibitions, including two art exhibitions to complement the World Exposition 2010 Shanghai China (Shanghai Expo) such as the 'River of Wisdom – Animated Version of the Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival' in Hong Kong. It also organised cultural performances, ranging from music and dance to opera and sporting events.

The LCSD co-ordinates the provision of high quality recreational and sports facilities and supports and organises training programmes and activities to promote community sports, identify sporting talent and raise sporting standards.

The LCSD also works closely with the District Councils (DCs), the National Sports Associations (NSAs) under the auspices of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC), District Sports Associations, and schools to promote a sport-for-all concept and encourage people of all ages and from all walks of life to participate in sports and recreational activities.

The Environment

The LCSD has an extensive programme for planting shrubs and trees in parks, playgrounds and roadsides, and implementing the Government's 'greening' policy.

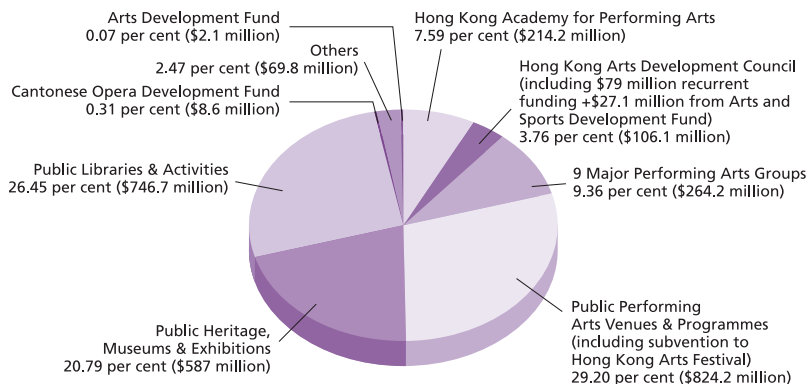
It also organises various educational and community activities to increase public awareness of the importance of environmentally friendly living.

The Arts

It is the Government's policy to provide an environment conducive to artistic expression and creation that encourages free participation in all aspects of cultural life.

Government Funding Support for Culture and the Arts

Chart 1 Provison for Arts and Culture 2009/10



(Note: The total expenditure is \$2.82 billion (about 1 per cent of the Government expenditure) before the injection of \$1.5 billion in the Arts and Sports Development Fund (Arts Portion) in 2010/11.)

Recurrent Funding, Arts and Sports Development Fund and Cantonese Opera Development Fund

In 2009-10, the Government set aside \$2.82 billion; (about 1 per cent of the Government's total expenditure) for supporting arts groups, arts education and promotion, and administrative costs. Capital works expenditure is not included.

A sum of \$1.5 billion was injected into the arts portion of the Arts and Sports Development Fund in 2010-11 as seed money. The annual investment from its returns will be used to subsidise the long-term development of the arts and culture. Based on an annual return of around 4 per cent, the estimated returns from investments should reach about \$60 million a year. A new funding scheme to supplement the existing public funding system and to promote public-private partnership in the local arts development will be launched in collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Arts Development, established in November 2010.

The Government also injected \$69 million into the Cantonese Opera Development Fund in 2010-11 to support more projects for the preservation, promotion and development of Cantonese opera. Since its inception in 2005 up till the end of 2010, the Cantonese Opera Development Fund had granted financial support amounting to about \$33 million to some 340 Cantonese opera projects.

Funding for the Major Performing Arts Groups

The Home Affairs Bureau provides regular funding for nine major performing arts groups from the \$2.82 billion recurrent fund for the arts and culture.

The recipients are: the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, the Hong Kong Dance Company, the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hong Kong Sinfonietta, the Hong Kong Ballet, City Contemporary Dance Company, Chung Ying Theatre Company and Zuni Icosahedron, who together received about \$264 million in 2009-10.

The money is to enable these groups to provide the public with quality arts programmes at affordable prices.

Capital Funding

The Government also supports the development of the arts and culture in Hong Kong by building and operating show venues for different arts and cultural performances, public libraries and museums.

In 2010, there were 15 performance venues of varying sizes at accessible locations across Hong Kong. In addition, work is progressing on converting the Yau Ma Tei Theatre and the Red Brick Building into a Xiqu (different forms of Chinese opera) centre at an estimated cost of \$186.7 million and on building an annex to Ko Shan Theatre at an estimated cost of \$683.2 million. In addition, a major performing arts venue in Kwun Tong to serve the East Kowloon region is being planned while the feasibility of building another performance venue to serve the New Territories East region is being studied.

The Government also manages 14 public museums, the Hong Kong Film Archive, two heritage centres and the Art Promotion Office and operates a network of public libraries, comprising 66 static and 10 mobile libraries. Work is also progressing on re-provisioning a number of libraries, including those in Tin Shui Wai, Lam Tin, Pak Tin and Yuen Long, while a new public library at Siu Sai Wan is under construction.

An upfront endowment of HK\$21.6 billion has been given to the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority for the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project, a strategic investment by the Government to meet the long-term needs of the arts and cultural sector.

Hong Kong Arts Development Council

Established in 1995, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) is dedicated to planning, promoting and supporting the broad development of the arts in Hong Kong, including literary arts, performing and visual arts, film and media arts. Besides encouraging public participation in the arts and advocating arts education, the HKADC also endeavours to advance arts criticism, raise the standards of arts administration and strengthen arts policy research.

Funding the arts is one of the HKADC's main tasks. Several grant schemes remained in place in 2010 for supporting the diversified development of local arts groups and practitioners. These are one- and two-year grants, project grant and multi-project grant.

The HKADC also launched three venue subsidy schemes, called the 'Jockey Club Performing Arts Venue Subsidy Scheme', 'Sunbeam Theatre Venue Subsidy Scheme' and the 'Non-LCSD Venue Subsidy Scheme'.

The HKADC also ran various internship and scholarships schemes in 2010 in collaboration with different organisations for Hong Kong artists and arts administrators to receive short-term training overseas. These schemes include the Hong Kong Scholarship on the Clore Leadership Programme and the Sage Gateshead Internship Scheme for trainees to study in the United Kingdom; and the Artist-in-Residence Subsidy Scheme which funds the placement of visual artists-in-residence in the United States, Germany, Japan and mainland of China. The HKADC also launched an internship scheme for music, drama and xiqu students.

A number of large-scale promotional cultural events were held in 2010, notably the Hong Kong Arts Development Awards 2009 and the territory-wide Hong Kong Dance Festival 2010, demonstrating the originality and diversity of the local dance scene.

Another important event was the visit by the internationally acclaimed film director Lee Chang-dong who met young local filmmakers and shared his experiences with them.

The 2nd Community Arts Activities Enhancement Scheme was carried out in 2010 to foster community arts activities. Arts promotion committees and cultural and recreation associations of the 18 district councils were invited to submit proposals. To develop further the arts in the community, an open invitation for proposals was sent to community organisations, non-governmental organisations and social welfare agencies.

In the area of international exchange, reciprocal exhibitions of the 53rd Venice Biennale (Visual Arts) were held at the Guangdong Museum of Art and Hong Kong

Museum of Art from March to April 2010 and from June to August 2010 respectively. In addition, the HKADC participated in the 2010 Hong Kong and Macao Visual Arts Exhibition, organised by the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China, and co-organised *the Beijing – Hongkong – Shanghai Young Directors' Showcase @ Modern Drama Valley Expo Season* at the Shanghai Expo. The HKADC also took part in the Venice Biennale 12th International Architecture Exhibition in partnership with the Hong Kong Institute of Architects. The Hong Kong contingent included 13 top local architects.

Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts

Established in 1984, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts offers professional education, training and research facilities in the performing arts, including music, dance, drama, theatre and entertainments arts, film and television, and Chinese traditional theatre. Its education philosophy reflects the cultural diversity of Hong Kong with emphasis on Chinese and Western traditions, and interdisciplinary learning.

The academy started offering in 2010 a Master's degree for arts studies in all of Hong Kong's five arts schools. The programme covers dance, music, drama, film and television, and theatre and entertainment arts, attracting over 110 students. During the year, over 6 300 students enrolled in another of the academy's programmes – the academy's Extension and Continuing Education for Life (EXCEL).

Hong Kong Arts Centre

The Hong Kong Arts Centre was established in 1974. Its mission is to nurture arts and culture creativity by providing contemporary arts programmes and education in the arts. A 19-storey Arts Centre Building in Wan Chai houses galleries, theatres, a cinema, studios, classrooms and offices. It can provide up to about 4 600 square metres of floor space for cultural and arts events.

The centre collaborates with various arts groups in staging events in its premises and other locations. Its monthly free 'Street Music' events help art lovers and new arts enthusiasts explore different art forms.

The Hong Kong Art School is a division of the Arts Centre that runs diploma or degree courses in arts studies.

The Fringe Club

The Fringe Club is housed in what used to be a cold storage warehouse built in 1890, now listed as a Grade I historical building. The club moved into the building in 1983 after which the building underwent many phases of renovation to adapt it for use as a contemporary arts space.

The Fringe runs a diverse programme of theatre, dance, music, and exhibitions. It is committed to an open access policy and to the nurturing of budding artists by providing venue and publicity support, as well as opportunities for overseas tours.

Over the past 26 years, more than 500 arts groups from Asia, Australia, Europe, and North and South America have used the premises for cultural exchanges.

