

**For discussion on
8 July 2024**

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs, Culture and Sports

Safeguarding and Promoting Intangible Cultural Heritage

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the latest progress update of the work of safeguarding and promoting intangible cultural heritage (ICH) by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD).

Background

2. The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (the Convention) was adopted in 2003 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), under which each State Party has to identify and define the various elements of ICH present in its territory, with the participation of communities, groups and relevant non-governmental organisations to draw up ICH inventories as the basis for the safeguarding of ICH. ICH means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills etc. that communities, groups (or individuals) within the territory recognise as part of their cultural heritage. As an ICH item, it must be transmitted from generation to generation as living heritage, and provide its relevant communities and groups with a sense of identity and continuity.

3. The Government attaches great importance to the safeguarding of ICH and strives to raise the Hong Kong community's awareness of the importance of ICH and the need to protect such heritage as our cultural resources. The Government supports the protection, transmission and promotion of ICH, and encourages the participation of the community in the safeguarding of ICH to ensure the continuing development of our local culture and traditions.

4. After the Convention came into effect in 2006, the Government started the preparation work for conducting a territory-wide survey on ICH in Hong Kong to collect research data for drawing up the first inventory of Hong Kong's ICH, and promulgated the ICH Inventory of Hong Kong (ICH Inventory) consisting of 480 items in 2014. Subsequently, the Government promulgated the first Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong (the Representative List) in 2017, which served as a basis for prioritising resources and safeguarding measures for ICH items, especially those with high cultural value and require urgent preservation. The Representative List covers 20 items, 12 of which were inscribed onto the National List of ICH. Amongst them, Cantonese opera was inscribed onto UNESCO's Representative List of the ICH of Humanity in 2009, making it a world ICH item. The items in the Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong are at **Annex 1**.

Progress Update

5. The Government is committed to identifying, documenting, researching, preserving, promoting and transmitting the ICH of Hong Kong, as well as encouraging public participation to jointly support the promotion and transmission of ICH. The work of safeguarding and promoting ICH by the LCSD in recent years is briefly presented below, details of which are at **Annex 2**.

Exhibition Facilities

6. In order to promote and popularise ICH, the Government has built various exhibition facilities over the years, including:

(a) Hong Kong ICH Centre

The Government set up the Hong Kong ICH Centre inside Sam Tung Uk Museum, Tsuen Wan in 2016. The ICH Centre serves exclusively to hold thematic exhibitions on ICH and various education and promotional activities. To enhance its appeal, the ICH Office under LCSD launched a major

exhibition revamp, upon completion of which the “Lost and Sound – Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage” Exhibition Series was staged and opened for the public in 2021.

(b) ICH Hub

In 2023, the ICH Hub set up in the former CLP Group Headquarters in Ho Man Tin by the ICH Office launched its debut thematic exhibition entitled “Traces of Human Touch” to specifically promote ICH to younger audience.

ICH Funding Scheme

7. In order to improve the local community’s understanding of ICH and the importance of safeguarding such heritage as our cultural resources, the Government approved a funding of \$300 million in late 2018 for launching the ICH Funding Scheme to promote community engagement in and strengthen various aspects of safeguarding work for the ICH of Hong Kong. Established under the ICH Advisory Committee in 2021, the Sub-committee on ICH Funding Scheme is tasked with advising on the issues related to the implementation of the ICH Funding Scheme.

8. Since its launch in 2019, the ICH Funding Scheme has been very well received. Applications for both the Community-driven Projects and Partnership Projects have been open every year. The Community-driven Projects support local organisations and individuals in implementing meaningful local ICH projects. The Partnership Projects invite local organisations and individuals with relevant qualifications and experience to submit applications for specific collaboration projects with the ICH Office.

9. As at June 2024, there have been a total of 157 funded projects under the Scheme, involving a total funding of over \$130 million. Such projects include those related to education promotion and public programmes, transmission and training courses; research and publication; as well as traditional festivals and *Jiao* festivals. The funded projects cover, respectively, 20 items in the Representative List and 221 items in the ICH Inventory of Hong Kong.

Public Programmes

10. The ICH Office has been working closely with the community as well as ICH bearers and bearer organisations to organise various types of public activities, including the “Fun in ICH” Series, ICH Fun Days and “Cultural and Natural Heritage Day” which enable the public to explore ICH items of Hong Kong from multiple perspectives; the “Meet the Masters!” Series featuring demonstrations of crafts by invited ICH bearers; the “ICH for All” programme specially designed for persons with disabilities and ethnic minorities; training in *Nanyin* (Southern Tunes) and opportunities for *Nanyin* performances for visually impaired persons, and touring *Nanyin* performances around Hong Kong’s 18 districts promoting *Nanyin* singing to the public.

