



Major Environmental Policies

May 2025

1. Green Growth Alliance Launched to Align with International Carbon Pricing and Drive Green Growth

Carbon pricing is not only an important tool for emission reduction, but also a key driver of green growth. Following the launch of Taiwan's carbon pricing system in 2025, the MOENV proposed an implementation pathway aiming to integrate carbon pricing with a total emission control cap-and trading system. This approach seeks to align with international frameworks and promote green growth among enterprises. Since the successful promotion and implementation of a sound carbon pricing system requires capacity building and public engagement, MOENV, drawing on international experience, invited enterprises and relevant government agencies to establish the Green Growth Alliance on April 24 to jointly pursue the new national carbon reduction goals.

The MOENV explained that the newly formed Green Growth Alliance consists of 17 enterprises that are either major greenhouse gas (GHG) emission sources planning to submit voluntary reduction plans or have participated in the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). The alliance also includes several government agencies, such as the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC), and the Taiwan Carbon Solution Exchange (TCX). During the meeting of launching the Green Growth Alliance, the MOENV's Climate Change Administration first shared Japan's approach with the *Green Transformation (GX) Promotion Act*, which, enacted in 2023, integrates growth-oriented carbon pricing, GX economic transition bonds, and corporate voluntary carbon reduction goals as key demonstrations of achieving both economic development and carbon reduction policies. Taiwan's Green Growth Alliance will also draw references from Japan's GX Alliance to use the combined efforts of both the government and enterprises for tasks in five major areas. They include participation in carbon pricing and building of international collaboration capabilities; trial designs of Taiwan's early-stage emission trading system; international reduction cooperation; enhancement of green industry chain and public-private coordination mechanisms; and organizations of forums, training, and exchanges.

MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming expressed that, to align with the new national carbon reduction goals and create sufficient reduction incentives, the MOENV plans to conduct a trial cap-and-trade system in the preliminary stage, which will form a dual carbon pricing system alongside the current carbon fee scheme. The purpose is to increase efficiency and align with the global carbon market through cap setting, emission allowance allocation, and market trading mechanisms. To help alliance members fully understand the global carbon pricing system, the MOENV will have Japanese GX experts come to Taiwan for the Asia Green Growth Forum in May, where they will exchange insights on Japan's GX Alliance and promotion of the emissions trading system. Moreover, in June the MOENV will lead a delegation of alliance members to the European Union (EU) to understand operations of its Emission Trading System (ETS) first-hand. This will help accelerate alignment of Taiwan's carbon market with global standards through public-private coordination, facilitating future promotion of total emission control and trading system.

Minister Peng stated that net-zero transition cannot be achieved solely by the government and requires the collective efforts of the private sector and industries. The Green Growth Alliance serves as a coordination platform between the public and private sectors that turns environmental responsibilities into forces that drive industry transitions. Furthermore, the MOENV will continue to gather domestic and international policies and experiences to adjust the Alliance's promotion strategy on a rolling basis, stepping into a sustainable future alongside enterprises.



Group photo of the Green Growth Alliance members.



Minister Peng (center) explains details of the Green Growth Alliance promotion.

2. MOENV Publishes Amended *Regulations for Guidance and Incentives to Environmental Education Facilities* (環境教育設施場所輔導獎勵辦法)

To align with the Executive Yuan's organizational restructure, address practical implementation needs, and ensure reasonable and effective use of subsidies and donations for environmental education facilities, the MOENV has published the amended *Regulations for Guidance and Incentives to Environmental Education Facilities* (環境教育設施場所輔導獎勵辦法) on 8 April 2025.

The MOENV stated that, since the launch of the Environmental Education Facility Certification System in 2011, a total of 273 sites have been certified as environmental education facilities, conducting environmental education programs and promoting environmental education nationwide. As the certification system has been in place for over a decade and proven effective, the *Regulations for Guidance and Incentives to Environmental Education Facilities* were revised to ensure reasonable and effective use of funding, including subsidies and donations, for these facilities. The amendments this time have adjusted targets of guidance and incentives, removed the original subsidization for certification application fees, and redirect funding toward environmental education facilities already certified, with certificates still valid, and remaining in operation, to provide more resources for these existing facilities.

