



Major Environmental Policies

February 2026

1. MOENV Promulgates Guidelines for Determining If Entities Subject to Carbon Fees Have High Carbon Leakage Risks

The MOENV has promulgated the *Review Guidelines for Applications by Entities Subject to Carbon Fees for Classification as Having High Carbon Leakage Risks* (碳費徵收對象申請認定屬高碳洩漏風險者審核原則) (referred to as the Guidelines) on January 12 2026. The purpose is to enhance Taiwan's carbon fee collection system and ensure the international competitive edge of Taiwan's industries during the net-zero transition. The Guidelines define the eligibility for applicants to be identified as having a high carbon leakage risk under "Category 1, Industry-Specific Identification" and "Category 2, Maintaining International Competitive Edge". The MOENV stressed that having a high carbon leakage risk does not lead to unconditional exemption. Applicants need to come up with voluntary reduction plans before becoming eligible for the emissions adjustment factors to achieve substantial reductions.

The MOENV mentioned that the identification of "high carbon leakage risk" is based on the EU and Korea's evaluation approaches in this regard and takes into consideration possible carbon leakage risks within Taiwan's current industry status. There are two major categories:

- I. List of industries identified as having high carbon leakage risks: An industry of high carbon leakage risk is identified according to the calculation of such an industry's trade intensity, emission intensity, and carbon fee rate under the industry classification of the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan. A threshold is also set using Korea's carbon leakage risk threshold (0.2%). A total of 17 industries are identified, including steel manufacturing, cement manufacturing, oil refinery, chemical materials, animal- and plant-based grease, copper, paper pulp and cardboard, artificial fibers, plastics, glass, yarn spinning, weaving, fertilizers, printed circuit boards (PCBs), photoelectric materials, computer and its peripherals, and data storage media manufacturing.
- II. Individual enterprises with one of the following conditions: Enterprises whose carbon fee of the current year accounts for 30% or more of its gross profit or whose annual gross profit is negative; ones whose main products are subject to anti-dumping duties as announced by the Ministry of Finance; or ones significantly affected by the U.S. reciprocal tariff policy in 2025 and 2026. In addition to meeting one of the criteria above, enterprises are to provide a "carbon leakage risk evaluation report" for the identification review, specifically proving that they are subject to the carbon leakage risk.

Regarding the application procedure, the MOENV explained that the application package shall be submitted by January 31 of the current year and will be examined by a

review board assembled by the MOENV and the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Applications are to be filed and reviewed every year to ensure that applicants meet the eligibility criteria and properly carry out their voluntary reduction plans each year. There are additional considerations for the initial stage of the system's implementation, in which an enterprise has already applied for its voluntary carbon reduction plan before 30 June 2025 but is yet to be approved for the review of high carbon leakage risk. In such circumstances, an "application document of a voluntary carbon reduction plan" may be provided in the application package to substitute the approval document before the formal approval letter is submitted by 30 April 2026.

2. President Promulgates Amended Articles 2, 26, and 28 of *Noise Control Act*

The amendment of Articles 2, 26, and 28 of the *Noise Control Act* (噪音管制法) was promulgated on 26 December 2025 on the Presidential Decree, No. Hua Zong 1 Yi 11400132291.

The MOENV explained that this amendment was based on the review of multiple proposals brought up by legislators in the Legislative Yuan and approved after three readings on 9 December 2025 in the 12th meeting of the 4th Session under the 11th review year of the Legislative Yuan. The amendment increases fines from NT\$3,600 to NT\$36,000 for violating Article 26 and 28 of the *Noise Control Act*. For vehicles violating noise control standards that fail to rectify the situation by the given deadline and where there are serious offenses, the license plate may be suspended by the highway supervision authority and returned only until the violation is corrected; and for those who violate the regulations again within one year, the license plate will be suspended for six months by the highway supervision authority.

MOENV reminded the public that the penalty has gone up for vehicles violating the noise regulations in the amended *Noise Control Act* with license plate suspension added in as another major penalty, aiming to deter serious noise nuisances caused by a small number of illegal vehicular modifications or improper driving. Vehicles that violate the noise standards will face a penalty up to NT\$36,000 and, if committing major offenses or repeating violations within a year, will face license plate suspension. Vehicle owners and drivers are urged to have their vehicles properly serviced, maintain good driving habits, and refrain from violating regulations to keep our living environment quiet and peaceful.