In 2010, the Fringe presented the annual urban City Festival that covers an array of interests and activities, including performing and visual arts, cultural exchange projects, heritage and living history programmes, workshops and urban studies. A highlight was 'Spotlight Guangzhou', featuring a joint exhibition by 16 Hong Kong artists and 15 China artists, a symposium on Lingnan Culture, and bands from Guangzhou. The Fringe also organised a Guangzhou Arts Tour for Hong Kong arts managers.

During the year, the club also assisted visits by Hong Kong artists to Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Taipei, Seoul and Vancouver. In October, it took part in the Hong Kong Week at the Shanghai Expo with Saturday Night Jazz Orchestra, and a contemporary jazz band featuring Ted Lo and Eugene Pao.

The Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre

Opened in 2008, the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (JCCAC) is an innovative arts project that involved converting a nine-storey decommissioned factory estate at Shek Kip Mei into a multi-disciplinary artists' centre. It is a self-financed, registered charity that promotes the arts and culture and helps nurture creative arts talent.

The JCCAC has well-equipped exhibition facilities and a black box theatre, and houses over 100 art studios for a wide array of art forms, from painting, sculpture, ceramics, glass art, printmaking, installation, to photography, animation and video production, music, dance and drama. These facilities are open to hire by artists and arts groups. In the year 2010, the major events presented by the JCCAC were the seasonal JCCAC Arts & Crafts Fair, and the co-presented festival events which included the Hong Kong Dance Festival 2010 and Hong Kong Photo Festival 2010.

Major Performing Arts Groups

Chung Ying Theatre Company

Established in 1979, the Chung Ying Theatre Company is a non-profit-making professional theatre company dedicated to creating high quality theatrical productions and to promoting the theatrical arts, exploring cultural exchanges and enriching cultural life. It is a venue partner of the Kwai Tsing Theatre and Yuen Long Theatre.

In 2010, the company staged a number of classic pieces by famous writers and playwrights including *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein* adapted from the famous scientific fiction written by the British novelist, Mary Shelley, Daniel Keyes's science fiction short story, *Flowers for Algernon*, William Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, as well as the well-received productions *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Last Bet of My Dead Aunt*. It also co-presented the musical *Old Master Q* with the Spring Time Group.

The company's outreach and professional education programmes are designed to connect people through stage performances and drama education.

City Contemporary Dance Company

The City Contemporary Dance Company (CCDC) was established in 1979. It is a professional modern dance company that nurtures creative dance talent in the context of modern China. In 2010, the company produced four originals and hosted the 4th Jumping Frames International Dance Video Festival in Hong Kong, Macao and Guangzhou. The company was also invited to perform in Guangzhou and Beijing. Two new works, *Tales of Two Cities – Hong Kong · Shanghai · Eileen Chang* and *DELTA*, a dance gala, were staged at the Shanghai Expo. The CCDC Dance Centre continued to offer members of the public a variety of dance courses.

Hong Kong Ballet

The Hong Kong Ballet is one of Asia's premier classical ballet companies, which is gaining international recognition as a world-class institution.

In 2010, the company performed 45 well known ballets which included the *Firecracker*, *The Evolution of Ballet*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, and *The Nutcracker*. The company also participated in ballet festivals in Cali, Colombia and Brisbane and performed *Summer Delights* at the Shanghai Expo, dazzling audiences.

Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra

Founded in 1977, the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra is the city's sole professional symphonic Chinese orchestra. Its 85 members have been promoting the development of Chinese music under the theme 'Radiating from Hong Kong-Empowering Chinese Music in the World'. It organises over 140 concerts and activities each season.

In 2010, the orchestra continued serving as a cultural ambassador of Hong Kong. It organised the 'Composers' Festival of Hong Kong 2010' and the large-scale outdoor concert *Cadenzas of Hong Kong*, presenting all the commissioned works with a Hong Kong theme, produced by 20 Hong Kong composers. The orchestra was also invited to perform at the Shanghai Spring International Music Festival and the Shanghai Expo, and showcased the Eco-huqin series invented by the orchestra. All received excellent reviews.

Hong Kong Dance Company

Established in 1981 with the aim of promoting Chinese dance, the Hong Kong Dance Company was formally incorporated in April 2001 as a charitable and non-profit-making institution. Since its inception, it has staged over 100 productions.

During 2010, the company staged about 50 performances, attracting more than 36 500 people. Programmes included a re-run of *Snow Fox*, *Painted Face*, *Qingming Riverside*, *Childhood Wonderland*, *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* and *Poet Dongpo*.

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra has been enriching Hong Kong's cultural life for over a century and has built a strong group of talented Chinese and international performers, attracting world-class artists to work with them. The

90-strong ensemble gives about 150 performances each year, attended by some 200 000 music lovers. In September, the orchestra toured Shanghai, Xian and Beijing. Its first stop was Shanghai where it performed at the Shanghai Expo. The orchestra also ran an educational programme in which more than 45 000 students participated.

Hong Kong Repertory Theatre

The Hong Kong Repertory Theatre staged 10 productions in 2010. Highlights included the contemporary British comic thriller *Communicating Doors*, classic French farce *A Flea in Her Ear* by George Feydeau, classic Anglo-German comic tragedy *Dr Faustus*, new French comedy *Le Dieu du carnage*, local original play *Love You Forever*, and local operatic drama *Love's Labour's Won*. The company also toured Guangzhou, Macao, Beijing, Chongqing and Shenzhen to expand its audience base and to establish an image abroad.

The company continued its commitment to drama education and audience building with an extensive range of educational, community and outreach activities. It partnered with the Hong Kong City Hall to hold a monthly script reading event, called Reader's Theatre and a theatre-in-education performance, *Metamorphosis under the Star*.

Hong Kong Sinfonietta

Established in 1990, the Hong Kong Sinfonietta is a leading Hong Kong professional orchestra. It brings classical music to people from all walks of life. In 2010, it gave over 90 performances, including concerts featuring world-famous musicians, Christopher Hogwood, Peter Donohoe and Benjamin Schmid. The orchestra also brought classical music to Hong Kong audiences in new ways through special audience development projects, including Hong Kong's first live orchestral concerts for babies. The orchestra made several overseas tours in 2010, performing in cities in South America and Japan. Besides presenting its crossover production, *A Soldier's Story*, the orchestra gave a performance to coincide with the closing of the 'Hong Kong Week' at the Shanghai Expo.

Zuni Icosahedron

Founded in 1982, Zuni Icosahedron, a cultural group, is committed to encouraging and creating cross-media and cross-regional co-operation on experimental theatre works as well as promoting arts education, arts criticism, arts policy research and international cultural exchange.

Zuni's original theatre projects in 2010 included a social theatre series, *East Wing West Wing 9 – Sap Dai Kau Goon*, children's cartoon music theatre *The Magic Flute*, Danny Yung's experimental theatre *Stage Sisters*, digital media opera *The Memory Palace of Matteo Ricci*, and the national arts education programme *Ink Design Living*.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund was set up in 1980 with a donation of \$10 million from the Hong Kong Jockey Club. It is a non-statutory trust fund, administered by a board of trustees. In 1994, the club injected a further \$22 million into the fund to meet increasing demand for support.

The fund awards scholarships for young people to pursue an integrated programme of post-diploma and post-graduate studies or professional training in music or dance at leading institutions, or to undertake less formal studies, projects or creative work outside Hong Kong.

In 2010, the fund awarded four scholarships worth about \$2.06 million.

Music Office

The Music Office promotes knowledge and appreciation of music, especially among young people, by providing instrumental and ensemble training and organising musical activities. Its aim is to build a new generation of concert-goers. It also organises international exchange programmes to foster sharing of music among local young musicians and their counterparts around the world. In 2010, it provided music training to a total of 8 438 trainees under its training programmes. A total of 169 955 people took part in its music promotional activities.

Cultural Venues

Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Since its inauguration in 1989, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre has become Hong Kong's premier performing arts venue, attracting leading artists from around the world. It has three main performance venues: the Concert Hall, which has a seating capacity of 2 019, the Grand Theatre, seats 1 734, and the Studio Theatre, up to 496. In 2010, more than 671 000 people attended 748 performances in these theatres.

Hong Kong City Hall

Hong Kong City Hall, opened in 1962 and inscribed as a Grade I Historic Building in 2009, is a major civic centre comprising a 1 434-seat concert hall, a 463-seat theatre, and an exhibition hall. A total of 612 events were held in the concert hall and the theatre in 2010, attracting over 357 000 people.

Regional and District Civic Centres

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department runs 11 regional and district civic centres: the Sheung Wan and Sai Wan Ho Civic Centres on Hong Kong Island; the Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre and Ko Shan Theatre in Kowloon; and the Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun and North District town halls, the Kwai Tsing Theatre, Yuen Long Theatre, and Tai Po Civic Centre in the New Territories.

Venue Partnership Scheme

The Venue Partnership Scheme was launched in April 2009 based on recommendations in a report published in 2006 by the then Committee on Performing Arts. It fosters partnership between venues and performing arts groups, and its main aim is to build the image and character of individual venues and their partners, expand the audience base, optimise use of space and facilities at the venues, develop marketing strategies, solicit sponsorship, and encourage community involvement in the development of the arts in Hong Kong.

