



Major Environmental Policies

Ministry Of Environment, R. O. C (Taiwan)

<https://www.moeenv.gov.tw/>



Climate Change

Ministry of Environment releases latest National Greenhouse Gas Inventory; 2024 net emissions down 6.59% from baseline year

On June 3, 2026, the Ministry of Environment (Taiwan) released the “National Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2026 Edition),” aligning with the two years old (i.e., 2024) international reporting standards and publishing national greenhouse gas statistics, for the year. According to the latest data, Taiwan’s total greenhouse gas emissions in 2024, after accounting for carbon sinks, was a net total of 251.404 million metric tons of CO_{2e}, representing a 6.59% reduction compared with the baseline year and a 1.92% decrease from 2023. The figures mark three consecutive years of steady decline. Moreover, the pace of reduction has outperformed the global trend of rising emissions, demonstrating continued progress toward the nation’s phased emissions reduction targets.

The Ministry of Environment explained that, according to the information published on the official website of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), 41 Parties to the Convention have so far published their latest national greenhouse gas inventories this year. Although Taiwan is not a Party to the Convention, it continues to prepare and publish its inventory reports annually in accordance with the “National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Guidelines” issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the requirements of the Paris Agreement’s Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).

Furthermore, Taiwan’s inventory data have been consistently incorporated over the years into the analyses of international institutions such as the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK). The latest inventory results demonstrate three concrete achievements in terms of emissions reduction and economic structural transformation:

1. Taiwan’s decarbonization trend outperforms the global average: The Ministry of Environment stated that, according to a report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in 2024,

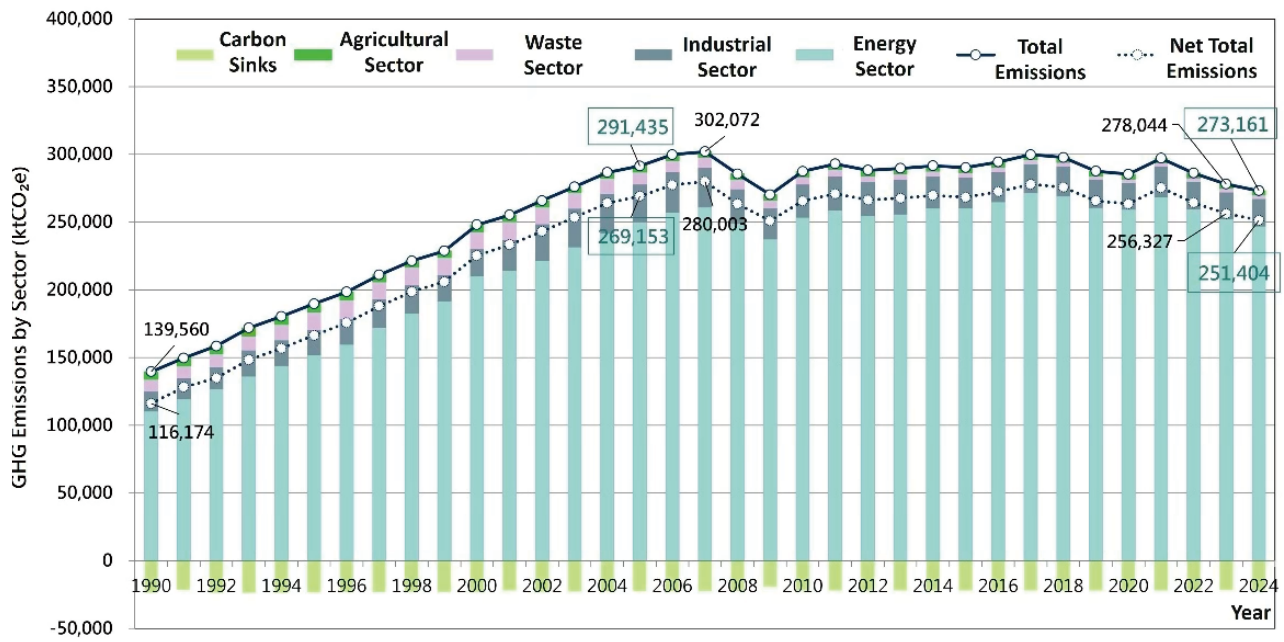
the global greenhouse gas emissions increased by 2.3%. However, Taiwan's total emissions and net emissions declined compared with that of the previous year. Total emissions fell by 1.76% year over year, whereas net emissions decreased by 1.92%. This indicates that the country's recent emissions reduction measures have been gradually taking effect and showing tangible results.

II. Continued decoupling of economic growth and carbon emissions: Statistics show that, considering 2005 as the base year, Taiwan's real GDP has increased by 93.13% over the past 20 years. However, during the same period, carbon dioxide emissions intensity has decreased by 48.59%, indicating progressive weakening of the linkage between economic growth and carbon emissions. In addition, according to the analysis in the Global Carbon Project's 2025 Global Carbon Budget Report, only 35 economies worldwide, including Taiwan, have achieved a decoupling trend between economic growth and carbon emissions. This reflects that recent efforts in energy transition, industrial energy efficiency improvements, and low-carbon development policies have been gradually yielding results.

