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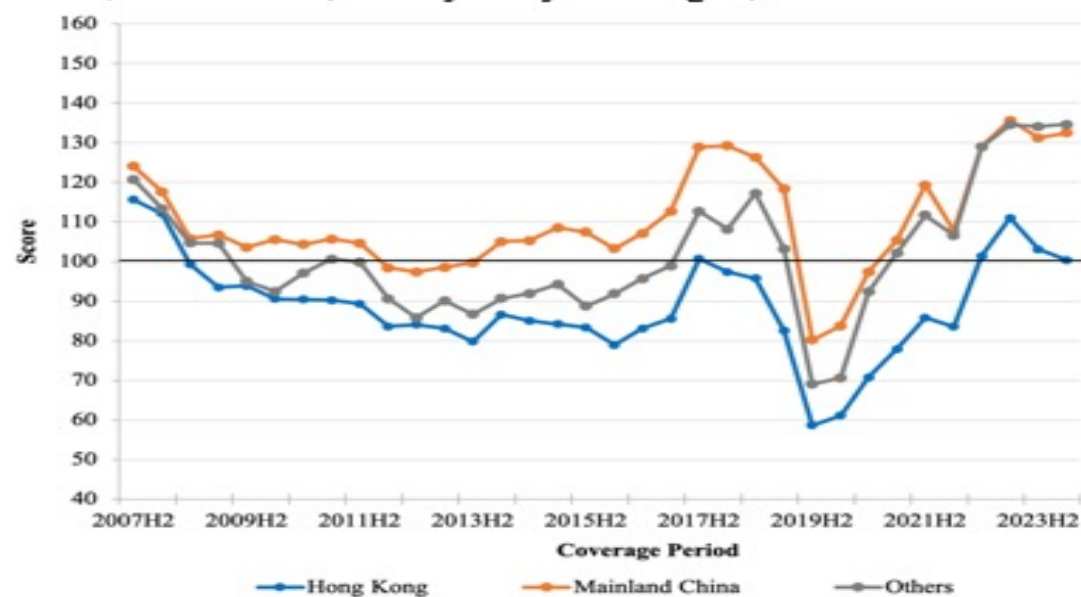
HONG KONG PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

香 港 民 意 研 究 所

Release of “PSI Report No. 6.28”

April 23, 2024

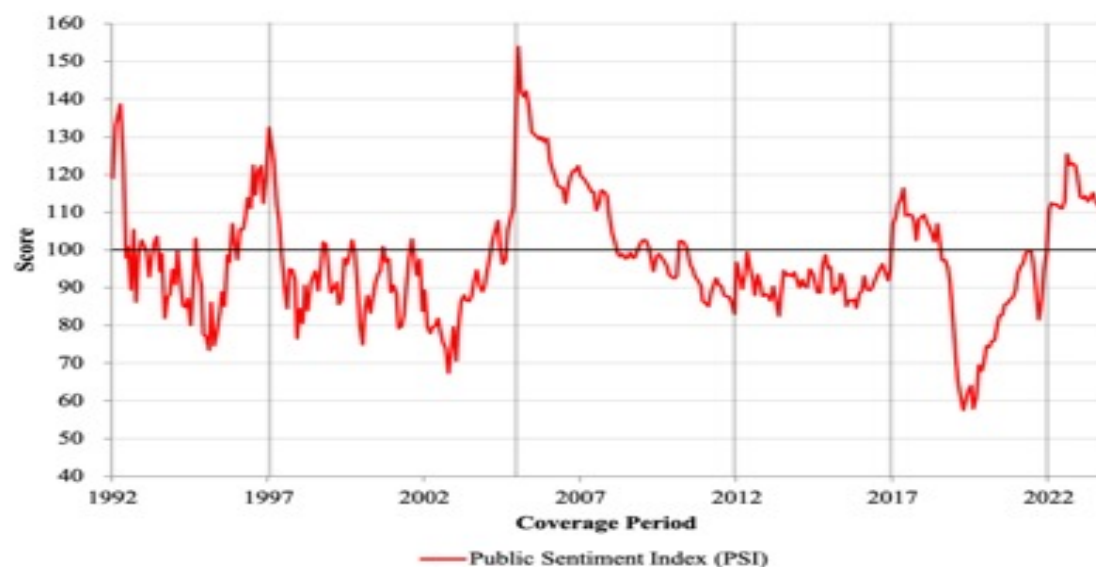
6.24 Chart: PSI among people from different places of birth (2007-2024; half-yearly averages)