3. Subsidies for Pollution Control Equipment in Large Diesel Vehicles Extended with Amount Decreasing Each Year

The MOENV promulgated the revised *Regulations Governing Subsidies for Repairs of Fuel Injection System or Installation of Vehicular Air Pollution Control Equipment on Large Diesel Vehicles* (大型柴油車調修燃油控制系統或加裝空氣污染防制設備補助辦法) (referred to as the Regulations hereinafter). Subsidies for the repair of fuel

injection systems have been extended to 31 December 2028 with the number of subsidies lowered year by year to encourage vehicle owners to submit applications as early as possible.

MOENV indicated that this policy of subsidy extension is promulgated to encourage vehicle owners to properly maintain their vehicles and report to regular vehicle inspections, considering that the Air Pollution Control Fund is still sufficient to allow this extension.

The amended Regulations have extended the subsidy program with the amount of subsidy decreasing year after year according to the year of application to encourage car owners to make improvements as soon as possible. The MOENV emphasized that this aims to encourage vehicle owners to upgrade their fuel control systems as soon as possible to improve pollution control and work together to reduce emissions.

The MOENV encouraged the owners of large diesel vehicles under Phase I to IV to file their applications as soon as possible, provided that their vehicles are eligible for the subsidy. Owners who are not sure if their vehicles are eligible may check the online system for large diesel vehicle subsidies (大型柴油車各項補助案件線上系統) or call (02) 8512-4402.

4. Updated Emission Inventory Report Shows Downward Trend in Major Pollutant Emissions

The MOENV published the latest version of Taiwan Emission Data System (TEDS 13, with 2023 as the base year) on 28 January 2026. Statistics show nearly 12% reduction in the total emissions of all major air pollutants in 2023, as opposed to 2021 (the previous version, TED 12). These air pollutants include particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), sulfur oxides (SO_x), nitrate oxides (NO_x), and non-methane hydrocarbon (NMHC). Comparing the national air quality monitoring data within the same period, the annual average PM_{2.5} concentration has dropped from 14.4 µg/m³ in 2021 to 13.7 µg/m³ in 2023, suggesting that efforts of central and local governments in promoting air pollution control projects and programs have substantially resulted in air quality improvement.

The MOENV indicated that the latest TEDS 13 shows a decrease in all major air pollutants, as opposed to TEDS 12, where reduction is 5% for PM_{2.5}, 22% for SO_x, 16% for NO_x, and 8% for NMHC. The TED 13 results are published on the MOENV website and made available for public downloads. TEDS will be updated every two years for precise reduction management to stay on top of emissions of all air pollutants.

The MOENV explained that Taiwan's GDP per capita increased by 9.2%, the number of regulated factories by 0.32%, the average mileage of gasoline vehicles by 4%, and the average mileage of diesel vehicles by 0.4% in 2023, as compared to 2021, resulted from industrial and economic development. Facing continuously growing environmental burdens, the MOENV has been mandating pollution sources to strengthen prevention and control measures through enhanced regulations. With guidance from policies such

as energy transition and encouragement to replace old vehicles with new ones under the net-zero pathways, energy consumption in the industrial sector has gone down by 10% and the total mileage of electric vehicles up by 48% along with steady decline of overall air pollutant emissions. Such results demonstrate the benefits of balancing economic development and environmental sustainability.

The MOENV emphasized that pollution improvement has entered a critical stage despite the downward trend of air pollution emissions in recent years. After releasing Taiwan's first Air Quality Policy White Paper in 2025, the MOENV will begin development of Phase-III Air Pollution Control Plan (2028-2031) ahead of schedule besides the ongoing Phase-II Air Pollution Control Plan (2024-2027). By combining precise governance with net-zero transition and pollution reduction, a more comprehensive control policy will be set in place to ensure public health.

5. Resource Circulation Administration Releases Guidelines to Urge Supply Chain for Packaging Reduction and Design Transformation

The MOENV's Resource Circulation Administration (RCA) has released online the *Guidelines for Circular and Sustainable Packaging for Retail Products* (零售商品包裝循環永續指引) on 31 December 2025. Specific and feasible principles of reduction and design transformation are provided for retail product packaging, and all stakeholders within the industry chain, including manufacturers, importers, retailers and packaging suppliers, are urged to jointly work toward at-source packaging reduction and circular design.

