

# Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme 2024-25 results announced

The Chief Executive's Policy Unit (CEPU) announced today (February 24) the results of the Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (SPPRFS) 2024-25.

The SPPRFS is aimed at encouraging local think tank experts and scholars (including universities and civil society think tanks) to apply their expertise to conduct evidence-based research on key public policy issues, and to facilitate the knowledge transfer of research findings to policy considerations, serving as a channel for the Government to tap the public policy research expertise of society. To raise the effectiveness of the SPPRFS, the CEPU has introduced continuous enhancements to strengthen communication among research talent, relevant field experts and the Government throughout the process of application, approval and research.

A total of 37 applications, covering strategic themes identified by the Government, were received under the SPPRFS 2024-25. On the advice of the Assessment Panel, the CEPU has supported two projects with a total funding of about \$7 million. Both projects are in line with the long-term development of initiatives in the 2024 Policy Address. One seeks to enhance Hong Kong's status as an international shipping centre and promote development within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). The other project deals with strategic planning of low-altitude infrastructure and air mobility services in the GBA, facilitating the development of a low-altitude economy.

The Public Policy Research Funding Scheme and the SPPRFS are administered by the CEPU. Applications to the SPPRFS are invited once a year in general, and the research projects will last a longer duration. Applications must be made under the specified strategic themes and be in line with the specified research areas. Applications are assessed by an Assessment Panel which comprises experienced academics and professional experts. Research quality and the strategic relevance of the proposal to the public policy development needs of Hong Kong are the principal criteria of assessment. The Assessment Panel will also take into account comments of outside reviewers who are experienced academics and professional experts during the assessment process, and views of relevant government bureaux/departments. A declaration of interests system is in place to ensure that the assessments are fair and impartial.

Details of the funded projects have been uploaded to the CEPU's website ([www.cepu.gov.hk/en/PRFS/sppr-granted.html](http://www.cepu.gov.hk/en/PRFS/sppr-granted.html)).