The amendments also modified the incentive mechanism for environmental education facilities rated as outstanding in evaluations. Rather than increasing funding for such facilities as in the past, the MOENV will now prioritize their funding applications for the year after they have been rated as outstanding to better appropriate funding and enhance overall service quality. This approach aims to strengthen both service quality and capacity of environmental education facilities, thereby further facilitating environmental education.

3. MOENV Preannounces Draft *Operational Guidelines for Climate Change Risk Assessment*

To strengthen climate adaptation capacity of governments at all levels in response to extreme weather events and enhance climate risk management, the MOENV has preannounced the draft *Operational Guidelines for Climate Change Risk Assessment* (氣候變遷風險評估作業準則) in accordance with Article 18 of the *Climate Change Response Act* (氣候變遷因應法). All are welcome to provide feedback and opinions.

The MOENV states that the draft operational guidelines will establish consistent operational procedures and standards for government agencies in assessments of climate change risks and implementations of adaptation programs. According to the guidelines, governments at all levels are required to develop and carry out climate change adaptation plans and strategies based on up-to-date scientific climate reports. Systematic climate change risk assessments will be conducted to formulate adaptation action plans in areas prone to climate change impacts, as well as for regional adaptation plans accordingly. These plans will aim toward mitigating climate impacts.

The draft guidelines are formulated based on both domestic and international practices and experiences, with the following key highlights:

- I. Clear definition of assessment principles and methods: Climate change risk assessments will determine and analyze the scopes and current and future risks, while also including degree of hazards, exposure, and vulnerability.
- II. Enhancement of adaptation and decision-making mechanism: Governments at all levels shall develop adaptation options and evaluate their feasibility, and effectiveness based on the results of the risk assessments.

- III. Facilitation of cross-agency collaboration and public participation: The public and private sectors, along with the public, are encouraged to collaborate in climate risk assessments and development of adaptation strategies so that climate adaptation policies become the mainstream and accepted with public consensus.
- IV. Establishment of a dynamic review and amendment system: Adaptation measures are to be regularly reviewed and updated based on the latest scientific reports and both domestic and international trends to enhance their effectiveness and replicability.

The MOENV emphasizes that it will continue to cooperate with governments at all levels to demonstrate operations in accordance with the draft guidelines, promote and implement climate change risk assessments, and enhance their overall climate adaptation planning and implementation capabilities through capacity building and technical support.



Consultation Meeting on the Draft Operational Guidelines for Climate Change Risk Assessment

4. Resource Circulation Administration Announces Preferential Fee Rates for Rechargeable Lithium Battery Recycling

Under the revised *Fee Rates for Dry Battery Recycling, Clearance, and Disposal* (乾電池回收清除處理費費率) announced by the MOENV on 15 April 2025, starting 1 July 2025 responsible enterprises manufacturing and importing rechargeable lithium batteries that are listed for control are eligible for preferential fee rates for recycling, clearance, and disposal of rechargeable lithium batteries once the central competent authority approves their proposals of self-developed recycling chain.

MOENV explained that the use of rechargeable lithium batteries has significantly increased in recent years due to net-zero transitions. As a result, economic incentives will be in place to foster responsible enterprises' willingness of battery recycling and disposal and urge them to voluntarily establish

circular recycling chains by collaborating with upstream, midstream, and downstream stakeholders. Specifically, a Level 1 preferential rate of NT\$5.10/kg is offered for those adopting domestic recycling and disposal for recyclables, and a Level 2 rate of NT\$6.66/kg for those recycling and disposing recyclables outside Taiwan. Compared to the original fee of NT\$39/ kg, these represent discounts at 87% and 83%, respectively.

