

## **COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

### **Report on the Work of the Education and Publicity Sub-committee**

#### **Purpose**

This paper reports on the progress of the education and publicity programmes under the purview of the Education and Publicity Sub-committee (“EPSC”) of the Council for Sustainable Development (“SDC”).

2. Members are invited to note:
  - (a) the updated position of the 12<sup>th</sup> round of applications for Sustainable Development Fund (“SDF”) (paragraphs 3 to 4 below); and
  - (b) the progress of the ongoing education and publicity activities (paragraphs 5 to 11 below).

#### **Sustainable Development Fund**

3. The 12<sup>th</sup> round of applications for SDF was launched on 30 November 2015. By the closing date on 29 February 2016, 59 submissions were received applying for a total grant of about \$73 million.

4. The Secretariat is preparing a detailed assessment of the applications for consideration by a Vetting Sub-group to be formed under EPSC. In line with past arrangements, the Secretariat’s assessment and recommendations of the Vetting Sub-group would be submitted to EPSC for consideration and endorsement. For those applications involving grants of \$500,000 or above, advice of the SDC would be sought. The final results are expected to be announced by late August 2016.

## **School Award Programme**

5. The School Award Programme (“SAP”) started in 2007 to provide recognition to schools which have actively participated in activities for promoting sustainability awareness and practices. It is held on a biennial basis. The current (2014-2016) round was launched in May 2014 with the theme on “Waste Reduction at Source”. A total of 52 schools have participated (26 schools for Sustainable Development Community Project Award and 26 schools for Sustainable Development Participation Award).

6. All schools have completed the relevant activities/projects and satisfied the requirements for receiving the awards. Amongst them, Queen Elizabeth School Old Students’ Association Secondary School is considered by the Judging Panel formed under EPSC as the school which had performed the best and should be granted the “Outstanding Performance Award”. An award presentation ceremony for all schools would be held on 16 July 2016 (Saturday) at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine at Wong Chuk Hang. Members are welcome to attend the ceremony.

7. Invitations to schools to join the next (2016-2018) round of SAP have been issued. To sustain the momentum of SDC’s public engagement exercise, the next round will run under the theme of “Sustainable Consumption of Biological Resources”.

## **School Outreach Programme**

8. The School Outreach Programme (“SOP”) started in 2002 to promote the concepts of sustainable development (“SD”) to senior secondary school students. Through school talks, workshops and interactive dramas, the SOP aims to stimulate participants’ thinking on SD concepts and related issues. In the 2015-16 school year, a total of 57 schools have enrolled for 53 dramas, 23 talks and 11 workshops. All activities will be completed within this school year.

9. Invitations to schools to join the next (2016-17) round have been issued. To sustain the momentum of SDC’s public engagement exercise, a new drama under the theme of “Sustainable Consumption of Biological Resources” will be commissioned and new stakeholder partners with expertise in this topic will be invited to conduct the talks and workshops.

## **Sustainable Development Promotion Award for Students of Higher Education Institutions (“SDPA”)**

10. The SDPA is new initiative designed for undergraduate students to encourage their planning and implementation of projects to apply the SD concept in their daily lives and spread the message to the community. It was launched on 1 April 2016 and open for submission till 30 June 2016. An adjudication panel will be formed under EPSC to assess the submissions. The best five proposals will each be given the “Proposal Award” with a cash award of \$3,000 and a certificate. All recipients of the “Proposal Award” would be expected to proceed to implement their proposals. Those who satisfactorily complete their projects would be granted the “Implementation Award” with another cash award of \$7,000 and certificate. The team which performs the best would also be granted the “Outstanding Project Award” with another cash award of \$10,000 and certificate. The final results of the SDPA are expected to be available in early 2017.

## **Sustainable Development Ambassadors**

11. The SD Ambassador Programme started in 2013 to provide a platform for students who have participated in our previous programmes to help spread and promote SD messages to their peers and the community. As at end of May 2016, there are 386 SD Ambassadors from 25 schools. In the 2015-16 school year, two visits have been arranged for them to Hoi Ha Marine Life Centre of World Wide Fund for Nature (Hong Kong) and the Swire Institute of Marine Science of the University of Hong Kong. The Ambassadors will be invited to assist in the organisation of the upcoming SAP award presentation ceremony and participate in the activities to be held in connection with the public engagement on “Sustainable Consumption of Biological Resources”.

**Council Secretariat  
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