

[HKETO, Brussels supports screening of Hong Kong films at Spain Moving Images Festival \(with photo\)](#)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels (HKETO, Brussels) supported the screening of Hong Kong films in the eighth Spain Moving Images Festival (SMIFest), taking place in Madrid, Spain from December 2 to 9 (Madrid time).

The SMIFest is paying tribute to the renowned Hong Kong director, Wong Kar-wai, featuring a retrospective of his iconic classics, presented by celebrated Spanish cinema critics and filmmakers. As part of the SMIFest programme, a masterclass will be organised at the TAI School of the Arts, exploring the influence of Hong Kong cinema on the global film landscape.

HKETO, Brussels hosted a media presentation and networking reception on December 2 (Madrid time). Speaking at the reception, Deputy Representative of HKETO, Brussels, Miss Grace Li, highlighted the unique position of Hong Kong as a leading force in the Asian film industry. She also remarked on the Government's commitment to nurturing talent, enhancing local productions, expanding markets and building audiences.

The SMIFest is the festival of Asian audiovisual experimentation, art-house cinema, and video art. It is dedicated to emerging Asian filmmakers and artists, alongside with the work of pioneering and classic creators. Four movies of Wong Kar-wai, "Happy Together", "Chungking Express", "In the Mood for Love", and "2046" will be screened at the eighth SMIFest.



[A wet November with three tropical](#)

cyclone episodes

November 2024 was characterised by the successive strikes of tropical cyclones Yinxing, Toraji and Man-yi at the end of the typhoon season of Hong Kong, necessitating the issuance of tropical cyclone warning signals for these three episodes, the first time in November since 1946. With a stronger than normal cyclonic flow in the lower atmosphere over the coast of southern China, the month was also cloudier and wetter than usual. The mean amount of cloud in the month was 71 per cent, around 13 per cent above the normal of 58 per cent. The monthly total rainfall recorded at the Hong Kong Observatory was 194.1 millimetres, about five times the November normal of 39.3 millimetres and the second highest on record for November, just after the 224.2 millimetres recorded in November 1914. The accumulated rainfall up to November this year was 2 309.7 millimetres, a deficit of around 4 per cent compared with the normal of 2 402.4 millimetres for the same period. Despite the rather gloomy and rainy conditions, the month was warmer than usual with the mean temperature of 23.0 degrees, 0.8 degrees above the normal and one of the ninth highest on record for November. Together with the higher than usual temperatures in September and October, the autumn of this year was much warmer than usual. The mean temperature of 26.5 degrees and mean minimum temperature of 24.5 degrees were both the highest on record for the same period. Moreover, the mean maximum temperature of 29.2 degrees was one of the highest on record for the same period.

Under the influence of a dry northeast monsoon, the weather of Hong Kong was fine and dry on the first day of the month. With plenty of sunshine, temperatures at the Observatory rose to a maximum of 30.6 degrees that afternoon, the highest of the month. With a band of clouds covering the coastal areas of Guangdong, local weather turned cloudier in the following few days with a few light rain patches on November 3 and 4. While there were still a few rain patches at first on November 5, the weather turned dry, with sunny periods during the day with the arrival of a replenishment of the northeast monsoon. Under the prevalence of the dry northeast monsoon, it was generally fine during the day on November 6 and 7 apart from a few light rain patches in the morning.

Meanwhile, an area of low pressure over the western North Pacific to the east of the Philippines intensified into a tropical depression on November 3 and was later named Yinxing. It moved northwestwards towards the northern part of Luzon and progressively intensified into a super typhoon in the following four days. After skirting past the northern part of Luzon, Yinxing tracked generally westwards across the northern part of the South China Sea on November 8 and 9. It then turned to move southwestwards over the seas southeast of Hainan Island and weakened gradually on November 10 and 11. Yinxing finally weakened into an area of low pressure over the coastal waters of central Vietnam on November 12.

