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Commissioned by Our Hong Kong Foundation

Public opinion poll on citizens' attitudes towards reclamation for new towns

**Conducted from 26 July to 1 August 2018 by
the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong**

7 August 2018





Overview

Conducted by	Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies
Purpose	To understand the public's attitude towards reclamation for new towns
Date	26 July to 1 August 2018
Respondents	Hong Kong residents aged 18 or above
Methodology	Random sampling by telephone
Sample size	1,004 respondents
Response rate	40.0%
Sample error	±3.09%, assuming a confidence level of 95%
Weighting	Based on the gender and age distribution of the population aged 18 or over (excluding foreign domestic helpers) released by the Census and Statistics Department in 2017



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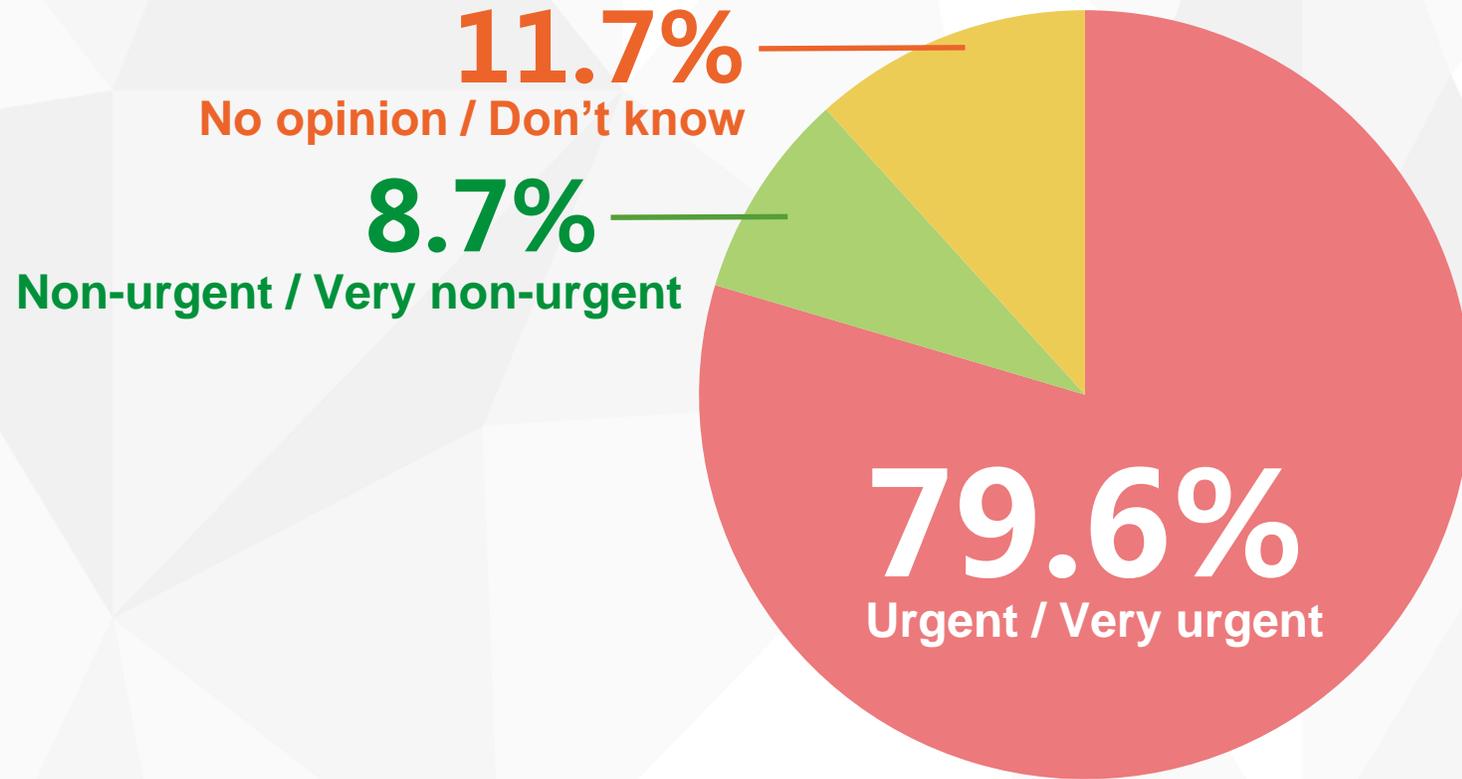
Part One

