

Dear Hong Kong citizens,

I am the chairperson of an environmental group Green Life, Chris Wong. Few days ago, a radio programme 'Dear Hong Kong' has discussed about the current issue of the running out of landfills in Hong Kong, and it is a serious problem that affects so many stakeholders in Hong Kong. According to the data of government, all existing landfills will be filled by the mid-2010s. And some residents living near landfills in Tseung Kwan O are very angry with its expansion projects.

First and foremost, I feel disappointed of the government's action. They are irresponsible to solve the problem. I know the domestic waste of Hong Kong is increasing rapidly. But expanding the landfill is not a long-term solution. In Hong Kong, all of the wastes are transferred to the landfills, but if the government does not solve this problem, I think Hong Kong people need to live the garbage like Nepal and Italy.

Besides, the landfill expansion is a controversial issue in the society. Many people live in Tseung Kwan O and it is a rapidly growing new town. About 370 thousands residents live near the biggest landfill in Hong Kong. I heard many cases about the bad smell from the landfill, especially during the high humid and high API season. But the government said that they will expand the landfill. I also live in Tseung Kwan O and I think the government is so bad because there was not any consultation. At that time, I feel that the government neglected our voice and what we want.

If the government wants to ease this problem, they can use a more sustainable ways to solve it. They can adopt a treatment fee on the rubbish. There are some successful examples overseas like Taiwan. Also, they can promote the public to bring their own bag to go shopping and increase the amount of plastic bag fees. Not only the government can solve the resources of garbage, but also they can think how to increase more treatment ways. Take a look at Japan, there are many incinerators that can provide a recreation and educational place for people, and the incinerator can produce the electricity too. If Hong Kong can practice this way, Hong Kong people can live in a sustainable city.

As the chairperson of a green group, I suggest some ways to you about reducing domestic waste. '4R' is the easiest way to reduce waste, such as reduce, reuse and recycle. Furthermore, we can use more environmental friendly ways to buy things and avoid producing waste. For example, we can choose some few packaging products. And bring the own lunch boxes to buy the take-away food.

All in all, if you can find your own eco-friendly life and the people who live in the Earth Village will be better. Let's build an equal and beautiful world! All of us can enhance our places too.

Yours sincerely,

*Chris Wong*

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