COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Report on the Work of the Education and Publicity Sub-committee

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of the sustainable development (SD) 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 the progress of:

   (a) the assessment results of the eleventh round of the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) applications (paragraphs 3 to 4 below); and

   (b) the ongoing education and publicity programmes (paragraphs 5 to 9 below).

Sustainable Development Fund

3. By the closing date of the current (eleventh) round of application on 24 February 2014, a total of 70 applications have been received applying for a total grant of over $120 million\(^1\).

4. At the EPSC meeting held on 24 September 2014, Members deliberated and agreed that six applications be recommended for award of grant under the SDF, involving a total amount of about $8.23 million. All six

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\(^1\) In the previous (tenth) round of application, there were 65 applications applying for a total grant of about $104 million. Six projects involving a total amount of about $6.37 million were approved.
projects sought grants exceeding $0.5 million each and, in accordance with the SDF Application Guidelines, they were circulated to Members of the SDC for consideration and endorsement in mid-October (SDC Paper No. 03/14 refers). The final results of the approved SDF applications were announced on 30 October 2014, and the SDF Secretariat would upload the project briefs of the newly approved projects to the Sustainable Development Division (SDD)’s website (http://www.enb.gov.hk/en/susdev/sd/index.htm) accordingly. Including this round of application, a cumulative total of 63 projects involving a total amount of some $63.9 million have been approved for grants from the $100 million SDF since its establishment in 2003.

**SD School Award Programme (SD SAP)**

5. The SD School Award Programme (SAP) provides recognition to schools which have actively participated in activities to promoting SD awareness and practices in schools and the community. The SAP is held on a biennial basis. The last (fourth) round of SAP (2012-2014) themed on ‘Energy Saving’ has concluded and a total of 44 schools received awards (25 schools for SD Community Project Award and 19 schools for SD Participation Award) at the prize presentation ceremony held in July 2014.

6. Recruitment for the new round of SAP (2014-2016) has commenced in May 2014 and, so far, 54 schools have enrolled. The theme of the current round is ‘Waste Reduction at Source’ to sustain the momentum of the SDC’s public engagement process on municipal solid waste charging. A briefing to facilitate participating schools in preparing application proposals was held on 26 September 2014 with participants from 21 schools attended. The Secretariat would maintain close liaison with the schools throughout the course of the programme to provide guidance and support as appropriate.

**School Outreach Programme**

7. The School Outreach Programme (SOP) promotes the concepts of SD to the senior secondary school students. The twelfth round of SOP for the current school year (2013/2014) has completed in July 2014. A total of 23 seminars, 15 workshops and 40 interactive drama performances have been
conducted for 48 schools with about 17,500 students and teachers taking part in these activities. The feedback received from the participants (mainly through questionnaires) revealed that the format and content of these programmes were considered effective in disseminating the concepts of SD.

8. The new (thirteenth) round of SOP had commenced in September 2014. Following the completion of the interactive drama themed on ‘Waste Reduction at Source and Sustainable Development’ in July 2014, a new interactive drama themed on ‘Waste Reduction and Recycling to Achieve Sustainable Development’ was launched in November 2014.

**Sustainable Development Ambassadors**

9. Since the launch of the ‘SD Ambassador’ programme in early 2013, a total of about 330 SD Ambassadors have been recruited from 20 schools. In addition to technical visits to Ecopark, SENT Landfill, Jordon Valley Park and a food waste treatment facility within a residential estate at Wong Tai Sin, the SD Ambassadors have also been involved in the regional forum and roving exhibitions of the public engagement on municipal solid waste charging. To further empower the SD Ambassadors in planning and implementing projects to disseminate the messages of SD, ten SD Ambassadors have been engaged in the mime performance, musical performance, game booths and exhibition session of the SAP prize presentation ceremony held in July 2014. 12 SD Ambassadors also received certificates of merit as recognition of their continual participation and contribution in supporting the SDC activities to promote the messages of SD.

**Council Secretariat**

**November 2014**