



Major Environmental Policies

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



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

Climate Change

MOENV Reveals Taiwan's 2035 NDC 3.0 and establishes the COP30 War Room

The 30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP30) will be held in Belém, Brazil, from November 10 to 21. Taiwan just announced the 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) in alignment with international efforts. Despite not being a UNFCCC party, Taiwan is still committed to the Convention and determined to show the world what Taiwan has done for CO₂ reduction and sustainable transformation. This action echoes the COP30 spirit, " Global Mutirão", as part of the collaboration toward net-zero sustainability.

The MOENV held a press conference on 7 November, announcing Taiwan's 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0 and the establishment of the COP 30 War Room. Minister Peng Chi-Ming delivered a speech in both Chinese and English, stating that Taiwan has experienced a series of extreme weather events in recent years, indicating that climate risks are becoming increasingly severe and that carbon reduction and adaptation work are imminent. Led by Vice Premier Cheng, the Executive Yuan designed the cross-ministerial action plan for Taiwan's overall carbon reduction. The new version of Taiwan's NDC 3.0 was officially approved by Premier Cho on 3 November after the review by the National Climate Change Committee and extensive communications with the public. With 2005 as the benchmark, the targets are 28±2%

reduction by 2030 and 38±2% reduction by 2035, second only to Japan in Asia and like South Korea's targets. Such immensely challenging targets require joint efforts from the central and local governments as well as industries and society.

Minister Peng pointed out that Taiwan has done remarkably well in greenhouse gas reduction in recent years. Emissions decreased by 1.77% in 2022 and 4.64% in 2023 as opposed to the benchmark year. The latest data has projected emission decrease could be as much as 6.7% in 2024, a 2.15% drop compared with the previous year (2023). This marks the third consecutive year of significant reduction as well as an achievement only second only to that of Japan in Asia all thanks to citizens' efforts.

At this year's COP30 in Brazil, Taiwan will showcase its efforts to the world with the approved version of NDC 3.0. Minister Peng stressed that, despite being unable to attend the conference as Taiwan is not a convention member, Taiwan faces the same threat of extreme weather and therefore will contribute and demonstrate its will and actions to the international community via diverse channels.

The MOENV explained that NDC) is a mechanism required by the Paris Agreement for countries to submit. It is to include climate actions beyond 2020, disclosing actions including reduction measures, reduction targets, and adaptation of climate change, and be updated and enhanced at least every five years. As submission of the 2035 NDC, i.e., NDC 3.0, is required before the COP 30 this year, and as of 6 November a total of 72 signing parties have done so, accounting for approximately 62% of global emissions.

The MOENV emphasized that since 2020 Taiwan has been submitting and updating NDCs in alignment with the global community. The NDC 3.0 (version beta), proposed by the National Climate Change Committee in January this year, sets national reduction targets with 2005 as the benchmark year, including a $28\pm 2\%$ drop by 2030, a $32\pm 2\%$ drop by 2032, and a $38\pm 2\%$ drop by 2035. Afterwards the Committee held talks with the public and collected opinions from industries, governmental agencies, academia, research community, and civil organizations before the Executive Yuan officially approved the NDC 3.0 on 3 November. Taiwan's 2035 target, a $38\pm 2\%$ decrease compared to the benchmark year, covers ten fields such as equity and ambition, domestic legal framework and climate governance in Taiwan, strategies regarding energy transition and smart green energy, dual transition on digitization and green industry, green finance and carbon pricing, net-zero sustainable

green living and community-driven action, just transition and green talents, global cooperation, climate change adaptation, human rights, gender equality, and the rights for children and youth. Besides displaying actual climate efforts, the NDC 3.0 also serves as Taiwan's core actions toward global climate cooperation.

