

The 13th East Asian Statistical Conference (5-7 November 2012)

Opportunities and Challenges Facing the Census and Statistics Department in Hong Kong

Miss Ka-lin CHAN
Assistant Commissioner
Census and Statistics Department
Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Hong Kong has been facing challenges and opportunities brought about by globalisation and economic re-structuring. The increasing trend of globalisation can be discerned from the significant growth of international movement of goods, services and capital in the global economy. This also results in a growing need for more comprehensive, timely and new official statistics to measure the increasingly complex phenomenon of globalisation and assess its impacts, potential risks and vulnerabilities that might arise. The success in producing accurate and timely statistics largely rests on the co-operation of raw data suppliers in furnishing quality data. The increasing demand for statistics also means more input requested from the raw data suppliers. Maintaining high response rates has posed great challenge to statistical offices.

With the advancement of information and communication technology (ICT) and the growing importance of knowledge management in this knowledge-based era, applications of technology have become an integral part of data collection, processing, dissemination and sharing of corporate knowledge. Successfully managing ICT in revamping existing workflow and services is another important challenge facing each statistical office.

Over the past decade, the official statistical system of Hong Kong has continuously evolved to meet the emerging and new statistical needs, and embarked upon business transformations made possible with the continuous advances in ICT to better meet the new increasing demands more efficiently. This paper discusses the challenges faced by the Census and Statistics Department of Hong Kong and the strategies in addressing such challenges.