



# Radio Television Hong Kong Environmental Report 2013

## 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 environmental-friendly culture, RTHK spares no effort in promoting public awareness on environmental issues by:

- ◆ assisting in 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 2013, RTHK made the following major efforts in enhancing its environmental performance:

### **Programme Productions**

#### ***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 included “Family Man” and “Earth 708” of Radio 1, “Call me Gaga”, “Knowledge Company” and “Young Politicians” of Radio 2, “Sound of Nature” of Digital Audio Broadcasting Channel, “Back to Nature” of Radio 5, and “Newpeople Bigworld” of Putonghua Channel.
- ◆ Participating in various green projects and activities organised by Government departments and non-governmental organisations to

convey the message of environmental protection. These projects and activities included “Earth Hour 2013” and “Tree Planting Day 2013”.

### *TV Programmes*

- ◆ “Ocean Business”, a 5-episode documentary series, unveiled the damage done to the marine species and ecology by humans through exploring the trades of shark fins and live reef food fish, and the capture of dolphins for performances.
- ◆ In “Hong Kong Connection”, a long-running documentary series, environmental issues, including environment conservation, pollution, natural ecology, organic farming, food safety and energy saving, were featured to arouse public concerns on the environment. The following are the gists of the programmes in 2013:
  - “The Enclaves” delved into the issue of developers seeking development of enclaves in Hong Kong. The programme aimed to reveal the conflict between social development and ecological conservation with a view to stimulating public reflection.
  - The 2-episode sequel of “Food Safety” analysed the risk of food safety brought by modern food industry and the importance of local agriculture, and shared Taiwan’s experience of developing organic farming.
  - Another episode on “Organic Farming in Hong Kong” looked into the prospect of organic farming in Hong Kong and undertook a rethink on the local agricultural development policy.
  - “Light Pollution” explored the aggravating light pollution problem in Hong Kong, its effects on the local residents and the corresponding policies adopted by the Government.
  - For the sake of energy saving, the Government had imposed sale restrictions on incandescent light bulbs to make the public switch to more energy-efficient light bulbs. The episode

“Light Bulbs” showed study findings to reveal potential health hazards posed by energy-saving light bulbs to humans.

- ◆ In “Cultural Heritage-Neverending Trail”, an 8-episode documentary series, the audience were taken on a trip to mountains and rivers to look for historical and cultural heritage. The programme also explored people’s livelihood and cultural conservation.
- ◆ The weekly one-hour livecast educational programme “Tutor Online” targets primary and secondary students, and it had a session for discussion and introduction of environmental protection.
- ◆ In an episode titled “Waste Not, Want Not” of Hong Kong Stories (23<sup>rd</sup> series) – “Hong Kong People Helping Hong Kong People”, a “Food Bank” set up by the community which reduced food wastage by recycling food wastes and rendered assistance to ethnic minorities as well as the underprivileged was introduced.
- ◆ Based on the ancient Chinese philosophy, “Nature and Man in One”, the 6-episode documentary examined the correlation between man and nature. It also explored issues such as energy crisis, shortage of water resources, disappearance of tropical rainforests and soil erosion as well as their impacts on the environment.
- ◆ eTVonline, an online educational platform, had rolled out 3 online Liberal Studies courses on environmental protection. Working with the Department of Anthropology, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, eTVonline had organised three field trips to Mai Po for teachers. It had also organised an Environmental Protection Forum for secondary school students, aiming to enhance their environmental awareness through educational talks and competitions on green issues. A dedicated website had been set up to provide archive viewing and browsing of the documentary “Nature and Man in One” and details of the forums.

### ***In-house Green Practices***

- ◆ ***Minimise 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.

◆ ***Recycle***

- placing recycle boxes at convenient locations. In 2013, RTHK collected 6,234 kg of waste paper 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 environmental friendly products, such as refillable ball pens, recyclable printer toner cartridges, etc.; and
- procuring appliances, such as air-conditioners and refrigerators, with Grade 1 Energy Efficiency Label.

◆ ***Energy Saving***

- encouraging staff to reduce lighting to minimum; and
- adjusting the air-conditioning system to keep the room temperature at a reasonably acceptable level.

◆ ***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.

◆ ***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 programmes on environmental issues in a variety of formats;
- ◆ continuing its efforts in arousing public concerns 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 enquires in connection with this Environmental Report, please contact RTHK's Green Manager (telephone number: 2339 6568; fax number: 2338 0279; e-mail address: [general@rthk.org.hk](mailto:general@rthk.org.hk)).