With "Global Mutirão" as the event theme, the COP30 was to emphasize comprehensive promotion of the Paris Agreement across different levels and departments, focus on each country's newly submitted NDCs, and discuss follow-up actions and support mechanisms based on the inventory results. Being professional, pragmatic, and contributive, this year Taiwan will take part in the global climate efforts to stay updated on the global climate talks as well as keep searching opportunities to join international inter-governmental organizations. This year the Youth Billions Overseas Dream Fund under the Ministry of Education is being brought in, with youth representatives openly selected to go to the COP30 for exchanges with other attendees. Additionally, there will be think tanks, NGOs, and enterprises actively participating in other COP30 events, which is a display of joint energy from the civil and government sectors on climate efforts. Meanwhile, Taiwan will voluntarily disclose UNFCCC-related documents for the first time, including the 2035 NDC 3.0, the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), and the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory (NIR). Moreover, a Memorandum of Cooperation on the Paris Agreement is to be signed between Taiwan and its diplomatic ally, Paraguay as an outward gesture of Taiwan's climate actions and commitment. It is hoped that Taiwan can keep sharing experiences on climate change and response with other countries to embody the Paris Agreement's spirit of fairness and global cooperation.

In response to international climate actions, the MOENV's Climate Change Administration has

established a "Participating in International Climate Actions" section on its official website (<https://gov.tw/dQK>). This section provides comprehensive information on the UNFCCC's recent progress, Taiwan's active participation in the UNFCCC (including information from previous war rooms, downloads of Taiwan's

voluntary compliance documents in Chinese and English: the NDC3.0, the BTRs, the NIRs), and results on comparisons and exchanges of international climate actions. The Administration invites all sectors to stay updated on the global trends and participate in global climate actions together with the government.



■ COP30 War Room established under the MOENV



■ Minister Peng Chi-Ming explains Taiwan's outstanding performance in greenhouse gas reduction

我國2035年國家自定貢獻(NDC3.0)暨COP30戰情中心成立記者會

臺灣NDC3.0：溫室氣體長期減量路徑規劃

- 2023年2月公布《氣候變遷因應法》，納入符合《巴黎協定》1.5°C 路徑的2050年淨零排放目標
- 臺灣的目標是在 2035 年將其溫室氣體排放量從 2005 年減少 36% 至 40%，相當於將排放量減少至 172.4 至 161.6 MtCO₂e。

相較2007年峰值
新目標可減排
43 至 47%

戰情中心

簡報說明
環境部氣候變遷署 蔡玲儀 署長

環境部
Ministry of Environment

■ Director General Ling-Yi Tsai briefs Taiwan's NDC3.0

Resource Circulation

Resource Circulation Administration Releases Guidelines to Urge Supply Chain for Packaging Reduction and Design Transformations

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

Air Quality

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 air pollutants, as opposed to TEDS 12, TEDS 13 shows a decrease in all major 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.

International Cooperation

MOENV's "Rainwater Garden" Website Officially Launched to Integrate Climate Adaptation Efforts from Schools in the US and Taiwan

The upgraded "Rainwater Garden" website has been officially launched under the Ministry of Environment's (MOENV) Climate Change Administration (CCA) website. The project integrates monitoring data with environmental education efforts, showcasing the water conservation and cooling achievements of rainwater gardens, thus creating a green learning platform for all. The CCA hosted an online exchange in collaboration with Rutgers University on "Promoting Rainwater Gardens on Campuses in the United States and Taiwan," connecting teachers and students in both countries and allowing them to cooperate in learning how to use rainwater gardens to cope with extreme rainfall and enhance the resilience of school premises.

In October 2025, the CCA worked closely with Rutgers University on an online seminar, which brought together teachers and students from seven schools in the United States and Taiwan, namely: Xinjie Elementary School and Zhongfu Elementary School in Taoyuan, Dazhi Elementary School in Taichung, Datong Elementary School in Kaohsiung, and The Albrook School, Bartle Elementary School, and Frances S. DeMasi School in New Jersey, USA, with a total of 117 participants. The event allowed teachers and students from these schools to cooperatively learn how to promote rainwater gardens on school grounds and explore how to address climate challenges such as extreme rainfall. This international event not only strengthened cooperation between the two countries in the field of climate adaptation but also gave students international experience and allowed

them to share their concerns and actions regarding climate with peers in another country.

