

Foreword



I hope you find this report to be informative of the many efforts we made in 2006 to improve Hong Kong's environment.

Two issues dominated the Environmental Protection Department's (EPD) work in 2006. Air pollution has long been a top priority and we launched the **Action Blue Sky Campaign** in summer 2006 to encourage greater public involvement in improving air quality. The polluter pays principle also figured highly as we sought to find affordable ways of implementing necessary waste management and water quality improvement projects.



The public is being asked to go a step further on waste management and water quality improvement and accept the polluter pays principle for dealing with their pollution. Gradual increases in sewage charges were proposed in 2006 to help pay for the operating costs of Stage 2A of the **Harbour Area Treatment Scheme** and other planned sewage treatment infrastructure. A trial scheme to explore the logistics of municipal solid waste charges was also begun. The goal here is to make people pay for services in proportion to the pollution they create. At the same time, on waste, we are providing more outlets for people to recover and recycle their waste, and in 2006 we recovered 45 per cent of municipal solid waste, three years ahead of our target.

The EPD also recognises it has a responsibility to contain its own impacts on the environment. Our electricity consumption was reduced by 1.7 per cent and we consumed five per cent less paper during the year. We are also committed to implementing the requirements of the Clean Air Charter to further reduce our emissions and energy consumption. An Energy and Emission Management Team will be formed in 2007 to collect more detailed data on our emissions and energy consumption and identify reduction measures. The progress will be reported in the next Environmental Performance Report (EPR).

In the meantime, I hope you find this report to be informative of the many efforts we made in 2006 to improve Hong Kong's environment. We welcome any feedback or suggestions on our performance and this EPR. Comments can be sent through the [feedback form](#) or by e-mail to epr@epd.gov.hk.

The **Action Blue Sky Campaign** is aimed at appealing for public support to the Government's clean-air initiatives and encouraging the community to take actions at personal level to improve air quality. The Government is taking the lead on this front by implementing a series of energy saving measures within bureaux and departments. The electricity consumption of major government office buildings was reduced by 2.9 per cent in 2006. The campaign has successfully introduced other initiatives, such as a \$3.2 billion grant to replace old commercial diesel vehicles with cleaner models and a 30 per cent reduction on the first registration tax for environment-friendly petrol private cars.



Ms Anissa WONG, JP

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Chapter 1 Scope of Report

It seeks to provide an overview of our responsibilities and efforts to improve Hong Kong's environment and minimise the environmental impacts of our operations.



1. This Environmental Performance Report (EPR) covers 1 January 2006 - 31 December 2006 unless otherwise stated. It seeks to provide an overview of our responsibilities and efforts to improve Hong Kong's environment and minimise the environmental impacts of our operations. Other sustainability considerations have also been incorporated where possible, making reference to standard sustainability practices such as the Global Reporting Initiative.
2. The target readership for this report includes but is not limited to members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, academics, green groups, local and overseas organisations and businesses, members of the general public with an interest in environmental protection and other Government bodies.
3. This report is published in electronic versions on [our web site](#) and in CD-ROM to reduce paper consumption.
4. In parallel with this report, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) also publishes an annual report entitled [Environment Hong Kong 2007](#), which covers key background information, the trends and interesting developments of the environmental protection programmes being implemented in the reporting period, and serves as a public education/information document for all members of the community.

Feedback on our Environmental Performance Report

5. The EPD welcomes feedback on this report. Readers can send us their views electronically through a [feedback form](#). In 2006 we received nine feedback replies, after simplifying the form in 2005. Most respondents felt the report was 'generally informative' and 'well structured and balanced in text and figures', but that it should 'focus more on topical issues'. In particular, readers wanted more information on social impacts and targets for the year ahead, which we have attempted to provide in the current report. Readers were most interested in the sections on air, waste, and environmental assessment and planning.

Next



Chapter 2 Vision and Strategy

1. Sustainability is central to EPD's work, as reflected in our vision and mission statements. We are the main Government body responsible for protecting the environment and our policies and programmes affect everyone in the community.