Under this three-year pilot scheme, 20 venue partners comprising 34 performing groups in single, joint or consortium ventures are engaged in organising a variety of arts activities at 11 performing arts venues. They are given support in the form of priority use of venue facilities, funding and enhanced publicity.

Some 627 stage performances and 583 educational, promotion and audience-building activities were organised by the venue partners in 2010. Some 667 500 people attended or took part in those performances and activities.

Indoor Stadia

The Hong Kong Coliseum and the Queen Elizabeth Stadium are two of the largest multi-purpose indoor stadia in Hong Kong. The 12 500-seat coliseum is a prime venue for large-scale musical performances, sporting, cultural celebratory events. The 3 500-seat Queen Elizabeth Stadium celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2010.

In 2010, a total of 53 and 152 events were staged in the coliseum and the stadium, attracting over 1 706 700 and 380 000 spectators respectively.

West Kowloon Cultural District

The West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD), a 40-hectare prime waterfront site located at the southern tip of the West Kowloon Reclamation Area, will be developed as an integrated arts and cultural district with world class facilities. It aims to provide space for the long-term development of the arts and cultural sector, foster the growth and development of culture and creative industries, and promote Hong Kong's image as an international metropolis with a vibrant arts and cultural landscape. The WKCD will be a cradle for artistic talent, a place for enriching cultural taste and a hub for fusing Eastern and Western cultures.

The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority's first priority is to draw up a development plan for the district. Taking into account public and stakeholders' view collected during the Stage 1 Public Engagement exercise, the three world-class master planning teams commissioned by the Authority have each prepared a conceptual plan for the WKCD, which were unveiled during the three-month Stage 2 Public Engagement exercise completed in November 2010. One of the conceptual plans will be chosen to serve as the basis for preparing the Development Plan.

The Authority also has to organise the art programmes offered at the WKCD site and the community to bring arts to the public. The Authority endeavours to

nurture artistic and arts administrative talent, as well as foster a close partnership with local and overseas arts and cultural organisations.

URBTIX

URBTIX (Urban Ticketing System), introduced in 1984, has become the most widely-used computerised ticketing system in Hong Kong, offering a variety of convenient and reliable ticketing services through its network of 41 outlets as well as Internet and telephone booking services. In 2010, new ticket dispensing machines and facilities for accepting payments through China UnionPay cards were introduced at the LCSD's 15 performance venues. Ticket payments amounting to over \$859 million were made through URBTIX in 2010.

Cultural Presentations

LCSD Cultural Presentations

The LCSD provides quality cultural programmes throughout the year. In 2010, a total of 1 057 performances were held, featuring local and visiting artists. More than 459 000 people attended the performances.

A 'Chinese Opera Festival', featuring the art of xiqu, or 'Chinese traditional theatre' was organised by the LCSD, showcasing a variety of operatic genres from different parts of China.

Performances were also held to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of the great composers Chopin and Schumann. They featured world-renowned instrumentalists such as Krystian Zimerman, Piotr Anderszewski and Mischa Maisky. The centenary of the birth of the late Chinese playwright Cao Yu was also celebrated in 2010. Many theatre productions of his famous works, including the *Peking Man* by The Beijing People's Art Theatre, were presented.

The LCSD supports local artists, including those from small- and medium-size art groups, in showcasing their talent in various art forms.

The LCSD continues to explore alternative venues like the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, and Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence for its performances.

In 2010, world-renowned artists and groups such as the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Academy of St Martin in the Fields with Joshua Bell, Sir James Galway, The Duke Ellington Orchestra and Cloud Gate Dance Theatre performed in Hong Kong. Operas held in 2010 included Puccini's *La Bohème* by Opera Hong Kong and Donizetti's *La Fille du Régiment* by Musica Viva, which featured international and local singers.

Entertainment Programmes

The LCSD organised 645 carnivals and district art shows which had a total audience of 845 000.

Outdoor extravaganzas included Lunar New Year and Mid-Autumn lantern carnivals, featuring ethnic song and dance performances by arts groups from

Heilongjiang and Jilin and a New Year's Eve 'countdown' carnival. A series of community thematic carnivals tailor-made for the community in Tuen Mun, Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung as well as outdoor events providing performance platform for youth talents, such as the Youth Band Marathon, were also organised.

A new outdoor event, 'Swing Party', featuring professional overseas swing dancers and local jazz bands was presented in association with the Hong Kong Fringe Club. To enhance cultural exchanges between local and Asian communities in Hong Kong, the LCSD again organised the 'Asian Ethnic Cultural Performances' in co-operation with the Consulates-General of Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Arts Education and Audience-building Projects

During the year, the LCSD organised 1 334 arts education and audience-building activities in schools, community halls and other public venues to promote the arts and encourage more people to take part in cultural activities.

A new initiative called 'Community Oral History Theatre', which gives elderly people a chance to perform their memorable past experiences on stage, was introduced on a trial basis in the Sham Shui Po district in 2010.

Major Cultural Events

Hong Kong Arts Festival

Held annually in February and March, the Hong Kong Arts Festival is one of Asia's most prestigious international festivals. In 2010, the 38th Festival presented 113 performances with a 96 per cent ticket sales, attracting over 120 000 people.

Twelve world premieres and 12 Asian premieres were presented at the festival.

The festival opened with 'Cantonese Opera Treasures', featuring more than 150 artists from the Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong in a revival of classic set pieces. A highlight was the legendary Mariinsky Theatre from St Petersburg with performances presented in opera, concert and ballet.

Other highlights included concerts by three visiting orchestras – Mariinsky Orchestra with Valery Gergiev; Philharmonia Orchestra with Fabio Luisi and Freiburg Baroque Orchestra with René Jacobs; and by their local contemporaries, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta. Recitalists included Mikhail Rudy and Andreas Scholl.

The festival also featured a wealth of jazz and world music and platforms for young local artists, including composer Samson Young and pianist Wong Chi-yan.

Theatre productions included works by Steven Berkoff, Sam Mendes, Lin Zhaohua, Pai Hsien-yung and Ivan Heng, and, from the local pantheon: Fredric Mao and Danny Yung, with Lee Chun-chow and Wong Wing-sze in collaboration, as well as outstanding visiting young companies like chelfitsch Theatre Company and Red Leap Theatre.

International Arts Carnival

The International Arts Carnival which took place in July-August 2010 was the largest summer annual arts festival presented by the LCSD to provide healthy, educational and entertaining programmes for children and family members. The carnival opened with the famous ballet *Peter Pan* presented by the British 'Northern Ballet Theatre'.

Ten visiting performing groups and 42 local troupes participated in the carnival, offering a colourful array of programmes. ranging from classical ballet, puppetry to pop concerts and modern dance. Some 133 800 people attended the carnival's 405 events.

New Vision Arts Festival

The fifth edition of the New Vision Arts Festival took place in 2010 in the same avant garde style as before, featuring innovative and outstanding cross cultural music, dance and theatre performances with an Asian focus. The festival presented a number of world-premiered performances including the dynamic concert by legendary diva Dadawa alongside ethnic and contemporary musicians, and the rapturous concert *The Butterfly Effect: East-West Percussive Parade* by Budgie (UK), Leonard Eto, Sugizo (Japan), Mabi (South Africa) and Knox Chandler (USA). There were also new explorations of the traditional arts such as the phenomenal Sino-Japanese version of Kunqu opera, *The Peony Pavilion*, presented by Japanese Kabuki master, Bando Tamasaburo, in collaboration with the Suzhou Kunqu Opera Theatre of Jiangsu Province.

Theatrical productions such as *Grand Expectations* by Edward Lam Dance Theatre featuring artists from the Mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong; and *Next Generations* by Tang Shu Wing Theatre Studio and Drama Box (Singapore) were also presented in 2010.

Heritage

Lord Wilson Heritage Trust

The Lord Wilson Heritage Trust was established in 1992 to promote the preservation and conservation of Hong Kong's heritage by means of funding to support community organisations and individuals undertaking heritage related activities and research projects.

During 2010, the trust granted around \$1.04 million to support six heritage-related projects.

Museums

Hong Kong Museum of Art

In 2010, the Hong Kong Museum of Art organised a number of major exhibitions in partnership with different institutions. These included 'Touching Art: Louvre's Sculptures in Movement', jointly presented by the LCSD and the Louvre Museum in collaboration with the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and

Macao. Special facilities and services were also provided to enable visually-impaired people to enjoy and appreciate art. To foster close partnership with local collectors, a new initiative, 'Hong Kong Collection Series', was launched. The series presented 'Grandeur of Chinese Art Treasures: Min Chiu Society Golden Jubilee Exhibition' and 'Nobility and Virtue: A Selection of Late Ming and Early Qing Paintings and Calligraphies from The Chih Lo Lou Collection' which showcased internationally famed private collections in Hong Kong.

In order to honour the internationally acclaimed master painter Wu Guanzhong's generous donation of paintings, the museum exhibited his works under the banner, 'Lofty Integrity: Donation of Works by Wu Guanzhong'. Other themed exhibitions held in 2010 included 'New Vision: New Colours', 'Hong Kong Diary: Response Exhibition of the 53rd Venice Biennale', 'Hong Kong Contemporary Art Biennial Awards 2009', 'The Ultimate South China Travel Guide – Canton II (the Last Episode)' and 'A Landscape Journey: Chinese Landscape Painting from the Xubaizhai Collection'. Some 326 417 people visited the museum in 2010.

