

惜食香港  
Food Wise Hong Kong



# Food Waste Reduction Good Practices Guide for **Shopping Malls Sector**

Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign

May 2013

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## Introduction

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Hong Kong's waste problem is a worry. Every day, each person dumps about 1.27 kg of municipal solid waste. Food waste is a major component of this solid waste. In 2011, about 3,600 tonnes of food waste were dumped in landfills every day<sup>1</sup>. This equals the weight of 300 double-decker buses and accounts for 40 per cent of Hong Kong's municipal solid waste. When food is wasted, apart from the cost implications, all the land, water, fertiliser and labour needed to grow that food are also wasted. In addition, greenhouse gas emissions are produced when transporting the food waste to the landfill and during decomposition of that waste. To realise the vision of a truly sustainable world, we all need to change the way we produce and consume our natural resources.

**We can all play a useful part to reduce food waste for the benefit of our community.**

## Purpose of this Guide

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The aim of this Guide is to help relevant stakeholders in the shopping mall sector make a worthwhile contribution to the environment. There is an obvious reason why every sector including the shopping mall sector would be interested in reducing the amount of food waste generated for disposal, as food waste is one of the major components of the municipal solid waste in Hong Kong and the landfill sites are progressively being filled up. With this Guide, stakeholders of the shopping mall sector can customise their parts to suit their contributing roles on food waste reduction.

You reap what you sow. A small contribution will provide a **BIG** help to relieve the burden of Hong Kong's landfills and to maintain a sustainable environment for our city for a brighter future of our next generation.

The best way is to **AVOID** food waste from the outset.

This Guide presents **PRACTICAL TIPS** to help you :

1. Avoid food waste;
2. Reduce food waste production; and
3. Minimise food waste disposal.

This Guide will be subject to refinement/revision as if necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong – Waste Statistics for 2011  
(<https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/en/materials/info/msw2011.pdf>)

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## Good Practices - Overview and Keys to Success

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To reduce food waste, the following three-pronged approach will help :

- Food waste reduction at source
- Food donation of surplus food to charitable organisations
- Food waste recycling.

“Food waste reduction at source” is the most direct and effective approach.

For the shopping mall sector, the top priority as well as the most effective way to tackle the food waste problem, is to promote and facilitate food waste reduction at food and beverage outlets in the malls.

Successful implementation of food waste reduction at source in shopping malls relies on the concerted efforts of customers, tenants, mall management, and other relevant parties such as food waste reduction experts, cleaning contractors and food waste collection companies. The success of these efforts in this worthy cause to protect the environment will also require on-going co-operation, communication, and feedback between the management of the shopping malls and the tenants.



## Good Practices - “REFF” Approach to Reduce Food Waste

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This Guide shares the good practices for the **shopping mall** sector in promoting food waste reduction at source.

The four key ways that shopping malls can participate in helping to reduce food waste at source are to:

- **R**aise awareness
- **E**ducate
- **E**ncourage
- **F**acilitate

Practical tips on the above roles are given in the following pages.

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## 1. RAISE AWARENESS

- Raise customers' and tenants' awareness to reduce food waste, by means of in-mall communications (e.g. publicity, posters, leaflets etc.)



## 2. EDUCATE

- Share the concept of food waste reduction to customers, tenants and mall management staff, by means of :
  - Disseminate information through promotional leaflets / videos
  - Share trade's good practices and tips; communicate information about relevant seminars to tenants
  - Provide information kits and/or briefings to mall management staff etc



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*Provide information kits to staff*



*Provide training to staff*

## 3. ENCOURAGE

- Encourage tenants to participate in food waste reduction programmes and activities :
  - Share trade's good practices and information on food waste reduction
  - Attend pertinent talks and seminars
  - Participate in schemes organised for food waste reduction



*Encourage tenant participation*

#### 4. FACILITATE

- Facilitate tenants to participate in food waste reduction programmes and activities :
  - Provide pertinent information such as contractors and/or equipment for food waste collection and processing
  - Organise and/or facilitate encouragement/incentive scheme for tenants to reduce food waste
  - Set up centralised food waste collection point(s)

##### List of Food Waste Collectors and Recyclers:

[https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/apps/vicinity\\_result.jsp?collection\\_type=collector&material\\_type=food\\_waste&district\\_id=0&view=%E5%8E%B&textonly=0](https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/apps/vicinity_result.jsp?collection_type=collector&material_type=food_waste&district_id=0&view=%E5%8E%B&textonly=0)



## Good Practices - Complementary Tip

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- Connect interested tenants and charitable organisations to facilitate surplus edible food donation.



*Donate surplus edible food to charitable organizations*

### List of Recycling Organizations and Collection Points for Food

[https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/apps/vicinity\\_result.jsp?collection\\_type=outlet&material\\_type=col\\_food&district\\_id=0](https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/apps/vicinity_result.jsp?collection_type=outlet&material_type=col_food&district_id=0)



## **Acknowledgement**

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This Good Practice Guide is produced by the concerted efforts of the members of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee and its working group (Shopping Mall Sector), who have shared their insightful views and practical experience in developing the Guide.

## **Contact Us**

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Suggestions, comments and enquiries on this Good Practice Guide are welcome. Please email your views to the Secretariat of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee at [foodwisehk@epd.gov.hk](mailto:foodwisehk@epd.gov.hk).

## **Disclaimer**

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