

Law for Promotion of Recycling and Related Activities for the Treatment of Cyclical Food Resources (Food Waste Recycling Law)

Large amount of food waste, namely dead stock and leftover is generated throughout the process of manufacturing, distribution and consumption of food. The volume of the food waste is approximately 30% of total discharge of municipal solid waste. On the other hand, recycling rate remains approximately 10% of total food waste. In order to promote reduction of the food waste, the Law for Promotion of Recycling and Related Activities for the Treatment of Cyclical Food Resources was enacted. The law stipulates the responsibilities of each stakeholder in terms of recycling of food resources and recycling activities that should be carried out by food related business entities based on criteria.

The law stipulates that the business entities and consumers are required to be positively involved in reduction of food waste, and the competent minister in charge is to make guidance, counsel, recommendation and order to the food related business entities in accordance with this criteria. In addition, measures to accelerate the efforts on recycling by food related businesses includes that registered recycling business entities are given preferential measures of the Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law and the Fertilizer Control Law.

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Competent Ministers
(Minister of the Environment, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery)

- Formulation of fundamental policy
- Numerical target (reduction of the total annual generation by 20% by FY 2006)
- Measures to promote recycling
- Development of criteria for food related businesses
- Criteria for reducing the generation of waste
- Criteria for reducing waste volume
- Criteria for recycling, etc.

Measures to make the law effective

Guidance or counsel

Recommendations and orders (in case of insufficient actions)

Food related businesses
Businesses engaging in food manufacturing, distribution, sales, operating restaurants, and catering

Food related businesses whose annual discharge exceeds 100 tons (approx. 60% of total food waste)

Measures to promote food recycling

Registration

Designation

Businesses to utilize recycled food waste



Cyclical food resources

Food related businesses

Promotion of recycling by consignment

Food related businesses (recycling plans)

Cyclical food resources

Organic agricultural products

Recycling businesses

Agriculture, forestry and fisheries



Specified fertilizer

Establishing stable transaction among three parties

Exception to the Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law (Exemption of permission for the businesses in regard to the collection and transportation of municipal solid waste)

Exception to the Fertilizer Control Law and Feed Safety Law (Exemption of report to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)