Moreover, another area of low pressure over the seas east of the Philippines progressively intensified into a tropical storm and was named Toraji on November 9. It then moved west-northwestwards towards Luzon and

progressively intensified into a typhoon in the following two days. After moving across Luzon, Toraji entered the central part of the South China Sea on the afternoon of November 11. It then tracked generally northwestwards towards the coast of Guangdong on November 12 and 13, and weakened gradually. Toraji turned to track slowly westwards across the seas south of Hong Kong on the morning of November 14. It finally weakened into an area of low pressure over the seas south of Shangchuan Dao on the morning of November 15.

Furthermore, an area of low pressure over the western North Pacific progressively intensified into a tropical storm and was named Man-yi on November 9. It moved towards Luzon in the following seven days and intensified into a super typhoon on November 16. After moving across Luzon on November 17, Man-yi tracked generally west-northwestwards across the northern part of the South China Sea the next day and weakened. Man-yi gradually turned to track southwestwards on the afternoon of November 19 and finally weakened into an area of low pressure over the seas southeast of Hainan Island on the morning of November 20.

While the weather of Hong Kong was fine and dry during the day on November 8, with the approach of Yinxing, it turned cloudy with isolated showers at night. Under the combined effect of the northeast monsoon and Yinxing, the weather of Hong Kong was mainly cloudy with a few showers on November 9 and 10. Strong winds affected many places of the territory on the night of November 9 and the next morning. With Yinxing departing from Hong Kong, local winds moderated gradually during the day on November 10.

While there were a few isolated showers at first on November 11, the weather turned mainly fine on the afternoon and the next day. With the approach of Toraji, the weather of Hong Kong deteriorated again with a few squally showers on November 13. Local winds also strengthened gradually in the afternoon. As Toraji was expected to come rather close to Hong Kong with its associated gale force winds posing a threat to the territory, the Observatory issued the No. 8 Gale or Storm Signal on the night of November 13, the latest issuance of the No. 8 Gale or Storm Signal during a year since 1946. Strong to gale force northeasterly winds affected most parts of the territory at first on November 14. The outer rainbands of Toraji also brought squally showers to Hong Kong on that day. With the weakening of Toraji, local winds moderated gradually later on November 14. Under the influence of the remnants of Toraji, the weather remained cloudy with occasional rain on November 15. More than 30 millimetres of rainfall were generally recorded over the territory, and rainfall even exceeded 70 millimetres over parts of Sha Tin and Tai Po Districts on November 14 and 15.

It was mainly cloudy with a few showers on November 16 and 17, with heavier showers in some areas on the night of November 16. Around 10 millimetres of rainfall were recorded over many places of the territory and rainfall even exceeded 30 millimetres over the eastern part of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon East. A fresh to strong northeast monsoon affected Hong Kong on November 18 and there were sunny intervals. There were also a few light rain patches with the approach of Man-yi. Under the combined effects of a spring tide, northeast monsoon and Man-yi, water levels in Hong Kong were particularly high on the night of November 18. The water levels of Quarry

Bay, Tai O and Tai Po Kau reached 3.36, 3.36 and 3.52 metres above the Chart Datum respectively and they were all the highest on record for November. Minor flooding occurred in some low-lying areas including the banks of Shing Mun River, Lei Yue Mun, Tai O and Sha Tau Kok.

Under the influence of the northeast monsoon and a broad band of rain-bearing clouds, the weather was gloomy and rainy on November 19 and 20. The rain was heavier at first on November 20, and more than 50 millimetres of rainfall were recorded over most parts of the territory. There were still a few rain patches at first on November 21. With the band of clouds covering the coast of southern China thinning out gradually, there were sunny intervals that afternoon and on November 22. Affected by a fresh to strong easterly airstream, the weather was mainly cloudy with a few rain patches from November 23 to 25. A cold front moved across the coastal areas of Guangdong in the small hours on November 26. Locally, while there were a few showers at first, under the influence of the associated dry northeast monsoon, the weather turned fine and dry during the day and remained so till the end of the month. It was cool in the morning and at night on the last three days of the month, with temperatures at the Observatory dropping to a minimum of 16.5 degrees on the morning of November 30, the lowest of the month. Temperatures were appreciably lower in the New Territories.

