

Budget supports business and strengthens livelihoods

Financial Secretary Paul Chan delivered Hong Kong's 2019-20 budget in February, announcing a series of measures designed to support enterprise, safeguard jobs, stabilise the economy and strengthen livelihoods.

Noting that Hong Kong's GDP grew by 3% in 2018, Mr Chan forecast further growth of 2%-3% this year. However, the challenging global environment was likely to restrict Hong Kong's exports, he said, reporting that they had slowed sharply in the latter part of last year as a result of the US-China trade dispute.

Despite this, he struck a cautiously optimistic note. "Hong Kong people have weathered tough times and grown tougher," he said. "With confidence, hope and concerted efforts, we will definitely be able to see the sunshine through the clouds."

Tax reductions

The budget included various measures to help enterprises, including waiving business registration fees for 2019-20. A further HK\$1 billion will also be injected into a special fund to help Hong Kong enterprises explore and develop in the Mainland market. He also announced the extension of a scheme designed to help SMEs facing liquidity problems.

To ease people's financial burden, he reduced salaries tax and tax under personal assessment for 2018-19 by 75 per cent, subject to a ceiling of HK\$20,000. Profits tax for 2018-19 will also be cut by 75 per cent, subject to a ceiling of HK\$20,000.

Smart production

Hong Kong's innovation and technology sector received a massive boost of US\$5.6 billion (HK\$44 billion), including HK\$2 billion to help manufacturers set up smart production lines in Hong Kong and additional resources to support research and development in universities.

Substantial sums were also allocated to healthcare, financial services, arts and culture, creative industries and tourism. He also announced that the government would issue its first batch of green bonds, with proceeds earmarked for investment in environmentally friendly projects.



Above: Financial Secretary Paul Chan delivers the 2019-20 Budget in the Legislative Council.



Above: Mr Chan (second left) holds a press conference at the Central Government Offices in Tamar after delivering the 2019-20 Budget in the Legislative Council. Also pictured: James Lau (second right), Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury; Alice Lau (first left), Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury; and Andrew Au (first right), Government Economist.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...



Welcoming the Year of the Pig
– Page 6



Best immigration service
– Page 5



First Night Nerves in London
– Page 7

The budget speech can be seen in full at:
www.budget.gov.hk/2019/eng/speech.html

●●● Economy

UK-HK trade links deepen



Above: Dr Liam Fox (right), UK Secretary of State for International Trade, pictured with Mr Yau.

Left: Mr Yau (third left) addresses a roundtable discussion at the Asia House in London.

Edward Yau, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, visited London in May to explore opportunities for further co-operation in trade and creative industries between Hong Kong and the UK.

Mr Yau discussed global and bilateral trade during separate meetings with Mark Field, UK Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific, and Dr Liam Fox, UK Secretary of State for International Trade. He also visited UK-based international think tanks Chatham House and the Legatum Institute to exchange views on global economic developments. Hong Kong has recently topped the Legatum Institute's Global Index of Economic Openness 2019, underlining Hong Kong's commitment to upholding free market principles.

Creative industries

During his visit, Mr Yau attended an evening seminar on creative industries and design, jointly organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London and Invest Hong Kong, with support from the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the UK's Department for International Trade. The seminar was attended by people from various creative sectors, who listened to keynote addresses from Mr Yau and Graham Stuart, UK Minister for Investment at the Department for International Trade. Sir John Sorrell, chairman of the London Design Festival, also spoke at the

seminar to talk about UK-Hong Kong collaboration on design and to encourage creative businesses to join the UK mission to Hong Kong's Business of Design Week in December.

Mr Yau also met Margot James, UK Minister of State for Digital and the Creative Industries, to promote closer collaboration between Hong Kong's creative industries and their UK counterparts.

Free trade

While in the capital, Mr Yau attended a breakfast meeting with members of the All Party Parliamentary China Group of the UK Parliament updating MPs on Hong Kong's efforts to forge free trade agreements with like-minded economies. He also outlined how Hong Kong could help companies who want to set up in China, such as a British telecom company that was granted domestic telecom licences in China earlier this year. He also spoke at a Hong Kong Association luncheon where he updated local business leaders on latest developments in Hong Kong.

Speaking at a roundtable discussion at the Asia House in London, Mr Yau encouraged British enterprises to use Hong Kong to help them tap into the opportunities brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative and the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

●●● Finance

St Petersburg International Economic Forum

Financial Secretary Paul Chan attended the St Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) in June, an annual event at which business people discuss economic issues facing Russia, emerging markets and the wider world.