Vision

2. **Our Vision** is of a Hong Kong which enjoys an environment that is both healthy and pleasant, in which the community places a premium on sustaining such an environment for both themselves and future generations.

3. **Our Mission** is to make our contribution towards realising this vision by applying our professional knowledge and judgement and drawing on our experience in environmental protection and conservation

- to formulate policies and plans on environmental protection and conservation;
- to increase community awareness of environmental protection and conservation issues;
- to implement environmental protection legislation and plans; and
- to participate in the town planning process

with a view to achieving and maintaining a high standard of environmental quality and conservation.

Strategy

4. The EPD's responsibilities are spread across six programme areas – air, environmental assessment and planning, conservation, noise, waste and water (see [Chapter 6 – Part A](#) for details). These are implemented through general strategies, described in [Table 1](#), to achieve greater environmental sustainability. We have also implemented measures to control the impacts of our internal operations (see [Table 2](#), as well as fuller details in [Chapter 6 – Part B](#)).

Table 1: Environmental impacts of our strategy

STRATEGY	ENVIRONMENTAL RESULT
Contribute to the formulation of major policies and plans within the Government, including town planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise environmental impact of policies, strategies and planning proposals. • Incorporate sustainability in decision-making process.
Develop and implement environmental improvement programmes, monitor environmental quality and handle pollution complaints and incidents.	Achieve direct improvements in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Noise mitigation • Water quality • Waste management • Nature conservation
Plan and provide waste management facilities.	Ensure waste is handled and disposed of in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner.
Establish regulatory control framework and enforce environmental ordinances.	Reduce air, water, waste and noise impacts from polluting activities.
Build partnerships and engage stakeholders.	Secure better co-operation and build capacity among all sectors in improving the environment.
Deliver environmental education programmes to promote environmental awareness and public participation.	Increase community awareness and support for programmes to enhance our environment.

Support research and professionalism in the environmental disciplines.	Contribute to development of environmental management profession in Hong Kong.
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Table 2: Environmental impacts of our operations

Operations and Services	Effects and Environmental Impact		Measures Taken to Contain the Impact
Waste Collection, Transfer and Disposal Services	Discharge of wastewater and leachate	•Pollution of receiving water bodies	Wastewater produced from waste management facilities is collected for treatment on site or at another site equipped with wastewater treatment system to ensure discharge complies with effluent discharge standards.
	Emission of landfill gas	•Potential fire and other hazards to human life	Operating and closed landfills are equipped with landfill gas management and monitoring systems to control potential hazards and risks on-site, as well as to the adjacent areas. Initiatives are also taken to make use of the collected landfill gas both on- and off-site.
	Environmental nuisance	•Noise, odour and visual impact	Noise and odour nuisances are regularly monitored to ensure compliance with internal and statutory standards. Visual impact is assessed during the development stage of facilities. Mitigation measures such as landscaping and visual barriers are provided where appropriate.
	Exhaust emission from on-site treatment facilities, vehicles and vessel fleets	•Air pollution and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions	Exhaust emissions from facilities are regularly monitored to ensure compliance with emission standards. A network of transfer facilities is used to reduce round-trips by vehicles. Bulk marine transfer, which can help reduce traffic emissions, is adopted where appropriate.
	Consumption of fuel and electricity	•Air pollution and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions	At closed and operating landfills, landfill gas is utilised as a substitute fossil fuel for electricity/heat generation.

