



# Highlights of BEC's EnviroSeries Conference in May 2019

Hong Kong's municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal rate has continued to grow over the recent years despite the extended effort and collaborative initiatives from the Government, business and community. It is increasingly vital and pressing to find solutions in the short term to reduce waste, and in the longer term, manage the use of resources in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Among other stakeholders, the business sector plays an integral part throughout the waste hierarchy: waste avoidance at source, waste recovery and recycling downstream, and reusing and reprocessing to close the materials loop.

This is why BEC gathered over 200 participants, including policy makers, industry experts, business leaders, and academics, at the [EnviroSeries Conference on 17 May 2019](#) to discuss urgent challenges and cross-sector opportunities relating to Hong Kong's waste management system.

[Click here for the full report](#)

## Key Takeaways from the Panel Discussions



Be mindful of the waste hierarchy: avoidance of waste at source should be constantly emphasised and prioritised.



To more effectively raise awareness and gain support for waste-related policies, it may be more fitting to frame our environmental crisis as a public health issue which affects livelihoods.



It is important to build a supportive environment where the Government, businesses, and NGOs can come together and build consensus on the way forward to reduce waste.

## Government Initiatives

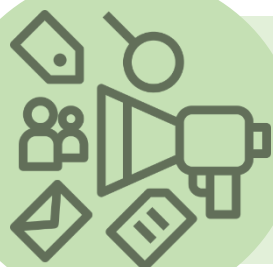
### Producer Responsibility Schemes on:

- Plastic Shopping Bags
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
- Glass Beverage Containers
- Plastic Beverage Containers [Planned]



### Existing Schemes and Campaigns

- Recycling Fund & Environment and Conservation Fund
- Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign
- Organic Resources Recovery Centre (O · PARK1)
- Free Pilot Collection Services for Food & Plastic Waste



### In the Pipeline

- MSW Charging Scheme
- O · PARK Phases 2 and 3 in Sha Ling and Yuen Long
- Local Waste Paper Recycling and Manufacturing Plant



## Collaborating to Reduce Waste



Various MSW charging trial schemes implemented by the **Hong Kong Productivity Council** in collaboration property and restaurant owners.



An onsite decomposer in the **K11 Art Mall** processes food waste generated by retail tenants, customers, and restaurants in the community.



**Foodlink Foundation** collects safe-to-eat surplus food from hotels, corporate and school canteens, and delivers to those in need.



**Airport Authority's** airport-wide approach involving business partners and tenants in food waste reduction. Food waste is either recycled or donated to local communities in partnership with NGOs.



**Maxim's** has launched a pilot program with Shell to use biodiesel made from used cooking oil to power its transport trucks in Hong Kong.



The **Drink Without Waste initiative** provides a supportive environment for manufacturers and NGOs to collaborate and exchange ideas to prevent single-use beverage packaging from being disposed of in landfills.

### About Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司

Business Environment Council Limited ("BEC") is an independent, charitable membership organisation, established by the business sector in Hong Kong. Since its establishment in 1992, BEC has been at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence by advocating the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution and improve corporate environmental and social responsibility. BEC offers sustainable solutions and professional services covering advisory, research, assessment, training and award programs for government, business and the community, thus enabling environmental protection and contributing to the transition to a low carbon economy.