52nd Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities Forum

Privacy and Public Affairs in Hong Kong, China

Broader Session
3 December 2019, Cebu, Philippines

Stephen Kai-yi WONG, Barrister
Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data,
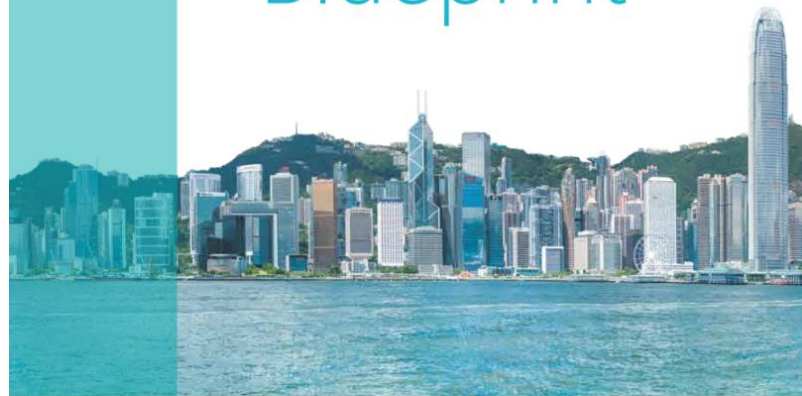Hong Kong, China

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Policy objectives to pursue smart city development by making use of innovation and technology

Encouraging open data and using data analytics to improve public services

Hong Kong Smart City Blueprint

Source: www.smartcity.gov.hk

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Mixed-modal access

Clean & non-motorized option

Integrated ICT

Smart Mobility

Smart People

21st Century Education

Inclusive society

Embrace Creativity

Culturally vibrant & happy

Safe

Healthy

Smart Living

Smart Economy

Entrepreneurship & innovation

Productivity

Local and global interconnectedness

Enabling supply & demand size policy

Transparency & open data

ICT & eGov

Smart Government

Smart Environment

Green buildings

Green energy

Green urban planning

Smart City
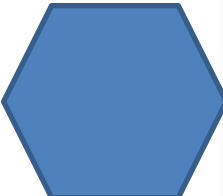
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Promoting Hong Kong as a Smart City

Hong Kong is transforming to a Smarter Digital City – increasing level of digital adoption by Hong Kong residents; 30% of residents and 44% of corporates consider Hong Kong to be a Smart City.
Source: Google Smarter Digital City 3.0 Research

Collaborating For A Smarter Hong Kong Today
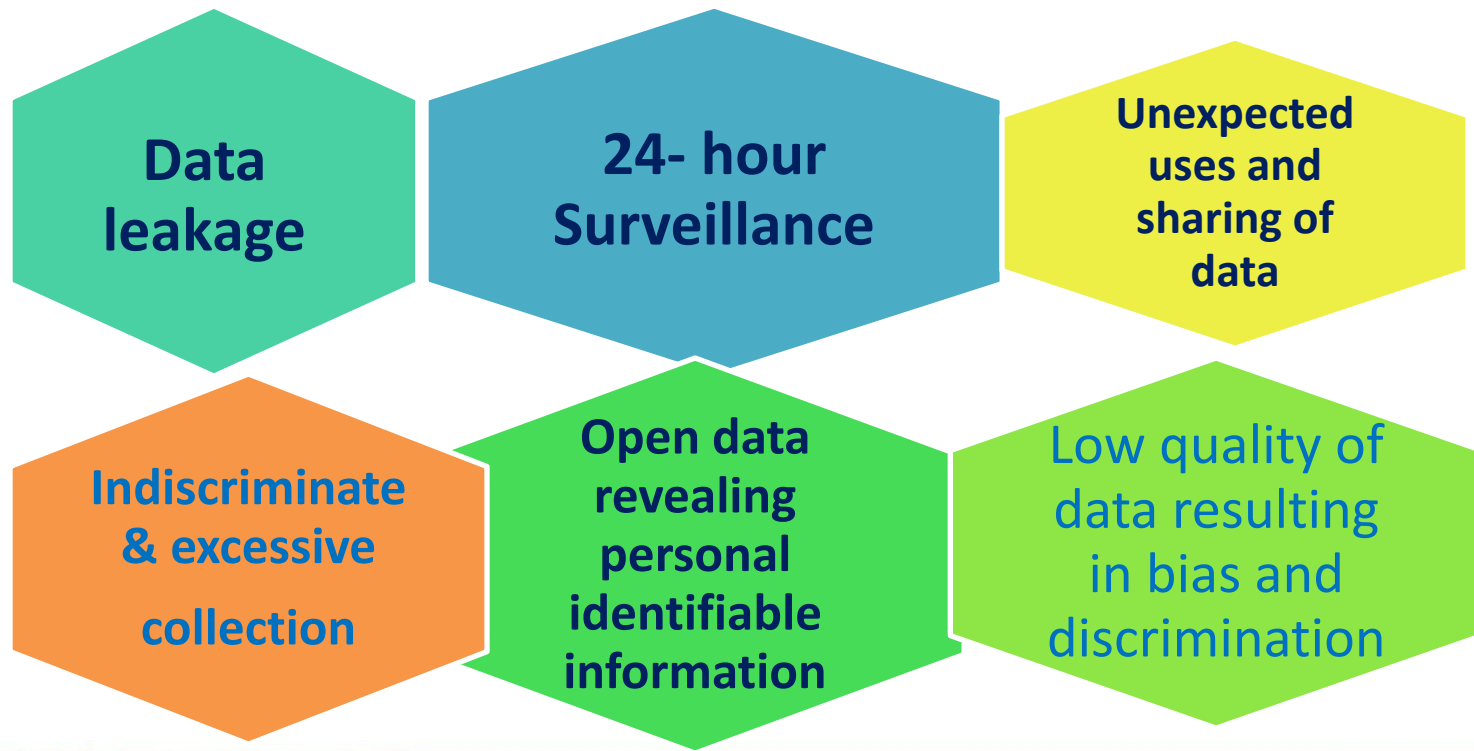
Smarter Digital City 3.0

