

Summary of MSW Charging in Selected Jurisdictions

Charging Approach	Jurisdiction and Scope	Charging Details
Quantity-based - Designated garbage bags	Taipei City (Domestic and small commercial)	<p>The use of designated bags (3 to 120 litres) to dispose of MSW is compulsory. The cost is about NTD 0.45 (HKD 0.12) per litre.</p> <p>The authority requires citizens to hand over the designated bags to the municipal waste collection fleet at designated hours and venues. Only MSW contained in designated bags will be accepted.</p> <p>The authority allows the use of non-designated bags within a multi-storey building before it is repackaged in a bigger designated bag by cleaners. This is to ease enforcement against non-compliance within multi-storey buildings.</p>
	Seoul (Domestic and small commercial)	<p>The use of designated bags (2 to 100 litres) to dispose of MSW is compulsory, costing about KRW 16.50 (HKD 0.11) per litre.</p> <p>Compliance checks rely on mutual surveillance by households. Successful reports will be awarded a maximum sum of 80% of the total fine. In suburban areas, instead of using designated bags, the waste charge is levied on the whole community and shared by each household. This is a compromise against illegal dumping.</p>
	Western peripheral Cities of Metropolitan Tokyo (Domestic)	<p>19 out of the 26 peripheral Cities of Metropolitan Tokyo (e.g. Hachioji 八王子市) required households to purchase designated bags, costing about JPY 1.00-1.80 (HKD 0.10-0.18) per litre depending on the district.</p>
Quantity-based - Gate fee	Singapore (C&I)	<p>In Singapore, C&I waste delivered to public disposal facilities is charged with gate fees ranging from SGD 77-81 (HKD 461-485) per tonne, depending on the location of the facilities.</p>

Charging Approach	Jurisdiction and Scope	Charging Details
Proxy	Majority of municipalities in Taiwan (Domestic and small commercial)	Most municipalities of Taiwan (except Taipei City, New Taipei City and Shihkang 石岡) adopt water consumption as a proxy to determine the waste charge (subject to regional variance). The charge ranges from NTD 1.85-4.40 (HKD 0.47 -1.13) per m ³ of water consumed.
Fixed Charge	Singapore (Domestic)	Households are subject to monthly fixed charges with regional variance (SGD 4.31-7.35 / HKD 26-44). The charges are collected by public waste collectors engaged by the government for the nine districts in Singapore.
	Beijing (Domestic)	A fixed charge of RMB 3.00 (HKD 3.67) per household per month. For non-locals, RMB 2.00 (HKD 2.44) per head per month.
	Guangzhou (Domestic)	A fixed charge of RMB 5.00 (HKD 6.11) per household per month. For non-locals, RMB 1.00 (HKD 1.22) per head per month.

Note:

- Exchange rates as at 29 November 2011.
- Notwithstanding the above charging cases, some major international cities have not implemented MSW charging in respect of domestic waste –
 - Central special Wards of Metropolitan Tokyo: In the 23 special Wards (e.g. Shinjuku 新宿區) where multi-storey buildings predominate, there is no domestic waste charging system. Households must separate their waste into combustible waste and non-combustible waste before putting it into containers with lids, transparent bags or designated bags. Waste will not be collected by the authority if not properly separated.
 - New York City: There is no direct charge for waste collection and disposal for domestic premises in New York City. The “Pay-As-You-Throw” scheme was considered in the early 2000s but has not been implemented due to non-compliance and enforcement concerns among the preponderance of multi-unit buildings in New York City.
 - London: There is no specific waste charge and the domestic waste services are financed by the council tax.
 - Shanghai: There is no official charge for domestic waste collection and disposal. The Shanghai government is exploring the issue.