The MOENV stated that, through a self-developed circular recycling chain, responsible enterprises can independently sort, dispose, and reuse manufactured and imported waste lithium batteries. Such practice will significantly enhance resource recycling and reuse and strengthen public-private collaboration to build future recycling and disposal capacities

5. MOENV Holds Meeting on Net-Zero, Sustainable Green Living to Discuss Climate Solutions with the Public

To reach the new national carbon reduction goals and implement Taiwan's Comprehensive Carbon Reduction Action Plan, the MOENV held the Net-Zero and Sustainable Green Living meeting on 16 April to communicate with the public regarding flagship carbon reduction projects. This meeting, co-hosted by Dr. Lin Tze-Luen, Executive Director of the Office of Energy and Carbon Reduction under the Executive Yuan, and the MOENV Deputy Minister Shih Wen-Chen, brought together representatives from the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC), the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), and the Ministry of Education (MOE), along with those from various industries, academic and research communities, and civil organizations. The event opened dialogues and opportunities for collaboration among different fields as attendees exchanged ideas on policy initiatives and built consensus on net zero.

In his opening speech, the MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming stated that on 23 January 2025 the Presidential Office convened the third meeting of the National Climate Change Committee and declared that Taiwan's reduction goal for 2035 is set at 38±2%. In response, government agencies have proposed flagship reduction plans to intensify reduction efforts. Minister Peng emphasized that carbon reduction is not solely industries' responsibility but also requires the collective effort of all citizens who need guidance to make behavioral changes in every area from daily life to consumption. He hoped that the meeting would serve as a platform to gather diverse and creative ideas and harness collective wisdom so the action plans can be executed faster and in a systematic and thoughtful manner and that Taiwan will leap ahead in its net-zero progress.

This meeting was the six ministries' first public engagement session for their flagship carbon reduction plans with extensive discussions particularly on "net-zero, sustainable living. It started with the MOENV briefing on the draft of its flagship plan, explaining how it will guide the public to take low-carbon actions in their daily lives through policy tools, economic incentives, and demonstration projects. The draft flagship carbon reduction action plan includes five key directions:

- I. Subsidies for insulation in existing residential buildings: Enhance energy conservation in school facilities and condominiums.
- II. Assistance toward low-carbon transitions among restaurants: Promote zero-waste and low-carbon diets and subsidize restaurants to install facilities necessary for low-carbon transitions.

- III. Support for innovative low-carbon lifestyles: Promote the green point collection program, set up carbon accounts, and install areas to demonstrate green living.
- IV. Expansion of Green Marks and Green Procurement: Optimize criteria for Green Mark products and improve green procurement guidelines for public infrastructure projects.
- V. Low-carbon sustainable community certification and resilient homeland development: Assist village and neighborhood certification and provide training for relevant personnel while supporting local governments in carrying out reduction measures.

Apart from policy briefings, the forum featured three guest speakers presenting actual cases. Professor Liu Hsiu-hui from National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism shared experiences in promoting green restaurants and meal boxes as well as relevant evaluation and assistance. Manager Lin Meng-shao from Carrefour introduced how its implementation of food transition program has resulted in encouraging consumers to adopt net-zero behaviors. Finally, Professor Chou Su-ching from National Taiwan University talked about innovative cases of communities and civic groups' participation in sandbox trials, which has led to bottom-up transition and social engagement and showcased the private sector's strength and diverse approaches in low-carbon actions.

Participants enthusiastically spoke up to provide suggestions on practical experiences and measures of net-zero, sustainable green living, feasibility of energy-saving measures for buildings, designs that enhance citizens' participation and drive behavior changes, mechanisms for cooperation between the public and private sectors, and needed resources, as well as education promotion. This meeting reached consensus on several points, including that it is necessary for the flagship plan for a net-zero, sustainable green living to develop measurable indicators that address varying scales, stages, and targets. These indicators will help establish a system that supports green living initiatives and interface integration and therefore facilitate lifestyle transition collectively with communities, economic forces, and enterprises. The MOENV will compile all feedback to optimize and review subsequent measures on a rolling basis.

This meeting, broadcast live in real-time on the Open Climate Information Platform, was attended by nearly 350 people, including those present at the venue. This reflects the public's strong interest in net-zero, sustainable green living. MOENV stated that it will keep intensifying policy transparency, expand social participation, and integrate feedback through social engagement mechanisms, while promoting more inclusive and effective reduction policies to build a net-zero, sustainable green living that can be jointly achieved by all citizens.



