

# SECTION V ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

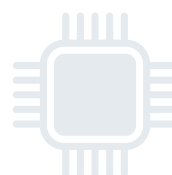


## 1. ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

### (1) Description of environmental protection of the Company other than key pollutant discharging units

During the Reporting Period, the subsidiaries of the Company had two incidents of penalties by the relevant authorities for the failure of filing in the place where the solid waste was to be moved out for transfer of solid waste out of the province, with a total fine of RMB33,000. The relevant subsidiaries had paid the fines in full and conducted timely rectification and examination. The above-mentioned violations did not result in serious environmental pollution, major casualties or social impact, and were not major violations of the environmental protection laws and regulations, and the relevant administrative penalties did not have a material adverse impact on the normal operation of the Company.

The Company and its subsidiaries are not the key pollutant discharging units announced by the environmental protection department. The Company and its subsidiaries earnestly implement *the Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China, the Law on the Prevention and Control of Environment Pollution Caused by Solid Wastes of the People's Republic of China, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution* and other environmental protection laws and regulations in their daily production and operation. The production and operation activities are in compliance with the relevant national environmental protection requirements.





## (2) Relevant information on protecting the ecology, preventing and controlling pollution, and fulfilling environmental responsibilities

1. The Company actively promotes and advocates water conservation by posting reminders regarding water conservation near water facilities and appliances. The Company continuously strengthens the management on water usage, carries out sewage discharge management, promotes the recycled use of water for production, actively uses reclaimed water as an alternative to tap water while the requirements on use of water are met, popularises the use of water-saving appliances and performs regular checks and repairs on each part of the water supply system to prevent occurrences of water leakage and water wastage.
2. The Company enhances the recycling, disposal and utilisation of waste and used materials in order to conserve resources as much as possible and reduce environmental pollution. The Company strictly follows *the Law on the Prevention and Control of Environment Pollution Caused by Solid Wastes of the People's Republic of China* and other laws and regulations regarding waste disposal and utilisation and carries out waste disposal in accordance with regulatory requirements.
3. The Company takes proactive environmental protection measures regarding issues in telecommunications engineering construction in response to concerns of the government and the public, such as farmland protection, equipment pollution, construction impact and electromagnetic radiation to ensure compliance with the government's regulatory requirements, and to actively communicate with the public.
4. The Company, from the perspectives of technology and systems, actively encourages paper saving and reduces paper use. The Company continuously promotes electronic accounting files management, VAT electronic invoice, e-reimbursement and filing of e-invoice and paperless operation, and promotes automatic process of tax declaration in order to reduce the use of paper.





### (3) Measures taken to reduce carbon emissions during the Reporting Period and their effects

The Company applies energy conservation and emission reduction requirements to link through various operational activities such as network planning, procurement, construction, operation and office administration. The Company establishes and improves the energy consumption statistic testing system, organises training and exchanges on energy conservation and emission reduction, constantly improves the professional level of grassroots personnel, and continues to promote innovation in energy conservation and emission reduction management. The Company persists in prioritising the use of energy-saving and environmental-friendly technology and equipment, actively carries out research and application of new technologies for energy conservation and emission reduction and applies energy-saving technologies in the facilities of machine rooms, base stations and datacentres, extends the coverage of the energy-saving technological application and promotes the upgrading and the retirement from the network of old and high energy-consuming equipments. The Company endeavours to reduce all kinds of energy consumptions as well as greenhouse gas emission. Through the co-building of 4/5G base stations with China Unicom, the Company reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 6 million tons per year.

## 2. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

For details, please refer to the 2021 Corporate Social Responsibility Report of the Company published by the Company on the websites of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange ([www.hkexnews.hk](http://www.hkexnews.hk)) and the Company ([www.chinatelecom-h.com](http://www.chinatelecom-h.com)).



### 3. CONSOLIDATION AND EXPANSION OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND PROSPERITY OF RURAL VILLAGES

After the comprehensive poverty alleviation, China Telecom maintained resource input, assistance efforts and work initiatives, introducing the free assistance funds of RMB17.26 million and providing training of 16,000 cadres and talents in 4 targeted poverty alleviation counties and 2 targeted support counties (hereinafter referred to as “4 + 2” poverty alleviation counties) to actively carry out poverty alleviation through consumption, helping the “4 + 2” poverty alleviation counties and more than 1,400 poverty alleviation sites of enterprises at all levels consolidate and expand the achievements of poverty alleviation, and achieving effective connection

with rural revitalisation. The Company fully leveraged its advantages and vigorously promoted the construction of digital villages as an important measure for deepening the industry support and targeted support, and realised the coverage of digital village products and services over 1,600 districts and counties across the country. A total of 10,000 model digital towns and 100,000 model digital villages were built, with 10 group-level digital rural showcase sites built in the “4+2” poverty alleviation counties, creating a telecommunications model for digital empowerment to facilitate “five revitalisations” in rural areas. China Telecom was awarded the highest level for the third consecutive year in the 2020 evaluation of the effectiveness of targeted poverty alleviation, and won national honours such as the National Advanced Group for Summary and Commendation of Poverty Alleviation.



Caring children in rural area