The museum organised as well as participated in many educational activities. Some of these were co-organised with other government departments, NGOs, cultural organisations and art groups to promote the visual arts.

To coincide with the Shanghai Expo, works by Hong Kong artists were displayed at two exhibitions, 'Legacy and Creations – Ink Art vs Ink Art' and 'Legacy and Creations – Art vs Art' at the Shanghai Art Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Art. The museum lent its support to the 'East Meets West: Wu Guanzhong's Art Retrospective Exhibition' held at the Zhejiang Art Museum by lending some of its collections for display at the exhibition.

Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware

The Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware collection features tea ware and related vessels from the collection of the late Dr K S Lo as well as rare Chinese ceramics and seals donated by the K S Lo Foundation. The winning works of Hong Kong potters were shown at the '2010 Tea Ware by Hong Kong Potters' exhibition held in the museum. Some 169 913 people visited the museum in 2010.

The museum also organised many activities to enhance people's knowledge of the art of tea drinking and tea ware.

Hong Kong Museum of History

In addition to the permanent exhibition, 'The Hong Kong Story', the Hong Kong Museum of History held three major thematic displays in collaboration with Mainland and local cultural, academic and charitable organisations. These included 'Legends of Luxury and Elegance: Lifestyles of the Han Nobility' held jointly with the Hunan Provincial Museum. The exhibits included relics from the Han tombs at Mawangdui and other sites in the ancient Changsha kingdom. The museum also held displays of local history which included 'In Memory of The King of Radio Broadcasting – Exhibition of Mr Chung Wai-ming's Collection', 'Memories We Share: Hong Kong in the 1960s and 1970s', 'Under the Trees: the History of Hong Kong Village Schools'

and 'Witness of Time: Photos of Central and Western District in the 1970s'. More than 606 800 people visited the museum during 2010.

The Hong Kong Museum of History also manages five branch museums: the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, the Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum and the Law Uk Folk Museum.

The Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence was converted from the old Lei Yue Mun Fort in Shau Kei Wan. In addition to its permanent exhibition, '600 Years of Hong Kong's Coastal Defence', the museum staged two thematic shows 'Escape from Hong Kong: The Road to Waichow' and 'British Army Aid Group Drawings'. Some 130 000 people visited the museum in 2010.

The Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum housed in historic Kom Tong Hall contains exhibits relating to Dr Sun's life and career. In addition to the two permanent exhibitions there, two thematic exhibitions, 'Kom Tong Hall • the Artefacts' and 'Revolution Once More: Dr Sun Yat-sen from Xing Zhong Hui to the Governments in Guangzhou' were held in 2010. Some 88 900 people visited the museum during the year.

The Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery in Quarry Bay Park displays the decommissioned fireboat and literature on the history of fireboats and sea rescue as well as relics. Some 80 600 people visited the gallery in 2010.

The other two branch museums, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum in Sham Shui Po and the Law Uk Folk Museum in Chai Wan, attracted some 33 000 and 13 000 visitors respectively.

Hong Kong Heritage Museum

Two large-scale exhibitions, 'City Flâneur: Social Documentary Photography' and 'Act • Live – Hong Kong International Poster Triennial 2010' were held in 2010 to celebrate the museum's 10th anniversary. The former featured some 260 works by 35 groups of artists which epitomised the development of contemporary documentary photography in Hong Kong since the 1950s. The latter, jointly organised with the Hong Kong Designers Association, displayed 190 outstanding pieces and sets of posters from 23 countries and regions around the world. Seventeen works by the prominent Taiwan calligrapher, Ms Tong Yang-tze, were notable in the cultural and artistic exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan in 2010 as well as in the cross-over collaboration among artists from different media.

The South China Research Center of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, commissioned by the LCSD in 2009, continued the territory-wide survey of Hong Kong's intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in 2010. In addition, field trips, talks, demonstrations and displays were held to raise public appreciation of Hong Kong's ICH.

The museum ran a variety of programmes to help children, young people, ethnic minority groups and others in the community to know more about art and culture and to appreciate them.

The Hong Kong Heritage Museum also manages three branch museums. The first of these, the Sam Tung Uk Museum in Tsuen Wan, was originally a Hakka walled village built in 1786. It was declared a monument in 1981 and later converted as a museum.

The Railway Museum in Tai Po comprises the old Tai Po Market Railway Station building, two historic locomotives and several coaches. The station building was constructed in 1913 in a Chinese style and was declared a monument in 1984.

The Sheung Yiu Folk Museum in Sai Kung Country Park is housed in a Hakka village, which was built in the late 19th century and comprises several domestic units, pig pens, an open courtyard and an entrance gate-tower. The village and a nearby lime kiln were gazetted as monuments in 1981.

The Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Sam Tung Uk Museum, Hong Kong Railway Museum and Sheung Yiu Folk Museum were visited by 422 008, 94 862, 205 326 and 52 908 people respectively in 2010.

Hong Kong Science Museum

The Hong Kong Science Museum joined forces with the Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Co-ordination to hold an exhibition of an animated version of the Song Dynasty scroll, the 'River of Wisdom – Animated Version of the Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival', which was projected on a giant screen at the AsiaWorld-Expo at the Hong Kong International Airport in November 2010.

The scroll, portraying a riverside scene at the Qingming Festival 900 years ago, was created by the renowned artist, Zhang Zeduan of the Northern Song Dynasty.

The same digitised scroll was shown earlier at the Shanghai Expo and was hailed as a star exhibit.

A new exhibition, 'Jockey Club Environmental Conservation Gallery', opened in August 2010. Its exhibits demonstrate the importance of environmental conservation and encourage visitors to adopt sustainable lifestyles and to use natural resources wisely.

A four-month exhibition of the works and inventions of Leonardo da Vinci opened in October 2010. The exhibits included machine models constructed based on his codices and replicas of his most famous paintings, *The Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*.

The museum also collaborated with the Hongkong Post to hold a competition to design a stamp to honour Professor Charles Kao who was awarded the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physics for his groundbreaking achievements in fibre optics communication.

The museum's Science News Corner staged two thematic exhibitions: 'Transgenic Fish for Rapid Monitoring Estrogenic Pollution' and 'Life in the Universe'. These were organised jointly with the City University of Hong Kong and The University of Hong Kong to introduce their research achievements. The exhibitions together with the permanent displays attracted more than 1 839 000 visitors.

Five leading scientists, Professor Su Dingqiang, Professor He Huawu, Chief Engineer Feng Maorun, Professor Albert F Chan and Professor Henry N C Wong from the Mainland and Hong Kong delivered lectures as part of the 'Distinguished Chinese Scientists Lecture Series 2010', organised jointly by the China Association for Science and Technology, Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Centre, the China Association (Hong Kong) for Science and Society and the Museum. The lectures were about the beauty of science, telescope and astronomy, development of Chinese railways and bridges, and drugs and organic synthesis.

'Science Alive 2010', sponsored by the Croucher Foundation and jointly presented with the British Council and the Education Bureau, offered a variety of educational activities including science communication contests, debates, lectures, workshops, demonstrations and science walkabouts.

During 2010, the museum worked with academic institutions, professional bodies and government departments on a number of special programmes. These included a 'Fun Science' competition, a primary science project exhibition, a Hong Kong student science project competition, the 43rd Joint School Science Exhibition', 'Robotic Olympiad', Research Grants Council public lectures and a 'Science in the Public Service' campaign.

Hong Kong Space Museum

The Hong Kong Space Museum introduced a new stargazing facility known as the Astropark on January 30, 2010. The Astropark is a novel theme park with stargazing facilities located within the Chong Hing Water Sports Centre in Sai Kung. Equipped with typical Chinese and Western astronomical instruments used in ancient and those of today, the Astropark offers recreational, educational and astronomical facilities for public enjoyment.

More than 790 000 people visited the museum's exhibitions and shows in the Space Theatre while 23 000 people took part in the educational and extension programmes in 2010.

Art Promotion Office

The Art Promotion Office organised numerous activities and projects in 2010 in collaboration with different organisations to promote public and community art. These included workshops and an art competition for disabled artists as well as three exhibitions featuring artworks by disabled persons, the elderly and people with special needs. Amongst others, *The Late Version of Shan Hai Jing – Works by Lam Yuk-lin* under the 'Artist in the Neighbourhood Scheme' was presented between February and March 2010 to end its fourth round of the scheme. *ArtAlive@Park* which has dressed up four public parks – Hong Kong Park, Kowloon Park, Sha Tin Park and Tuen Mun Park with new creation of images such as sculptures, photos and paintings by students of four universities in December 2010.

Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre

The Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre, under the management of the Art Promotion Office has eight art studios, a lecture theatre, an exhibition hall and two

multi-purpose rooms which are used for training in the visual arts, promotion, and for hire.

The centre organised a series of events, one of which is the 'Artist in Residence 2010' programme which supports and promotes the development of new media art in Hong Kong. A series of Chinese culture, painting and calligraphy workshops and lectures was organised to promote Chinese arts. The centre also co-operated with various higher education institutes and art organisations such as The Chinese University of Hong Kong's Department of Fine Arts, Hong Kong Sculpture Society, Artist Commune, Hong Kong Visual Arts Society, Hong Kong Open Printshop, the organising committee of the Art Specialist Course Exhibition and Videotage, to organise art exhibitions and educational programmes for the public.

