

綠色香港運動 hong kong campaign report 2012

Green Institute Hong Kong 香港綠色學會

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Green Hong Kong Campaign Report

Foreword

As society has grown and developed over the past fifty years we have ceaselessly consumed nature's resources while, striving for a better living environment for mankind. However, this skyrocketing consumption has led to changes in world climate owing to the shrinkage of forest cover, soil erosion, desertification, air and water pollution, and the 'green house gas effect' caused by excessive emissions of pollutants. The consequences today were unforeseen at the time we launch this strive for economic and social prosperity.

For the sake of those generations to come, sustainability must not be sacrificed for the selfishness and short-sightedness that has been evidenced by the current generation. To ensure future generations will continue to enjoy the beauty and bounty of nature and, given the limited resources of our planet Earth, the continued growth of global consumption and the uneven distribution of those resources must be addressed. As responsible world citizens, we must protect and equalise the benefits for all, leaving our world in the best possible condition. We believe humankind are the managers of the world, but not the owner. We believe all environmental issues must be resolved by addressing their root causes, and that positive thinking is needed to nurture and treasure everything on Earth.

Green Industry involving such concepts as waste management is thriving in developed countries. Recycling has become a profitable business and method of dealing with waste. There is an increasing trend to process reusable items classed as garbage into value- added materials and goods. The increasing amount of garbage in Hong Kong is NOW a critical issue, yet the government keeps resisting the noted worldwide trend of Reduce, Recycle, Reuse. Instead government simply warns us about the limited landfill capacity which will be reached in 2014. Further, government says landfill sites should be expanded, and that an incinerator should be built in different districts!

Hong Kong is an international cosmopolitan city with a healthy rule of law and a free economic system. This should drive the city to be more compatible with other developed cities across the world. To be a true World City, Hong Kong must embrace to principles of sustainable development. We must process waste in accordance with world-class standards of a garbage management rating system, take initiatives in reducing, reusing, recycling, and leave the old methods of incineration and landfill as last resorts. The concept of Green GDP must be adhered to during the development of a comprehensive garbage process system. The city should reinforce environmentalism, implement Green Education, promote Green best practices, while developing the recycling industry - all with the aim to be a "World Green City" and it would be a worthy, to that end, to actively employ our Green Hong Kong Campaign. The result assures enhanced competitive strengths and world class methodologies.

Green Hong Kong Campaign requires leadership by the Hong Kong Government, to be applied in every district, in order for all citizens and all sectors of society to participate and to share in expediting the various measures. We can start with Green Education, to engender a mentality of treasuring all resources be they organic or inorganic, combined with all the human material and cultural resources, and to learn to be more content with that which is sufficient for our needs and not excessive and wasteful.. We can work and live keeping the concept of not creating waste and to reduce harmful emissions in our daily life, moving on with a systematic plan for recycling, as an effective and responsible way of processing the city's leftovers, the garbage. There is considerable value if waste; we must learn how to turn it into a treasure. The citizenry can work with the government on implementing Green Certification, introducing a Hong Kong Green Purchasing Charter and Ecolabelling System. Green Industry and low carbon lifestyle standards will thereby be encouraged, carrying the Hong Kong Spirit by Going Green.



Green Hong Kong Campaign

We believe that now is the time for our city to implement the Green Hong Kong Campaign because:

- The public has been receptive to the government's garbage classification campaign, it is time for a more intensive Green Movement.
- There has been an abundance of recycling campaigns run by various non-government groups. While the mentality is encouraging but regrettably the impact is insubstantial. Now is a good time to consolidate a grand and comprehensive campaign and see it through to its conclusion benefiting both government and citizens.
- 3. While Hong Kong deals with the ever-growing environmental issue of pollution, the government has yet to offer any comprehensive solution. The government has not encouraged a concept of a 'Green Lifestyle". There is a lack of crucial transparency in the creation of Hong Kong's environmental policies, and our citizens are deprived of their right to know what's going on.
- Now is the time for the Hong Kong Government to implement its proposal to develop the recycling industry - without further delay.
- 5. It is our responsibility as world citizens to protect and equalize everyone's benefits, and to leave a thriving planet for the benefit of future generations.
- 6. Hong Kong should strive to be one of the nation's first low-carbon cities, in accordance with the twelfth five-year plan of the People's Republic of China.
- Hong Kong can enhance its competitive strengths as an international and cosmopolitan by setting its first priority to become a "World Green City".

Hong Kong will enhance its reputation as a World Green City by starting with public education, by the promotion of Green Culture for quality life, by the introduction of a Green Lifestyle and by introducing the wide-ranging methods and potentialities that flow from the implementation of a Green Economy.



Green Culture

As our civilization has progressed, particularly in the past 150 years, humanity has, without comprehending the consequences been consuming its own future by the over use of resources and by not thinking through what 'living conditions' really means. We should self-reflect and move from wasteful luxurious cravings, and amend our irresponsible lifestyles. We can realise a healthy and meaningful life with an equitable distribution of the Earth's resources and thus bring Humanity and Nature into greater harmony.

The Pursuit of Green Culture

During all the years of Hong Kong as a cosmopolitan city, the Keep Hong Kong Clean Campaign won the city a reputation for cleanliness. The promotion of this campaign was hugely successful, gaining a highly receptive public through the processes of education and media coverage spreading into every corner of the city. Locals looked on the mascot of the Litter Bug and were reminded of the woes of littering. We should now assemble an army of Green Models to similar effect, and have a "Green Ambassador" programme promoting the Green Hong Kong Campaign.