Speaking at a session on global economic order, Mr Chan pointed out trade wars do not have winners. China will continue to open up and promote investment and trade flows with other countries, he said, adding that as the world's leading financial centre Hong Kong will facilitate such national development.

During a session on the future of Russia-China co-operation, Mr Chan said that as a leading financial centre and global hub for offshore RMB business, Hong Kong can support Russian companies to raise funds. Hong Kong can be the financing, risk management and professional services hub for infrastructure projects, he added.

While in St Petersburg, Mr Chan also attended events organised by the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) and, together with RDIF event participants, had a meeting with the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin. He also called on the Deputy Finance Minister of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Kolychev, and attended an RDIF roundtable discussion on investment opportunities in emerging markets.



Above: Mr Chan (third left) attends the St Petersburg International Economic Forum.



Right: Mr Kolychev (second left) meets Mr Chan (second right). Also present is Priscilla To (third right), Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London.

●●● Trade

Nordic maritime links strengthened

Hong Kong's Secretary for Transport and Housing, Frank Chan Fan, visited Denmark and Norway in March to learn more about the maritime industries there and promote Hong Kong as an international maritime centre. Mr Fan was leading an 29-strong delegation from the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, of which he is chairman.

While in Copenhagen, Mr Chan called on the Danish Maritime Authority to learn about the latest developments in Denmark's maritime industry and had a lunchtime meeting with the Global Maritime Forum, which promotes the global development of the industry. He also met representatives from the Baltic and International Maritime Council, Danish Shipping, Danish Shipbrokers Association, Danish Ship Finance and the Danish Maritime Fund to promote Hong Kong's maritime services, such as ship leasing.

Maritime talents

Before heading to Oslo, Mr Chan visited Copenhagen Business School to learn how it nurtures maritime talents. He also attended a seminar-cum-luncheon

co-organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO), the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Denmark-Hong Kong Trade Association, before he met the representative from Green Ship of the Future.

Green shipping

In Oslo, Mr Chan called on Norway's Minister of Trade and Industry, Torbjørn Røe Isaksen, and spoke at a seminar-cum-reception co-organised by the HKETO, the Hong Kong Trade and Development Council, and the Norway-Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce, to strengthen maritime links between the two places. He also viewed a hybrid electric sightseeing vessel before travelling to Bergen where he met local shipping enterprises and inspected different types of green vessel to learn more about the development of green shipping.

He also met with the Mayor of Bergen, Ms Marte Mjøs Persen and representatives from Bergen's maritime sector for a discussion on the maritime development in the two places.



Above: Mr Chan (fourth left) at a meeting with representatives of the Danish Maritime Authority.

Right:

Mr Chan (left) calls on the Minister of Trade and Industry of Norway, Mr Torbjørn Røe Isaksen.



●●● Finance

A dialogue about finance

James Lau, Hong Kong's Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, visited London in May to attend the UK-Hong Kong Financial Dialogue 2019 – a forum which aims to foster closer financial collaboration between the two places.



Above: Mr Lau (second right) co-chairs the UK-Hong Kong Financial Services Government Dialogue with John Glen, UK Economic Secretary to the Treasury (second left).

as green finance, fintech, the Belt and Road Initiative and the Greater Bay Area. At the end of the session, the two governments issued a statement committing themselves to enhancing bilateral co-operation.

While in London, Mr Lau also addressed a luncheon of the Hong Kong Association and visited influential London-based fintech companies which have either recently set up an office in Hong Kong or are planning to do so. He also attended a reception hosted by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, for participants in the Financial Dialogue.

Before leaving the UK, Mr Lau met the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, to exchange views on further financial collaboration between Hong Kong and the UK, particularly in the area of promoting green finance.



Left: Philip Hammond, UK Chancellor of the Exchequer (right) meets Mr Lau to discuss promoting green finance, amongst other topics.

●●● Health

Genetic medicine boost



Hong Kong Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, visited London in January to learn more about the UK's development of genomic medicine – with a view to taking forward the Hong Kong Genomic Project as announced in the Policy Address.

