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AND TECHNOLOGY

ACADEMY OF 跨學科學院
INTERDISCIPLINARY
STUDIES

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HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON GENERATIVE AI GOVERNANCE AND CULTURAL CO-CREATION

生成式人工智能治理
與文化共創高端論壇



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Preface | 智識相遇. 共創未來

We extend our warmest welcome to all distinguished guests attending the High-Level Forum on Generative AI Governance and Cultural Co-Creation.

Hosted by the Media Intelligence Research Center, this forum brings together leading experts from academia, industry, and policy communities to explore the evolving landscape of artificial intelligence—its governance structures, ethical implications, and cultural innovations.

On this occasion, we are pleased to present a concise pamphlet that encapsulates our Center's reflections on AI governance and cultural co-creation. We hope it will serve as a source of inspiration and a catalyst for continued dialogue across disciplines.

We sincerely thank you for your presence and engagement. May this forum spark deeper reflection and collaboration, laying the groundwork for future conversations between humanity and technology.

誠摯歡迎各位貴賓蒞臨「生成式人工智能治理與文化共創高端論壇」。

本論壇由媒體智能研究中心主辦，旨在匯聚學界、產業界與政策領域的專家學者，深入探討人工智能在治理架構、倫理實踐與文化創新等面向的最新發展與挑戰。

值此之際，我們特別編製了一冊簡短的小冊子，概要呈現本中心對人工智能治理與文化共創議題的觀察與思考，盼能為與會者提供參考與啟發，促進跨界交流與持續對話。

感謝各位的蒞臨與交流，期盼本次論壇能激發更多深思與合作，為未來人文與科技、文化與創新的對話奠定基礎。

Generative AI Governance and Cultural Co-Creation in Hong Kong

Executive Summary

Hong Kong is entering a defining phase in the governance of generative artificial intelligence (AI). Ranked 16th in the 2024 Global Artificial Intelligence Index, its principles-based and distributed model—coordinated by the Digital Policy Office (DPO) in collaboration with the PCPD, IPD, and DOJ—has fostered experimentation through fintech sandboxes and creative-AI pilots. Yet this flexibility now faces a test: how to leverage innovation to build institutional trust, accountability, public literacy, and global influence.

This report presents an integrated blueprint for Hong Kong's generative-AI governance and cultural-innovation ecosystem. Drawing on experiences from major global regimes—including the EU, UK, US, Singapore, Japan, and Mainland China, it identifies a global convergence toward trustworthy and human-centred AI as both a regulatory baseline and a competitive asset. Where Europe enforces risk-based accountability, the UK and Singapore advance agile co-regulation; the US institutionalizes lifecycle risk management; and China embeds algorithmic accountability within public oversight.

Hong Kong, with its common-law foundation, bilingual innovation ecosystem, and Greater Bay Area (GBA) connectivity, is uniquely positioned to bridge these governance models—linking Mainland China's institutional strength with global foresight. Recent policy anchors reinforce this trajectory, including a 2025 pledge to deploy AI across 200 public-service processes by 2027 (e.g., the AI-enabled "iAM Smart" assistant and intelligent police reporting), alongside a planned HK\$10 billion Innovation & Technology Industry Guidance Fund and a cross-departmental AI Efficacy Enhancement Team.

At the same time, AI literacy has become an essential enabler of responsible innovation. Beyond general awareness, it should be advanced through structured initiatives: integrating AI ethics and data literacy into school and university curricula, expanding civil-service training on AI governance and risk awareness, and developing trilingual public programs in partnership with specialized research and training institutions. International evidence—from the EU's DigComp 2.2, Singapore's AI for Everyone, and Finland's Elements of AI—shows that such initiatives strengthen trust, engagement, and readiness for ethical and accountable AI use.

香港正邁入生成式人工智能(AI)治理的關鍵時期。根據2024年《全球人工智能指數》，香港位列全球第16名。其「原則為本、分權協作」的治理模式——由數位政策辦公室(DPO)統籌，並由個人資料私隱專員公署(PCPD)、知識產權署(IPD)及律政司(DOJ)協同監理——推動了多項創新實驗，如金融科技沙盒與創意型AI試點。然而，這樣的靈活制度如今面臨新挑戰：如何將創新動能轉化為制度信任、問責結構、公共素養與全球影響力。

本報告提出一套整合性藍圖，以構築香港的生成式AI治理與文化創新生態系統。透過比較歐盟、英國、美國、新加坡、日本及中國大陸等主要AI監管體系，報告指出，「可信任、以人為本」的AI正在成為各國共同追求的監管基準與競爭優勢。歐洲強調風險分級與法制問責；英國與新加坡推動協作共管與敏捷監理；美國建立全生命週期的風險治理機制；中國則將演算法問責納入公共治理體系之中。

香港憑藉普通法基礎、雙語創新環境與大灣區(GBA)聯通優勢，具備承接中國制度深度與國際規範前瞻的獨特條件，可在全球AI治理格局中發揮「制度橋樑」作用。近期政策舉措進一步鞏固了這一方向：特區政府承諾於2027年前將AI應用於200項公共服務流程（包括AI版「智方便」與智能報案系統），並計劃推出100億港元的「創新及科技產業引導基金」，以及成立跨部門「AI成效提升小組」。

同時，AI素養已成為推動負責創新的核心動力。除普及基本認知外，應透過制度化途徑推進：在教育體系中納入AI倫理與資料素養課程，強化公部門及專業人員的AI治理與風險管理訓練，並由專注於AI與數位治理的學術與專業機構帶領三語公眾教育計畫。國際經驗——包括歐盟的DigComp 2.2、新加坡的AI for Everyone、以及芬蘭的Elements of AI——證明此類舉措能有效強化公眾信任、參與度與倫理意識。

2025–2028年策略重點 Strategic Priorities for 2025–2028

01

Governance Coherence

Establish a Cultural-AI Governance Council and a Public AI Register to unify standards and improve transparency.

1. 治理整合

成立「文化AI治理委員會」與公共AI登錄平台，以統一標準並提升透明度。

2. 法制現代化
修訂《著作權條例》(第528章)，釐清AI生成內容的著作權及文本/資料探勘權；引入公共部門AI的演算法影響與偏差審核制度。

02

Legal Modernization

Update Cap. 528 to clarify authorship and text-and-data-mining rights; adopt algorithmic-impact and bias audits for public-sector AI.

3. 應用創新推進
在醫療、教育與文化領域設立多部門AI沙盒，促進科研成果的社會轉化與應用實驗。

03

Applied Innovation

Launch multi-sector AI sandboxes in healthcare, education, and culture to transform research into real-world impact.

04

Data Trust & Interoperability

Create a Cultural Data-Sharing Consortium with standardized APIs and consent frameworks for lawful cross-platform data use.

4. 資料信任與互通性
建立「文化資料共享聯盟」，制定標準化API與同意框架，確保跨平台資料使用的合法性與互操作性。

05

SME & Creator Enablement

Build AI-IP Support Hubs to assist small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and creators, and extend collective-management mechanisms to AI-generated works.

5. 中小企與創作者支持
成立「AI與智慧財產支援中心」，協助中小企與創作者，並延伸集體管理制度以涵蓋AI生成作品。

06

Cross-Border Leadership

Develop a GBA Cultural-AI Sandbox aligned with OECD, APEC, and Mainland's principles to pilot interoperable governance and data exchange.

6. 跨境治理與區域領導
建構「大灣區文化AI沙盒」，與OECD、APEC及中國大陸原則接軌，試行跨境治理與資料互通。



意義與展望

香港正站在由「創新試驗者」轉向「制度建構者」的關鍵門檻。AI治理的核心不僅在於技術與法規的銜接，更在於如何將制度信任、文化洞見與公共價值融為一體，形成具前瞻性的治理典範。透過將創新與問責相結合，並在政策設計中融入文化前瞻，香港可發展為「人本導向、價值契合」的人工智慧治理典範——在此框架下，法治確定性、創造活力與倫理領導力相互促進，共同推動科技治理的永續發展。

Why It Matters

Hong Kong can evolve from a flexible experimenter into a rule shaper and trust builder in global AI governance. Through aligning innovation with accountability and embedding cultural foresight into policy design, the city can offer a living model of humanistic, value-aligned AI—where legal certainty, creative vitality, and ethical leadership advance together toward sustainable technological governance.

