Sustainable Development of Recycling Industry – New Challenges, New Measures, New Opportunities

> Waste Reduction & Recycling Division Environmental Protection Department H.M. Wong 28 November 2014

### **HK's Sustainable Development Strategy**

In the "First Sustainable Development Strategy for Hong Kong", three main focused areas for HK's sustainability have been identified :

- 1. Solid Waste Management;
- Renewable Energy; and
  Urban Living Space.

A First Sustainable Development Strategy for Hong Kong



# Waste Management Challenge

#### \* Target:

- To reduce the current per capita MSW disposal rate of 1.27 kg per day to
  0.8kg per day by 2022
- \* To reduce MSW by 40% by 2022





Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022

- Drive <u>behavioural change</u> through policies and incentives
- \* <u>Mobilize the community</u> through targeted campaigns
- \* Invest in Infrastructure e.g. OWTFs

### Waste Management Strategy and Recycling



### The Waste to Resources (W to R) Policy

- To help meet the target to reduce MSW by 40% by 2022; and
- To help create an industry in which waste is viewed as a resource to be recovered and reused as far as possible.

The private sector should play a key role in order to make it Sustainable in the long term.

### **Challenges facing the Recycling Industry**

- Land scarcity and high land premium
- Market Price Fluctuation
- Low-end recycling operation
- Lack of market demand for recycled product
- High labour cost, including employees' compensation insurance
- \* Contamination of recyclables by refuse, food residue
- \* Low recyclable values with high transportation Cost

### Sustainability of the Recycling Industry

- \* Government Policy Support
- Funding Support, public & private
- Land and Infrastructure
- Reliable Sources of Recyclables
- \* Stable Markets
- \* Knowledge and Skills of work force
- \* Social and Environmental Responsibilities

Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry

- Set up in Aug 2013 under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for Administration
- To promote the sustainable development of the local recycling industry so as to increase waste reduction and recovery and reduce the waste disposal burden

#### 推動回收業可持續發展 持份者參與會議

Engagement Session o Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry

15,11.2013



### Policies Support – Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRSs)

#### **Voluntary PRSs**

- \* Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme
- \* Computer Recycling Programme
- \* Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Programme
- \* Glass Container Recycling Programme

#### **Mandatory PRSs**

- \* Mandatory PRS on WEEE
- \* Mandatory PRS on Glass Beverage Bottles



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### Policies Support – Municipal Solid Waste Charging

To create economic incentives to reduce waste as well as enhanced resources recovery



### **Funding Support - Recycling Fund**

CE announced in 2014 Policy Address that \$1 billion had been earmarked for setting up a Recycling Fund

- Raise the operation standards and to promote the sustainable development of the recycling trade
- Promote markets for recycling products
- Enhance skills, capability and capacity thus facilitating sustainable development of the trade
  - Grants for individual recyclers
  - Grants for NPOs and professional/trade associations.



## **Other Funding Support**

#### Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF)

 Encourage and support investments in research and development of new recycling technologies, as well as commercialization of the products of these research and development projects.

#### **Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF)**

- \* Subsidize community campaigns to promote recycling such as the provision of separation bins
- \* Support waste recovery and recycling projects in school, housing estates and the community

### Land /Infrastructure Support

#### Long-term Land - EcoPark

- provide long-term land at affordable cost to the recycling industry
- Occupying a total area of 20 hectares with a rental area of 14 hectares
- \* Developed in 2 phases







## EcoPark



- 13 lots occupying 9.39 hectares have been leased to recycling industry
- Processed more than 58,000
  tonnes of recyclables in 2013 and
  ~ 57,000 tonnes of recyclables in
  the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2014

### Land / Infrastructure Support

#### Short-term Tenancy (STT) Sites

- Provide exclusively to the recycling industry for their operation of recycling yards where recyclables are sorted, baled and processed at the STT sites.
- \* STT sites occupying a total area of 4.7 hectares.
- \* We are reviewing the provision of related tender arrangements for a longer tenure of up to 5-7 years



### Land/ Infrastructure Support

#### Public Cargo Working Areas (PCWAs)

- Most paper recyclers use PCWA berth places for exporting waste paper
- We are considering to allocate suitable berthing places for exclusive use by paper recyclers to ensure stable provision of facilities
- We aim to introduce the new arrangement in the next tendering exercise



