



12 December 2023

**MTR Spearheads Plastic Reduction Campaign for all F&B Shops Across its Network  
Launches the Joint Initiative with WWF and foodpanda:  
"Embarking on a Green Journey by Choosing to Reuse  
- Reusable Food Container Scheme at Hong Kong Station"**

The MTR Corporation (MTR) has always strived to support Hong Kong's journey towards a sustainable future. To respond to the "plastic-free" movement, the Corporation announced today (12 December 2023) the launch of the plastic reduction campaign, initiating all food and beverage (F&B) shops across the MTR network to participate. It includes inviting shops to sign the Environmental Protection Pledge and encouraging takeaway F&B shops to accept customers to bring their own food containers. Besides, the Corporation has introduced green clauses to the tenancy agreement, calling for tenants to support environmental protection. Currently, nearly 99%, over 280 takeaway F&B shops in the MTR network have signed the Environmental Protection Pledge, proactively committing not to provide disposable tableware and avoid using polystyrene. The Corporation also invites F&B tenants of MTR Malls to join the plastic reduction initiative and practice waste reduction at source by signing the Environmental Protection Pledge.

To echo MTR's proactive initiative in plastic reduction, the Corporation is collaborating with WWF-Hong Kong (WWF) and foodpanda Hong Kong (foodpanda) to launch "Embarking on a Green Journey by Choosing to Reuse - Reusable Food Container Scheme at Hong Kong Station", leveraging MTR's convenient network. It includes the scheme's first public reusable food-container self-service lending machine in Hong Kong, enabling the public to borrow reusable food containers with ease and return them to dedicated reusable container collection machines, encouraging the public to reduce disposable tableware.

WWF and foodpanda launched Hong Kong's first reusable food packaging pilot programme in October 2022 with the support from the Environmental Conservation Fund. This tripartite collaboration among MTR, WWF and foodpanda is an extension of this programme, under which MTR sponsored the installation of a self-service reusable food container lending machine at Hong Kong Station with an additional provision of 2,000 reusable food containers. MTR has also successfully invited 10 takeaway F&B shops in Hong Kong Station to join the plastic reduction initiative (see Annex1) to accept customers' borrowed food containers for takeaway meals, further expanding the programme's coverage to 60 partner restaurants, providing more eco-friendly dining options.

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Starting from today, the reusable food-container self-service lending machine and collection machine are accessible at Shop 11A, Level 1 at Hong Kong Station, ready for public use. The reusable food-container can also be returned to any of the nine other designated collection points on Hong Kong Island (refer to Annex 2), including the self-service collection machines in World-Wide House and Admiralty Centre, managed by MTR. One more collection point is planned for MTR Sai Ying Pun Station which will become available in the first quarter of next year, further expanding the reusable container collection machine network.

"Disposable plastic tableware undoubtedly brings convenience to our daily lives but also has an impact on the ecological environment. To successfully establish green living habits, it requires the participation of various sectors of society. We are delighted that this event aligns with the government's ongoing 'plastic reduction' efforts. The Hong Kong Station scheme provides a convenient 'pick-up' and 'return' option for reusable food containers when purchasing takeaways, integrating 'plastic reduction' and 'disposable reduction' into our lives, and reducing waste at the source," said Mr Bruno Luk Kar-kin, JP, Deputy Director of Environmental Protection Department (Waste Reduction).

"As a low-carbon public transportation operator, MTR has actively supported the journey towards a green future. We are thrilled to launch the MTR Shops Plastic Reduction Campaign, with strong support from the majority of F&B shops across our network. We are also delighted to introduce the joint initiative of the Hong Kong Station Reusable Container Programme with WWF and foodpanda, leveraging the strengths of all three partners to encourage a shift away from disposable culture. MTR remains committed to apply innovative practices in various businesses and daily operations to promote environmental conservation, actively building a sustainable future with the community," said Ms Jeny Yeung, Managing Director - Hong Kong Transport Services of MTR Corporation.

Following the launch of Phase 2 of the reusable food packaging programme, and the collaboration with MTR, foodpanda is committed to expanding the number of participating restaurant partners. foodpanda also continues to work closely with gategroup Solutions Hong Kong Limited and Bright Services Company Limited, a social enterprise under SideBySide, to handle the cleaning and logistics of the reusable food containers respectively. This ensures that the reusable containers are thoroughly cleaned and sterilised for continued use by the public, creating a closed-loop system. Additionally, WWF will utilise Shop 11A, Level 1 at Hong Kong station for environmental education, promoting plastic reduction and sharing environmental messages with the public. WWF will also work with foodpanda to organise themed seminars, assisting F&B shops within the MTR network to effectively reduce the use of disposable tableware.

"To promote the reduction of waste and reduce the burden on landfills in the society, the government has passed the Product Eco-responsibility (Amendment) Bill 2023 for regulating disposable plastic tableware in October this year, with the first stage scheduled to take effect at the end of April 2024. However, to mitigate the impact of plastic waste on the

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environment, the society needs to transit into a circular ecosystem. It is only by having a mature reusable system to replace disposable plastic products that we can achieve waste reduction goals. The pilot programme, funded by the Environmental and Conservation Fund, has demonstrated the feasibility of reusable food packaging rental. Phase 2 of the programme will explore additional operational models for reusable food packaging rental. We are pleased to collaborate with foodpanda and the MTR Corporation, greatly enhancing the scalability of reusable food container rental and providing more opportunities for the public to practise - environmental conservation. WWF hopes that this collaboration will lead more businesses to promote green initiatives and advance the sustainable development of the society," said Dr Bosco Chan Pui-lok, Director of Conservation, WWF-Hong Kong.