Five tropical cyclones occurred over the South China Sea and the western North Pacific in November 2024.

Details of issuance and cancellation of various warnings/signals in the month are summarised in Table 1. Monthly meteorological figures and departures from normal for November are tabulated in Table 2.

[Land Registry releases statistics for November](#)

The Land Registry today (December 3) released its statistics for November 2024.

Land registration

* The number of sale and purchase agreements for all building units received for registration in November was 7 689 (+31.3 per cent compared with October 2024 and +117.7 per cent compared with November 2023)

* The 12-month moving average for November was 5 519 (6.7 per cent above the 12-month moving average for October 2024 and 14.5 per cent above that for November 2023)

* The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements of building

units in November was \$64.1 billion (+53.9 per cent compared with October 2024 and +161.3 per cent compared with November 2023)

* Among the sale and purchase agreements, 6 298 were for residential units (+34.1 per cent compared with October 2024 and +146.6 per cent compared with November 2023)

* The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in respect of residential units was \$57.3 billion (+53.6 per cent compared with October 2024 and +191.1 per cent compared with November 2023)

Statistics on sales of residential units do not include sale and purchase agreements relating to sales of units under the Home Ownership Scheme, the Private Sector Participation Scheme, the Tenants Purchase Scheme, etc, unless the premium of the unit concerned has been paid after the sale restriction period.

Figures on sale and purchase agreements received for the past 12 months, the year-on-year rate of change and breakdown figures on residential sales have also been released.

As deeds may not be lodged with the Land Registry until up to 30 days after the transaction, these statistics generally relate to land transactions in the previous month.

Land search

* The number of searches of land registers made by the public in November was 382 391 (-3.1 per cent compared with October 2024 but +6.5 per cent compared with November 2023)

The statistics cover searches made at the counter, through the self-service terminals and via the Integrated Registration Information System Online Services.

[Digital Policy Office launches data governance thematic web page](#)

The Digital Policy Office (DPO) launched a thematic web page on data governance today (December 3) covering the Principles of Data Governance and the relevant strategy, guidelines, and technical standards, etc concerning data governance to introduce the Government's data governance policies in a one-stop manner.

In December last year, the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau promulgated the Policy Statement on Facilitating Data Flow and Safeguarding

Data Security in Hong Kong, which proposed enhancing data governance as one of its action items. Following the establishment of the DPO in July 2024, the thematic data governance web page aims to integrate existing data governance strategies focusing on open data and data sharing, and elaborate in detail the guiding principles and work objectives set by the Government for data governance, thereby enhancing the quality and reliability of data, promoting data flow and sharing, and strengthening data protection. These efforts support government departments and society in leveraging data better for development.

There are three guiding principles of data governance:

1. The opening up, sharing and application of data shall be conducted in compliance with relevant laws and regulations, and ensure the protection of personal data privacy. Personal data sharing must be conducted with appropriate authorisation;
2. Data security forms the foundation of open data and data sharing. The opening up, sharing and application of data shall take into account data security, which includes ensuring security and protection of data content, as well as safeguards on the sharing, flow and usage of data; and
3. Corresponding data governance principles should be adopted for different types of data to balance the opening up, usage and protection of data.

The Principles of Data Governance as attached have been uploaded to the data governance thematic web page for reference by industries and the general public

(www.digitalpolicy.gov.hk/en/our_work/data_governance/policies_standards/). The thematic web page also provides consolidated information on data policy, laws and guidelines, supporting facilities, as well as protection of data security, etc.

[Appeal for information on missing man in Wong Tai Sin \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (December 3) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Wong Tai Sin.

Hussain Fida, aged 72, went missing after he left his residence in Wang Tau Hom Estate yesterday (December 2) morning. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.65 metres tall, 80 kilograms in weight and of medium build. He has a long face with dark complexion and is bald. He was last seen wearing a brown top, brown trousers, black shoes, a black scarf on his head

and carrying a brown walking stick.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Persons Unit of Kowloon East on 3661 0321 or email to rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.