City Characteristics of Hong Kong: Some Quick Facts

Highly Populated

- *Around 7 million people, 2.3 million households in 1 104 square kilometres (only 25% of land is developed).*
- *Population density ranges from 838 people per square kilometre (Islands District) to 52 742 people per square kilometre (Kwun Tong District).*

Predominated by High-Rise Buildings

- *Around 67 000 residential buildings in total, including:*
 - *some 34 000 residential blocks (including 13 000 single block buildings, SBBs).*
 - *some 33 000 blocks of village housing.*
- *88% of households live in buildings over 10-storeys.*
- *95% of households live in buildings over 3-storeys.*

Good but Not Comprehensive Coverage of Property Management

- *6% of households live in buildings without PMO, mainly in SBBs and village housing:*
 - *among the SBBs, 14% of households are without a PMO, mainly in low-rise SBBs.*
 - *among village houses, 89% of households are without a PMO.*
- *Around 320 000 C&I establishments are mainly located in:*
 - *Some 4 000 pure C&I buildings.*
 - *Some 11 000 composite buildings.*

Generic MSW Charging Approaches in Different Jurisdictions

- Taiwan:** All municipalities in Taiwan implemented a Proxy system based on the “water fee” in 1991 (this switched to “water consumption” in 1994). Different municipalities have their own rates calculated based on waste management costs. Starting from 2000, some municipalities including Taipei City switched to per-bag waste charging. At the end of 2010, the per-bag waste charging was extended to New Taipei City. Still, per-bag waste charging is applied to only 28.2% of Taiwan’s population and a proxy system continues to be implemented in such places as Kaohsiung.
- South Korea:** In South Korea, the central government has a national waste management plan and provides relevant technical and financial support to local governments. Local municipalities have a responsibility to develop and operate their own waste management systems. In 1995, a national MSW charge through a designated garbage bag requirement was implemented in South Korea to replace the conventional fixed charge system. Each municipality sets their own bag rates and designs a system that best fit their unique situation. In rural areas, where houses are scattered and illegal dumping is common, residents are not required to use designated bags. Instead, community waste collection bins are installed and the waste charge is levied on the whole community and shared by each household.
- United States:** In the United States, the federal Environmental Protection Agency has for decades advocated PAYT but among the major cities, some 70% are still non-PAYT communities. Those that are PAYT communities tend to be smaller cities with an average population of 385 000. A hybrid system is the most common form of PAYT implemented in the United States, in which residents pay a basic fixed charge (which may or may not cover basic waste collection service) plus a PAYT component (e.g. bin size).

Response Form

Part I (Note)

This is a ☐ corporate response (representing the views of a group or an organization),
☐ private response (representing the views of an individual),
 by _____

(name of person or organization)

at _____

and _____

(telephone)

(email)

Note: The Government may wish, either in discussion with others or in any subsequent report, whether privately or publicly, to be able to refer to and attribute views submitted in this response. Any request to treat all or part of a response in confidence will be respected, but if no such request is made, it will be assumed that the response is not intended to be confidential.

Part II

Specific Questions for Consultation

Q1: Does Hong Kong need to introduce MSW charging?

- ☐ Hong Kong NEEDS to introduce MSW charging.
☐ Hong Kong DOES NOT NEED to introduce MSW charging.
☐ Other views (Please elaborate below).

Views: _____

Q2: Should Hong Kong go for a waste charging system for all sectors or a partial charging system?

- ☐ Hong Kong should go for A WASTE CHARGING SYSTEM ON ALL SECTORS.
☐ Hong Kong should go for A PARTIAL CHARGING SYSTEM.
☐ Other views (Please elaborate below).

Views: _____

Q3: Should Hong Kong go for a Quantity-based system, a Proxy system or a Fixed Charge system?

- ☐ Hong Kong should go for A QUANTITY-BASED SYSTEM.
☐ Hong Kong should go for A PROXY SYSTEM.
☐ Hong Kong should go for A FIXED-CHARGE SYSTEM.
☐ Other views (Please elaborate below).

Views: _____

Q4: Are you prepared to change your behaviour in waste disposal if an MSW charging system is introduced?

<i>Strongly unprepared</i>	<i>Unprepared</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Prepared</i>	<i>Strongly Prepared</i>

Views: _____

Q5: Do you agree that the Government should introduce legislation to mandate the separation of waste at source and accordingly ban unauthorized disposal of MSW?

<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>

Views: _____



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「進一步減廢方案：廢物收費是否可行？」
公眾諮詢回應表格

Public Consultation on
"Strengthening Waste Reduction : Is Waste Charging an Option?"
Response Form

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