The RCA indicated that product packaging has become a key factor with influence on efficiency of resource use and waste generation as the trend of plastics reduction and sustainable packaging started to gain traction globally. However, design and specifications of retail product packaging are decided in different sectors within the industry chain, not by a single industry or business. This has made scattered accountability as a challenge for policy promotion. As a result, the RCA founded the Retail Product Packaging Strategic Alliance for Circular Sustainability on 12 December 2025 as the platform for cooperation between the government and industries. The Guidelines released this time provide all industries specific directions, while relevant enterprises along the industrial chain are invited to participate.

The Guidelines for Circular and Sustainable Packaging for Retail Products apply to enterprises in manufacturing, imports, retails and packaging, and the scope covers five product categories, namely food products, beverages, cosmetics, cleaning agents and general goods. The Guidelines are centered on three courses: facilitating product packages to adopt the green design principles, implementing at-source waste reduction to avoid over-packaging, and promoting resource circulation. Suggestions are made for different industries in terms of package design optimization, material selection, recycling and resource circulation to help businesses gradually reduce environmental burdens while still achieving product functionality and meeting market needs.

The RCA stressed that the Guidelines are considered a policy guidance tool instead of

a real-time mandatory regulation. Enterprises will be accompanied by accumulating practical experiences and feasible models via voluntary promotion, demonstration and verification, and gradual enhancement. Once the models become mature and widely applicable, the next step will be evaluating the follow-up systemization. The RCA will continue to bring the strengths of industry, government, academia and research together through the Strategic Alliance, promote industry interactions, and drive transition of Taiwan's retail product packaging toward reduction, recyclability and circulation.



President and board of directors of the Retail Product Packaging Strategic Alliance for Circular Sustainability



Retail Product Packaging Strategic Alliance for Circular Sustainability

6. Ministry of Environment Shares the Results of Air Quality Analysis Between NASA and Domestic Academic Sector in 2024

The Ministry of Environment (MOENV) organized a presentation for the 7-SEAS Mission and Yunlin-Chiayi-Tainan-Kaohsiung-Pingtung 3D air quality plan at WORKHUB in Kaohsiung on 6 January 2026, This demonstrates that NASA has sent their research aircraft, DC-8 and GIII, carrying high-precision instruments, to fly three times over central and southern Taiwan based on long-term international cooperation with NASA, and worked with the MOENV and domestic and international scholars and experts on the 3D air quality experiments in the Kaohsiung-Pingtung area to understand the meteorological conditions affecting air pollutants. The studies showed that most pollution sources in Kaohsiung and Pingtung come from industrial activities and transportation. It was found that volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted from vehicles were still found at the level of 200 to 800 meters, while the cumulative effects of cross-border pollution should be noted. The MOENV has released a white paper on air quality policy, which is based on science and public opinion, and aims to create air quality policies that are close to the people, from environmental protection to safeguarding national health.

The MOENV stated that Deputy Minister Hsieh Yein-Rui chaired the presentation and Professor Wang Sheng-Hsiang of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at National Central University, Professor Wang Jia-Lin of the Department of Chemistry at National Central University, and Professor Lai Hsin-Chih, Head of the Department of Green Energy and Environmental Resources at Chang Jung Christian University were invited to present their findings. NASA carried out the Airborne and Satellite Investigation of Asian Air Quality (ASIA-AQ) program in February and March 2024, and two scientific research planes conducted three sorties over central and southern Taiwan on 15 and 28 February and 13 March. A 3D air quality experiment was carried out in Kaohsiung and Pingtung by combining the flights with ground monitoring stations, LiDAR and wind LiDAR measurements, manual sampling analysis, drone sampling, and sounding balloon monitoring, and the causes of local air pollution were analyzed. As a continuation of the observation experience from 2024, the MOENV collaborated with domestic experts in 2025 to expand the experiment from Yunlin, Chiayi and Tainan to Kaohsiung and Pingtung, analyzing the impact of changes in different air pollutants on cross-regional air quality. The results can be applied to strengthen cross-regional air pollution control in local administrations.

