

Promotion of Innovation and Technology: Innovation and technology (I&T) are drivers for economic growth and the key to enhance competitiveness of our industries. In November 2015, the Innovation and Technology Bureau was established to formulate holistic I&T policies, thereby fostering the development of I&T and related industries in Hong Kong, raising the competitiveness of Hong Kong and improving the quality of life of our citizens. The bureau was re-titled as the **Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau (ITIB)** in July 2022 to highlight re-industrialisation as a standing policy function and work focus of the bureau, as part of its efforts in driving I&T development.

ITIB promulgated the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint in December 2022 to establish a clear development path and formulate systematic strategic planning for Hong Kong's I&T development over the next five to 10 years, charting Hong Kong in moving full steam towards the vision of an international I&T centre. The Government has formulated the Development Blueprint from the perspective of top-level planning and design, and will take forward I&T development under four broad development directions, namely "to enhance the I&T ecosystem and promote 'new industrialisation' in Hong Kong"; "to enlarge the I&T talent pool to create strong impetus for growth"; "to promote digital economy development and develop Hong Kong into a smart city"; and "to proactively integrate into the overall development of the country and consolidate our role as a bridge connecting the Mainland and the world".

The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) under the ITIB implements related policies and measures as well as provides software and hardware support for key players to collaborate on R&D and innovation activities. The approach in promoting I&T development is underpinned by five core strategies: providing world-class technology infrastructure for enterprises, research institutions and universities; offering financial support to stakeholders in the industry, academia and research sector to develop and commercialise their R&D results; nurturing talent;

strengthening science and technology collaboration with the Mainland and other economies; and fostering a vibrant culture of innovation. The ITC also works closely with other government departments, the industrial and business sectors, tertiary institutions and industrial support organisations to promote applied R&D in different technology areas, as well as the upgrading of foundation industries.

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) under the ITIB provides leadership for delivering information and communications technology (ICT) functions within the Government and enables the Government to take a proactive and leading role in championing ICT development in the community. The OGCIO has five core missions: delivering effective, secure and citizen-oriented e-Government Services to meet rising public expectations; nurturing and developing ICT talents in Hong Kong, enhancing their competency and professionalism; developing a vibrant ICT industry, promoting high-tier data centres, cloud computing services, big data and cyber security awareness; developing Hong Kong into a world-class smart city; and promoting a digitally inclusive and knowledge-based society.

Digital Economy Development Committee (DEDC): To accelerate the development of digital economy through a data-driven approach, the DEDC chaired by the Financial Secretary and comprising experts and scholars, industry elites and relevant government officials, was set up in June 2022. Among the topics, DEDC will focus on cross-boundary data collaboration, digital transformation, digital infrastructure and talent development.

Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF): The Government set up the ITF in 1999 with an injection of \$5 billion to support projects that help industries develop innovative ideas and upgrade their technological level. A number of injections totalling about \$40 billion were subsequently made to implement new initiatives under the ITF and sustain the operation of various funding programmes.

There are currently 17 programmes under the ITF to support R&D development, facilitate technology adoption, nurture technology talent, support technology start-ups, and foster an I&T culture. As at the end of October 2022, 39 217 projects with total ITF funding of \$31.8 billion were approved, of which 5 280 are R&D projects. Most of the funded R&D projects were related to information technology (30%); electrical and electronics (19%); manufacturing technology (18%); and biotechnology (12%).

The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC): The HKSTPC was established in May 2001 to provide one-stop infrastructural and other support services to technology-based companies and activities. It offers a comprehensive range of services to cater for the needs of industry at various stages, ranging from supporting technology start-ups through incubation programmes, providing premises and services in the Hong Kong Science Park for applied R&D activities, to providing land and premises for production in the INNOPARKs (previously named Industrial Estates).

The 22-hectare **Hong Kong Science Park** located in Pak Shek Kok is an important I&T infrastructure in Hong Kong. It provides a conducive environment to nurture world-class clusters, through making available suitable buildings for lease to technology-based enterprises to carry out R&D work. Its target sectors are biomedical technology, electronics, green technology, information and communications technology, and material and precision engineering.

The Science Park provides state-of-the-art laboratories and shared facilities which help reduce the capital investment of technology companies in product design and development, enabling rapid entry of new products into the market at lower cost. They include the Biobank, Robotics Catalysing Centre, Biomedical Technology Support Centre and Drug Safety Testing Centre. The HKSTPC has completed Stage 1 of the Science Park Expansion Programme and will commence the first batch of works for Stage 2 of the Expansion Programme. In addition, the InnoCell adjacent to the Science Park was opened in 2021 to provide flexibly-designed residential units and ancillary facilities for leasing to principals of tenants and incubatees of the Science Park as well as their employees and visiting researchers from the Mainland and overseas.