Hong Kong Film Archive

The Hong Kong Film Archive acquires, preserves, catalogues and documents Hong Kong films and related materials. The building houses a cinema, an exhibition hall, a resource centre and four temperature-controlled storerooms for the films and related materials. It has acquired more than 9 500 films and 1 000 000 related materials, mainly through donations and deposits. The Orange Sky Golden Harvest Entertainment Co Ltd donated 96 titles of films that it distributed between the 1950s and 2000s, and more than 100 items of film related materials to the film archive in 2010. Major film titles acquired in 2010 included *Body Guards and Assassins*, *Claustrophobia* and *Echoes of the Rainbow*. More than 700 items of film-related materials were acquired from Mr James Wong, an artifact collector.

Major events held by the Hong Kong Film Archive during 2010 included the exhibitions namely 'A Creative Journey with Lung Kong' which showcased the unique, outstanding and bold vision of the film director as well as the essence of his films, 'Capturing Light And Shadow: A Tribute to Two Master Cinematographers' highlighted the contributions of two outstanding Hong Kong cinematographers and the under-sung heroes of film, Ho Look-ying and Bill Wong and the Hong Kong Film Archive 10th Anniversary Exhibition 'Glamour Everlasting' which showcased the rarely seen photos and archival items donated by film stars.

Central Conservation Section

The Central Conservation Section looks after paintings, documents, prints, textiles, metals, ceramics, organic materials and archaeological finds. In 2010, its specialist conservators treated 1 176 artefacts, and implemented a series of preservation programmes, scientific analyses and conservation researches for the museum objects.

As part of its extension and education services, the section organised 37 workshops, laboratory tours, thematic talks and school visits for students and others. A total of 1 892 people took part in these events. The section also runs a Conservation Volunteer programme in which over 40 volunteers were recruited, providing 1 200 hours of community service in 2010.

The section continued collaborating with Airport Authority Hong Kong in organising two cultural exhibitions, 'Discovering Hong Kong's Cultural Traditions' and 'Bits of Old Hong Kong' at the Hong Kong International Airport to promote the city's heritage and culture and to enable visitors to experience the distinctive culture of Hong Kong. The former exhibition comprised 24 colourful exhibits illustrating Hong Kong's traditional festivals such as the popular 'Bun Carnival', the 'Dragon Boat Festival' and Cantonese opera stage scenes while the latter included some 90 historical photographs of old Hong Kong, depicting the evolution of Hong Kong's lifestyle in the aspects of costumes, trade, transportation and daily life since the early 20th Century.

The section was represented at a number of prestigious forums in 2010. These included the International Federation of Library Associations and Institution's Conference on Preservation of Books and Archives, ICOM-CC-International Conference on Historic Metals Conservation (Metal 2010), the 7th International Conference on Structural Analysis of Historic Construction and the 22nd General Conference of the International Council of Museums, at which four research papers on the work and achievements of the section were presented for experience-sharing with overseas conservation experts.

Public Libraries

The LCSD operates a network of Hong Kong public libraries (HKPL) comprising 66 static and 10 mobile libraries. It also runs a books registration office.

Hong Kong's public libraries hold more than 10 million books and over one and a half million items of multimedia material. They serve close to four million registered book borrowers to whom the libraries lent more than 60 million books and other library material in 2010.

Hong Kong Central Library

The Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL) is a major information and cultural centre housed in a 12-storey building with a total floor area of 33 800 square metres. It has a stock of 2.4 million books and other reading materials and provides a full range of library and multimedia facilities, a central reference library with six subject departments, an arts resource centre, a Hong Kong literature room, a map library, a language learning centre, a young adult library and a toy library.

It offers for hire a 1 500 square-metre exhibition gallery, a 290-seat lecture theatre, two activity rooms, a music practice room and eight discussion rooms.

In addition to its regular cultural activities and talks, the library organises a wide range of programmes for large audiences.

Improvements to Library Services

The HKPL improves continuously its services by enriching its library collection, enhancing its reference and information services, and making full use of information technology.

In July, the Tung Chung Public Library, located in the Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, was reprovisioned, significantly strengthening the library services in the area.

The public libraries continue to work closely with the District Councils and local organisations to promote and develop further a partnership scheme, called Libraries@neighbourhood for lending books to people in all of Hong Kong's districts. By the end of 2010, there were 188 community libraries in operation across Hong Kong.

The public libraries work with the Education Bureau to provide library cards to primary school students to encourage them to use library services. Self-learning course materials from the Open University of Hong Kong are available to students in 16 public libraries.

Reference and Information Services

Reference and information services are provided at the Hong Kong Central Library and the five major libraries located in Kowloon, Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun and at the City Hall, on Hong Kong Island. The Central Library also has a large store of reference material on Hong Kong studies and on international organisations. Professional reference services are provided at many libraries and resource centres.

Online reference services are an integral part of the HKPL's reference and information services.

Information Technology Initiatives and Digital Library Initiatives

The HKPL's Library Automation system is one of the largest computerised library systems equipped with Chinese and English capabilities in the world.

At the end of 2010, over 870 000 people had registered to use their smart ID cards as library cards and over 1 700 library computers had access to the Internet.

The HKPL's Multimedia Information System (MMIS) provides a powerful one-stop search facility enabling users to search multimedia archives and look for digitised documents via the Internet.

Outreach Programmes and Promotion of Reading and Literary Arts

Outreach programmes form an integral part of the library services. In 2010, the HKPL organised a balanced mix of activities for people of all ages. Regular programmes including storytelling sessions, book exhibitions, and community talks were held throughout the year.

A total of 21 010 library outreach programmes were conducted in 2010. A variety of reading programmes and reading-related activities were organised to promote reading and sustain an interest in reading. These included a 'Summer Reading Month' designed for children and their families, a series of meet-the-author sessions, and events held by the HKPL's reading clubs for teenagers and families.

Creative competitions under the title 'Cities Today' were held to celebrate the '4.23 World Book Day' and as a tie-in activity for the Shanghai Expo's 'Better City, Better Life' crusade.

The HKPL continued promoting creative writing and appreciation of literature in 2010. One of its major events was the 8th Hong Kong Literature Festival which presented a variety of literary programmes conducted by renowned overseas and local scholars and writers. The festival had become the hub for literary enthusiasts.

Cultural Exchange

In 2010, Hong Kong's public libraries co-operated and strengthened ties with their counterparts elsewhere, in exchanging library news and matters of mutual interest. 'The Best Book Design: An Exhibition of award-winning books in Germany, Mainland China and Hong Kong' was organised jointly with the Goethe-Institut in Hong Kong to give the public a view of the best books produced in these places. The HKPL and the Shenzhen Library also held creative writing competitions to celebrate '4.23 World Book Day' at which Shenzhen's and Hong Kong's winning entries were displayed.

Books Registration Office

The Books Registration Office helps preserve Hong Kong's literary heritage by adopting internationally-recognised standards and systems for numbering and recording publications in the territory.

It publishes an updated catalogue of Hong Kong-printed books in the Government Gazette every three months. The catalogue can also be viewed on the Internet. In 2010, the office registered 14 471 books, 11 736 periodicals, and issued 15 890 book numbers (ISBNs) for 1 031 publishers.

Shanghai Expo

Hong Kong took part in the Shanghai Expo in 2010 highlighting its vibrancy to visitors from around the world and the Mainland. The city held 20 performing arts and two visual art exhibitions carrying the theme: 'Creativity, Connectivity and Vibrancy'. The performing arts shows comprised Cantonese opera, Chinese and Western music, dance, chamber opera and drama, while visual art exhibitions featured works of ink art and contemporary art in various media. The rich diversity of programmes prepared by some of Hong Kong's best-known and respected culturally talented people, as well as future generations of young and emerging stars, was designed to highlight the uniqueness of Hong Kong's cultural scene and to provide a platform for Hong Kong and Mainland artists to exchange ideas and experiences.

Sports and Recreation

Hong Kong people are increasingly taking up sports and using public recreational facilities. The LCSD develops and manages these facilities, which include sports grounds, playgrounds, sports centres, holiday camps, water sports centres, swimming pools and beaches. It also organises training courses, sports competitions

and other activities for people of all ages and abilities, and provides parks and landscaped open spaces for leisurely enjoyment.

In addition, the LCSD provides subventions to 25 holiday camps and sea activity centres run by 12 non-governmental organisations. Some 798 457 people participated in activities organised by these camps and sea activity centres in 2010.

The LCSD also issues and renews licences for places of amusement. In 2010 the LCSD processed 76 applications for billiard establishments, nine for public bowling-alleys and seven for public skating rinks.

Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited

The Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited was established on October 1, 2004 to provide an environment in which sports talent can be identified, nurtured and developed. Besides sports facilities, the support given to athletes includes elite coaching and training, sports science, sports medicine, education, applied research and sports information. During the year, 14 sports were covered by the Elite Training Programme: athletics, badminton, billiards, cycling, fencing, karatedo, rowing, squash, swimming, table tennis, tenpin bowling, triathlon, windsurfing and wushu, or Chinese martial art.

The institute also supports outstanding athletes in other sports under the Individual Athletes Support Scheme and the Disabled Sports Elite Training Programme. In 2010, its activities focused on the preparation of athletes for the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games and planning for the redevelopment of the institute.