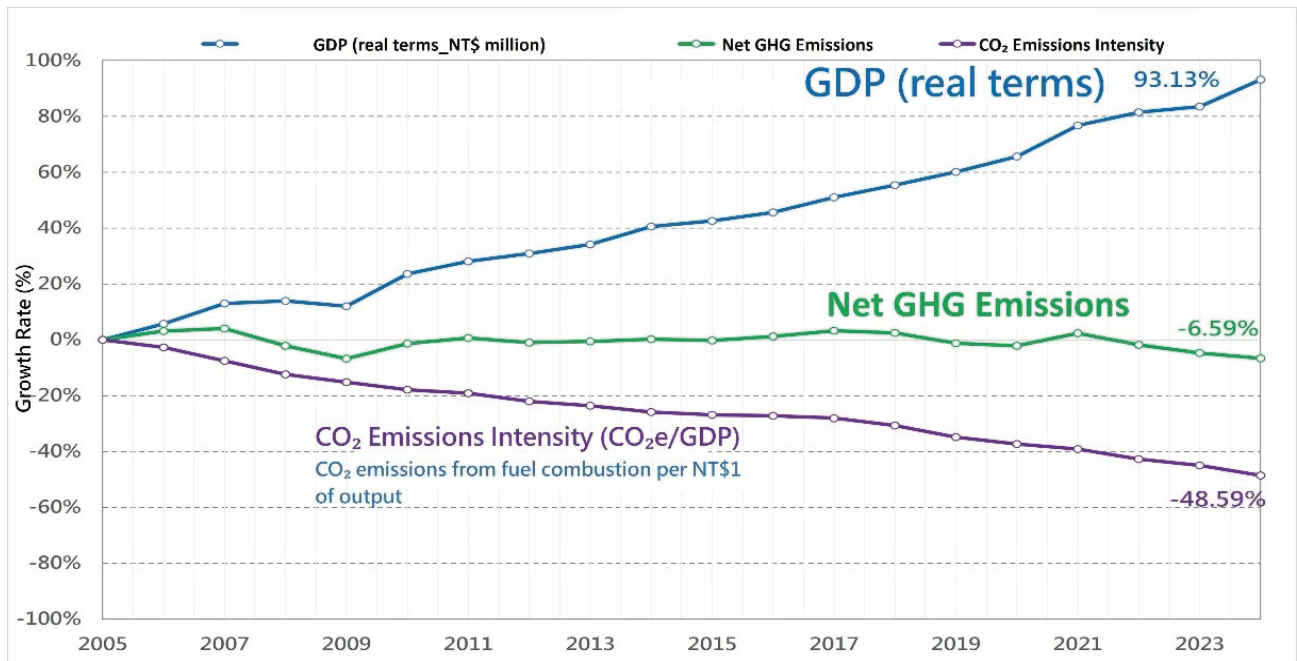
III. First-time emissions in all inventory sectors fall below the baseline year: More than 90% of Taiwan's national greenhouse gas emissions are from the "energy sector," which includes fuel combustion across energy industries, manufacturing and construction, transportation, residential and commercial

buildings, as well as agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. In 2024, emissions from this sector were 1.07% lower than that in 2005, which was the first time since the implementation of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act that the emissions have fallen below the baseline year level. Within the sector, manufacturing and construction recorded the most significant declines, indicating that improvements in industrial energy efficiency and ongoing energy transition measures are increasingly reflected in actual emissions outcomes.

The Ministry of Environment stated that, for the first time, this year's greenhouse gas inventory simultaneously incorporates emissions data for 2005 and 2024 in the Common Reporting Tables (CRT) under the ETF of the Paris Agreement. This marks a gradual alignment with international greenhouse gas disclosure standards and reflects ongoing efforts to continuously improve Taiwan's emissions accounting methodology. The "2026 National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report" and the CRT have been jointly published on the Climate Information Hub (<https://gov.tw/9EA>), where a visualized data interface is available for public access and download. The Ministry emphasized that comprehensive and reliable emissions data form the cornerstone of effective climate policy implementation. Looking ahead, Taiwan has already released its 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) in line with the spirit of the Paris Agreement. The government will continue to strengthen collaboration between central and local authorities and steadily advance toward the national goal of net-zero transformation.



Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trend in Taiwan



Trends in Taiwan's GDP Growth and CO₂ Emissions Intensity

The Resource Circulation Promotion Act passes third reading, ushering Taiwan into a new era of circular resource management

To advance the sustainable use of resources, implement the national strategies of “zero waste through resource circulation” and Taiwan’s “2050 Net-Zero Emissions Pathway,” the Ministry of Environment drafted amendments to the “Re-source Recycling and Reuse Act,” which was renamed as “Resource Circulation Promotion Act.” The bill was passed by the Legislative Yuan on June 2, 2026, after its third reading. Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming and Administrator Lai Ying-Ying of the Resource Circulation Administration attended the session in person to express their appreciation, acknowledging Convener Lin Yueh-Chin of the Social Welfare and Environmental Hygiene Committee of the Legislative Yu-An, as well as legislators from across party lines for their support. Legislator Wang Cheng-Hsu also stated during the third reading that the amendment brings Taiwan’s policies and legal framework for resource circulation in alignment with international standards. The passage of the bill not only demonstrates Taiwan’s determination to advance the circular economy and resource sustainability but also marks a historic transition from “waste management” to “re-source circulation,” laying a critical legal foundation for a full life-cycle approach to resource management.

The Ministry of Environment noted that, in response to resource depletion, global transition toward green supply chains, and climate change, resource circulation has become a critical pillar of sustainable national development and industrial competitiveness. The current amendment is centered on the principles of “source reduction” and “resource circulation.” Through institutional reform and cross-ministerial coordination, it seeks to drive a comprehensive transformation of industry from a linear economy to a circular economy, ushering in a new era of circular resource management in Taiwan.