Education Programmes

11. The Government attaches great importance to educational activities that popularise ICH for young people. As such, leveraging on the educational function of the Hong Kong ICH Centre, it organises a series of educational and extension activities targeting mainly students, including the “ICH Domain” programme, School Culture Day Scheme, ICH Ambassadors Training Course, and “Promotion of Chinese Culture and ICH in Primary School – Experience Day”. To complement the teaching content of the school curriculum, the ICH Office continues to join hands with the Education Bureau to organise workshops, seminars, etc. for teachers to help them appreciate the Chinese history and culture embodied in local ICH items.

School Programmes

12. The ICH Office makes proactive efforts to collaborate with schools by organising on-campus programmes to engage more students and enhance their understanding and appreciation of ICH. For example, the ICH Mobile Centre – “Mobile ICH” is held where a promotion vehicle will visit primary and secondary schools across Hong Kong. The ICH Office also collaborates with the Education University of Hong Kong to organise the “ICH @ Schools” Programme Series. The “Picture Book Series on ICH of Hong Kong and ICH Puppetry Shows” is staged at schools, putting up puppetry shows to introduce

the cultural context of ICH to students in a light-hearted manner. In addition, the easy-to-use ICH exhibition prints are also made available for schools. On another front, the “Thinking Beyond ICH” programme is launched to train tertiary students as the new generation behind the promotion of ICH.

Exhibitions outside Museums

13. The ICH Office actively reaches out to the community by staging exhibitions across Hong Kong, in a bid to broaden the audience base and promote the ICH of Hong Kong to more members of the public. Jointly presented by the ICH Office and ICH preservation and promotion units of Guangdong Province and Macao, the first exhibition featuring the ICH of the Greater Bay Area in Hong Kong will be held in the Hong Kong Heritage Museum in October 2024. The “Genesis and Spirit: ICH” Exhibition Series, held every two years in the Hong Kong Central Library since 2011, aim to introduce ICH items of mainland provinces to the public. Moreover, the “Taste of Intangible Cultural Heritage” Roving Exhibitions have been held in shopping malls with high customer traffic. On another front, during the Lunar New Year Lantern Carnivals at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza and the Mid-Autumn Lantern Carnivals at Victoria Park, the ICH Office showcases lanterns of varying designs made with the traditional paper crafting technique, with a view to promoting local craftsmanship and disseminating the culture of ICH to the community.

Promotion outside Hong Kong

Exhibitions in the Mainland

14. To strengthen the exchange and co-operation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in safeguarding ICH, the ICH Office has organised exhibitions alongside the provinces and cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Wuhan, Guangxi, Guangzhou and Shenzhen to promote the ICH of Hong Kong. For example, the ICH Office collaborated with the Guangdong ICH Museum and the Macao Museum to organise an exhibition with the theme of “Bay Area under the Same Sky”, held at the “Pulse of the GBA: Bridging Cultures” Gallery of the Guangdong ICH Museum from May 2024 onwards, to showcase together the ICH of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. Besides, the ICH

Office also co-organised the “Exhibition for Promotion of Culture and Tourism under the Series of Hong Kong-Guangxi Cultural Exchange Activities” in the city of Nanning, Guangxi, from March until April 2024.

Activities in the Mainland

15. To further enhance cultural exchange in the Lingnan region, the ICH Office has since 2023 participated in a range of ICH exchange activities hosted by Guangdong cities, including the national Cultural and Natural Heritage Day, exhibitions, seminars, exchange sessions, live demonstrations and parades held in Guangzhou, Dongguan, Zhuhai, Foshan and other GBA cities.

Overseas Exhibitions

16. In October 2023, “Hong Kong Week” was held in Bangkok, Thailand, as its debut event in an overseas city. Meanwhile, the ICH Office presented the “Hong Kong ICH Carnival” Exhibition in Bangkok’s town centre, showcasing the diversity and charm of the ICH of Hong Kong through a carnival, while offering the Thai audience a chance to experience the best of such ICH.

Transmission Courses

17. Through the ICH Funding Scheme, the Government provides local ICH bearers or bearer organisations with funding to train and nurture the next generation of bearers for the purpose of transmission. The transmission courses organised under the Community-driven Projects of the ICH Funding Scheme cover a number of ICH items, including the Hong Kong cheongsam making technique, paper crafting technique, *Guangcai* (the Canton Famille Rose Porcelain) making technique, *Nanyin* and Unicorn Dance. The Transmission and Training Programmes for the items in the Representative List will be implemented through the Partnership Projects of the ICH Funding Scheme to support local ICH bearers or bearer organisations in organising systematic training and practical/internship activities so as to deepen the transmission of those items.

Research and Publication

18. Under the Partnership Projects of the ICH Funding Scheme, the ICH Office has launched the “Research and Publication on the Items of the Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong” and the series of “Hong Kong ICH in the Natural and Cultural Settings of Lingnan”. For the former, in-depth researches into the 20 items in the Representative List have been conducted for the publication of monographs. As for the latter, researches have been conducted for the publication of monographs on the relationship between the ICH of Hong Kong and the geographical and cultural environment of the Lingnan region. These publications have further enriched the existing works and data on the ICH, enabling a wider dissemination of ICH knowledge.