Sporting Achievements

Hong Kong athletes achieved outstanding results in various international and regional sporting events in 2010, winning a total of 294 gold, 232 silver and 270 bronze medals¹. In particular, the Hong Kong delegation achieved its best-ever results at the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games with eight gold, 15 silver and 17 bronze medals. Athletes with physical disability attained five gold, nine silver and 14 bronze medals at the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Para Games.

Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

The Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong was founded in 1950 and recognised as a National Olympic Committee (NOC) in 1951. It changed its name to 'Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China' (SF&OC) on March 8, 1999. The federation is a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Olympic Council of Asia and the Association of National Olympic Committees and has been responsible for organising Hong Kong's participation in all major multi-sports games such as the Olympic Games, Asian

¹ The information regarding the number of medals is provided by Hong Kong Sports Institute, Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, Hong Kong Paralympic Committee and Sports Association for the Physically Disabled, and Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped in 2010.

Games, Asian Indoor Games and East Asian Games. With a membership of 74 National Sports Associations (NSAs) and sports organisations, it represents the collective voice of the Hong Kong sports community.

Members of the federation are NSAs, which are in turn affiliated to their international federations (IFs) and Asian federations (AFs). They are empowered to co-ordinate and conduct a wide range of activities related to their sports, from organising sports and recreational programmes for beginners to training elite athletes. They also organise and sanction participations in local and overseas competitions and tournaments, and train coaches and referees. NSAs implement and enforce local and international rules and regulations, and represent Hong Kong in meetings of the IFs and the AFs.

The federation has co-ordinated a four-month Festival of Sport each year for half a century. More than 70 of the festival's sporting activities were organised by over 60 NSAs to promote sport for all. It also organises extensive educational programmes for sports leaders, administrators, coaches and technical officials free of charge, notably through the Hong Kong Olympic Academy which offers free sports management and sport science courses and programmes.

The federation launched a comprehensive retirement scheme, called 'Hong Kong Athletes Career Programme' (HKACEP) in September 2008 in response to a proposal made by the Chief Executive in his Policy Address.

The scheme provides financial support from the Government and commercial sponsors for Hong Kong's top athletes to obtain an education and develop a career for their post-athletic life. More than 100 athletes from 34 NSAs have been benefiting from the scheme in the past two years.

The Hong Kong Anti-Doping Committee, established as an independent committee under the auspices of the federation in April 2008, continued to operate and is committed to preserving a doping-free environment for fair play in sport and is responsible for the planning and implementation of the anti-doping programme in Hong Kong.

With the support of sponsors, the federation organises the annual Hong Kong Sports Stars Awards, the 'Oscars' of local sport, to recognise the achievements of top athletes. The presentation of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Sports Stars Awards 2009 was held in conjunction with the federation's annual spring dinner in March. Athlete Wong Steven Patrick Marie Josee was awarded the most coveted Bank of China (Hong Kong) Best of Best Hong Kong Sports Star Award.

With the remarkable achievement at the 5th East Asian Games in Hong Kong in 2009, local athletes excelled again at the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games, garnering 40 medals: eight gold, 15 silver and 17 bronze to rank 11th in the Games medals tally, an impressive achievement for a city of Hong Kong's size.

Hong Kong Paralympic Committee and Sports Association for the Physically Disabled

To keep growing, the Hong Kong Paralympic and Sports Association for the Physically Disabled underwent a significant overhaul in 2010 which included improving the secretariat's administrative structure, and reviewing thoroughly the development of each of the sports in which its athletes take part.

Also in 2010, a talent identification programme was launched for the first time to identify potential among new athletes, a much-needed move to keep sporting activities for the disabled growing.

The association's athletes continued to do well in regional and international events during the year. Wheelchair fencers continued to excel, and made Hong Kong proud by winning five gold, two silver and four bronze medals at the Paris World Wheelchair Fencing Championships.

Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped

The Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped develops, promotes and organises sporting activities for people with intellectual disability to help them develop fully their potential in sports, to help them cultivate positive attitudes in sportsmanship and to facilitate their integration into the community. The association provides sports training and competitions which had an attendance of 42 823 in 2010. The association had been developing steadily a training programme over the years to cater for all levels of ability.

Athletes took part in many international competitions during the year and made the most of these events to sharpen their skills. Highlights included the 6th Daegu University President's Cup International Adaptive Indoor Rowing Competition in Korea at which Hong Kong won three medals: one gold, one silver and one bronze; the 6th INAS-FID World Indoor Athletics Championships in Sweden at which Hong Kong won two medals: one gold and one silver; the 2010 INAS-FID Open Swimming European Championship in Italy at which Hong Kong won 50 medals: 28 gold, 11 silver and 11 bronze; the 2010 IPC Swimming World Championships in the Netherlands at which Hong Kong won three medals: one gold, one silver and one bronze; the 2010 FISA World Rowing Championships in New Zealand at which Hong Kong won one gold medal; the 5th INAS-FID Open European Table Tennis Championships in Poland at which Hong Kong won ten medals: six gold, one silver and three bronze; the 2nd INAS-FID World Indoor Rowing Championships in Portugal at which Hong Kong won five medals: three silver and two bronze.

Hong Kong athletes also achieved excellent results at the 2010 Special Olympics East Asia (SOEA) Regional Athletic Meet in Macao, the 2010 SOEA Regional Badminton Competition in Hong Kong, the 2010 SOEA Regional Bowling Competition in Taiwan and the 2010 Special Olympics Korea National Summer Games in Korea, the 5th Special Olympics Games of the People's Republic of China in China. A total of 228 medals, comprising 122 gold, 63 silver and 43 bronze were won by the intellectually disabled athletes during the year.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Horse racing is one of Hong Kong's most popular sports. The huge turnout on race days, reaching 90 000 sometimes, highlights its popularity.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club is the city's only authorised operator of horse racing. It was founded in 1884 and has become one of the world's largest and most respected racing organisations.

Races are normally held twice a week at Sha Tin in the New Territories and the historical Happy Valley racetrack on Hong Kong Island, drawing an attendance of nearly two million a year. The races are also a big tourist attraction.

In addition, the club offers betting on overseas football matches and runs a lottery, called Mark Six. Regulated football betting was introduced in 2003 at the request of the Government. The club has become the world's biggest football betting operator since then.

The club is Hong Kong's largest single taxpayer, contributing \$13.62 billion to the public purse in 2009-10, or about 7.6 per cent of all taxes collected during the year. It is also one of the city's largest employers, with more than 26 000 full- and part-time staff.

The club is a major community benefactor, operating under a not-for-profit business model. Having no shareholders or dividends to pay, its surpluses are used for funding important charitable and community projects. In 2009-10 it donated a record \$1.52 billion to more than 100 local projects through the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. In recent years it has also actively established several projects of its own to address challenging Hong Kong needs such as holistic youth development, environmental protection and care for the growing number of old people.

The club works closely with the Government to promote responsible gambling behaviour and to combat illegal betting. Since the implementation of betting duty reforms and the introduction of more local race days and overseas simulcasts, the club has been able to regain some of the revenue lost to illegal and offshore bookmakers, but illegal bookmaking remains a concern. Discussions are continuing on the question of introducing additional measures to maintain the club's competitiveness in the face of the growing number of gambling establishments in the region.

The club is a long-time supporter of sports development in Hong Kong. Its donations helped establish the Hong Kong Sports Institute, rebuild the Hong Kong Stadium, and create Hong Kong's only public golf course at Kau Sai Chau. It also built world-class venues at its own cost for staging the Beijing Olympics' equestrian events in Hong Kong, and was a major sponsor of the East Asian Games held in Hong Kong.

In 2010, the club played a significant role in helping neighbouring Guangzhou to host the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games, by designing and building the equestrian venue at Conghua. It also sponsored overseas training for the Hong Kong team who

won Hong Kong's first equestrian medal, a bronze, in the team jumping event at the Games.

The Cathay Pacific Hong Kong International Races held at the Sha Tin Racecourse each December have become widely recognised as the Turf World Championships, with four International Group One events being staged on a single day for a total purse of \$64 million. The 2010 International Races attracted 28 top thoroughbreds from 10 countries, with honours shared evenly by South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong and Britain.

In 2010, a record 19 locally-trained horses were listed in the World Thoroughbred Rankings, placing Hong Kong sixth among the 15 countries and regions listed. Several of the horses won major races overseas during 2010, notably *Ultra Fantasy* whose victory in the Sprinters Stakes in Japan marked the first time an international race was won by an all-Hong Kong team, comprising trainer Ricky Yiu and jockey Alex Lai.

Recreational and Sports Programmes

In 2010, the LCSD organised some 36 500 recreational and sports programmes for about two million participants of all ages and abilities at a total cost of \$124.02 million.

District Sports Teams Training Scheme

To generate greater community interest in sports and to foster a stronger sense of belonging among residents, the LCSD, in collaboration with the respective NSAs, formed basketball, football, handball and fencing teams in 18 districts. About 13 170 young people took part in 254 events organised in 2010.

'Healthy Exercise for All' Campaign

The LCSD and the Department of Health continued to co-organise the 'Healthy Exercise for All' campaign. A variety of promotional activities including a series of roving exhibitions at shopping malls, private residential club houses, schools, centres for youth and for the elderly, LCSD sports centres, public libraries, holidays camps and parks were organised to drive home the message that people of all ages should do daily exercise to stay healthy. Fitness programmes were drawn up for different target groups. The campaign also included hiking and QualiWalk (walking exercise), dancing and rope-skipping programmes. In 2010, about 82 000 people took part in some 1 400 programmes of this kind.