1. Life-cycle resource management enshrined in law, establishing a circular governance system

This amendment, for the first time, incorporates full life-cycle management into the regulatory

system—from product design, production, and consumption to re-cycling and reuse. In the future, the government will formulate a National Re-source Circulation Plan and establish a cross-ministerial “Resource Circulation Promotion Committee” to integrate central and local resources and advance the development of a circular economy.

Furthermore, the reform introduces a green design system. In the future, designated products and construction projects may be required to adopt design approaches such as easy disassembly, mono-material construction, or the use of a specified proportion of recycled materials. These measures aim to reduce re-source waste at the source and improve resource recovery efficiency. Simultaneously, authorities may require enterprises to implement measures, such as reuse, reduced use, extended

product lifespans, or restrictions and prohibitions on certain materials or products, to reduce reliance on virgin resources.

II. Promoting sustainable consumption and building new momentum for circular industries

To encourage public participation in the circular economy, this amendment introduces a circular labeling system and product information disclosure requirements. Consumers will be able to access information, including the proportion of recycled content in products, durability, repairability, and recycling methods, which would enable more informed choices in favor of circular products and services and help drive the growth of a sustainable consumption market.

In addition, the government will prioritize the procurement of circular products in the future and encourage private-sector companies to adopt circular procurement practices, thereby expanding market demand for circular goods and services. The amendment

also introduces an “innovation sandbox” mechanism, allowing testing of innovative circular technologies and business models in a controlled environment. This is intended to support the development of circular industry and foster technological breakthroughs.

The Ministry of Environment stated that resource circulation is a foundational pillar of the net-zero transition, as well as a key driver of national resilience and industrial competitiveness. Following the passage of the amendment, the government will actively advance the revision and implementation of related subordinate regulations and supporting measures. It will also continue to strengthen communication and collaboration with local governments, industry stakeholders, and civil society organizations to progressively enhance Taiwan's circular system. These efforts aim to keep critical resources circulating within industrial value chains, steadily advance toward the vision of “zero waste through resource circulation,” and build a circular Taiwan with greater resilience and long-term sustainability.



■ Group photo following the third reading approval of the “Resource Circulation Promotion Act.” Legislators Chen Pei-Yu, Kuo Yu-Chin, Wang Cheng-Hsu, Minister of Environment Peng Chi-ming, and Administrator of Resource Circulation Administration Lai Ying-Ying of the Resource Circulation Administration

MOENV's AI Customer Service App Now Available 24/7, Green Points Offered

The Ministry of Environment (MOENV) officially launched the "Smart Customer Service" system for trial operation on 23 July 2026, which for the first time integrates advanced AI technology into a LINE account and website, platforms familiar to most Taiwanese. Whether it's searching for information on applying for subsidies, carbon fee policies, plastic reduction policies, or how to recycle waste, people can simply tap their cell phones with "just one finger" or even "speak" to the app directly. The little AI green helper is available 24/7, providing instant responses. The MOENV has generously offered a total of 5 million Green Points reward and invites everyone to become an "AI debugging master". Users can experience the service and fill out the feedback form for a chance to earn useful green points.

Unlike general-purpose generative AI, which may produce inaccurate or hallucinatory responses or creates AI "hallucinations", the MOENV stated that this smart customer service system is positioned as an "an official digital consultation channel." The system directly connects to the Ministry of Environment's curated internal knowledge base, and each response clearly cites its official sources and relevant regulatory webpages. This not only helps improve accuracy and traceability of information but also transforms specialized and technical environmental regulations and application procedures into plain language easily understandable to the public. It boosts both the government's credibility and convenience for the public.

MOENV's Department of Environmental Information Technology explained that this "Smart Customer Service" system was designed to address the public's daily environmental concerns. It has three key features:

I. One-click access to public services:

Information, such as vehicle replacement subsidies, real-time air quality inquiries, recycling channels, carbon fee collection, and the latest plastic reduction policies are integrated, providing solutions to all the most pressing issues affecting people's lives.

II. 24/7 Night Owl Support: The AI service is available around the clock, including nights and holidays. Late at night or on a holiday, official answers can be easily found through a cell phone.

III. Voice input is easy for seniors:

The optimized voice recognition function spares people from the trouble of typing on a small screen. It is intuitive and user-friendly for seniors who can simply speak through a cell phone.

MOENV launched a limited-time public opinion survey called "Let the public help" to make the AI system smarter. The MOENV emphasized that building a user-friendly digital government is an ongoing process of improvement. People

from all over Taiwan are all welcome to experience this technology and work with the MOENV to cultivate an AI service better tailored to environmental issues

and public needs in Taiwan, to move together towards a low-carbon, smart, and sustainable new life.

MOENV's Little AI Helper



AI customer service online 24/7

MOENV website and MOENV LINE OA at your service

MOENV website



Search online for "MOENV AI customer service" for the AI service page. Ask your question by either voice or texts.

MOENV LINEOA

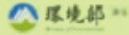


Sign up for the MOENV LINE account and start talking to the AI customer service found in the menu



Finish survey for green points

Go to "AI customer service" page on the MOENV website or "Event info and sign up" section in the MOENV's LINE account finish the survey and provide your comments. **The first 500 users will be awarded 10,000 green points.** Sign up while the supply lasts.

