



Roadside Slopes

In Hong Kong, the hilly terrain, high seasonal rainfall, and dense urban population had resulted in landslides causing loss of lives and properties. Highways Department (HyD) compiled a Roadside Slope Inventory, which contains about 12,700 man-made roadside slope features (including cut, fill and retaining wall) under its maintenance responsibility. Approximate distribution of these features in the SAR is:

3,600 no.	in Hong Kong Island
800 no.	in Kowloon
8,300 no.	in New Territories (including Lantau Island)

Under the new government strategy to reduce landslide risk, departments are requested to step up their slope maintenance efforts. HyD has responded to the challenge with new resources. A Slope Maintenance Committee, with representatives from Regional Offices, was formed to coordinate efforts of the Department. A Geotechnical Advisory Unit was also set up to give in-house technical support on slope maintenance and upgrading works. The average annual expenditure on slope maintenance works is about \$80M.

Slope Maintenance

HyD is maintaining roadside slopes to the standards recommended by the GEO. This requires an annual routine inspection and maintenance, and a regular Engineer Inspection (EI) for every slope feature. Dedicated slope teams charged with slope inspection duties are formed in the Regional Offices. They undertake routine inspections and arrange maintenance works to be carried out by Term Contractors. Works include clearing/repair of the slope surface drainage system, repair of cracked/damaged surface protection and removal of loose debris and undesirable vegetation. An on-going EI programme for roadside slopes had commenced in 1995. Any urgent repair works identified in the EI are carried out as soon



清理路旁斜坡上的排水孔及修補斜坡護面的裂痕
Cleaning blocked weepholes and repairing cracked surfacing on a roadside slope

as possible. Other preventive maintenance works are progressively being carried out.

Buried drains affecting downhill slopes along roads are inspected and any leakage repaired. Surface drainage at certain sections of roads is being improved to avoid water overflowing onto the downhill slopes.

In rainy seasons, HyD staff and contractors would be busy in debris clearance and urgent repair works at landslip sites affecting roads. HyD is also responsible for emergency repair of landslips on unallocated government land affecting public safety. The number of these sites could be up to a few hundred during major storms.

Slope Upgrading

In order to achieve the government's aim of landslide risk reduction, GEO has a long-term Landslip Preventive Measures (LPM) Programme, which includes upgrading of some large roadside slopes. HyD is upgrading smaller roadside slopes by prescriptive measures to complement the LPM Programme. Prescriptive measures are well-used types of slope improvement works based on Hong Kong experience, and their use is promulgated by the GEO. Since 1999, HyD has completed slope upgrading and improvement works on over 500 roadside slopes, which involves a spending of \$760M.