THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development Office

Green Office Programme (GO!) – Checklist for Implementation with effect from 2024

No.	M/O[1]	SDGs	Action	Resources	Evidence	Points	Bonus Points
Category 1: Energy Conservation							
EC1	M	13	**Energy Warden** We work with our Energy Warden(s) to implement energy-saving initiatives, including: • sharing the 'Monthly Report on Electricity Consumption' with all members of the office; • encouraging our staff members to attend training programmes; • providing information on office equipment to the Estates Management Office (EMO); and • adopting energy conservation measures recommended by EMO.		NA	NA	NA
EC2	M	13	**Air Conditioner Thermostat Temperatures** Where practicable, we set the air conditioner thermostat temperatures to 24°C – 26°C in summer for working and teaching areas.		NA	NA	NA
EC3	M	13	**Unused Electrical Equipment** We turn off or enable Energy Saver Mode on unused electrical equipment when we are away from the office. Where possible, we unplug equipment such as computers, printers, photocopiers, drinking water dispensers, microwaves and other small appliances before long holidays to save the energy consumed in Standby Mode.		NA	NA	NA

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[1] M: Mandatory; O: Optional

EC4	O	3, 13	**Dressing for the Season** We encourage our staff members to dress appropriately for the season, and to dress light if there is no formal meeting or event, to minimise the need for heating or cooling.		e.g., internal communications	1	NA
EC5	O	A	**Reduction in the Usage of Air Conditioners** We take measures to reduce the usage of air conditioners such as: • using fans; • opening windows; or • switching the air conditioners to Fan Mode instead of Cooling Mode.		e.g., photo or internal communications	2	NA
EC6	O	13	**Computer Display** We set the computer displays to turn off automatically after 15 minutes of inactivity. Where possible, we reduce monitor brightness to the minimum comfortable level.	Computer Monitor Power-saving Setting	e.g., internal communications	2	NA
EC7	O	13	**Water Boiler** We have installed a timer control to automatically turn off the water boiler in the pantry at nights and on long weekends when no staff members are present.		e.g., photo or work order for installing timer	3	NA
EC8	O	12, 13	**Reduction in Unnecessary Lighting** We keep lighting to the necessary minimum, and encourage staff to switch off their lights if their work area is not in use.	[EMO] Delamping Services Contact: 3943 4483 or 3943 4184	e.g., photo, work order for delamping or internal communications	3	NA
					Sub-Total of Category 1: Energy Conservation	11	NA
Category 2: Waste Reduction							
WR1	M	12	**Waste Recycling and Separation** We are taking the following measures to facilitate waste recycling and separation:	• 'Recycling Tips' Poster • Application Form for Office	NA	NA	NA

			• separating waste paper, plastics and metals from general waste, and depositing the recyclables at nearby recycling facilities; • engaging university-appointed paper waste recycling companies to collect waste directly from our office; • segregating carton boxes from office paper waste and either placing them at the carton box recycling cages or arranging for their collection by our waste contractor for recycling; • posting 'Recycling Tips' posters near our office's waste separation facilities; and • introducing on-campus reuse/recycling facilities for miscellaneous resources (e.g., glass bottles, old clothes and banners) and sharing the 'Recycling Locations' document with your office colleagues.	Paper Waste Recycling Services • 'Recycling Location' Document			
WR2	M	11, 12	**Furniture and Electrical Equipment Management** For the management of furniture and electrical equipment: • We reuse our existing furniture and/or electrical equipment as far as practicable when planning for relocation or renovation. • For unwanted/surplus furniture and/or electrical equipment that is still in good condition, we try to make it available for reuse by other offices, through postings in the ITSC's Weekly Mass Mail. • We dispose of unserviceable electrical equipment or equipment without a new owner according to the relevant procedures in the Waste Management Guidelines.	Waste Management Guidelines (2.3 – Used Electrical and Electronic Equipment, 2.4 – Used Furniture and Equipment)	NA	NA	NA
WR3	O	12	**Used Printer Cartridges Recycling** We recycle our used printer cartridges through the supplier or deposit them in the Yard of Environmental Sustainability.		e.g., collection receipt or photo	2	NA
WR4	O	12, 13	**Reusable Containers and Cutlery** We use reusable containers and cutlery as often as possible for serving drinks and food in meetings and gatherings. If this cannot be arranged, we use eco-friendly or biodegradable alternatives.		e.g., photo or invoice/receipt for catering service	3	NA