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■ The MOENV's little AI helper

Amended Air Pollutant Emission Standards for the Cement Industry Issued to Align with International Practices While Advancing the Circular Economy and Air Pollution Control to Safeguard Public Health

To support the objectives of resource circulation, net-zero carbon emissions, and air quality maintenance, the Ministry of Environment amended and issued the “Air Pollutant Emission Standards for the Cement Industry” (水泥業空氣污染物排放標準) on May 18, 2026. The focus of this amendment is to align Taiwan’s regulatory framework with international standards and strengthen controls on hazardous air pollutants. Specifically, the revised standards introduce regulatory limits for dioxins and 12 specified heavy metals while also establishing emission standards for hydrogen fluoride (HF), hydrogen chloride (HCl), and carbon monoxide (CO). In addition, a feedstock management mechanism has been introduced to regulate the selection of raw materials and alternative fuels, encouraging the industry to implement source reduction measures and strengthen operational management practices, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of pollution prevention and control. Through these amendments, the Ministry of Environment seeks to ensure that the promotion of the circular economy proceeds in tandem with robust air quality protection measures, safeguarding both environmental quality and public health.

The Ministry of Environment stated that, as net-zero emissions policies continue to be actively advanced, the proportion of waste-derived alternative fuels co-processed in domestic cement kilns has steadily increased. To prevent the potential pollution risks associated with increasingly diverse feedstock sources, and recognizing the strong correlation between pollutant emissions from cement manufacturing and feedstock composition, the amended standards introduce a new “Screening and Usage Proportioning Management Plan for Raw Materials, Other Materials, and Fuels.” Under this framework, the traceability and use of resource-circulation materials will be subject to enhanced management, encouraging operators to select such inputs based on the processing capacity of their own

cement kilns. The mechanism is designed to help operators better understand the composition of resource-circulation materials and ensure compliance with emission standards at the source through feedstock screening, quality control measures, and adjustments to feedstock ratios. In addition, recognizing that the industry will require time to upgrade equipment and optimize operating parameters, the amendments include transitional measures. Operators may submit the aforementioned management plan to the local competent authority for approval by October 30, 2026, and apply for a compliance transition (buffer) period. This arrangement provides a reasonable timeframe for adaptation, with any approved transition period extending no later than 1 January 2029.

The Ministry of Environment emphasized that the amendments were developed through extensive interagency coordination and multiple rounds of consultation with industry, government, and academic stakeholders, resulting in broad consensus among all parties. By adopting a dual-track approach that combines more stringent end-of-pipe emission standards with feedstock composition controls, the revised framework balances the advancement of the circular economy with effective air pollution management. Looking ahead, the Ministry will continue to support the steady transformation and upgrading of the industry through rigorous scientific data and a macro-level regulatory framework, fostering a sustainable future in which economic development and environmental protection advance hand in hand.

In addition, in response to recent public concern regarding the environmental impacts of benzo[a]pyrene (BaP), the Ministry stated that it has continued to closely monitor

this pollutant and has conducted long-term measurements through air quality monitoring stations located in specialized industrial parks. According to environmental ambient air monitoring data collected from 2022 to 2024, the average concentrations of BaP were 0.07 ng/m³ in the Yunlin Offshore Industrial Park, 0.15 ng/m³ in the Linyuan Industrial Park, and 0.136 ng/m³ in the Linhai Industrial Park. These monitoring results are all below relevant international benchmarks, including the Long-term Air Monitoring Comparison Value (AMCV) established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), which is 3 ng/m³, and the European Union's air quality target value for airborne polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), for which BaP serves as the indicator substance, with an annual average concentration limit of 1 ng/m³. The Ministry of Environment has also announced plans to initiate revisions to the Hazardous Air Pollutant Emission Standards in 2026, under which BaP will be incorporated into the regulatory emission control framework.

International Cooperation

Taiwan–Paraguay Climate Cooperation: Creating New Opportunities for Cross-Border Emissions Reduction

To expand opportunities for cooperation and exchange between Taiwan and Paraguay in addressing climate change, the Ministry of Environment held the “International Mitigation Cooperation Exchange Roundtable” (國際減量合作交流座談會) on 7 May, 2026. The session was chaired by Minister Peng Chi-ming. The meeting brought together Mr. Victor González, Director of the Carbon Market Division of Paraguay's

Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, representatives from Paraguay's carbon market sector, Taiwan's Green Growth Alliance (綠色成長聯盟), and the Taiwan Carbon Solution Exchange (臺灣碳權交易所), among other stakeholders. Participants engaged in in-depth discussions on the potential for collaboration in carbon credit development between Taiwan and Paraguay, as well as possible implementation mechanisms

and future policy pathways. Through strengthened international cooperation and public-private partnerships, the Ministry expressed its hope of creating a mutually beneficial outcome for both governments and enterprises in Taiwan and Paraguay.

The Ministry of Environment stated that the Republic of Paraguay is one of Taiwan's key diplomatic allies. Paraguay's abundant forest resources serve as its primary carbon sink and a central pillar of its emissions-reduction strategy. Following the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation under the Paris Agreement" (在《巴黎協定》下合作備忘錄) on 1 October, 2025, Minister Peng of the Ministry of Environment announced in November the launch of 12 "Taiwan-Paraguay Environmental Governance Action Plans" (臺巴環境治理行動方案). The roundtable brought together enterprises from both sides to exchange views on future mechanisms for tangible emissions-reduction cooperation.

In his remarks, Minister Peng stated that as the global net-zero transition continues to advance, Taiwan should align both its national strategic mitigation planning and corporate development needs with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement in implementing international mitigation cooperation. This includes the generation of Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) and the application of corresponding adjustments, ensuring high-integrity carbon credits that are real, transparent, and free from double counting. The government is currently in discussions with Paraguay regarding the signing of an Implementation Agreement (IA). Under this framework, the government will lead enterprises in jointly establishing emissions-mitigation cooperation with Paraguay, ensuring that bilateral projects comply with international standards for high-quality mitigation outcomes. These efforts are expected to

be eligible for offsetting up to 5% of taxable carbon-fee emissions. Minister Peng also expressed hope that Taiwan-funded enterprises will participate in forestry carbon-sink projects in Paraguay. This would not only help Taiwan advance toward its emissions-reduction targets and enhance corporate competitiveness, but also deliver tangible benefits to local communities and ecosystems in Paraguay.

