## Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates opens for application today (with photo)

The following is issued on behalf of the Environmental Campaign Committee:

To facilitate the Government's initiative of expanding the food waste collection network, the Environmental Campaign Committee (ECC), through funding from the Environment and Conservation Fund, supported the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to roll out the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates (the Scheme). Open for application today (December 29), the Scheme provides eligible large private housing estates with food waste smart bins (FWSBs), including installation and maintenance services, for a period of two years free of charge.

Starting from today, private housing estates with a total household number of no less than 1 000 units can submit applications to the ECC. Under the Scheme, the EPD will arrange for contractors to install FWSBs in participating housing estates and deliver the collected food waste to centralised treatment facilities every day, for treatment and conversion into electricity and compost. The participating housing estates will be provided with domestic food waste buckets to be distributed to residents for helping them practice food waste separation and collection.

The FWSBs provided are equipped with overflow prevention and odour abatement devices to maintain a hygienic environment. Moreover, the FWSBs are connected to the EPD's GREEN\$ Electronic Participation Incentive Scheme. Not only could residents contribute to environmental protection through food waste recycling, they could also earn GREEN\$ points and redeem gifts.

The ECC has been co-operating with the EPD to launch the Promotion Programme on Source Separation of Waste by distributing three-colour waste separation bins on a free-of-charge basis to domestic housing and commercial and industrial premises since 2008 to facilitate building property management companies in implementing waste separation and recycling. To facilitate the implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging on April 1, 2024, the ECC provided funding support to the Scheme to encourage residents to cultivate the habit of food waste recycling, as well as further promoting domestic food waste recycling in Hong Kong.

For more information on the Scheme, please refer to the ECC's website (<a href="www.ecc.org.hk/en/publicity/pilot\_fwsb.html">www.ecc.org.hk/en/publicity/pilot\_fwsb.html</a>).