The CCA stated that climate change brings challenges such as extreme rainfall and heat waves, and it is now important to improve the resilience of schools and communities. A rainwater garden serves both educational and adaptation functions, and school campuses are a starting point for cultivating environmental awareness. The vibrant outdoor learning environment of a rainwater garden plants the seeds of "Dealing with Climate Change and Protecting the Planet Together" in children's hearts. The CCA invites everyone to act, starting with learning about rainwater gardens, practicing environmental protection in daily life, and working together to create a greener and more sustainable future.



氣候變遷署 意見信箱 網站導覽 | EN 字級

關於雨水花園 最新消息 環境教育推廣 示範場址展示 線上諮詢

雨水花園：打造海綿城市的關鍵一環

雨水花園是一種結合自然生態與城市設計的創新手法，其核心概念是透過引導、滲透及儲存雨水，減少都市洪患，並提升水資源的利用效率。雨水花園通常設置於公共空間、住宅社區或學校等地點，運用植物、土壤和地形設計來吸收雨水，模仿自然的水循環，創造出一個具有生態、景觀與功能多重價值的綠色空間。

這項理念與國際間正在推動的「海綿城市」(Sponge City)目標不謀而合。海綿城市強調城市應具備像「海綿」一樣吸收、儲存、淨化和釋放雨水的功能，減少對硬化地面的依賴，並運用自然基礎設施(Nature-based Solutions)來應對氣候變遷的挑戰。透過雨水花園的設置，我們不僅能強化城市的韌性，還能減少地表逕流帶來的污染，提升城市空間的生態價值，讓人們的生活環境更加宜居。

雨水花園的美好不僅在於它的功能性，還體現了一種對自然的尊重與共存。每個人都可以參與其中，無論是在自家庭院打造一個小型的雨水花園，或是參與社區的雨水花園計畫，都能為我們的城市增添一份綠意與希望。這是一個人人可及的改變，一個從點滴中匯聚成大潮流的可能。

讓我們一起行動，透過雨水花園的建設，共同迎接更加永續的未來。這不僅是一個改變環境的機會，更是一份為子孫留下一片綠地的承諾。邀請您加入這場「綠色革命」，從現在開始，一同成為雨水花園的創造者，讓我們的城市成為真正的「海綿城市」！

■ The "Rainwater Garden" homepage

多媒體文宣教材



【你不知道的雨水花園】懶人包

下載 PDF 檔



【雨水花園是什麼?】教學圖卡

下載 PDF



【你聽過雨水花園嗎?】懶人包



雨水花園影片

■ Multimedia materials provided on the Rainwater Garden



■ School pupils from the US and Taiwan met in an online seminar

Revised Regulations Preannounced Regarding Carbon Inventory, Registration and Verification for More Flexibility

The MOENV announced the partial amendment of the Regulations for Management of Inventory, Registration and Verification of Greenhouse Gases (溫室氣體排放量盤查登錄及查驗管理辦法) (referred to as the Regulations hereinafter) on 19 December 2025 in response to the Regulations for Emission Sources Obligated to Measuring and Reporting Its Emission by Entity (事業應盤查登錄溫室氣體排放量之排放源) (referred to as the Obligated Enterprises hereinafter) promulgated on 4 March 2025. The Obligated Enterprises cover the service industry, transportation industry, medical facilities, and colleges/universities, which are greatly different from the manufacturing industry previously listed for control in terms of industry nature and business models. The purpose of this amendment is to gradually widen and strengthen Taiwan's management of emission sources and enhance governance capacities by making inventory closer to actual operations of the Obligated Enterprises and providing a more flexible management. The following are keys to the amendment:

I. Simplify inventory of small fugitive emission sources

For the same type of fugitive emission sources within the boundary of the Obligated Enterprises, they may use the most recent emissions that were taken inventory of and verified for two consecutive years if their fugitive emissions are less than 0.05% of the total emissions and fall below less than five metric tons of CO₂^e.

II. Include authorized and franchise stores in inventory

If an authorized or franchise store of an Obligated Enterprise is jointly run by another enterprise, the Obligated Enterprise shall conduct inventory at least the indirect energy-related emissions of that store, such as purchased power.