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Generative AI Governance and Cultural Co-Creation in Hong Kong

Strategic Priorities for 2025–2028

Why It Matters

Hong Kong's Generative AI Governance: Current Landscape

- 1.1. The Architectural Design: Strategic Flexibility
- 1.2 Critical Analysis: Operational Challenges and Misalignments
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Key Research Insights from HKUST Media Intelligence Research Center

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Hong Kong's Generative AI Governance: Current Landscape



**Gap 1.
Application-Infrastructure
Imbalance**

Solution 1.

Shift focus from an infrastructure-led strategy to industry-specific AI application ecosystem.



**Gap 2.
Governance Gap and
Compliance Fragmentation**

Solution 2.

Develop sector-specific standards and quality assurance mechanisms in high-impact areas like education and finance



Gap 3. Enforcement Difficulties and Trust Deficit

Solution 3.

Devise innovative solutions to address the enforcement challenge, mitigate the risks, and balance AI training and data privacy protection

Unlike jurisdictions that pursue comprehensive, top-down regulatory architectures such as the European Union or Mainland China, Hong Kong has opted for a principles-based, decentralized governance model designed to balance innovation with accountability. This flexible framework reflects the city's strategy to remain a rule connector rather than a rule follower, allowing agile adaptation across fast-moving industries.

However, while the intent is strategically sound, its implementation exposes mounting tensions between flexibility and coherence. The system's multi-agency structure has enabled early experimentation but also produced operational fragmentation—most visibly in sector-specific oversight, enforcement coordination, and public trust building. As a result, Hong Kong stands at a crossroads: its governance model embodies valuable experimentation, yet its success now depends on converting flexibility into institutional strength and demonstrable public confidence.

1.1. The Architectural Design: Strategic Flexibility

Hong Kong's generative AI governance is structured as a distributed, guidance-based ecosystem rather than a single centralized regulator. Coordination occurs through a network of specialized public bodies, each exercising oversight within its jurisdiction. This approach aligns with the high-level strategy set out in the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint, which aims to create a clear development path over the next 5 to 10 years.

Digital Policy Office (DPO)

serves as the central policy coordinator under the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau (ITIB). It issues non-binding cross-sectoral guidelines—such as the Ethical AI Framework and Generative AI Technical and Application Guideline—to promote responsible innovation and cross-departmental alignment. The Ethical AI Framework (2024) articulates five guiding principles — Fairness, Accountability and Responsibility, Reliability and Security, Privacy and Data Protection, and Social Value — and provides self-assessment tools to embed ethics across the AI lifecycle. While currently non-binding, it establishes a foundation for consistent ethical practice and highlights the need for stronger cross-agency coordination and assurance mechanisms.

Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD)

regulates data protection and privacy compliance under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. It published the AI: Model Personal Data Protection Framework, providing sector-agnostic best practices for AI deployment. This is complemented by broader government actions, such as the "Policy Statement on Facilitating Data Flow and Safeguarding Data Security in Hong Kong" (December 2023), which sets out action items to promote data application while enhancing security safeguards.

Intellectual Property Department (IPD)

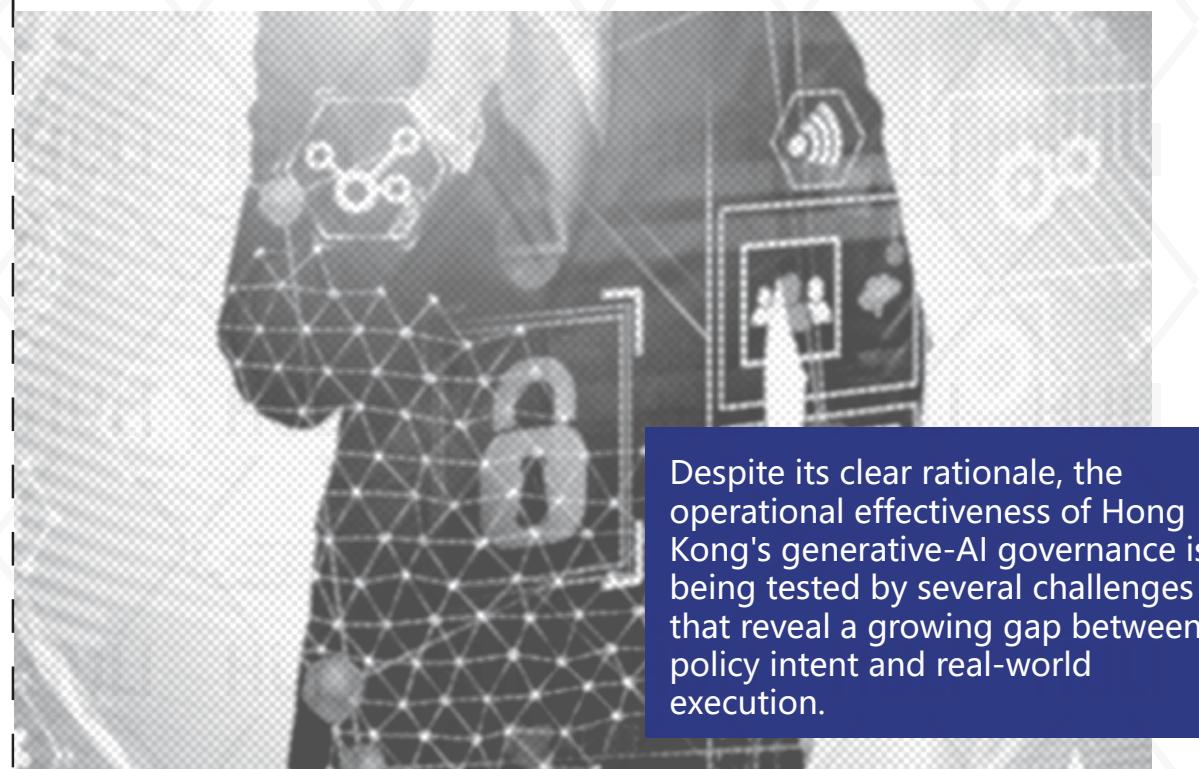
leads policy consultations on copyright and AI-generated works, particularly amendments to the Copyright Ordinance (Cap. 528) to address authorship and Text and Data Mining exceptions.

This multi-agency configuration contrasts with the European Union's binding AI Act and Mainland China's algorithm-registration regime, reflecting Hong Kong's choice of strategic flexibility over comprehensive statutory control. The model's emphasis on agility and ecosystem coordination aligns with the city's innovation-driven policy vision. However, early implementation has leaned toward a supply-side orientation, emphasizing foundational AI infrastructure and capacity-building initiatives (e.g., the HKMA-Cyberport GenAI Sandbox), while less attention has been placed on incentivizing application-level innovation. This focus is evidenced by major government investments, including the establishment of an AI Supercomputing Centre (AISC) at Cyberport, a three-year, \$3 billion AI Subsidy Scheme to promote its use, and the upcoming \$10 billion "New Industrialisation Acceleration Scheme" to provide funding for enterprises in AI and data science. Balancing these priorities will determine the long-term effectiveness of Hong Kong's generative-AI governance architecture.

Policy Infrastructure Snapshot

In the 2025 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced that AI will be deployed across more than 200 public-service processes by 2027, including an AI-powered "iAM Smart" assistant and voice-based police reporting systems. The Government will also launch a HK\$10 billion Innovation and Technology Industry Guidance Fund (2026–27) and has established an AI Efficacy Enhancement Team to coordinate adoption and performance evaluation across departments. Early pilots — such as AI-assisted pathology analysis in healthcare and AI translation tools for ethnic-minority communities — illustrate the city's commitment to applying AI for public good and inclusion.

1.2 Critical Analysis: Operational Challenges and Misalignments



Despite its clear rationale, the operational effectiveness of Hong Kong's generative-AI governance is being tested by several challenges that reveal a growing gap between policy intent and real-world execution.

