

NEW AGRICULTURE POLICY HONG KONG SAR, CHINA

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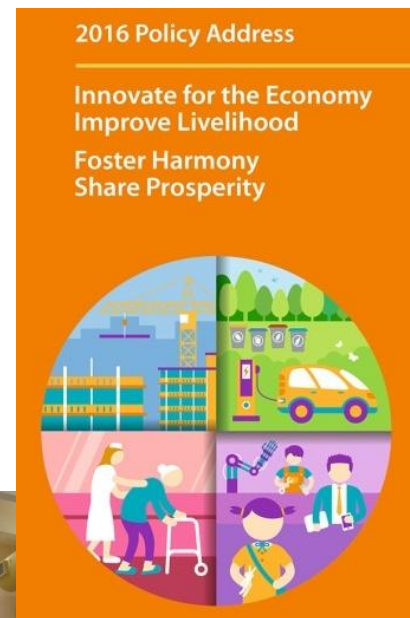
OVERVIEW OF HONG KONG AGRICULTURE

- In 2015, Hong Kong's Agriculture:
 - ◆ Value of local agricultural output: US\$121 million
 - ◆ Contribute to locally consumed fresh food:
vegetables (2%), live pigs (6%) and live poultry (95%)
 - ◆ Around 4 300 people were engaged in agricultural industry



NEW AGRICULTURE POLICY (NAP)

- Growing appreciation of positive impacts local agriculture could bring to the society
 - ◆ Safe and high quality food to meet local demand
 - ◆ Optimize land use
 - ◆ Promote sustainable development of the territory
- Public consultation on NAP in Dec 2014 received with wide public support
- A major initiative in the 2016 Government Policy Address



OBJECTIVES OF NAP

- Promote modernization and sustainable development of local agriculture
- Maximize contribution to the well-being of the society
- Enhance competitiveness of local farms
- Wise use of farmland
- Improve environmental hygiene



KEY ELEMENTS OF NAP

- Establish an Agricultural Park
- Explore feasibility of designating Agricultural Priority Areas (APAs)
- Set up a HK\$500 million (US\$ 64 million) Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund
- Provide better support and assistance to farmers in product marketing and brand building
- Develop leisure and educational activities related to agriculture

Consultation Document

New Agricultural Policy:
Sustainable Agricultural Development
in Hong Kong



Food and Health Bureau



Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

December 2014

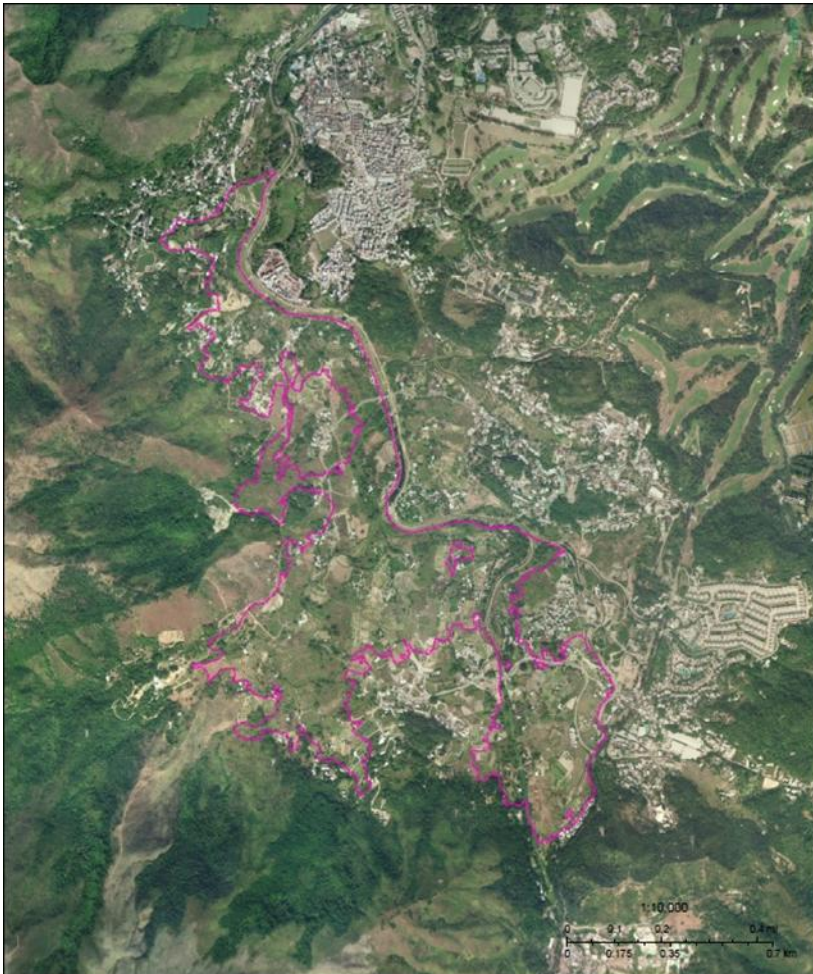
AGRICULTURAL PARK

- Experiment new agricultural practices and knowledge transfer
- Nurture agro-technology and agro-business management
- Enhance productivity for commercial production



AGRICULTURAL PARK

- Identified a cluster of about 75 – 80 ha of farmland for establishment of the Agricultural Park



AGRICULTURAL PARK



Management Center



Access Roads



Irrigation



Composting Facilities

- Conducting an engineering feasibility study to assess the boundary and infrastructures required
- The study will be completed in late 2016