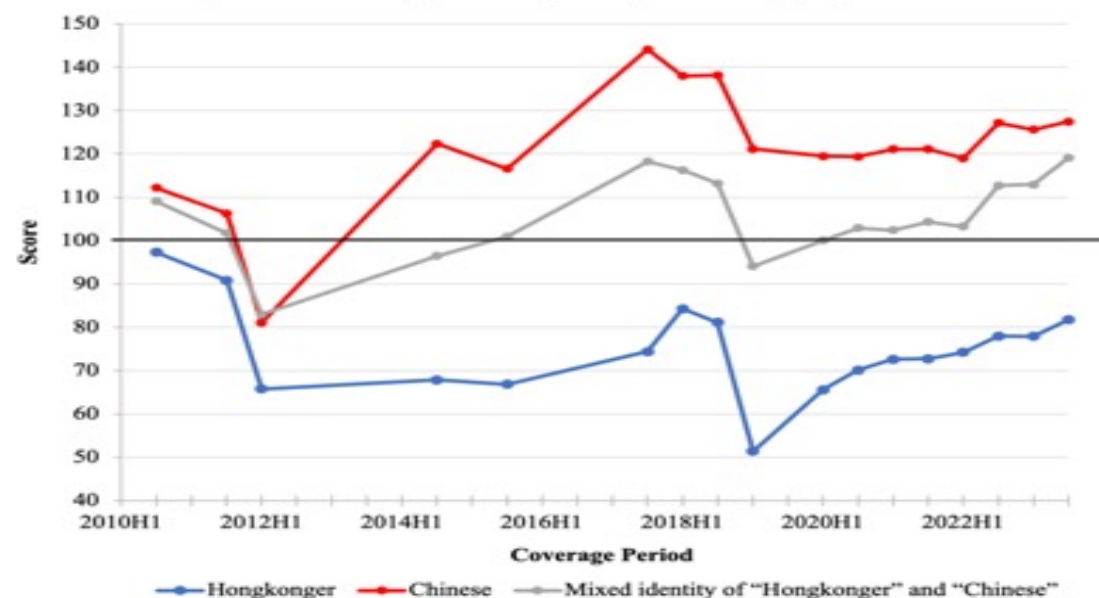
6.25 Chart: PSI per Housing Type and Ownership (2007-2024; half-yearly averages)



6.26 Chart: PSI 1992-2024 (monthly figures)



6.27 Chart: PSI among people with different ethnic identities (2010-2023; half-yearly averages)



“PSI Report No. 6.28” – Concluding Remarks

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- From the analyses of four demographic variables (i.e. place of birth, housing type and ownership, and ethnic identity) in this fifth aggregate report, the sentiment gap is the widest between respondents with different ethnic identities, followed by places of birth, then housing types, although all show covariations across time.
- It is cautioned that the ethnic identity analysis started in 2010, which is four years later than the other two groups, also there are some missing values.

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**e-Deliberation Poll on Municipal Solid Waste Charging
Release of Results**

April 23, 2024

Presentation Flow

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- Research Design of the e-Deliberation Poll on Municipal Solid Waste Charging
- Results of Quantitative Analysis
 - “POP Panel” online survey
 - Pre- and post-deliberation opinion change
- Results of Qualitative Analysis
 - Discussion contents during deliberation
 - Analysis of open-ended responses

e-Deliberation Poll – Research Design

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- “Deliberative Polling” is a public opinion research methodology that encourages people to think critically and discerningly, founded by Stanford University in the United States.
- The platform assigned the 14 participants into two groups for discussion, and assisted in controlling the agenda and time of the discussion, as well as coordinating the order of speaking.
- Participants mainly discussed three agenda items, namely “**Waste Reduction and Recycling through Waste Charging**”, “**Government’s Policy on Waste Charging**”, and “**Implementation of Waste Charging on August 1, 2024**”, and the maximum discussion time for each agenda item was **20 minutes**.
- The two groups eventually completed their discussions in **almost an hour** and **about half an hour** respectively.
- Upon completion of the discussion, participants were asked to complete a **post-deliberative online questionnaire** and explain the impact of the deliberation exercise on their views.