1.2.1 The Application-Infrastructure Imbalance

The Government's AI strategy remains heavily weighted toward supply-side development—including the establishment of the AI Supercomputing Centre, direct funding for foundational-model research, and large-scale investments through the Innovation & Technology Fund.

While such initiatives strengthen technical capacity, industry experience globally shows that the true economic and societal value of generative AI stems from demand-side innovation: scalable, domain-specific applications in finance, healthcare, education, and cultural industries.

Without stronger incentives for applied R&D, public-sector pilots, or regulatory sandboxes that enable real-world experimentation, Hong Kong risks building infrastructure without impact, where technology adoption lags behind its development.

1.2.2 The Governance Gap and Compliance Fragmentation

The education sector illustrates this challenge. As AI-assisted learning tools proliferate, the absence of certification or audit mechanisms raises concerns over accuracy, data management, and pedagogical integrity. Comparable jurisdictions—such as Singapore's AI Verify Foundation and the UK's multi-regulator sandbox network—already provide clearer assurance frameworks that Hong Kong has yet to institutionalize. Compared with Singapore's National AI Strategy (2019, updated 2023)—which combines agile sandboxes, open verification toolkits (AI Verify), and a strong emphasis on AI for Public Good—Hong Kong's current assurance architecture remains nascent. This comparison underscores the need for unified public AI registers, certification mechanisms, and coordinated enforcement.

A principles-based regime provides agility but also causes fragmentation. In the absence of a unified AI law, organizations must navigate a complex mosaic of existing ordinances—the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, Copyright Ordinance (Cap. 528), and others—supplemented by non-binding guidance from the Digital Policy Office (DPO), Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), and Intellectual Property Department (IPD). For small and medium-sized enterprises, overlapping obligations create compliance uncertainty and higher operational costs.

1.2.3 The Enforcement Challenge and Trust Deficit

Hong Kong's decentralized framework struggles to respond to cross-border AI-driven risks.

Incidents such as deep-fake investment scams and online impersonation have highlighted the limits of segmented enforcement capacities: domestic guidelines lack extraterritorial force, and agencies act within narrow mandates. Although the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau and PCPD have intensified public-awareness campaigns, fragmented accountability continues to slow coordinated action.

This enforcement asymmetry contributes to a trust deficit, eroding both public confidence in AI adoption and investor confidence in regulatory readiness—two pillars of Hong Kong's credibility as an international innovation hub.

1.2.4 The Inherent Dilemma for Policymaking: Data Privacy vs AI Development

Generative AI training relies on extensive datasets that often conflict with the data-minimization principles enforced by the PCPD.

Developers face ambiguity regarding lawful data collection, consent, and re-use of publicly available content.

Emerging solutions such as federated learning, data-trust mechanisms, and authorized anonymization protocols could allow responsible innovation if formally integrated into Hong Kong's governance architecture.

While the PCPD's AI: Model Personal Data Protection Framework provides practical guidance, additional clarity—through binding codes or legislative amendments—is required to reconcile data protection and technological advancement.

1.2.5 Strengthening AI Literacy for Public Trust and Inclusive Innovation

Building AI literacy among citizens, educators, and civil servants is central to sustaining public trust in generative AI. Research across OECD and UNESCO member states shows that digital literacy programs significantly increase confidence in engaging with AI systems and reduce misinformation susceptibility. International evidence demonstrates that structured literacy frameworks also contribute to social and economic resilience:

European Union

DigComp 2.2 (2022): Integrates AI understanding into digital-competence standards across education systems, emphasizing critical evaluation of AI outputs and ethical awareness.

Singapore

AI Singapore's AI4E/AI4I programs provide broad national and regional AI literacy and upskilling across students, professionals and public servants; AI-Ready ASEAN (2024–26) explicitly aims to engage hundreds of thousands regionally.

Canada & United Kingdom

Public-service AI training integrates ethics and risk literacy; Canada's Algorithmic Impact Assessment and the UK's AI Standards Hub build capacity for non-technical users, strengthening institutional understanding.

Finland

Elements of AI (Univ. of Helsinki + Reaktor) became a global benchmark in citizen AI education. Finland set a 1% target for national reach (the course later exceeded 1–2% of Finland's population and reached over 1 million global learners by 2023), and the model was promoted across the EU.

For Hong Kong, AI literacy can take concrete form through three policy pathways:

Education and Training — Integrate AI literacy into secondary and tertiary curricula under the Education Bureau's STEAM strategy, including modules on data ethics, prompt design, and algorithmic bias.

Public-Sector Upskilling — Expand civil-service training under the Civil Service College to include AI risk awareness and governance toolkits, aligned with the Digital Policy Office's Ethical AI Framework.

Community and Industry Engagement — Partner with universities, professional research institutes, and public broadcasters to create trilingual (Cantonese–Mandarin–English) short courses and open online modules for SMEs, creators, and the general public. By embedding these practices across education, government, and media, Hong Kong can translate literacy into institutional capacity and public trust—ensuring that every sector has a baseline competence for evaluating and governing generative technologies.

1.3 Conclusion: Strategic Imperatives for Future Viability

Hong Kong's flexible, adaptive governance model remains a sensible foundation for responsible AI development.

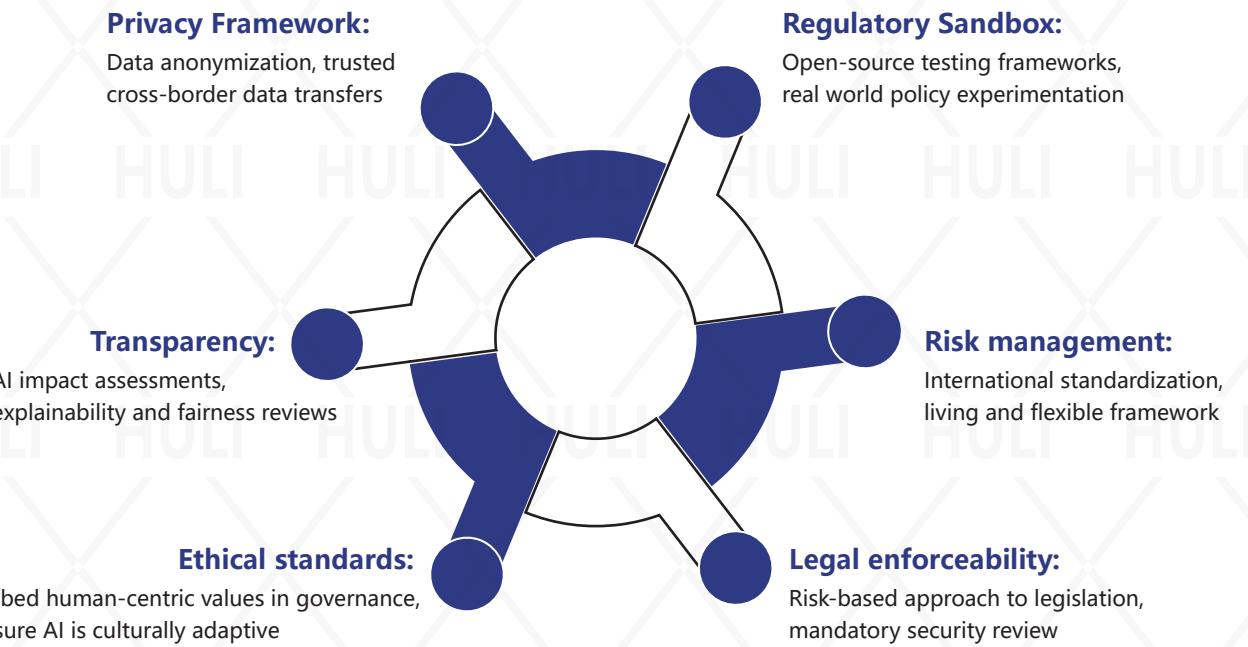
Its long-term success, however, depends on balancing flexibility with institutional coherence to enhance public trust.

A strategic recalibration is therefore essential, built on three imperatives:

Balance the Portfolio – Rebalance infrastructure-led investment by stimulating sector-specific, application-driven innovation through targeted R&D funding, public-sector pilot programs, and cross-disciplinary sandboxes.

