

Solid Waste Management in Hong Kong

**Environmental Protection Department
June 2007**

A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)



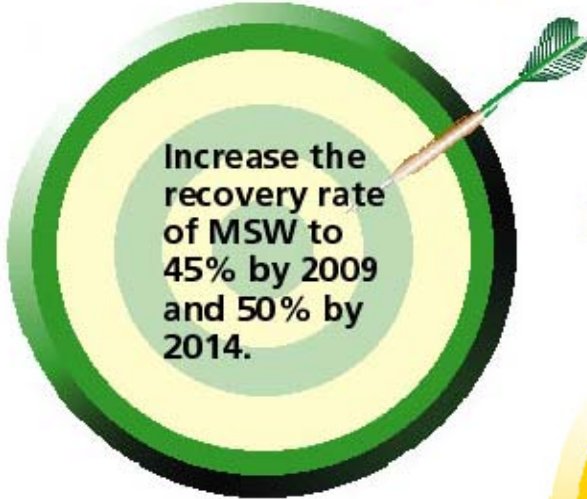
Targets

Avoidance and Minimisation



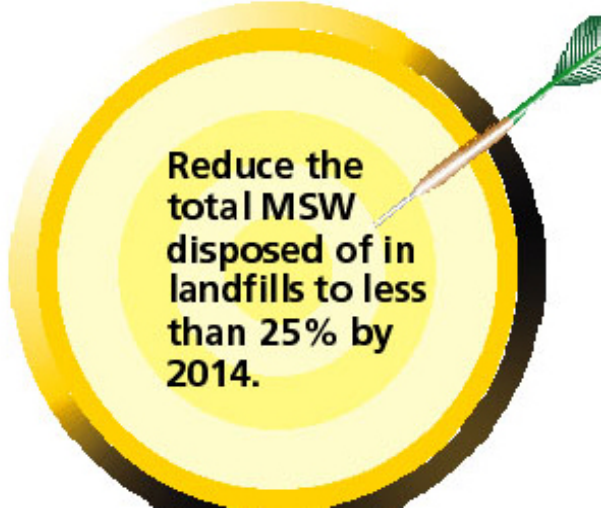
Reduce the amount of MSW generated in Hong Kong by 1% per annum up to the year 2014, based on the 2003 levels.

Reuse, Recovery and Recycling

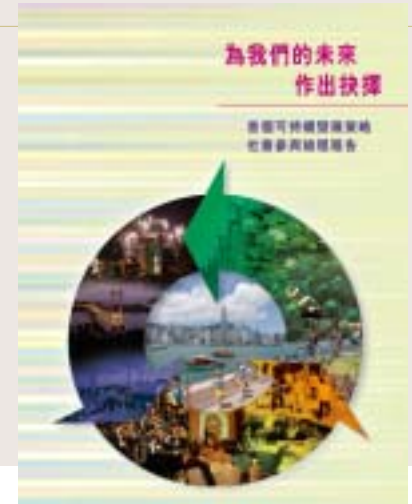


Increase the recovery rate of MSW to 45% by 2009 and 50% by 2014.

