Chief Executive's Policy Unit

NOVEMBER 2023

Outline

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Significance of policy research

On March 2023, the General Office of the Chinese Communist Party published a document on the significance of policy research, 《关于在全党大兴调查研究的工作方案》.

Key messages:

❖ Research empowers the right to speech; research facilities decision-making. Research seeks facts, and influences implementation. Research is the foundation of political work.

❖ The currency of research escalates in the age of unprecedented changes of global contexts and heightening uncertainties.

❖ Research should stem from engagement with citizens, reflect citizens' needs, address citizens' needs.

❖ Research should be pragmatic and true to realistic conditions; question-oriented and aims at resolving problems. Research results should be turned into actual actions.

❖ The process of research should grasp both holistic and particular views, current and long-term issues, macro and micro perspectives, major and minor controversies, generic and specific relations, forward-looking thinking and holistic strategies.

CEPU Background and Focuses

Background:

The Chief Executive's Policy Unit (CEPU) has commenced operations **since December 28, 2022.** It was set up following Chief Executive's call in his Policy Address (PA) in October 2022 **to enhance the Government's capabilities in research and advocacy on long-term and strategic issues.**

Four focuses:

Long-term and strategic policies	**National development**
International relations and situations	**Social harmony and stability of Hong Kong**

CEPU Organisation Structure

By Hierarchy

Head

❖ Deputy Heads

  ❖ Assistant Heads

    ❖ Research staff

      ❖ Directors

      ❖ Senior Researchers

      ❖ Researchers

      ❖ Other Professionals

  ❖ Support/Administration staff

By Job Functions

Policy Address Special Team

Policy Research Team

Public Policy Research Funding Team

Statistical Analysis Team

Administration Team

CECA and CEPU Expert Group

Chief Executive's Council of Advisers (CECA)

❖ The CE established the CECA in March 2023, inviting local and international experts to advise on Hong Kong's **strategic development.**

❖ Organisation:
  Chair: Chief Executive
  Members: 34 members, divided to 3 streams
  1. Economic advancement and sustainability (11)
  2. Innovation and entrepreneurship (12)
  3. Regional and global collaborations (11)
  In attendance:
    Chief Secretary for Administration
    Financial Secretary
    Secretary for Justice
    Director, Chief Executive's Office
    Head, Chief Executive's Policy Unit

CECA and CEPU Expert Group

CEPU Expert Group

❖ Members of different backgrounds including business, finance, professionals, think-tanks and academia are invited to join the CEPU Expert Group to **provide expert views and new ideas to the CEPU concerning various topics.**

❖ Organisation:
    Chair: CEPU Head
    Members: 56 members, divided to 3 broad streams
       1. Economic advancement (15)
       2. Social development (18)
       3. Research strategy (23)

CEPU Funding Schemes

Aim: Build up external policy research capacity of higher education institutions and think tanks to enhance the Government's capabilities in public policy research and advocacy on long-term and strategic issues.

Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (PPRFS)	Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (SPPRFS)

Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (PPRFS)

- ❖ Applications accepted **throughout the year**
- ❖ Open topics within 8 major themes
- ❖ Shorter research duration, usually **12 months or less**
- ❖ Less research funding, usually **HK$1 million or les**s

Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (SPPRFS)

- ❖ Applications **accepted once a year**
- ❖ Strategic themes and research areas identified by the Government
- ❖ Longer research duration, usually **1-3 years**
- ❖ More research funding, usually **HK$1-3 million**

CEPU Funding Schemes - Themes

Chief Executive's Policy Unit
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of
the People's Republic of China

❖ **Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (PPRFS)**
   a) Co-operation with the Mainland
   b) Land and Housing
   c) Economic Development
   d) Livelihood Issues
   e) Innovation and Technology
   f) Education and Youth Development
   g) Environmental Protection
   h) Political Development and Governance

