



# **Building a clean government in Hong Kong, China: From fighting graft to promoting integrity**

**Public Integrity Network – Capacity Development Program  
ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative  
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# Outline

## 1. Anti-corruption work of Hong Kong ICAC

- Mandate of Hong Kong ICAC
- Three-pronged anti-corruption strategy
- International collaboration



# Outline

## **2. Building a clean government in Hong Kong, China**

- Legal and regulatory framework for civil service integrity in Hong Kong
- Evolution of anti-corruption education work for civil service
- Present tactics
  - Ethical Leadership Programme
  - Training activities
- Challenges and ways ahead



# Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)

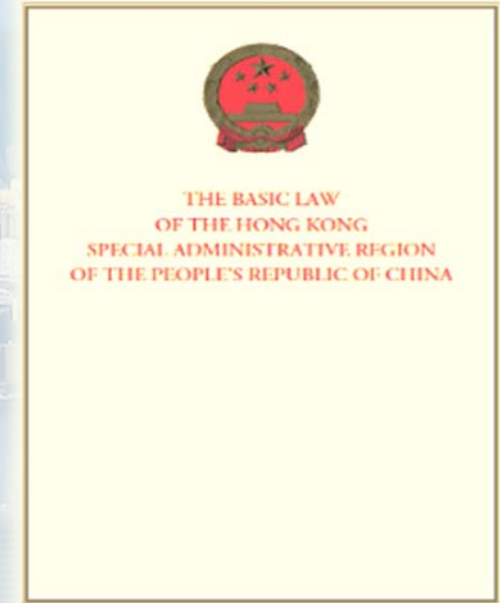




# Independent Commission Against Corruption Hong Kong, China

- Established in 1974
- Basic Law of Hong Kong SAR
- ICAC Ordinance

“The Commissioner shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person other than the Chief Executive.” (s.5)