19. The ICH Office has been deploying staff to record and study various ICH items and make the study findings accessible to the public. In 2018, the ICH Office launched the Hong Kong ICH Database, a comprehensive online database that provides information of 480 inventory items to the public by phases, in the hope of facilitating the public in their appreciation of local ICH items from different perspectives through different means.

Representative Items of the National ICH (National ICH Items)

Assessment of the Fulfilment of Duties and Responsibilities by Protection Organisations of National ICH Items

20. As instructed by the National Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MoCT), the ICH Office commenced the self-evaluation and assessment of 12 protection organisations of national ICH items in Hong Kong in 2022 to review their operation. This assessment, the first of its kind in Hong Kong and Macao, involved the submission of reports by the protection organisations; evaluation by the ICH Office; review by the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau; and confirmation by the MoCT. The assessment results were announced in 2023, with all 12 protection organisations of national ICH items deemed qualified.

Remarkable Examples of Good Practice for Safeguarding the National ICH Items

21. In 2019, the Government participated in the selection of the Remarkable Examples of Good Safeguarding Practice launched by the MoCT. Among the 347 nominated items across the country, “Mid-Autumn Festival – the Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance” was selected as one of the 50 cases showcasing good safeguarding practice.

Hong Kong’s ICH Inventory and the Representative List

22. To further refine Hong Kong’s ICH Inventory and the Representative List, the Sub-committee on ICH Items was set up under the ICH Advisory Committee in 2021 to advise on such matters as the review and updating of the ICH Inventory and the Representative List, as well as the nomination of Hong Kong’s ICH items for application for inscription onto the national list or the UNESCO’s list.

23. The ICH Office commenced the work of updating the ICH Inventory and the Representative List in 2021. Through the Partnership Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme, the ICH Office has commissioned universities and scholars to conduct “Survey and Research for Enriching the ICH Inventory of Hong Kong”, which involves a total of 124 items. It is expected that the ICH Office will promulgate the first updated Representative List and ICH Inventory by the end of 2024. A review in this respect will be conducted every two years.

Collaborative Partners

24. Apart from the ICH Office, the museums, public libraries and offices under the LCSD also organise exhibitions and promotional programmes related to ICH. Meanwhile, the Government makes proactive efforts to encourage and promote community’s participation in the safeguarding, research, education, promotion and transmission of ICH, while collaborating with ICH bearer organisations, academic and non-governmental organisations to ensure the transmission and continuity of invaluable ICH.

Publicity and Promotion

25. The ICH Office will make proactive publicity efforts to enhance the public's understanding of ICH on various fronts, including on the social media such as the Facebook, Instagram and Xiaohongshu pages of the LCSD and the ICH Office, and through the community-wide promotion channels such as advertisements on public transport like trams, buses, bus shelters and MTR stations to publicise exhibitions and events. Conventional media such as the press and magazines, emails and radio announcements are also used.

26. Meanwhile, to augment the public's understanding of local ICH, the ICH Office takes initiatives to arrange media interview with ICH bearers or bearer organisations, local ICH experts, scholars and the ICH Office, with a view to giving an in-depth coverage of the development, preservation, promotion and transmission of ICH in Hong Kong from multiple perspectives.

27. On another front, the ICH Office liaises with various government departments such as the Information Services Department and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in overseas countries and in the Mainland, in an effort to strengthen publicity of ICH in Hong Kong via local and overseas channels. In addition, the ICH Office also actively seeks co-operation with the tourism industry to attract more tourists to Hong Kong by, for instance, stepping up promotion of local ICH festive events like *Jiao* festivals to tourists.

Advice Sought

28. Members are invited to offer views on the safeguarding and promotion of ICH by the LCSD.

Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
July 2024

Leisure and Cultural Services Department
The Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong and
the List of the Representative Items of the National ICH

	Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong	List of the Representative Items of the National ICH (National List of ICH)
1.	Cantonese Opera	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inscribed onto the First National List of ICH in 2006• Inscribed onto UNESCO's Representative List of the ICH of Humanity in 2009
2.	Herbal Tea	Inscribed onto the First National List of ICH in 2006
3.	Cheung Chau <i>Jiao</i> Festival	Inscribed onto the Third National List of ICH in 2011
4.	Tai O Dragon Boat Water Parade	
5.	Mid-Autumn Festival – the Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance	
6.	Yu Lan Festival of the Hong Kong Chiu Chow Community	
7.	Hakka Unicorn Dance in Hang Hau in Sai Kung	Inscribed onto the Fourth National List of ICH in 2014
8.	Wong Tai Sin Belief and Customs	
9.	<i>Quanzhen</i> Temples Taoist Ritual Music	
10.	The Arts of the <i>Gugin</i> (The Craft of <i>Qin</i> Making)	
11.	Tin Hau Festival in Hong Kong	Inscribed onto the Fifth National List of ICH in 2021

	Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong	List of the Representative Items of the National ICH (National List of ICH)
12.	Technique of Making Hong Kong Cheongsam and <i>Kwan Kwa</i> Wedding Costume	Hong Kong Cheongsam Making Technique inscribed onto the Fifth National List of ICH in 2021
13.	Spring and Autumn Ancestral Worship of Clans	--
14.	Taoist Ritual Tradition of the <i>Zhengyi</i> School	--
15.	Mid-Autumn Festival – the Pok Fu Lam Fire Dragon Dance	--
16.	<i>Nanyin</i> (Southern Tunes)	--
17.	<i>Sek Pun</i> (Basin Feast)	--
18.	Hong Kong-style Milk Tea Making Technique	--
19.	Paper Crafting Technique	--
20.	Bamboo Theatre Building Technique	--

**Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Work Relating to the Safeguarding and Promotion of
Intangible Cultural Heritage**

A. Exhibition Facilities

1. Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Centre

To increase the appeal of the Hong Kong ICH Centre (located at Sam Tung Uk Museum) and strengthen its function to safeguard and promote ICH, the ICH Office completed exhibition revamp works for the Sam Tung Uk Museum in late 2021, which are the largest in scale ever since its inception. The exhibition content was revamped and relevant facilities were enhanced in phases. After the revamp, the permanent exhibition is entitled “Lost and Sound: Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage” Series, and was fully opened to the public in November 2021. The exhibition content includes:

Series I: “Lost and Sound Exhibition: Hong Kong Festivals and Traditional Craftsmanship” introduces the ICH elements in local festivals.

Series II: “Lost and Sound Exhibition: Ordinary · Extraordinary” introduces ICH related to everyday life and the performances and craftsmanship showcased during festivals or on special occasions.

Series III: “Lost and Sound Exhibition: Sam Tung Uk and Traditional Village Culture” introduces ICH related to traditional village culture, along the themes of “Lineage”, “Architecture”, “Custom” and “Food”, by highlighting the historical architecture of Sam Tung Uk.

The exhibitions feature over 40 ICH items. Around 30 ICH bearers have participated in the production to reinterpret the essence of ICH of Hong Kong and the history, culture and architectural features of Sam Tung Uk.

2. ICH Hub

With a view to promoting local ICH to students and the public, the LCSD and CLP Holdings Limited set up the “ICH Hub” on 1/F, CLP Pulse in Ho Man Tin, Kowloon, site of the former CLP Group Headquarters. The exhibition venue

occupies an area of around 200 square metres, where an exhibition entitled “Traces of Human Touch” has been open to the public free of charge since 19 May 2023. The curatorial approach is mainly oriented towards younger audiences. Apart from adding more artistic innovation and multimedia elements to the exhibition, young ICH practitioners have also been invited to participate in the preparations for the exhibition to exemplify the transmission of ICH from generation to generation.

B. ICH Funding Scheme

The ICH Funding Scheme supports the implementation of ICH projects in the community by way of two modes:

(a) Community-driven Projects

Local individuals and organisations may submit project proposals for enhancement in the safeguarding, research, education, promotion and transmission of local ICH items. The scope of funding covers projects related to the Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong (Representative List) and the ICH Inventory of Hong Kong (ICH Inventory).

(b) Partnership Projects

The ICH Office will initiate projects of specific themes, scopes and requirements. Upon consultation with the ICH Advisory Committee, the ICH Office will invite partnership proposals and jointly take forward the funded projects in the form of a partnership. Through Partnership Projects, the ICH Office researches into the items of the Representative List and publishes relevant monographs, conducts research to enrich the ICH Inventory, implements the Transmission and Training Programmes for the items on the Representative List, and launches different forms of education and promotion programmes.

Since its launch in 2019, the ICH Funding Scheme has funded a total of 157 projects as at June 2024. These include:

- (a) 65 education promotion and public programmes, such as Intangible Cultural Heritage Mart, and Promotion and Education Project of Hong Kong's ICH at 18 Districts;

- (b) 18 transmission and training courses, including courses and database on Cheongsam, as well as Inheritance Hong Kong Porcelain Paintings, *Guangcai* (The Canton Famille Rose Porcelain);
- (c) 50 research and publication projects, such as researches on the items of the Representative List and publication of relevant monographs; and
- (d) 24 traditional festivals and the *Jiao* Festival, including the *Jiao* Festival and Tin Hau (Empress of Heaven) Festival of Po Toi Island, Ancestral Worship of the Kwok Clan in Kowloon City, and Hung Shing Festival at Ho Sheung Heung.

C. Public Programmes

1. “Fun in ICH” Series

The “Fun in ICH” Series public programmes are held at weekends and include talks, workshops and demonstrations by ICH bearers. Every year, the ICH Office organises a variety of guided tours and field trips that tie in with the traditional festivals to give the public a first-hand experience of traditional local festivals and rituals.

2. “Meet the Masters!” Series

The ICH Office invites ICH bearers to the Hong Kong ICH Centre at weekends to introduce visitors to ICH and conduct ICH demonstrations to interact with the public at close range.

