




Public

OCE-CCD-CSR-001
Policy

BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited

Environmental Policy

December of 2013

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

General sustainability statement

BOCHK is committed to environmental sustainability. This means minimizing our environmental impact by reducing our carbon footprint, using resources more efficiently and effectively and promoting environmentally responsible business practices, services and products.

By adopting this environmental policy, we reinforce our vision of becoming the premier bank of choice with sustainability at the heart of our long-term competitiveness.

We regard the financial services sector as an important contributor towards sustainable development. As a leading banking group in Hong Kong with a long history, we are committed to making a positive difference to the communities we serve.

Scope


This policy applies to BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited (the Company) and its subsidiaries. It outlines our approach in preventing, managing and where possible, reducing the environmental impacts generated, directly or indirectly, by the Group's activities. It was formulated with reference to the UNEP Statement by Financial Institutions on the Environment and Sustainable Development and other financial sector initiatives¹.

Our commitment to environmental protection

We recognize that our business has direct and indirect impacts on the environment. Our objective is to manage these impacts so that we can minimize risks to our business and portfolios and enhance long term stakeholder value.

We support the precautionary approach to environmental management, which strives to

¹ These include the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI), United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and the Climate Principles.

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

anticipate and prevent potential environmental degradation.

This is our commitment:


- We will work towards integrating environmental considerations into our business operations, services and products
- We will implement rigorous environmental programs based on environmental management systems and a regular program of reviewing and reporting on relevant KPIs
- We will ensure that the space we occupy is operated with the objective of best practice environmental performance
- We are committed to complying with local, national and international environmental regulations applicable to our operations and business services

Position on climate change

We believe that climate change presents a series of risks and opportunities to which businesses should respond by understanding and managing their carbon and climate risks and seeking opportunities to support the transition to a low carbon economy. We believe it is important that we all contribute to efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and effectively adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

This is our commitment:

- We will try our best endeavours to reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity of our operations (greenhouse gas emissions per employee or square foot occupied space)
- We will measure a significant proportion of our operational GHG emissions using an internationally recognized or equivalent domestic standard and we commit to disclose this information
- We will promote the use of alternatives to business travel, such as videoconferencing

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

and teleconferencing

Environmental objectives

- We will reduce the direct environmental impact of our business by using resources more efficiently and effectively.**


Energy Use

- We will continuously strive to reduce energy use intensity (energy use per employee or square foot occupied space)
- We will use energy efficient technology where possible to reduce our energy consumption
- We will encourage our suppliers to reduce their energy use and provide energy efficient products, where feasible, by adding energy use criteria into our procurement practices

Paper use

- We will implement processes and build internal awareness to reduce the amount of paper we use
- We will encourage our stakeholders (shareholders, clients, employees) to adopt paperless practices
- We will adopt and encourage the use of the certified FSC printing paper or equivalent indicating it has been harvested from sustain ably managed forests

Waste management

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

- We will pursue best practices in waste reduction
- We will recycle paper, glass, plastic, and metal products, where feasible
- We will promote the reuse of furniture and other fixtures to reduce the amount of material going to landfill
- We will dispose electronic equipment in an environmentally responsible manner
- We will encourage our suppliers to minimize waste by adding waste management criteria in our procurement practices and consider waste minimization when making procurement decisions


Water use

- We will measure our water use and implement systems to reduce water consumption in our facilities
- We will encourage the use of reusable water containers, water coolers or tap water in our premises
- We will use environmentally-friendly cleaning products to reduce the quantity of hazardous substances in waste water
- We will encourage our suppliers to conserve water by adding water consumption criteria in our procurement practices

2. We will reduce the indirect environmental impact of our business by promoting environmentally responsible business practices, services and products.

We recognize that the customers and projects we finance through our lending or investing services may have an impact on the environment.

- We will incorporate a suitable level of environmental due diligence in our lending and

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

other parts of our business

- We will support transactions and business activities of qualified parties that have a positive environmental impact
- We will not knowingly engage in financing activities with corporations purposefully operating in material violation of applicable environmental laws
- We will not engage in new financing activities with corporations operating in the arms industry
- We will develop processes to assess the environmental issues associated to our products and services and identify ways to encourage an improved environmental outcome
- We will incorporate environmental risk issues into relevant policies and decision-making processes

Sustaining the environmental policy


Stakeholder engagement

We strive to foster a deeper understanding of our environmental impact so as to ensure that our environmental policies, priorities and initiatives continue to be relevant and effective.

- We will pursue active stakeholder engagement by having an open dialogue with shareholders, employees, customers, the government, non-governmental organizations and the public
- We will raise awareness on the importance of environmental protection by offering environmental education for both employees and clients

Procurement

- We have adopted a formal sustainable procurement policy for suppliers that takes into account environmental considerations

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

- We will select and seek to form business relations with partners, suppliers and subcontractors according to sound environmental standards and criteria
- We will review environmental screening criteria on a continuous basis in relation to our vendor selection, in order to meet with the best market practice.

Philanthropy


- We will direct a portion of philanthropic efforts to environmental causes, community based programs and initiatives

Reporting and disclosure

- We will ensure accountability and transparency by reporting publicly on our progress on environmental issues and activities through our website, our annual Corporate Responsibility Report and our Annual Report
- We will adopt guidance on appropriate environmental performance indicators from the Global Reporting Initiative to the best possible extent
- We will respond to a variety of environmental sustainability rating organizations and indices, as appropriate, so that our shareholders, clients and employees have access to independent assessments of our progress

Oversight and responsibility

BOCHK has a strong board level commitment for our environmental policy. All BOCHK businesses have the responsibility to integrate this policy into their work processes. The CSR Committee is charged with the overall accountability of implementing, monitoring, reporting and reviewing this policy across BOCHK. The CSR Committee reports directly to the board.

 中國銀行(香港) BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG)			
Policy :	BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited Environmental Policy	Effective Date :	Mar 2011
		Revision Date :	Dec 2013

Supplementary Articles:

- This Policy shall be effectively executed after obtaining the approval from the CSR Committee. This Policy is subject to annual reviews and amendments may be made when necessary.
- The amendments of this Policy shall be effectively executed after obtaining the approval from the CSR Committee.