Bridge the Governance Gap – Establish sectoral standards, ethical-certification schemes, and transparent quality-assurance systems—particularly in education, healthcare, and finance—to enhance predictability and safeguard users.

Strengthen the Trust Framework – Institutionalize AI-risk audits, cross-agency enforcement coordination, and privacy-preserving data-sharing mechanisms, while improving transparency via public AI-system registers or audit disclosures.



By advancing these imperatives, Hong Kong can evolve from a flexible experimenter into a living model of trustworthy, value-aligned AI governance, bridging Mainland's institutional strength with global best practices in regulation.

Box 1

Critical Gaps in Hong Kong's Creative-AI Ecosystem

Despite rapid advances in generative-AI research and public-sector experimentation, Hong Kong's creative and cultural industries still face five structural gaps that hinder sustainable growth and international competitiveness.



1. Legal Ambiguity. The Copyright Ordinance (Cap. 528) recognizes "computer-generated works" but remains silent on ownership in human-AI collaboration, training-data licensing, and fair-use parameters. The long-announced text-and-data-mining (TDM) exception has yet to be implemented, leaving uncertainty for creators, media organizations, and start-ups.

2. Fragmented Ecosystem. Publicly supported AI systems—such as HKGAI, HKChat, HKPilot, and RTHK's AI Lab and AI anchor Aida—operate independently, with no publicly declared interoperability or metadata standards. RTHK introduced the 3-D virtual anchor Aida in 2023 to deliver Cantonese weather reports and is developing interactive and sign-language functions (Master Insight, 2024). This siloed development contrasts with integrated creative suites like Adobe Creative Cloud.

3. Limited Collective Management. The Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong (CASH) collectively manages the rights of musical works, and administers licenses for public use. The Hong Kong Reprographic Rights Licensing Society (HKRRS) grants licenses to the public to use copyrighted books. However, these existing organizations cover traditional works only, offering no mechanism for royalty distribution or authorship attribution for AI-generated or hybrid content.

4. Data-Access Barriers. Museums, broadcasters, and universities hold valuable cultural datasets but lack standardized sharing protocols, community-consent frameworks, and clear licensing terms for AI training. Consequently, many Cantonese cultural and heritage resources remain under-utilized.

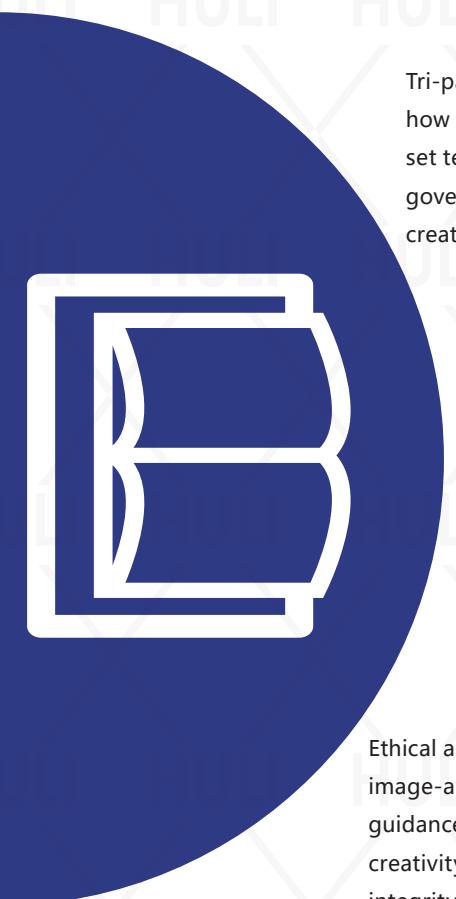
5. SME Capacity Constraints. Independent creators and small studios often lack funding for compliance tools, legal expertise for contract negotiation, and technical knowledge for AI integration. The CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) provides project-based grants to design, digital entertainment, and cultural-innovation projects, but funding is competitive and mainly benefits mid-sized organisations. The Cyberport Creative Micro Fund (CCMF) offers seed grants of up to HK\$100,000 to develop early-stage digital ideas, yet its small scale (fewer than 100 teams funded annually) limits sector-wide impact.

Takeaway. These challenges underscore the need for a coordinated governance framework linking AI innovation policy, intellectual-property reform, and capacity-building across Hong Kong's creative ecosystem.

Box 2**Global Models and Policy Inspirations**

International experiences offer practical pathways for Hong Kong to build a trusted, interoperable, and globally competitive Cultural-AI ecosystem.

Legal Clarity and Transparency. Midjourney, a widely used and reputable AI image generation platform, is facing a wave of copyright lawsuits because plaintiffs (including Disney, Universal, Warner Bros.) allege the company trained its image models on large, unlicensed corpora of copyrighted works and that the models can reproduce or produce derivative images of those works and characters without permission. In contrast, Adobe Firefly and California's Generative AI Copyright Disclosure Act show that using licensed or public-domain datasets strengthens enterprise trust and minimizes litigation risk.



Tri-partite Governance. Singapore's AI Verify Foundation demonstrates how government, industry, and academia can jointly certify AI tools, set technical standards, and mediate intellectual-property disputes—a governance architecture readily adaptable to Hong Kong's creative-tech landscape.

Cultural Data and Community Consent. UNESCO's Dive into Heritage project integrates 3-D scanning, semantic tagging and open access for public use to balance heritage authenticity with accessibility. Similar frameworks could empower digitization of Cantonese opera, walled villages, and vernacular architecture while respecting cultural ownership.

Ethical and Rights-based Innovation. Denmark's proposed image-and-voice-rights legislation and the U.S. Copyright Office's guidance that AI-generated works must include "substantial human creativity" reaffirm the importance of ethical design, attribution integrity, and authorship accountability in generative-AI governance.

Takeaway. Across jurisdictions, clarity, interoperability, and community inclusion consistently emerge not as barriers to creativity but as catalysts for sustainable and responsible innovation.



Section II

International AI Governance & Sandbox Models: Lessons for Hong Kong



Building on the analysis in Section 1, Hong Kong can refine its assurance and governance infrastructure by drawing lessons from leading global practices. The following international cases—from the UK, Singapore, Japan, OECD, APEC, and the EU to Canada and Australia—offer adaptable models for risk-based regulation, cross-border sandboxes, and ethical standardization that align with Hong Kong's principles-based approach.

2.1 Pioneering Sandbox and Innovation Models

United Kingdom – The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) launched the world's first regulatory sandbox in 2016, providing fintech and AI innovators a supervised environment to test new technologies with real users. Building on this, the FCA co-founded the Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN) in 2019, a coalition of over 80 regulators enabling cross-border testing and joint supervision of digital and AI-enabled financial products.

Singapore – The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) operates a FinTech Regulatory Sandbox (2016) and Sandbox Express (2019), offering fast-track approval for trials in areas such as payments, regtech, and AI. In 2023, Separately, the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) set up AI Verify in 2023 — an open-source AI governance testing framework and toolkit (developed with industry partners) to help validate model transparency, fairness and other governance principles.

Japan – The Digital Agency administers a Regulatory Sandbox Program (since 2018, under the Act on Special Measures for Productivity Improvement), allowing certified demonstrations in the AI sector (among others) with temporary regulatory exemptions so regulators can collect evidence for possible regulatory reform.

Lesson for Hong Kong: Expand from industry-specific pilots to multi-sector AI sandboxes, combining Singapore's AI Verify model for system testing with Japan's real-world policy experimentation, enabling cross-border trials in finance, healthcare, and smart-city governance.

2.3 Accountability and Transparency in Law and Practice

Canada – Since 2020, most federal departments must conduct an Algorithmic Impact Assessment (AIA) before deploying automated decision systems. The AIA tool measures risks relating to bias, transparency, and human oversight.

France – The Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés (CNIL) created a dedicated Artificial Intelligence Department to review and assess public-sector AI systems for explainability and fairness, with partial publication of results to enhance transparency.

