



# **Status and Development of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong**

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March 2006



# Background of Green Council

- Established in 2000
- Non-profit, non-partisan, non-government environmental organization
- Vision: “Conservation begins with Education”



## Background of Green Council (cont'd)

- **Missions:**
  - Raise public's environmental awareness
  - Encourage and improve environmental management and performance of local industries
  - Promote the green image of Hong Kong



## Background of Green Council (cont'd)

- **Actions:**
  - Environmental education and training
  - Green purchasing and consumerism
  - Green management concepts and practices
  - Waste reduction and recycling
  - Energy conservation and renewable energy
  - Sustainable development



# Current Status of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong

- **Procurement in the public sector**  
(by Government Logistics Department, GLD):
  - Adopts principles recommended in a study of the *“Development of Environmentally Responsible Product Specifications and Review on Market Availability”* published in 2000.
  - Purchases *environmentally preferable products* (e.g. ultra low **sulphur diesel [ULSD]**, **recycled paper**, **rechargeable batteries** and **low VOC or water-based paints**, etc.)
  - Includes *marking scheme* in tender evaluations for purchasing paper products and stationeries.

## Current Status of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong - Green Purchasing by GLD

Year	Total value of 17 types of recycled products (\$ million)	Total value of non-recycled products procured that have recycled products as alternatives (\$ million)	Total value (\$ million)	Share of recycled products procured
2002	34.3	51.8	86.1	40%
2003	19.8	N/A*	19.8	100%
2004	54.1	45.4	99.5	54%
Total	108.2	97.2	205.4	53%

\* **Note:** No procurement of non-recycled products that with the 17 recycled alternatives since some of the bulk purchasing contracts last for two years.



## Current Status of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong – Recycled Paper Purchased by GLD

Year	Purchase quantities (tonnes)	Changes in quantities purchased	Percentage of total consumption
2002	1,449	-16.5%	12.5%
2003	1,697	+17.1%	14.7%
2004	1,804	+6.3%	16.1%

# **Current Status of Green Purchasing in Hong Kong (cont'd)**

Green procurement in the private sectors:

- Purely on voluntary basis.
- Scope depends on company policy, commitment of management and prices of environmentally preferable products.
- Response to demands from customers and public pressure to certain extent.





# Recent Developments on Green Procurement in the Public Sector

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

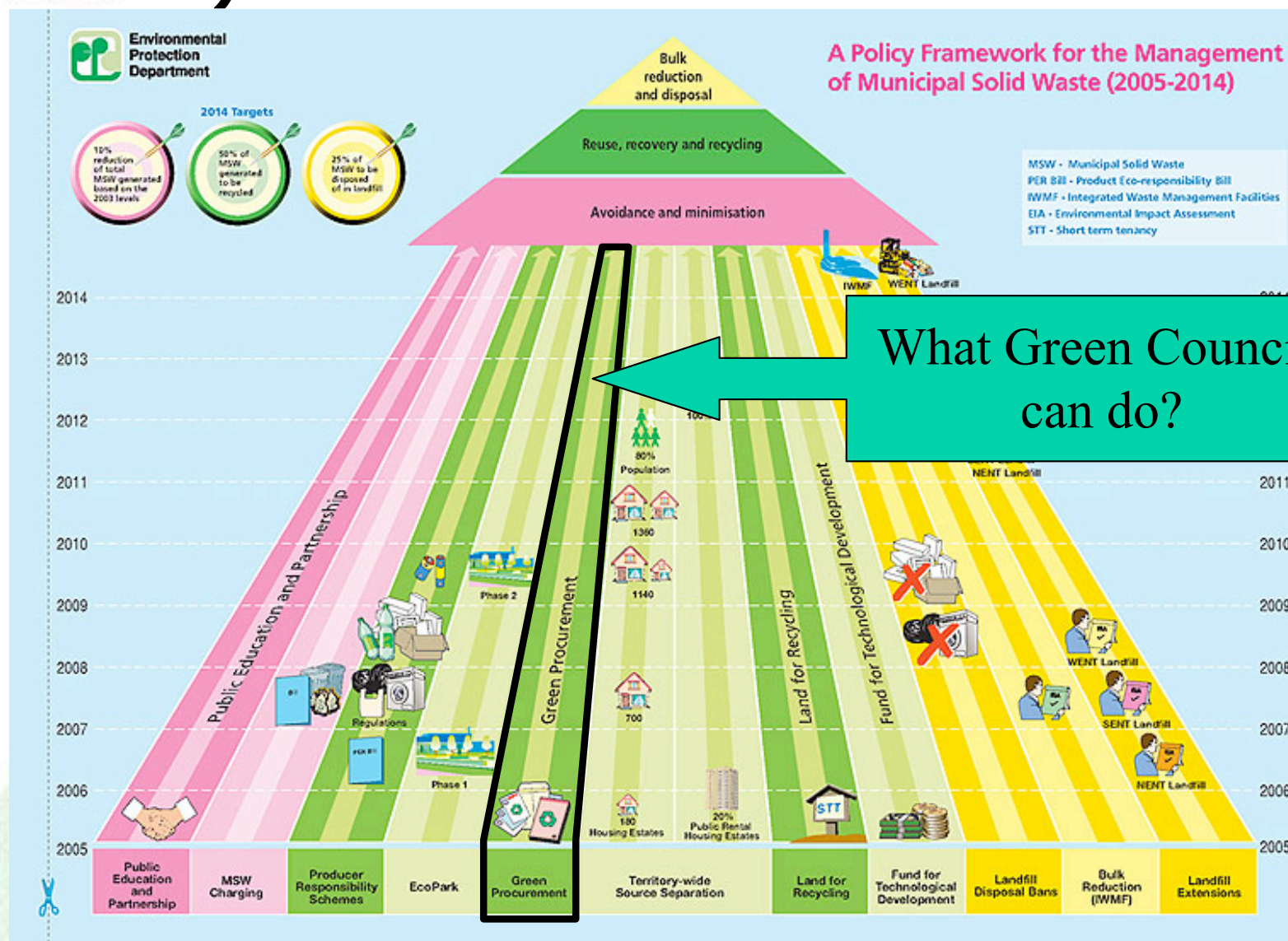
“Green procurement policy facilitates the development of a ‘circular economy’ ....