While in the capital she met with the senior management of Genomics England, the company that delivered the 100,000 Genomes project in the UK that sequences whole genomes from National Health Service patients. She also visited hospitals, including the Great Ormond Street Hospital, to understand its genetic and genomic services and the hospital's role in the 100 000 Genomes Project, as well as Genetic Alliance to understand the project from patients' point of view. Before returning to Hong Kong, Prof Chan visited Wellcome Genome Campus in Cambridgeshire and met with professionals who were involved in various stages of the project.

Above: Professor Chan meets with the senior management of Genomics England and the National Health Service (NHS). Professor Chan (third left, front row), with Professor Sue Hill, Chief Scientific Officer of the NHS (second left, front row); Dr Anneke Seller, Scientific Director of the NHS, (second left, back row); Professor John Mattick, Chief Executive Officer of Genomics England, (first left, front row); Dr Mark Bale, Head of Science, Genomics England, (first left, back row); Dr Ron Zimmern, Chairman of PHG Foundation, (third left, back row); Ms Elizabeth Tse, Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health), (second right, front row); and Priscilla To, Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (right, front row).

●●● Economy

Greater Bay Area development plan

Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao co-hosted a symposium in February to introduce an outline development plan for the Greater Bay Area.

The Greater Bay Area, which comprises Hong Kong, Macao and the nine cities in Guangdong province, is one of the most open and economically vibrant regions in China. The plan, drawn up after wide consultation, covers a range of areas including innovation and technology, transport, education and environmental protection. The symposium, which was attended by around 800 representatives, explored development opportunities in the region, which has a population of around 70 million.

Addressing delegates, Carrie Lam, Hong Kong Chief Executive, said the plan illustrated the close cooperation amongst the three governments. She added that Hong Kong's strengths can complement the advantages of the nine Mainland cities within the Greater Bay Area such as the size of their market, an all-rounded industry system and their relative strength in technology. In fact, taking forward the coordinated development of the Greater Bay Area is conducive to further enhancing Hong Kong's status as a centre for international finance, transportation and trade, as well as an aviation hub. The development of the Greater Bay Area will also enrich the practice of "One country, Two systems" and help maintain the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, she said.

To find out more about the Greater Bay Area and its Outline Development Plan visit www.bayarea.gov.hk.



Above: Carrie Lam, Hong Kong Chief Executive, speaks at the Symposium on the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

●●● Business

Lithuanian businesses urged to invest in Hong Kong



Above: Ms To addresses a seminar in Vilnius, designed to strengthen business links between Lithuania and Hong Kong.

A seminar in Vilnius on business opportunities in Hong Kong invited companies from Lithuania to increase their ties with Asia.

Investors should see Hong Kong as a gateway to Asia, said Priscilla To, Director-General, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO), speaking at the event in June organised by HKETO, Invest Hong Kong and Vilnius Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts.

Also speaking at the event, the Vice Minister of Economy Jekaterina Rojaka welcomed Hong Kong's growing investment into Lithuania and encouraged Lithuanian companies to use Hong Kong as a platform for partnership.

During Ms To's visit to Vilnius, she also called on the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Albinas Zananavičius, as well as senior officials at the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economy of the Lithuanian Government to further promote bilateral ties between Hong Kong and Lithuania.



Above: Jekaterina Rojaka, Vice Minister of Economy joined the event and spoke to the audience about bilateral ties between Hong Kong and Lithuania.

●●● Business

Hong Kong business update

UK businesses were able to hear an authoritative update of the business scene in Hong Kong at a special seminar in April hosted by the Hong Kong Association.

Priscilla To, Director-General of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, gave a welcoming speech at the event, while Andrew Seaton, Executive Director, British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong gave a keynote speech providing an up-to-date picture of the current business scene in Hong Kong, the outlook for the future and to highlight the opportunities for UK business, both in Hong Kong itself, and in the wider region.

These speeches were followed by a panel discussion featuring an SME already established in Hong Kong and another company starting up there.

Government Services

Best immigration service

Hong Kong Immigration Department has won the Best Airport Immigration Service award for the third time. This prestigious award is based on more than 13 million questionnaires collected from passengers at over 550 airports by Skytrax, a UK consultancy.

Hong Kong previously won this accolade in 2015 and 2016, and was also ranked second and third in 2017 and 2018 respectively. The 2019 award was presented to Tsang Kwok-wai, Director of Immigration, at the World Airport Awards in London in March.

In 2017, the immigration department launched Smart Departure, a service that employs face recognition technology to speed up passenger departures. By the end of 2018, more than 6.2 million visitors had used this popular service.