3. ICH Fun Days

ICH Fun Days are held by the ICH Office in November annually to tie in with the Muse Fest HK, and include such activities as parent-child reading sessions, puppet shows, demonstrations of crafts, workshops, talks and interactive games.

4. Cultural and Natural Heritage Day

In support of the Cultural and Natural Heritage Day designated by the nation on the second Saturday of June each year, the ICH Office organises a series of exciting interactive experience activities to raise public awareness of the safeguarding of ICH.

5. “ICH for All”

To cater to persons with special educational needs as well as persons with disabilities, the ICH Office has launched the “ICH for All” programme through the Partnership Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme with a view to organising a series of workshops, guided tours, visits and experience activities on ICH for people with visual or hearing impairment.

As one of the Partnership Projects in the ICH Funding Scheme 2022, the ICH Office collaborated with the Ebenezer School and Home for the Visually Impaired Limited by inviting *Nanyin* (Southern Tunes) bearers to train talented young people with visual impairment, with a view to passing on the ICH item of *Nanyin* performing art.

6. *Nanyin* performance programme

The ICH Office commissioned a local youth *Nanyin* troupe group to tour Hong Kong’s 18 districts from 2019 to 2021 so as to connect ICH items, historical architecture and traditional cultural landscapes of different districts through *Nanyin* with a view to enhancing younger generation’s awareness of ICH.

D. Education Programmes

The ICH Office organises education programmes for students and teachers at the Hong Kong ICH Centre on a regular basis, and those include:

1. ICH Domain

To tie in with the revamp works of the Hong Kong ICH Centre, the ICH Office launched the programme “ICH Domain” since 2022. Teachers and students have been invited to visit the exhibitions of the Hong Kong ICH Centre, and arranged to attend a series of ICH workshops on different themes, such as flower board design, traditional calendar, dim sum and bamboo steamers, and bamboo theatre building technique, to learn more about ICH.

2. Lectures and workshops for teachers

The ICH Office also collaborates with the Curriculum Development Institute of the Education Bureau to organise a number of ICH lectures and workshops so that primary and secondary school teachers can have a good understanding of local traditional culture and techniques, and subsequently bring ICH into

schools and incorporate relevant ICH knowledge into the school curriculum.

3. School Culture Day Scheme

The ICH Office takes part in the School Culture Day Scheme organised by the Audience Building Office of the LCSD by organising different kinds of workshops for kindergarten, primary and secondary school students, such as unicorn dance, unicorn paper crafting technique and Cantonese opera.

4. ICH Ambassadors Training Course

In 2018 and 2019, primary school students were recruited as ICH Ambassadors. To foster their interest in ICH, they were arranged to participate in a series of workshops, demonstrations and performances, and meet the ICH bearers for direct interaction.

5. Promotion of Chinese Culture and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Primary School – Experience Day

From 2018 to 2020, the ICH Office collaborated with the Quality School Improvement Project of the Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research of the Chinese University of Hong Kong by inviting students from 10 primary schools to participate in different forms of workshops to enhance their understanding of ICH.

E. School Programmes

To enhance the efforts of bringing ICH into schools, the ICH Office has organised many school programmes:

1. ICH Mobile Centre – “Mobile ICH”

Through Partnership Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme, the ICH Office has launched the ICH Mobile Centre, a vehicle to go into the community and tour around schools to promote ICH. The basic concepts and definitions of ICH are introduced by contents and relevant objects of various ICH items of Hong Kong on display inside the vehicle, where visitors can explore Hong Kong’s ICH freely. To promote ICH in different schools and communities, interactive programmes such as “ICH Radio Drama”, “ICH on Stage” live demonstrations and “ICH on hands” handicraft workshops are conducted in the extended exhibition area outside the vehicle. The vehicle came into service in February 2022.

2. “ICH @ Schools”

In 2023-24, the ICH Office collaborated with the Education University of Hong Kong through Partnership Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme to enhance schools' power to promote ICH education. Different forms of school-based ICH education courses (mainly cross-disciplinary or thematic activities) were developed for experiential learning so as to boost the motivation of schools to promote ICH education continuously.

In 2020, the ICH Office launched the “ICH @ Schools” Programme Series. The activities included “ICH x A Cappella”, “ICH Kitchen” and “ICH Mural Workshop” to promote ICH to primary and secondary school students through music, snacks and drawing.

3. “Picture Book Series on ICH of Hong Kong and ICH Puppetry Shows”

In 2022-23, the ICH Office collaborated with local publishers through Partnership Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme to produce 10 children's picture books in 3 sets on the themes of “Hong Kong's stories”, “Hong Kong's traditional customs” and “Hong Kong's cultural techniques” to introduce ICH to primary school students. Puppet theatre groups were invited to perform puppetry shows based on the picture books at primary schools to enhance students' understanding of ICH.

