



Radio Television Hong Kong Environmental Report 2020

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 on 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 among all RTHK staff to care for the environment and encourage them to render support through action; and
- seek continual improvement of its environmental performance on all fronts.

Environmental Highlights

In 2020, RTHK made the following major efforts in enhancing its environmental performance:

Programmes

Radio and TV Programmes

- Produced and acquired radio and TV 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:
 - Radio 1: “Climate Watcher” and “Blue Planet”;
 - Radio 2: “Morning Suite” and “Knowledge Society”;
 - Radio 3: “Backchat”, “Morning Brew”, “123 Show” and “Common Room”;
 - Radio 5: “MagaSenior”, “Stand by Me” and “Green Track”;
 - Putonghua Channel: “New Hong Kongers’ Connection”;
 - Culture & Education Unit: “Sound of Nature”, “Children Sunday” and “University Knowledge Platform”;
 - English News and Current Affairs Section: feature story “Used face

masks now pollute beaches, hiking trails”; and

- RTHK TV31: “Environment and Health”, “Biodiversity in Hong Kong”, “Hong Kong Ecologists”, “Farming My Life”, “Meat the family”, “Agricultural Paradise”, “Light Pollution Hong Kong” in “Talk Show – Science Night”; and “Meat: A Threat to Our Planet?”, “On Thin Ice”, “The Dark Side of Green Energies”, “Drought and Floods – The Climate Exodus” and “The Last Male on Earth” in “31 See the World”.
- Participated in various green projects and activities organised by government departments and NGOs to convey the message of environmental protection, such as “Long-term Decarburisation Strategy Radio Programme 2019-2020”, “Healthy Hong Kong” and “FarmFest 2020”.

New Media

- RTHK website has launched the multimedia e-Learning project of “Literacy of Children's Picture Books” (rthk.hk/picturebooks/) which introduced picture story books and related RTHK programmes on various environmental themes, providing teaching and learning resources for parents, teachers and students. Environmental themes include : “The Beautiful Sea World”, “Chimps and Me”, “Birds’ Heaven”, “Between Elephants and Men”, “Dear Fireflies”, “Trees and Woods”, “Balance is Important”, “Extreme Weather”, “Plastic Wastes”, promoting environmental awareness on the protection of natural ecology and waste reduction.

In-house Green Practices

Minimising Paper Consumption

- using e-mails for communication widely;
- 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 suitable locations. In 2020, RTHK collected 8 860 kg of waste paper, 85.4 kg of plastic bottles and 47.5 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 and recyclable printer toner cartridges;
- procuring appliances, such as refrigerators, air-conditioners and dehumidifiers with Grade 1 Energy Efficiency Label;
- adopting green procurement specifications promulgated by the Environmental Protection Department when procuring office equipment, such as water dispensers and microwave ovens; and
- ceasing to procure and provide disposable plastic umbrella bags, and setting up umbrella dryers instead.

Energy Saving

- promoting and encouraging staff to reduce lighting;
- adjusting the air-conditioning system to keep the room temperature at a reasonable level;
- affixing “Save Energy” stickers to air-conditioning and lighting switches;
- re-circulating a circular to remind staff to switch off lightings when they leave office and turn off electrical products not in use;
- carrying out energy audits for departmental buildings to identify energy management opportunities;
- replacing existing lighting and air-conditioning systems with energy-saving models; and
- participating in the “Earth Hour” event.

Carbon Audit

- conducting carbon audit exercise for Broadcasting House (BH), Television House (TVH) and Educational Television Centre (ETC). In 2020-21, the amounts of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for BH, TVH and ETC were 1 746.20, 2 586.83 and 327.61 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent respectively.

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 and important notices); and
- uploading general forms to the intranet instead of keeping the paper forms in stock.

Staff Canteen

- implementing the following green measures:
 - banning the use of plastic straw, and ceasing to provide disposable tableware for dine-in customers; and
 - ceasing to provide disposable plastic tableware to take-away customers. They may choose to purchase disposable tableware made of wood and paper, or bring their own reusable tableware.

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, please contact RTHK’s Green Manager (telephone number: 2339 6308; fax number: 2338 0279; email address: general@rthk.hk).