III. Adjust testing specifications for fuel and (raw) materials

The heat value of fuels and carbon content of (raw) materials announced by the central competent authority may be determined based on the information shown on the product labels instead of the testing specifications stipulated in Paragraph 1 Article 5 of the Regulations.

IV. Specify the contents of Obligated Enterprises' inventory reports

Additions are made regarding specifications of necessary information required for the Obligated Enterprises' inventory reports to ensure that information is complete and comply with industry characteristics.

The MOENV indicated that there are approximately 460 Obligated Enterprises announced in 2025. Inventory and reporting are operated on "four No's," which are no trouble, no outsourcing, no inspection and no carbon fees. The MOENV has promulgated the inventory guidelines for four types of GHGs in Jul 2025 and held a

series of consultation workshops in August and September jointly with the central competent authorities. A phone number is in

place for consultation regarding inventory and verification starting from 2026 onwards.

Water Quality Protection

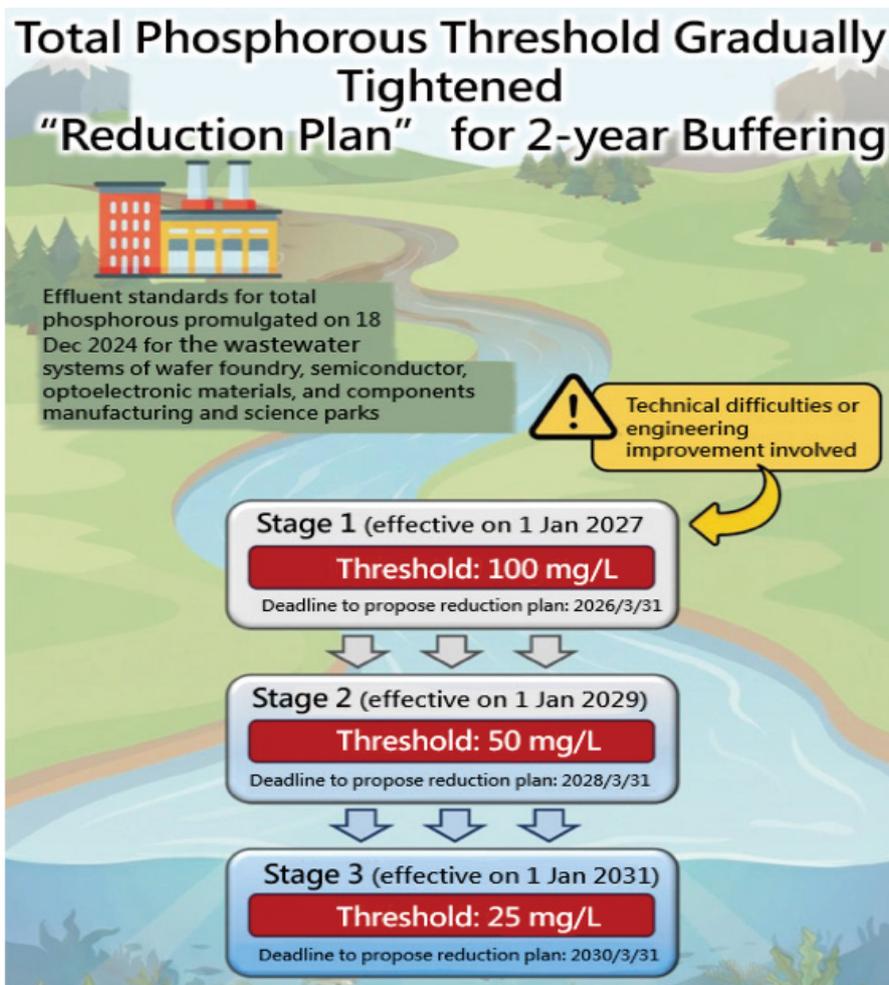
2-Year Buffer Granted for Reduction Plan to Tighten Total Phosphorous Limits

The MOENV has promulgated the “Guidelines for Reviewing Effluent Pollutant Reduction Management Plans” (放流水污染物削減管理計畫審核作業要點) on 27 November 2025 to assist businesses in successful adaptation to the stricter standards for total phosphorus in effluent. For the wastewater systems of manufacturing wafers, semiconductors, and optoelectronic materials and parts as well as those in science parks, a "reduction management plan" may be submitted in accordance with the guidelines starting the promulgation date if criteria cannot be met immediately due to technical bottlenecks or required construction time. Once the plan is approved by local governments, businesses will be granted a two-year extension to ensure sufficient time for improvement.

