

**Progress of Key Initiatives in the
“Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)”**

Key Initiatives	Latest Progress
Source Separation of Domestic Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the implementation of the Source Separation of Domestic Waste Programme and other associated waste reduction measures since 2005, the recovery rate of domestic waste in Hong Kong has increased from 14% in 2004 to 31% in 2008. • As at end July 2009, 1,189 housing estates have signed up for the programme (representing 1.5 million households and some 4.5 million people). The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) has also approved \$4.4 million for 105 projects on source separation of domestic waste. • Amendment of the Building (Refuse Storage and Material Recovery Chambers and Refuse Chutes) Regulations was made in the 2007-08 legislative session. Commencing from 1 December 2008, all new domestic buildings and the domestic part of new composite buildings are required to provide a refuse storage and materials recovery room on every building floor to facilitate residents to participate in waste recovery.
Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRS's)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance (Cap.603) was enacted by LegCo in July 2008. The Ordinance provides a legal framework for implementing PRS's, and the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags is the first scheme under the Ordinance. • As the first PRS under the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance, the environmental levy scheme for plastic shopping bags commenced operation on 7 July 2009. We are monitoring the implementation with a view to conducting a comprehensive review of its effectiveness in one year after its commencement.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A rechargeable battery recycling programme funded by 42 major rechargeable battery and electronic equipment producers and importers was launched in April 2005. 37 companies joined the programme for the period April 2009 – March 2010. About 188 tonnes (920 000 pieces) of rechargeable batteries have been collected and shipped to an overseas treatment facility for recycling so far. • A computer recycling programme funded by 20 major manufacturers and suppliers was launched in January 2008. 16 public collection points have been set up. Over 660 housing estates and commercial and industrial buildings have signed up to join the programme. • A fluorescent lamp recycling programme funded by major suppliers was launched in March 2008. 14 companies joined the programme for the period April 2009 – March 2010. 59 public collection points have been set up. Over 630 housing estates have signed up to join the programme. • A glass container recycling programme funded by 11 major hotels was launched in November 2008, and the collected used containers will be sent to a local recycler to produce paving blocks. • We shall consult the trade and the public before end 2009 on introducing a mandatory PRS through legislation to ensure proper recovery and recycling of WEEE.
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A baseline study to collect key information on waste generation and waste management practices of different commercial and industrial establishments started in December 2008. The information collected would provide useful reference for the development of possible charging options for MSW.
Short Term Tenancy (STT) Sites for the Recycling Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently 35 STT sites for the recycling trade, with a total area of 7.0 ha. Ten additional sites with a total area of 2.5 ha have been identified; 4 of which with a total area of 0.6 ha had just been tendered.

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EcoPark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All six lots in Phase I have been awarded for recycling of waste wood, used cooking oil, computers equipment, waste plastics, waste metals and wet batteries. The production of bio-diesel from used cooking oil is expected to commence in September 2009. Two tenants (computer equipment and waste metals) have commenced plant construction. The tenants for plastics and wood recycling are in good progress with their building plan submissions. Phase II construction is expected to be completed in December 2009. • The Government will continue to provide various support and advisory services to the tenants for setting up their plants. These include liaison with government departments, assistance in license applications, sourcing of waste materials and promotion of collaboration among tenants. • For recyclable materials with relatively inadequate market outlets following the recent economic downturn, including waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) as well as post-consumer plastic waste, the Government is planning to set up two short-term processing centres in EcoPark Phase II, and engage two socially/environmentally oriented non-governmental organisations to manage and operate the centres under Environment and Conservation Fund funding support. The centres will commence operations from end 2009 onwards for a period of three years.
Green Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consultancy study was commissioned in July 2008 to update the existing “green” specifications and develop “green” specifications for more items commonly used within the Government. The study has brought the total number of the products on the Government procurement list with environmental specifications to more than 60. We are now working, in collaboration with GLD, to promulgate the developed green specifications. • The Hong Kong Green Purchasing Charter funded by the Public Education Programme of the “Policy Framework” was launched in October 2007. Three experience-sharing seminars were held in December 2007, April 2008 and June

