

FOOD WASTE CHALLENGE INCENTIVE APPLICATION GUIDELINES

BACKGROUND

In 2013, residents of Penang disposed of approximately 355,000kg of food every day, and food waste amounted to 45% of the total solid waste collected in 2012. Most of this waste ended up in the Pulau Burung landfill. The tremendous amount of food waste raises environmental concerns as its decomposition generates methane, a greenhouse gas 20 times more damaging for the environment than carbon dioxide.

Penang records an average of 1700 – 1800 tonnes of waste per day with at least 40% of organic wastes. The newly adopted Waste Segregation at Source Policy has excluded the need to separate organic waste (biodegradable materials from plants and animals - food waste/ wet waste) as part of the practice for households. Burying organic waste in landfill is a big problem and it is not just because of the resources we lose. When organic waste is dumped in landfill, it undergoes anaerobic decomposition (because of the lack of oxygen) and generates methane. In the long run, the effects of methane will bring harm to human health and wellbeing.

Organic waste can be turned into products (compost) with more economical value than being plainly disposed and left to rot in landfills. Food waste processed whether at site or collected by licensed food waste collectors could highly reduce the amount of waste being sent and extending landfill's lifespan. Though it is encouraged for everyone to segregate their waste into more than two streams, food waste as an optional stream under the Waste Segregation at Source Policy, this initiative did not seem to be very prominent. For now, this incentive will target more stakeholders – **hotels, factories, institutions, and hypermarkets**. Subsequently, injecting into the household as time to come.

PENANG STATE FOOD WASTE CHALLENGE INCENTIVE

This incentive is introduced by the Penang State Government for **hotels, factories, institutions, hypermarkets and community-based projects**. This incentive aims at reducing food waste and diverting them away from Pulau Burung landfill. A proper food waste management system includes segregation of food waste from recyclables and general waste, handling and management, disposal and processing of the discarded food waste. Discarded food waste will need to be processed and converted into products with economical use and value.

Only one (1) successful applicant will receive **RM2,000**. Incentive will be rewarded based on their qualification upon PGC's evaluation.

Timeline:

Application period	17 th February – 1 st September 2025
Site visit	August – September 2025

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. "Food Waste" here refers to surplus cooked/ uncooked food and used cooking oil that are discarded, occurring during stages of production, processing, retailing or consumption.
2. "Food Waste Management System" here refers to managing and processing discarded surplus food and used cooking oil systematically to avoid the elimination of toxic from food waste and organic materials, conserving and recovering them instead of being buried into landfills.
3. Open to all **hotels, factories, hypermarket, and community-based projects*** in the state with an installed or established "Food Waste Management System".
4. Not applicable for Penang State pilot projects.
5. Only **ONE** application per premise is allowed.
6. The following steps and supporting documents are required for submission:
 - a) Complete our online application form at <https://forms.gle/94hShPXCwx6Ji4Fy5>
 - b) **For External Waste Management:** Business license of food waste operator or proof of proper food waste management by vendor / waste collector (not sent to landfill as solution)
For Internal Waste Management: Documents and photographs equipment or methods used for on-site proper food waste management.
 - c) Monthly food waste generated/ collected data since installation (Minimum 6 months).
 - d) Food waste management system project summary.
7. All documents must be sent to Penang Green Council **via email** to:

Muhammad Nazirul Mubin Bin Abd Halim Shah (Email: mubin.pgc@gmail.com)
Officer (Environmental Education and Outreach)
PGC Strategies Sdn Bhd (Penang Green Council),
Tingkat 46, KOMTAR,
10503 Georgetown, Penang.
Tel: 04-250 3322 / Fax: 04-250 3323
8. A site visit and inspection will be conducted by Penang Green Council and authorised personnel after application is received with complete documents.
9. Incentives will be given to recipients by December 2025.
10. **Successful applicants can re-apply after 2 years** to ensure the existing installed system is still in good use and well maintain.
11. By applying for the incentive, Penang Green Council is collecting personal and Food Waste Management data from applicants for the purpose of study and improvements. No further informational or marketing communications will be received by applicants unless applicants provide Penang Green Council with explicit permission to do so.
12. Penang Green Council reserves the right to prohibit application from any person who is

believed to be abusing these rules. Abuse includes entering multiple times and entering false information.

13. The decision by Penang Green Council is **FINAL** and any form of correspondence shall not be entertained.
14. Penang Green Council reserves the right to amend these rules at any time at its sole and absolute discretion.