Director González stated in his remarks that, in recent years, Paraguay has actively advanced cooperation mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, working to establish a robust, transparent system for the transfer of ITMOs that ensures high environmental integrity and avoids double counting. He noted that Paraguay has already engaged in cooperation with multiple countries and accumulated practical experience, and that its efforts are highly complementary to Taiwan's initiatives in advancing international emissions-mitigation cooperation. He expressed hope that Taiwan and Paraguay can deepen collaboration in areas such as expanding natural carbon sinks, renewable energy, and green transportation, and that their partnership could serve as a practical demonstration of how Article 6 of the Paris Agreement can be implemented.

In an increasingly competitive international landscape for mitigation cooperation, Minister Peng expressed deep appreciation and sincere gratitude that Director González and Paraguayan business representatives traveled to Taiwan to discuss cooperation on emissions rights. Beyond future cooperation with Paraguay

on reforestation and afforestation projects for emissions reduction, Taiwan is also concurrently advancing domestic planning for “urban forests.” Through public-private partnerships, the Ministry aims to achieve

multiple win-win outcomes, including strengthened climate action, expanded green investment, sustainable development, and the further consolidation of bilateral diplomatic ties.



■ Minister Peng with Paraguay's Director of Carbon Markets, Victor González, Paraguayan business representatives, and Taiwan's Green Growth Alliance



■ Minister Peng presiding over the “International Emissions-Mitigation Cooperation Exchange Roundtable”



■ Representatives from Taiwan and Paraguay jointly exploring opportunities for international mitigation cooperation

International Cooperation

Minister Peng Meets with Delegation from Belize to Deepen Cooperation on Climate Governance and Green Transition

On 28 July 2026, a delegation led by Hon. Dr. Osmond Martinez, Minister of State of Belize's Ministry of Economic Transformation, paid a visit to meet with Taiwan's Minister of Environment, Peng Chi-Ming, to discuss bilateral cooperation on environmental issues. The two sides announced plans to establish a "Taiwan-Belize Climate Working Group".

The Taiwanese and Belizean delegations held in-depth discussions on key issues such as climate change response, carbon pricing mechanisms, circular economy, and climate adaptation. Drawing on its experience, Taiwan will actively help Belize establish a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system based on international standards to strengthen its climate governance and capacity-building framework.

A major focus of the meeting was carbon pricing and carbon market mechanisms.

Minister Peng stated that a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation between Belize and Taiwan was revised by the MOENV's Climate Change Administration (CCA) based on comments provided by the foreign affairs authorities of both sides. The MOU is being reviewed by Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and it is hoped the signing process will be completed as soon as possible. The two sides also aim to establish a highly transparent and credible carbon market cooperation framework, drawing on Taiwan's experience

in implementing its MOU with Paraguay.

In the meeting, Minister Peng shared Taiwan's experience in implementing its carbon fee system, as well as its long-term plans for an emissions trading system (ETS). Meanwhile, the Belizean delegation expressed a strong interest in the generating tangible economic benefits from forest carbon credits and blue carbon resources, hoping to accelerate the unlock the value of its national carbon assets by learning from Taiwan's institutional experience.

Regarding challenges concerning the circular economy and regional waste, Taiwan and Belize exchanged views on the issues of domestic waste management and Sargassum accumulation. The MOENV suggested utilizing resources from the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) to start a waste management pilot project in southern Belize, based on the "Kinmen Recycling Model" in Taiwan. At the same time, both delegations agreed to jointly study and develop ways to use waste material carbon credits and biochar, thus

turning waste into new green resources.

Regarding climate adaptation and urban resilience, Taiwan demonstrated cutting-edge applications of artificial intelligence (AI) and LiDAR (laser imaging, detection, and ranging) to help with urban cooling and mitigation of the urban heat island effect. Meanwhile the Belizean delegation presented details of its country's national tree-planting plan, "One Million Trees in Five Years". The meeting showed the complementary advantages of both parties reducing carbon emissions through technology and nature-based solutions (NbS).

This meeting represented an important step forward in climate action cooperation between Taiwan and Belize. Once the "Taiwan-Belize Climate Working Group" is established, the two countries will focus on technological cooperation and capacity building and continue to expand their bilateral partnership in sustainable development and sustainable finance, to jointly address global climate challenges.



■ Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming meeting with Hon. Dr. Osmond Martinez, Minister of State of Belize's Ministry of Economic Transformation



■ Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming (fourth from right) and the delegation of Belize's Ministry of Economic Transformation led by Minister Osmond Martinez (fourth from left)

Resource Circulation

Expanding Green Consumer Choice: Ministry of Environment Issues Key Points to Advance Circular Products and Services

The Resource Circulation Administration of the Ministry of Environment promulgated the “Key Points for Promoting Circular Products and Circular Services” (循環產品及循環服務推動作業要點) on 6 May, 2026. To accelerate industrial green transition, the Key Points encourage businesses to invest in the circular economy by developing products that reduce resource consumption, are made from fully recyclable materials, or incorporate recycled content. At the same time, they promote the reuse of packaging and containers, as well as the provision of repair services that extend product life cycles. Through the transformation of consumer markets and consumption patterns, the Ministry aims to improve resource-use efficiency and reduce waste generation, thereby advancing the transition toward a more sustainable circular economy.