It was found in the escalation from 2D to 3D meteorological and air quality observation that, as pointed out by the MOENV, the changes in the pollutant concentrations at different levels vary with weather conditions. On the days of high pollution events, the deterioration of vertical dispersion results in uneven mixing of pollutants at different altitudes. It was observed that vertical concentration changes of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and ozone (O₃) precursor VOCs influence the air quality at ground level. Both local pollution emissions and cross-regional impacts were observed. The MOENV will continue to analyze pollution sources through important scientific data from domestic and international collaborations, improve air pollution management, and work hard to improve air quality in Taiwan.



Group photo of 7-SEAS Mission and Yunlin-Chiayi-Tainan-Kaohsiung-Pingtung 3D Air Quality Plan presentation

7. Deepening Domestic Governance to Adapt to Risks Caused by Extreme Weather Events

On 28 January 2026 in Taipei City, the Climate Change Administration (CCA) of the Ministry of Environment (MOENV) cooperated with the Yu Chi-Chung Cultural and Education Foundation to hold a seminar titled "*Homeland Planning and Extreme Climate Challenges*" (極端氣候下的國土規劃挑戰). Experts and representatives from central government ministries, local governments, academia, civil society, and professional NGOs were invited to explore the challenges and directions for homeland governance in extreme climate scenarios.

Premier Cho Jung-Tai opened the event with a speech in which he said that extreme climate events are presenting daunting challenges the world must deal with. Taiwan's government must consider climate risks in its sustainable homeland planning and overall governance considerations to adequately address safety, development, and resilience issues. Premier Cho pointed out that the government has specified a carbon reduction pathway in the form of the "Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) of Taiwan." Flagship plans are being developed for government entities responsible for energy, manufacturing, residential and commercial activities, transportation, agriculture, and the environment. A carbon fee system and other policy tools have been designed to move towards the transition to net-zero.

Environment Minister Peng Chi-Ming shared his practical experience in environmental governance and pointed out that many environmental issues are simply the "end results" of failures to include climate risks in homeland planning at early stages. In a scenario where extreme climate events are increasingly frequent, pressure rises significantly for proper post-disaster waste disposal, management of excavation materials, and environmental restoration. Minister Peng suggested that burdens will become worse for homeland governance if long-term adaptive thinking is not introduced from the beginning.

The Minister went on to stress that responding to climate change is not just about short-term disaster prevention but rather requires a systematic series of adaptive actions that consider climate risks when engaging in homeland planning, urban design, and formulating public governance structures. To this end, the MOENV has started the development of the latest "*National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan (2027 - 2030)*" (國家氣候變遷調適行動計畫 (116~119 年) , focusing on eight areas vulnerable to climate change, namely: life-supporting infrastructure; water resources; land use; ocean and coasts; energy supply and industry; agricultural production; ecosystems; and health. This seminar also marked the first time that all government agencies were asked to move their climate adaptation planning from an experience-oriented approach to a risk-oriented approach, following a unified set of climate risk assessment guidelines.

Regarding the practical aspect of the seminar, with "adaptation to high temperatures" as a central topic for cross-disciplinary integration, Deputy Minister Hsieh Yein-Rui of the MOENV proposed strategies such as "using water and green cooling, ventilation and heat dissipation, shading and cooling, and building energy conservation" to explain how spatial design and governance affect the public's exposure to high temperature risks. The MOENV also shared the initial results of the trial "Cool Map," which provides real-time temperatures, locations of services, and information on facilities to prevent heatstroke to ensure adaptation measures meet public needs when high temperatures pose a risk to human health.

The MOENV mentioned that the "*Climate Change Response Act*" (氣候變遷因應法) stipulates that local governments must propose climate change adaptation implementation plans in accordance with the national adaptation action plan. All 22 municipalities, counties, and cities across Taiwan have prepared their plans to help gradually convert national adaptation goals into local actions.

The seminar aimed to foster dialogue across ministries, levels, and sectors of the government, to facilitate a consensus on governance that accounts for climate risks. The MOENV will continue to play an integrative and supportive role, assisting all sectors to jointly plan more resilient and sustainable climate adaptation actions to address the long-term challenges that come with extreme climate phenomena.