The HKSTPC manages three **INNOPARKs**, located at Tai Po, Yuen Long and Tseung Kwan O, which provide 217 hectares of land in total. The HKSTPC revised its policy for INNOPARKs in 2015 under which it provides, in general, specialised multi-storey industrial buildings for rental to multiple I&T-based industrial partners. Besides, it grants sites to single users under exceptional circumstances such as the industry's need for purpose-built factory and the industry's significant contribution to Hong Kong's economic development. Some recently built multi-storey industrial buildings include the Data Technology Hub (completed in 2020), Medical Accessory Resilience Supplies Centre (completed in 2021), and Advanced Manufacturing Centre (AMC) (completed in 2022). The HKSTPC is developing a Microelectronics Centre in Yuen Long INNOPARK, which is expected to be completed in end 2023 for operation in 2024. It will also explore the construction of the second AMC at the Tai Po InnoPark.

To reinforce the role of the Science Park as Hong Kong's flagship technology infrastructure, the Government has allocated \$10 billion to the HKSTPC. Of this, about \$3 billion is being used to construct research-related infrastructure and facilities, whereas the remaining \$7 billion is for enhancing support to its tenants and incubatees.

InnoHK is a \$10 billion major initiative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to develop Hong Kong as the hub for global research collaboration. Two research clusters have been set up at the Hong Kong Science Park, namely Health@InnoHK, focusing on healthcare technologies, and AIR@InnoHK, focusing on artificial intelligence and robotics technologies. 28 InnoHK research laboratories have commenced operation, involving seven local universities and research institutions as well as over 30 institutions from 11 economies, and pooling around 2 000 researchers locally and from all over the world.

Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport): The Cyberport brings together a cluster of high quality ICT and related enterprises. Through the provision of a range of financial and professional support, the Cyberport has implemented numerous public mission programmes and organised various events to nurture start-ups over the years. The Cyberport also provides advanced technology infrastructure, runs internship programmes for ICT students and incubation programmes for new start-ups, and facilitates synergy and partnership among members of the ICT industry.

In 2018, the Government allocated \$300 million to the Cyberport for strengthening support to its tenants/incubatees and promoting the development of e-sports in Hong Kong. The dedicated e-sports competition venue in the Cyberport Arcade was opened in July 2019. E-sports related facilitation schemes were also introduced in April 2019.

The Cyberport 5 Project has commenced and is expected to be completed in 2025 at the earliest.

The Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC): The HKPC provides integrated support services to help Hong Kong's industrial and commercial enterprises achieve a more effective use of resources and increase the value added content of products and services, thereby enhancing productivity and competitiveness. Anchored on its core competence in manufacturing technologies, information technologies, environmental technologies and management systems, the HKPC has been helping Hong Kong's industrial and commercial enterprises in technology and process upgrading, promoting re-industrialisation and helping innovative industries move up the value ladder and tap new business opportunities.

Five R&D centres: In 2006, the ITC set up five R&D centres to drive and co-ordinate applied R&D in five focus areas, namely automotive platforms and application systems; information and communications technologies; logistics and supply chain multi-tech; nanotechnology and advanced materials; and textiles and apparel. Since their establishment, the centres have been working closely with the industries in conducting industry-oriented R&D and promoting commercialisation of R&D results. As at the end of November 2022, 1 827 projects from the R&D Centres were approved at a total project cost of about \$10 billion.

Talent: Human resources are essential to the promotion of I&T in Hong Kong. The Government launched the Global STEM Professorship Scheme in 2021 to attract more world renowned scholars to engage in I&T-related teaching and research activities in Hong Kong. The Research Talent Hub under the ITF provides funding support to each eligible company or organisation to engage up to four research talents to conduct R&D work. From April 2023, ITC will increase the maximum monthly allowance for research talents by 10% (i.e. \$20,000, \$23,000 and \$35,000 for research talents with a bachelor, master and doctoral degree respectively) and

provide research talents with a doctoral degree with an additional monthly living allowance of \$10,000 for a maximum of three years. As at the end of November 2022, the programme has provided funding support for about 10 200 research positions. Moreover, the STEM Internship Scheme was launched under the ITF in 2020 to subsidise undergraduates and post-graduates taking STEM related programmes in local universities to enrol in short-term internships, with a view to fostering their interest in pursuing a career in I&T after graduation. As at the end of October 2022, about 7 600 interns have participated in the Scheme.

