



28<sup>th</sup> May 2012

**Letter to the Editor  
South China Morning Post  
Hong Kong**

I am currently visiting Hong Kong and I am surprised that in such a caring city so much edible fresh food is being wastefully discarded when, with a little coordination, it could be transformed into nourishing meals for the homeless and poor ("Supermarkets dumping 29 tonnes of food a day", May 28).

In Australian cities food rescue services have been set up to collect both fresh ingredients from supermarkets, wholesalers and hotels as well as prepared meals from catering companies, hotels and cafes that is surplus to requirements for that day. Utilising networks of commercial kitchens the fresh food is turned into nutritious, high quality meals which are either immediately distributed by charities working with the homeless or poor, or they are frozen for later use.

Previously, as in Hong Kong, all of this food was dumped but with changes to food handling and safety laws it now ensures that people who may otherwise have gone hungry do have something to eat.

The cost of dumping edible food is excessive. Yet by setting up such a scheme in Hong Kong the cost of feeding a hungry person would be priceless.

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