Australia – The Digital Transformation Agency is developing an AI Assurance Framework, complementing its national 2019 AI Ethics Principles and providing guidance to government agencies on assurance and transparency when deploying public-sector AI systems.

Lesson for Hong Kong: Pilot algorithmic impact assessments and public algorithm registers for government and HR technology applications, following the models of Canada, France and Australia to strengthen transparency and accountability.

2.2 Data Governance and Privacy Protection Frameworks

OECD – The OECD AI Principles (2019)—adopted by 47 member and partner countries—form the first intergovernmental standard for responsible AI. They emphasize transparency, accountability, human-centred values, and interoperability.

APEC – The Cross-Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) system is a voluntary certification framework that enables trusted data transfers across the Asia-Pacific region, now expanding into a Global CBPR Forum (2022) with Canada, Japan, Korea, the U.S., and others.

South Korea – The Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) operates regulatory-sandbox and data-access approval mechanisms that permits controlled data use for AI research using anonymization and de-identification protocols, balancing innovation with privacy protection.

European Union – The Data Governance Act (2022) establishes data intermediaries—Independent entities facilitating data sharing for public interest and AI research while safeguarding privacy and data altruism.

Lesson for Hong Kong: Explore a data-trust framework that enables lawful data sharing for AI development under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, bridging compliance with innovation and enhancing trust in cross-border data governance.

2.4 Risk Management Frameworks

United States – The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released the AI Risk Management Framework (RMF) in 2023—a voluntary, continuously updated tool that guides organizations in identifying and mitigating risks across the AI lifecycle. It defines “trustworthy AI” as valid, reliable, safe, secure, transparent, explainable, and privacy-enhancing.

In parallel, the U.S. Voluntary AI Commitments (2023)—signed by major technology firms under White House coordination—demonstrate an industry-led governance model, emphasizing safety (red-teaming and incident reporting), security (protection of model weights and vulnerability disclosure), and trust (content provenance, watermarking, and transparency reports).

United Kingdom — Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (DSIT) published an “Introduction to AI assurance” (Feb 2024) and supports the AI Standards Hub (Alan Turing Institute / BSI / NPL). The Hub helps the UK community engage with international standards bodies (ISO/IEC, IEEE, ITU, ETSI) and builds tools and training to inform technical standards and assurance practice.

Lesson for Hong Kong: Combine NIST's continuously updated lifecycle-based approach with the UK's standards-driven assurance model, creating a hybrid framework that allows constant improvement and international interoperability.

2.5 Ethical and Cultural Standards

UNESCO – In 2021, UNESCO adopted the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, the first global standard on AI ethics, emphasizing human rights, sustainability, diversity, and social justice.

Global Partnerships – The Global Partnership on AI (GPAI)—established in 2020 by G7 members and the EU—serves as a multi-stakeholder initiative connecting governments, academia, and industry to advance research on Responsible AI, Data Governance, and Innovation.

Finland — The AuroraAI Program, coordinated by the Finnish Ministry of Finance, connects public and private digital services around citizens' life events and incorporates ethical principles into government service design, promoting transparency and fairness.

United Arab Emirates – The UAE created the Ministry of State for Artificial Intelligence (2017) and issued National AI Ethics Guidelines (2020), reflecting cultural pluralism and human-centred governance values.

Lesson for Hong Kong: Embed ethical and cultural intelligence into AI policy—potentially through an AI Ethics and Culture Council—to ensure that technological innovation aligns with Hong Kong's diverse social values and global

2.6 Binding Legal Frameworks

European Union – The EU AI Act entered into force in August 2024, and is the world's first comprehensive binding legal framework for AI. The EU AI Office oversees enforcement and systemic-risk monitoring. It classifies systems by risk category:

Legal Modernization
Update Copyright Ordinance;
Adopt Algorithmic Audits

Governance Coherence
Cultural-AI Governance
Council & Public AI Register

Applied Innovation
Multi-Sector AI Sandboxes
(Health, Education, Culture)



Data Trust & Interoperability
Cultural Data-Sharing
Consortium with Standardized APIs

SME & Creator Enablement
AI-IP Support Hubs & Collective
Management for AI Works

Cross-Border Leadership
GBA Cultural-AI
Sandbox aligned with OECD/APEC

- Unacceptable risk – manipulative or exploitative AI systems are prohibited.
- High risk – systems in recruitment, education, border control, and critical infrastructure must undergo conformity assessments and human oversight.
- Limited risk – general-purpose AI must ensure transparency, data-quality documentation, and copyright compliance.

Mainland China – The Interim Measures for the Management of Generative AI Services (2023) introduce binding obligations on dataset quality, content accuracy, and algorithmic accountability, requiring model registration and security review for generative AI services.

Lesson for Hong Kong: Consider a hybrid risk-based framework that blends the EU's structured risk classification with the Mainland's algorithm-filing and accountability mechanisms—providing legal clarity without constraining innovation.

2.7 Conclusion

Hong Kong can strengthen its position as a global rule broker by aligning flexibility with accountability.

Build multi-sector and cross-border sandboxes with GBA and OECD partners to encourage experimentation under oversight.

Establish data-trust, ethical, and audit frameworks to institutionalize transparency and accountability.

Adopt risk-based and lifecycle-oriented regulations combining enforceable safeguards with iterative updates.

By integrating the EU's binding safeguards, NIST's adaptive methodology, and Singapore's open verification model, Hong Kong can evolve into a living laboratory for trustworthy AI governance, balancing innovation with societal trust.



Section III

Generative AI in Hong Kong: Strategic Priorities for Cultural Industries

3.1 Current Landscape of Cultural AI and Research Infrastructure in Hong Kong

Hong Kong's cultural-AI ecosystem has evolved rapidly, supported by a robust research base that integrates technological innovation with linguistic and cultural specificity.

- HKUST's Hong Kong Generative AI Research and Development Center (HKGAI) — launched in 2023 under the InnoHK initiative — has developed localized large-language models supporting Cantonese, Mandarin, and English. HKChat is being developed as a comprehensive civic AI assistant, with planned capabilities including real-time bus arrival information, financial services, and legal consultation, designed to serve as a trusted companion for Hong Kong citizens. At InnoEX 2024, HKGAI showcased several generative-AI applications spanning legal consultation, creative content generation, animation composition — signaling Hong Kong's capacity to translate research into multi-sector innovation.

HKUST's AI-enhanced Digital Twin Platform applies generative AI to heritage preservation, integrating 3-D reconstruction, IoT sensing, and urban simulation for monitoring historic buildings.

PolyU's AI for Cultural Heritage and Historical Reconstruction Project (launched in 2025) uses machine-learning models to extract geographic and ecological knowledge from ancient Chinese texts, bridging digital humanities and cultural AI.

HKUST Library's Digital Scholarship CoLab (DS CoLab) engages students in building natural language processing tools for Chinese named-entity recognition (NER), enhancing digital humanities research and cultural data analysis.

HKCanto-Eval is a recently developed benchmark for evaluating large language models in Cantonese and Hong Kong's cultural contexts, marking a milestone in assessing local linguistic and cultural competence within AI systems.

- PolyU's AiDLab, a joint initiative with the Royal College of Art (UK), developed AiDA (Artificial Intelligence-based Interactive Design Assistant), a human-AI co-creation tool for fashion design. AiDA was featured in the Fashion X AI exhibition co-presented at M+ Museum and the London V & A museum in 2024, demonstrating how AI augments creative expression and cross-cultural dialogue.

- HKCanto-Eval is a recently developed benchmark for evaluating large language models in Cantonese and Hong Kong's cultural contexts, marking a milestone in assessing local linguistic and cultural competence within AI systems. Together, these initiatives illustrate Hong Kong's strength in bridging AI research and cultural specificity, linking its bilingual environment with globally relevant innovation in language, design, heritage, and media.

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3.2 Ecosystem Support and Industry Transformation

Hong Kong's cultural-AI momentum extends beyond research laboratories into a broader innovation ecosystem where policy enablement, industrial adoption, and public engagement reinforce one another. Together they create the institutional conditions for transforming creative production and cultural participation in the age of generative AI.

