

# Civil Engineering and Development Department renews technical exchange and co-operation agreement with Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, Chengdu (with photos)

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) and the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Ministry of Water Conservancy, Chengdu, renewed the five-year agreement on technical exchange and co-operation to continue to promote the development of geohazard risk management of both sides.

The agreement was signed by the Director of Civil Engineering and Development, Mr Michael Fong, and the Deputy Director General of the IMHE, Dr Su Lijun. Under the agreement, both sides will jointly develop innovative technologies for geohazard risk management; enhance technical exchanges and sharing of research achievements; create a new platform for research on georisk prevention and mitigation, and promote mutual visits and training of personnel of both sides.

Mr Fong said that the renewal of the agreement will bring more collaboration opportunities for both sides to develop innovative technologies to tackle challenges in geotechnical works and enhance geohazard risk management. Both sides will continue to exchange experiences and professional knowledge on landslide risk management, mitigation of debris flows and more. Training on landslide risk assessment and mitigation measures will also be provided to personnel of both sides.

The CEDD and the IMHE signed the first five-year co-operation agreement in 2012 and renewed it in 2017. Fruitful results have been achieved in coping with landslide risks, especially on the development of numerical modelling of debris flows and laboratory facilities.

Major research areas of the IMHE cover mountain hazards and environment as well as sustainable development of mountainous areas. The IMHE has also joined emergency operations for large-scale geohazard incidents on the Mainland.