Representatives from industries, government, academia, research, and civil organizations exchange opinions and build consensus on achieving net zero



Minister Peng delivers a speech.

6. Sweden's Path to Carbon Reduction: Taiwan and Sweden Exchange on Carbon Tax and the ETS System

On 23 April 2025, the MOENV Minister Peng Chi-Ming invited Helena Reitberger, Representative of the Swedish Trade and Invest Council, along with experts from the Swedish Tax Agency, Martin Solvinger and Mattias Qvist, to talk in a seminar titled "Carbon Reduction Experiences: A Dialogue among Industries, Government, and Academia, and the Dual Practice of Carbon Tax and ETS". Conducted in a hybrid format with both in-person and online participation, the seminar focused

on Sweden's dual practice of its own carbon tax and European Union's Emissions Trading System (ETS), highlighting communication among stakeholders involved in reduction policies, and reduction results achieved by collaboration across industries, government, and academia. Sweden's experience offers valuable insights for the development of a carbon pricing system in our country.

Representative Helena Reitberger emphasized that since 1990 Sweden has succeeded in reducing carbon emissions by 37% and doubling its economic scale. This success is attributed to Sweden's near-zero carbon energy structure, its carbon tax system implemented since 1991, and its innovative commercial department. The data provided by Martin Solvinger, Senior Strategist at the Swedish Tax Agency, further demonstrated the positive correlation between GDP growth and emission reductions.

Sweden's carbon tax and the EU's ETS are a dual mechanism of carbon pricing and operate alongside one another in Sweden. The carbon tax primarily targets sectors and emission sources not covered by the ETS, while the ETS applies to energy-intensive industries. This dual system is designed to comprehensively price carbon emissions while taking into consideration characteristics and reduction costs of different industries. Swedish experts pointed out that in recent years Sweden's policy direction has shifted more toward the ETS, leading to adjustments in the role of the carbon tax accordingly.

Minister Peng explained to Helena Reitberger that Taiwan has launched the carbon fee system this year. However, due to the impact of the United States' customs policy and withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord, domestic enterprises are facing pressure from carbon tax collection. Minister Peng emphasized that the carbon fee system will remain in place and that Taiwan has already begun planning to introduce the ETS system soon and will aim toward dual implementation of both the carbon fee and ETS systems. Therefore, Sweden's experience with both the carbon tax and ETS system is valuable for Taiwan to study.

Sweden's Tri-Communication model for carbon reduction strategies emphasizes respectful dialogues among the government, institutions, academia, enterprises, labor unions, and civil society to support and advance sustainable development. Although this approach requires more time in communication, it has become deeply embedded in Sweden's way of working. Through this exchange, Taiwan has gained a deeper understanding of Sweden's reduction strategies and practical experiences, which will serve as valuable references for Taiwan in formulating relevant policies. In the future, Taiwan will continue to engage in exchanges with Sweden.



Minister Peng invites Helena Reitberger, Representative of the Swedish Trade and Invest Council to share Sweden's carbon reduction experiences



Group photo of Minister Peng and Helena Reitberger, Representative of the Swedish Trade and Invest Council (second from the left), taken after the talk.

7. Nearly NT\$400 million in Criminal Proceeds Seized as Various Authorities Collaborate to Uncover Illegally Abandoned and Exported Waste Plastics

In 2011, Taiwan's environmental, prosecutorial, and police authorities established a collaborative platform, forming a comprehensive national alliance mechanism for investigating environmental crimes and jointly combating environmental violations.

A task force jointly established by the Environmental Management Administration (EMA) of the Ministry of Environment (MOENV), the Taiwan Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office, the Seventh Special Police Corps of the National Police Agency under the Ministry of the Interior, and the Department of Environmental Protection of the Taoyuan City Government, uncovered three facilities leased by illegal operators in Taoyuan City's Xinwu and Zhongli Districts. These sites had long been used to store and abandon waste consisting of mixed plastics, approximately 5,549 metric tons on site, and 5,832 metric tons that had already been illegally exported. The case was concluded and prosecuted by the Taiwan Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office in accordance with the administrative criminal penalties outlined in Article 46 of the *Waste Disposal Act*. A total of 11 individuals were indicted, and criminal proceeds totaling NT\$394.79 million were seized.