At the awards, Hong Kong International Airport was ranked in the top 5 of the world's best airports, and also won the award for Best Airport Dining.

Right: Tsang Kwok-wai, Director of Immigration (right), receives the 2019 Skytrax Award for Best Airport Immigration Service from Edward Plaisted, Chief Executive Officer of Skytrax.



Business

Tyneside dinner for Hong Kong Society

The North East dinner of the Hong Kong Society took place in Newcastle this April, with speakers including Priscilla To, Director-General of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London, and Andrew Seaton, Executive Director of the British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. Ms To outlined the opportunities for UK businesses in Hong Kong and markets across Asia and said she was 'cautiously optimistic' about the business outlook in Hong Kong, despite global uncertainty caused by the US-China trade dispute.

Government Services

ID card replacement begins

Nine identity card replacement centres have opened as part of a four-year programme to issue new smart identify cards to all Hong Kong residents.

Cards will be issued according to year of birth, with people born in 1985 or 1986 having applied for new cards between January 21 and March 30. They were followed by those born in 1968 or 1969, and so on. The complete replacement programme by year of birth can be found at www.smartid.gov.hk/en/Who-shall-replace-identity-cards.

Thanks to technology the registration process takes less than 30 minutes. Once they have completed the procedure, applicants can collect their new identity cards after 10 working days. Hong Kong residents overseas who miss their slot can replace their identity cards within 30 days of returning. For further details visit www.immd.gov.hk.

Government Services

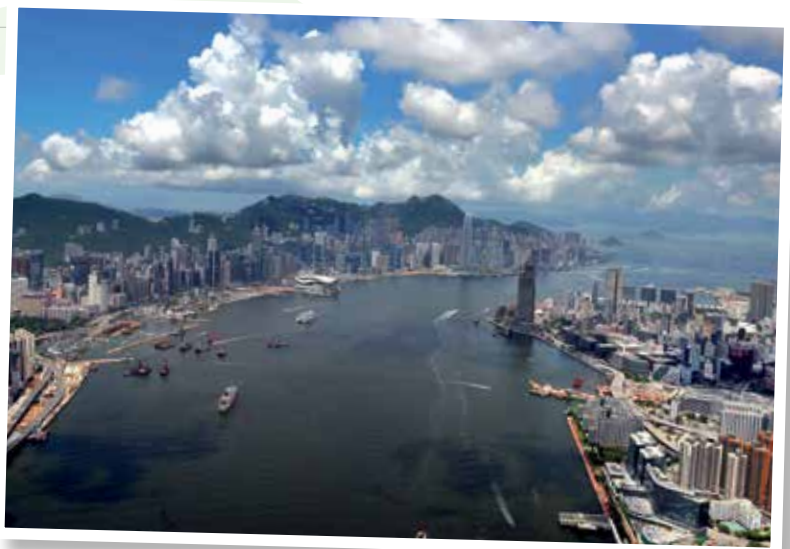
Do you own property in Hong Kong?

The Hong Kong government has launched a new service called Property Alert to help individuals or companies look after property they own in Hong Kong, even when they are not there.

Subscribers to the new service will receive an email when formal legal documents affecting their properties (such as those purporting to sell or mortgage the property) are lodged for registration, as well as when these have been registered. Property Alert will help owners to detect unexpected or suspicious legal documents affecting their properties and take appropriate action, including seeking advice from lawyers to put their minds at ease.

Property Alert is a subscription service which comes are two levels. You can either pay a one-off fee of HK\$580 (approx. US\$74) per entry in the land registry, or HK\$250 (approx. US\$32) for a two-year subscription. During the subscription period, you will receive notifications by email from the Land Registry if legal documents affecting the property are lodged with them.

To find out more or sign up for Property Alert visit <https://www.landreg.gov.hk>. You can also call (852) 3105 0000 or email csa@landreg.gov.hk.



●●● Chinese New Year

The Year of the Pig

5th February 2019 – 25th January 2020

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO), welcomed in the Year of the Pig with celebrations in London, Moscow, Bristol, Stockholm, Helsinki, Edinburgh, Copenhagen and Oslo earlier this year.

The events celebrated the strong ties between Hong Kong and the UK, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway and included performances by Hong Kong musicians to promote the musical talents of Hong Kong.

London, UK



Above: A 'flying lion' performance in Trafalgar Square entertains crowds at the London Chinatown Chinese New Year celebration.