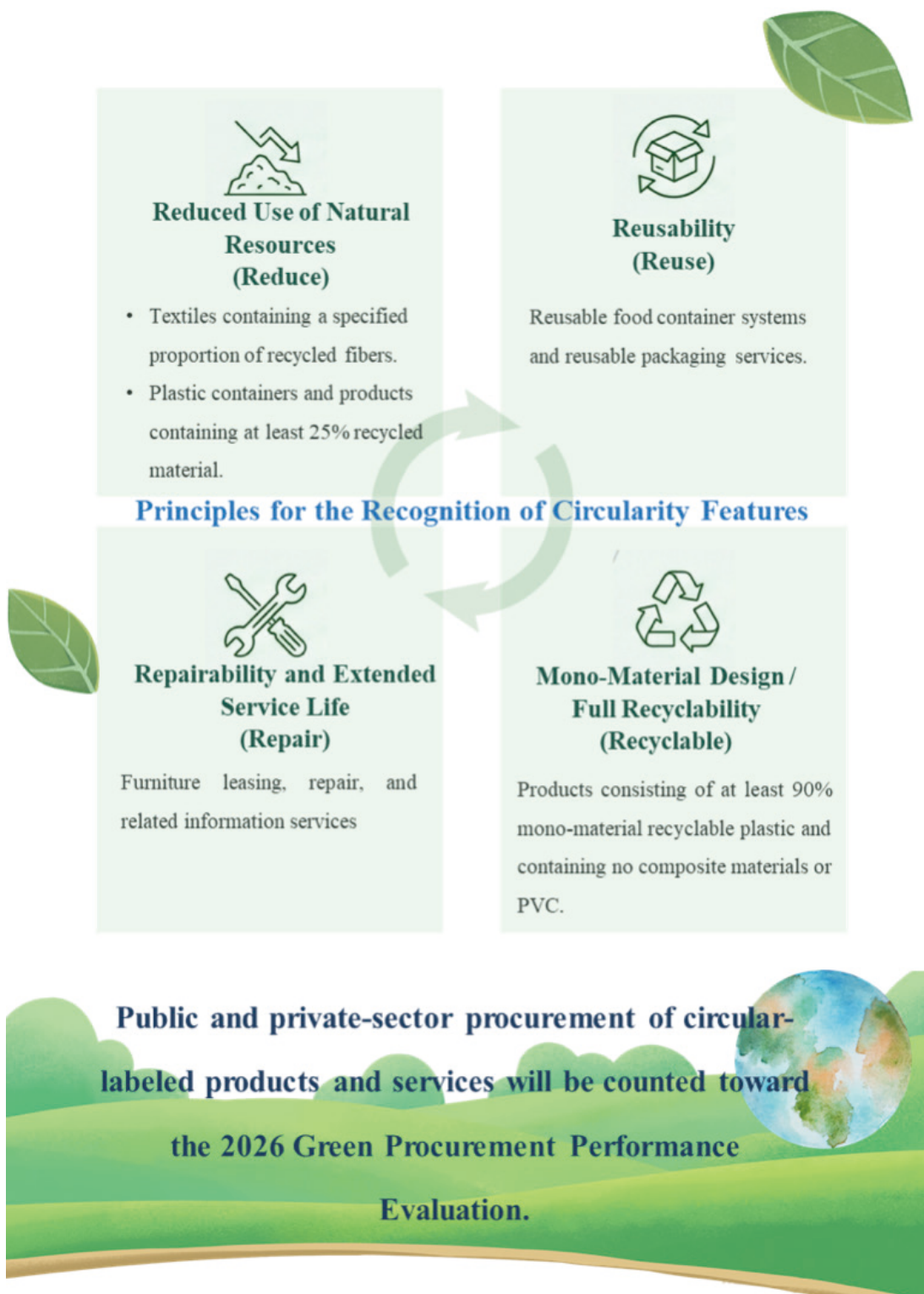
The Resource Circulation Administration stated that the Key Points clearly define the eligibility criteria for recognizing circularity features. Products and services that reduce the use of natural resources, adopt mono-material designs to facilitate full recyclability, are made using recycled materials, or can extend their life cycles through reuse and repair are all eligible to apply to the Resource Circulation Administration for authorization to use the circular label. This system not only helps businesses enhance product visibility and market competitiveness, but also serves as a reference for procurement by consumers, as well as public- and private-sector buyers, making green consumption more straightforward and intuitive.

The Resource Circulation Administration explained that the application process for authorization to use the circular label is divided into two stages: documentary (formal) review and substantive review. Application materials should primarily demonstrate operational performance or production information related to circular products and services. To facilitate industry applications, cases that comply with the announced product categories and technical specifications will, in principle, be reviewed through a documentary assessment based on submitted materials. The first batch of circular product and service categories was announced on May 28, covering five major categories—textiles, plastics, glass containers, circular services, and inorganic materials—and comprising 12 product and service items in total, representing a wide range of product types and service models. Authorization to use the circular label is generally valid for three years. If there are no revisions to the relevant technical

specifications, the authorization may be extended once for an additional six years.

To help stakeholders better understand the operational management of the Key Points, as well as the subsequent procedures for applying for, issuing, and using the “Circular Label” (循環標誌), the Resource Circulation Administration held three informational sessions in northern, central, and southern Taiwan on May 12, 15, and 18, respectively. These sessions provided in-depth explanations of the application process, the first batch of announced circular product and service categories, and the principles for verifying technical specifications. A total of 225 participants attended the three sessions in person and online.

