

Information Sheet (2)

Land Usage Distribution in Hong Kong

1. Land Usage Distribution in Hong Kong

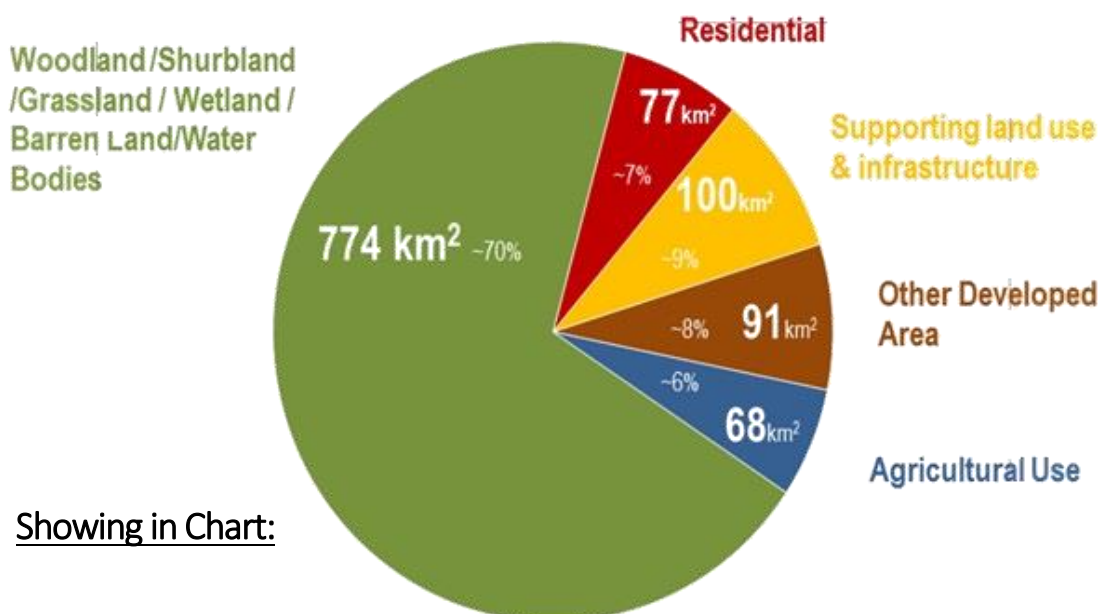
The land area in Hong Kong is about 1,110 square kilometres, and its usage distribution is shown below:

Table 1: Hong Kong Land Utilization in 2015

Class		Approx. Area (km ²)	Percentage (%)
Residential	Private residential	26	2.3%
	Public housing	16	1.4%
	Rural settlement	35	3.2%
	Sub-total (a):	77	6.9%
Supporting Land Use and Infrastructure	Commercial/Business and office	4	0.4%
	Industrial land	7	0.6%
	Industrial estates	3	0.3%
	Warehouse and open storage	16	1.4%
	Government, institutional and community facilities	25	2.3%
	Open space	25	2.3%
	Regional roads <i>[assuming accounting for 50% of total road area]</i>	20	1.8%
Sub-total (b):		100	9.1%
Other Developed Areas, including Strategic Infrastructure and Other Facilities	Territory-wide roads <i>[assuming accounting for 50% of total road area]</i>	20	1.8%
	Railways	3	0.3%
	Airport	13	1.2%
	Cemeteries and crematoriums	8	0.7%
	Utilities	8	0.7%
	Vacant land/ Construction in progress	17	1.5%
	Others	22	2.0%
Sub-total (c):		91	8.2%
Total Developed Land Area (a+b+c):		268	24.1%

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Class		Approx. Area (km ²)	Percentage (%)
Agricultural uses	Agricultural land	51	4.6%
	Fish ponds/Gei wais	17	1.5%
Sub-total (d):		68	6.1%
Woodland / Shrubland / Grassland / Wetland	Woodland	275	24.8%
	Shrubland	261	23.5%
	Grassland	196	17.7%
	Mangrove and swamp	5	0.5%
Barren Land	Badland	2	0.2%
	Quarries	1	0.1%
	Rocky shore	4	0.4%
Water Bodies	Reservoirs	25	2.3%
	Streams and nullahs	5	0.5%
Sub-total (e):		774	69.7%
Total (a+b+c+d+e):		1110	100.0%



Source – Planning Department's Website (www.pland.gov.hk):

✧ Information Services > Planning Data > Land Utilization in Hong Kong

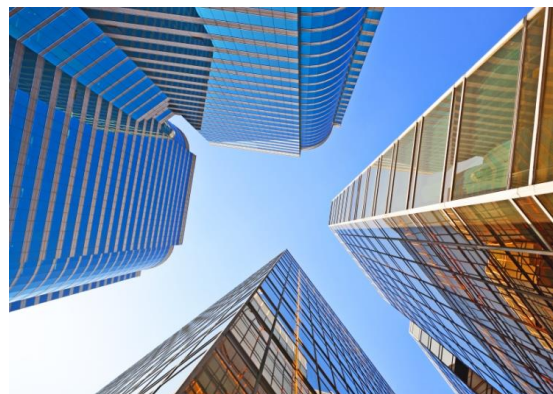
2. Developed Area

The population of Hong Kong in 2014 was 7.24 million. With the adoption of a high-density development strategy, we are able to effectively utilize the land. Hence, the developed area, i.e. 268 square kilometres, only accounts for not more than 25% of the total land area in Hong Kong.