The MOENV released the standards for total phosphorus in effluent on 18 December 2024, implementing total phosphorus control measures in three phases on wastewater sewage systems of manufacturing of wafers, semiconductors, and optoelectronic materials and parts, and those in science park wastewater systems. The criteria and phases are 100 mg/L in 2027, 50 mg/L in 2029, and 25 mg/L in 2031. However, most disposal of phosphorus in wastewater is through coagulation and sedimentation, which generates a large amount of sludge. When the aforementioned standards were issued, there may be enterprises affected that are unable to meet the control limits within the specified period before the implementation deadlines specified in the Guidelines (the first phase by 31 March 2026, the second by 31 March 2028 for the second phase, and the third by 31 March) due to technical difficulties or time required for improvement constructions. To allow reasonable time for improvement, these enterprises are

submitting to local governments reduction and control plans regarding effluent pollutants. Once the plan is approved, control limits for effluents may be taken effect two years after the control period for the specific phase.

Phosphorus is an important nutrient in aquatic ecosystems; however, too much phosphorus will cause negative impacts on water quality if it finds its way into water bodies. In addition to pushing for domestic wastewater phosphorus recycling through regulations, the MOENV is also subsidizing research and development of technology for phosphorus crystallization and concentration and energy conservation with the Water Pollution Control Fund and under the Forward-Looking Infrastructure Development Program. It is hoped to guide the green transformation to industrial wastewater treatment from conventional technologies and jointly achieve the sustainable goal of net-zero reduction and resource circulation.



■ Effluent standards for total phosphorus

Resource Circulation

Recycling Labels Mandatory on Cellphones Since 2026 to Achieve 15% Circulation Rate

The new requirements on recycling and circulation services for cellphones will take effect on 1 January 2026 to ensure environmental sustainability and extend producer responsibility. All cellphone manufacturers and importers are required to provide a recycling label on each of their products and achieve an annual circulation rate of 15%. Such promulgation marks the start of the era of complete resource circulation in Taiwan’s cellphone industry.

Approximately 5 million cellphones are sold every year in Taiwan, and these phones are high in recycling value as they contain more than 70 rare metals. The “circulation service” defined in the *Regulations Governing Recycling, Circular*

Services and Recycling Labels, and Other Compliance Requirements for Mobile Phone Producers (應執行廢行動電話回收、循環服務與標示分類回收標誌之業者範圍及其他應遵行事項) covers cell phone rental, used phone buyback, repair, or

product-service billing models offered by enterprises. It is designed to improve both the service life of cellphones and resource efficiency. To ensure smooth policy transition, the *Resource Circulation Administration (RCA)* has published the *Guidelines for Registration and Inspection of Annual Results Regarding Circulation Rates for Mobile Phone Recycling and Circulation Service* (行動電話回收、循環服務之循環率年度執行成果資料申報查核作業指引) so as to provide enterprises with clear instructions for registration and inspection.

The RCA stressed that all cellphone manufacturers and importers are required to report the implementation results of the previous year by 31 May 2026 as references for future reviews on a rolling basis. The government will continue to bring businesses and sales channels together to enhance the convenience of cellphone repairs and recycling, allowing returning valuable metals to return into the circulation system and turning every cellphone into a force to achieve a circular economy.

