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# Immigrant Entrepreneurship among Mainland Chinese University Graduates in Hong Kong

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# Entrepreneurship builds on an ecosystem



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Human resources in Hong Kong is tilted towards commerce – a lack of entrepreneurial talents

# Research

- how mainland graduates adapt to their host city of Hong Kong whether they should stay or leave
- how mainland graduates exploit ethnic resources embedded in family and kin networks back home, to put cultural, social, and extra-territorial capital as well as transnationalism to use in entrepreneurship
- analyze the graduates' views on the Hong Kong government and their related policies on startups, youth development and immigration
- Make policy recommendations
- Methods: indepth interviews and a survey on students and graudates

# Content

- Background : basic facts and existing policies
- Literature review
  - Immigrant entrepreneurship
  - Ethnic entrepreneurship
  - Entrepreneurial ecosystem & policy
  - Mainland students in HK
- Key findings
- Recommendations

# Background

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# Immigration schemes and mainland students

Programs / Schemes
1. General Employment Policy (GEP)
2. Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals (ASMTF)
3. Quality Migrant Admission Scheme
4. Investment as Entrepreneurs
5. Capital Investment Entrant Scheme (CIES) – Chinese national with permanent residence overseas*
6. Student VISA / Entry Permit for Studying in Hong Kong
7. Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG)

Source: Hong Kong Immigration Department

No. of quotas allotted – Total					
12. Student VISA / Entry Permit for Studying in Hong Kong – Mainland China	13,559	16,451	18,849	19,588	18,061*
13. Student VISA / Entry Permit for Studying in Hong Kong – Total	21,048	24,352	27,844	29,129	27,921*
14. Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG) – Mainland China	5,053	6,463	8,357	9,709	9,387*
15. Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG) – Total	5,343	6,804	8,896	10,381	10,103*

Source: Hong Kong Immigrant Department (from 2005 – 2015), Retrieved from <http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/facts/visa-control.html>

Note: CIES was suspended with effect from 15 January 2015. \*As at February 2016.

# Literature

- Immigrant entrepreneurship
- Ethnic entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurial ecosystem & policy
- Mainland students in HK

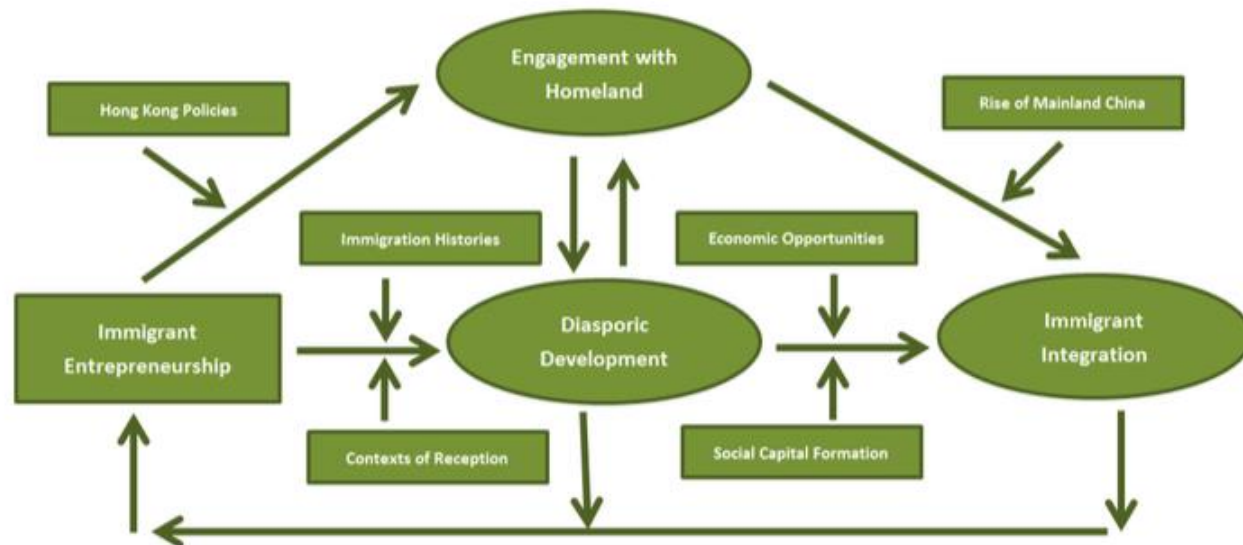


Figure 1: An analytical framework of mainlanders entrepreneurship, diasporic development and integration.