Contact Information (1) – “POP Panel” Online Survey

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- Date of survey: 12-18/4/2024
- Target population: Hong Kong residents aged 12 or above
- Survey method: Online survey by email invitation to POP Panel members (including “Hong Kong People Representative Panel” and “Hong Kong People Volunteer Panel”)
- Sample size: 1,812 (only 1,809 respondents of age 18 or above were analyzed)
- Success rate: 6.0%
- Sampling error: Sampling error of percentages not more than 2.3% at 95% conf. level
- Weighting method: Rim-weighted according to 1) gender-age distribution, educational attainment (highest level attended) distribution and economic activity status distribution of the Hong Kong population from the Census and Statistics Department; 2) appraisal of political condition and political inclination distribution from regular tracking telephone surveys.

Contact Information (2) – e-Deliberation Poll (e-DP) on Municipal Solid Waste Charging

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- Date: 20/4/2024
(Started at 11am)
- Survey method:
Online video discussion
- Number of invitations sent:
30,271
- Number of members whose
applications were confirmed: 59
- Final number of participants: 14

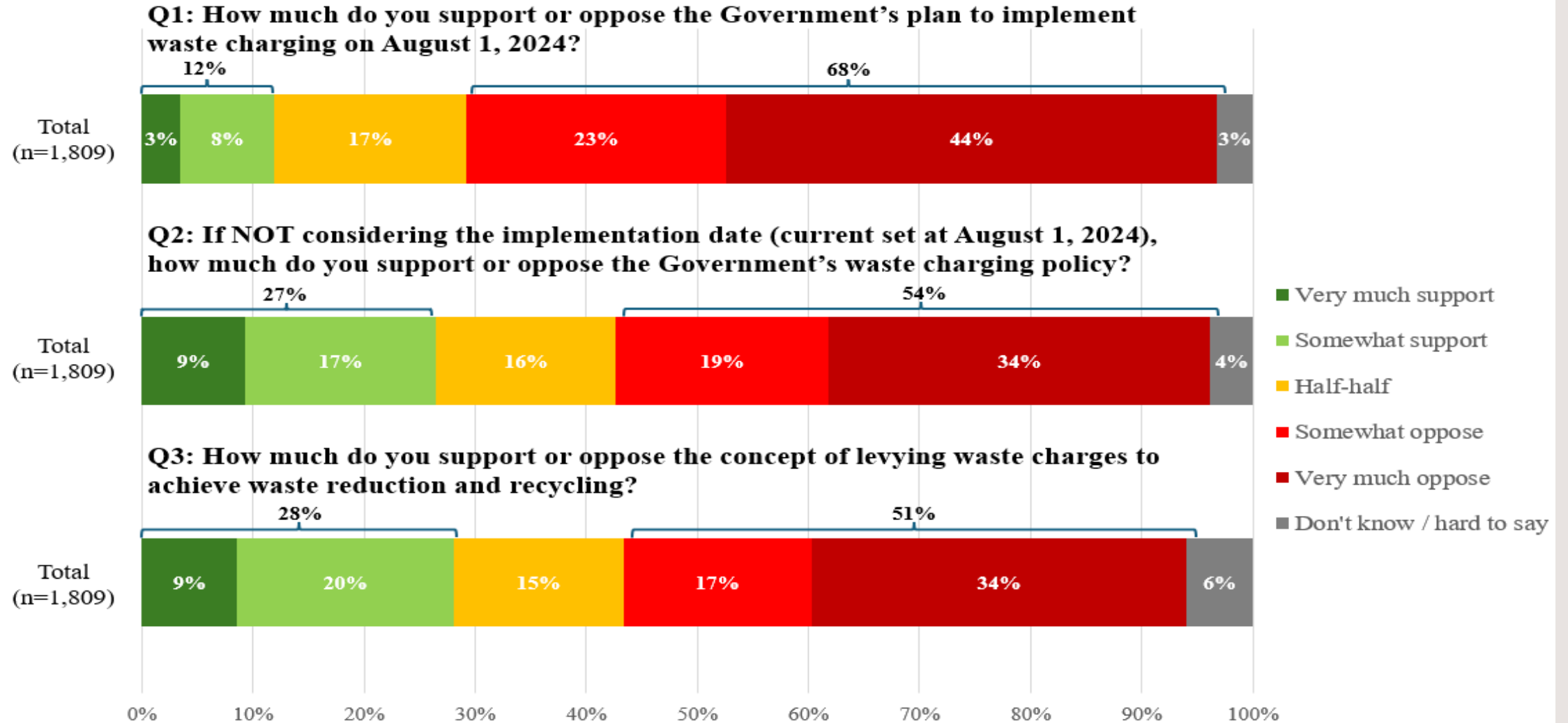
Flow of Invitation & Confirmation

| Date | Email Sent |
|------------|--|
| 12/4 (Fri) | Invitation email: Apr online survey and e-DP participants recruitment |
| 15/4 (Mon) | Confirmation email: Provide balanced information pack and e-DP platform testing link |
| 19/4 (Fri) | Reminder email: Re-confirm availability, provide activity link and user manual of e-DP platform |

Presentation Flow

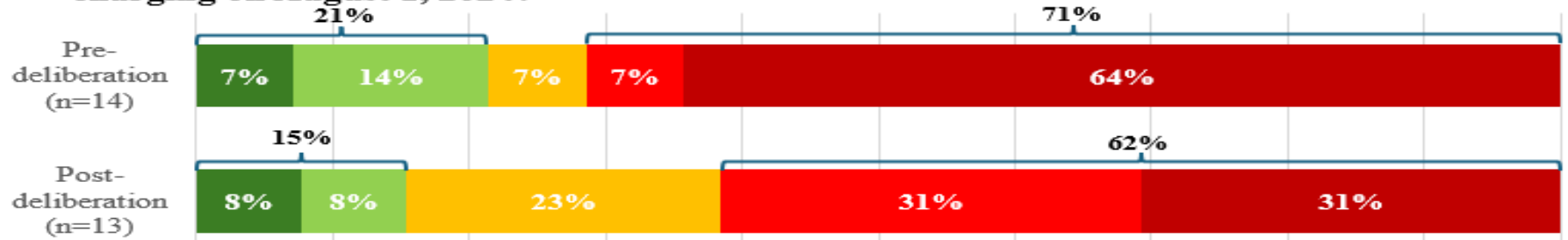
- Research Design of the e-Deliberation Poll on Municipal Solid Waste Charging
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Survey Result – “POP Panel” Online Survey

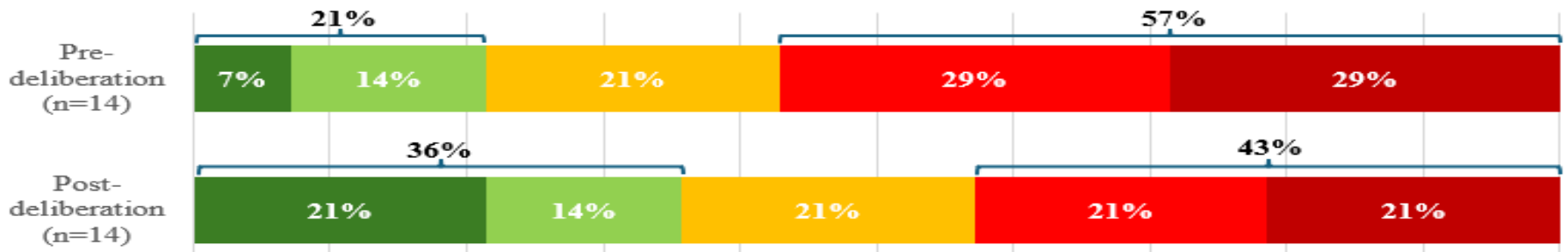


Survey Result – Pre- and Post-deliberation Opinion Comparison: Overall Change (Analyzed the sample of e-DP Participants only)

