

Re-engineering the Survey and Mapping Office for the Smart City Development in Hong Kong

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SUMMARY

The Survey and Mapping Office (SMO) is the survey, mapping and geospatial data agency of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government. It provides and updates maps and plans of Hong Kong for use by both the public and private sectors. With the advent of geospatial data technology, SMO is developing the two-dimensional digital map into a full-fledged three-dimensional digital map and supporting the development of the Common Spatial Data Infrastructure (CSDI) in Hong Kong. To transform SMO from a traditional mapping office to a geospatial data agent and the authority for coordinating the collection, sharing and management of spatial data, and thereby contributing to the development of Smart City and Digital Hong Kong, SMO undertook a series of business management reviews in 2020 and repositioned its roles and work. During the review, SMO has re-defined its vision and mission as well as identified four key roles and responsibilities when steering the organisation towards its new position.

SMO and her associated services have a long history. To cater for the functional and cultural changes beyond the legacy; fusing the existing professional functions and new missions in SMO, the management team consolidated the talent and experiences from both administrators' and professionals' perspectives in its governance review and set the priorities in the restructuring of SMO. This paper will walk through the journey of SMO in transforming herself from a traditional local mapping agency to a survey, mapping and geospatial authority which fosters the development of a Digital Hong Kong with 3D City Map, and enables the seamless flow and integration of spatial data through the CSDI. This helps laid down a critical digital infrastructure for Hong Kong in pursuing the smart city development.

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