Zhou and Lui (2015)



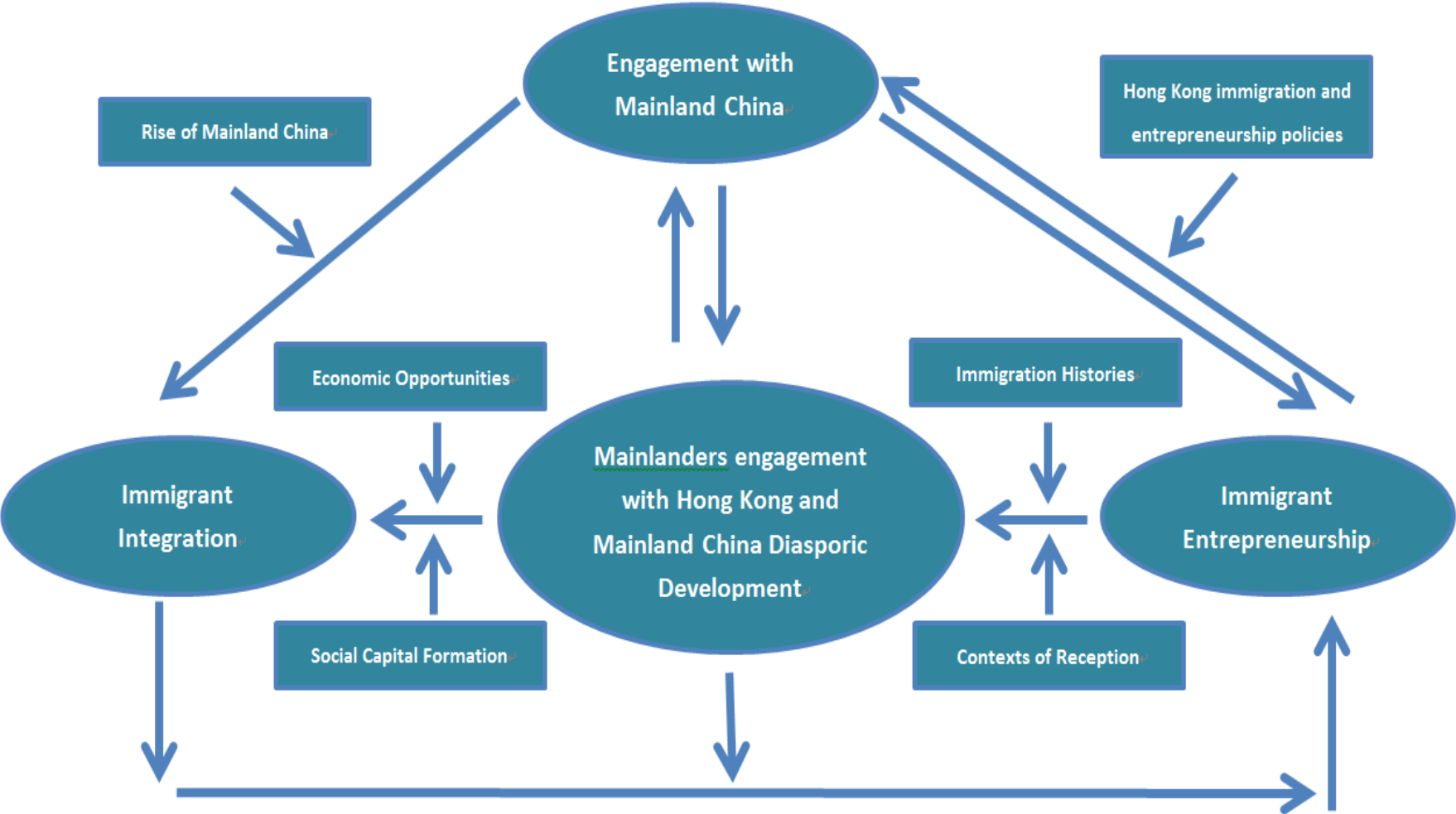
# Key findings

- Schools selecting academic focused students
- Policies reinforcing career interests in conventional businesses
- Students have many choices
- Mainland students face huge barriers in trying to start up new ventures
- Different types of students and different types of transnational entrepreneurship
- Keen competition for entrepreneurial talents
- Local programs targeting only Hong Kong borns

# Recommendations

- Recruitment and selection of mainland students
- Incentives to keep students from leaving
- Collaboration between hometown and business associations; renewal of their services
- Startup process enhancement and fund-raising help for mainland students and graduates
- Immigrant integration based on multiculturalism

# Mainland Entrepreneurs, Diasporic development, & Immigrant Integration



“Tales under the Lion Rock” tell only a past history of refugee immigrants

Time for a new story for the new generation of mainland immigrants