Welcome!

This is an exciting time to be at HKU. During this time of unprecedented growth and change, people across the University are working to ensure that our activities — now and in the future — will reflect and build on HKU’s longstanding commitment to sustainability.

In this exhibition you can find out more about the economic, environmental, and social challenges the University is facing, what we have been doing to help, and how you can contribute.

For questions and comments about the exhibition and our work, please contact us at sustainability@hku.hk

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WATER FOOTPRINT

How much water is embedded in these products?

- Tea (750ml): 90l
- Toast (500g): 650l
- Wheat (500g): 650l
- Coffee (750ml): 840l
- Milk (1l): 1000l
- Cheese (500g): 1000l
- Steak (300g): 4650l

- 375 litres: 4th highest in the world*
- US$143.97: 4th lowest in the world*
- 0.00107: lowest in the world*

32% surface water; 68% imported

Sample: China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Poland, UK, Slovakia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, USA.

2009-10
850,153 m³
2008-09
736,385 m³
2007-08
679,223 m³
Water Hunt @ HKU

Water Dispensers - Main Campus

1. Meng Wah Complex
   - LG 1/F (near w.c.)
   - G/F (under escalator)
   - 3/F (south side corridor)

2. Runne Shaw Building
   - 1/F - 3/F (outside male w.c.)

3. Hui Oi Chow Science Building
   - G/F (outside male w.c.)

4. Haking Wong Covered Podium
   - G/F (Union Restaurant)

5. Haking Wong Building
   - 1/F - 3/F (lift 1 & 2 lobby)

6. Main Library Old Wing
   - G/F (24-hr study room)
   - 1/F - 4/F (lift lobby)
   - 5/F - 6/F (outside male w.c.)

7. Main Building
   - 1/F (outside male w.c., east & west sides)

8. Fong Shu Chuen Amenities Centre
   - G/F (outside Global Lounge)
   - 2/F (Restaurant)

9. Knowles Building
   - 8/F (outside male w.c.)

10. K.K. Leung Building
    - G/F Lobby (West side)

11. Chong Yuet Ming Chemistry Building
    - G/F

12. Chong Yuet Ming Amenities Centre
    - 3/F (sitting area)
    - 4/F (CYM Canteen)
The Dirty Secrets of Bottled Water

Production

180 million litres of oil are used to produce water bottles per year.

Your bottled drink required 1/4 the liquid volume in oil just to produce the bottle!

Consumption

BIG ‘OILY’ business
1,000 times more expensive than tap water

Chemicals may leach into bottled water: this risk increases with heat and age

Disposal

Bottles account for up to 1.5 million tons of plastic waste per year

Finishing your drink might take ten minutes, but the bottle will remain for hundreds of years

Hong Kong’s landfills will be full within a decade

- USE A REUSABLE CONTAINER NOW!
- REFILL AT A WATER DISPENSER NEARBY (HELP YOURSELF TO A MAP!)
- HAVE A BOTTLE IN YOUR BAG TODAY? MAKE IT YOUR LAST—AND REMEMBER TO RECYCLE!
Painting it green
Make sure you do your bit to reduce your carbon footprint and together we can make HKU a truly 'green' university!

Use a fan instead of an air conditioner... You’ll be using only 1/10 of the energy.

Watch what you print!
The average worker prints 6 wasted pages/day – that’s 1410 pages/year!

Cut your food miles. The food on your plate has travelled an average of 2,000 miles! Help cut these unnecessary CO₂ emissions by eating local. Hong Kong has four weekly farmers markets, including at Central Star Ferry pier each Wednesday & Sunday – head on down!

Recycle your used printer ink cartridges. An average student uses 8/year and each cartridge sent to landfill takes 450 years to decompose.

These are exciting times at HKU!
With 4-year degree programs and the new Centennial Campus HKU will have more students than ever before.

Swap your baths for a shower. Not only will you directly reduce your water consumption by around 1/3, but the associated reduction in energy usage can cut your personal CO₂ emissions by 12 kg/year.

Switch off lights and electrical appliances such as laptops and stereos when they’re not in use.

Find out how YOU can reduce your carbon footprint at HKU and beyond...

Reference