Survey Results





(1) Urgency to improve the overcrowded living environment



- Nearly 80% of respondents consider the need to improve the overcrowded living environment in Hong Kong to be 'urgent' or 'very urgent'



(2) Developing a new town the size of Sha Tin



67.6%



20.2%



12.2%

- The majority of the respondents agree that in order to improve the living environment and support the long-term development of Hong Kong, we need to develop new towns on a scale like Sha Tin (about 3,600 hectares) once again

(3) Number of new towns the size of Sha Tin needed in the next 30 years

One
(~3,600 ha)



14.8%

Two
(~7,200 ha)



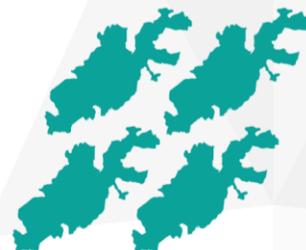
20.1%

Three
(~10,800 ha)



19.9%

Four
(~14,400 ha)



7.8%

Five or more
(~18,000+ ha)



16.9%

Don't know /
Hard to say

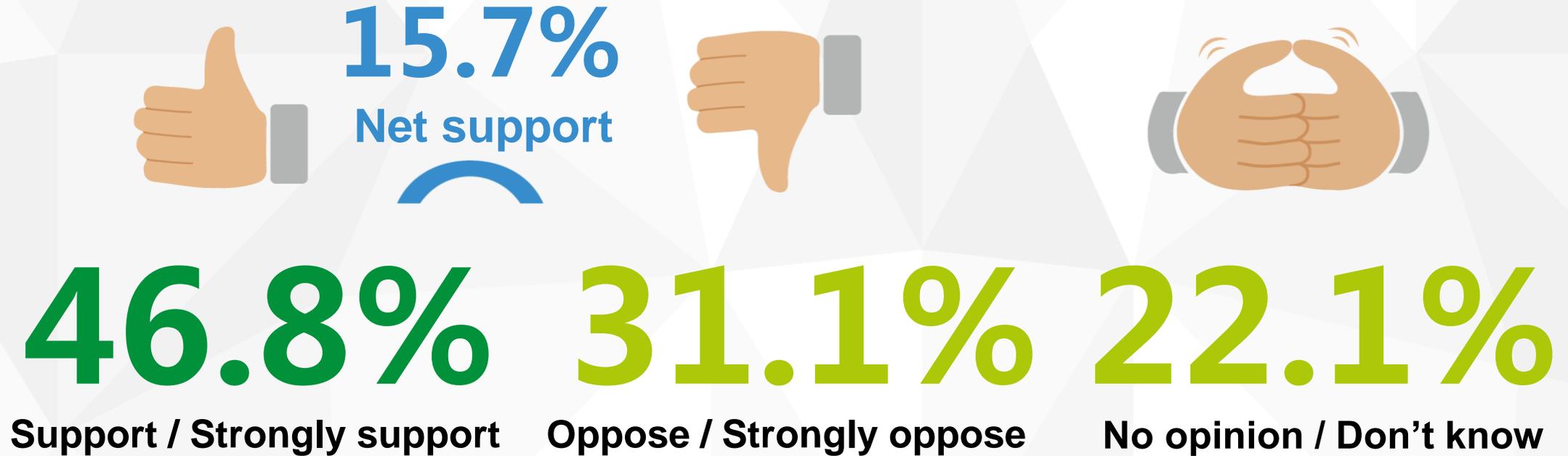


20.6%

= 64.7%

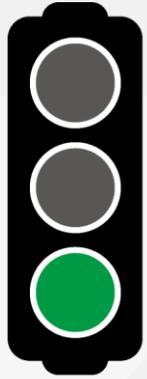
- More than 60% of the respondents in favour of the development of new towns believe that at least two or more new towns the size of Sha Tin are required (i.e. at least 7,200 hectares)