'Sport For All Day'

To support National Fitness Day and to promote 'sport for all' in the community, the LCSD organised a 'Sport For All Day' on August 8, 2010. A series of free-of-charge programmes were organised at designated sports centres in 18 districts, and most of the sports facilities were open to the public free of charge. Over 190 000 people participated in the 'Sport For All Day'.

Territory-wide Events

Corporate Games, a fun and exercise programme, designed specially for working people, attracted some 9 300 people from 251 industrial and commercial organisations in 2010, including 13 sports competitions and a prize presentation ceremony. Another sporting activity, called 'Masters Games', devised for people aged 35 and above, attracted some 3 700 participants in six competitions.

Young Athletes Training Scheme

In 2010, the LCSD commissioned 22 NSAs to provide intermediate level training in 27 sports disciplines for teenagers wishing to become athletes under the Young Athletes Training Scheme. Some 28 340 young people joined the programme. Those showing potential were recommended for further training.

School Sports Programme

The School Sports Programme was drawn up to provide more opportunities for primary, secondary and special school students to participate in sports. To raise the standard of sport in schools, progressive training is provided for students showing potential. The scheme comprises seven subsidiary programmes: a Sport Education Programme, Easy Sport Programme, Outreach Coaching Programme, Sport Captain Programme, Joint School Sports Training Programme, Badges Award Scheme and Sports Award Scheme. In 2010, more than 7 800 sporting events were organised for over 601 000 students.

Community Sports Club Project

The Community Sports Club (CSC) Project is organised by the LCSD in collaboration with the NSAs. In 2010, the LCSD provided support to about 400 CSCs to organise 2 100 sports training activities for 46 100 participants. Seminars and management development programmes were organised for some 560 sports volunteers to help them run community sports clubs.

Through the CSC Enhancement Programme, CSCs were encouraged to make use of LCSD venues during non-peak hours for activities for local people. A total of 294 sports training classes were held for 3 308 participants under the CSC Enhancement Programme. The CSCs were also encouraged to organise more interclub competitions to raise sport standards at the community level.

Sports Subvention Scheme

The LCSD is responsible for providing subvention to the NSAs and other sporting organisations for sports promotion and development. The subvention covers office and personnel expenses and spending on programmes by the NSAs.

During the year, 58 NSAs and 22 sport organisations were provided funds amounting to about \$217 million by the LCSD. A total of 10 775 programmes for different sports were organised by the NSAs and other organisations, attracting 725 428 participants. The most popular training programmes were: the Youth Football Scheme, Hong Kong Youth (Boys and Girls) Basketball Training Scheme, Youth Wushu Training Course and New Generation Table Tennis Training Course.

In 2010, the NSAs were given subsidies under the scheme to stage international events in Hong Kong. These included the Hong Kong Tennis Classic 2010, the 2010 Hong Kong ITU Triathlon Asian Cup, the Hong Kong International Judo Tournament 2010, the FINA Marathon Swimming World Cup – Hong Kong 2010, the 2010 Hong Kong Junior & Cadet Open – ITTF Premium Junior Circuit (Table Tennis), the Hong Kong International Bowls Classic 2010, the 15th Asian Cities Gold Cup Taekwondo Championships and Hong Kong Indoor Open 2010 (Cycling). The LCSD also provided subsidies under the scheme to NSAs to strengthen squad training and to enable athletes representing Hong Kong to participate in overseas competitions.

'M' Mark Support Package

The 'M' Mark Support Package was launched in November 2004 by the Sports Commission's Major Sports Events Committee to seek greater support from the commercial sector and the community for the NSAs in developing more sustainable major international sports events. In addition to logistic support from the Government, some 'M' Mark events also receive funds from the Arts and Sport Development Fund. In 2010, eight events were given 'M' Mark status and/or support packages.

The 3rd Hong Kong Games

Details of the latest biennial Hong Kong sporting event, the 3rd Hong Kong Games (3rd HKG), were announced at a ceremony on June 21, 2010. The Games will take place in May 2011 with about 3 000 athletes competing in eight sports: badminton, basketball, futsal, table tennis, tennis, swimming, volleyball and athletics.

The HKG is part of an initiative to promote 'sport-for-all' in Hong Kong. It is organised by the LCSD in collaboration with the Sports Commission and its Community Sports Committee, 18 District Councils, the SF&OC and the relevant NSAs.

The 4th All-China Games

The 4th All-China Games were held in Hefei, Anhui Province, in May 2010 with Hong Kong taking part in them for the first time. The Games feature non-Olympic sports and are held every four years to promote sports for the general public. The Hong Kong contingent comprised 92 athletes who competed in 19 events and won 97 trophies.

2010 Bun Carnival

Tens of thousands of local and overseas visitors converged on Cheung Chau Island, on the western part of Hong Kong, to watch the popular annual Bun Carnival which was held from May 8-22, 2010. The event was given extensive coverage by the local and international news media. About 8 000 people took part in the festivities, the highlight of which was a bun scrambling competition in which contestants plucked buns from 14-metre high bun towers. A women's division was introduced in the competition in 2010, attracting 44 participants.

Recreational and Sports Venues

Hong Kong Stadium

The Hong Kong Stadium is Hong Kong's largest sports venue, with seating accommodation for 40 000 people. It is used mainly for football and international rugby matches, large-scale community events and variety shows. More than 358 000 people attended 34 events in the stadium in 2010. The major events of 2010 were the popular annual rugby tournament, 'Hong Kong Sevens', the Asian Football Confederation Cup match between South China (Hong Kong) and Al Riffa (Bahrain), and the Xtep Cup, an invitation football match between the Hong Kong League XI and the English football club, Birmingham City.

Water Sports Centres and Holiday Camps

The LCSD manages five water sports centres: Chong Hing, Tai Mei Tuk, Jockey Club Wong Shek, St Stephen's Beach and Stanley Main Beach. It also runs four holiday camps, the Lady MacLehose Holiday Village, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre, and Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village. In 2010, a total of 123 642 people participated in events at the water sports centres and 521 089 visited or stayed at the holiday camps.

Other Sports and Recreational Venues

The LCSD manages 89 sports centres, 37 swimming pool complexes, 256 tennis courts, 290 squash courts, 25 sports grounds, four golf-driving ranges and two public riding schools.

Six major new recreation and sports projects were completed in 2010. These are the Ngau Chi Wan Recreation Ground, Ma On Shan Waterfront Promenade, Swimming Pool Complex in Tung Chung and open space sites in Kwun Tong, Tsing Yi and Tung Chung. Works for 18 other major projects across Hong Kong are under way.

Beaches and Swimming Pools

Swimming is one of Hong Kong's most popular summer pastimes. The LCSD manages 41 beaches: 12 on Hong Kong Island and 29 in the New Territories, and 37 public swimming pool complexes. In 2010, some 10.43 million people used the beaches and 8.55 million visited public swimming pools. Lifeguard services are provided during the swimming season. Lifeguards are also on duty during the winter at the four most popular beaches, Deep Water Bay Beach, Golden Beach, Clear Water Bay Second Beach and Silverstrand Beach.

Parks Managed by LCSD

The LCSD manages 1 530 parks and gardens of different sizes, including 25 major parks.

Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens

The Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens, the oldest public gardens in Hong Kong, occupy an area of 5.6 hectares, overlooking the Central District of Hong

Kong. They were developed between 1861 and 1871. Albany Road runs through the eastern garden, which is home to an extensive collection of birds, while the western garden, opened in 1871, houses mammalian and reptilian exhibits. The botanical section is largely in the eastern garden.

Despite the urban surroundings, the gardens provide a viable conservation centre for endangered species. Fourteen endangered species of mammals, birds and reptiles lived there in 2010. The bird collection is one of the most comprehensive in Asia, comprising about 380 birds of 120 species. Fifteen of these species have reared offspring. The mammal collection consists of about 60 animals of 16 species, mainly primates.

More than 900 species of trees, shrubs, creepers and foliage plants thrive in the gardens. The medicinal plant collection established in 1987 and a greenhouse built in 1993 have generated special public interest in 500 or more species of herbs, orchids, ferns and indoor plants. A new education and exhibition centre was completed in 2008 to provide teaching facilities for participants in guided visits and for the display of botanical and zoological specimens.

Hong Kong Park

Opened in 1991, Hong Kong Park is located at the former military barracks in Central District and occupies an area of about eight hectares. The park, which blends modern design into the natural landscape, features flowing water as its central motif and has artificial waterfalls, streams and ponds.

Major facilities in the park include an aviary, a conservatory, a vantage point for viewing the city, an Olympic Square, squash centre, sports centre, children's playground and a restaurant. The aviary resembles a tropical rainforest in which about 600 birds of 80 different species are kept, including hornbills and pelicans. In 2010, eight bird species in the aviary reared offspring, notably the Java Sparrow, Bali Mynah, Crested Pigeon, Emerald Dove, Green Imperial Pigeon, White-necked Myna, Black-capped Lory and Rainbow Lorikeet.

The conservatory has three sections: the 'Display Plant House', 'Dry Plant House' and 'Humid Plant House'. Adjustable environmental control equipment is installed in these houses to simulate different climatic conditions for plants from arid regions and tropical environments. An expo mascot 'HaiBao' was displayed at the park from June to November, 2010 to promote the Shanghai Expo.