❖ **Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (SPPRFS) (2023-2024)**
   a) Development Opportunities from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area under the National 14th Five-Year Plan
   b) The Third Generation Internet (Web3)
   c) Public Sector Reform
   d) Achieving Carbon Neutrality
   e) Hydrogen Economy
   f) Sustainable Development of Elderly Care Service under an Ageing Population
   g) Healthcare Innovations in the Post-COVID 19 Pandemic Era
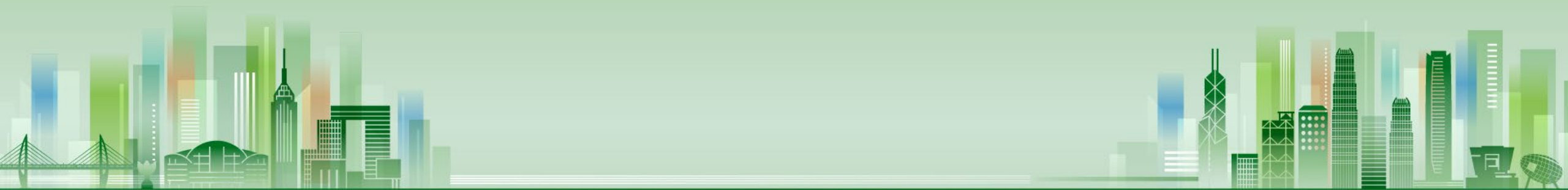   h) Education

Policy Address

❖ In order to tap into local communities and listen to the views and suggestions of member of the public, more than 40 consultation sessions for the 2023 PA were organised within 3 months.

❖ Public views are also tapped though multiple channels, including emails and social media and more than 8700 pieces of public opinion were collected.

行政長官2023年施政報告
The Chief Executive's 2023 Policy Address

Governing Beliefs

Uphold **"One Country, Two Systems"**,
strengthen the economy and improve people's livelihoods

Policy Directions

Sharpen our **edge** and grasp the **opportunities**, while
addressing our shortcomings and any potential risks

Policy Objectives

For people to enjoy **a better living environment**, students to receive **quality education**, young people to fully realise their **potential**, and the elderly to be **well taken care of**. We aspire to create a cohesive and caring community, with a vibrant economy, where everyone can enjoy life

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區

行政長官
2023年
施政報告

2023.10.25

Theme of the Policy Address

A Vibrant Economy for a Caring Community

Governance Blueprint

Based on President Xi Jinping's speech last year at the 25th anniversary of the Hong Kong SAR, put forward "four musts" and "four proposals", and said that "Hong Kong will prosper only when its young people thrive"

Governance Culture

◆ **Emphasised "result-oriented" and "chasing time and results" last year**

◆ **Advocate the "industry-oriented approach" this year to lead Hong Kong to new heights as an economy and a community**

◆ **Achieve a better integration of a capable government and an efficient market by setting up 8 deidcated offices and promulgating 8 industry blueprints**

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區

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Ten PA Highlights

A Vibrant Economy

◆ Three key strategies to **develop Northern Metropolis**

◆ Make all efforts to **compete for and retain talents and enterprises**

◆ Develop **new economic growth impetus**

◆ Boost **stock market**, adjust to the demand-side management measures for **residential properties**, support **SMEs**

◆ Enhance **Three Railways and Three Major Roads proposals**, introduce new **Two Railways and One Major Road** projects

A Caring Community

◆ Establish **a Task Force on Tackling the Issue of Subdivided Units**

◆ Construct **Smart and Green Mass Transit**

◆ Promote **Fertility** and Create a **Pro-childbearing Environment**

◆ Build an **International Hub for Post–secondary Education,** promote **vocational tertiary education**

Uphold "One Country, Two Systems"

◆ Complete legislation of the **Article 23 of the Basic Law,** roll out **patriotic education**

**The Chief Executive's
2023 Policy Address**

Summarising CEPU

❖ **CEPU** is directly supervised by the Chief Executive.

❖ **CEPU** will be directly tasked by the CE on in-depth policy research covering local, national, and international development.

❖ **CEPU** has weekly meetings and discussions with the CE.

❖ **CEPU** directly and actively engaged in and contributed to the preparation work of the 2023 Policy Address.

❖ **CEPU** maintains close communications with our expert group members. In addition to 1-2 large-group meeting(s) annually, frequent exchange of views are conducted via emails, phones, messages, etc., towards ongoing policy research and formulation.

Thank You