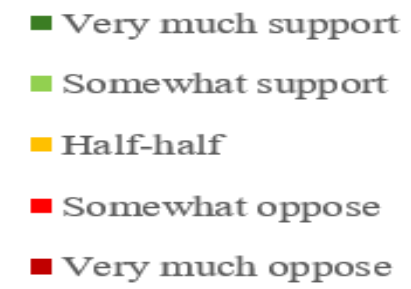
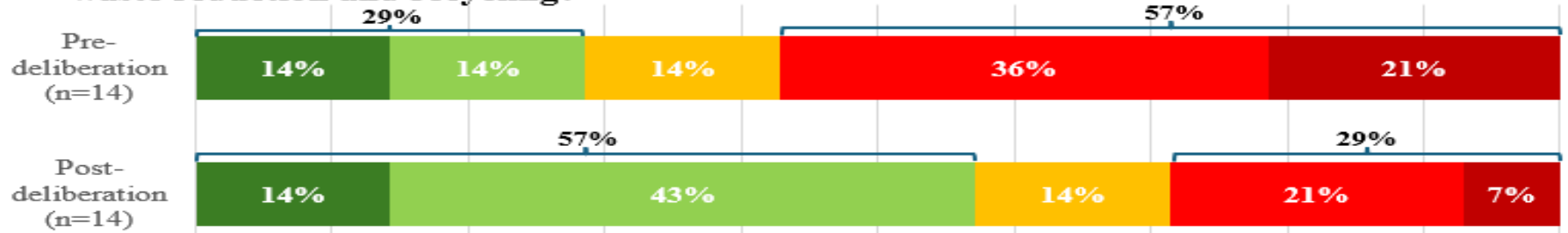
Q1: How much do you support or oppose the Government's plan to implement waste charging on August 1, 2024?



Q2: If NOT considering the implementation date (current set at August 1, 2024), how much do you support or oppose the Government's waste charging policy?



Q3: How much do you support or oppose the concept of levying waste charges to achieve waste reduction and recycling?



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Survey Result – Pre- and Post-deliberation Opinion Comparison: Respondent-level Change

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| | Q1 How much do you support or oppose the Government’s plan to implement waste charging on August 1, 2024? ? | Q2 If NOT considering the implementation date (current set at August 1, 2024), how much do you support or oppose the Government’s waste charging policy? | Q3 How much do you support or oppose the concept of levying waste charges to achieve waste reduction and recycling? |
|---|---|--|---|
| Sample size | 13 | 14 | 14 |
| Positive change (much supportive) | 31% | 36% | 43% |
| Unchanged | 54% | 64% | 50% |
| Negative change (much opposite) | 15% | -- | 7% |

- Aggregate figure showed that **near 80% of participants (79%)** have **positive** (e.g. from “very much oppose” to “somewhat oppose, or from “somewhat support” to “very much support”) or **negative** (e.g. from “very much support” to “somewhat support”, or from “somewhat oppose” to “very much oppose”) opinion changes after the deliberation.

Presentation Items

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- Introduce e-Deliberation Poll on Municipal Solid Waste Charging
- Results of Quantitative Analysis
 - “POP Panel” online survey
 - Pre- and post-deliberation opinion change
- Results of Qualitative Analysis
 - Discussion contents during deliberation
 - Analysis of open-ended responses

e-Deliberative Poll – Discussion Content during Deliberation

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- **Summarized all main deliberation content of the two e-DP discussion groups using Perplexity AI:**
 - Full transcripts of the related discussion rooms (a) and (b) provided by Stanford University's e-DP platform were uploaded to Perplexity AI;
 - Prompted Perplexity AI to sort the deliberation content into 5 main categories.
- **Note: The full transcripts are direct outputs generated by Stanford University's e-DP system, without any editing.**

e-Deliberative Poll – Discussion Content during Deliberation

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Discussion Room (a)

