Lingnan University 2025/2026 SDG Report
SDG 10 – REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11th in the world (THE Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026)

No. 1 in Hong Kong (THE Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026)

73%
First-Generation Students

132
Undergraduate Courses

Lingnan University advances **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** through interdisciplinary research into the social, psychological and structural drivers of inequality. Grounded in its liberal arts tradition, the University examines how disparities shape people's opportunities, perceptions and well-being. The following studies offer evidence-based insights to inform policies and practices that foster social inclusion, equal opportunities and shared prosperity.

Addressing Caregiving Burdens and Inequalities in Hong Kong and East Asia

Research projects, publications and public seminars were delivered to examine caregiving burdens and care-related inequalities across Hong Kong and East Asian welfare states. These activities support SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by promoting equitable access to support, social inclusion and stronger social protection for disadvantaged carers.

In 2026, the Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies (APIAS) concluded a research project funded by the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong. Study findings reveal that many carers experience substantial caregiving burdens that adversely affect their physical and mental well-being. Additional expenses for transport, specialised therapeutic diets and healthcare supplies push many into financial hardship. Accordingly, the research team urges the government to expand financial support for low-income carers and introduce formal care management arrangements to respond

to their diverse needs, helping to reduce socioeconomic disparities and barriers to accessing services.

The *Research Report on Challenges Faced by Multiple Role Carers in Hong Kong* was released in March 2026. Copies were circulated to Legislative Council members, government advisory committees on social welfare and ageing, and senior management of non-governmental organisations. A public research seminar on 3 March 2026 brought together the research team, carer representatives and frontline social workers. Key findings and policy recommendations also received mainstream media coverage, strengthening public awareness and carers' representation in policy discussions.

APIAS additionally published the *Carer's Guide 2026* to help informal carers navigate welfare services and alleviate their caregiving load. The guide explains care arrangements and provides information on financial assistance, emotional support, transport, equipment rental, home adaptations and training. It was disseminated through elderly centres, day care centres and District Council members to vulnerable families, supporting more equitable access to information and care resources.

The research team also produced the edited volume *Carers' Policies in East Asia: Challenges, Responses and Well-being*. Covering Mainland China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Hong Kong, it calls for expanded financial assistance, carer leave and case management to address caregiving inequalities. Together, these activities provide evidence and practical guidance for inclusive welfare policies and reduced financial and practical burdens among disadvantaged carers.

Spatial Optimization and Evaluation of Community Living Rooms

Optimizing Shared Care Infrastructure to Alleviate Inadequate Housing and Subdivided Unit Precarity

Led by Prof. HUANG Yaoxuan Virginia, Assistant Professor of Teaching, School of Graduate Studies, this research supports SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities through equitable access to communal facilities, inclusive urban planning and shared care infrastructure.

Subdivided units (SDUs) represent one of Hong Kong's most severe manifestations of housing precarity, leaving low-income families trapped in cramped, poorly ventilated and socially isolated spaces. To alleviate these spatial limitations, decentralized communal facilities, such as government-backed "Community Living Rooms," have emerged as a crucial social intervention. Research titled "Beyond Four Walls: Community Living Rooms and Neighbourhood Filtering in Hong Kong's Subdivided Housing Communities" provides a data-driven evaluation of how these shared spaces mitigate severe indoor deprivation and support social inclusion.

The study first establishes the empirical effectiveness of community living rooms, demonstrating that grassroots residents genuinely value these facilities, a strong endorsement reflected in measurable housing market price premiums for units with convenient access. Building upon this validated demand, the research then deploys spatial analytics and socio-spatial optimization models to determine the most cost-effective and equitable spatial allocation for future facilities. This provides a blueprint for delivering the minimum necessary intervention required to achieve maximum accessibility, social support and service coverage across high-density SDU clusters.

By demonstrating how communal facilities serve as vital “care infrastructure,” this research offers policymakers and non-governmental organizations an evidence-based toolkit to maximize the impact of public welfare investments. Lingnan University supports SDG 11 and SDG 10 by delivering data-backed spatial solutions that transform informal housing challenges into actionable, community-oriented urban welfare strategies, advancing inclusive neighbourhoods, equitable resource allocation and support for underserved communities.