### Land / Infrastructure Support

EPD will commission a consultancy study to look into the land requirements of the recycling industry

To recommend on the land requirements for waste recycling in short, medium and long term

To improve the land use efficiency of the waste recycling operations

### Source Separation -<u>Source Separation of Waste (SSW) Programme</u>



- \* over 4,600 sets of recycle bins at public locations
- about 2,000 housing estates (over 80% population) and 1000 C&I buildings joined the Source Separation of Waste (SSW) Programme with recycle bins/ facilities

### **Source Separation -**

#### **Community Recycling Network**









Over 540 collection points (ECF/NGO centres, public housing estates, etc)

- Waste (Resources) Exchange Incentives
- > Educate public to participate in **clean and proper recycling**

### **Source Separation -**Educate public to participate in clean and proper recycling











# Community Green Station (CGS)

- \* CGS are to be set up in each of the 18 districts in HK to improve the recovery of resources on a local basis.
- To support the community in the collection of lowvalue recyclables such as computers, electrical appliances, florescent tubes, glass bottles, plastics and rechargeable batteries.
- \* To promote the concept of 'Recycle Clean' and the message of 'Use Less, Waste Less'
- \* The first CGS will be located in Sha Tin.

### **Green Procurement**

- Stores and Procurement Regulations (SPR) encourages the purchase of environmentalfriendly products
- Public works to make use of recycled aggregates, recycled asphalt, particularly eco-concrete pavers with recycled glass for road maintenance contracts
- Pilot schemes to use B5 diesel from used cooking oil in some Government vehicles, vessels and machinery
- Encourage and promote commercial companies to participate in green procurement



### **Green Procurement**

 Adoption of environment-friendly practices and supplies, including recycled materials

\* Total purchase value HK\$ 1,040M for 103 items in 2013

- \* Eco-paver with waste glass content **HK\$ 70M** in 2013
- Bituminous materials with reclaimed asphalt pavement –
  HK\$ 240M in 2013
- \* B5 diesel with used cooking oil **HK\$ 21M** in 2013
- \* Green specifications developed for 146 procurement items (incl. 43 items added in 2013-14)

## **Safety and Training Development**

**Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Star Enterprise Pilot Scheme** 

- Develop Scheme with Occupational Safety and Health Council
- \* Enhance the safety standards and awareness of work safety measures for recyclers
- Provide safety training courses for practitioners in the recycling industry
- \* subsidy for purchasing safety equipment
- \* risk assessment and safety consultancy service



## **Registration Scheme**

HKQAA has been play a key role in establishing and promoting standards of practice in the recycling industry

Hong Kong Cooking Oil Registration Scheme (HKCORS)

- \* HKQAA held the kick-off ceremony in July 2014
- \* enhance the identification and traceability of Waste Cooking Oil
- \* reshape industry behavior
- add value to their businesses by urging them to think green and act green
- create a healthy and sustainable business ecosystem

**Registration Scheme for other recyclables, such as plastics and glass** 



## Efforts in Promoting the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry



# **HK EPD :** (for the Recycling Industry)

To promote the sustainable development of the local recycling industry ....thereby optimising the overall environmental, economic and social benefits to Hong Kong.

To facilitate the upgrading of the recycling industry for sustainable development..... to raise the quantity and quality of local recyclables; to promote markets for recycled products; and to enhance the overall capability, capacity, efficiency and skills as well as market information, thus enhancing their competitiveness, and facilitating their sustainable development.

Extract from the Objective Statement Recycling Fund

### **HKQAA:**

To help industry and commerce in the development of quality, environmental, safety, hygiene and social management systems ..... to assist industry and commerce to implement relevant systems ..... so as to help improve our livelihood.

Extract from the Mission Statement HKQAA

To promote professional practices, integrity, and social responsibility ..... assist organisations to overcome challenges in all sorts of economic climates, so that they can enhance business performance and be more competitive.

> Extract from the Chairman's Message, HKQAA Ir Dr. Hon. Lo Wai Kwok, BBS, MH, JP

# Thank you

#### https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk