



Radio Television Hong Kong Environmental Report 2015

Introduction

Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) Environmental Report sets out RTHK's commitments to protect the environment.

As the sole public service broadcaster in Hong Kong, RTHK aims to inform, educate and entertain the general public and specific target audience through a balanced mix of high quality programming. RTHK is also committed to enhancing the public's environmental awareness.

Environmental Goal

Apart from adopting green housekeeping measures and fostering among staff an environmentally-friendly culture, RTHK spares no effort in promoting public awareness on environmental issues by:

- guiding the public to appreciate that environmental protection is everybody's business – RTHK produces trailers, radio announcements of public interest (Radio APIs) and programmes to nurture public awareness of environmental protection;
- encouraging community discussions on environmental issues and policies – RTHK provides a platform for Government officials and experts from non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to share information and experience on environmental protection with members of the public who may also express their views on the subject; and
- providing opportunities for the Government officials to explain its current policies and environmental protection initiatives through RTHK's programmes and projects.

Environmental Policy

In pursuance of its environmental commitments, RTHK will continue to:

- enhance public awareness on environmental protection and conservation of natural resources;
- comply with, and where appropriate exceed, legal regulations and voluntary standards in relevant operations;
- practise the principle of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle in the consumption of materials;
- foster personal responsibility for care for the environment among all RTHK staff and encourage them to render support through action; and
- seek continual improvement of its environmental performance on all fronts.

Environmental Highlights

In 2015, RTHK made the following major efforts in enhancing its environmental performance:

Programmes

Radio Programmes

- Producing radio programmes and programme segments which widely covered various green topics, such as green living, environmental protection, sustainable development, recycling and energy saving. These programmes include “Family Man” and “Food From the Earth” of Radio 1, “Knowledge Company” and “Made in HK” of Radio 2, “MagaSenior” and “Back to Nature” of Radio 5, “The Elite Bunch”, “Youth Meets World” and “The Culture with A Twist” of Putonghua Channel and “Sound of Nature” of Digital Audio Broadcasting.
- Participating in various green projects and activities organized by Government and non-governmental organizations to convey the message of environmental protection, such as “Tree Planting Day 2015”.

TV Programmes

- The 12-episode “The Green Journey” series discussed how mankind embarks on a journey towards a sustainable future. The series focused on how humanity can build a sustainable and healthy living space through daily activities, such as recycling, marine life conservation, green buildings and low carbon diets.
- The 5-episode “The Green Journey II” series delved into mankind’s effort in mitigating some of the consequences of the over-exploitation of the earth resources.
- The 6-episode “The Tipping Points” series explored the emerging tipping points of climate change that have recently drawn concern from scientific communities worldwide for their fragile and near-crisis state. The programme also discussed what can be done to change the fate of our planet.
- In the documentary “Sea World Odyssey – Through My Lens”, the audience were taken into the colourful underwater world in Indonesia, Palau, Fiji, Brunei and China to see the amazing marine life and ancient cities that have been submerged underwater.
- The documentary “Hong Kong Connection” featured natural ecology, tree preservation and environmental conservation in the following episodes, to arouse public concerns and stimulate public reflection on the environment:
 - “Luminescence in the Night (Part 1 and 2)” analysed the reasons that brought fireflies to the risk of extinction in Hong Kong and uncovered the efforts and devotion of the founder of the Hong Kong Firefly Conservation Foundation in preserving fireflies in Hong Kong.
 - “If Tree Could Speak” presented public opinions towards the removal of four Chinese Banyans in Bonham Road and delved into the government’s effort to preserve trees in the Hong Kong.
 - “The Tree That Gave Hong Kong Its Name” uncovered the truth of the speculation of agarwood in China of pursuing spiritual civilization, yet at the cost of ecology. It also examined how non-government groups’ works protect the agarwood in Hong Kong.

- “Precious Water” discussed the threats of shortage of Dongjiang water under the rapid growth of cities in Guangdong Province and impact of global warming. It also examined how Hong Kong, ranking among the top 3 cities that consume the most water, can encourage people to reduce water usage.
- In the 7-episode “The Great Outdoors: Our National Parks”, the audience were taken to appreciate the fascinating looks of national parks around the world and how these unique biospheres play a key role in maintaining the ecological balance and biodiversity of our world.
- Two episodes of “Between Two Generations”, namely “Three Generations of Recyclers” and “Tillage over Time”, uncovered the stories behind the commitment of three generations to continue and develop their family recycling business and the commitment of two generations to their agriculture business despite the little income it brings.
- “This Week” initiated the discussion of local issues such as conservation of Chinese white dolphins, light pollution and conservation of the country parks. The programme also examined the Government’s role in supporting local recycling business and the effectiveness of the plastic shopping bag charging in changing the citizens’ behaviours.
- Two episodes of the “Teens Club” namely “Under the Roof of Capital World” and “Hong Kong Really Really Free Market – Increase the Life-Span of Items” featured how wastes can be reduced by “upcycling” (i.e. turning wastes into treasures) and through the free exchange of items and services in the Hong Kong Really Really Free Market.
- The eTVonline, an online educational platform, published Liberal Studies module on “Food Waste Recycling” and 10 Liberal Studies Daily Topics related to environmental protection issues were also published. These environmental protection issues include smog, greenhouse gas, climate change conference, Paris Agreement, food waste, recycling, light pollution, energy conservation, plastic bag levy and landfill.

In-house Green Practices

Minimising Paper Consumption

- widely using e-mails for communication;
- promoting double-sided photocopying to reduce paper consumption; and
- promoting the use of the blank side of used paper and the reuse of envelopes.

Recycling

- placing recycling bins at convenient locations. In 2015, RTHK collected 4 851 kg of waste paper, 106 kg of plastic bottles and 39 kg of aluminium cans for recycling; and
- collecting used printer toner cartridges for recycling.

Green Products

- using photocopiers with double-sided photocopying and automatic energy saving functions;
- using plain paper fax machines instead of thermal paper ones;
- procuring environmentally-friendly products, such as refillable ball pens, recyclable printer toner cartridges, etc.;
- procuring appliances, such as refrigerators, air-conditioners and dehumidifiers with Grade 1 Energy Efficiency Label; and
- adopting green procurement specifications promulgated by Environmental Protection Department when procuring office equipment, such as water dispensers, microwave ovens, etc.

Energy Saving

- promoting and encouraging staff to reduce lighting;
- adjusting the air-conditioning system to keep the room temperature at a reasonably acceptable level; and
- carrying out energy audits for departmental buildings to identify Energy Management Opportunities.

Switch-off

- re-circulating a circular to remind staff to switch off lightings when they leave office and turn off electrical products not in use.

Indoor Environmental Quality

- achieving the “Good Class” of the Indoor Air Quality Objectives for departmental buildings.

E-communication

- uploading useful information to the intranet for internal reference (e.g. departmental telephone directory, circulars, important notices, etc.); and
- uploading general forms to the intranet instead of keeping the paper forms in stock.

Measures to Further Enhance Environmental Performance

RTHK will continue to meet its environmental objectives by means of:

- producing and broadcasting programmes on environmental issues in a variety of formats;
- continuing its efforts in arousing public concern over environmental issues;
- promoting a green procurement policy in support of its production efforts; and
- ensuring that the working environment for its staff remains safe and healthy.

Information and Suggestions

For enquiries in connection with this Environmental Report, please contact RTHK’s Green Manager (telephone number: 2339 6308; fax number: 2338 0279; email address: general@rthk.hk).