In addition to promoting and encouraging businesses to apply for and obtain the circular label, the Resource Circulation Administration will also concurrently publicize and promote matchmaking initiatives for circular procurement across both the public and private sectors, as well as encourage general consumers to prioritize products and services bearing the circular label. For example, in the Ministry of Environment’s 2026 Green Procurement Performance Evaluation for government agencies, procurement expenditures on circular-labeled products and services by both public and private entities have been included as an additional assessment item. Through this approach of leveraging public-sector leadership to drive private-sector participation, the government aims to support the transformation of industries toward a circular economy and lay the foundation for a circular society in Taiwan.



■ Key Points for Promoting Circular Products and Circular Services

Amendments to the Waste Disposal Act pass third reading, strengthening resource circulation management and reinforcing environmental justice safeguards

To strengthen the waste management system, enhance resource circulation and utilization, and curb illegal dumping activities, the Ministry of Environment drafted amendments to certain provisions of the Waste Disposal Act. The bill was passed by the Legislative Yuan on June 16, 2026, after its third reading. Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming and Administrator Lai Ying-Ying of the Resource Circulation Administration attended the session in person to express their appreciation, thanking Convener Lin Yueh-Chin of the Legislative Yuan's Social Welfare and Environmental Hygiene Committee, as well as legislators from across party lines for their support. Legislators Lin Shu-fen and Wang Cheng-Hsu also spoke during the session and shared their expectations for the reform. In addition to aligning with the legal framework established under the "Resource Circulation Promotion Act", the amendments comprehensively strengthen key areas such as emerging waste management, reuse systems, and prevention of environmental crimes. The reform underscores the government's determination to advance resource circulation, uphold environmental justice, and safeguard the nation's environmental integrity.

The Ministry of Environment noted that, considering the net-zero transition and the growing momentum of the circular economy, it is essential to not only advance re-source circulation but also strengthen the waste management system and prevent environmental risks arising from illegal dumping and improper disposal. Centered on the principles of "generator responsibility, enhanced regulation, and environmental justice," this amendment seeks to improve overall waste management effectiveness through institutional refinement and technology-enabled enforcement, thereby building a more robust and comprehensive environmental governance framework.

1. Expanding the scope of responsible

enterprises and strengthening the management mechanism for emerging waste streams:

In response to emerging waste generated by the energy transition and industrial development, this amendment expands the scope of regulated recyclable waste management. The framework, which previously focused primarily on municipal solid waste, is now extended to include certain types of industrial waste. It also newly designates responsible enterprises for emerging waste streams such as renewable energy generation equipment, along with corresponding fee obligations. Going forward, manufacturers, importers, and installation operators will jointly assume responsibility for the recycling,

collection, and treatment of these materials, thereby fully implementing the principle of extended producer responsibility (EPR) and establishing a comprehensive chain-of-responsibility management mechanism.

II. Unifying reuse management authorities to strengthen the resource circulation system:

This amendment integrates the existing management regulations for reuse of industrial waste, which are currently dispersed across multiple ministries and agencies. It centralizes authority under the competent central agency to establish unified management standards, including product quality control for reused materials, process and equipment requirements, and certification and verification systems. It also strengthens mechanisms for tracking the flow and operational management of reused products. Through the establishment of consistent regulatory standards, the reform aims to improve product quality and market confidence, foster the healthy development of the resource circulation industry, and ensure alignment with the circular economy system established under the Resource Circulation Promotion Act.

III. Integrating technology-enabled enforcement with enhanced penalties to strengthen environmental justice protections:

To effectively curb illegal dumping, this amendment introduces technology-enabled enforcement tools, including electronic fencing systems and video surveillance technologies, to strengthen oversight and tracking of waste flows. Illegal dumping may be punishable for up to seven years

of imprisonment, along with fines of up to NT\$15 million. For offenses committed in environmentally sensitive areas, the sentence may be increased by up to one-half. The amendment also strengthens mechanisms for the recovery of illicit gains and reinforces offenders' obligations for environmental remediation and restoration.

Regarding environmental restoration, in addition to strengthening mechanisms for securing claims, the amendment allows for the early initiation of provisional attachment procedures to prevent violators from concealing or transferring assets to evade liability. It also introduces joint and several liabilities for responsible parties, explicitly defining the obligations of corporate officers, controlling entities, and major shareholders. These measures are intended to ensure the complete remediation and restoration of contaminated sites, fully implement the "polluter pays" principle, and uphold environmental justice.

The Ministry of Environment stated that this amendment represents a major milestone in Taiwan's waste management system. The government will continue to advance the formulation and revision of relevant subsidiary regulations and support measures while strengthening collaboration between central and local governments, thereby providing industry guidance and deploying technology-enabled enforcement mechanisms. These efforts aim to comprehensively enhance the effectiveness of waste management, improve the resource circulation system, and jointly build a more sustainable, secure, and resilient circular Taiwan.



■ Group photo after the third reading approval of the Waste Disposal Act amendments. (From left) Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming, Legislator Chen Pei-Yu, Legislator Wang Cheng-Hsu, and Administrator Lai Ying-Ying of the Resource Circulation Administration, Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Environment Promulgates Regulations Governing Subsidies for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Technologies and Climate Change Adaptation, Leveraging the Greenhouse Gas Management Fund to Support Decarbonization and Adaptation Efforts by Businesses and Academic and Research Institutions

To accelerate Taiwan's progress toward net-zero emissions by 2050, the country entered the carbon pricing era in 2025. Pursuant to the Climate Change Response Act, the NT\$4.97 billion in carbon fees collected in 2026 has been deposited into the Greenhouse Gas Management Fund and earmarked exclusively for initiatives to support greenhouse gas emissions reduction and climate change adaptation. To maximize the fund's impact, the Ministry of Environment has promulgated the Regulations Governing Subsidies for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Technologies and Climate Change Adaptation. The regulations will support investment in innovative technologies by businesses and academic and research institutions, foster public-private collaboration in pursuit of the 2050 net-zero emissions target, and build a sustainable, climate-resilient Taiwan.