The Government also launched the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme (RTTP) to subsidise local enterprises on a 2:1 matching basis to train their staff in advanced technologies, especially those related to "Industry 4.0". As at the end of November 2022, the RTTP has approved about 6 800 training grant applications for about 21 000 training sessions with total funding of about \$211 million.

The Government rolled out the Technology Talent Admission Scheme in June 2018 to provide a fast-track arrangement for the admission of overseas and Mainland technology talent to undertake R&D work in Hong Kong. The scheme was enhanced in December 2022, including lifting the local employment requirement, extending the quota validity period to two years and expanding the scope to cover 14 technology areas, namely - biotechnology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, robotics, data analytics, financial technologies, material science, advanced communication technologies, Internet-of-Things, integrated circuit design, microelectronics, digital entertainment, green technology and quantum technology.

To help young people build a sound foundation in IT to prepare them for pursuing IT-related tertiary education and eventually the I&T industry, the "IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools" Programme and "Knowing More About IT" Programme were launched in 2020 and 2021 respectively to provide funding support for secondary and primary schools for organising information technology-related extra-curricular activities. Up to now, these two programmes have received applications from some 700 schools with total approved funding exceeding \$300 million.

Innovation and technology co-operation with the Mainland:

The National 14th Five-Year Plan (the 14-5 Plan) set out in its prologue the vision to develop our country into an innovative one with solid technology, put forward the development pattern of “dual circulation”, which takes the domestic market as the mainstay while enabling domestic and foreign markets to interact positively with each other, develop the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) into an international I&T hub, and expressly supports Hong Kong’s development as an international I&T hub. Hong Kong possesses strong R&D capabilities and originality, with subversive and forward-looking R&D results as well as the ability to break through “from zero to one”. Hong Kong can complement the country’s “dual circulation” development pattern, develop in synergy with other cities in GBA, and leverage “Hong Kong’s strengths” to serve “the needs of the country”.

With the emphasis of the 14-5 Plan on frontier fields including life and health disciplines, the Government has invested substantially to promote R&D in life and health disciplines, including setting up of an InnoLife Healthtech Hub in the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (HSITP), with the 16 life and health-related laboratories in the InnoHK research clusters and the eight relevant State Key Laboratories as the basis, to focus on related research work and global science and research collaboration. The Government has earmarked \$10 billion to further promote the development of life and health technology in Hong Kong and doubled the maximum annual funding amount to \$440 million to strengthen support to the R&D activities of 16 State Key Laboratories in Hong Kong and six Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres in Hong Kong in the 2022-23 Budget.

The delegation for introducing the 14-5 Plan suggested at a seminar in 2021 to make good of use of Hong Kong’s unique advantages to jointly develop the international I&T hub, and subsequently announced a number of measures benefitting Hong Kong. For instance, regarding opening up more national-level science and technology programmes to Hong Kong, certain special projects under the “National Key Research and Development Programme” and the “Sci-Tech Innovation 2030 – Major Project” were opened up to the designated R&D institutions in Hong Kong. The HKSAR Government will continue to facilitate effective flow of innovative elements. On funding, universities and research institutions in Hong Kong can

apply for science and technology funding of the Central Government as well as relevant government agencies at provincial and municipal level on the Mainland, and use the funding in Hong Kong, which enables cross-boundary remittance of research funding thereby injecting impetus into the city’s research sector. In addition, education institutions, hospitals and branches established by Hong Kong’s universities and scientific research institutions in the Mainland would be allowed to lodge applications for exporting human genetic resources to Hong Kong independently under a trial scheme upon meeting specific requirements.

Guangdong and Hong Kong have established partnership in I&T for nearly 20 years and achieved fruitful results. Since 2007, universities in Hong Kong have been establishing industry-university-research bases or research institutes in Shenzhen. At present, six Hong Kong universities have established research institutes in Shenzhen, while the research arms set up by some universities in Shenzhen would concentrate on specific fields or innovation in I&T. In addition, as of November 2022, a total of 344 projects with a funding amount of \$980 million were supported by the Innovation and Technology Fund under the “Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme” implemented by the HKSAR Government, the Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province and the Science, Technology and Innovation Commission of the Shenzhen Municipality.

