

# ISTIF of Boao Forum for Asia to be held in Hong Kong for first time

The International Science, Technology and Innovation Forum (ISTIF) of the Boao Forum for Asia 2025 Hong Kong Conference will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on June 6 and 7. Under the theme of "Transitioning Towards the Future: Powered by Science, Technology and Innovation", the forum will explore how to capitalise on Hong Kong's unique advantage of being connected to the Mainland and the outside world, and how to foster global co-operation in the field of innovation and technology (I&T).

Focusing on global innovation issues, the ISTIF is one of the world's major platforms for high-level I&T co-operation and exchanges. Previously held in Macao, Guangzhou and Zhuhai, the ISTIF will be held in Hong Kong for the first time. Cohosted by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA), the ISTIF affirms Hong Kong's advantages of being highly internationalised and the gateway to both China and the world.

With an expected attendance of more than 800 top experts, scholars and political and economic leaders from Hong Kong and abroad, the ISTIF will strive to deepen regional and international I&T collaboration, further enhance Hong Kong's position in the international I&T field, and accelerate the development of Hong Kong into an international I&T hub. Hong Kong will fully utilise its roles as a "super connector" and "super value-adder", and make good use of its strengths to create a high-quality international science and technology event to inject new impetus to the I&T development in the country as well as the world.

The Hong Kong Forum, with theme "Leveraging the Advantages of Connecting with Both the Mainland and the World to Foster Global Innovation and Technology Collaboration", will be staged on June 7, inviting renowned experts as well as political and business leaders from different fields to explore how Hong Kong can fully leverage its unique advantages of internal and external connectivity to promote efficient collaboration among the Government, industry, academia, research and investment, with a view to fostering global collaboration and I&T development.

In addition, sessions of sub-fora, cutting-edge dialogues and roundtables will be held during the two-day conference, inviting former foreign heads of state and leaders, senior representatives of international organisations, renowned scientists and university academics, entrepreneurs and start-ups from Hong Kong and abroad, as well as youth leaders from various countries, to share their insights on the hottest issues in the I&T field, such as:

- Youth Leadership for an Intelligent, Green and Inclusive Future;

- The Arrival of the Quantum Age;
- Innovation Clusters: Promoting the Integration of Innovation Chain and Industrial Chain;
- The Reshaping and Disruption of Life Sciences;
- From "Internet Plus" to "AI Plus";
- Technological Innovation in Financial Services: The Role of Patient Capital;
- Mobility in the Future;
- Global Science and Technology Governance for Good, for Justice, for Openness, and for Inclusiveness; and
- Science and Technology Innovation: Driving Sustainable Development and Accelerating the 2030 Agenda.

For details of the ISTIF and guest lists, please refer to [www.bfa-istif.cn/ISTIF.aspx?lang=EN&tid=2025&tyid=3](http://www.bfa-istif.cn/ISTIF.aspx?lang=EN&tid=2025&tyid=3).

Headquartered in China, the BFA is an international organisation initiated by 29 Asia-Pacific countries to promote Asia's economic integration and address global challenges. Since 2019, the ISTIF is held to strengthen global governance of science and technology, promote international science and technology innovation and co-operation, guide the formulation of rules for new technologies and accelerate the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.