In April 2024, "Company A" declared and exported two shipments of goods at the Port of Keelung and the Port of Taichung, respectively. The Customs Administration of the Ministry of Finance reported the case to the EMA and coordinated a joint investigation to examine the contents of the containers. It was discovered that Company A had attempted to illegally export waste plastic mixtures disguised as raw plastic materials, without a Waste Export Permit. Fortunately, through inter-departmental cooperation, these goods were intercepted in time and prevented from being illegally exported, thus avoiding potential damage to Taiwan's image and commercial reputation.

Subsequently, the EMA cross-referenced over ten thousand data points using the "Industrial Waste Disposal and Transport Machinery Real-Time GPS" system to track the transportation routes of Company A's vehicles. This led to the identification of three facilities leased by illegal operators in Taoyuan City's Xinwu and Zhongli Districts. At these sites, a total of 5,549 tons of mixed waste plastics were stored, pointing to the fact that Company A had long been illegally exporting waste overseas through a scheme of "legally declared, illegally concealed" shipments.

The task force further traced the source of the waste and discovered that several disposal entities failed to transport disposed waste to legal disposal plants as required by law. Instead, they shipped the waste to Company A for illegal export overseas. This violated the administrative criminal penalties outlined in Article 46 of the *Waste Disposal Act*. Subsequently, the Department of Environmental Protection of the Taoyuan City Government will order the operators involved in this case to submit a waste disposal plan and bear the responsibility for disposing of waste in compliance with the law.

Deputy Minister of Environment Shen Chih-Hsiu highlighted that, "The task force has already seized relevant evidence and frozen criminal proceeds of nearly NT\$400 million. It will request the operators to bear the responsibility for waste disposal and will never allow operators to shift the cost of pollution to the public." Regarding the illegally exported waste in this case, the Department of Environmental Protection will report and handle the case in accordance with Article 38 of the *Waste Disposal Act*, which stipulates a maximum fine of NT\$10 million. As for the illegal disposal and treatment of waste, the Taiwan Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office has already completed the investigation and filed charges in accordance with administrative criminal penalties outlined in Article 46 of the *Waste Disposal Act*, which may result in a sentence of up to five years in prison and a fine of up to NT\$15 million. The Ministry of Environment advises operators not to harbor any hopes of escaping responsibility.

The facilities leased by the illegal operator in this case have long been used to store and abandon waste. MOENV urged that, when leasing land, plants, or warehouses to others, it is crucial to be aware of new types of waste disposal crimes. Among illegal waste disposal cases, illegal operators

had been leasing land or facilities to quickly abandon waste within a short period and then disappear, leaving behind enormous amounts of waste. The lessors in these cases could potentially face significant costs for waste cleanup.

The MOENV expressed that this case has demonstrated the effectiveness of traffic enforcement cameras and interdepartmental coordination. It emphasized that in the future, it will continue to expand efforts to apprehend perpetrators of environmental protection crimes through interdepartmental cooperation and the application of technological tools, demonstrating its determination to protect the nation's land.



Surveying the disposal sites, from left to right: Deputy Director of the Department of Environmental Protection of Taoyuan City, Yeh Meng-fen; Deputy Minister of Justice, Hsu Hsi-Hsiang; Director General of the Environmental Management Administration, Yen Hsu-Ming; Deputy Minister of Environment, Shen Chih-Hsiu; Chief Prosecutor of the Taiwan Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office, Tai Wen-liang; and Commander of the Seventh Special Police Corps, Lee An-Chun



The agency representatives at the press conference, from left to right: Deputy Director of the Department of Environmental Protection of Taoyuan City, Yeh Meng-fen; Director General of the Environmental Management Administration, Yen Hsu-Ming; Deputy Minister of Environment, Shen Chih-Hsiu; Deputy Minister of Justice, Hsu Hsi-Hsiang; Chief Prosecutor of the Taiwan Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office, Tai Wen-liang; and Commander of the Seventh Special Police Corps, Lee An-Chun

8. MOENV and NTNU Launch Northern Regional Net-Zero Green Talent Center and Sign MOU on Development of Talent

On 10 April 2025, Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming attended the launch ceremony for the “MOENV Northern Regional Net-Zero Green Talent Development Center” held at National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) in Taipei City. At the event, the MOENV and NTNU signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to jointly promote the cultivation of net-zero green talent through academic collaboration and coordination of resources.