The HKSAR Government are developing the Lok Ma Chau Loop into Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (the Park) in full swing. First batch of eight buildings expected to be completed in phases starting from end-2024. Collaborating with the Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises, the government will make use of the HSITP, to attract high-quality enterprises and talents to Hong Kong, primarily focusing on life and health technology, artificial intelligence and data science, advanced manufacturing and new energy technology. The HSITP and areas around Lok Ma Chau/San Tin will be consolidated to form the San Tin Technopole, which, together with the Shenzhen Innovation & Technology Zone, will form the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation & Technology Co-operation Zone. Hong Kong and Shenzhen governments signed the “Co-operation Arrangement on the Establishment of ‘One Zone, Two Parks’ in the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Co-operation Zone at the Loop” in September 2021. A Joint Policy Package was also launched for the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Co-

operation Zone to provide measures conducive to the flow of talent, scientific research resources and business development, etc. between two sides. In July 2022, the HKSTPC set up the GBA InnoAcademy to serve as a resource centre, a training hub, and an exchange platform for talents, and the GBA InnoExpress to nurture start-ups and support I&T enterprises in going global and attracting foreign investment. The Shenzhen branch of the Hong Kong Science Park is expected to open in first half of 2023.

In addition, in 2021 the HKSAR Government signed the Memorandum of Co-operation with the governments of Sichuan Province, Hubei Province and Shanghai Municipality respectively to deepen the co-operation between Hong Kong and relevant provinces and municipalities in various fields including I&T, such as promoting the commercialisation of R&D results, exploring the establishment of mechanism for jointly nurturing I&T talents, etc.

The OGCIO takes active steps to facilitate exchange and collaboration between the ICT industries of Hong Kong and the Mainland. Leveraging the opportunities brought about by implementation of Mainland's "Internet+", "Belt and Road" and "Digital Economy" strategic initiatives, the OGCIO has been leading local ICT delegations to explore collaboration and business opportunities in the Mainland. The OGCIO also regularly takes part in major ICT exhibitions in the Mainland, providing opportunities for local ICT companies, especially SMEs, to showcase their innovative products and services and tap into the Mainland market.

The Hong Kong/Guangdong Expert Group on Co-operation in Informatisation was set up to strengthen co-operation in promoting the development and adoption of new generation digital technologies such as 5G, big data, artificial intelligence in both places, as well as deepening the collaboration between the two governments and facilitating the exchanges among the industry, academia and research sectors, with a view to supporting the development of smart cities in the Greater Bay Area. The OGCIO has put in place the mutual recognition scheme of electronic signature certificates between Hong Kong and Guangdong to help enhance security and reliability of cross-boundary e-commerce.

Since 2019, the OGCIO has been collaborating with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the

People's Republic of China and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR in organising the Hong Kong Chapter of the national global contest -"Maker in China" SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship Global Contest to facilitate better understanding of local innovative technology products and solutions among Mainland investors and enterprises. It also facilitates local technology SMEs to expand their business networks in the GBA and the Mainland.

The Government will also explore with the Mainland the arrangements to facilitate the flow of data from the Mainland to Hong Kong, with a view to jointly promoting the co-ordinated development of smart cities in the GBA.

Fostering an Innovation and Technology Culture: The ITC organises the InnoCarnival which comprises exhibitions, workshops and talks regularly to arouse interest of the general public in I&T. The ITC also supports I&T-related competitions such as the Hong Kong Student Science Project Competition and the Joint School Science Exhibition. The Innovation and Technology Scholarship recognises outstanding local undergraduates who are passionate about I&T and encourages them to pursue I&T as a career.

Launched in 2020, the inaugural City I&T Grand Challenge received more than 740 submissions to tackle problems facing the city and people in their daily lives. Winning solutions of University/Tertiary Institutes and Open Groups are given financial support and training for refining their I&T solutions and developing prototypes for trials at over 50 organisations and community groups. The first City I&T Grand Challenge: The Showcase was held in October 2022 where prototypes developed by the winning teams were revealed to the public for trial through real-life scenarios for the first time.

Digital Economy Summit (rebranded from the Internet Economy Summit) is an annual signature event hosted in Hong Kong every April to promote Hong Kong as the region's digital economic hub. The Summit gathers renowned industry experts and thought leaders to unveil global and regional visions on how technologies will supercharge smart economies as well as accelerate the formation of futureproof digital societies.

The OGCIO has been collaborating with local ICT industry in organising the Hong Kong ICT Awards since 2006 to

recognise outstanding achievements and showcase Hong Kong's ICT innovation and successes.