Laboratory Services	Exhaust emission from fume cupboards and safety cabinets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air pollution impact 	Emissions are scrubbed or filtered before release to the atmosphere. Regular monitoring for compliance with required standards.
	Wastewater discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pollution of receiving water bodies 	Provision of buffer tanks to prevent accidental discharge of unsuitable substances into the sewers. Regular monitoring of discharges from sinks for compliance with required standards.
	Accidental chemical spillage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Potential hazards to human life 	Staff are trained to deal with accidental spills. All laboratories are provided with emergency spill kits and procedures for handling chemical spillage/leakage.
	Generation of chemical and biological wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Residual pollution from waste treatment processes 	Chemical waste is properly treated and disposed of at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, and biological waste is disinfected and disposed of in accordance with the World Health Organisation guidelines.
Field Work	Fuel consumption and emissions from vehicles/ vessels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Air pollution and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions 	Vehicles that run on petrol or LPG are used and follow a non-idling policy. Groups and offices combine trips whenever possible.
	Use of chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Contamination of soil and water bodies 	Only non-toxic dye is used to trace pollution sources.
	Disposal of samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Residual pollution from waste treatment processes 	Used samples are returned to laboratories for proper disposal.
Office Activities	Consumption of energy and resources (electricity, paper, water, stationery, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Air pollution and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions •Depletion of resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Air-conditioner thermostats are set at a minimum 25.5 degrees Celsius. •The number of departmental vehicles is being reduced and cleaner fuels are being adopted. •Continuous initiatives are introduced to reduce paper consumption. •Wider IT applications are encouraged in terms of documents sharing and electronic submission & approval for purchase. •Energy saving measures and self audits are being conducted to identify areas for improvement in EPD offices and reduce electricity consumption.

Environmental Policy

5. The EPD has adopted an Environmental Policy that lays out guiding principles for carrying out our services, programmes and internal operations. These principles cover:

- compliance with the letter and spirit of environmental laws;
- pre-emption of environmental problems through planning and prevention;
- preparedness for dealing with emergency environmental incidents;
- minimisation of consumption;
- communication of our goals to our staff and the public; and
- training and professional development of our staff.

Appendix I gives details of the Environmental Policy.

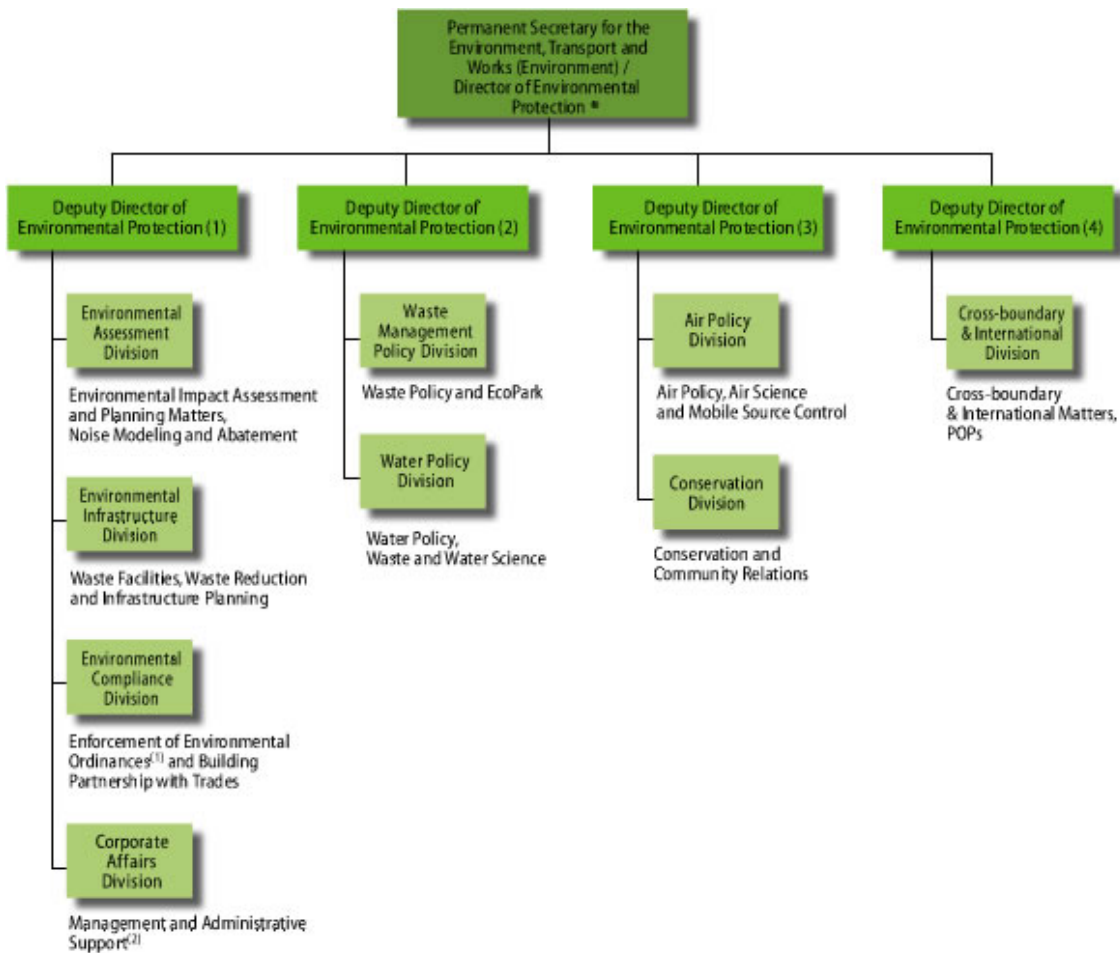
[Previous](#)

