

**Project Final Report for
Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme (“PASS”)**

1. Project Details

- 1.1 Project Reference No.** : PS172014
- 1.2 Project Title** : Belt and Road Conference 2018 – “Smart Lawyers and A.I. Building a Smart Belt and Road”
- 1.3 Grantee** : The Law Society of Hong Kong (LSHK)
- 1.4 Collaborating Organisation(s)** : Nil
- 1.5 Implementation Agent(s)** : Joyous Communications
- 1.6 Sponsoring Organisation(s)** : Nil
- 1.7 Consultant(s)** : Nil
- 1.8 Project Co-ordinator** : (Name) Ms Heidi CHU (Post title) Secretary General
- 1.9 Deputy Project Co-ordinator** :

	(Name)	(Post title)
	Ms Rachel SO	Director, Communications and
	(up to 26/08/2018)	External Affairs
- 1.10 Project Period (duration)** : from 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018 (12 months)
- 1.11 Major Beneficiary Sector(s)** : Legal services
- 1.12 Approved PASS Grant (HK\$)** : 1,010,000

2. Project Implementation

2.1 Project Summary

(Please give a summary of the project including objectives, deliverables and target professional service sectors within 100 words.)

In view of the increasing convergence between information technology, legal profession and cross-border transactions under the Belt and Road Initiative, The Law Society of Hong Kong (LSHK) hosted the second Belt and Road Conference which provided a platform for professionals from the respective sectors around the world to take part in in-depth discussions on issues arising from the Initiative. A survey on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the legal sector was conducted by distributing questionnaires at the conference. Our aim was to find out how legal and technology industries handle convergence and turn challenges into opportunities. A half-day visit to the Greater Bay Area (GBA) was also organised to enhance legal professionals' understanding on the demand for legal services in GBA and promote Hong Kong's legal services to GBA market.

2.2 Project Deliverables

(Please compare the actual results achieved with the agreed targets for each item.)

Agreed Targets		Actual Results Achieved (Please submit copies of all relevant supporting materials, e.g. proceedings, attendance records.)	
Date / Deliverables (with quantity)	Beneficiaries (estimated no. of local / non-local participants)	Date / Deliverables (with actual quantity)	Beneficiaries (actual no. of local / non-local participants)
Sept 2018 One 1-day conference in Hong Kong	600-700 local and non-local legal and information and communications technology (ICT) professionals	<u>One 1-day conference in Hong Kong</u> 28/09/2018	596 local and non-local legal and ICT professionals (including 469 local professionals) 99% of target: 600
Sept 2018 One half-day visit to GBA (day after the conference)	100 (including 60 local and 40 non-local) legal professionals	<u>One half-day visit to a GBA city (Zhuhai)</u> 03/12/2018	28 local legal professionals 47% of target: 60
Sept to Dec 2018 Survey on use of AI in legal markets	Questionnaire survey to all conference participants and e-questionnaire survey to Internet browsers	Survey on use of AI in legal markets (70 completed questionnaires received) Sep to Dec 2018	Survey report uploaded onto LSHK's website Browsers on Internet

2.3 Project Promotion and Dissemination

(Please compare the actual means used / outcomes with the agreed activities for each item.)

<p style="text-align: center;">Agreed Activities</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Actual Means Used / Outcomes <i>(Please submit copies of all relevant supporting materials, e.g. posters, leaflets, invitation letters, publications, website printouts, dissemination e-mails, newsletters, feedback surveys and analysis.)</i></p>
<p>(a) For Project Promotion:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preliminary invitation to affiliated lawyer associations in the Mainland and foreign jurisdictions - Launch of conference website with event information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sent event pamphlets to affiliated lawyer associations and uploaded onto LSHK's website - Uploaded event information onto the conference website (http://www.hklawsoc-beltandroad.com) from Jun 2018 and hyperlink to LSHK's website
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting promotion campaign and conference registration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uploaded event poster onto LSHK's website - Placed advertisement in the August 2018 issue of LSHK's magazine "Hong Kong Lawyer" (both online and offline versions) - Updated event information and speaker list on conference website from Jun 2018 - Registration began in Jul 2018 - Sent an email blast to all LSHK general members on 8 Jul 2018 - Issued weekly e-circular (same version) to all LSHK general members every Mondays from 9 Jul to 10 Sep 2018
<p>(b) For Dissemination of Project Deliverables:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updating the LSHK's website - Publishing articles on event summaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uploaded summaries of conference speakers' presentations onto conference website - Shared presentation materials with participants via email on a request basis - Published a post-event article in the November issue of Hong Kong Lawyer (both online and offline versions) (http://www.hk-lawyer.org/sites/default/files/e-magazines/HKL-NOV-2018/viewer/desktop/index.html?doc=5C0CB58BB34C34558F1275BA83089277)

3. Achievements and Grantee's Evaluation of the Project

3.1 Number of participants and eligible beneficiaries

Project Deliverables	Eligible Number of Beneficiaries (if known)
(i) One 1-day conference in Hong Kong	469 local legal and ICT professionals
(ii) One half-day visit to GBA	28 local legal professionals
(iii) Survey on use of A.I in legal markets	Browsers on Internet

3.2 Feedback from participants / users / professional services sectors

Speakers and participants remarked that as a result of preparing for and attending the conference, they were able to examine the ethical and legal issues concerning advanced technologies, such as fintech, smart contracts and proptech. The conference also provided a platform for legal professionals from jurisdictions along the B&R to explore more business opportunities and establish connections with external counterparts.

3.3 Dissemination of project deliverables to relevant professionals

A post-event article was published in the November 2018 issue of LSHK's magazine "Hong Kong Lawyer" (both online and offline versions). Every LSHK member received a hard copy version while the online version is open to the public.

3.4 PASS and other objectives reached *(May choose more than one)*

- Increasing the exchanges and co-operation of Hong Kong's professional services with their counterparts in external markets
- Promoting relevant publicity activities
- Enhancing the standards and external competitiveness of Hong Kong's professional services
- Others

Please elaborate on how the objective(s) was/were met:

By engaging legal and ICT professionals, regulators, and business leaders along B&R in the conference and the related activities, the project has increased the exchanges and co-operation of Hong Kong's professionals and their counterparts in external markets and other relevant parties. The project has also promoted Hong Kong's legal services and enhanced the standards and external competitiveness of Hong Kong's legal profession and services among difference jurisdictions.

3.5 Overall achievements of the project

The conference has provided an opportunity for legal and ICT professionals around the world to take part in in-depth discussions on issues arising from the B&R Initiative especially on the use of technology in legal sector and the opportunities and risks arouse.

In addition, the half-day visit to a GBA city allowed local legal professionals to understand more about the demand for legal services in GBA and how to seize the opportunities arising from the development. The visit also provided opportunities to promote Hong Kong's legal services.

In general, the project provided information exchange platforms and business opportunities for the participants especially for the local legal practitioners, and eventually enhanced the standards and external competitiveness of Hong Kong's legal profession and services in the international legal arena.

The Project Final Report is prepared by the Grantee.