

Environmental Concerns

Our Pledge

We are committed to ensuring that our operations are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner and increasing staff awareness on environmental protection and green management.

Our Achievement

We conducted 4 District Council By-elections in 2014. We have adopted various measures including extending the use of recycled paper for various activities, printing electoral publications with environmentally-friendly ink on paper made from woodpulp derived from sustainable forests, distributing electoral publications in a digital format, recovering waste paper for recycling, making better use of electronic means in disseminating information and motivating our staff to adopt green practices in their workplace.

Some of our achievements in the reduction of paper consumption are highlighted below:

- (a) We have distributed the guidelines on election-related activities for public elections by CD-ROMs to replace part of the printed copies starting from mid-2010. This arrangement has subsequently been extended to the distribution of consultative documents and reports published by the Electoral Affairs Commission.
- (b) We have provided candidates with an option of 'household' address labels, as against 'individual' address labels, for free posting of election mails since the Legislative Council Election in 2012. Candidates are encouraged to use 'household' labels for sending election mails as this can save substantial resources in the production of address labels and election mails.

To achieve good indoor air quality to safeguard the health of our staff and contribute to their comfort and well-being, we have conducted assessments under the Indoor Air Quality ("IAQ") Certification Scheme for REO's premises by phases, with the successful renewal of "Excellent Class" and "Good Class" IAQ Certificates for our offices at the Harbour Centre and the Guardian House under the IAQ Certification Scheme respectively.

Our Target

We have set the following targets for 2015 –

- (a) To continue exploring the feasibility of economizing the printing of election-related publicity materials and encouraging electors to provide or update their email addresses with a view to further reducing paper consumption.

- (b) To achieve “Good Class” or above in the issue and renewal of IAQ Certificates under IAQ Certification Scheme and to carry out regular IAQ inspections to various REO premises.
- (c) To make continuous efforts in achieving a greener working environment by promoting staff awareness and green measures in our daily operations.