

About this Report

This report covers the period from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008. It shows the environmental awareness of our work and our efforts in environmental management in capital works projects, sustainable asset management, research and technology, Clean Air Charter, and green office management. Environmental awards, achievement of environmental objectives and targets for 2008 and environmental targets for 2009 are also covered in this report.

To reduce paper consumption, this report is published in CD-Rom format and uploaded to our web site.

About Highways Department

The Highways Department is responsible for:

- implementation of highway projects in the Public Works Programme;
- maintenance of public roads, including road furniture, road drainage and roadside slopes, and co-ordination and control of utility openings on public roads;
- planning, monitoring and coordinating various activities associated with implementation of new railway projects;
- providing design input for road lighting, highway structures, roadside slope upgrading and landscape features associated with capital works projects and maintenance works;
- inspecting the safety provision on highway construction sites;
- researching into new materials, techniques and standards; and
- providing engineering, quantity surveying and landscaping technical services.


The Department's Headquarters are located in Ho Man Tin Government Offices (HMTGO), with sub-offices in North Point Government Offices (NPGO), Cheung Shan Wan Government Offices (CSWGO), Cheung Sha Wan Plaza, Skyline Tower and Nan Fung Commercial Centre in Kowloon Bay. We have an establishment of about 450 professional staff and 1,600 technical and general grades staff. We maintain about 2,040 km of roads and 12,600 roadside slopes within the territory. The total operating expenditure for the financial year 2008/09 is \$2,140 million.

Environmental Goal

Our environmental goal is to accomplish public works efficiently and with due regard to the environment.

Environmental Policy

Our policy on protection of the environment has been integrated into our Department's Management Policy with its latest version promulgated in April 2009. We are committed to sustainable construction with due consideration to balancing environmental, social and economic needs. To achieve the goal of protecting the environment, we place emphasis on the environmental considerations of our work under the Environmental Management System. We act on the policy by:

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- **identifying and controlling the environmental aspects at all stages of our work;**
 - **using resources efficiently, minimizing waste and preventing pollution as far as practicable;**
 - **monitoring the performance of our contractors to ensure good quality of works and to prevent or mitigate potential environmental impacts arising from our projects;**
 - **complying with relevant legal and other requirements; and**
 - **identifying opportunities for continual improvement.**