

## **Radio Television Hong Kong & The Land Registry**

### **Survey on Public Awareness of Land Registration System in Hong Kong March 2009**

#### **Abstract**

##### Objective of survey

This study aimed at understanding the public awareness of the land registration system in Hong Kong with particular reference to deeds registration, title registration and the Land Titles Ordinance.

##### Methodology

This study used street interview with structured questionnaire for collection of data in six districts of Hong Kong.

##### Survey findings

The data collected from 600 respondents aged 30 or above show that majority of the respondents (90.2%) agreed that it was necessary to conduct land search to check the owner of the property before a property transaction. Although the majority of people thought that it was of necessity to check the property owner before a property transaction, 56.7% of the respondents did not know that the registered property owner might not be the legal property owner.

Regarding the awareness of the land registration system in Hong Kong, half of the respondents were not aware of deeds registration (50.3%), title registration (47.3%) or the Land Titles Ordinance (61.5%). The respondents' occupation and experience of being a property owner are crucial determinants of their awareness of the land

registration systems and the Land Titles Ordinance.

#### Observations and Recommendations

The low level of public awareness brings out the need of public education and publicity programmes to raise people's awareness of the land registration system in Hong Kong. The government may consider producing TV API to arouse public awareness of the new system. Because of the intricacy of the system, feature TV programmes would be appropriate means to explicate the system to the general public.