To accelerate the development of people with the professional skills needed to achieve net-zero emissions by 2025, the Ministry of Environment (MOENV) collaborated with 28 universities and colleges across the nation to establish the “MOENV Net-Zero Green Talent Fostering Alliance” formally establishing, on 28 March 2025, four regional talent development centers in the northern, central, southern, and eastern regions of Taiwan. Among them, NTNU will serve as the leading institution for the Northern Regional Talent Development Center.

Among the 32 universities and colleges in the alliance, NTNU took the lead by launching the 48-hour “MOENV Net-Zero Green Talent Training Program” on 1 April 2025. Although the tuition fee is NT\$12,000 per person, the class, with 40 spots available, was fully booked just 16 minutes after registration opened, demonstrating the high demand for this course.

At NTNU, Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming presented "Our Country's Environmental and Sus-

tainable Development Policy" to the audience, highlighting that "With the rapid growth of the environmental protection industry, only basic skills are no longer enough to meet market demand. It is only through comprehensive training and the accumulation of practical experience that green talent can truly excel in the market." Former Minister of the Environmental Protection Administration Wei Kuo-yen also attended the event, sharing his insights on environmental policy and the development of green talent.

President of NTNU Wu Cheng-Chih expressed that NTNU has advanced the deployment for the development of net-zero green talent and integrated academic resources and digital technologies, not only to cooperate with industry-academia partnerships but also to introduce AI technology for carbon management. He also pointed out that, in response to climate change, energy demand, and other issues, green talents are particularly important as the key to enhancing industrial competitiveness. Therefore, NTNU has integrated sustainability, environment, technology, education, and its expertise in talent development to fully support the MOENV.

NTNU Professor Yeh Shin-Cheng, who leads the "MOENV Northern Regional Net-Zero Green Talent Development Center", pointed out that NTNU hosted the country's first MOENV Net-Zero Green Talent Training Program on 26 April 2025. The program not only covered the MOENV's latest policies related to the "*Climate Change Response Act*" but also invited industry experts to deliver corporate courses. Since the program was fully booked by April 1, NTNU is now planning to open additional sessions as soon as possible to meet the demand from the broader community.

The National Environmental Research Academy of the MOENV reminds the public that the 32 universities and colleges in the alliance will offer at least 60 sessions before the end of the year, providing over 2,400 spaces for enrolling in this program.



The MOENV and NTNU signed a memorandum of understanding to jointly cultivate net-zero green talent (from left to right: Professor Yeh Shin-Cheng of the NTNU Graduate Institute of Sustainability Management and Environmental Education; President of the National

Environmental Research Academy, Liu Tsung-Yung; Minister of Environment, Peng Chi-Ming; President of NTNU, Wu Cheng-Chih; Dean of the NTNU College of Science, Chen Chieh-Shan; and Director of the NTNU Graduate Institute of Sustainability Management and Environmental Education, Fang Wei-ta).



NTNU established the MOENV Northern Regional Net-Zero Green Talent Development Center (from left to right: Professor Yeh Shin-Cheng and Director Fang Wei-ta of the NTNU Graduate Institute of Sustainability Management and Environmental Education; President of NTNU, Wu Cheng-Chih; Minister of Environment, Peng Chi-Ming; President of the National Environmental Research Academy, Liu Tsung-Yung; and Dean of the NTNU College of Science, Chen Chieh-Shan).