環境部資源循環署
 Resource Circulation Administration
 Ministry of Environment

RECYCLE old PHONES

Old cell phones recyclable all year round

Cell Phone Recycling Regulations on the Road

Cell phone manufacturers and importers need to provide recycling service

“Regulations Governing Recycling, Circular Services and Labeling With Recycling Symbols and Other Compliance Requirements for Mobile Phone Producers” effective on 1 Jan 2025

Cell phone manufacturers and importers need to:

1. Install recycling facilities
2. Mark how to recycle
3. Provide circulation service

Circulation service can be:
 cell phone rental,
 used phone buyback,
 repair, or product-service billing models offered by the operators

Circulation rate **15%** by 2026

廣告

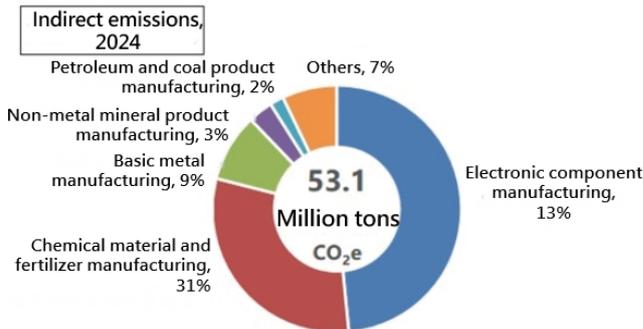
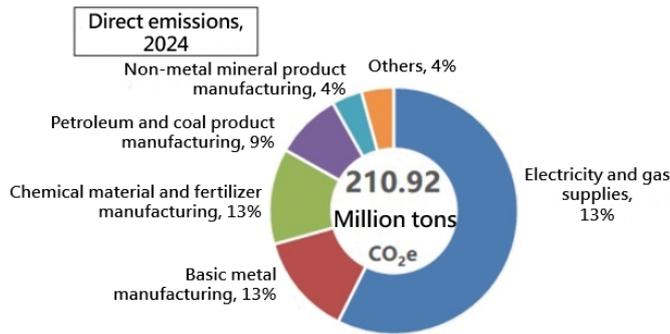
Cellphone recycling regulations take effect, mandating cellphone manufacturers and importers to provide recycling services.

MOENV Publishes 2024 Emission Results of Listed Enterprises

The MOENV indicated on 26 November that in 2024 there were 303 enterprises (including 562 factories) listed for controls under the “Regulations for Management of Inventory, Registration and Verification of Greenhouse Gases “ (溫室氣體排放量盤查登錄及查驗管理辦法). All of them have completed the annual greenhouse gas emission inventory, registration and verification as scheduled. The direct emissions by these regulated enterprises in 2024 decreased by 1.7% as compared to that in 2023; and the indirect ones due to energy use (mainly electricity) decreased by 2.7% also compared to that in 2023.

The MOENV explained that the number of listed factories increased by nine (15 new ones and six removed) in 2024 because some factories experienced increased operation and hence increased emissions that exceeded regulatory threshold, in addition to newly opened factories. For industry categories of emissions from listed enterprises in 2024, direct emissions came mostly from manufacturing processes and burning fuels, and the power generation and gas supply industries were the largest contributors of all categories (accounting for 57%). For the manufacturing category, major sources came from basic metal manufacturing (13%), chemical materials and fertilizer manufacturing (13%), and petroleum and coal product manufacturing (9%). On the other hand, indirect energy-based emissions reflect mostly use of electricity use, and major contributors were electronic component manufacturing (accounting for 48% of the total indirect emissions), chemical materials and fertilizer manufacturing (31%), and basic metal manufacturing (9%).

The MOENV pointed out that the 2025 inventory data will serve as the basis for carbon fee collection. Likewise, an enterprise's emission inventory and verification results for 2025 will be used to determine the carbon fees to be paid in 2026, and the fees will be collected according to the applicable carbon fee rate. Still, those who will be subject to carbon fees depend on the inventory results next year. A total of 465 factories (under 247 enterprises) would make the list of those subject to carbon fees per the "Regulations Governing the Collection of Carbon Fees" (碳費收費辦法) in accordance with evaluation based on inventory, registration and verification results of 2024. All regulated businesses are urged to ensure the authenticity and integrity of the inventory data submitted as this is important for the applicability and calculation of carbon fees. The MOENV will ensure full implementation by working with local environmental protection bureaus with continuous document reviews, field surveys and in-depth audits.