Google   Ipsos

Hong Kong ranking the 13th out of 129 economies in a benchmark innovation ranking in 2019, moving up one spot from last year and strengthening its position as one of global innovation leaders
Source: Global Innovation Index 2019,WIPO

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Personal Data Privacy Concerns in Smart Cities

Data leakage

24- hour Surveillance

Unexpected uses and sharing of data

Indiscriminate & excessive collection

Open data revealing personal identifiable information

Low quality of data resulting in bias and discrimination

Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Scheme

Smart Lamppost Features and Applications - Overview

HyD:
- ✓ **LED lighting** – to adopt energy saving equipment and smart management for carbon emission reduction

OGCIO:
- ✓ **Wi-Fi access point and related network equipment** – to install free Wi-Fi service on smart lamppost at suitable locations

TD:
- ✓ **Bluetooth detector** – to detect journey time and average vehicular speed for sharing traffic information with the public
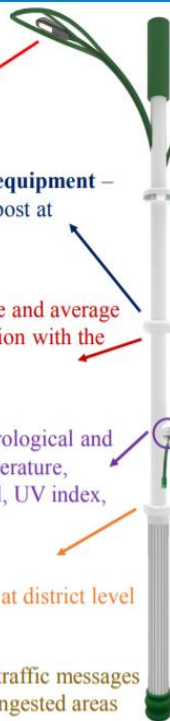
HKO:
- ✓ **Meteorological sensors** – to collect meteorological and related data at district level, including temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, rainfall, UV index, etc.

EPD:
Air quality sensor – to collect air quality data at district level

TC:
To advise the tourist trade/agents to make use traffic messages or alerts to help them plan routes that avoid congested areas

Panoramic Camera

Location Devices

4G / 5G – to facilitate mobile network operators to install base stations

TD:
- ✓ **Thermal detector & Surveillance camera** – to collect real-time traffic data, including vehicular speed, vehicle types and traffic flow, and to monitor traffic conditions

TD:
- ✓ **Panoramic camera with Artificial Intelligence** – to collect real-time traffic data for sharing to the public as well as traffic monitoring

EPD:
- ✓ **Panoramic camera with Artificial Intelligence** – to collect illegal dumping data

LandsD:
- ✓ **Bluetooth Beacon, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag and Geo-QR Code** – to provide accurate positioning services to support the development of related applications by the Government and the industry, such as providing information of public facilities to the public and visitors

Source: OGCIO, Hong Kong

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Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Scheme

Smart devices include traffic detectors, Bluetooth detectors, panoramic camera, meteorological and air quality sensors, 5G base stations

Plan to install 400 smart lampposts in 4 districts but the project has been stalled due to public's concerns on personal data privacy

No facial recognition technology

PCPD Hong Kong is one of the members of the Smart Lamppost advisory committee

Multi-functional Smart Lampposts Scheme

Deploy more privacy-friendly technologies

Increase Transparency & Build Trust

Make available all information about the smart lamppost :

- **Installation – location, functions**
- **Technology**
- **Parties involved and their relationship (data users/ data processors / law enforcement agencies)**
- **Collection, usage, sharing and control of data, retention of data**

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Facial Recognition technology

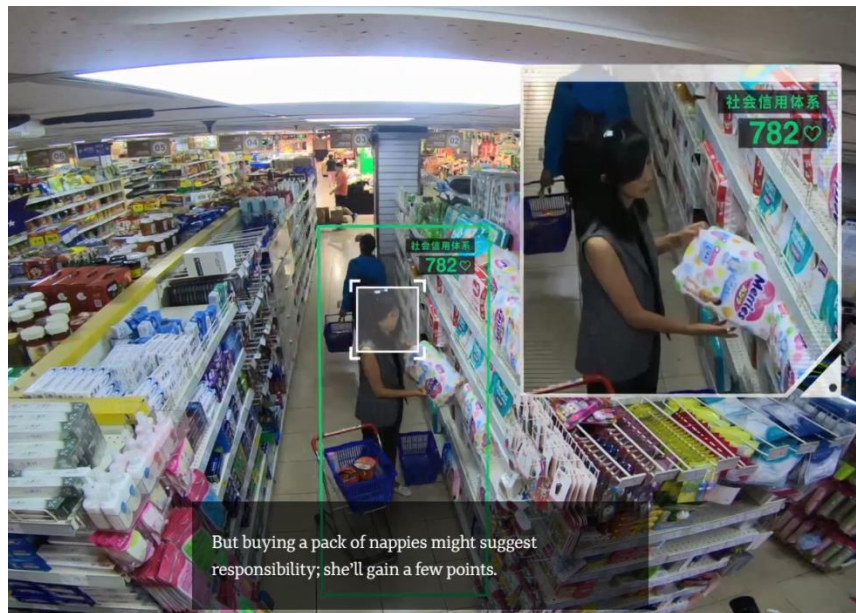Source: https://miro.medium.com/max/8742/1*qseidoEBfxVX6I2KIbHsRA.jpeg