(4) Support for reclamation outside Victoria Harbour to develop new towns



- 46.8% of the respondents support reclamation outside Victoria Harbour, which is 15.7% more than the 31.1% who oppose it (i.e. net support reached 15.7%)

(5) Support for reclamation outside Victoria Harbour if environmental impact is minimised



49.3%

**Worthwhile /
Very worthwhile**



30.0%

**Not worthwhile /
Very not worthwhile**



20.6%

No opinion / Don't know

- On the premise that the government will minimise the negative impacts of reclamation on the environment, close to half of the respondents think it is worthwhile to reclaim land outside Victoria Harbour



(6) Support for an artificial island east of Lantau



- Net support for the development of an artificial island east of Lantau Island was 25.8%



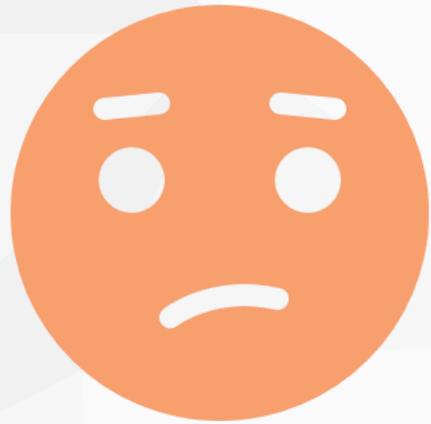
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Part Two

**Comparison with the results of the same
survey conducted on 21 to 28 March 2018**



(1) Urgency to improve the overcrowded living environment (comparison of results)



77.7%

Last survey



79.6%

Current survey

- The number of respondents who consider the problem of Hong Kong's overcrowded living environment to be 'urgent' or 'very urgent' is up by 77.7% from the survey conducted at the end of March

(2) Developing a new town the size of Sha Tin (comparison of results)