Speakers of the seminar, from left to right: Deputy Director Hsu Yen-Hsing, Deputy Minister Lai Chien-Hsin, Director Pan Yi-Ju, Committee Member Lin Cheng-Feng, Director-General Tsai Ling-Yi, Chairperson Yu Fan-Ying, Premier of Taiwan Cho Jung-Tai, MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming, Spokesperson Lee Hui-Chih, Professor Hsu Huang-Hsiung, Director Lin Tzu-Lun, General Manager Chen Yu-Wen, Chairperson Kuo Chiung-Ying, and Director-General Lin Ping-Hsun



MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming delivers a speech

8. First Cross-ministerial Committee Meeting Held to Launch the National “Climate × Health” Strategy

The Office of the President's "National Climate Change Committee," along with the

"Healthy Taiwan Promotion Committee," held their first joint meeting on 26 January 2026 to address President Lai Ching-Te's instructions on national-level strategic integration. The meeting was jointly chaired by the head of the Ministry of Environment (MOENV), Peng Chi-Ming, and the head of the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW), Shih Chung-Liang. The meeting outlined the *"Five Actions for Air Quality Protection"* (空品守護五行動) and the *"Strategy for Health Adaptation to Extreme Temperatures"* (極端溫度健康調適戰略), and established a regular inter-ministerial collaboration mechanism to jointly invest in research resources and build a comprehensive national network to safeguard health.

The meeting was opened by Kuo Meng-Yun, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Atmospheric Environment (MOENV), who reported on the "Progress of the Expert Consultation Meeting," which reached consensus on four aspects: scientific evidence, strengthening health education, precision medicine, and localized research. Next, Hsieh Jen-Shuo, a specialist from the Department of Atmospheric Environment (MOENV), proposed the "Five Actions for Air Quality Protection" to establish five lines of defense ranging from forecasting to protection. Finally, Tsai Ling-Yi, Director-General of the Climate Change Administration (MOENV), reported on "Adaptation Strategies for Health in Extreme Temperatures," focusing on establishing a comprehensive governance sequence of "early warning—action—care" for vulnerable groups. Following this, the officials exchanged views with committee members on matters discussed in the report.

Minister Peng stressed in his speech that climate change is not only about scientific data but is also a real-life health issue, stating, "The improvement of environmental quality is the most reliable health maintenance measure." He said the government will elevate its thinking from the affairs of single ministries to a comprehensive strategy at the national level, which will bring environmental governance and public health closer together and demonstrate the determination to promote a sustainable Taiwan. Meanwhile, MOHW Minister Shih pointed out that "social determinants" are critical factors for health. The complexity of climate impacts exceeds what a single ministry can handle. It is necessary to include health among the core of national climate governance and build long-term collaboration mechanisms that share data across all involved ministries to implement science-based decision-making.

The following suggestions were proposed during the seminar to deal with current challenges:

I. Extend protective measures to cover both outdoor and indoor environments

Experts pointed out that lung cancer is caused by the accumulation of exposure to risk factors over time; thus, patient exposure history should be traced back at least 10 years, taking into consideration impacts on cardiovascular disease and stroke issues. Attention also needs to be paid to indoor air quality issues such as cooking soot, burning incense for religious purposes, and ventilation, to provide comprehensive science-based health advice to the public.

II. Optimize extreme weather warnings and care for the vulnerable

Experts reminded the public that “temperature fluctuations” and “apparent temperature” (the temperature felt by the body) are keys to actual health risks. They suggested involving social welfare systems at the local level and conducting risk communication and information dissemination regarding summer heat avoidance, especially for vulnerable groups such as the elderly and those living alone.

III. Integrate digital health platforms and convert data into tangible actions

It was recommended that environmental information be integrated into the widely used “NHI Action Express/Health Passbook” app to provide timely and accurate local warnings. It was also recommended to make use of push notifications and family group functions in communication software to allow family members and social workers to check on the elderly.

IV. Improve spatial governance and resilience and apply technology to protect the socially disadvantaged

From the aspect of “spatial governance,” recommendations were made for improving protection from extreme heat and ventilation in living environments. Data from “smart power meters” can be used for power consumption analysis to identify the routines of elderly people living alone and provide technologically enhanced care in real time that suits their daily routines without disturbing them.

