

Senior Officials Meeting on the 3R Initiative

Questionnaire on 3R's Strategies and Activities

Responses in this questionnaires refers only to Municipal Solid Waste, exclude the toxic and hazardous wastes.

1. **3Rs Policy and Strategy Update**

At the Ministerial Conference on the 3Rs in April 2005, participating countries reported their policy and strategies in the form of the 3Rs portfolio. Please provide us with updated information on the major developments of national and international strategies, policies and activities on the 3Rs of your country since the Ministerial Conference on the 3Rs (april 2005)

Strategies

Since end of last year (2005), the National Strategic Plan for Solid Waste Management has been approved by the Government. Some of the strategies related to waste minimization and 3R that has been considered in the plan are;

- a. solid waste management priorities:
 - reduce waste through effective environmental management
 - reuse of products and materials
 - recover the value of waste through recycling, composting, energy recovery
- b. rapid and comprehensive development of the necessary legal and institutional framework
- c. development of public participation
- d. provision of sustainable technologies

- e. a comprehensive approach to develop waste reduction, reuse and recovery elements

Activities

At informal level, recycling happen in Malaysia since the existence of market demand for the recycled material. Starting in year 1995, when the Government has expressed an intention to privatize solid waste management, recycling has been included as one of the responsibility of the private entities concerned.

In year 2001 the Government has launched the recycling program. Since then, it has become an ongoing activity of the Government under the leadership of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to carry out 3R activities.

Awareness Activities

Promotion through television, radio, website, road shows, posters, pamphlets, 'National Recycling Day', newspapers, exhibitions, talks, advertisement on billboards.

Enhancing Partnership with Stakeholders

Regular discussions being held with various stakeholders. Attended meetings, functions and invitation by stakeholders related to expanding 3R activities.

Recycling In School

Through partnership with schools, collector and industries, recyclable materials, such as paper, school children are encourage to bring recyclable material to school.

Infrastructure

To enhance further, activity on site, infrastructure facilities are provided, such as recycling truck, sidecar motorcycle, recycling bins, collection centers and

2. Domestic 3R Activities

2.1 Good Practices on 3Rs

We are going to develop a showcase of the successful activities on the 3Rs, including those of the national level, the municipality level, industry and NGOs/NPOs. Please fill out the EXCEL sheet attached to this e-mail with your good practices on the 3Rs.(Note:If you have already provided us with substantial information on good practices on the 3Rs in the form of the 3Rs portfolio in the Ministerial Conference, please provide us more detailed information on a few of the most successful cases in your country.

(Pls refer to Attachment A)

2.2 3Rs and Governance

To promote the 3Rs, it is necessary to develop a governance system that responds to different situation and conditions of each country. Are there any specific issues relating to institutional arrangements for the implementation of the 3Rs and environmentally-sound management of waste? For example, please explain the different roles of stakeholders in the promotion of the 3Rs, such as how to position the informal sector that is engaged in recycling and recovering activities under the context of national 3Rs policies.

Presently there is no law in Malaysia which governs the operation of recycling and waste minimization in Malaysia.

Since the launching of renew recycling program in year 2001, all effort by the Government is based on voluntary involvement of stakeholders. All existing players, be they formal or informal, are allowed to continue with their activities. Although overtime, there is plan to tighten the operation and to organise their operation through registration and licensing.

2.3 3Rs and Environmentally–Sound Management of Industrial Waste

Since economic development tends to cause an increase in the amount of industrial waste generation, environmentally-sound management of industrial waste is essential to promote the 3Rs. To decouple economic development and industrial waste generation, what kind of role is expected for the industrial waste emitter, national and local governments, including municipalities? Also, please give us your views on how to share the responsibilities of construction and operation of landfill as final disposal sites among the stakeholders?

Presently there is no specific law governing solid waste management in Malaysia. Nevertheless, the Environmental Quality Act 1974 requires certain polluting industrial developments to carry out an Environmental Impact Study (EIA). The EIA will stipulate what remedial actions needed to be taken by the developer in order to minimize the impact onto the environment.

Users of the landfill will have to pay a tariff or tipping fees to the operator of the landfill.