62.3%

Last survey



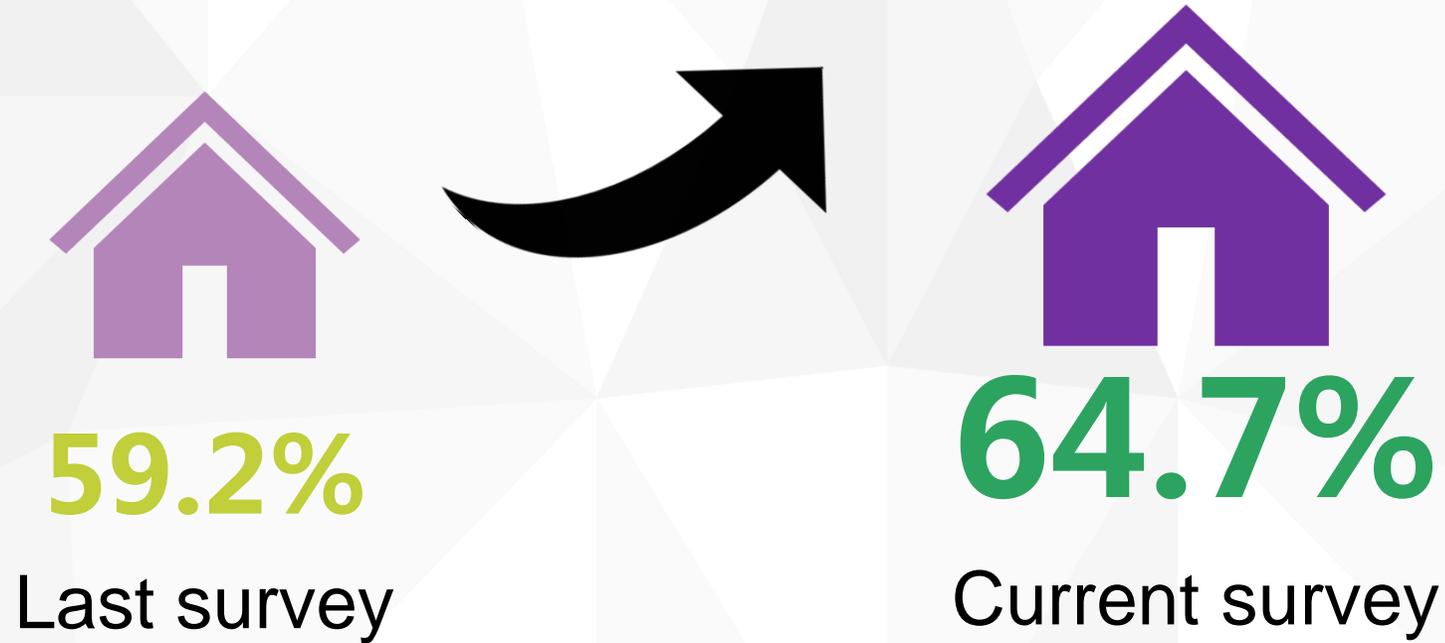
67.6%

Current survey

- The number of respondents who believe Hong Kong needs to once again vigorously develop a new town equivalent to Sha Tin in size (about 3,600 hectares) has increased from 62.3% in March to 67.6% this time

Note: The total developed area of Sha Tin New Town (including Ma On Shan) is about 3,590 hectares. According to the Sha Tin (excluding Ma On Shan) Outline Zoning Plan, Sha Tin (excluding Ma On Shan) has a total area of about 2,780 hectares.

(3) Number of new towns the size of Sha Tin needed in the next 30 years (comparison of results)



- The number of respondents who believe that at least two or more new towns the size of Sha Tin are required (i.e. at least 7,200 hectares) in the next 30 years has increased from 59.2% in March to 64.7%

Note: The total developed area of Sha Tin New Town (including Ma On Shan) is about 3,590 hectares. According to the Sha Tin (excluding Ma On Shan) Outline Zoning Plan, Sha Tin (excluding Ma On Shan) has a total area of about 2,780 hectares.

(4) Support for reclamation outside Victoria Harbour to develop new towns (comparison of results)



11.4%

Last survey



15.7%

Current survey

- The net support rate for reclamation outside Victoria Harbour has increased from 11.4% in March to 15.7% in the current survey

(5) Support for reclamation outside Victoria Harbour if environmental impact is minimised (comparison of results)



47.0%

Last survey



49.3%

Current survey

- The number of respondents who think it is worthwhile to reclaim land outside the Victoria Harbour if the government minimises the impact on the environment has risen from 47% in the survey conducted in March to 49.3% in the present survey



(6) Support for an artificial island east of Lantau (comparison of results)



21.1%

Last survey



25.8%

Current survey

- The net support rate for the reclamation of an artificial island east of Lantau Island has risen from 21.1% in March to 25.8%



Conclusion

- Respondents from different social backgrounds agree that the problem of overcrowding in Hong Kong is urgent and that we need to develop new towns vigorously.
- Of the respondents who support the development of new towns, close to 65% think that Hong Kong will need at least two or more new towns the size of Sha Tin (i.e. at least 7,200 hectares) in the next 30 years, higher than the 60% who thought so in the last survey.
- The support for reclamation for new towns generally increased for all respondents from different social backgrounds, as compared to the results of the survey in March.



Conclusion

- The net support for reclamation outside Victoria Harbour rose from 11.4% in March to 15.7%, an increase of 4.3 percentage points.
- The net support for the development of an artificial island east of Lantau Island increased from 21.7% in March to 25.8%, up by 4.1 percentage points.