To ensure the implementation of these strategies, the MOENV and the MOHW have agreed to discuss localized air pollution and its health impacts via regular meetings between respective deputy ministers. Meanwhile, the two ministers emphasized that they will work together to secure budgets to promote research on air pollution and its health impacts, using scientific data to provide more precise governance measures and analyzing complex environmental information to provide practical protective actions for the public.

The seminar’s attendees included Cheng Chun-Sheng, Deputy Executive Secretary of both committees and Deputy Secretary-General of the Office of President; members of the National Climate Change Committee, Lai Po-Si, Tsao Shih-Lun, Tseng Wen-Sheng, Lee Ken-Cheng, Chen Hui-Ping, Huang Pin-Han, Lin Tzu-Lun, Tseng Chung-Jen, Lin Tzu-Ping, and Lei Ya-Chi; Chen Chih-Hung, Deputy Convenor of the Healthy Taiwan Promotion Committee; Chen Wei-Ming, Advisor; Chiu Kuan-Ming, Advisor; Committee members Yu Chung-Jen, Tsai Sen-Tien, and Ho Mei-Hsiang. Representatives from the ministries included: Liao Kun-Fu, Director-General of the Department of Comprehensive Planning, Ministry of Health and Welfare; Lin Li-Ju, Deputy Director-General of the Health Promotion Administration; Lin Ming-Nan, Deputy Executive Director of the Hospital and Social Welfare Organizations Administration Committee; Hsieh Yein-Rui, Deputy Minister of the MOENV; Tsai Ling-Yi, Director-General of the Climate Change Administration, MOENV; and Huang Wei-Ming, Director-General of the Department of Atmospheric Environment, MOENV.



A meeting between the National Climate Change Committee and the Healthy Taiwan Promotion Committee.



MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming (middle), Health and Welfare Minister Shih Chung-Liang (right), and Deputy Secretary-General Cheng Chun-Sheng (left).



The National Climate Change Committee and Healthy Taiwan Promotion Committee hold discussions.

9. MOENV Secures NT\$2.35 billion from Executive Yuan for Full-scale “Intelligent Fence Against Illegal Dumping”

To improve waste management and stop illegal dumping, the Ministry of Environment (MOENV) proposed the *“Nationwide Plan for Remote Digital Management and Intelligent Decision-making for Locating Waste”* (強化全國廢棄物流向遠端數位管理智慧決策計畫). The plan was approved by the Executive Yuan on 29 December 2025 and now has a budget of NT\$2.35 billion to be invested over four years (2026-2029) into a nationwide "intelligent fence against illegal dumping." This initiative will use Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) technologies to help transform environmental law enforcement from traditional "passive investigation" into "proactive prevention."

I. Breaking through past limitations on inspection and improving efficiency of law enforcement

The MOENV stated that conventional waste inspection methods rely heavily on manual patrols and public reports. However, limited inspection manpower hinders around-the-clock monitoring of remote or vast areas. Intervention actions are often initiated only after pollution incidents occur, and the process of tracing the source and collecting evidence also requires significant time and labor. In addition, some businesses cover up illegal dumping by making false declarations and fraudulent legal documents. Such evasive activities are difficult to detect in a timely manner—or even at all—under the current inspection model that relies mainly on manually comparing monitoring data.

II. Introducing AI analysis to enhance monitoring of waste flows

In 2026, MOENV plans to spend NT\$500 million in the first year's operating

budget for the project, during which 500 IoT monitoring installations are expected to be established. Multimodal AI analysis modules are to be introduced for big data analysis to make sense of information in areas sensitive to pollution, such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and animal farming, to detect abnormal waste disposal, raise timely alerts, and assist law enforcement personnel to quickly intervene and prevent illegal dumping.

III. Central and local authorities to share information to facilitate joint environmental defense measures across ministries

The new technological law enforcement plan is centered on establishing a "joint central-local defense mechanism" and "inter-ministerial cooperation." It will focus on strengthening cooperation between local governments and police agencies, the sharing of information in real time, and improvements to the efficiency of pollution monitoring using big data analysis. For major organized environmental crimes, the MOENV will enable precise tracing by providing evidence of crime hotspots and data analyzed by AI to prosecutors and police through a "prosecutor-police-environmental alliance." Close cooperation between administrative and judicial departments will leave groups involved in environmental crimes nowhere to hide.