Government is therefore taking the lead to adopt a *green procurement policy* and is regularly reviewing the *specifications of bulk purchase items* .....

The Government will also encourage local corporations to give priority to green products when deciding on what to buy.”



# Recent Developments on Green Procurement in the Public Sector (cont'd)





# Green Council's Comments on Government's Policy Framework

## Letter from Green Council to EPD


Environment Protection Department - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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 環境保護署 Environmental Protection Department

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

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### What is New

**Date**

2006

- Feb 24 Tenders invited for construction of EcoPark in Tuen Mun
- Feb 23 Transcript of SETW's standup briefing
- Feb 23 Producer responsibility scheme set for 2007
- Feb 20 ACE Waste Subcommittee Paper on Proposed Trial Scheme on MSW Charging
- Feb 15 Domestic waste separation results encouraging
- Jan 23 Submission from the Democratic Party to the LegCo EA Panel (Chinese version only)
- Jan 22 Response to domestic waste separation positive
- Jan 22 SETW visits model estates in source separation of waste
- Jan 21 ACE open forum on municipal solid waste management
- Jan 20 **Submission from the Green Council to the LegCo EA Panel**
- Jan 19 LegCo EA Panel meeting with deputations

[http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/msw/htm\\_en/pdf\\_e/EAP\\_20060120.pdf](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/msw/htm_en/pdf_e/EAP_20060120.pdf)

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# Promotion of Green Procurement for Hong Kong Industries by Green Council

- Key initiatives:
  - Hong Kong Green Label Scheme
  - Cyber Green Centre



# Hong Kong Green Label Scheme (HKGLS)



<http://www.greenlabel.org.hk>



# Hong Kong Green Label Scheme (HKGLS)

- The *first green label scheme* for the certification and green products in Hong Kong
- Independent and voluntary
- Open to all local & overseas businesses and industries





## Objectives of HKGLS

- Provide a *clear, credible and independent guide* for “green” consumers
- Encourage consumers to purchase *commodities* that have *lower environmental impacts*
- Provide incentives for *manufacturers and importers to reduce the environmental impacts* of their products
- Improve the quality of the environment and encourage *sustainable management of resources*



# HKGLS complies with the International Standards

- ISO 14020 General Principles
- ISO 14021 Principles and Procedures





Green Council will become a Certification Body accredited by the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS):

- in compliance with ISO/IEC 65:1996 on certification requirements.

**NB:** Cover “construction products” only in initial stage.



## HKGLS Approval and Validity

1. Meet product-specific pre-set environmental criteria
2. Approved by Green Council in consultation with its Advisory Committee
3. Approved products are issued with certificates and rights to use the Hong Kong Green Label
4. 2-year validity of certification



## Management of HKGLS





## Target User Groups of HKGLS

- Product Supply Side (Potential Applicants)
  - all local and overseas manufacturers, suppliers, wholesalers, distributors, importers & exporters etc.
- Product Demand Side
  - government departments, commercial firms, utilities, public / private developers, construction firms, commercial firms and households etc.





