

[CEDD and HKUST sign MOU on research studies \(with photo\)](#)

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) today (February 28) to set out the framework of collaboration on research studies related to sustainable infrastructure development and land formation.

The MOU was signed by the Director of Civil Engineering and Development, Mr Michael Fong, and the Vice-President for Research and Development of the HKUST, Professor Tim Cheng, and witnessed by the Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Mr Ricky Lau, and the President of the HKUST, Professor Nancy Ip.

The MOU, effective from March 1 for a duration of two years, will cover research areas in novel construction materials, innovative landslide mitigation strategies, digitalisation, artificial intelligence technology, innovative engineering and sustainable solutions.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr Fong said that the CEDD has been applying innovative technologies to facilitate the implementation of construction projects. With the CEDD's experience in construction projects and the HKUST's top-notch research team, the collaboration between the two parties promotes the research in sustainable infrastructure development and land formation, and would help the industry enhance productivity, quality and site safety.

Professor Cheng said that the HKUST's multidisciplinary research expertise, covering AI, the Internet of Things, digital twins, material science and civil engineering, will synergise with the CEDD's practical experience, work data and scenario applications to create innovative and practical solutions.

The CEDD has been collaborating closely with academic institutions and the construction industry to develop various smart and innovative technologies for application in public works projects. The CEDD has applied research deliverables in various projects to effectively facilitate their implementation, such as optimising the design of debris-resisting barriers for landslide mitigation, and advocating the recycling of construction and demolition materials.