- **Support for Waste Charging Scheme**
 - Support the idea of a waste charging scheme to promote waste reduction and recycling.
 - To incentivize behavioral change towards more sustainable waste management practices.
 - Emphasize the need for proper implementation and complementary measures for the scheme to be successful.
- **Concerns and Challenges**
 - Concerns on the lack of preparedness and supporting infrastructure
 - Highlight the need for convenient recycling facilities and public education to encourage participation.
 - Doubts about the government's ability to execute the scheme effectively
- **Gradual and Adaptive Approach**
 - Suggest a gradual and adaptive approach to the policy implementation
 - Recommended starting with a simple and flexible system that can be improved and refined over time.
 - Allow for adjustments based on feedback and experience rather than a one-size-fits-all solution.
- **Complementary Measures**
 - Emphasize the importance of complementary measures beyond just charging for waste.
 - Include incentives for recycling, such as reward systems for returning bottles or paper.
 - Promoting source reduction and providing convenient recycling facilities
- **Government's Role**
 - **Government has not adequately prepared for the implementation** of the waste charging scheme.
 - Call for better planning, public engagement, and a comprehensive strategy
 - The government's role is seen as crucial in effective policy implementation and supporting infrastructure.

Discussion Room (b)

- **Waste Charging Scheme**
 - The waste charging scheme is controversial
 - Implemented the scheme too hastily without properly addressing people's concerns.
 - Lacks clear policies on how the collected waste will be processed & recycled.
- **Waste Recycling**
 - Current waste recycling efforts are ineffective
 - Lack of public education on proper waste separation and recycling methods.
 - Should focus on improving waste recycling infrastructure and incentivizing citizens before implementing a charging scheme.
- **Waste Collection**
 - The waste collection process is unclear
 - Logistical challenges, such as how the elderly and those without access to waste bags will be accommodated.
 - Should consider alternative waste collection methods
- **Waste Disposal**
 - The government needs to address the landfill capacity issue more effectively.
 - The government should explore alternative waste disposal methods.
 - Proper management and monitoring of waste disposal sites are crucial to ensure environmental & public health safety.
- **Government Policies**
 - Lack communication and transparency around the waste charging scheme.
 - The government should engage with the public and stakeholders more extensively.
 - The government should prioritize environmental education and incentivize waste reduction and recycling.

Post e-DP Survey – Open-ended Responses Analysis

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- We included **three open-ended questions** in the post-deliberation online survey, in an attempt to explore the **reasons for having or not having opinion changes** in the overall policy of waste charging, the policy itself regardless of implementation time, and the concept of “levying waste charges to achieve waste reduction and recycling” after the e-DP, and a total of 36 qualitative responses have been recorded.
- **All responses were summarized by Perplexity AI :**
 - After removing those irrelevant to the question, we uploaded all the responses to Perplexity AI ;
 - Prompted Perplexity AI to sort the content into three main categories.

Post e-DP Survey – Reasons of Having or Not Having Opinion Change

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- **No Change in Views**
 - Strong personal beliefs remained unchanged
 - Group members shared similar opinions, reinforcing existing views
 - Government's actions were seen as clearly wrong, so views did not change
- **Gained New Perspectives**
 - Understanding shifted from public opposing the policy to feeling the government lacked wholehearted implementation
 - New viewpoints introduced during discussion led to some change in stance
 - Discussions were meaningful despite not altering existing perspectives
- **Need for Immediate Government Action**
 - Government should adopt public opinion as soon as possible
 - Government should learn from mistakes and improve measures
 - Government should immediately implement the policy based on feedback

e-Deliberative Poll – Concluding Remarks

- Based on our “PopPanel” online survey in mid-April, about two-thirds of Hong Kong people opposed implementing MSW Charging on August 1, but if we brush aside the implementation time, opposition would drop to around 55%. This shows that people mainly opposed to the pace of implementation rather than the concept of raising waste charges.
- In the experimental e-DP, we found that rational deliberation had changed the view of close to 80% of the participants, in one way or another. The final result is an overall moderate reduction in participants’ opposition to the MSW charging scheme at all fronts, even though such a change did not overturn the direction of public opinion.
- We therefore conclude that face-to-face deliberation would make people more receptive to divergent views, and in the case of MSW, makes them less hostile to government policies.