What are the risks?

- Highly privacy intrusive
- Lack of regulations surrounding the use of facial recognition technology
- Misidentification
- Bias and discrimination
- Misuse by law enforcement agencies

Cultural Clash between the Mainland of China and the West

- A vast network of 200 million CCTV cameras across the Mainland of China

- For national security and operation of the Social credit system

- Ensure safety and convenience - "*It's the **best way** to manage a complex country with the world's biggest population. If, as our government says, **every corner of public space is installed with cameras, I'll feel safe**.*" says Dandan, marketing professional, Chinese citizen in an interview

Different perceptions around the world
Support √

Chinese citizens must pass a facial-recognition test to use the internet as part of Beijing's social credit system

- Citizens in China must have their faces scanned to have the internet installed
- The rule is part of China's social credit system and will take effect on Dec. 1
- Authority claimed the move could help improve the nation's internet security
- China has been building the world's most powerful facial-recognition system
- The nation is due to be equipped with 626 million CCTV cameras by 2020

By BILLIE THOMSON FOR MAILONLINE
PUBLISHED: 17:23 GMT, 2 October 2019 | UPDATED: 18:01 GMT, 2 October 2019

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China has stepped up its internet censorship by demanding its citizens pass a facial-recognition test to be able to use web services.

People who want to have the internet installed at home or on their phones must have their faces scanned by the Chinese authority to prove their identities, according to a

Source: https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7529453/Chinese-internet-users-pass-facial-recognition-test-use-web.html

© AFP/Getty Images

11.16.18

Singapore wants to add face-recognition surveillance to 110,000 lamp posts

[Photo: Dorian Hurst/Unsplash]

BY MELISSA LOCKER   1 MINUTE READ

Singapore may be turning its island state into a surveillance state.

The nation plans to install cameras equipped with facial recognition technology to all 110,000 lamp posts around the city, making it easier than ever for the country to keep tabs on its citizens and visitors,

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Source:
https://www.fastcompany.com/90269129/singapore-wants-to-add-face-recognition-surveillance-to-110000-lamp-posts

Different perceptions around the world
Oppose X

Facial recognition in schools leads to Sweden's first GDPR fine

by MÁR MÁSSON MAACK — 14 days ago in EUROPE

San Francisco is first US city to ban facial recognition

By Dave Lee
North America technology reporter

15 May 2019

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High-definition cameras "map" faces in a crowd and compare them to existing images

REUTERS

In the absence of specific rules, privacy regulators in Europe are giving case-by-case assessments | Thomas Samson/AFP via Getty Images

French privacy watchdog says facial recognition trial in high schools is illegal
Though non-binding, the opinion hands a victory to digital rights groups, parents and teachers' unions that opposed the experiment.
By LAURA KAYALI | 10/29/19, 12:06 PM CET | Updated 10/30/19, 3:52 PM CET

The French data protection authority has warned that plans to start trialling facial recognition tools at high schools in southern France do not comply with privacy

Source: thenextweb.com/eu/2019/08/27/facial-recognition-in-schools-leads-to-swedens-first-gdpr-fine/

Source: https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-48276660

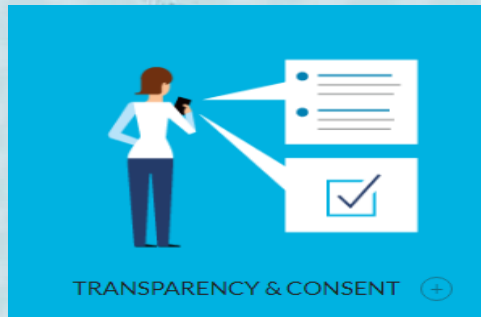Source: https://www.politico.eu/article/french-privacy-watchdog-says-facial-recognition-trial-in-high-schools-is-illegal-privacy/

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Facial Recognition – Getting it Right

- Using less privacy intrusive alternatives if possible

- Conduct Privacy Impact Assessment – make sure the deployment is necessary and proportionate

- Be transparent – give notice (including class of transferee)

- Ensure adequate security measures are in place to prevent leakage

- Do not retain the data longer than necessary

- Having written policy and procedures in place for its deployment

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How to Manage Privacy Risks in Smart Cities?

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