

ONGOING PROJECTS

Leading Faculty

Funding Agency

Project



Prof. Naubahar Sharif

Chief Executive's Project List
2023- Hong Kong Jockey Club
Charities Trust

Enhancing the Mental Health of Hong Kong's
Non-Chinese Youth Aged 15-24 (2024 – Now)

HKUST, HKUST (GZ), and
Guangdong Science and
Technology Department

Mental Well-Being in the Greater Bay Area
(GBA): An Interdisciplinary Approach to
Awareness, Assessment, and Intervention
(2024 – Now)

Beat Drugs Fund Association,
Narcotics Division,
Security Bureau

Learning from the Past and Acting for the
Future of Hong Kong's Ethnic Minorities:
A Comprehensive Analysis of BDF Research
Projects and Culturally Sensitive Anti-drug
Studies Among South Asians in Hong Kong
(2024 – Now)

Mental Health Initiatives Funding
Scheme, Advisory Committee on
Mental Health

Strengthening Family Relationships for Hong
Kong's Ethnic Minority Communities in the
Aftermath of the Covid-19 Pandemic
(2023 – Now)

Mental Health Initiatives Funding
Scheme, Advisory Committee on
Mental Health

Supporting Ethnic Minority Elderly with Mental
Health Needs (2023 – Now)

Center for Aging Science,
HKUST

Towards a More Inclusive Hong Kong:
Covid-19, Mental Well-being, and Mitigation
Strategies for a Multicultural Elderly
Community (2022 – Now)



Prof. Kira Matus

RGC - General Research Fund

Can We Regulate Our way to a Circular
Economy? A Study of the Relationship
between Extended Producer Responsibility
Regulation and Sustainable Innovation in the
Textile Industry (2025 – Now)

RGC - General Research Fund

Towards 1.5C Lifestyles: What motivates
sustainable consumption choices in Hong
Kong? (2022 – Now)

30 for 30 Research Initiative
Scheme

Carbon Neutral Hong Kong 2020: A Pilot
Superdisciplinary Analysis Framework
(2023 – Now)



Prof. Raul Lejano

HKUST Faculty Start-up Funding

Determinants of Pro-Environmental Behavior
(2024 – Now)

Leading Faculty	Funding Agency	Project
	RGC – Research Fellow Scheme	Regional Science and Complex Systems: A Five-year Research Plan on Transportation, Land Use, Labor, and Innovation Systems (2024 – Now)
Prof. Pengyu Zhu		
	RGC - General Research Fund	Local Government Innovation under Political Recentralization in Contemporary China: A Two-stage Sequential Study (2024 – Now)
Prof. Alex Jingwei He	RGC - General Research Fund	Technocrats and Mid-Level Policy Entrepreneurship in China: Explaining Local Policy Innovations in the Social Welfare Arena (2023 – Now)
	Social Science Research Council (SSRC), United States	Data Governance for Innovation for Sustainable Smart Cities: A Comparative Analysis of Japan, the United States, and China (2024 – Now)
Prof. Masaru Yarime	UKinSPIRE Award, University of Kentucky, United States	How the Governance of Standards and Geopolitics Shape Competition in the Global Economy (2024 – Now)
	Global Engagement Funds, University College London	Public Perspectives on Personal Data Use for Personalized Covid-19 Advice (2022 – Now)
	Institute for Emerging Market Studies, HKUST	The Smart City as a Field of Innovation: Effects of Public-Private Data Collaboration on Innovation in the Guangdong Province and Implications for the Greater Bay Area (2022 – Now)
	Academy of Interdisciplinary Studies, HKUST	Using Machine Learning with Gamma Spectrometry to Verify Subcritical Tests
Prof. Julien de Troullioud de Lanversin		

Project Highlight

Learning from the Past and Acting for the Future of Hong Kong's Ethnic Minorities

This three-year project, Learning from the Past and Acting for the Future of Hong Kong's Ethnic Minorities: A Comprehensive Analysis of BDF Research Projects and Culturally Sensitive Anti-drug Studies Among South Asians in Hong Kong, funded by the Beat Drugs Fund, HKSARG, officially commenced on September 15, 2024.

This initiative seeks to address the rising prevalence of drug use within Hong Kong's Ethnic Minority communities, with a particular emphasis on South Asians, including Nepalese, Indians, and Pakistanis.

Our mission is to leverage insights from past research and conduct new, comprehensive studies to develop culturally sensitive anti-drug policies and prevention strategies while engaging directly with affected communities.

Project Rationale

The increasing incidence of drug use among EM groups in Hong Kong highlights the urgent need for targeted, culturally aware interventions. These communities face distinct challenges, including language barriers, cultural stigmas, and limited access to services, which make traditional anti-drug approaches less effective.

This project aims to address these gaps by building on lessons learned from previous Beat Drugs Fund research while incorporating new, evidence-based insights into the development of community-centered solutions.

A Vision for the Future

This project represents more than research and policy recommendations — it is a commitment to empowering historically underserved communities. By fostering collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and Ethnic Minority communities, we hope to create a healthier, safer society where every individual has the resources and support needed to thrive.