Product Category		HKGLS Code
001 – Common Paper products with recycled content	1. Photocopying paper	GL-001-001
	2. Paper envelope	GL-001-002
	3. Note-pad	GL-001-003
	4. Paper file jacket	GL-001-004
	5. File box	GL-001-005
	6. Toilet paper	GL-001-006
	7. Paper Towel	GL-001-007
002 – Common plastic products with recycled content	1. Plastic file jacket	GL-002-001
	2. PVC pipe and fitting	GL-002-002
	3. Plastic bags for non-food products	GL-002-003
	4. Plastic products for office use	GL-002-004
003 – Common cleaning products	1. Laundry detergent	GL-003-001
	2. Detergent for sanitary facilities	GL-003-002
	3. Machine dishwashing detergent	GL-003-003
	4. Hand dishwashing detergent	GL-003-004

Product Category		HKGLS Code
004 - Stationery	1. Pen	GL-004-001
	2. Pencil	GL-004-002
	3. Correction fluid and thinner	GL-004-003
005 – Other common consumable	1. Rechargeable battery	GL-005-001
	2. Toner cartridge	GL-005-002
	3. Paint	GL-005-003
	4. Lubricating oil / grease	GL-005-004
	5. Degradable Food/drink Containers and Bags	GL-005-005
	6. Degradable Non-Food/drink Containers and Non-Food Bags	GL-005-006
006 – Computer products	1. Personal computer	GL-006-001
	2. Computer monitor	GL-006-002
	3. Ink-jet / Laser-jet printer	GL-006-003

Product Category		HKGLS Code
007 – Electrical household appliance	1. Water heaters	GL-007-001
	2. Washing machines	GL-007-002
	3. Clothes dryers	GL-007-003
	4. Dishwashers	GL-007-004
	5. Refrigeration appliances	GL-007-005
	6. Air-conditioners	GL-007-006
	7. Compact fluorescent lamps	GL-007-007
	8. Air cleaners	GL-007-008
008 – Construction Materials	1. Building materials made of fly ash	GL-008-001
	2. Flooring materials	GL-008-002
	3. Wall coverings	GL-008-003
	4. Windows	GL-008-004
009 – Common paper products without recycled content	1. Photocopying paper	GL-009-001
010 - Automotive Products	1. Automotive oil filter	GL-010-001

# Cyber Green Centre



<http://www.greencouncil.org/eng/cgc/products.asp>







# Cyber Green Centre



- The first environmentally preferable products' directory
- A comprehensive *one-stop on-line platform* for environmentally preferable product information.
- *FREE* access to environmentally preferable products under 30 categories

# Cyber Green Centre

## Objectives

- Promote green purchasing amongst procurement officers and general public in Hong Kong
- Provide useful references for company practicing green purchasing
- Provide promotion channel for environmental preferable product manufacturers
- Provide a comprehensive platform for environmental preferable products
- Display HKGLS's certified products





# Cyber Green Centre

## Features

- Environmental preferable product manufacturers can upload their products FREE OF CHARGE
  - Provide product description, product photo, company information and HKGLS certification (if applicable)
  - Users and access to environmentally preferable products information under 30 categories (>200 types of products) FREE OF CHARGE
  - User-friendly search engine



# Cyber Green Centre

## Challenges

- Lack of Government support
- Insufficient funding
- Need support and education
- Inadequate promotion



# Progress and Activities

- **Joint promotional activities**
  - Seminars, training courses, exhibition, etc with:
    - *Professional Bodies* (e.g. the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, HK Waste Management Association)
    - *Hong Kong Government* (e.g. HK Trade Development Council, Environmental Protection Department, Education & Manpower Bureau)
    - *Mainland authorities* on environmental labeling, green procurement etc.





Forum on  
Development of  
*Common Core*  
*Criteria* for Low  
Emission Paints &  
Toner Cartridges

Seminar on “Green Mark Eco-labelling  
and Government Procurement”



Training Course on Green  
Procurement





# Hong Kong Green Purchasing Network (HKGPN)

- Proposed by Green Council in 2006
- Objectives:
  - promote *sustainable consumption*
  - provide *information and technical assistance*
  - mentor the development and implementation of *eco-innovation and eco-technologies*
  - construct a *direct exchange platform* for eco-product/service providers and users
  - enhance awareness of local community for putting more emphasis on *social and environmental ethics of investors* around the globe



# Hong Kong Green Purchasing Network (HKGPN) (cont'd)

- Some proposed deliverables:
  - Green Purchasing Website with Database
  - HKGPN Support Centre and Technical Helpdesk
  - Eco-Product/Service Profile Criteria and Checklists
  - Green Purchasing Best Practice Guidelines
  - Green Purchasing Toolboxes
  - Green Purchasing Research Studies
  - Green Purchasing Conferences
  - Green Purchasing Seminars, Trainings and Workshops
  - Academic-Business Partnership Scheme
  - Green Purchasing Study Missions





# Hong Kong Green Purchasing Network (HKGPN) (cont'd)

- Key factor for the success for HKGPN
  - Funding and support from the public and private sectors
  - Sharing of experience, information and know-how at international level



Your valuable advice  
is much appreciated!



# Thank you

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