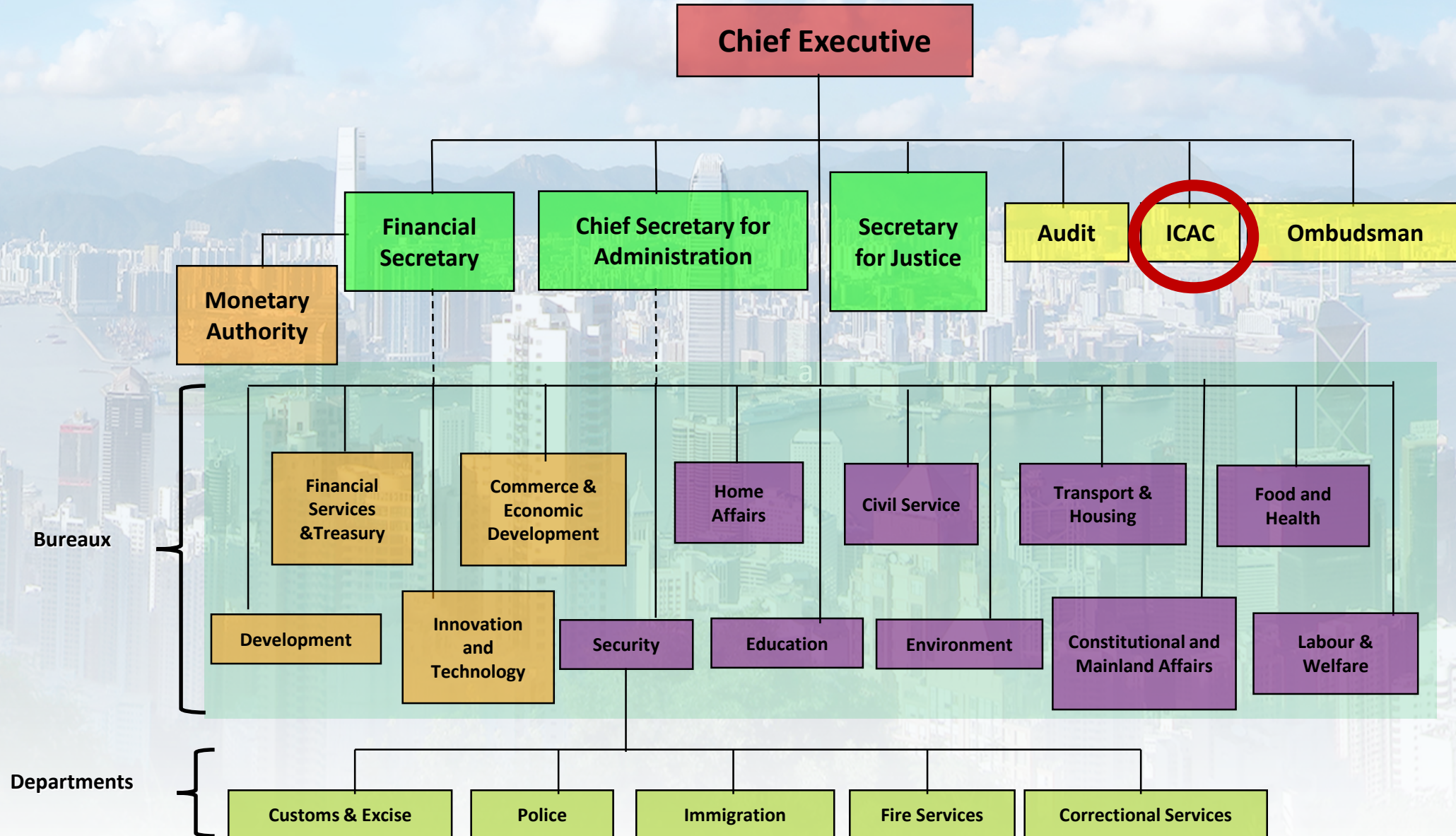
## Article 57

A Commission Against Corruption shall be established in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

It shall function **independently** and be **accountable to the Chief Executive**.



# Hong Kong SAR Government





# Three-pronged strategy

The Commissioner

Administration  
Branch



Operations

Law  
enforcement



Corruption  
Prevention

Systemic  
prevention



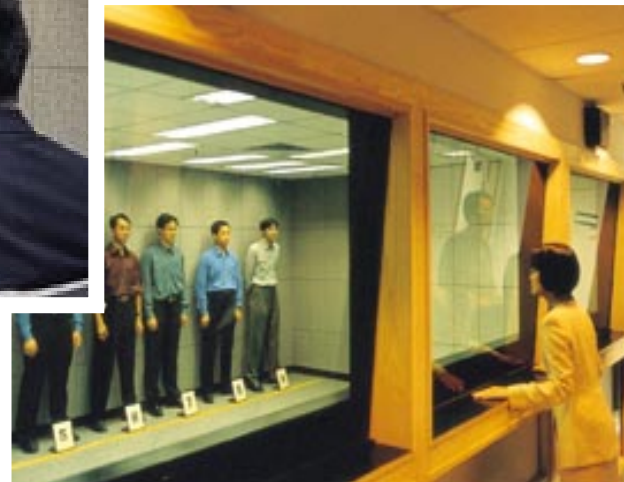
Community  
Relations

Community  
education



# Operations Department

- Receives, considers and investigates alleged corruption offences





# Investigative powers

- Arrest and detain (not more than 48 hours)
- Require any person to produce suspect's books and records for inspection
- Search and seize
- Enter and search a premises/place
- Require a suspect to surrender his travel document(s)
- Restrain a suspect's property
- Obtain information from a suspect and related third parties
- Intercept telecommunications



# Corruption Prevention Department

- Examines government procedures
- Advises private companies





# To carry out systemic corruption ...

- **Enter government premises and require government officers to -**
  - answer questions concerning their duties
  - provide related documents for examination
- **Access to records, documents of any government department and public body**
- **Services for private sector**



