

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration  
of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific  
Message from Mr FUNG Hing-wang  
Commissioner for Census and Statistics  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
People's Republic of China**



I am pleased to offer my warm congratulations to the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Forty years on, the Institute has always been cherishing the same fervent hope to strengthen the capability of national statistical organisations in the collection, production, analysis and dissemination of timely and high quality official statistics that are part and parcel of economic and social development in the Region. Being a close and long-associated partner of the Institute, Hong Kong does share its vision. Over all these years, we have been working hand in hand to explore new opportunities for collaboration to enhance statistical knowledge and understanding of statistical practices, techniques and strategies adopted in the Region, thus further improving the quality of the work of the statistical community.

Since its founding, the Institute has upheld its ethos. It has offered its participants a rigorous curriculum covering a host of programmes in a wide spectrum of core as well as emerging statistical disciplines. It has nurtured an eminent and visionary alumni, equipping them with the professionalism, competencies and knowledge to better serve their respective countries/economies.

The achievements of the Institute today would not have been possible without the concerted efforts of its capable staff. It is their dedication and on-going hard work that has led the Institute to rise to each and every challenge that has come its way and enabled it to move forward, laying a solid foundation for its sustainable development.

I trust that the Institute will, building on its fine exemplary traditions, look into the future with new impetus and scale new heights in the years to come.