■ Enterprises listed for control in 2024 contributing direct and indirect emissions by industrial category

Number of listed enterprises, number of emission sources, and quantity of emissions in 2023 and 2024

Year	Number of listed enterprises	Number of listed emission sources (factories)	Emissions (Million tons CO ₂ e)	
			Direct emissions	Energy indirect emissions
2023	302	553	214.48	54.57
2024	303	562	210.92	53.10
Difference between both years	1	9	-3.56 (-1.7%)	-1.7 (-2.7%)

Note: difference between both years = (2024 - 2023)/2023

■ Number of listed enterprises, number of emission sources, and quantity of emissions in 2023 and 2024

Taiwan and Japan Sign MOU on Environmental Protection Labels to Improve International Connection of Green Products

Represented by Deputy Minister Hsieh Yein-Rui, the Ministry of Environment (MOENV) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation in environmental labeling with the Japan Environment Association (JEA) and the Taiwan Environment and Development Foundation on 10 December 2025, in Tokyo, Japan. This cooperation symbolizes closer and more institutionalized international cooperation between Taiwan and Japan on their green product labeling systems and lays an important foundation for promoting mutual recognition of environmental labels in the future.

MOENV Deputy Minister Hsieh stated that this collaboration will further enhance the efficiency of the circulation of green products in the international market and enable the labeling systems of Japan and Taiwan to have greater influence on global sustainability issues. He also hoped that cooperation on a broader range of products will be gradually achieved through the establishment of this MOU, bringing more benefits to green industries and environmental sustainability in both countries. In addition, the Deputy Minister emphasized in his speech that President Lai Ching-Te recently listed green procurement/green living as one of the core pillars for promoting net-zero carbon emissions at a National Climate Change Committee meeting. Eco-labels and green products play an indispensable role as part of the continuing promotion and expansion of green procurement by Taiwan's central government, helping to drive the transformation to green living. It is expected that the Taiwan-Japan eco-label cooperation will facilitate green procurement in the marketplace.

The MOENV noted that climate change is having profound impacts on global ecology and human lives. Thus, the international community is paying more attention to carbon reduction, circular economy and green consumption policies, while environmental labels in various countries have become an important tool for promoting sustainable products. Taiwan's Green Mark and Japan's Eco Mark are recognized both domestically and internationally, and exchanges and cooperation between the two countries are of great importance as they build a model others may emulate.

This new MOU focuses on “information products” and “imaging equipment,” covering the following:

I. Joint definition and review of common standard items and verification methods for products

II. Exchange of technical information, product specifications, and verification experience

III. Regular multilateral working meetings on standardization and mutual recognition

IV. Mutual notification of regulatory revisions and joint assessment of the impacts thereof

V. Inclusion of more product categories as the cooperation progresses

The MOENV pointed out that Taiwan and Japan signed an agreement in 2004 to mutually recognize environmental labels. As the systems of Japan and Taiwan evolve over time, this new MOU will serve as the main guideline to help the Taiwan-Japan cooperation keep pace with the times and respond to rapid changes in the global green product market.

The MOENV emphasized that the Japan Environment Association is tasked with managing the "Eco Mark" as well

as an important private-public interest incorporated foundation in Japan, while in Taiwan, the MOENV serves as the governing body for the environmental label system, and the Environment and Development Foundation is designated as its verification body. Both the Japan Environment Association and the Environment and Development Foundation are members of the Global Environmental Labelling Network. This joint MOU better represents the comprehensiveness of both parties' systems and practical operations and will ensure a broad cooperation framework covering all responsibilities.

The MOENV stated that, based on the MOU, it will initiate technical discussions, compare standards, and conduct exchanges of verification experiences, thus actively working towards the goal of mutual recognition of labels, joint promotion of green trade, and eventual fulfillment of the 2050 net-zero vision.



■ MOENV Deputy Minister Hsieh Yein-Rui (2nd from right) witnessed the signing of the MOU between Taiwan and Japan



■ All delegation members at the MOU signing

Digital Enforcement

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.