[Next](#)

Chapter 3 Organisation and Governance

1. The Environmental Protection Department is headed by a Permanent Secretary, who reports directly to the former Secretary for Environment, Transport and Works. The department is responsible for policy-making and implementation in five programme areas - air, environmental assessment and planning, noise, waste and water - as well as policy-making on conservation. Policy implementation for nature conservation rests with the [Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department](#) and for energy conservation with the [Electrical and Mechanical Services Department](#).

2. Our policies and programmes are scrutinised by the Legislative Council. In addition, we regularly seek input on our work from stakeholders in the community (see [Chapter 4](#) for details).



Remarks:

(1) Major enforcement duties under Air, Environmental Assessment and Planning, Noise, Waste and Water Programmes are carried out by the Environmental Compliance Division.

(2) Covers corporate environmental management, knowledge management, staff safety and health, human resources management, and information technology.

* For EPD organisation after 1 July 2007, please visit http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/about_epd/organ_chart/organ_chart.html

Staffing

3. The department had an establishment of 34 directorate staff and 1 582 non-directorate staff as of 31 December 2006, of whom 27.1 per cent were professionals, 44.9 per cent were technical-grade staff and 28 per cent were administrative and supporting staff. A breakdown of staff by gender is below:

	Male	Female	Unfilled posts
Directorate	27	5	2
Non-Directorate	1 070	496	16
Sub-total	1 097	501	18
Total	1 616		

Finances

4. The EPD's expenses are paid out of the Government's General Revenue Account. The total expenditure in 2006 was \$2.042 billion. Of that amount, 53.8 per cent was for contract payments for the treatment and disposal of municipal and chemical wastes, 36.0 per cent for staff costs, 2.7 per cent for capital expenditure and 7.5 per cent for general expenses.

Internal Sustainability Management

5. The EPD has developed an integrated environment, safety and health management system, which is monitored and reviewed by the Departmental Environment, Safety and Health Committee (DESHC) to ensure its continual effectiveness, improvement and sustainability. Membership of the DESHC includes representatives from management, functional divisions, staff unions, various grades of staff and the departmental consultative committee, so as to reflect a wide range of views and sectors.

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)

Chapter 4 Stakeholder Engagement

1. The EPD aims to take account of community concerns and operators' needs when proposing policies and programmes. Stakeholders are engaged on many levels, as described below. We also submit our policies to the scrutiny of the Legislative Council and the Advisory Council on the Environment, and have frequent contacts with members of both councils. District Councils are also briefed on matters affecting their districts and have been partners in our awareness-raising campaigns.