Above: Priscilla To, Director-General, HKETO greets guests at a reception in the Banqueting House, Whitehall. Ms To welcomed Hong Kong's continuing and growing relationship with the UK, saying she was optimistic that bilateral trade and economic links between the two places are set to grow even closer.



Above: Over 500 guests including Government officials, MPs, senior diplomats, academics and business people attend a Chinese New Year reception at the Banqueting House, Whitehall.



Above: Ms To plays Hong Kong-themed games with visitors to the HKETO's marquee at the London Chinatown Chinese New Year celebration. HKETO also sponsored a special stage in Shaftesbury Avenue which featured performers with a connection to Hong Kong.



Copenhagen, Denmark

Left: The HKETO held a maritime industry seminar/Chinese New Year luncheon in Copenhagen, Denmark. Picture shows Secretary for Transport and Housing, Frank Chan Fan, speaking at the event, organised with the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Denmark-Hong Kong Trade Association.



Stockholm, Sweden

Left: In Stockholm, a seminar and reception for Chinese New Year included a celebration of Princess Birgitta of Sweden (right), to mark her 15 years as patron of the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in Sweden. The chamber co-organised the event, along with the Hong Kong Trade and Development Council. Its Chairman, Torborg Chetkovich (left) also attended.

Edinburgh, Scotland

Right: Our Chinese New Year events in Edinburgh included a business seminar and a reception at Edinburgh City Chambers featuring a traditional lion dance.



Bristol, UK

Right: In Bristol, a seminar on business opportunities in Hong Kong was followed by a New Year reception attended by guests including Tim Bowles, Mayor of the West of England (left), and Stephen Phillips, Director-General, Invest Hong Kong (right).



Helsinki, Finland



Above: Young Hong Kong musicians from the Ponte Orchestra entertain guests at a luncheon in Helsinki to welcome the Year of the Pig. The event was co-organised with the Hong Kong Trade and Development Council and Finland-Hong Kong Trade Association.



Oslo, Norway

Left: The HKETO held a maritime industry seminar/Chinese New Year reception in Oslo, Norway. Guest of honour was the Secretary for Transport and Housing, Frank Chan Fan, shown speaking at the event, which was jointly organised with the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Norway – Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce.



Russia

Above: Sergey Vikulin, Chairman, Russia-Hong Kong Business Association, speaking at the Chinese New Year reception in Moscow. Ms To also spoke about the unique opportunities Hong Kong offers Russian businesses.

●●● Film

First Night Nerves

Four Hong Kong films featured at the Chinese Visual Festival (CVF) in May to highlight the exceptional talent of filmmakers Stanley Kwan and Shu Kei.



Kwan's latest movie *First Night Nerves* opened the Hong Kong programme, which was sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO). Kwan's directorial debut *Women* (1985) was also screened, along with his film *Rouge* (1987). At all three screenings, Kwan gave a Q&A session where he answered questions from the audience about his long career in films. Shu Kei's ground-breaking latest film *Tracey* – the first full-length Hong Kong feature to deal directly with transgender issues – closed the Hong Kong programme. The screening was followed by a Q&A session with Shu Kei, director Jun Li and actress Jennifer Yu.

"Despite the fact that Hong Kong is only a small city with a population of about seven million, it is one of the world's largest film production bases," said Priscilla To, Director-General, HKETO. "Blessed with a wealth of seasoned and new talents, Hong Kong's film industry continues to thrive."

The CVF is a leading cultural event in the UK, showcasing the best in contemporary cinema and art from around the Chinese-speaking world. For the past few years HKETO has been partnering with the CVF in promoting Hong Kong cinema to audiences in the UK. With its popular film programmes, the CVF has highlighted the artistic and technical excellence of the Hong Kong film industry and the vibrancy of Hong Kong's culture and creativity.

Above left: Acclaimed Hong Kong director Stanley Kwan (centre) answers questions at a screening of his latest film *First Night Nerves* at BFI Southbank.

Above right: After the screening of *Tracey*, writer and producer Shu Kei, director Jun Li and actress Jennifer Yu answer questions from the audience.

●●● Film

Men on the Dragon



Hong Kong screenwriter Sunny Chan's directorial debut *Men on the Dragon* was premiered at the BFI Southbank in January, in a special screening sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (HKETO).