Minister of Environment, Peng Chi-Ming presented "Our Country's Environmental and Sustainable Development Policy" at NTNU

9. 2025 Earth Day Gathering at Da'an Forest Park Celebrates Zero-Waste, Plant-Based Footprint-free Family Day to Jointly Build a Sustainable New Future

Ministry of Environment (MOENV) to celebrate the theme of 2025 Earth Day, "Our Power, Our Planet", the Ministry of Environment (MOENV) collaborated with the Taipei City Government and the Buddhist Tzu Chi Charity Foundation to host the "Love Earth with Green Energy Actions x Plant-Based Footprint-free Family Day" on April 20. The event aimed to inspire citizens to incorporate environmental protection and sustainable practices into their daily lives through a variety of engaging and enjoyable activities, all while fostering a collective effort to protect the Earth. Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming also joined Deputy Mayor Chang Wen-Te, CEO of the Buddhist Tzu Chi Charity Foundation Yen Po-wen, and representatives from 22 counties and cities to participate in the "Green Action Declaration", with the goal of rallying all citizens to unite in practicing green actions.

"Let's join the Earth Guardians!" Minister Peng emphasized that the greatest challenge in achieving net-zero emissions lies not in technology or financial resources, but in shifting the public mindset. The real question he noted is whether people are willing to change their lifestyles and adopt more mindful consumption habits. In this spirit, the MOENV aimed to reignite public awareness and commitment through this year's Earth Day celebration. Minister Peng also highlighted that a net-zero, sustainable lifestyle has been integrated into the "National Project of Hope". In key areas such as food, clothing, housing, transportation, education, entertainment, and shopping, the MOENV is exploring strategies to better engage citizens while developing effective, collaborative policy solutions. The MOENV further noted that promoting the use of reusable cups has been among its most successful initiatives. While some businesses initially expressed concerns about rising costs, an increasing number of operators and consumers have shown their willingness to take part in sustainable action.

Meanwhile, CEO Yen Po-wen advocated for a plant-based, zero-waste diet, emphasizing that a vegetable-based lifestyle not only significantly reduces carbon emissions but also improves health. Minister Peng echoed this sentiment, stating, "I am the Minister of Environment, and I am a vegetarian", as he shared his experience of maintaining a vegetarian lifestyle for nine years while staying strong and healthy.

This year's Earth Day celebration featured a rich array of engaging activities designed to promote environmental awareness and community involvement. Highlights included dynamic percussion and stage performances, screenings of "Selected Films from the Munich Children's Film Festival" curated by the Fubon Cultural and Educational Foundation, and a special showcase of short films from the "Beyond Beauty – Taiwan from Above" series presented by the Chi Po-Lin Foundation. Attendees also enjoyed hands-on experiences with plant-based cuisine, participated in eco-friendly interactive games, and explored live demonstrations of renewable energy technologies – drawing from solar, wind, and ocean sources.

The Agency Against Corruption also joined the event, hosting a booth where visitors engaged with eco-friendly crafts and interactive games that promoted the values of integrity and transparency.

The goal was to strengthen public understanding of clean, ethical governance.

Thousands of citizens gathered with their families to take part in this large-scale outdoor celebration. To encourage even more participation in environmental efforts, the MOENV launched an online campaign titled "Plastic Reduction and Carbon Reduction Green Actions". Participants who complete designated green missions and upload their results by 12:00 noon by July 31 will be entered into a lucky draw. For full details, please visit the official event website: <https://ecofestival.tw>. MOENV invites everyone to put environmental values into practice and work together to create meaningful, positive change for our planet.



Earth Day event speakers on the Da An Forest Park stage



Exhibition booths drew enthusiastic participation from visitors



Children participating in eco-friendly interactive games

10. MOENV and NTU Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Enhance Industry-Government-Academic Cooperation in Promoting Net-Zero Transformation and Environmental Resilience

To address the challenges posed by climate change and accelerate the country's transition to net-zero emissions while achieving sustainable development goals, the Ministry of Environment (MOENV) and National Taiwan University (NTU) signed the "Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability" on 21 April 2025, with the agreement signed by Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming and NTU President of Chen Wen-Chang. This collaboration will establish a long-term, stable framework for advancing climate policies, technical research, talent development, and building climate resilience, with the aim of creating a comprehensive climate action blueprint that balances both carbon reduction and adaptation efforts.