Engaging the Public

2. The general public is consulted on major policies and invited to comment either through community-wide public consultation or smaller, more focused public engagement workshops. Some key examples of our consultation efforts are described below. We also run education programmes to raise community awareness as described in [Chapter 7](#).

Water issues

3. The development of the [Harbour Area Treatment Scheme \(HATS\)](#) has included a high degree of public consultation. In 2004 the public was consulted for five months on the final options for the scheme, and was generally supportive of a two-phased approach. Stakeholders and the community-at-large were also consulted and supportive of higher sewage charges to fund HATS and other sewage treatment infrastructure. A proposal for gradual increases will now be put before the Legislative Council in 2007 (see [Chapter 5](#)). Green groups, professionals and other interested stakeholders are also being informed and consulted on the environmental impact assessment for disinfection facilities, which will be completed in 2007.

Waste issues

4. "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)" was released in December 2005 and public views were subsequently collected through various channels. A dedicated email account and a Public Affairs Forum administered by the [Home Affairs Bureau \(HAB\)](#) were set up to receive public's comments and views. An open forum held by the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) provided a platform for communication with green groups, waste management practitioners, the recycling industry, and other interested parties and members of the public. Overall there was general support for the Policy Framework.

5. Kwai Tsing District Council and residents of Tsing Yi were briefed in 2006 on plans to expand the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre by installing facilities to treat clinical waste and at the same time upgrade the Centre to meet the latest European Union (EU) emission standards. The EPD also pursued continuous public involvement in the feasibility studies and environmental impact assessments for landfill extensions.

6. In late 2006, we launched a Trial Scheme on Municipal Solid Waste Charging (see details in [Chapter 5](#)), in which residents, managers and other stakeholders of 20 housing estates were invited to participate in the trial and to provide their feedback through a questionnaire survey. Their suggestions will be useful for reference in drawing up practicable options for a charging scheme, which we plan to consult the public on later in 2007.

Noise issues

7. A three-and-half-month public consultation was held on [A Draft Comprehensive Plan to Tackle Road Traffic Noise in Hong Kong](#), released in 2006 (see [Noise of Chapter 6 - Part A](#) for details). Several open forums were organised to explain the plan to the public, and a wide range of stakeholders was consulted on their views, including the public transport operators, professionals, academia, developers, green groups and the general public. The Draft Comprehensive Plan was also uploaded to the Public Affairs Forum web site hosted by HAB for discussion amongst forum members. More than 130 submissions were received by the time the consultation closed in mid-November and they are being analysed for input into the plan.



EPD officers explain the Draft Comprehensive Plan to Tackle Road Traffic Noise in Hong Kong in a seminar.

Engaging Operators

8. The EPD communicates directly with operators who are the main targets of our policies. We have formal partnership programmes with the [construction industry](#), [restaurants](#), [vehicle repair workshops](#) and [property management companies](#), to provide advice, encourage greener practices and receive feedback on our programmes. In 2006 we opened a [Compliance Assistance Centre](#) to provide advice and assistance to other industries as well (see [Partnerships](#) of Chapter 6 - Part A for details).

9. Our waste reduction programme features several key partners, who are assisting in implementing voluntary programmes. The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme is operated by a working group whose membership comprises industry and green groups; the EPD is also a member. Ten major retail chains entered into a voluntary agreement with the EPD in 2006 to reduce plastic bag use. Recycling programmes for waste electrical and electronic equipment and waste computers have been contracted out to two voluntary groups, [St James Settlement](#) and [Caritas](#). In 2006 this was expanded to include a new trial with the Chamber of the Hong Kong Computer Industry.

10. In addition, we have established User Liaison Groups with key sectors with potentially significant impacts on the environment - government works departments, consultants, contractors, private developers and public corporations. Meetings are held periodically to discuss new developments and issues of concern.