3.2.1 Policy Enablement and Public Investment

The Hong Kong SAR Government has positioned AI as a strategic driver of technological advancement and creative-economy growth. Recent initiatives emphasize flexible regulation, public-private collaboration, and targeted funding:

- CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) supports cross-disciplinary "CreateTech" projects that merge design, animation, immersive media, and AI.
- Cyberport Creative Micro Fund (CCMF) and InnoCentre Incu-Tech/Design programmes provide incubation and seed grants for AI, AR/VR, and media-analytics start-ups.

- HKAI Lab — a public-private accelerator co-founded by Alibaba, SenseTime, and HKSTP — incubates early-stage AI ventures and develops several media-localization and bilingual content tools.
- The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA) has piloted AI systems for crowd-flow prediction and personalized exhibition recommendations at M+ and the Palace Museum.

- The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) announced the formation of the AI Efficacy Enhancement Team to coordinate and guide the application of AI technologies across government departments. The initiative sets a target of deploying AI tools across 100 administrative processes by the end of 2026 and scaling up to 200 processes by 2027.

•Proposed amendments to the Copyright Ordinance (Cap. 528) aim to clarify ownership and text-and-data-mining exceptions for AI-generated works, which would enhance legal certainty for creators and enterprises pending legislative enactment. Collectively, these initiatives form a policy infrastructure for creative intelligence—combining public investment with regulatory foresight to stimulate innovation while upholding ethical standards.

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3.2.2 Industrial Adoption and Creative-Tech Innovation

AI adoption in Hong Kong's creative industries is progressing from experimentation to integration across the full production chain. Representative cases demonstrate how firms and institutions leverage generative AI tools to enhance efficiency and audience engagement:

- Film and Post-production – Hong Kong studios such as Imagi and PixelBox are deploying AI-assisted rendering and pre-visualisation pipelines to reduce VFX turnaround times, with demonstrations featured at industry events including Filmart 2024.
- Music and Performance – The Turing AI Orchestra (HKBU × Huawei) combines algorithmic composition and human choreography in live concerts, demonstrating AI–human co-creation.
- Design and Fashion – PolyU AiDLab and the Royal College of Art (UK) developed AiDA, featured in the Fashion X AI exhibition at M+ and the London Design Biennale 2023.
- Cultural Heritage and Museums – HKUST's AI-enhanced Digital Twin Platform integrates generative modeling and 3-D reconstruction to monitor heritage buildings city-wide.
- Media and Journalism – News organizations including Initium Media and RTHK's innovation units experiment with AI-driven transcription.
- Marketing and Analytics – Krew Digital, Alibaba Pictures (HK), and WisersOne deploy LLM-based content generation and sentiment-analysis tools , reporting improved campaign engagement and content efficiency.
- Education and Learning Technology – Universities including HKU and HKUST are prototyping Cantonese-language AI tutoring tools.

These examples illustrate a diffusion of generative AI across creative value chains, demonstrating Hong Kong's comparative advantage in bilingual media, design, and cultural analytics.

Summary

Hong Kong's cultural-AI ecosystem shows a multi-layered transformation:

policy frameworks provide strategic direction; industry adoption embeds AI in production and design; and public engagement ensures social relevance and trust. This synergy positions Hong Kong as a regional hub for AI research and a living laboratory of cultural-technological co-creation—where innovation, governance, and community evolve together.

3.3 Strategic Priorities and Global Positioning for Cultural-AI Development

Hong Kong's long-term success in cultural AI will depend on how effectively it consolidates its research strengths, policy infrastructure, and creative industries into a coherent innovation ecosystem. While initiatives such as HKGAI, AiDLab, and HKAI Lab have laid strong foundations, maintaining global competitiveness now requires strategic coordination across governance, industry, and education. The following five priorities represent strategic recommendations to consolidate Hong Kong's cultural-AI capabilities:

Priority 1 — Build an Integrated Cultural-AI Innovation Platform

Current Gap

Existing programs operate in isolation, limiting scalability and shared learning. Integration is essential for Hong Kong to function as a unified innovation hub.

Recommendations

- Establish a Cultural-AI Innovation Platform (CAIP) linking universities, start-ups, museums, and policy units under a cross-sectoral governance framework.
- Develop shared datasets, open APIs, and model-evaluation tools for bilingual and multimodal cultural content.
- Create a joint innovation fund (co-managed by ITC, WKCD, and RGC) to support translational projects bridging research prototypes and market deployment.
- Interface with global repositories such as Europeana and Creative Commons to ensure interoperability.

Priority 3 — Develop a Cross-Border Sandbox for Cultural AI in the GBA

Current Gap

The Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) provides an ideal environment for cross-jurisdictional AI collaboration.

Recommendations

- The Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) provides an ideal environment for cross-jurisdictional AI collaboration.
- Establish a GBA Cultural-AI Sandbox to enable controlled, privacy-compliant testing of AI-generated media across Hong Kong, Shenzhen, and Guangzhou.
 - Align sandbox protocols with OECD AI Principles, APEC CBPR, and Mainland algorithm-registration rules to facilitate mutual recognition.
 - Support joint ventures between Hong Kong creative firms and Mainland technology partners for co-production, translation, and digital-heritage preservation.
 - Position Hong Kong as a trusted policy laboratory for responsible AI cultural trade.



Priority 2

Advance Ethical and Quality-Assurance Frameworks

Current Gap

Public trust depends on transparency, provenance, and respect for intellectual property. Hong Kong's principles-based approach needs stronger enforcement mechanisms.

Recommendations

- Launch an AI-for-Culture Certification Scheme, jointly overseen by PCPD, IPD, and OGCIO, to accredit trustworthy AI tools in media, design, and education.
- Implement provenance standards (e.g., metadata, watermarking, model-card disclosure) aligned with OECD and UNESCO guidelines.
- Encourage industry associations (HKDEA, HKDI, HKMA) to adopt voluntary codes of practice emphasizing transparency and fair use.
- Pilot certification processes first in film, design, and education, then expand to other sectors.

Priority 5

Position Hong Kong as a Global Broker of Cultural-AI Standards

Current Gap

With its bilingual legal system and international connectivity, Hong Kong can bridge Mainland, OECD, and UNESCO governance frameworks.

Recommendations

- Host an annual Global Cultural-AI Forum under the auspices of the HKSAR Government and UNESCO Hong Kong Association, convening policymakers, scholars, and industry leaders.
- Promote participation in GPAI, OECD AI Policy Observatory, and APEC Digital Innovation initiatives.
- Support policy research and comparative studies on value alignment, data governance, and cultural pluralism in AI.
- Draft a Hong Kong Statement on Cultural-AI Governance through this forum to articulate regional standards and ethical commitments.

Priority 4 — Cultivate Human Capital and Interdisciplinary Literacy

Current Gap

Generative AI demands hybrid talent fluent in both technology and cultural interpretation.

Recommendations

- Introduce interdisciplinary degree minors in AI and Cultural Creativity across UGC universities, combining computational arts, ethics, and data governance.
- Expand postgraduate fellowships under the Theme-based Research Scheme for cross-disciplinary AI–communication–design projects.
- Partner with HKAPA, HKDI, and professional guilds to offer continuous learning modules in generative AI production, prompt engineering, and data analytics.
- Establish a Cultural-AI Fellowship Program inviting local creators to co-develop AI art prototypes with academic labs.
- Explore joint master's and executive programs with UNESCO or GPAI partner universities.

Summary

By aligning these five priorities—integration, ethics, cross-border collaboration, talent development, and global leadership—Hong Kong can consolidate sector-specific achievements into systemic innovation.

A coherent Cultural-AI Strategy would position the city as both a Greater Bay Area hub for cultural creativity and an international broker of ethical and cultural-AI standards, embodying the vision of humanistic intelligence while promoting technological progress that safeguards cultural diversity and bridges innovation with civilization.