The MOENV pointed out the three key aspects of this collaboration:

- I. Establish climate action, adaptation, and sustainable development programs for public servants, industry practitioners, and green talents as diverse learning resources.
- II. Jointly promote studies related to greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and removal, covering natural carbon emissions, CCUS (Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage), and the development of the Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) mechanism.
- III. Integrate the research capacities of both parties to formulate climate change adaptation strategies and, through forums and seminars, facilitate knowledge exchange and public participation.

Minister Peng stated that climate change has become one of the most severe environmental threats. The challenge of achieving net-zero emissions requires not only policy guidance but also scientific

support and social participation. Peng emphasized that NTU has long been at the forefront of climate and sustainability issues, with strong academic capabilities and interdepartmental integration advantages. This cooperation will deepen the strategic connection between government and academia and help build a more forward-looking climate governance and sustainability policy support system for Taiwan.

Minister Peng emphasized that climate actions require the cooperation and involvement of all society. Through partnerships with academic institutions, we can effectively connect policy needs with research capacity, further accelerating the country's innovation in carbon reduction technologies, climate adaptation policies, and enhancing public awareness. In the future, the MOENV will continue to promote interdepartmental and interdisciplinary coordination platforms to work towards the goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.



Minister of Environment Peng Chi-Ming (right) and President of NTU Chen Wen-Chang (left), signed the “Memorandum of Understanding on Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability”



Distinguished guests at the signing ceremony of the “Memorandum of Understanding on Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability” between the MOENV and NTU

11. How to Select an Environmental Agent? MOENV Teaches the “Four Yes and Three No Principles” to Avoid Risks

Among the effects of global warming, the spread of residential vectors and pests is on the rise, increasing public demand for pest control solutions. In response, MOENV advises the public to prioritize simple, safe, and non-chemical methods for cleaning, prevention, and pest control, and to use certified environmental agents only when necessary.

In 2024, the Ministry of Environment (MOENV), in coordination with local environmental protection bureaus, conducted a total of 27,015 inspections and random sampling of environmental agents – covering advertisements, counterfeit products, and active ingredient verification – finding a compliance rate of 97.7%. These inspections included: 5,430 checks on environmental agent advertisements, among which 247 cases involved illegal advertisements, including the sale of insecticides and unregistered products on e-commerce platforms; 21,452 inspections of product labeling, with 377 found non-compliant, mainly due to expired products; 130 inspections of active ingredients, with four products failing to meet standards; and three unregistered counterfeit products that were confiscated. All sellers of the non-compliant products have been penalized and the products ordered to be removed from sale within a specified period, in accordance with the *Environmental Agents Control Act*.

The MOENV urges citizens to follow the "Four Yes" principles when selecting and purchasing environmental agents – “be accurate”, “be legal”, “be valid” and “labeled” – to ensure their safe and effective use. Moreover, when advertising the sale of environmental agents, the "Three No" principles must also be observed – “no publication”, “no buying” and “no recommendation” – to avoid violating the law and facing penalties.

The MOENV has established the “Environmental Agent Permit and Pest Control Industry License”

(<https://mdc.moenv.gov.tw/PublicInfo>) inquiry system to help citizens check whether an environmental agent is legally registered.

The MOENV also specifically reminds the public that travelers returning from overseas are only allowed to bring back no more than 1 kg of environmental agents that are strictly for personal use. Advertising or selling environmental agents online is prohibited, and violators will face fines ranging from NTD 60,000 to NTD300,000.

Cleaning and tidying up the environment are the first steps in maintaining environmental hygiene and can effectively prevent the spread of pests. It is recommended to avoid using environmental agents unless necessary, and to use only the minimum amount required. Replacing environmental agents with proper environmental maintenance is key to effective pest prevention and control.



Officials at the press conference: Director General of the Chemicals Administration Hsieh Yen-Rui (third from the left); Professor Pai Hsiu-Hua (second from the left); Professor Hsu Err-Lieh (second from the right); Chief Ni Ping-Hsiung (first on the right); and Team Leader Wang Chin-Chuan (first on the left) from the Hazard Control Section.



Exhibit of qualified environmental agents



Exhibit of environmental pests