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	<p>2008 respectively under the Charter. A Green Purchasing Best Practices Guidebook was published and distributed to the private sector. This Guidebook provides guidance on how to develop framework for green purchasing. Subsequently, three green purchasing workshops for private companies and corporations were arranged in April, May and June 2009 to promulgate the Guidebook and green procurement. The project was completed in June 2009 and was well received.</p>
Funding for Recycling Technology Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an on-going initiative.
Landfill Disposal Bans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landfill disposal bans will tie in with PRS's and development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF).
IWMF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The result of the site search exercise concludes that the sites at Shek Kwu Chau and Tsang Tsui Ash Lagoons are suitable for consideration as potential sites for developing the first phase of the IWMF. The detailed engineering and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for both sites are in progress. The waste treatment technology review, which is one of the elements in the study, is expected to be completed in September/October 2009. • We are continuing with the public engagement work and the close liaison with the relevant District Councils, local community and other stakeholders to deliberate matters of concern. Focus group meetings with professional institutions, green groups, local concern groups and academia had been were held in mid 2009. We are also organizing a study visit for the District Councillors of Tuen Mun and the Islands Districts to visit some advanced waste and sludge incineration facilities in Japan from 14 to 17 September 2009. • Subject to the study findings, we aim to make a final decision on the choice of site and to commence construction as soon as possible, with a view to commissioning the IWMF in mid-2010's.

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Landfill Extensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="472 282 1447 748">• The EIA reports for the North East New Territories (NENT) and South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill Extension Projects have been approved under EIA Ordinance, following their exhibition for public inspection and consideration by Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE). The Environmental Permits for the two Extension Projects have also been issued by the EIA Authority. Land rezoning and land resumption processes for NENT Landfill Extension are in progress. Land rezoning for SENT Landfill Extension is scheduled to commence in November 2009. <li data-bbox="472 799 1447 1137">• The EIA Report for the West New Territories Landfill Extension Project was submitted to the EIAO Office in June 2009, and approval for public inspection was obtained in August 2009. It is planned that the EIA report will be issued for public inspection by end August and consideration by ACE EIA Subcommittee in October 2009. A continuous public involvement approach will be adopted throughout the EIA process.
Public Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="472 1189 1447 1653">• Under the Promotion Programme on Source Separation of Waste, metal and plastic recycling bins are provided to residential, commercial and industrial buildings. As of mid-August 2009, 531 applications requesting 1,091 sets of plastic bins and 1,042 sets of metal bins were received. In collaboration with District Councils, the Home Affairs Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, 200 sets of plastic bins have been provided for replacing damaged old bins at the recyclables collection points (RCPs) in the public area, and 308 sets have also been provided for setting up new RCPs. <li data-bbox="472 1704 1447 2069">• Under the Waste Separation and Recycling Scheme in Schools, all primary and secondary schools have been invited to apply for new plastic recycling bins. As of mid-August 2009, 375 applications requesting 558 sets of plastic bins were received. Besides, a six-month feasibility study on the floor mode of waste separation in schools was completed in mid-July 2009. Ten participating schools had placed one set of metal recycling bins on each floor for collecting recyclables for six months.

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	<p>All of them provided positive feedback that they would continue to support the floor mode for greater educational impact and higher recycling rate. Based on the results of this feasibility study, the Environmental Campaign Committee would consider producing new recycling bins specifically designed for implementing the floor mode of waste separation in schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public is encouraged to practise waste reduction and recycling through the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence. Under this scheme, the Wastewi\$e Label of the Class of Good/Class of Excellence will be presented to those companies/organizations that have attained specific goals, and the newly introduced Carbon“Less” Certificates will also recognize the waste reduction efforts of buildings or organizations which have achieved a verified absolute amount of carbon reduction. • 17 projects with a total budget of \$6.76 million have been approved under the Public Education Programme of the "Policy Framework". These projects cover a wide range of waste management initiatives, including reduction and recovery of plastic bags, reduction and recovery of e-waste, green practices at festive seasons, green procurement, etc.

Environmental Protection Department
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