Section IV

**Implications for Hong Kong:
Policy Recommendations**

Table 1. Hong Kong's Cultural AI Ecosystem: Distinctive Features, Opportunities, and Strategic Gaps

Category	Sub-Theme	Key Insights / Examples	
Distinctive Features	Twin-Engine Model	Engine 1 – Governance: Ethics-first, privacy-protective frameworks (e.g., PCPD Guidelines, Ethical AI Framework) prevent regulatory arbitrage. Result: "Compliance as Competitive Advantage," supporting regional leadership.	Engine 2 – Capability: Aggressive compute + funding supply (AISC, AI Grant Scheme) avoids infrastructure bottlenecks.
	Museum-as-Lab Paradigm	Cultural institutions act as AI co-developers rather than content consumers. Public-facing deployments (e.g., Hong Kong Palace Museum, Arts Tech Initiatives) create citizen feedback loops for responsible AI. Blends heritage preservation with technological experimentation.	
	Finance–Government–SME Cascade	Large institutions (banks, government) absorb early adoption risks. Lessons + tool maturity improve SME access. Cultural SMEs benefit from sector-neutral infrastructure (AISC, subsidies).	
High-Potential Opportunities	Multilingual / Cross-Cultural AI	Use Hong Kong's trilingual setting (Cantonese–Putonghua–English) to train translation / generation models. Address Cantonese-speaking diaspora + GBA cultural exchange markets.	
	AI-Powered Cultural Tourism	Link museum AI with tourism platforms for personalized heritage trails + virtual cultural experiences for Mainland and overseas audiences.	
	Compliance-as-a-Service	Export PCPD framework + tools to ASEAN / Asian cities lacking AI governance capacity. Position Hong Kong as regional AI ethics & audit hub.	
Strategic Gaps	Data Infrastructure	Problem: Fragmented cultural datasets, no unified repository. Impact: Inefficient training / duplication / limited collaboration. Need: Establish "Cultural AI Commons" with standardized metadata + rights management.	
	Benchmark & Evaluation	Problem: No localized benchmarks for Cantonese NLP or cultural-bias vision models. Impact: Over-reliance on English / Putonghua models → misrepresentation risk. Need: Create "Hong Kong Cultural AI Benchmark Suite."	
	Talent & SME Adoption	Problem: Mid-career upskilling insufficient; SMEs lack cost / expertise resources. Need: Launch AI Ambassadors Program (subsidized consultants) + AI vocational tracks in community colleges.	
	IP & Generative Content Governance	Problem: Copyright ambiguity for AI-generated works. Impact: Chills innovation in cultural production. Need: Clarify legal framework (e.g., Law Reform Commission study).	
	Cross-Border Data Flows	Problem: GBA integration vs. data-sovereignty tension. Impact: Limits joint HK–Mainland AI projects. Need: Sector-specific data-flow agreements (e.g., heritage-digitization protocols).	

International Benchmarking of Cultural AI Ecosystems: Hong Kong's Position in Asia's Innovation Landscape

Dimension	Hong Kong	Singapore	Seoul	Tokyo
Compute infrastructure	AISC (300 PFLOPS, accessible)	NSCC (500+ PFLOPS, restricted)	Limited public access	Fragmented across universities
Cultural AI funding	Dedicated streams (CCIDA, AISC subsidies)	Integrated into broader R&D grants	Strong (Korean Wave focus)	Limited public funding
Museum digitization	Advanced (HKPM, M+ leading)	Advanced (National Museum AR)	Moderate	Advanced (teamLab partnerships)
Language AI focus	Cantonese underserved	Multilingual (4 official languages)	Korean prioritized	Japanese prioritized
Data openness	Moderate (growing but fragmented)	High (govt data portal mature)	High (public data law)	Low (privacy-conservative)

Hong Kong's Comparative Advantages:

- "One Country, Two Systems" as bridge for GBA-global cultural AI collaboration
- Financial sector maturity → faster enterprise AI adoption
- Compact geography → easier cross-institution collaboration

Vulnerabilities:

- Talent competition with Shenzhen/Singapore
- Smaller domestic market limits commercial AI scalability
- Data sovereignty complexities in cross-border projects

4.1 Governance Frameworks: Balancing Innovation with Accountability

A central challenge in global AI governance is balancing technological innovation with social responsibility. Hong Kong, with its common law tradition, international financial hub status, and cultural diversity, is well placed to strike this balance. While learning from leading AI-regulatory regimes, Hong Kong must also tailor policies to its local context and legal structure. Comparative lessons:

- **European Union – Rights-First and Risk-Based**

The EU's rights-driven framework (AI Act, GDPR) protects fairness and privacy but can slow innovation. Hong Kong can apply a rights-first model in high-risk sectors such as healthcare, while avoiding over-bureaucratization.

- **United States – Decentralized and Market-Driven**

The U.S. approach (e.g., CCPA) encourages rapid innovation with lighter ethical oversight. Hong Kong's fintech sandbox echoes this model but should require stronger accountability and transparency measures.

- **United Kingdom – Soft Regulation and Sandbox Evolution**

The UK combines principled guidance with flexible experimentation. Hong Kong can emulate this adaptability but must ensure policy consistency across departments to prevent fragmentation.

- **Asia – Singapore and Japan**

Singapore employs agile sandboxes and voluntary guidelines to support experimentation, while Japan emphasizes human-centric design. Hong Kong should highlight fairness and inclusiveness while introducing independent audits to ensure implementation quality.

- **Mainland China – State-Led Oversight**

China's algorithm registration and generative-AI pilots strengthen accountability but restrict independent exploration. Hong Kong can adopt its structured management practices while maintaining regulatory autonomy and openness.

Local adaptation:

Building on these models, Hong Kong has begun experimentation through initiatives such as the GenAI Sandbox promoted by HKMA and Cyberport, enabling AI testing in the financial sector. To extend this model, Hong Kong should establish a multi-sector Trustworthy-AI framework covering healthcare and education.

- In healthcare, sandboxes could evaluate diagnostic systems for bias in multilingual medical data.

- In education, pilots could test the fairness and transparency of AI-driven assessment and personalized learning tools.

Recommendations

Hong Kong should capitalize on its strengths—rule of law, international connectivity, and innovative ecosystem—while drawing on global best practices to design a flexible, multi-sectoral regulatory framework. By fostering Asia-Pacific cooperation in AI accountability, disclosure, and law-making, Hong Kong can enhance its role as a regional model for responsible innovation.

4.2 Law and Regulation: Privacy, Personality Rights, IP, and Information Security

At the legal and regulatory level, international practice offers rich guidance.

- **European Union**

The GDPR sets global benchmarks for legality, transparency, and data rights, while the AI Act mandates cybersecurity, risk management, and data-governance measures. Its Prohibited AI Practices clause forbids systems that classify personality traits or social scores, and new EU rules are addressing copyright conflicts in generative AI.

- **APEC**

The Cross-Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) system provides a certification mechanism for trusted cross-border data flows—highly relevant to Hong Kong's position as a regional data hub.

- **North America**

Canada's Algorithmic Impact Assessment (AIA) and Human Rights AI Impact Assessment (HRIA) function as governance tools embedding accountability into public-sector AI. New York City's Local Law 144 (2021, effective 2023) requires bias audits and disclosure for automated employment decision tools, establishing an enforceable framework for fairness in hiring.

Hong Kong's current position:

The Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance is one of Asia's oldest comprehensive data protection laws. Hong Kong manages data security through the Six Data Protection Principles: collection purpose & means, accuracy & retention, use, security, openness, and data access & correction.

At the same time, Hong Kong's common-law system, intellectual-property courts, and financial arbitration mechanisms provide strong foundations for IP protection and dispute resolution.

Recommendations

- Introduce algorithmic-impact assessments and bias audits, starting with government procurement tenders, then expanding to high-risk sectors.
- Apply independent reviews in healthcare and education to evaluate AI tools' fairness, privacy protection, and transparency.
- Align with the APEC CBPR framework to create a cross-border data-trust mechanism, positioning Hong Kong as a regional arbitration and testing ground for AI-related disputes and regulatory innovation.

4.3 Cultural Innovation: Sustainable and Value-Aligned AI Adoption

Cultural adaptability is integral to sustainable AI adoption. Beyond law and technology, AI governance must resonate with societal values and norms.

Key idea:

AI value alignment means ensuring systems reflect local ethics, fairness, transparency, and accountability (Gabriel 2020; Jobin et al. 2019).