Among the developed area of 268 square kilometres, the land used for infrastructure and supporting facilities covers 100 square kilometres (about 37%), which is more than that of 77 square kilometres for residential use (about 29%), while the land for "government, institution and community facilities" and "open space" uses covers 50 square kilometres (about 19%). To meet the public aspiration for improving the quality of life, more land will be required for provision of more open space and supporting facilities.



Residential Use



Business Use



Community Facilities



Supporting Infrastructures

3. Protected Area

About 700 square kilometres (63%) land area falls within the protected area such as country parks, marine parks, wetland, sites of special scientific interest, and water gathering grounds. These areas are either statutorily protected or highly restricted from development.

Since we focus on urban development without disturbing the countryside in large extent, the public can still enjoy the nature while the wildlife can also continue to survive in this city.

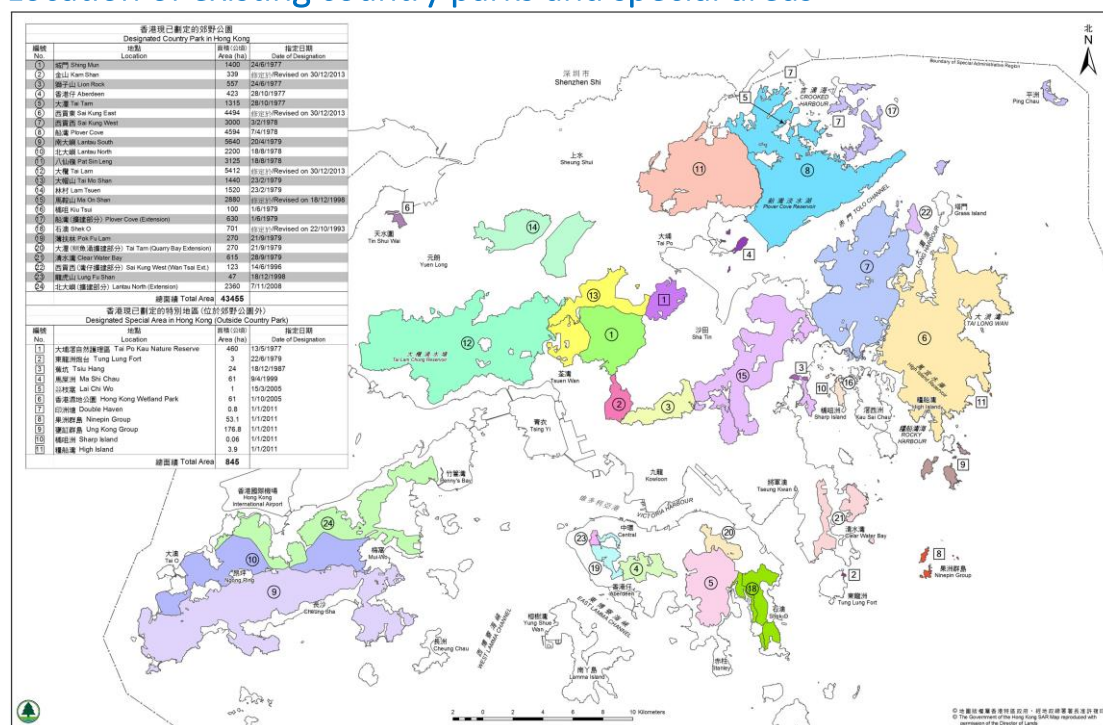
Relevant Ordinances include:

- Country parks and special areas: Country Parks Ordinance (Chapter 208)
- Marine parks: Marine Parks Ordinance (Chapter 476)
- Wetland: Ramsar Convention
- Control Area: Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Chapter 170)
- Sites of special scientific interest, conservation or coastal protection areas: Town Planning Ordinance (Chapter 113)
- Water Gathering Grounds: Waterworks Ordinance (Chapter 102)

At present, there are 24 country parks and 11 special areas outside country parks in Hong Kong with a total area of 443 square kilometres, accounting for about 40% of the total land area in Hong Kong.



Location of existing country parks and special areas



As at end 2016, there are five marine parks in Hong Kong and more waters will be designated as marine parks in future, including the northern part of the Hong Kong Airport Island, Southwest Lantau, Soko Islands as well as the waters between Shek Kwu Chau and Soko Islands.

In addition, there are various sites of special scientific interest in Hong Kong. 67 sites of special scientific interest were included in the registry in 2013-14.

The above information can be found in the websites of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and Planning Department (PlanD).

- ✧ AFCD's Website (www.afcd.gov.hk) > Country and Marine Parks > Visiting Country and Marine Parks
- ✧ PlanD's Website (www.pland.gov.hk) > technical documents > Hong Kong Planning Standards & Guidelines > Chapter 10 : Conservation
- ✧ Hong Kong 2030+ Study Website (www.hk2030plus.hk)

4. Remaining Areas

The remaining areas include rural areas, slopes, woodlands and fish ponds, which are subject to various development constraints, such as multiple ownerships, lack of infrastructure and poor connectivity. That said, sites of relatively high potential have already been reserved for development in order to meet the needs for development. Examples include New Territories North and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Areas, green belts areas or agricultural land that are without vegetation, deserted or formed and quarry sites.

