



Press Release

IMF Acknowledges Hong Kong's Economic Resilience and Strengths FSDC Highlights Pathways for Continued Growth

Hong Kong, 15 May 2026 — The Financial Services Development Council (FSDC) welcomes the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Staff Concluding Statement of the 2026 Article IV Mission, which acknowledges Hong Kong's continued economic recovery, and reaffirms Hong Kong's position as a global financial centre and super-connector.

The IMF's statement released today highlights Hong Kong's established role as a global financial centre and super-connector between the Chinese Mainland and the rest of the world. It also notes that financial sector risks in Hong Kong remain manageable, underpinned by strong buffers and robust regulatory oversight. Recent data further affirms these strengths: the city's banking sector remained resilient, supported by stronger loan demand and healthy asset quality. Total loans increased by 4.7% on a yearly basis in March 2026, while the gross classified loan ratio stood at 1.87%. The residential property market also showed a full recovery, with private home prices rising 7.8% and rents increasing 4.3% in the first quarter from a year ago, according to government data.

“The IMF's assessment reaffirms Hong Kong's resilience and structural strengths as a global financial hub. Solid fundamentals, robust financial infrastructure and deep market connectivity continue to strengthen our role as a capital nexus and a gateway for international investors,” said Mr Benjamin Hung, Chairman of the FSDC.

The statement recognises that Hong Kong's economy continues to recover, with growth in 2025 stronger than expected, supported by robust technology-related exports, improving private demand, and a rebound in financial market activity. Hong Kong is well placed to build further on its digital and sustainable finance agenda, according to the IMF.

Looking ahead, and in line with the national 15th Five-Year Plan, Hong Kong will continue to advance as an international financial centre by building on its strengths as the leading hub for offshore Renminbi business, asset and wealth management, and risk management. At the same time, the city will cultivate new drivers of growth through financial innovation, closer market connectivity and strategic developments such as the Northern Metropolis. Taken together, these priorities offer a solid platform and fresh momentum for sustaining Hong Kong's long-term economic and financial leadership.



About the Financial Services Development Council

The Financial Services Development Council (FSDC) was established in 2013 by the Government of the HKSAR as a high-level advisory body to engage the industry in formulating proposals to promote the further development of the financial services industry of Hong Kong and to map out the strategic direction for the development.

In September 2018, the FSDC was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. This change allows it to better discharge its functions through research, market promotion, and human capital development with greater flexibility.

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