Green Ambassador

We propose a community founded on the principles of Green Environmentalism at its core. The contributing sectors of our community can be named or formed by any individual or group. These will abide by a Green Ambassador Charter, providing a basis to promote Green Culture and building a green civil society. The communities' prime aim will be to bring sustainability into daily life, to carry out Green Practices for public welfare, to promote the Green Hong Kong Campaign, and to fulfill a mission to save the planet with that all important sense of responsibility of the global citizen.



Green Education

We are all responsible and obliged as citizens to build a Green Civilised Society in Hong Kong. In the face of our current environmental issues, we must reflect and re-evaluate the importance of environmental protection. Reinforced Green Education is crucial to adjust people's mentality and to moderate the worsening environmental pollution. The main impact of Green Education will be to nurture future generations. The concept of environmental sustainability must be inculcated into developing curriculae to heighten students' awareness of environmental protection and how it applies to garbage and emission reduction.

Green Lifestyle

People in Hong Kong lead such busy lives resulting in a lack of awareness of environmental protection, favouring behaviours that waste energy yet we all seek better living environments and quality of life. Therein lies a contradiction. Living in situations of close encounter in the city, people are easily influenced by each other in the endless pursuit of pleasure. But one person living wisely can bring improvement to the quality of life which will have a positive knock on effect. A green lifestyle is based on the maintenance of quality living while changing people's attitude towards living. A civilised and healthy attitude in Green Lifestyle can be built on the foundation of each individual and each community.

We propose the establishment of a Green Lifestyle Committee to enhance and serve the following functions:

- 1. To advise the government on reinforcing its controls over energy consumption.
- To promote lifestyles supporting a certain degree of sustainability, by limiting the use of natural resources.
- 3. To make Hong Kong a place of abode of civilised Green Communities by introducing environmentally friendly infrastructure and facilities, by promoting the concept of low carbon architecture and by the application of the use of renewable energy, and by reinforcing Greening works within the communities.
- To assist in the implementation of the programme of source separation of garbage in every household in all districts.
- To assist in the modification of Hong Kong's customised proposal as a low carbon city and in the establishment of energy diagnostic services and appraisal systems.



Green Economy

Green Economy is born out of an optimisation of the traditional economic model. It is integrated into the civil ways of human life and is supported by advanced technologies. It facilitates harmony between human beings and Greater Nature and is sustainable. Green Economy is an organic collaboration of the market with ecology, and it fully realises the values of natural resources and ecology. It is a benign development model resulting from the organic combination of recycling within both the economy and nature. It is an inevitable tool in the sustainable development of a human society. The wide range that is entailed in a Green Economy covers ecological farming, ecological industries, ecological tourism, the environmental protection industries, green services industries and more.

We propose the establishment of a Green Economy Committee to enhance and serve the following functions:

- We believe a Green Economy in Hong Kong deserves the kind of comprehensive development that is not limited to the recycling industries. Therefore we need a thorough examination of Green efficiency, harmony and sustainable elements of all industries.
- 2. To advise the government on its determination and progress with the planning of the recycling industries. To urge the government to strengthen its efforts in supporting of the development of these industries, and to lift the value, scale and functionality of 'EcoPark', to enhance such Park's facilities to reach the internationally accredited status as the initial groundwork for Green Industries and their professional skill sets. Such EcoPark can be renamed as, "Hong Kong EcoValley", administered independently from its separate financial counterparts, be provided with pre-installed infrastructure and favourable financial terms and encouragements, as pioneers in Green Industries will be drawn to assist Hong Kong in becoming an advanced Green Economy.
- To advise the government on its determination and progress with the planning in processing local industrial waste, by setting principles in management and standard charges, hence guiding all industries to voluntarily set up standards for reductions in carbon emissions.
- To assist the government in setting up green certification and ecolabelling systems for all industries, and to set the standards of recycling industries.
- To advise the government on the nurturing of professionals in Green Industries, in the training and development of environmental awareness across all industries, thereby creating more job opportunities.
- To promote the development of local sustainable service industries, and to help Hong Kong in becoming the platform for carbon trading in the region of South China.
- To provide assistance in leading a sustainable economic model for industries that are newly established or returning to Hong Kong.

Mission

Our Earth is enduring grievous wounds owing to environmental pollution. As an integral part of the planet, we hope to fulfill our obligations as global citizens and save the world - in the nick of time. We hope to promote green campaigns in all countries, all cities and all communities, so that we can maintain the living conditions to support future generations.

We have our roots in Hong Kong. We are responsible for the protection of our hometowns, to ensure our inherited environment will remain, for the good of all, even for the betterment of all.

Environmental awareness of the local people of Hong Kong has slowly grown in recent years, while environmentalists have organised small-scale campaigns in their different communities. The results however are relatively insubstantial. We should unite all these environmental campaigns to achieve the most effective result and to promote a Green Culture, a Green Lifestyle and a Green Economy, comprehensively.

We call on all people who share our belief to work together under the following principles:

- To build a harmonious relationship with nature
- To maintain a balanced environment
- To set up a model of sustainable development
- To maintain and sustain the uniqueness of every individual

Let's take part in the Green Hong Kong Campaign and accomplish our mission as world citizens.



Joy

Balance

Peace



Environmental Protection

Love











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