"After the launch of the reusable packaging pilot programme, our team has been continuously monitoring its progress and gathering feedback from restaurant partners, customers and stakeholders. To enhance user convenience, we extended the process of returning food containers to our delivery fleet in the middle of this year. Couriers can now return clean reusable containers on behalf of users, earning additional income while also boosting the return rate. At the same time, we have made adjustments to the design of the existing containers, which will be introduced in the first quarter of next year to save container storage space for partner restaurants. As we enter Phase 2 of the programme, we are delighted to continue our collaboration with WWF and work together with the MTR Corporation to expand the initiative and encourage more people to participate in plastic reduction. The team remains committed to foodpanda's sustainability mission and will continue to provide the society with more convenient and environmentally friendly dining options," Mr Ryan Lai Wai-yan, Chief Executive Officer, foodpanda Hong Kong.

This collaboration will continue until at least July 2024, and involved partners will review its effectiveness to explore further opportunities for collaboration.

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#### About MTR Corporation

To Keep Cities Moving, MTR makes encounters happen and rendezvous for a more connected tomorrow. As a recognised world-class operator of sustainable rail transport services, we are a leader in safety, reliability, customer service and efficiency.

MTR has extensive end-to-end railway expertise with more than 40 years of railway projects experience from design to planning and construction through to commissioning, maintenance and operations. Going beyond railway delivery and operation, MTR also creates and manages dynamic communities around its network through seamless integration of rail, commercial and property development.

With more than 40,000 dedicated staff\*, MTR carries over 13 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia and Mainland China. Together, we Go Smart and Go Beyond.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit [www.mtr.com.hk](http://www.mtr.com.hk)

\*includes our subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures in Hong Kong and worldwide

#### About WWF-Hong Kong

WWF is a leading global conservation organization, with a network active in more than 100 countries. WWF's mission is to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. WWF-Hong Kong has been working since 1981 to deliver solutions for a living planet through conservation, footprint and education programmes, with the aim of transforming Hong Kong into Asia's most sustainable city. For more information, please visit: [wwf.org.hk](http://wwf.org.hk)

#### About foodpanda Hong Kong

foodpanda is a leading on-demand delivery platform in Asia dedicated to bringing consumers a wide range of food, groceries and more, quickly and conveniently. Powered by technology and operational excellence, foodpanda is spearheading the growth of quick-commerce (q-commerce) across the region with its network of retail partners, as well as pandamart cloud stores to provide more on-demand options beyond the millions of food delivery options. foodpanda operates in more than 300 cities across 11 markets in Asia Pacific - Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Pakistan, Taiwan, Philippines, Bangladesh, Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar. foodpanda is a subsidiary of Delivery Hero, a global leader of the food delivery industry. For more information, visit [www.foodpanda.com](http://www.foodpanda.com).



Photo Caption:

1. Ms Jeny Yeung, Managing Director - Hong Kong Transport Services of MTR Corporation (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Mr Bruno Luk Kar-kin, JP, Deputy Director of Environmental Protection Department (Waste Reduction) (3<sup>rd</sup> left), Dr Bosco Chan Pui-lok, Director of Conservation, WWF-Hong Kong (1<sup>st</sup> left) and Mr Ryan Lai Wai-yan, Chief Executive Officer, foodpanda Hong Kong (4<sup>th</sup> left) officiated the kick-off ceremony of the "Embarking on a Green Journey by Choosing to Reuse - Reusable Food Container Scheme at Hong Kong Station"





- Ms Jeny Yeung (5<sup>th</sup> left of the upper row), Mr Luk Kar-kin, Bruno (6<sup>th</sup> left of the upper row), Dr Bosco Chan Pui-lok (4<sup>th</sup> left of the upper row) and Mr Ryan Lai Wai-yan (7<sup>th</sup> left of the upper row) with all the guests.





- Four officiating guests visited Shop 11A, Level 1, Hong Kong Station, and the scheme's first public reusable food-container self-service lending machine in Hong Kong.





4. Over 280 takeaway F&B shops in MTR network have signed the Environmental Protection Pledge, proactively committing not to provide disposable tableware and avoiding the use of polystyrene; these participating shops display a green logo.







Annex1

**List of 10 HOK Takeaway Food and Beverage Shops Joined The Pilot Scheme**

<b>Shops</b>
*Tong Kee Bao Dim
*Hung Fook Tong
Starbucks Hong Kong
Kam Kee
Foodbox
morimori
Dr. BBQ
Hana-musubi
Original Taste Workshop
AFK

\*Tong Kee Bao Dim and Hung Fook Tong, in addition to their shops at Hong Kong Station, have committed to reducing plastic across their entire network of over 90 stores within the MTR system. They pledge to accept customers' use of their own or borrowed reusable containers. Besides, Hung Fook Tong at Hong Kong Station will also be providing a reusable packaging menu on the foodpanda platform.



Annex 2

**Collection Points for Reusable Food Container Scheme**

<b>MTR Hong Kong Station</b>	
Location:	Shop 11A, L1 Level, Hong Kong Station
Time:	5 :40 am to 1:24 am (Station Service Time)
<b>Other Location Points</b>	
2/F, Central Market, 93 Queen's Road Central	
1/F, Standard Chartered Bank Building, 4-4A Des Voeux Road Central	
G/F, World-Wide House, 19 Des Voeux Road Central	
B1/F, Phase 3, Pacific Place, No. 88 Queensway	
1/F, Admiralty Centre, 19-21 Harcourt Road	
B1/F, Lee Tung Avenue, 200 Queen's Road East	
1/F, Fashion Walk, Hang Lung Malls, Great George Street	
3/F, Phase 1, Exchange Square, 8 Connaught Place	
B5/F, Time Square, 1 Matheson Street	