4. ICH Exhibition Prints

In 2023, the ICH Office made available handy exhibition prints on 4 themes, namely Festive Events, Traditional Craftsmanship, Traditional Rituals and Food Culture, for free collection by local primary and secondary schools for organising displays on ICH on school premises to enrich students' understanding of Hong Kong's ICH.

5. “Thinking Beyond ICH”

In 2023, the ICH Office launched the “Thinking Beyond ICH” programme, which targeted mainly local tertiary and senior secondary students, through Partnership Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme. Students were trained as “ICH Creative Leaders”, who were given opportunities to participate in master-minding and curating cultural programmes for transmitting and promoting the ICH items of Hong Kong, and to introduce creative and novel elements to the programmes.

6. Activities for tertiary students

In 2018, the ICH Office invited students of multimedia and advertising of the Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi) to participate in 360-degree panoramic filming and recording of ICH items and post-production, with a view to allowing young people to engage in the recording of ICH and the production of multimedia exhibits.

The ICH Office also collaborated with students of fashion design of the THEi to plan and organise courses on the transmission of the cheongsam making technique.

F. Exhibitions outside Museums

1. Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Greater Bay Area Exhibition in Hong Kong

To support the fourth “Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival” and to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China, the ICH Office will collaborate with organisations dealing with ICH preservation and promotion in Guangdong Province and Macao to organise the first joint touring exhibition on the theme of ICH of the Greater Bay Area. The exhibition will be held at the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, its first stop, in October 2024 before its tour of Shenzhen and Macao.

2. “Genesis and Spirit” Exhibition Series

Since 2011, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People’s Republic of China and the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government have been co-presenting on a number of occasions the “Genesis and Spirit: ICH” Exhibition Series. Co-organised by the ICH Office and different provinces and cities in the Mainland, this exhibition series includes tie-in educational activities which introduce ICH items of a selected province to enhance the public’s understanding of ICH of the Mainland, and strengthen the exchange and cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in the preservation of ICH. Eight editions of the exhibition series have been held to date to showcase the ICH items of Shandong, Ningxia, Zhejiang, Gansu, Guizhou, Sichuan and other places.

3. “Taste of Intangible Cultural Heritage” Roving Exhibitions

The ICH Office organised the “Taste of Intangible Cultural Heritage” Roving Exhibitions in various shopping malls in Hong Kong, including TKO Plaza and Cityplaza, from January to March 2024. The exhibitions focused on items of the ICH Inventory related to food culture, including blown sugar technique, Chinese dim sum making technique, Hong Kong-style milk tea making technique, pineapple bun making technique and egg tart making technique.

4. Traditional Lantern Display

Over the years, the ICH Office has been arranging displays of lanterns of different designs made with the traditional crafting technique at Urban Lunar New Year Carnivals, Urban Mid-Autumn Lantern Carnivals and Flower Shows held by the LCSD so as to promote local paper crafting technique.

5. ICH at the Airport

In collaboration with the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA), the ICH Office showcases ICH of Hong Kong in different areas of the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA). In 2018, the ICH Office collaborated with the AA to hold the exhibition “An Artist’s Impression of HKICH” at the HKIA to promote items on the Representative List to tourists and local citizens.

G. Promotion outside Hong Kong

Exhibitions in the Mainland

1. The “Pulse of the GBA: Bridging Cultures” Gallery of the Guangdong ICH Museum

Jointly organised by the ICH Office, the Guangdong ICH Museum and the Macao Museum, an exhibition on the theme of “Bay Area under the Same Sky” is being held at the “Pulse of the GBA: Bridging Cultures” Gallery of the Guangdong ICH Museum from May 2024 onwards to connect the ICH of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

2. Exhibition in Guangxi

Between March and April 2024, the “Exhibition for Promotion of Culture and Tourism under the Series of Hong Kong-Guangxi Cultural Exchange Activities” was held in the city of Nanning, Guangxi, in association with the ICH Office

under the theme of “Explore the Cultural Charm of Hong Kong and Wander around the Natural Landscape of Guangxi” to promote Hong Kong’s unique blend of Chinese and foreign cultures and the rich cultural resources of Guangxi to Mainland residents, so as to facilitate cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and Guangxi. The “Hong Kong ICH” section introduced 6 Hong Kong ICH items, including steamer making technique, bamboo theatre building technique, Mid-Autumn Festival – the Tai Hang fire dragon dance, mahjong tile making technique, Hong Kong cheongsam making technique and Hong Kong-style milk tea making technique.

3. Exhibition in Chengdu

In January 2024, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO) in Chengdu and the ICH Office co-organised “A Journey into the Past and Present – Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Exhibition”. Through vivid and rich graphic displays, video show and interesting interactive activities, the exhibition introduced and promoted the 12 national ICH items of Hong Kong to Sichuan residents.

4. Exhibition in Guangzhou

In December 2023, the HKETO in Guangdong organised the “Hong Kong Talents and Arts – Hong Kong ICH Exhibition” in Guangzhou with the full support of the ICH Office to promote Hong Kong’s ICH to Mainland residents. The exhibition covered 11 items of Hong Kong’s ICH, including paper crafting technique, *Guangcai* making technique, and Hong Kong-style milk tea making technique.

