

## Lingnan University SDG Report



### **Training Students for Managing Our Cities in a More Sustainable Way**

The world continues to urbanize. Cities are getting bigger and more diverse and face more complex and interconnected challenges. For urban governance, these challenges include unprecedented environmental changes, accelerating societal aging, mass migrations, the transformational impact of new technology on everyday life and the growing scale and velocity of international financial flows. Lingnan University saw the pressing need for training future urban managers who recognizes the complexity and dynamism of the modern urban world. That's why it has offered the Master of Cities and Governance (MCG) programme since September 2020. Students are expected to learn how to apply relevant theories and knowledge to tackle problems in urban affairs management, evaluate and inform debates on city governance and policy and design and carry out research on city governance, and derive workable recommendations accordingly. Under the existing MCG programme, a new Environment and Sustainability Concentration was introduced in September 2022. In addition to the central aims of the MCG, the concentration content shall equip students with theoretical and empirical knowledge of the United Nations' SDGs and key environmental issues, while allowing them to gain practical insight from stakeholders dealing with these issues in Hong Kong and Asia. One of the specific aims of the concentration is to provide students with the understanding of the environmental, social and governance (ESG) concept under the framework of SDGs.

Vigilant and sustainable management of cultural heritage is also critical for the achievement of SDG11.4 (Protect the Worlds Cultural and Natural Heritage). This necessitates a strong demand for skilled practitioner so Lingnan University launched the Master of Arts in Arts and Cultural Heritage Management (MAACHM) programme in partnership with the University of Lincoln in September 2022. The MAACHM curriculum integrates the theories and practices of arts management, cultural heritage policy, curatorial practice, art projects, entrepreneurial initiatives, and professional training. Students on the programme will get the chance to put theory into practice and apply their knowledge to tackle real-world problems. With response to the pressing societal need for more talents in the field of heritage management in the

contemporary world, two new concentrations, one in Heritage Tourism and Management and the other in Cultural Management and Digital Future, were introduced to the MAACHM programme in September 2023. These new concentrations focus on how sustainable management of the cultural industries and heritage tourism sector can be enabled by the socio-technical innovations.

In face of the housing affordability crisis in Hong Kong, as well as in other big cities around the world, people are looking for viable solutions. In addition, quality housing management is proven to be critical for the realization of sustainable cities and communities. Therefore, Lingnan University introduced a new Master of Housing Policy and Management (MHPM) programme in September 2023. This programme is tailored for students who are interested in housing policy need high-level training to analyse policy from different perspectives (e.g. social economic and environmental) and the knowledge and skills to inform decision making and advocacy. It also teaches students knowledge and hands-on skills, for instance mediation and public relations, that are essential for professional housing management practice.

<b>Programme</b>	<b>No. of Graduates in 2023</b>	<b>No. of Intakes for 2023/24</b>
Master of Cities and Governance (MCG)	57	76
Master of Arts in Arts and Cultural Heritage Management (MAACHM)	11 (as at 2 November 2023)	108
Master of Housing Policy and Management (MHPM)	Not applicable	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>214</b>

### **Lingnan’s Participation in the Jockey Club Age-Friendly City Project**

In response to the challenges and opportunities of an ageing population, Lingnan University’s Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies (APIAS) has been working with the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust and three other gerontology research institutes in Hong Kong since 2015 to implement their six-year Jockey Club Age-Friendly City Project. The objectives of the project are to assess the age-friendliness of each of the 18 districts, to gather momentum in developing an age-friendly community, and to recommend a framework for districts to undertake continual improvement in the well-being of senior citizens, as well as to arouse

public awareness, and encourage community participation in building an age-friendly city. Different types of activities have been organized under the project. For example, on 28 January 2023, the project's professional support team and the DC Charity Foundation co-organised the Age-friendly Chinese New Year Mass Painting Event, bringing positive energy to children who need special care and attention through arts activities with the Drago Cavallo as guardian angel. 38 Age-friendly City Project Ambassadors and 30 teenagers expressed creativity by colouring Drago Cavallo sculptures, setting a Guinness World Record for the "Drago Cavallo. Travel around the World" tour. On 2 May 2023, "Small Changes in the Community, Big Improvement in Age-friendliness – Ambassador Achievement Ceremony" was organized, with thirteen representatives of NGOs attending the event to celebrate the achievements of more than 130 ambassador facilitators.

### **Carbon Neutral Action**

Funded by the Sustainable Development Fund from the Environment and Ecology Bureau, the Office of Service-Learning and Science Unit launched the "Carbon Neutral Action" programme from September 2022 to August 2023. This programme is powered by the Lingnan Entrepreneurship Initiative in support of the SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 13 Climate Action, which aims at promoting the concept of low carbon living through organizing innovative and attractive educational activities for the youth, and thus induce their positive behavioural and attitude transformation toward green living in daily life. This program will train a group of university students to become "Low Carbon Ambassadors" and raise their awareness, understanding, and reflection on low carbon living and sustainable development through a series of activities including exhibitions, workshops, and exploration tours. After that, student hostels and campus competitions, as well as community practice events will be held to motivate the ambassadors and their family members to exercise low carbon living. The ambassadors will then organize community events, bazaars, and e-promotion campaigns to promote the green messages in the community. This programme echoes the HKSAR government's goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The deliverables of the programme and feedback from participants will be gathered to support the government on policy-making in climate education.

### **Contribution to Heritage Conservation and Revitalization**

Funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Jockey Club ICH+ Innovative Heritage Education Programme is jointly launched by Lingnan University and Hong Kong Art School (a division of Hong Kong Arts Centre) and has collaborated with schools in Hong Kong since 2018. Through experiential learning that integrates contemporary art methods into traditional

craftsmanship, the programme aims to revitalise the intangible cultural heritage of Hong Kong and inherit the folk wisdom of ages. The first phase spanned between September 2018 and August 2022, the second phase starts from June 2023 and is expected to end in November 2027.

### **Applied Research Projects**

Lingnan University contributes to the achievement of the SDG11 through applied research projects such as

1. Intelligent information-based transport system for smarter traffic and safer mobility (Smart Traffic Fund)
2. Looking back at UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awardees and non-recipients: Review of heritage conservation cases from an IAD lens (RGC's General Research Fund)
3. How unaffordable is Hong Kong's housing market? (RGC's General Research Fund)
4. The third way of housing production: A history of housing cooperatives in post-war Hong Kong, 1940s–1980s (RGC's General Research Fund)
5. Anti-social behavior and social disorganization in housing communities: A spatial multi-level study in Hong Kong (RGC's General Research Fund)
6. Art, museums, and heritage: The creative citizens in Hong Kong and Taiwan (RGC's General Research Fund)
7. Spatial interaction and spread of COVID-19 through transportation network: A study of Hong Kong (LU's Research Committee)
8. Rural revitalisation at the grassroots (LU's Research Committee)
9. Longitudinal impact of green space on older adults' health and wellbeing: A case study in Guangdong (LU's Research Committee)
10. The impact of climatic and environmental factors on the spatial and temporal distribution of dengue risk in Hong Kong (LU's Research Committee)
11. Chinese traditional art as a cross-cultural heritage in the globalised world: Engaging and connecting with ethnic minorities in Hong Kong (LU's Research Committee)
12. The Compressed Family and Cubicle Living: Housing and Family in Postcolonial Hong Kong (LU's Research Committee)
13. Towards a Model of Sustainable Management of Country Park Enclaves in Hong Kong (LU's Research Committee)

As at 2 November 2023, a total of 34 pieces of research outputs (e.g. publications) produced by Lingnan scholars in 2023 are related to SDG11.