IV. Technology and regulations to advance together for environmental protection

The MOENV emphasized that it is building "smart fences" to enhance the strength of technology-based law enforcement, review and improve relevant regulations, study ways to increase criminal liability, raise penalties for environmental crimes, and establish an inter-ministerial cooperation mechanism with police and prosecutors as instructed by the Executive Yuan. The combination of technological monitoring and deterrence through stronger laws is expected to significantly reduce environmental crimes and safeguard the environmental security of the nation.



Fence against illegal dumping: As a multimodal AI analysis system is introduced for big data analysis, IoT surveillance facilities are being installed along major highways and at waste disposal hotspots.

10. Deputy Ministers of MOENV and MOHW Meet with Experts from Multiple Fields to Discuss Measures for Air Quality and Health

The Ministry of Environment (MOENV) and the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) held the second "Expert Consultation Meeting on Air Pollution and Health Impacts" on 16 January 2026 in Taipei City, aimed at building comprehensive air quality and public health protection mechanisms toward fulfilling President Lai Ching-Te's policy vision of a "Healthy Taiwan." The meeting was jointly chaired by MOENV Deputy Minister Hsieh Yein-Rui and MOHW Deputy Minister Chuang Jen-Hsiang. Eleven experts from the fields of medical care, public health, and environmental medicine were invited to engage in in-depth discussions on air pollution, extreme temperatures, the impacts on public health thereof, and corresponding countermeasures. MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming and MOHW Minister Shih Chung-Liang later held their first joint meeting at the top ministerial level on 26 January 2026 in Taipei City. Members of the Office of the President's National Climate Change Committee, along with members of the Healthy Taiwan Promotion Committee, provided input on enhancing the effectiveness of Taiwan's response to climate risks by integrating policy resources concerning core issues such as "response to extreme temperatures," "improving air quality management," and "protecting vulnerable groups."

MOENV Deputy Minister Hsieh stated that the MOENV and the MOHW will jointly fund "Air Pollution and Health Impact Research" to provide the valid and reliable scientific evidence needed to formulate precise governance measures. At the same time, the two ministries will also work jointly on climate change adaptation mechanisms toward fulfilling their commitment to protect public health, for example, by improving early

advisories regarding extreme weather events. An agreement was reached at the deputy ministers' meeting, and subsequently reported at the joint ministerial meeting on 26 January, on the following four actions:

- I. Strengthen health education for better public understanding of the relationship between air pollution and health.
- II. Target the allocation of medical resources toward more medical support for groups highly vulnerable to air pollution.
- III. Compile a list of high-risk pollution sources and target emitters of pollutants that pose significant health hazards for priority monitoring.
- IV. Establish an inter-ministerial response mechanism to address the health threats that come with extreme temperatures.

MOENV and the MOHW founded the "Expert Advisory Committee on Air Pollution and Health Impacts" in 2025. Its first meeting was held in mid-October 2025, attended by 21 experts from the fields of medicine, public health, and environmental medicine. Holding meetings quarterly, the second one occurred on 16 January 2026, focusing on links between air pollution and health. While there was no uncertainty that air pollution and health are linked, there are many types of air pollutants and related health conditions. There is established scientific evidence for some health effects; however, others still require further studies.

The suggestion of the experts was to compile a list of air pollutants based on type (such as heavy metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds, ozone, and PM_{2.5}), analyze data on their concentrations, and factors in different health conditions. It was also recommended to develop health education materials based on how people currently perceive air pollution and its impact on health, and then via multiple channels—such as medical institutions and long-term care facilities—raise public awareness of environmental health factors and encourage self-protective measures. At the same time, to improve the effectiveness of disease prevention and control, it was recommended to allocate medical resources to those most severely affected by air pollution. Medical resources can be invested in more frequent and targeted health checkups and the adjustment of medications based on weather and air quality information. Regarding the control of air pollution sources, priority should be given to pollutants that have greater health impacts. Lastly, it was decided the MOENV would collaborate with the MOHW to engage in further studies and formulate air pollution control policies and disease prevention measures based on the latest scientific evidence.

