

STRATEGIC PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH FUNDING SCHEME

Project Number : S2025.A7.025.25S

Project Title : Enhancing Hong Kong's Status as a Green Maritime Hub: An Integrated Study of Strategic Green Port Measures

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Research Abstract :

To enhance Hong Kong's status as an international maritime center, Hong Kong must formulate a comprehensive maritime and port development strategy. Facing the emission reduction targets advocated by the International Maritime Organization, carbon pricing policies on shipping implemented in various regions, and intense competition among international maritime centers and neighboring ports in low-carbon marine fuel bunkering, Hong Kong must take action to build a low-carbon green shipping hub.

The Hong Kong government's <Action Plan on Green Maritime Fuel Bunkering> emphasizes "adopt a multi-fuel strategy for a zero-carbon emission future," aligning with its < Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy>. This study responds to the Action Plan on Green Maritime Fuel Bunkering and the Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy. The project will: (1) establish port operational and emissions baselines to project low-carbon fuel demand; (2) evaluate the applicability of international green measures, focusing on Green Shipping Corridor implementation pathways, while modelling Onshore Power Supply demand and quantifying health benefits; (3) construct a Life-Cycle Greenhouse Gas (GHG) accounting system and decarbonization certification framework; and (4) simulate the impacts of regional competition and carbon pricing policies on Hong Kong's status as a maritime hub.

The deliverables of this proposed study will strategically support national measures promoting the development of green ports and enhancing the promotion and application of clean maritime fuels as outlined in the <14th Five-Year Plan Comprehensive Work Plan for Energy Conservation and Emission Reduction>, and the strategies related to the active participation in the global governance of emission reduction of the maritime industry as outlined in the <14th Five-Year Development Plan for the Maritime System>. This will assist the Hong Kong's shipping and port industries in transitioning to zero carbon emissions.