The OGCIO set up a Smart Government Innovation Lab in April 2019 to promote pro-innovation government procurement policy and expedite bureaux and departments' adoption of innovative IT products and solutions, thereby improving public services and creating more business opportunities for local start-ups and SMEs.

Encouraging Local R&D Activities: To encourage enterprises to invest more in local R&D and promote local R&D activities, the Government provides enterprises with enhanced tax deduction for their expenditure incurred in qualifying R&D activities. The deduction will be 300% for the first \$2 million spent on qualifying R&D and 200% for the remaining amount. There is no cap on the amount of enhanced tax deduction. The deduction is applicable to qualifying R&D expenditures incurred on or after April 1, 2018.

Smart City Development: The Government published the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong and the updated version Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0 (Blueprint 2.0) in 2017 and 2020 respectively. Blueprint 2.0 has set out over 130 smart city initiatives, apart from the six smart areas, namely "Smart Mobility", "Smart Living", "Smart Environment", "Smart People", "Smart Government" and "Smart Economy", the initiatives that deal with the epidemic under the new normal and the Smart Village Pilots have also been included in a bid to build Hong Kong into a more advanced and livable smart city which brings convenience to the public and businesses.

Amongst them, "Smart Village Pilots" explores the use of I&T and smart devices in addressing the specific environmental and daily life issues faced by residents living in rural and more remote areas. OGCIO has been providing free Wi-Fi service at more than 100 village premises to facilitate the provision of other smart village pilot initiatives.

Digital infrastructures in supporting the Smart City Blueprint includes:

- **One-stop personalised digital services platform "iAM Smart":** The OGCIO launched the one-stop personalised digital services platform "iAM Smart" in December 2020. As of December 2022, members of the public can access more than 240 government,

public and private online services with a single digital identity conduct online transactions and perform digital signing with legal backing in a simple and secure manner.

- **Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme:** Under the Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Pilot Scheme, some 400 smart lampposts will be installed by phases in four urban locations with higher pedestrian and vehicular flow, including Central/ Admiralty, Wan Chai, Yau Tsim Mong and Kwun Tong/ Kai Tak Development Area, with a view to collecting real-time city data such as air quality and traffic flow, enhancing city management, as well as supporting the development of digital infrastructure for 5G services. The Government will continue to arrange the installation works in various districts by phases and expect that the installation of some 300 remaining smart lampposts will be installed by 2023.
- **Government Cloud Infrastructure Services and Big Data Analytics Platform:** The launch of the Next Generation Government Cloud Infrastructure Services and the Big Data Analytics Platform in September 2020 has greatly facilitated system connectivity and data interchange among B/Ds and assisted B/Ds in implementing more projects using innovative technologies such as artificial intelligence and big data analytics. As of December 2022, over 410 digital government services and over 15 projects for conducting big data analytics have been supported.
- **Shared blockchain platform:** The OGCIO implemented a Shared Blockchain Platform in June 2022 to facilitate the development of blockchain applications by B/Ds more conveniently.

Wi-Fi Connected City: The OGCIO has been collaborating with the private sector to promote free public Wi-Fi services at both public and private premises under the common brand "Wi-Fi.HK" since 2014. There are over 46 400 "Wi-Fi.HK" hotspots in town as of December 2022.

Data Centres: The Government champions initiatives and measures to develop Hong Kong as a prime location for high-tier data centres in the region which include providing land for the development of high-tier data centres, and encouraging conversion of industrial buildings to data centres and use of

industrial lots for high-tier data centre development. The Data Centre Facilitation Unit under the OGCIO provides information and one-stop support to assist enterprises interested in setting up data centres in Hong Kong and works with government departments on measures to facilitate the setting up of data centres taking into account their unique mode of operation.

Cyber Security: The OGCIO adopts a robust management framework and maintains a comprehensive set of information security policy and guidelines with regular audits to continuously enhance cyber security within the Government. Multi-layer safeguards are in place to protect the digital assets of the Government.

A dedicated governmental computer emergency response team (GovCERT.HK), established under the OGCIO, handles information security incidents in the Government in an effective and co-ordinated manner.

In collaboration with key partners, such as Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre, Hong Kong Police Force and Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited (HKIRC), the OGCIO promotes awareness of cyber security in the community and industry and provides practical advice to guard against cyber attacks through various channels and means including the Cyber Security Information Portal (www.cybersecurity.hk), seminars, contests and school visits. To further enhance Hong Kong's overall capability to deal with cyber threats, the OGCIO works with HKIRC to administer the Cybersec Infohub, a public-private-partnership programme, that promotes cross-sector collaboration and sharing of cyber security information on a trusted platform.