Speaking at the event, Priscilla To, Director-General, HKETO said that Chan's movie highlights the depth of film talent in Hong Kong and underscores the Government's efforts to nurture film talent and build up the brand name of Hong Kong Films. Chan attended the premiere with actor Tony Wu, to take part in a Q&A. The screening was part of the Chinese Arts Now festival, the first arts festival in the UK dedicated to British-Chinese art and culture.

Above left: Filmmaker Sunny Chan (centre) with Ms To (left) and actor Tony Wu (right) at the premiere in London of his film *Men on the Dragon*.

●●● Theatre

Citizens of Nowhere?

Diners at a Cantonese restaurant in London had the unusual experience of 'eavesdropping' on an audio-drama being performed at a table nearby, during an intimate theatrical performance as part of the first ever Chinese Arts Now festival.



Above: Actors perform *Citizens of Nowhere?* around a table at Duddell's restaurant in London, while other diners listen in.

Citizens of Nowhere? is a funny and compelling drama based around a conversation in a restaurant between a British-Chinese woman and her two children, performed by actors with close links to Hong Kong. Diners at Duddell's restaurant could eavesdrop on the actors while eating their own meals, thanks to an innovative system of microphones and headsets.

The play, which deals with issues of identity and generational differences in British-Chinese families, is written by award-winning Chinese/Welsh writer Ming Ho and premiered at the Southbank Centre in October last year. Described by one critic as 'highly engaging', this performance was sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London.

●●● Film

Angie Chen, film pioneer



Hong Kong filmmaker Angie Chen came to the UK for a retrospective of her work in May, sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London.

Chen emerged as a filmmaker at the height of Hong Kong cinema's 'new wave' of the 1980s before establishing herself as one of Hong Kong's best commercial directors. More recently she has become more well-known as an award-winning documentary filmmaker.

The retrospective, which took place at HOME in Manchester, featured *I've Got the Blues* (2017), *My Name Ain't Suzie* (1985) and *This Darling Life* (2008) and included a post-screening Q&A with Angie Chen.

●●● Economy

Asian Financial Forum 2019



Above: Participants from around the world taking part in a panel discussion at the Asian Financial Forum 2019.

Current global tensions present opportunities for Hong Kong, said Chief Executive Carrie Lam speaking at the 12th Asian Financial Forum held in January at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Addressing the forum, she acknowledged that Hong Kong will inevitably be affected by external global factors such as the trade dispute between China and the United States but was well placed

to navigate through the challenges. “By leveraging on our solid foundations and proactive policies, we could turn some of those global challenges into our opportunities,” she said.

“Hong Kong is a city built on finance and possesses the singular good fortune to create opportunities both within Mainland China and the world at large,” she said, noting that Hong Kong’s economy grew 3.7 per cent in the first three quarters of 2018. “We accord the highest priority to ensuring financial stability and the integrity of our financial systems and markets,” she added.

The forum was attended by over 3,300 policymakers, business and financial leaders as well as investors from more than 40 countries and regions. The two-day event included panel discussions and a Fintech Showcase where financial and technology companies could present innovative solutions. The conference theme was “Creating a Sustainable and Inclusive Future”.

●●● Culture

Fabulous feast of art at Art Basel Hong Kong



Over 240 leading galleries from around the world showcased a range of eclectic works – paintings, sculpture, installations, photography, video and digital art, and more – at the 2019 Art Basel Hong Kong in March. The major event helps make Hong Kong the epicentre of Asia’s international art scene, and the world’s third biggest art auction market, after New York and London.

●●● Sport

Fiji lifts the Hong Kong Sevens trophy again

A rampant Fiji claimed the Hong Kong Sevens to emerge champions for the fifth time in a row, after a dazzling display to beat France (21-7), in front of some 40,000 fans at the Hong Kong Stadium in April.

With the best players in the world showing off their skills on the turf and rip-roaring rugby revelry off field, the high octane event provided three days of thrills.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 27 July
– Sunday 28 July 2019
 London East Asia Film Festival
 – summer open air cinema showing Hong Kong movies, Leicester Square, London, UK

Friday 2 August
– Sunday 25 August 2019
 Victor Fung Dance
 – performances of *From the Top* at Edinburgh, Fringe Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland

September 2019 (dates TBC)
 Victor Fung Dance
 – performances of *From the Top* in Swindon and London

Wednesday 30 October 2019
 Hong Kong Trade Development Council
 Annual Dinner, London, UK

Saturday 9 November 2019
 Hong Kong’s entry in the Lord Mayor’s Show, London, UK

FOR HONG KONG EVENT DETAILS:

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