3. International 3R Policy and Strategy

At the Ministerial Conference on the 3R Initiative, it was observed that the international flow of (i) goods and materials for recycling and manufacturing, and (ii) recycled and remanufactured products (hereinafter “recyclable resources and remanufactured goods”) may contribute to the

efficient use of resources and the prevention of environmental pollution if proper mechanism are in place. It may promote sustainable consumption and production affecting not only the environment but also economic development and job creation. At the same time, it was noted that for many countries the first priority should be place on minimizing the wastes within the country in which the wastes are generated. Participants at the Ministerial Conference expressed the view that transboundary movement of wastes should take place only when safe and appropriate use and environmentally-sound management are possible in the receiving country.

3.1 Situation of Transboundary Movement of Recyclable Resources and Remanufactured Goods

Regarding the transboundary movement of recyclable resources and remanufactured goods, what are the major recyclable resources observed in exports from and imports to your country? Are there any specific problems in relation to exports and imports of these recyclable resources and remanufactured goods? What are the major reasons for the problems?

It has been reported that local industries are importing recyclable materials as their raw materials for manufacturing new products. Those recyclables are used paper, cullet and plastic. Presently there is no coordinating agency to oversee the flow of recyclable materials into and away (transboundary) from the country. Under the Custom Directive 1996, importation of different type of wastes will have to be verified by various related Government Department before it is allowed to be imported into the country.

3.2 Environmentally-Sound Management in Transboundary Movement of Recyclable Resources and Remanufactured Goods

To prevent environmental pollution caused by transboundary movement of recyclable resources, what kind of policies and measures (e.g cooperation among national governments and other stakeholders) are expected? If your country has already launched such activities, please provide us with detailed information.

In general importation of waste with no commercial value is not permitted by the Custom Directive and Ministry of Housing does not support such importation.

Presently, importation of products made from recycle materials, do not receive any preference treatment compare to other normal products.

3.3 Harmonisation of Economic and Environmental Benefits Through the Transboundary Movements of Recyclable Resources and Remanufactured Goods

Please provide information on the positive and negative socio-economic impacts of the increase in import and export of recyclable resources and remanufactured goods in your country. What kinds of policies and measures have been implemented to support the positive effects and mitigative negative effects of trade of recyclable resources and remanufactured goods?

Malaysia, for the past 6 years is progressively developing and stepping up actions to enhance recycling/waste minimization among citizen and stakeholders. We anticipate in near future, the nation will be able to provide the necessary material for any local demand for recyclable materials. Towards this end coordination of various agencies in the Government is needed to be able to achieve the desired objective and to envisage good mitigation program inorder to avoid any negative effects.

4. Others

5. Information of Respondent

5.1 Country: Malaysia

5.2 Name: Engku Azman bin Tuan Mat

5.3 Position: Director

5.4 Affiliation: Ministry of Housing and Local Government

5.5 Phone Number: 603-2099 3021

5.6 E-mail Address: engku_azman@kpkt.gov.my

The Showcase of 3Rs Good Practices

Date: February 2006
Country/Organization: Malaysia/Ministry of Housing & Local Government

No.	Name of the Practice	Summary of the Practice - level of implementation (national, local, industry, NGOs/NPOs duration stakeholders involved	Impact - improvements after the introduction of the practice	Key for Success - what are the major reasons for the success of the activity
1.	The Coupon System	A private company(collector of recyclables) - a housing developer with about 50,000 houses - shoplots The collector conduct awareness campaign and	Housing area is very clean. It is hardly to see rubbish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monetary value • Creativeness

No.	Name of the Practice	Summary of the Practice - level of implementation (national, local, industry, NGOs/NPOs duration stakeholders involved	Impact - improvements after the introduction of the practice	Key for Success - what are the major reasons for the success of the activity
		established collections centers. Recyclables sent by people will be exchanged to coupons that discounts prices of product/service sold in the housing area. Housing management fee can also be discounted from the coupons.		
2.	Source Separation (pilot projects)	Few localities in the country are selected. Base on citizen cooperation and cooperation among stakeholders, community participates in source separation.	Less amount of waste produced. Close cooperation among community.	- Good coordinator. - Adhere to agreed decisions.