E-Government: The GovHK portal (www.gov.hk), the one-stop portal of government information and e-services, was launched in 2007, followed by its account-based platform – MyGovHK in 2010 to provide single access to an array of personalised e-Government services. The GovHK portal adopts responsive web design and was revamped at the end of 2019 to further enhance user experience.

A new policy on opening up government data was promulgated in October 2018, stating that government B/Ds should endeavour to release their data for free public use. In accordance with the new policy, government B/Ds have opened up around 1 700 new datasets since 2019. The Public Sector

Information (PSI) portal (data.gov.hk) releases government open data in digital formats for public's free consumption with a view to tapping creativity and wisdom of the community in developing innovative applications with open data, thereby bringing about convenience to the citizens and business opportunities to the industry. User-friendly tools such as visualisation of multiple datasets on a map and city dashboards are provided to facilitate public to visualise dynamic city data. Around 5 000 datasets were available on the PSI portal as of December 2022.

The Development Bureau and the Lands Department (LandsD) launched the Common Spatial Data Infrastructure (CSDI) portal (portal.csd.gov.hk) and the first 3D Visualisation Map dataset on 29 December 2022 for the public's free use. Over 500 spatial datasets from various government departments are made available through the portal, covering different aspects such as planning, lands, buildings, works, population, transport, etc. Framework Spatial Data Themes, such as "Building", "Land Parcel" and "Address", are also available on the portal to provide location references for other datasets.

The OGCIO facilitates the implementation of mobile e-Government services by providing support to government departments and developing mobile applications for departments' common use to render public services.

IT Strategy: The OGCIO formulates government-wide IT strategy and advises government B/Ds in their formulation of departmental IT strategy to address policy objectives. The OGCIO facilitates government B/Ds in planning and executing their IT-enabled change initiatives in a more agile, cost effective and co-ordinated manner by adopting cloud computing and other emerging technologies. These initiatives include:

- **Electronic Information Management:** In line with the government-wide electronic information management strategy that embraces content management, records management and knowledge management, the OGCIO is developing a central Electronic Recordkeeping System (ERKS) on the Government's private cloud platform to support full implementation of ERKS in the Government.

- **Electronic Procurement:** The OGCIO is rolling out its cloud-enabled electronic procurement service to government B/Ds to enhance efficiency from the automated and integrated procurement processes. Suppliers also reap the benefits of shorter transaction turnaround time and greater business opportunities.
- **Government Human Resources Management Services (GovHRMS):** Providing common IT services to facilitate human resources management activities of staff members as well as strategic manpower planning and human resources management decision making in Government. The OGCIO monitors the development and implementation of the GovHRMS.
- **Government Data Centre Service Arrangements:** The OGCIO is building a government data centre complex with a view to consolidating some of the existing government data centres, leading to better economy of scale, cost effectiveness as well as greener management in the overall government data centre operations.
- **Government Electronic Communications Infrastructure:** The OGCIO establishes and maintains an advanced and secure electronic communications infrastructure for effective and efficient communications and collaboration in government operations and delivery of public services.

Digital Inclusion: To facilitate access to online information and services by everyone including persons with disabilities, the OGCIO has been implementing a Web/Mobile App

Accessibility Campaign since 2011 through a multi-pronged strategy ranging from government leadership, fostering awareness, promulgating guidelines and tips, nurturing expertise and organising recognition scheme to encourage adoption of accessibility design. Since 2018, the HKIRC has become the organiser of the Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme with the OGCIO as co-organiser. The HKIRC is a non-profit making and non-statutory corporation to manage and administer the registration of Internet domain names under “.hk” and “.香港” country-code top level domains.

The OGCIO has been conducting the ICT Outreach Programme for the Elderly since 2014 to help institutionalised elderly and elderly receiving day care services and home care services experience how ICT can spice up their life and facilitate an active and healthy ageing. The services were further extended to cover elderly people with dementia in 2017. From 2018-19, the Programme was regularised. An Enriched ICT Training Programme for the Elderly was also introduced in February 2019 to encourage elderly persons with basic ICT knowledge to adopt digital technology in their daily living and serve as trainers to help more elderly people acquire technology knowledge. In October 2019, the OGCIO launched a web-based learning portal to help the elderly acquire digital skills, so that they can benefit from the advancement in digital technology in daily lives. From late 2021, OGCIO in tandem with service organisations have been setting up mobile outreach service stations in the community to proactively teach the elderly on commonly used mobile apps.