The Ministry of Environment stated that after the draft Regulations Governing Subsidies for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Technologies and Climate Change Adaptation were announced for public comment in June 2026, the Ministry promptly convened a consultation meeting with representatives of government ministries and agencies, industry associations, civil society organizations, and local governments to solicit broad stakeholder input. Following extensive consultations and the incorporation of stakeholder recommendations, the regulations were further refined, promulgated, and brought into effect on July 14, 2026.

The Ministry of Environment explained that the Regulations contain 15 articles, with the following key provisions:

I. Eligible applicants: All entities that are legally defined as “enterprises,” including companies, registered businesses, factories, private institutions, and administrative agencies and institutions, as well as public and private colleges and universities and academic research institutions, are eligible to apply.

II. Focus on emissions reduction and adaptation: Eligible projects include the conversion of fuels and production processes to low- or zero-carbon alternatives; energy-efficiency measures; carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS); negative-emissions technologies; measures to address the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM); and research and development involving innovative emissions-reduction and climate-change adaptation technologies.

III. Activities ineligible for subsidies: To ensure effective resource usage, subsidies will not be provided for activities that enterprises are legally required to undertake. These include preparation and registration of greenhouse gas inventories, measures covered by approved voluntary reduction plans for entities subject to carbon fees, incremental emissions offsetting, and mandatory carbon-footprint requirements.

IV. Funding cap and information disclosure: Subsidies may cover up to 50% of a project's total cost. Subsidized projects

must undergo performance evaluations, and related information will be published quarterly on the Ministry of Environment's website.

The Ministry of Environment emphasized that, pursuant to Article 3, Paragraph 2, of the Regulations, it will publish further details on its official website concerning the categories of projects eligible for subsidies specified in that article, including specific subsidy programs, application periods, and eligible uses of funds. Eligible applicants may then submit applications accordingly.

Environmental Testing

National Environmental Research Institute Demonstrates Top-Tier Analytical Capabilities; Water Quality Testing Performance Internationally Recognized

The National Environmental Research Institute (hereinafter the NERI) under the Ministry of Environment recently participated in drinking water and wastewater proficiency testing (PT) programs organized by the internationally renowned provider Environmental Resource Associates, Inc. (ERA) of the United States, demonstrating outstanding analytical and testing capabilities. In the two major categories of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and heavy metals in water, all evaluated items received a "Satisfactory" rating. The NERI was also awarded the "Laboratory of Excellence" certificate by ERA, underscoring that its environmental testing technologies meet world-class international standards.

I. Drinking Water VOC Testing: Strong Analytical Capability Ensures Drinking Water Safety

The NERI conducted PT on 16 VOCs in drinking water, including trihalomethanes (such as chloroform), benzene, carbon tetrachloride, and vinyl chloride, all of which pose potential health risks. In a global comparison involving 349 participating laboratories, the NERI achieved a 100%

pass rate for the parameters it submitted, demonstrating the stability and accuracy of its analytical capabilities for trace-level VOCs in drinking water.

II. Heavy Metal Testing in Effluent: Strict Safeguards Against Water Pollution

To ensure the continued reliability of its analytical capabilities for pollutants in industrial wastewater discharges, the NERI

participated in a PT program for effluent analysis. The tested parameters included seven key heavy metals: cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc. In an even more competitive interlaboratory comparison involving 963 laboratories worldwide, the NERI once again delivered outstanding performance, achieving a 100% pass rate across all evaluated items.

Textual quality assurance tool for verifying laboratory analytical capability. By comparing results with those of participating laboratories worldwide, it helps confirm the effectiveness of testing methods, instrument operation, and quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures. Director-General Chang Shun-Chin emphasized that VOCs in drinking water and heavy metals in effluent are critical analytical parameters for environmental quality management and public health

risk control. Successfully passing this international PT program organized by ERA not only demonstrates that the NERI's analytical testing capabilities continue to meet international standards, but also helps strengthen the credibility of Taiwan's environmental monitoring data, providing a solid scientific foundation for drinking water safety, pollution source control, and environmental quality management.

The Ministry of Environment stated that, going forward, the NERI will continue to participate in international PT programs and advance the continuous improvement of laboratory quality management systems. These efforts aim to enhance technical capacity for environmental testing and analysis and ensure that testing data remain accurate, reliable, and traceable, thereby supporting policy objectives related to environmental governance and the protection of public health.



■ NERI staff operating a gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument



■ NERI staff operating an inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES) (1)



■ NERI staff operating an inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES) (2)

Laboratory of Excellence

National Environmental Research Academy

*This laboratory has been recognized by ERA as a
Laboratory of Excellence for achieving 100% acceptable data in the*

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*which included 349 participating laboratories. This achievement is a demonstration of
the superior quality of this laboratory in evaluation of the analyte(s) listed below.*

Chloroform
Benzene
Tetrachloroethylene
Vinyl chloride

1,1-Dichloroethylene
Carbon tetrachloride
Toluene
1,1-Dichloroethane

1,2-Dichloroethane
Chlorobenzene
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene
Chloromethane

1,4-Dichlorobenzene
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene
Trichloroethylene
Naphthalene



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Devers".

Emily Devers, Quality Assurance Manager



■ Certificate of Excellence for drinking water VOC testing laboratory