5. Video Show in Wuhan

In response to the “Hong Kong Week” held in Wuhan, a video entitled “Delights of ICH – Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Video Show” was played at the Hubei Museum of Art, Wuhan, in February 2023 to introduce a selection of ICH items related to traditional village culture, performing arts, and craftsmanship of Hong Kong, giving viewers a taste of the historical and cultural charms of this international metropolis.

6. Exhibition in Shanghai

In response to the cultural exchange programmes under the 4th China International Import Expo, the ICH Office held the “Intangible Cultural

Heritage of Hong Kong” Exhibition at the Shanghai National Exhibition and Convention Center in November 2021. To align with the design of the outdoor pavilion of Hong Kong, the exhibition revolved around bamboo theatres and introduced the bamboo theatre building technique, while also showcasing the various festive activities, performing arts and traditional craftsmanship related to bamboo theatres.

In response to “Hong Kong Culture Week” of the Shanghai International Arts Festival, the ICH Office presented “The Oral Legacies – Intangible Cultural Heritage of Hong Kong” Exhibition at Shanghai Mass Art Center in November 2019 to introduce the items on the Representative List.

7. Bus Roving Exhibition in Shenzhen

The ICH Office provides information on Hong Kong’s ICH items for HKETOs to organise exhibitions or activities for the promotion of Hong Kong ICH. For example, the HKETO in Guangdong organised “Bus Roving Exhibition on Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage” between September and October 2021 to introduce the 12 national ICH items.

8. Online exhibition in Guangzhou

In response to “Hong Kong Week 2021@Guangzhou”, the ICH Office curated the “Lost and Sound – Hong Kong Festivals and Traditional Craftsmanship” Online Exhibition in April 2021. Through a video on Tencent Art channel, the curator from the ICH Office gave the audience a better understanding of various crafts made by ICH bearers for festivals and the tools they used.

9. Exhibition in Beijing

In 2018, the ICH Office organised “The Oral Legacies: Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Exhibition Month” at the Prince Kung’s Mansion Museum in Beijing to highlight 20 items on the Representative List.

Activities in the Mainland

1. Foshan

In November 2023, the ICH Office again participated in the “2023 Guangdong Intangible Cultural Heritage Week and Foshan *Qiuse* Parade”. The ICH

Office invited the Hong Kong Lion House Dragon Lion Sports Association to participate in the parade and to perform two Hong Kong ICH items, namely the Hakka *Pixiu* Dance and the Hakka Unicorn Dance, in a dynamic way at the parade so as to introduce them to Mainland citizens.

In October 2018, the ICH Office recommended ICH bearers from Hong Kong to participate in the “Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area • Pan-Pearl River Delta Region (Guangdong) Intangible Cultural Heritage Week and Foshan *Qiuse* Parade”.

2. Shenzhen

In November 2023, a conference entitled “National Experience Exchange Activity on ICH in Communities” was held in Shenzhen. Experts as well as representatives of the departments (bureaux) of culture and tourism and organisations working in ICH from various provinces gathered together to share the practical experiences and achievements of different places in the protection and transmission of ICH in the community. Hong Kong took part in the conference as well, with representatives of the ICH Office sharing experiences in fostering community involvement in safeguarding and transmitting ICH in Hong Kong. The conference served to strengthen cultural exchange between Hong Kong and different provinces and cities in the Mainland.

3. Zhuhai

In October 2023, the ICH Office took part in the “2023 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Intangible Cultural Heritage Exchange Conference”. The event comprised a number of activities. The “ICH Exchange Conference”, which provided a platform for interaction among experts and ICH bearers, helped foster the preservation and transmission of ICH culture. The “ICH Fair”, which featured a demonstration of Hong Kong-style milk tea making technique, helped to promote Hong Kong’s food culture, while the “Paddy Field ICH Show” included a showcase of the unique features of women’s cheongsam in Hong Kong.

4. Dongguan

In June 2023, the ICH Office was invited to attend the kick-off ceremony of the “Guangdong (Dongguan) Cultural and Natural Heritage Day” jointly presented

by the Department of Culture and Tourism of Guangdong Province and the Dongguan Municipal People's Government. The ICH Office also participated in the "GBA Intangible Cultural Heritage Life Festival" and invited a Hong Kong-style milk tea master to demonstrate the Hong Kong-style milk tea making technique on site, brewing milk tea for the audience to promote Hong Kong's food culture.

5. Nansha, Guangzhou

In support of the "Cultural and Natural Heritage Day" held in June 2023, the ICH Office participated in the kick-off ceremony of the "Cultural and Natural Heritage Day – Guangzhou Intangible Cultural Heritage Promotion Event", as well as the "Guangzhou-Hong Kong-Macao Intangible Cultural Heritage Symposium", presented by the Guangzhou Municipal Culture, Radio, Television and Tourism Bureau in Nansha District, Guangzhou. Representatives from the ICH sector of the three places shared and exchanged the latest information and achievements in the protection of ICH in each place.