Bulk Reduction and Disposal



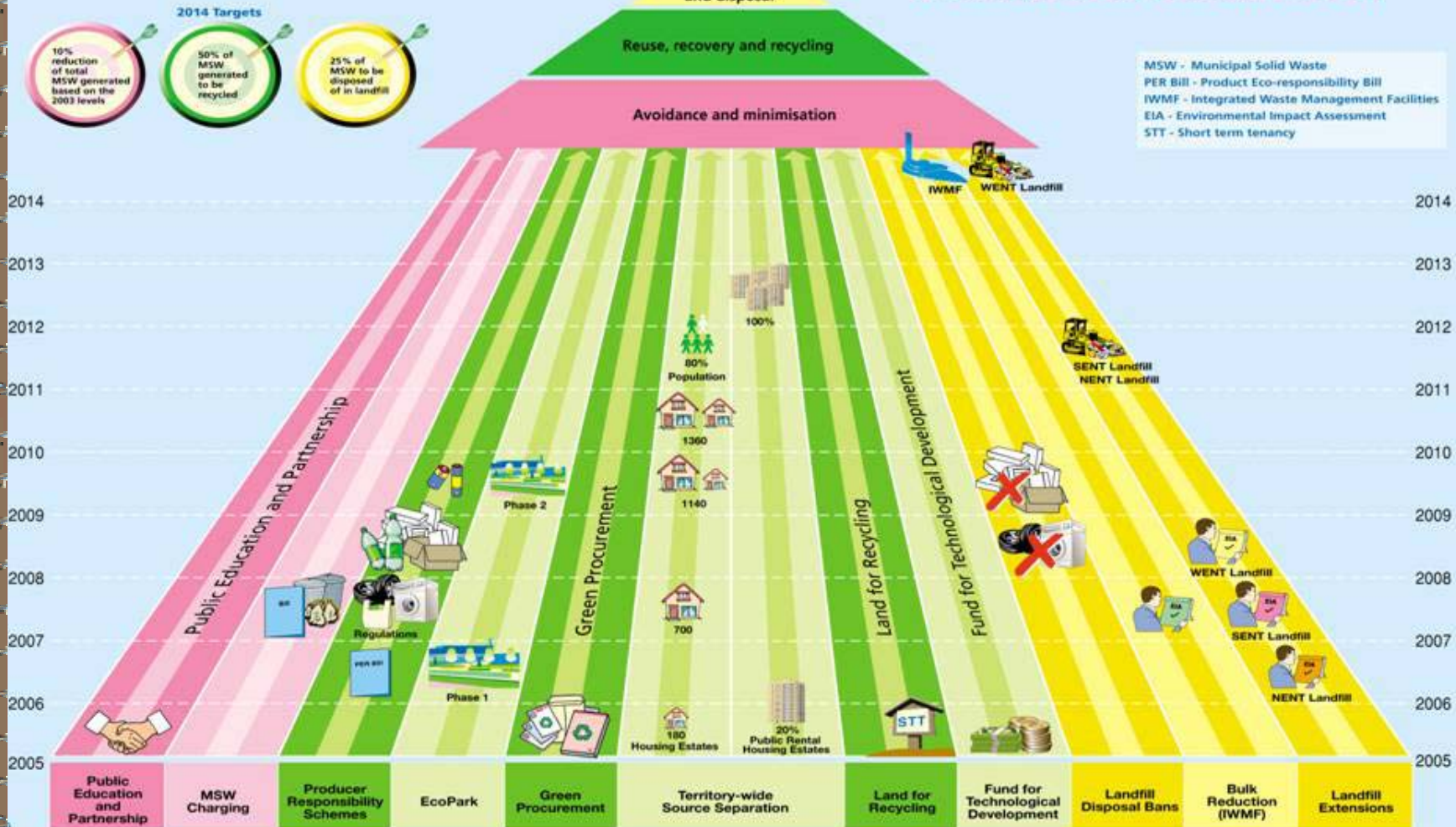
Reduce the total MSW disposed of in landfills to less than 25% by 2014.



Roadmap



A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)



Waste statistics

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	2005	2006	Remarks
Disposed	3.42 M tonnes	3.39 M tonnes	-1%
Recovered	2.59 M tonnes	2.84 M tonnes	+9.6%
Generated	6.01 M tonnes	6.23 M tonnes	+3.6%
Domestic MSW Recovery Rate	16%	20%	Target met one year in advance
Total MSW Recovery Rate	43%	45%	Target met 3 years in advance

Source Separation of Domestic Waste Programme

- Territory-wide programme since Jan 2005
- 572 participating estates with 757,000 households and 2 million residents
- 3-4% reduction in waste disposal



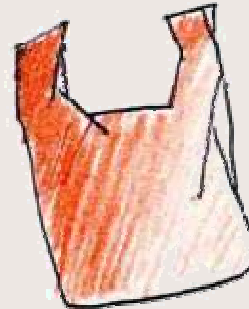
EcoPark

- Located in Tuen Mun area 38
- To provide long-term land to support local recycling industries
- To jump-start a circular economy
- The first three tenancies were awarded in April 07



Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRS)

Plastic shopping bags



Waste electrical and electronic equipment



Vehicle tyres



Environmental Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags

- **Policy Objective**

- ✓ To reduce the indiscriminate use of plastic shopping bags

- **Level of the Levy**

- ✓ 50 cents

- **Proposal**

- ✓ Retailers covered by the scheme will no longer be allowed to give out free plastic shopping bags
- ✓ Customers will pay an environmental levy for each plastic shopping bag they ask for



23,000,000

Environmental Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags

- **Scope**

- ✓ Chain or large supermarkets, convenience stores and personal health and beauty stores
- ✓ About 70 to 100 retailers with some 2,000 retail shops



- **Impact**

- ✓ 50% reduction of plastic shopping bags from "relevant retailers"
- ✓ Save close to 1 billion plastic shopping bags each year



MSW Charging

- Waste charging is the key policy tool
- Direct economical incentive to avoid and reduce waste



Trial Scheme on MSW Charging (Nov 2006 – Feb 2007)

- To study the logistical arrangement for implementing a “variable rate” charging scheme using designated bags in different housing settings
- To examine the feasibility of source separation of food waste from other refuse
- To identify issues associated with the implementation of a “variable rate” charging scheme



MSW Charging - Areas of Concerns

- **Charging**
 - What are the objectives of MSW charging
 - Level of the charge
 - Exemption for unavoidable waste
 - Use of the revenue collected
- **Logistical support**
 - Availability of source separation facilities
 - Collection of mixed recyclables

MSW Charging – Areas of Concerns

- **Food waste collection**
 - Hygiene considerations
 - Outlets and suitable use for source-separated food waste
- **Implementation & enforcement**
 - Role of estate management & waste collectors
 - Widespread non-compliance
 - Flytipping problems & sanctions

MSW Charging – Next steps

- Develop practicable options that suit Hong Kong's unique living environment
- Consult the public

Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMMF)

Multi-technology approach

- Biological treatment
- Mechanical sorting and recycling
- Thermal treatment





Thank You !