



A New Era
Stability
Prosperity
Opportunity



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China
25th 周年紀念
ANNIVERSARY

Clean, Green and Healthy City

Overview

Constantly moving with the times over the past quarter of a century, Hong Kong cherishes and protects its natural environment. The Government has set out bold plans for Hong Kong to combat climate change and achieve a carbon neutral economy by promoting green innovation in sectors ranging from technology and transport to waste management and green finance.

Striving for a Carbon Neutral and Healthy Environment

Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050, based on the vision "**Zero-carbon Emissions • Liveable City • Sustainable Development**", sets out four major decarbonisation strategies and aims to combat climate change and achieve carbon neutrality through net-zero electricity generation, energy saving and green buildings, green transport and waste reduction. The interim target is to reduce Hong Kong's carbon emissions by half before 2035 against the 2005 baseline, aiming for complete carbon neutrality before 2050.

- In the coming 15 to 20 years, Hong Kong will spend about \$240 billion on various measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change. A new Office of Climate Change and Carbon Neutrality will be set up to strengthen co-ordination and promote deep decarbonisation.
- In June 2021, the Government announced the **Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong 2035**, with the vision of "**Healthy Living • Low-carbon Transformation • World Class**". It covers six major action areas: **green transport, liveable environment, comprehensive emissions reduction, clean energy, scientific management and regional collaboration**. The plan, designed to make Hong Kong a more liveable city with air quality on par with major international cities by 2035, aims to fully meet the air quality guideline levers under the World Health Organization's Global Air Quality Guidelines.

- Since 2013, concentration levels of **major air pollutants** (including ambient and roadside nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and fine suspended particulates) have **reduced by around 30% to 60%**.
- From January 2019, it is mandatory for all vessels in Hong Kong waters to use compliant fuel, such as fuel with sulphur content not exceeding 0.5% or liquefied natural gas.
- In October 2020, an incentive-cum-regulatory programme was launched to progressively **phase out about 40,000 Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles** by the end of 2027. HK\$7.1 billion (US\$910 million) has been earmarked for ex-gratia payments to the affected vehicle owners.
- In March 2021, the first **Hong Kong Roadmap on Popularisation of Electric Vehicles (EV)** was unveiled. Key measures include ceasing new registration of fuel-propelled and hybrid private cars in 2035 or earlier, expanding the EV charging network, training EV technical and maintenance practitioners, and formulating a Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) for retired EV batteries. The Government will also take the lead in using more EVs.
- In October 2020, a \$2 billion **EV-charging at Home Subsidy Scheme (EHSS)** was launched to subsidise the installation of infrastructure to enable EV charging in car parks of existing private residential buildings. The 2022-23 Budget set aside an additional \$1.5 billion to extend the EHSS for four years to the 2027-28 financial year. The whole EHSS is expected to cover a total of about 140,000 private parking spaces.
- In 2020, the Government allocated additional funding of \$800 million for the **New Energy Transport Fund** and expanded its scope to cover additional types of electric commercial vehicles.
- \$350 million earmarked to provide subsidies to ferry operators to test out electric ferries on Victoria Harbour routes from 2023.



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- \$80 million earmarked to launch a pilot scheme on electric public light buses from 2023.
- The **Cleaner Production Partnership Programme is extended** to March 2025 with funding of \$311 million, to encourage Hong Kong-owned factories to adopt cleaner production technologies to improve the regional environment.

Green Building Design and Technology

- Aim to reduce Hong Kong's energy intensity from the 2005 level by 40% by 2025.
- Measures outlined in “**Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong's Built Environment 2015~2025+**” include: setting an energy saving target and timeline; development of green buildings; tax concessions; expanding the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labeling Scheme; running the “Energy Saving for All” campaign.
- On completion of all energy saving measures, the annual reduction in CO2 emissions will be about 1.7 million tonnes, equivalent to about 4% of Hong Kong's total emissions in 2016.
- The first “**Green Energy Target**” aims to further improve government energy use by 6% in five years, from 2020/21 to 2024/25.
- The 2021-22 Budget allocated an additional **\$1 billion**, making it \$3 billion in total, to install more **small-scale renewable energy systems** at government buildings and infrastructure.
- **\$150 million** set aside to conduct **energy audit** and **install energy-efficient appliances** free of charge for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) subvented by the Social Welfare Department.
- “**Green Schools 2.0**” programme to enhance energy efficiency in schools.
- “**Solar Harvest**” to install solar energy generation systems for schools and welfare NGOs for free.
- In 2016, the **T•PARK** sludge treatment facility in Tuen Mun – one of the most technologically advanced facilities of its kind in the world – opened. Heat generated by incinerating sludge is used for electricity generation, **transforming waste into**

energy and also used to provide heating for spa pools in the Environmental Education Centre at T•PARK, for people to enjoy for free.

