



Business Environment Council (BEC) successfully held the EUO x BEC Plastic Waste Reduction Workshop with the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao on 21 March 2019, where European and Hong Kong companies shared experiences and best practices.

Four action items to reduce plastic waste were generated from the workshop discussions, detailed below.

This conversation was continued on 17 May 2019 at BEC's [EnviroSeries Conference: The Business of Waste – Solving Hong Kong's Urgent Environmental Problem](#). Business leaders, government representatives, policy makers and entrepreneurs further explored the challenges, opportunities and future strategies in Hong Kong's waste management

EUO x BEC Plastic Waste Reduction Workshop report can be accessed [here](#).

Action 1: Find an environmentally friendly alternative to expanded polystyrene (EPS) food containers

To achieve this:



Restaurants

can replace EPS food containers with environmentally friendly alternatives which are equally functional and where hygiene is safeguarded



Food Delivery Companies and Event Organisers

can demand or have contractual requirements for environmentally friendly alternative to EPS food containers

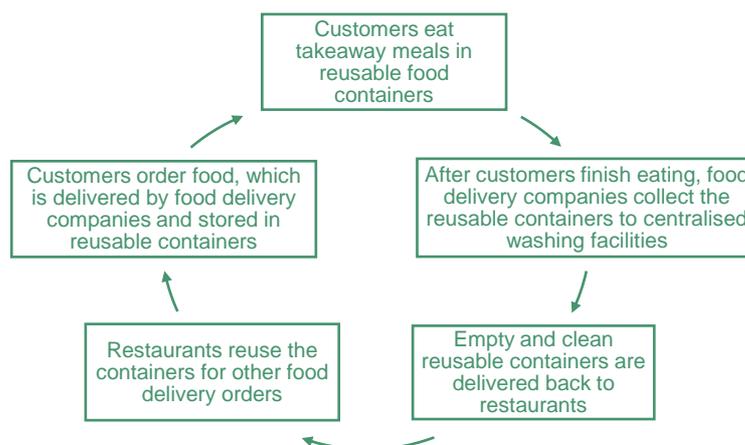


Government

can ban EPS food containers in public schools and premises; implement a producer responsibility scheme or city-wide EPS ban; educate the public on the importance of avoiding EPS food containers and using better alternatives

Action 2: Use reusable food containers for food delivery

Reusable food containers can be integrated into the food delivery system, while still maintaining the efficiency and hygiene of food deliveries:



To achieve this:



Food Delivery Companies

can encourage the use of reusable food containers for takeaway; provide customers with the option to use reusable containers



Restaurants and Fast Food Chain Stores

can choose to use reusable food containers for takeaway orders



Non-governmental Organisations

can educate the public on the importance of using reusable food containers; provide information regarding which restaurants use reusable containers

Action 3: Implement municipal solid waste (MSW) charging and producer responsibility schemes (PRS)

To achieve this:

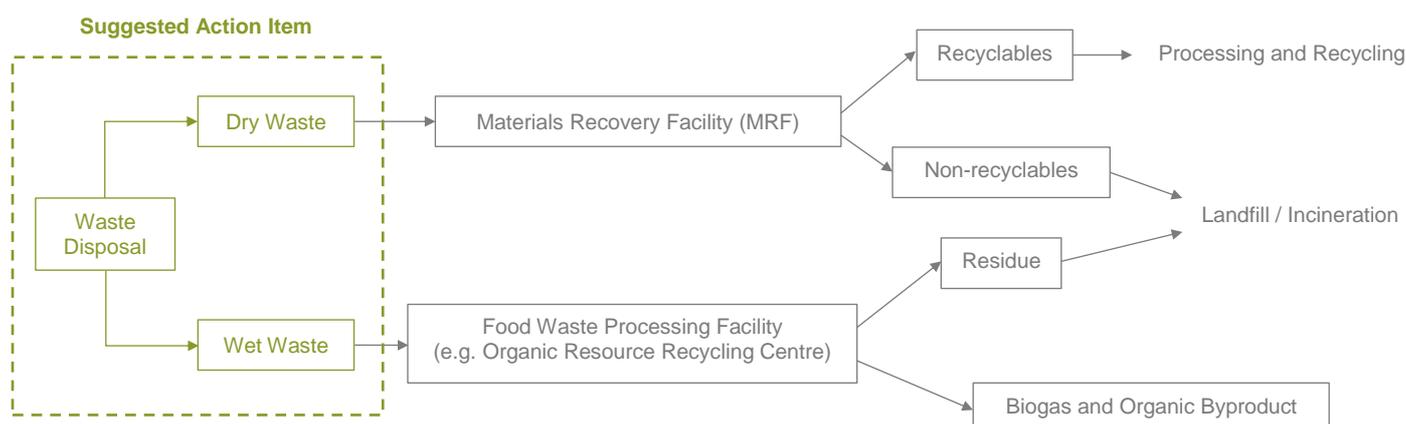


Government

can implement MSW charging and PRS; give clear visionary direction to the public on these legislations; educate the public and ensure they view the legislation on reducing plastic waste as positive and necessary rather than a financial penalty; audit waste separation systems in buildings

Action 4: Separate dry and wet waste at source

Dry and wet waste can be collected and processed as follows:



To achieve this:



Property Management Companies and Property Owners

can educate and train building occupants on dry and wet waste separation; establish refuse rooms in buildings that facilitate the right behaviour for waste disposal



Recycling Industry and Local Collectors

can expand capacity for collecting and recycling dry and wet waste



Government

can implement supporting legislation and educate the public on the importance of dry and wet waste separation at source; consider ancillary collection and processing facilities as part of a holistic waste reduction plan

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.

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