International illustrations:

- Tokyo (Minato-ku) introduced a multilingual chatbot for foreign residents.
- Amarillo (USA) developed “Emma,” a multilingual virtual assistant to improve residents’ access to city services.

Recommendations

As a trilingual city (Cantonese–Mandarin–English), Hong Kong should:

- Develop multilingual corpora within large language models to ensure cultural-linguistic equity.
- Embed value-alignment pilots in finance, healthcare, and education.
- In finance: Require inclusion of unbiased trilingual datasets in customer-interaction corpora.
- In healthcare: Train medical-AI models to interpret records across languages.
- In education: Build fairness metrics for “linguistic equity.”
- Establish an AI Transparency Register—similar to those in Helsinki and Amsterdam—listing all government-used AI systems in plain language, disclosing data sources, risk management, and language compatibility.
- Empower research centers (e.g., HKUST Media Intelligence Research Center) to act as third-party assessors of cultural applicability and value alignment in AI systems.

4.4 Next Steps for Government–Academia–Industry Collaboration

Establishing sustainable collaboration between government, academia, and industry is essential to realizing Hong Kong’s AI vision.

1. Policy Labs and Pilot Platforms

Government and universities (e.g., HKUST Policy Lab on Cross-Border AI Governance) should co-create testbeds for regulatory experimentation and comparative policy studies.

3. Interdisciplinary Talent Training

Universities and industry should co-develop courses merging AI with social sciences and humanities to cultivate cross-sectoral expertise.

5. Evidence-Based Policy Support

Academia can provide empirical analysis and theoretical insights, while industry partners contribute technical resources and practical expertise through alliances and standards committees.

2. Joint Data Initiatives

Build a secure, representative medical-AI dataset consortium among hospitals, tech firms, and universities under strict privacy protection, enabling trustworthy AI innovation.

4. Cross-Border and International Engagement

Leverage Hong Kong’s dual role in the Greater Bay Area and as a global financial center to launch cross-border policy sandboxes and governance partnerships across the Asia-Pacific.

Summary

Through coordinated action among government, academia, and industry, Hong Kong can transform from an adopter of AI policy to a global pioneer in AI governance and cultural innovation.

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Section V

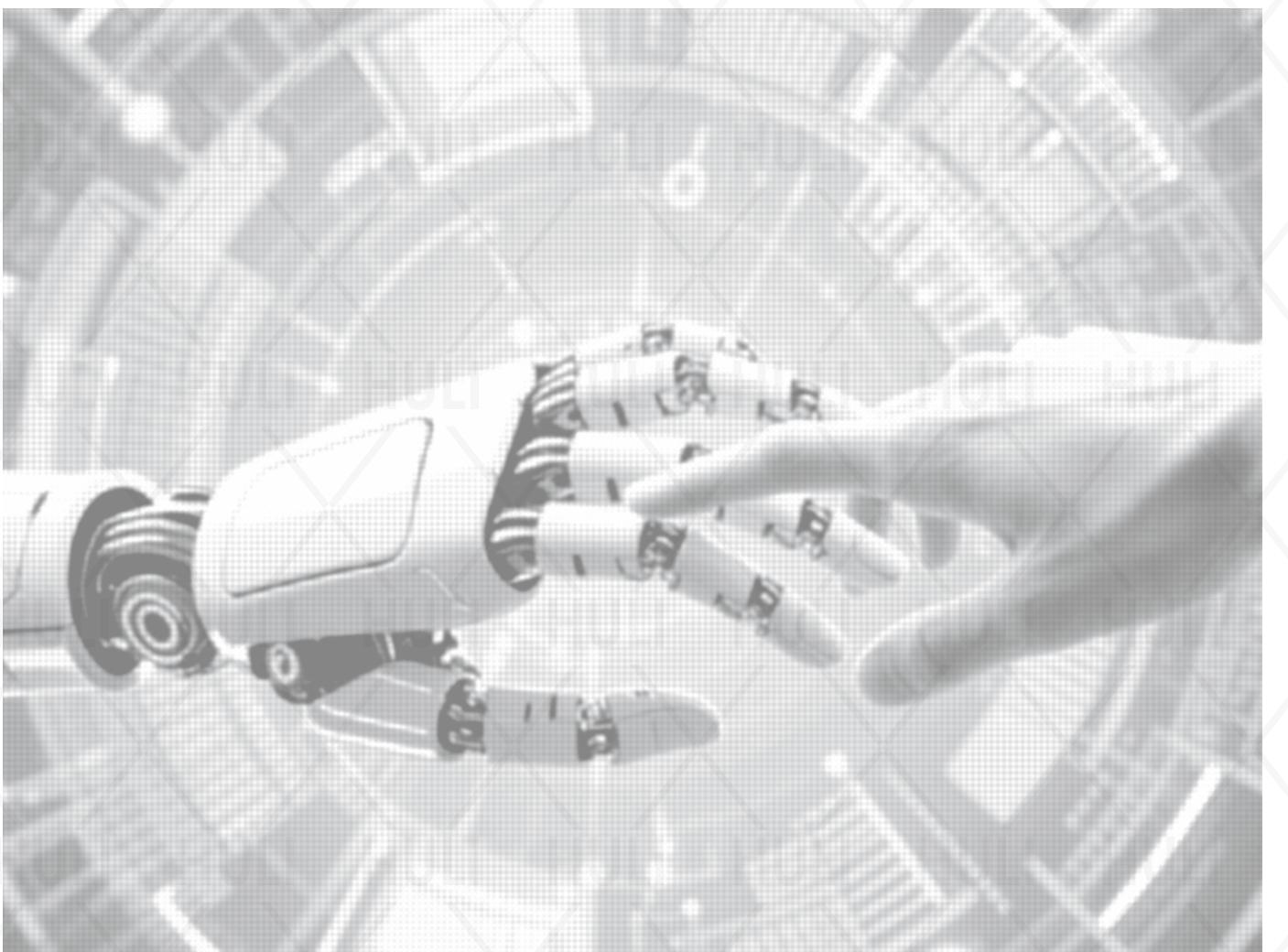
**Key Research Insights from
HKUST Media Intelligence Research Center**

About the Media Intelligence Research Center

關於媒體智能研究中心

The Media Intelligence Research Center (MIRC) is HKUST's interdisciplinary hub advancing Artificial Intelligence and its applications across media, governance, culture, and society. With 19 core faculty from engineering, computer science, business, policy, and the humanities, together with affiliates from world-leading universities, MIRC connects advanced academic research to policy, governance, and practical applications.

MIRC investigates and innovates how frontier research outputs can be applied across governance, media, culture, education, health, and sustainable development. Its work bridges technology and humanity, ensuring that breakthroughs in AI are translated into applications that are transparent, accountable, and socially responsible.



To structure its work, MIRC organizes cutting-edge projects into five research clusters that connect academic excellence with policy and application impact:

01

AI Governance & Value Alignment

人工智能治理與價值對齊

- Comparative studies of China-US-EU regulatory frameworks
- Governance of generative AI content
- Development of algorithmic transparency standards
- Southeast Asian AI governance models
- Cross-border data flows and regulatory coordination
- Survey-LLM hybrid experiments
- Normative frameworks for AI in Hong Kong — embed local cultural and linguistic diversity (Cantonese, English, Mandarin) into AI training and evaluation datasets.

02

Cultural Heritage AI

文化遺產人工智能

- “Hong Kong Memory” Digital Archive
- AI-driven oral history transcription & analysis
- Knowledge graph for intangible cultural heritage

03

Human-AI Interaction & Media Innovation

人機互動與媒體創新

04

AI & Humanities / Social Sciences

人工智能與人文/社會科學

- Computational ethnography of social media
- Studies on AI-driven workforce transformation
- Deep learning analysis of historical texts
- Critical algorithm studies
- Computational analysis of East Asian cultural heritage

05

Sustainable Media Intelligence

可持續媒體智能

- Measuring the carbon footprint of media AI
- Green data center design for AI systems
- Development of sustainable AI indicators
- Policy recommendations for eco-conscious innovation



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