Innovation and Technology (I&T) for a Green Future

- The **Electrical and Mechanical Services Department** has been working with the trade and academia to promote I&T related to electrical and mechanical (E&M) services.
- E&M InnoPortal lists the service needs of various government departments, public organisations and the E&M trade. Universities and start-ups can propose related **I&T solutions for matching**.
- A \$200 million **Green Tech Fund** supports R&D and application of decarbonisation and green technologies. The 2022-23 Budget will inject an additional \$200 million into the Fund.

Waste Management

- The Waste Blueprint for Hong Kong 2035 advocates “**Waste Reduction • Resources Circulation • Zero Landfill**”. It promotes six major areas of action: **Waste Reduction, Waste Separation, Resources Circulation, Industry Support, Innovation and Co-operation, and Education and Publicity**.
- A municipal solid waste charging scheme will be introduced to achieve waste reduction by driving behavioural change, and developing “**GREEN@COMMUNITY**” recycling facilities in the entire territory to enhance support for waste separation at source and clean recycling.
- Based on the principles of “**polluter pays**” and the element of “**eco-responsibility**”, the Government has been putting forward various PRSs, including the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme, the PRS on waste electrical and electronic equipment and the PRS on glass beverage containers, to promote waste reduction at source and facilitate the development of a circular economy.
- A “**food wise and waste less**” culture is promoting the reduction of food waste at source.



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- Under the Food Waste Plan, the **Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (O•PARK1)** started receiving commercial and industrial food waste in July 2018. O•PARK1 can treat and convert 200 tonnes of food waste into biogas per day for power generation, and process the residue into compost. O•PARK1 can generate about 14 million kWh of surplus electricity annually, which is exported to the grid to power about 3,000 households. The Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2 (O•PARK2), with a daily treatment capacity of 300 tonnes of food waste, is scheduled to be commissioned in 2024.
- Additional funding of **\$1 billion** was injected into the **Recycling Fund** in April 2021 to upgrade and transform operations of the recycling industry through better use of technologies.
- A **modern pulping facility in the EcoPark in Tuen Mun**, expected to commence operation by 2024, aims to diversify recycling outlets and transform local waste paper into resources more effectively.
- A two-year voluntary scheme was launched in late-2021 to **phase out personal care and cosmetic products containing microbeads**, to encourage the trade to stop the production, import and sale of these products and enable consumers to choose microbead-free products.

Water Quality Management

- A total investment of \$6.6 billion over the past three years to **provide and upgrade sewerage and wastewater treatment infrastructure** to further improve water quality throughout Hong Kong, in particular in Victoria Harbour.
- Since the formation of the Inter-departmental Working Group on Marine Environmental Management in 2012, **additional annual funding of about \$150 million has been allocated to clean shoreline work.**

Green and Sustainable Finance

- As at May 2022, the Government has issued a total of over US\$7 billion worth of green bonds under the **Government Green Bond Programme (GGBP)**, targeting global institutional investors and covering multiple currencies and different tenors. The issuances achieved a number of breakthroughs: the first “Global Medium Term Note Programme” by a government dedicated to green bond issuances; the world’s largest US dollar-denominated government green bond deal; the longest tenor US dollar-denominated government green bond in Asia; and the longest tenor euro-denominated government green bond in Asia.
- In May 2022, the Government issued the **inaugural retail green bond of HK\$20 billion**, further promoting the development of green and sustainable finance in Hong Kong.
- **The borrowing ceiling of the GGBP was doubled to HK\$200 billion** in July 2021 to allow further issuance of green bonds totalling HK\$175.5 billion within the five years from 2021/22, having regard to the market situation.
- A **Green and Sustainable Finance Grant Scheme** was launched in May 2021 to provide subsidy for eligible bond issuers and loan borrowers to cover their expenses on bond issuance and external review services. As at April 2022, over 70 applications have been approved.

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