WR5	O	12	**Office Supplies Sharing** We have established a designated area in our office for sharing office supplies that can be reused and redistributed.		e.g., photo or memo	3	NA
				Sub-Total of Category 2: Waste Reduction			8	NA
Category 3: Paper Reduction								
PR1	M	12, 13	**Going Electronic** We go electronic and reduce paper consumption whenever possible.	Waste Management Guidelines (2.1 – Paper Waste)	NA	NA	NA
PR2	M	12, 13	**Eco-Printing** When unable to avoid printing hard copies, we print in the following environmentally friendly ways: • prioritising double-sided printing, which is set as the default on our computers; • using one-sided scrap paper, which is collected and placed near our printers; • formatting documents to minimise the amount of printing paper required, e.g., use space efficiency layout, reduce paper margins and fit multiple pages per sheet when printing; and • using a lower printing resolution or Econoprint/Ecoprint Mode to save toner when printing drafts and other documents to be circulated within the office.	• Double-sided Printing Setting • Page Margins Setting • Toner-saving Setting	NA	NA	NA
PR3	O	12, 13	**Issuance of e-Promotional Materials** We issue newsletters, brochures, handbooks and promotional materials in e-versions to minimise the number of hard copies printed and distributed. Whenever possible, we include a message on hard copies to encourage readers to subscribe to the e-version instead and to circulate the printed matter and recycle it after reading.		e.g., internal communications	2	NA
PR4	O	12, 13	**Subscription of e-Publications**		e.g., internal communications	2	NA

			We subscribe to the e-version of different publications and circulate a minimal number of hard copies in the office.				
PR5	O	12, 13	**Annual Paper Usage** We keep track of our office paper usage and set goals on paper usage reduction annually. 1 point each for consumption figure and reduction goal		e.g., paper consumption figures and reduction goals	2	NA
PR6	O	12, 13	**Reduction in Annual Paper Usage** We have consumed less office paper this year compared with last year. (Please indicate the amount of paper reduced and % of reduction.) <5%: 1 point; 5–10%: 2 points; 11–15%: 3 points; 16–20%: 4 points; >20%: 5 points		e.g., paper consumption figures of this year and last year with the percentage of reduction and the relevant purchasing order	5	NA
					Sub-Total of Category 3: Paper Reduction	**11**	**NA**
Category 4: Sustainable Procurement							
SP1	M	12, 15	**100% Recycled Paper** We use 100% recycled A3 and A4 white paper for in-house printing and photocopying.	[FNO] CUHK Centralised Tenders	NA	NA	NA
SP2	M	12, 13, 15	**Sustainable Procurement Guidelines** We ensure that our purchases (apart from A3 and A4 white paper) comply with the mandatory requirements statSustainable Procurement Guidelines. ed in the	Sustainable Procurement Guidelines (Annex B)	NA	NA	NA
SP3	O	12, 13, 14, 15	**Other Paper Products** We purchase or customise other paper products (e.g., name cards, envelopes, letterheads, publications and promotional materials) according to the following specifications:	Sustainable Procurement Guidelines (Annex D)	e.g., specification of purchased items	2	NA