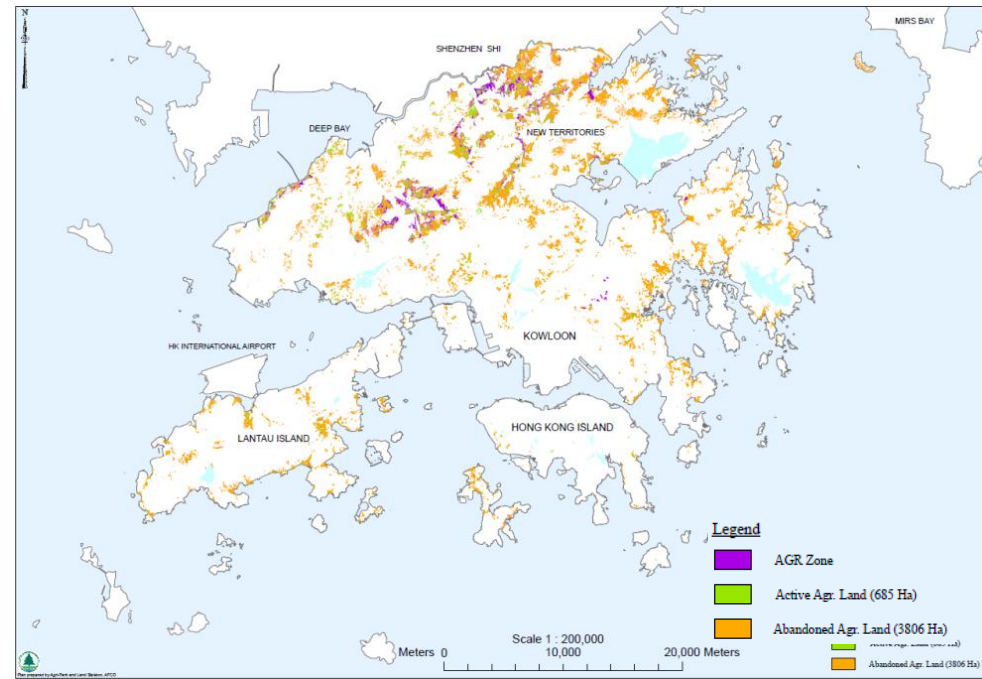
AGRICULTURAL PARK



- The project will be delivered in two phases
 - ◆ Initial phase completed in 2019
 - ◆ Full scale operation in 2024
- The final costs (land resumption, infrastructure and running costs) may approach US\$600 million

AGRICULTURAL PRIORITY AREAS (APAs)

- Designate farmland with higher value & rehabilitation potential for agricultural activities (APAs)
- Preserve APAs for and incentivize their long-term agricultural uses
- Extend practice and lessons learnt in Agricultural Park
- Appointed a consultant to look at:
 - ◆ feasibility & merits
 - ◆ implementation details
 - ◆ incentive measures
 - ◆ stakeholders engagement
- Carry out a 3 year detailed study in 2017 estimated at US\$ 2 million



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

- Provide financial support to facilitate local development of modern and sustainable agriculture
- Scope of support
 - ◆ R&D on agro-technology
 - ◆ agricultural infrastructure
 - ◆ marketing & branding
 - ◆ knowledge transfer & manpower training
 - ◆ agricultural rehabilitation



FARM IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

- Improve farming efficiency and productivity
- Offer direct grants to commercial farms for acquisition of farming equipment and materials
- Cover a maximum of 80% of cost (capped at HK\$30,000 or US\$3 846)
- One grant per farm



STRENGTHEN TECHNICAL SUPPORT



Soil & water Testing



Seminar & field demonstration



Promote protected cropping



Introduce quality crop varieties

STRENGTHEN TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Facilitate modernization of local agriculture and wider adoption of advance production technology
- Further develop in-building crop production and hydroponics technology



small cultivator



hydroponics



roof-top farming

VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION SCHEME (VRS)

- A central vegetable farm database
- Offer advisory service to enhance food safety at source



ACCREDITED FARM SCHEME

- Promote proper use of pesticides
- Ensure production of quality and safe vegetables
- Vegetables marketed at accredited retailers designated by Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO)



ORGANIC FARMING

- Organic Farming Support Service (currently 298 farms)
- Develop local organic products market for the community
- Organic certification and promotion through Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre (143 farms certified organic)



MAJOR MARKETING CHANNELS

Farmers' Market

- Five privately run local markets over the territory



VMO Wholesale Market



- A non-profit-making public body
- Provide vegetable wholesale floor, facilities and related services



Government Wholesale Food Markets

- Operated by the Government
- For wholesaling of vegetables and other produce



STRENGTHENING PROMOTION, MARKETING & COMMUNITY BUILDING

- Fortify the branding of domestically grown produce as “safe produce” and promote to the community
- Explore additional channels for marketing of locally-produced vegetables (e.g. new retail or online order collection points)
- Explore feasibility of setting up a regular farmers’ market in urban to enhance community engagement



FARMFEST

- The largest farmers' market cum fun-filled educational carnival before Lunar New Year
- Promote local organic / premium vegetables and fisheries produce
- For community to appreciate local agricultural and fisheries industry



PROMOTE LEISURE FARMING

- Promote development of auxiliary leisure activities related to agriculture for public enjoyment
- Define leisure farming and explore the scope of ancillary uses (e.g. provision of catering in farms)



PROMOTE LEISURE FARMING

- Provide training for farmers on management of farm visits
- Educate the public through Apps, publications and seminars



THANK YOU

