



THE ISSUE

Business as usual is not an option anymore; it is inevitable for all governments to deal with the climate crisis. Time is running out for effective action to address the climate emergency and global heating, as stridently conveyed in the IPCC's latest special report. Effective action requires participation from all stakeholders, especially government in policy making or enactment of law and regulations, and to bring about transformative change away from BAU.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

WWF-Hong Kong is working on innovations in low-carbon offices and supply chains and is a driving force for sustainability in the Hong Kong fashion industry. Companies accredited under our LOOP (Low-carbon Office Operation Programme) and LCMP (Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme) collectively avoided nearly half a million tonnes of carbon emissions since 2014 against a business-as-usual scenario. Our sustainability advisors are engaging with corporate and institutional investors on green bonds, green finance and sustainability reporting.

Our climate policy programme aims to influence a change in government buildings energy efficiency policy regarding the Gross Floor Area (GFA) concessions offered to new buildings, including:

- improving Hong Kong's existing new building energy efficiency policy by increasing visibility and transparency of actual energy usage data by commercial and residential sectors; and
- mobilising widespread awareness about buildings and individual carbon emissions to provide energy savings. WWF-Hong Kong takes part in Earth Hour, the world's largest collective environmental movement, every year. By symbolically switching off all non-essential lights for one hour we turn our attention towards preserving the earth's natural resources and promoting the use of renewable energy.

Making Zero Impact Fashionable and the Hong Kong Fashion Summit provide a platform for collaboration among fashion business leaders in their quest to individually and collectively advance and implement sustainability in their strategic business planning, product development, company policy and operational practices, including:

- adopting measures to reduce their carbon emissions;
- implementing sustainability performance monitoring tools and advisory services to facilitate their suppliers to start the low carbon journey; and
- improving environmental performance and/or ESG reporting.

Our Environmental Finance team aims to influence decision-making processes of asset managers and asset owners to shift capital from unsustainable investments into low-carbon solutions. Our *Climate Primer* provides an overview of the science of climate change, an

articulation of global policy around the issue, a survey of the technological approaches to the problem, and an outline of the various financial entities and resources involved in addressing climate change. This resource is made available to the investor community.

WWF-Hong Kong launched its Solarising Communities project in 2016, installing on-grid rooftop solar systems on stilt houses in Tai O, to demonstrate that solar power can meet half of household power needs. The city's first-ever Renewable Energy Certificate was subsequently launched for corporate application. In 2017, the project was extended with a 100% Solar Mobile Café rolling through the city to collect public opinions.

WWF conducted the city's first-ever study into the city's commercial refrigeration sector, highlighting the energy challenges and food safety risks of open display fridges. WWF's *Missing the Doors* energy report and best practice guide urges a market transformation towards climate-friendly and consumer-oriented refrigeration in the grocery retail sector. It asks for retailers to retrofit doors on fridges for increasing energy efficiency, and for the government to tighten laws regulating cooling temperature, securing food safety; and to raise energy efficiency standards on commercial refrigeration to international standards.

OUR ASK

In order to eliminate our plastic footprint, we must advocate for new policy standards, new incentives for industry, and new models of innovation for plastic avoidance, use, reuse and waste management. Plastic Smart Cities is the knowledge sharing platform on plastics, where all stakeholders join together for a Plastic Free Ocean. Here we connect problem owners with vetted solutions and solution providers. WWF and its partners will work with cities and tourism centers that want to tackle the plastic pollution problem in an innovative way, learning from the best practices that are being implemented and tested in cities around the world. Innovative entrepreneurship around circular alternatives for unnecessary single-use plastics creates new jobs in the cities and citizens actively participate in the transition towards a plastic pollution free economy.

WWF is calling on Hong Kong to become a Plastic Smart City by being 100% plastic pollution free by 2030. We urge the government to produce a city plan for dealing with the problem of plastics, leveraging global smart cities best practices. WWF Hong Kong recommends the government to implement the below strategies:

- Ban all polystyrene tableware by 2022;
- Provide a clear timeline on phasing out all single-use plastic tableware upon completion of the government's consultancy in 2021;
- Establish an aid fund for the food and beverage industry to roll out incentive schemes for customers to bring their own cutlery and container;
- Implement the Pilot Scheme on Collection and Recycling Services of Plastic Recyclable Materials in Sai Kung and Central piers;
- Develop a regulated Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system for plastic packaging and tableware in supermarkets and the food and beverage industry.