Facing the threat of extreme weather events, the Climate Change Administration (CCA) of the MOENV reported on the impact of extreme temperatures on public health at the meeting and held discussions on coordinating and integrating courses of action to help people adapt. The CCA showed its "High Indoor Temperature Early Warning Model for Elderly People Living Alone" that was developed in cooperation with National Cheng Kung University, demonstrating the potential of technological applications for better protection of high-risk groups. MOENV Deputy Minister Hsieh stated that efforts should be made to promote scientifically based health measures to adapt

to extreme temperatures and to establish and strengthen early warning mechanisms to ensure that the public can safely cope with the challenges of extreme temperatures. The experts at the meeting also recommended that factors such as temperature fluctuations, sustained extreme temperatures, and humidity also be taken into consideration.

The MOENV and the MOHW will continue to integrate "environmental protection" and "public health" strategies to strengthen public protection measures against environmental risks and realize the vision of sustainable health for all.



MOHW Deputy Minister Chuang (left) and MOENV Deputy Minister Hsieh (right) chair the "Expert Advisory Committee on Air Pollution and Health Impacts."



The deputy ministers of the MOENV and the MOHW with experts at a meeting on air pollution and health impacts.

11. MOENV Holds Public Sector Chief Sustainability Officer Forum on Transition to Net-zero and Resilient Governance

The Ministry of Environment (MOENV) held the "2026 CSO (Chief Sustainability Officer) Alliance Forum" on 27 January 2026 in Taipei City to discuss the challenges of climate change and energy transition, focusing on four key issues: "Net-Zero Solar Energy," "Energy Conservation," "Building Energy Efficiency," and "Resilient Governance." CSOs of central and local governments, state-owned enterprises, and representatives from the public sector were invited, with the Ministry of Sports participating for the first time. The forum was aimed at strengthening horizontal integration and cross-domain cooperation, deepening public-private partnerships through cooperation on policy formulation and experience sharing and promoting Taiwan's sustainable governance and net-zero transition.

In her address, Cheng Li-Chun, Vice Premier and Chief Sustainability Officer of the Executive Yuan, said her position demonstrates the central government's high regard for sustainable development and inter-ministerial collaboration. She pointed out that "net-zero solar energy" is one of the key issues for Taiwan's transition to net-zero by 2050. The government is accelerating its efforts to encourage the installation of rooftop and building facade solar photovoltaic systems on public buildings, new buildings, and renovations of old buildings. Regarding energy conservation, the Executive Yuan has been working together with industry, adhering to the principle that "the best energy comes from saving energy." Last year alone, 10.895 billion kWh of electricity were saved, equivalent to the electricity consumption of 2.62 million households. A professional industrial analysis provided by Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) is a powerful tool that can assist with introducing diverse technological and intelligent solutions to improve Taiwan's overall energy efficiency.

The forum featured speeches and presentations from the public and industrial sectors. Deputy Director-General Chen Chung-Hsien of the Energy Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Group Leader Lo Shih-Chi of the Architecture and Building Research Institute, Ministry of the Interior, were invited to explain the accelerated deployment of solar photovoltaic systems in the public sector and the promotion of regulations on the energy efficiency of buildings. Chairman Li Ming-Hsien of Teco Electric & Machinery Co., Ltd. led his company's team, while General Manager Chen Heng-Wei explained Teco's in-depth energy conservation and ESCO practices. Director-General Yen Hsu-Ming of the Environmental Management Administration, MOENV, explained disaster prevention and management for environmental resilience at waste treatment plants. Director-General Hung Shu-Hsing of the Department of Comprehensive Planning, MOENV, gave a presentation on the results from and the future potential of the government's in-depth energy conservation analysis. Deputy Director-General Liu Yi-Kun of the Resource Circulation Administration, MOENV, explained issues such as circular procurement in the public sector. From system design to practical implementation, this study dug deep into the roles and specific practices of all departments in the net-zero transition process.

The forum concluded with an experience-sharing session, chaired by MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming. Several participants were invited to engage in in-depth discussions on public-private partnerships and the day's key issues, addressing concerns regarding energy transition and environmental governance.

The MOENV hopes to build cross-ministerial consensus and strengthen policy coordination by continuing to convene future iterations of the CSO Alliance Forum, to lay a more solid foundation for environmental governance and move Taiwan toward net-zero emissions and sustainable development by 2050.



Attendees of the 2026 Public Sector CSO Alliance Forum



MOENV Minister Peng (center) thanked guests attending the forum for sharing their experiences.



MOENV Minister Peng shares his experience with other speakers