			• printed on 100% recycled paper (for all printed matter); and • with inks containing soy oil or vegetable oils (for name card printing).				
SP4	O	11, 12	**Furniture or Equipment Purchasing** Before purchasing any new furniture or equipment, we first consider whether the requisite items are being offered by other offices, through postings in the ITSC's Weekly Mass Mail.	• Waste Management Guidelines (2.4 – Used Furniture and Equipment)	e.g., email correspondence of receiving furniture or equipment from other offices	3	NA
SP5	O	1, 12, 13, 14, 15	**Other Purchases** When we purchase other necessary supplies and services (apart from the mandatory items listed in the Sustainable Procurement Guidelines), we give due weight to the following principles, where applicable and practicable: • Economic: Ensuring that local businesses, particularly small and medium sized enterprises, can benefit from our procurement; • Environmental: Seeking to minimize any negative environmental impacts of all goods and services purchased, throughout their life cycle; • Social: Managing and monitoring supply chains to ensure that fair contract prices and terms are applied and that ethical, human rights and employment standards are met. 1–2 items: 1 point; 3–4 items: 2 points; 5–6 items: 3 points; 7–8 items: 4 points; 9–10: 5 points; >10 items: 6 points	• Sustainable Procurement Guidelines (Section 2 – General Principles) • [FNO] CUHK Centralised Tenders	e.g., specification of purchased items	6	NA
				Sub-Total of Category 4: Sustainable Procurement		11	NA
Category 5: Sustainable Event Management							
SE1	M	12, 14, 15	**Sustainability-conscious Food Consumption**	• Guidelines for Sustainable Event	NA	NA	NA

			We do not order or serve dishes that contain endangered species or unsustainably-harvested/produced ingredients for our events and gatherings.	Planning and Management			
SE2	M	12, 13	**Single-serving and Individually Packed Items** We do not provide single-serving bottled water of one litre or less and corsages, and avoid individually packed beverages and food items at any events. If name badge holders are used, we choose reusable ones and collect them after the event.	• Guidelines for Sustainable Event Planning and Management	NA	NA	NA
SE3	O	12	**Low-carbon or Socially-responsible Food Options** We offer low-carbon or socially-responsible food options such as vegetarian dishes and fair trade, organic coffee, tea or snacks in our events.		e.g., specification of purchased green items and invoice/receipt	2	NA
SE4	O	12	**Food Portions** We order and serve food portions appropriate for the number of participants. Where possible, we inform the caterer(s) to reduce the pre-ordered food portions when attendance is lower than anticipated.	'Tips for Everyone – Food' on 'Guide to Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development (SRSD)' webpage	e.g., menu, invoice, the participant list, etc.	2	NA
SE5	O	12	**Handling of Surplus Food** We encourage participants to take away the leftovers, share with others or donate surplus food to charities.		e.g., photo or email with the charities	2	NA
SE6	O	12, 13	**Minimising the Usage of Disposables** We use the following methods to minimise the usage of disposables: • encouraging meeting attendees and event participants to bring their own water bottles, containers and/or cutlery; • using reusable containers and cutlery to serve drinks and food; and	Guidelines for Sustainable Event Planning and Management	e.g., photo or in-house event guidelines	4	NA

			• not providing individually packed beverages and food items at our events.				
SE7	O	12	**Measures to Reduce Waste** We adopt measures to reduce waste at source, facilitate waste separation and arrange in advance for the collection of recyclables.		e.g., photo or in-house event guidelines	4	NA
Sub-Total of Category 5: Sustainable Event Management						**14**	**NA**
Category 6: Awareness and Engagement							
AE1	M	11	**Information sharing on GO!** We inform our staff members of the office's participation in the Green Office Programme ('GO!'), share information about our efforts on sustainability and encourage them to support related initiatives. We share information on campus sustainability and GO! with new staff members when they join us. *Note: GO! member offices completed the GO! Sustainability Update and Sharing Session 2025 held on 19 March 2025 will be awarded 2 bonus points in the 2025 exercise.*	• 'Sustainable and Smart Campus' webpage • *Sustainable Development Matters e-publication* • Green Office Programme	NA	NA	NA
AE2	O	3, 13	**Reducing Carbon Emissions from Transportation** We encourage our staff members to reduce carbon emissions from transportation by: • taking public transport, using a carpool, or cycling or walking to work; • communicating remotely (by video or web conferencing) and combining several activities into a single business trip, to avoid unnecessary overseas business travel; and • offsetting carbon emissions from air travel. 2 points for encouraging staff to reduce carbon emissions from transportation	Carbon Offsetting Encouragement Policy (webpage)	e.g., internal communications, carbon offset record e-form submission, carbon offset certificates/ receipts	2	4