The International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration World Congress Hong Kong 2010

In 2010, LCSD hosted the 22nd International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration (IFPRA) World Congress at the Hong Kong City Hall from November 15-18. It was organised jointly by the LCSD and the Hong Kong Recreation Management Association.

The congress theme was 'Quality Services – Parks, Recreation and Tourism'. The congress featured a balanced mix of speeches and presentations, trade exhibitions,

field trips and social programmes, attracting more than 900 participants including overseas delegates from 21 countries and cities, university and college students and local government officials. It provided a valuable platform for experts, researchers, practitioners and academics in their respective fields to share their thoughts and ideas on how best to deliver their services to the public.

Outward Bound Hong Kong

Outward Bound Hong Kong is a registered charity established in 1970. It is a member of Outward Bound International, the world leader and originator of outdoor experiential education, operating in about 50 schools in more than 30 countries.

Outward Bound's mission is 'to help people discover and develop their potential to care for themselves, others and the world around them through challenging experiences in unfamiliar settings'. Outward Bound provides training for people from all walks of life. The training is designed to foster confidence, responsibility, leadership, teamwork, creative thinking, problem-solving skills and social responsibility. The organisation uses experiential education in its training programme enabling participants to gain insights and skills that can be applied to work and real life situations. More than 8 000 people join the courses every year.

The three training bases — at Sai Kung Tai Mong Tsai headquarters, Wong Wan Chau island base and the new ocean-going vessel *Spirit of Outward Bound Hong Kong* — can accommodate up to 180 students. Training facilities such as sailing boats, kayaks, ropes course, rock wall and a jetty are regularly checked and maintained up to international standards to ensure training safety.

Public courses are organised in Hong Kong as well as outside Hong Kong — in Taiwan, Japan, Sabah, the Philippines, Nepal and along the Silk Road on the Mainland — to cater to people of different ages and needs. There are two courses, subsidised by the Government's Continuing Education Fund, which are designed to strengthen employees' capabilities and their working relationships with colleagues. The courses help participants become more confident and capable in dealing with challenges at work.

In co-operation with schools, colleges, universities and various charitable organisations, Outward Bound continues to deliver school courses for students, teachers, social workers and many others. The courses help individuals to become caring and competent leaders who can make valuable contributions to society.

The organisation also conducts tailor-made courses for corporations and government departments in Hong Kong and in the Mainland.

Adventure Ship

Adventure Ship is a registered charity that operates a 34.5-metre sailing junk, called *Jockey Club Huan* which provides educational training and recreation at sea for young people. Launched in 1977, Adventure Ship is the first charitable programme of its kind in Hong Kong. Adventure Ship is a member of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and is funded mainly by the Community Chest and the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust.

All young people above the age of nine are welcome to join the programme, which promotes personal development, but preference is given to disabled and underprivileged youths.

Jockey Club Huan went into service in April 2006. It can accommodate up to 60 people. The hull of this three-masted traditional-rig sailing junk is made of aluminum. The vessel is equipped with modern navigational devices in addition to a full range of amenities and various barriers-free training facilities tailored for trainees with disabilities.

More than 9 000 young people benefit from the programme each year. The junk plies within Hong Kong waters, and each training trip lasts between one and three days. 'Learning by experience' is the programme's main theme.

The training regime has been carefully designed to cope with different weather conditions and the special needs of young people with different aptitudes and backgrounds. Once on board, participants become members of the ship's supplementary crew and work alongside their peers. Instructors guide them and temper them to face challenges and to be self-reliant. The exercises also foster camaraderie and team spirit.

Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association

The Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association (HKYHA) is a non-profit-making organisation providing quality and economical hostel accommodation in Hong Kong and overseas. Its primary aim is to encourage healthy outdoor activities for young people and to promote travel, cultural and international youth exchange programmes. Hong Kong's Chief Executive is the association's patron.

Established in 1973, the HKYHA has 37 years of experience in running, planning and marketing hostels. The association is affiliated with Hostelling International, an organisation with over four million members around the world.

The HKYHA is currently operating seven youth hostels in Hong Kong, and has over 30 000 life members and 25 000 individual and corporate members.

The association organised the Ngong Ping Charity Walk at the scenic North Lantau Island Country Park in January during the year. It attracted over 1 500 participants and raised much needed funds for hostel improvement, environmental protection and conservation projects. During the year, the HKYHA worked closely with the Government to revitalise Mei Ho House, a seven-storey resettlement block in Shek Kip Mei, to be used as a city hostel, making it a landmark in Sham Shui Po. The hostel is expected to be opened in 2012.

Country and Marine Parks

Some 40 per cent of Hong Kong's total land area has been designated as country parks and special areas for nature conservation, outdoor recreation and nature education. The 24 country parks and 17 special areas provide extensive hiking trails, barbecue, picnic and camp sites and visitors' centres which attracted over 13 million visitors in 2010. To better preserve and manage the Hong Kong National Geopark, five geologically important sites will be designated as special areas in early 2011.

There are four marine parks and one marine reserve for the conservation of marine life. In these marine parks, visitors may enjoy and learn about the beauty and diversity of marine life in Hong Kong. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department manages the country parks, special areas, marine parks, marine reserve, the Hong Kong Wetland Park and Hong Kong National Geopark.

Hong Kong National Geopark

The Hong Kong National Geopark covers a land area of 5 000 hectares. It includes two regions covering eight geo-areas, each with its unique geological features. The Sai Kung Volcanic Rock Region displays spectacular hexagonal volcanic rock columns, which are considered world class both in terms of size and coverage. The Northeast New Territories Sedimentary Rock Region represents the most comprehensive stratigraphy of sedimentary rocks in Hong Kong, ranging from Devonian sandstone and conglomerate of about 400 million years of age to Tertiary siltstone of 65 million years old.

With the setting up of the geopark, Hong Kong's valuable geological resources will be better preserved and protected. The Government will continue its publicity and education programme to enhance public awareness of geoconservation.

Hong Kong Wetland Park

The 61-hectare Hong Kong Wetland Park is a special area designated under the Country Parks Ordinance. Located in the northern part of Tin Shui Wai and the southern tip of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site, it is a venue for promoting wetland conservation, education and ecotourism in Hong Kong.

The park gives visitors the opportunity to appreciate wetlands and the wildlife of Hong Kong in an open and natural setting. In 2010, the park attracted over 440 000 visitors. The park also organised various education and publicity programmes such as the 'Insect Chorus' and 'Bird Watching Festival' to cultivate awareness of wetland conservation.

Green Promotion-Initiatives

Green Hong Kong Campaign

Various community and educational activities were organised in 2010 to enhance public awareness of the importance of 'greening' the environment. These activities were carried out under different programmes such as the 'Green Volunteer Scheme', 'Community Planting Day', 'Greening Hong Kong Activities Subsidy Scheme' and promotional talks.

More than 850 schools and kindergartens took part in a 'Greening School Subsidy Scheme' to promote environmentally friendly initiatives. The scheme provided an opportunity for students to try their hand at gardening under the guidance of their teachers and LCSD staff. About 360 000 students from over 1 120 schools participated in a 'One Person, One Flower' programme. Gloxinia seedlings were given to students to plant at home or in their schools.

A LCSD's community garden programme for building at least one community garden in each district was carried out in all of the scheme's 18 districts. A total of 46 gardening courses were conducted during the year, attended by 9 700 participants. A total of 20 tree planting activities were organised by the districts, attracting an attendance of over 5 300.

Hong Kong Flower Show

The Hong Kong Flower Show is a major event, organised by the LCSD to promote horticulture and an awareness of the need for a green environment. It provides an opportunity every year for hundreds of thousands of Hong Kong people and horticulture lovers from around the world to enjoy the beauty and diversity of flowers and to share their experiences in flower cultivation. Participants in the show are from Hong Kong, Mainland and overseas horticultural associations, floral art clubs, green groups, district councils, schools and the general public.

A range of educational and recreational activities was organised on the sidelines of the show. About 200 horticultural organisations from 21 countries took part in the 2010 show in March at the Victoria Park, attracting more than 538 000 visitors.

Horticulture and Landscape Services

The LCSD is responsible for planting and maintaining the plants at the city's public parks, gardens and recreational and sports venues. It also provides horticultural maintenance for the roadside amenity areas. In 2010, the department planted 3.13 million plants, including trees, shrubs and seasonal flowers and carried out landscape improvement projects for 31.2 hectares of park land and roadside amenity areas.

Summer Youth Programme

The Summer Youth Programme (SYP) is a community-building programme co-ordinated by the Home Affairs Department which provides a wide range of cultural and arts, sports and all-round development activities for children and young people aged between six and 25 during the summer holidays. In 2010, the slogan 'Be Confident, Be Positive, the Future is in Your Hands' was adopted to encourage young people to be positive and proactive and to embrace opportunities for self-enrichment. Around 11 000 SYP activities were organised with more than one million people taking part in them². The cost of holding these events was about \$47 million, of which \$16.8 million was donated by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The balance was met by subvention from the Government and District Councils, private donation and participants' fees.

Websites

Home Affairs Bureau: www.hab.gov.hk

Leisure and Cultural Services Department: www.lcsd.gov.hk

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department: www.afcd.gov.hk

² including activities organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department independently with its own source of funding.