

Challenges Encountered in Developing New Area of Official Statistics in Hong Kong

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The last decade has seen some structural changes in the economic, social and political environment of Hong Kong. These changes have resulted in greater demand for more official statistics to support an evidence-based approach for decision-making in the formulation of social and economic policies. To adapt to the local situations, there is a need to develop supplementary statistical framework within the broader framework laid down by international standards. Moreover, active engagement with stakeholders is essential to establish trust and confidence in official statistics which are commonly applied to various policy areas. Against this background, the Census and Statistics Department encountered a number of challenges in launching new areas of statistical developments in recent years. Drawing on the experience in developing new statistics for supporting the development of strategic industries in Hong Kong, this paper discusses the challenges encountered by the department, the solutions developed and the experiences gained from the process.

Key Words: Evidence-based approach, active engagement with stakeholders