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The eighth Sustainability Report published by the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA), **Quest for Excellence in Low Carbon Housing**, details HA's key sustainability commitments and performance in terms of economic, environmental and social aspects. This Report clearly presents our governance structure, management approaches, initiatives, operations and activities. It also summarises HA's performance and future plans in maintaining and providing local public housing programme in a sustainable manner for Hong Kong.

Report Scope

This Report describes the detailed achievements and progress in HA's sustainability performance from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 (unless stated otherwise in the report). It also states our on-going sustainability objectives and targets regarding planning and construction of new housing developments, management and maintenance of existing public rental housing estates and our own office operations.

This Report covers all the HA's activities and operations with no specific limitations on the report scope. Data and statistics presented as absolute figures have been normalised into comparable terms as far as practicable.

Criteria

This Report has been prepared with reference to the internationally recognised [Global Reporting Initiatives \(GRI\) G3.1 Guidelines](#) to achieve the A+ application level. The GRI Content Index at the end of this chapter illustrates how all the sections in this Report link to the relevant GRI indicators.

Besides the GRI G3.1 Guidelines, we collect and consider stakeholders' views, suggestions and expectations during the report preparation to address their concerns. Through our daily operations and communications, a number of key stakeholders groups, including our tenants, business partners, green groups, media, our staff members, government colleagues, non-governmental organisations and the public have been identified.

We welcome stakeholder's comments on our operations, activities, sustainability performance and reporting process. [A feedback form](#) is enclosed in this Report to collect readers' valuable views and comments for our improvement.

We received a number of comments on our last year's Sustainability Report. In general, the feedback was positive with regard to the usefulness of information and presentation style of the Report. Specifically, some of the respondents would like to see more information of our water conservation targets and control of indoor air quality and noise related operations in our report. We have enhanced the content of the concerned topics in this Report where appropriate.

To assure the completeness, accuracy, reliability and credibility of our report, we have engaged an independent party to verify the claims and data quoted in the Report. The [Verification Statement](#) with verifier's opinions and views on the Report is presented in the latter chapter.

What's New

During the reporting period, there was no significant change in the size, structure, scope of work and ownership of the HA. There were no joint ventures or subsidiaries operated by the HA. There is no restatement of information and data provided in our earlier sustainability reports herein.

GRI Content Index

Corresponding GRI indicators denoted in each section are tabulated below.

Content	GRI Indicators addressed in the report	Remarks
Message from the Chairman	1.1	
1. About This Report	2.1	
– Report Scope	3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.6, 3.7, 3.9, 3.11	1
– Criteria	3.5, 3.13, 4.14, 4.15	
– What's New	2.9, 3.8, 3.10, 3.11	1
– GRI Content Index	3.12, 4.3, EC2, EN16, EN17, EN19, EN20, EN23, LA5, HR1, HR2, HR4, PR9	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Content	GRI Indicators addressed in the report	Remarks
2. About the Hong Kong Housing Authority	2.5, 2.6, 2.7	
– Our Vision, Mission and Core Values	4.8, EC DMA, EN DMA, SO DMA, PR DMA	
– Our Role and Services	2.2, 2.7, 2.8, 4.12, 4.13	
– Human Resources	4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.10, EC3, EC7, HR DMA, HR5, HR6, HR7, LA DMA, LA1, LA2, LA4, LA10, LA12, LA14, SO2, SO3, SO4	
– Significant Aspects	1.2, 4.9, 4.11, PR1	
– Governance Structure and Management	2.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.7, EN DMA, EC6, LA13	14
3. Environmental Performance	4.16, EN DMA, EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN5, EN6, EN7, EN8, EN11, EN12, EN18, EN21, EN22, EN26, EN27, EN28, PR3, SO9, SO10	15
4. Social Performance	4.4, 4.16, 4.17, SO DMA, SO1, SO5, SO8, SO9, SO10, LA DMA, LA7, LA8, PR DMA, PR1	16
5. Economic Performance	2.8, EC DMA, EC1, EC4, EC8, SO1, SO9, SO10, PR3, PR6	
6. Case Studies	EN5, EN6, EN7, EN26	
7. List of Awards and Community Recognitions	2.10	
8. Previous Targets	EC DMA, EN DMA, LA DMA, SO DMA	
9. Targets and Outlook	EC DMA, EN DMA, LA DMA, SO DMA	
10. Verification Statement	3.13	
11. Feedback	2.4, 3.4	

Remarks:

1. 3.2, 3.3 and 3.11 – We publish our sustainability reports annually and the last report was published in December 2012. During the reporting period, there was no significant change in the scope, boundary and measurement methods from previous reports.
2. 4.3 – We do not adopt unitary board structure. All our members are appointed by the Chief Executive.
3. EC2 – No mechanism to separately capture total environmental expenditure in 2012/13, particularly related to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. We would consider providing information in future reports by mid-term.
4. EN16 – No full measurement mechanism is in place but we have obtained some data of the direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions and we will consider providing information in future reports by mid-term.
5. EN17 – No full measurement mechanism is in place but we have obtained some data of the indirect greenhouse gas emissions and we will consider providing information in future reports by mid-term.
6. EN19 – Materials specified for use in building services installations such as refrigerants and fire-extinguishing agents shall comply with the Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance.
7. EN20 – No measurement mechanism is in place but we do not generate significant NOx, SOx emissions.
8. EN23 – No record of significant spillage in our construction sites/estates.
9. LA5 – Following HA's internal circulars, no minimum notice period is required. But staff are informed and consulted regarding significant changes beforehand, and notices are issued as soon as possible.
10. HR1 – Significant investment agreements and contracts do not include clauses incorporating human rights or undergo human rights screening. We will consider providing information in future reports.
11. HR2 – No measurement mechanism in place as it is not a formal practice in local public agency, but hiring of illegal immigrants is prohibited under statute, and we award projects only to contractors with no criminal record in hiring illegal immigrants. All significant suppliers and contractors are closely monitored on their convictions of employing illegal immigrants and incidents on wage disputes.
12. HR4 – No incidents of discrimination was recorded in 2012/13.
13. PR9 – No record of significant fines for non-compliance with product responsibility.
14. EC6 – No mechanism to separately capture the proportion of spending on locally-based suppliers in 2012/13. We would consider to provide information in future reports by mid-term.
15. EN21 – HA discharges domestic sewage to foul sewers generated from its office operations and estate management activities.
16. LA7 – No measurement mechanism in place to collect the data of the rates of injury broken down by gender. We will consider to provide information in future reports.