THE MULTI-FUNCTIONALITY OF URBAN FARMING IN PROMOTING HONG KONG URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

**URBAN FARMING**
The cultivation activities of crops within or around the fringes of a urban area
E.g. backyards, rooftops, commercial companies, institutional and community gardens

**HONG KONG**
Practicing agriculture in Hong Kong urban area as promoting sustainability and green lifestyle become a priority of many urban citizens.
There are over 43 urban farms in Hong Kong as of 2019 managed by the leading local urban farming company, Rooftop Republic.

**“URBAN HEAT ISLAND” EFFECT**
The average temperature in urban area is higher than that of rural area by 1.5 degrees

**IMPROVE URBAN AIR QUALITY**
Urban farming on rooftop can absorb dust particles

**BETTER UTILISING VACANT URBAN LAND**
- 22x VICTORIA PARK
  Hong Kong has up to 600 hectares of potential vacant urban land

**ECOLOGICAL**

**IMPROVING URBAN BIODIVERSITY**
- Urban agriculture can create habitats for pollinators and birds
- The food source and habitat of pollinators and birds can increase biodiversity

**NEW BUSINESS MODELS**
**CORPORATION PARTNERSHIP**
- Promote corporate responsibility - Corporate social responsibility - Continual development

**FARM INCOME DIVERSIFICATION**
NEW SOURCES OF INCOME
- Sustainable income source
- Potential for business expansion and employment

**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
FOR PROFIT COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY
- Innovative and alternative income generation

**LIMITATION**
- Setting up a urban farm inside the building requires the consent and approval of property owners, some conservative owners may feel reluctant to do so regarding different aspects of concerns
- Setting up urban farms requires proper site suitability, well drained system, enough affordability of the rooftop, and enough logistic support
- Many urban farms restrict public access due to safety and security concerns

**REFERENCES**