

**Invited Paper for the 12<sup>th</sup> East Asian Statistical Conference  
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***Developing and implementing the Hong Kong Standard Industrial  
Classification Version 2.0 with reference to ISIC Revision 4***

Abstract

Noting the importance of compliance to the international standards in official statistics, including classification systems, so as to achieve harmonization and comparability in the global context, Hong Kong has kept abreast of the latest developments of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities Revision 4 (ISIC R4). Hong Kong has recently incorporated the conceptual and structural changes in the ISIC R4 when reviewing the existing Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC). Furthermore, significant changes in the structure of Hong Kong economy and the emergence of new economic activities have been taken into account when devising the HSIC Version 2.0 (HSIC V2.0).

In the course of developing and implementing the HSIC V2.0, strategic issues such as impacts on the Central Register of Establishments (CRE), special needs of various users, adaptation needed in various data collection programmes, as well as implications for production and dissemination of relevant statistics have been identified. It is necessary to pay attention to the lead time required for acquisition of resources for implementing the whole project, legal amendments to the respective survey orders, parallel coding in the CRE, sample redesign of relevant statistical surveys and corresponding enhancement to computer systems, and capacity building of all staff concerned. In this connection, high level official commitment, advanced planning, timely involvement of stakeholders and proper institutionalization are crucial factors to overcome the various challenges.