

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Construction Industry Council Releases the “Construction Manpower Forecast”

Hong Kong • 8 February 2023 - The Construction Industry Council (CIC) today released the latest “Construction Manpower Forecast”

The “Construction Expenditure Forecast” published by the CIC earlier forecast that the overall 10-year construction expenditure, including both public and private sectors, in Hong Kong from 2021/22 to 2030/31 would reach a level over HK\$300 billion per annum¹.

Based on the construction expenditure forecast, the CIC forecast that the mismatch in supply and demand at the levels of professionals, technicians, site supervisory personnel, and construction workers would be 5-15% in 2023 and 15-20% in 2027. This would mean that the mismatch in supply and demand would increase from about 10,000 skilled workers in 2023 to about 40,000 skilled workers in 2027. For technicians and site supervisory personnel, the mismatch will increase from 3,500 in 2023 to 8,500 in 2027, and the corresponding increase of mismatch of professionals will be from 4,000 to 6,500. The above-mentioned mismatch is a result of comparing the forecast manpower demand based on construction expenditure forecast with the current manpower supply. It has not taken into account the effect brought about by the different measures for enhancing manpower supply and uplifting productivity and reducing manpower needs through technology adoption.

A Spokesperson for the CIC said, “The CIC has submitted the manpower forecast results to the Government for consideration. The Hong Kong construction industry has been facing the challenges of an ageing workforce and increasing demand for construction manpower in recent years, and the CIC has been working with the Government under a multi-pronged approach to address the manpower mismatch, including enhancing training and recruitment as well as driving the adoption of advanced construction techniques and new technologies to develop local manpower and uplift industry productivity.”

¹ At September 2019 price level

Details of the “Construction Expenditure Forecast”, which was already published in May 2022, are available at the CIC website:

https://www.cic.hk/common/Fore/Fore.aspx?lang=en-US&year=2016_17

Details of the “Construction Manpower Forecast” are available at the CIC website:

<https://www.cic.hk/eng/main/aboutcic/publications/report/>

Brief Introduction of the Task Forces

The CIC has formed a dedicated Task Force on Construction Expenditure and a Task Force on CIC Manpower Forecasting Model Updating and Enhancement Study. Both of the task forces comprise members from contractor associations, trade unions, consultants, professional institutions and representatives from the Government.

Objectives of the Construction Expenditure and Manpower Forecasts

The forecasts provide projections of the construction expenditure in the public and private sectors as well as the demand for and supply of manpower of the construction industry with a view to assisting industry stakeholders in resource planning and formulation of manpower training policies.

About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as the main communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.

Media Enquiries

Corporate Communications Department

Tel: 2100 9000

Fax: 2100 9090

Email: corpcomm@cic.hk

~ End ~