Overseas Exhibition

In October 2023, "Hong Kong Week" was held in an overseas city for the first time, and was set to grace Bangkok, Thailand. The ICH Office also organised the "Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Carnival" Exhibition, in the form of a carnival, in the heart of Bangkok, showcasing the diversity and charm of Hong Kong's ICH while encapsulating the very essence for Thai visitors.

H. Transmission Courses

1. Hong Kong Cheongsam Making Technique

In 2018, the ICH Office, the THEi and veteran cheongsam masters collaborated to develop "Faithful to the Craft – Transmission Scheme for Hong Kong-style Cheongsam Sewing Technique", a cheongsam-making enhancement course for students pursuing a bachelor's degree in fashion design, so that they would cultivate an interest in sewing cheongsams. The technique of making women's cheongsams was the highlight of the first year of the Scheme, and a monograph of the Scheme was published. Cheongsams made by the students and cheongsam masters were also exhibited at the Traditional Chinese Skills Hall, Prince Kung's Mansion Museum in Beijing. After that, students learnt

the technique of making men's cheongsams and became the teaching assistants to the cheongsam masters, thereby enabling the Hong Kong cheongsam making technique to take root in the community and be passed down the generations.

2. Paper Crafting Technique

Many ICH bearers offered advanced transmission courses through the Community-driven Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme. For example, the Hong Kong Traditional Paper Crafting Arts Union organised the "Exhibition and Course Series on Hong Kong Traditional Paper Crafting Technique" in 2019 and 2023; Master AU YEUNG Ping-chi held the "Preservation and Promotion Project on Hong Kong Traditional Paper Crafting Technique" in 2020; and Master HUI Ka-hung conducted the "Traditional Craftsmanship · Transmission of Paper Crafting Technique" workshops from 2020 to 2022 to pass on traditional paper crafting skills.

3. Guangcai Making Technique

Ms TSO IP Ching-kiu Ruby, bearer of *Guangcai*, offered the "Inheritance Hong Kong Porcelain Paintings, *Guangcai*" courses through the Community-driven Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme in 2020 and 2021.

4. Nanyin

The Heaven of Angels organised the "Transmission Programmes on *Dishui Nanyin*" to teach *Nanyin*. The Ebenezer School and Home for the Visually Impaired invited *Nanyin* bearers to train young people with potential so as to pass on the ICH item of *Nanyin* performing art.

5. Unicorn Dance

The protection organisation of the national ICH item "Hakka Unicorn Dance in Hang Hau in Sai Kung", namely the Joint Association of Traditional Hakka Unicorn in Sai Kung and Hang Hau, Hong Kong, launched a project through the Community-driven Projects under the ICH Funding Scheme in 2020 to teach Hakka unicorn dance in order to support the transmission of this national ICH item.

6. Transmission and Training Programmes for the Items in the "Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong"

The ICH Office supports local ICH bearers or bearer organisations in deepening

the transmission of the items in the Representative List through organising systematic training and practical/internship activities so as to nurture the next generation of bearers and encourage entry of new ICH practitioners into the related sector, while raising the attainments of existing bearers and elevating the standard of current ICH practitioners.

I. Research and Publication

Year of Publication	Book Title
2022	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Herbal Tea
2023	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Technique of Making Hong Kong Cheongsam and <i>Kwan Kwa</i> Wedding Costume
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Yu Lan Festival of the Hong Kong Chiu Chow Community
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Wong Tai Sin Belief and Customs in Hong Kong
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Paper Crafting Technique
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Mid-Autumn Festival – the Pok Fu Lam Fire Dragon Dance
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Hong Kong-style Milk Tea Making Technique
2024	Series on Hong Kong ICH in the Natural and Cultural Settings of Lingnan: Representing Lingnan: Regional Culture of Hong Kong’s Intangible Cultural Heritage
	Series on Hong Kong ICH in the Natural and Cultural Settings of Lingnan: Herbal Tea in the Community
2024 (anticipated)	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Spring and Autumn Ancestral Worship of Clans
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Bamboo Theatre Building Technique

Year of Publication	Book Title
2024 (anticipated)	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: <i>Sek Pun</i> (Basin Feast)
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Cheung Chau <i>Jiao</i> Festival
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: <i>Nanyin</i> (Southern Tunes)
2025 (anticipated)	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: The Arts of the <i>Guqin</i> (The Craft of <i>Qin</i> Making)
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Mid-Autumn Festival – the Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Tin Hau Festival in Hong Kong
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Hakka Unicorn Dance in Hang Hau in Sai Kung
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Taoist Ritual Tradition of the <i>Zhengyi</i> School
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Tai O Dragon Boat Water Parade
To be confirmed	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: Cantonese Opera
	The Hong Kong Intangible Cultural Heritage Series: <i>Quanzhen</i> Temples Taoist Ritual Music