			Bonus Points: 1 point for promoting the [Carbon Offsetting Encouragement Policy](#)*; 3 points for carbon offsetting*				
AE3	O	11	**Raising Awareness of Sustainability** To raise awareness of sustainability, we encourage our staff members to: • register as members of '[CU Green Buddies](#)'; and • join the activities organised by GO! and CU Green Buddies.	• CU Green Buddies ([Webpage](#)) • [Green Office Programme](#) • CUHK Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#))	e.g., internal communications	2	NA
AE4	O	3	**Team Building Activities** We host team building activities (with sustainability as one of the topics) such as development workshops, field trips/visits and celebration of milestones. 1–3 activities: 1 point for each activity; >3 activities: 4 points		e.g., photo and/or documents	4	NA
				Sub-Total of Category 6: Awareness and Engagement			**8**	**4**
Category 7: Workplace Health and Wellness							
HW1	O	11	**Office Greening** We encourage our staff members to make their offices/workstations greener (e.g., by decorating them with pot plants).		e.g., photo and/or internal communications	2	NA
HW2	O	3, 11	**Workplace Health-related Initiatives** We undertake workplace health-related initiatives, such as team sport events, nutrition education, cooking demonstrations, promotion of flexible plant-based diet and promotion of drinking water.		e.g., photo and/or documents	4	NA

			1–3 initiatives: 1 point for each initiative; >3 initiatives: 4 points				
HW3	O	3, 8	**Safe and Healthy Work Environment** We ensure a safe and healthy work environment for both staff members and students. Up to 4 actions taken: 1 point for each action	[USO] General Safety Information	e.g., photo and/or documents	4	NA
			Sub-Total of Category 7: Workplace Health and Wellness			10	NA
Category 8: Innovation							
IN1	O	Any one or more	**Self-initiated Projects or Processes** We initiate project(s) or process(es) in line with the objectives of GO!. Up to 3 projects taken: up to 3 points for each project		e.g., description of the project(s) or process(es) with the relevant SDGs	9	NA
			Sub-Total of Category 8: Innovation			9	NA
Category 9: SDG in Action							
SD1	M		**Information Sharing on SDGs** We introduce the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to our staff members and share information about CUHK's effort on the SDGs.	• Videos about the SDGs by the United Nations and CUHK OUGE (SDG 律師事務所) • 'United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals' webpage • *Sustainable Development Matters e-publication*	e.g., internal communications	NA	NA
SD2	O		**Raising Awareness of SDGs** To raise awareness of the SDGs, we encourage our staff members to:	• 'Wider Community' on the SRSD website	e.g., internal communications	2	NA

			• join the activities related to the SDGs e.g., the SDG lecture or talk series by SDSN Hong Kong; and • subscribe to the social media channels that promote the SDGs.	• 'News and Events' on the 'SDSN Hong Kong' website • SDSN Hong Kong (Facebook; Instagram)			
SD3	O		**Measures to Promote SDGs** We promote the message of the SDGs in several ways: • including the SDG icons on our website or social media channels; • mapping the SDG icon(s) to the promotional materials of events and activities; and • publishing SDG-related stories / articles. 1 point for each item	• Guidelines for Promoting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals • SDGs communications materials (for downloading the SDGs infographics)	e.g., promotional materials (posters or dedicated event webpages) and social media posts	3	NA
SD4	O		**Initiatives on SDG Actions** We encourage our staff members to develop creative and actionable projects which actively respond to the SDGs adopted by the United Nations. 1 point for the encouragement; 1–3 initiatives: 1 point for each initiative; >3 initiatives: 4 points	• Sustainable Development Goals Action Fund • Sustainable Knowledge Transfer Project Fund by ORKTS • Knowledge Transfer Project Fund by ORKTS	e.g., internal communications and /or documents	5	NA
SD5	O		**Community Engagement for SDGs** We organize outreach activities* in support of the SDGs. Our outreach includes:	Guidelines for Promoting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals	e.g., promotional materials (posters or dedicated event	8	NA

			• collaborating with external parties e.g., government bodies or NGOs; • organizing activities which benefit the local community or specified groups; and • organizing volunteer activities for students * This refers to educational programmes/courses, conferences/ forums, research study and community services 1–3 initiatives: 2 points for each initiative; >3 initiatives: 8 points		webpages) or social media posts		
				Sub-Total of Category 9: SDG in Action		**18**	**NA**
				Total		**100**	**4**