# Community Relations Department

- Educates the public
- Enlists public support





# “Ethics-for-All” approach



**Tailor-made  
services for  
different segments  
of the community**



# All-round communication strategy



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+

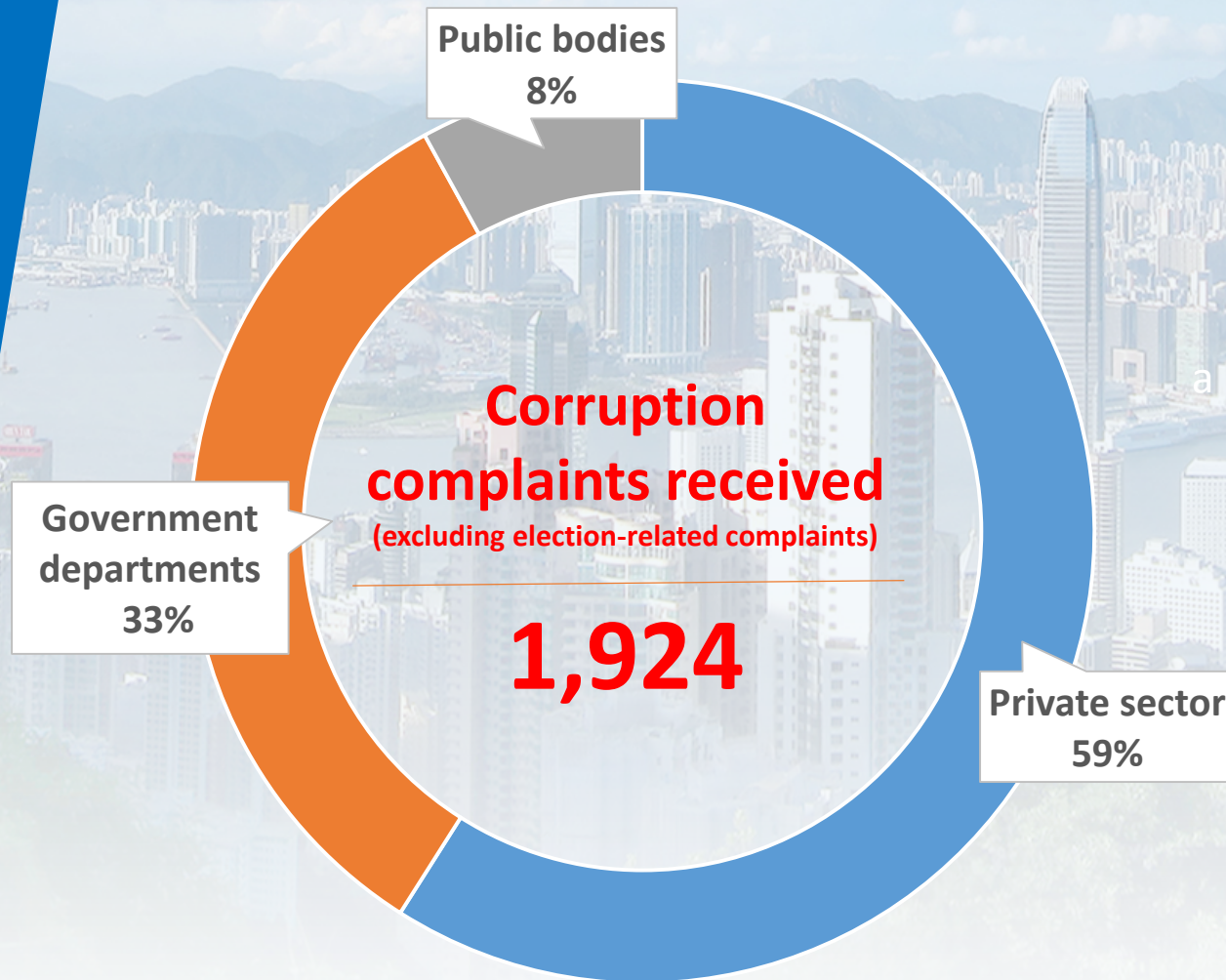


Face-to-face contacts

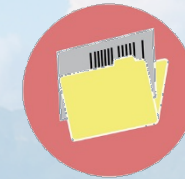
Multimedia publicity



## Corruption complaints in 2020



## Prosecutions in 2020

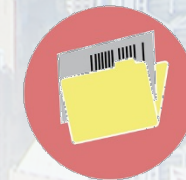


**90 cases**

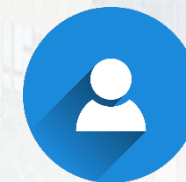


**153 persons**

## Conviction rate in 2020



**87%**



**86%**



# ICAC Annual Survey 2020

Mean score of tolerance of corruption:



Nearly **zero-tolerant** of corruption



**98.4%** had not **come across corruption** in the past 12 months



**93.2%** agreed that **ICAC** deserved their support



# International recognition

Survey	Assessment	Hong Kong's Ranking	No. of Places Surveyed
Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2020	Perception of public sector corruption	11 <sup>th</sup>	180
World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index 2020	Absence of corruption	8 <sup>th</sup>	128
TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix 2020	Businesses' bribery risks	20 <sup>th</sup>	194
IMD's World Competitiveness Yearbook 2020	Bribing and corruption	12 <sup>th</sup>	63



# International collaboration

## Tailor-made capacity building programmes

- Investigation
- Systemic prevention
- Community education