Previous

Next



Chapter 5 Sustainability at EPD - Economic Impacts

1. As described in [Chapter 3](#), the EPD is funded from the Government's General Revenue Account. The total expenditure for 2006 was \$2.042 billion.

2. The EPD is also the client for major upcoming works projects in waste management and sewage treatment that will have financial implications for the community. More than \$8 billion will be spent to extend landfills, another \$8 billion to build Stage 2A of the [Harbour Area Treatment Scheme \(HATS\)](#). The Government will pay the capital costs of these facilities. However, in accordance with the polluter pays principle, it has taken the view that the public should share the operating costs.

Polluter Pays

3. The Government is already applying the polluter pays principle in several areas to help clean up the environment and encourage less wasteful habits. Chemical waste producers currently pay part of the cost of treating their waste, while homes and businesses pay a portion of sewage treatment costs. [Charges for construction waste disposal](#) have been introduced and charges for municipal solid waste are being explored. In 2006 progress towards fuller recovery of waste and sewage treatment costs was made in the following areas:

Sewage Charges

3.1 Sewage charges currently meet 54 per cent of operating costs, a percentage that is declining because charges have remained unchanged since 1995, while costs are rising. With the commissioning of HATS Stage 2A and other new sewerage facilities in the pipeline, the operating expenses for sewerage services will more than double over the coming ten years. The Government has proposed to raise charges by modest gradual and predictable increments so that by 2016-17 they would meet about 80 per cent of the operating costs of HATS Stages 1 and 2A and other sewerage works (the average household would pay \$27 per month in 2016 against \$11 per month in 2006). Stakeholders have been consulted on this issue and are generally supportive. A single piece of legislation with a fixed, 10-year schedule for sewage charge increments will be proposed to the Legislative Council in 2007.

Trade Effluent Surcharge

3.2 Commercial and industrial operators with higher pollution loads pay a Trade Effluent Surcharge (TES). Thirty trades are subject to the TES and they currently pay 83 per cent of the cost of treating their sewage. Individual companies can seek re-assessment if they reduce the contamination of their effluent. In December 2006 proposals were announced to streamline re-assessment procedures. The EPD will also survey effluents produced by the trades, and this will form the basis for adjusting TES rates in 2008.

Construction Waste Charges

3.3 Charges came into effect on 20 January 2006, with waste producers paying various charges to dispose of waste at landfills (\$125 per tonne), sorting facilities (\$100 per tonne) and public fill reception facilities (\$27 per tonne). By the end of 2006, there was 40 per cent less construction waste at landfills and 25 per cent less waste overall. Waste charges may have contributed to the decline in waste loads, although other factors such as building activity also have an impact.



Posters promoting landfill charging.

Municipal Solid Waste Charge

3.4 A three-month trial was launched in 20 housing estates in November to examine the feasibility of introducing a variable rate charging scheme for municipal solid waste. At the end of the trial, EPD will collect views from stakeholders and examine in further details the feasibility of a charging scheme in light of the feedback received. Our target is to consult the public on practicable options in 2007 before introducing relevant legislation to the Legislative Council.

Producer Responsibility

4. In line with the principle of "polluter pays", the Government proposes to introduce producer responsibility schemes (PRSs), under which manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers and other waste producers take responsibility for avoiding, recovering and recycling their waste. A voluntary PRS has been set up for rechargeable batteries and we are currently developing PRSs for plastic shopping bags, waste tyres and waste electronic and electrical equipment. Subject to public consensus and support, a "Product Eco-Responsibility Bill" could be presented to the Legislative Council within 2007 to provide a legal framework for mandatory PRSs. (See [Waste of Chapter 6 - Part A](#) for further details).

Previous

Next

Chapter 6 Sustainability at EPD - Environmental Impacts

The EPD is committed to minimising the environmental impacts of our policies, programmes and operations, and seeking environmental improvements wherever possible. Our performance in sustaining this commitment in 2006 is described in detail in Chapter 6 - Parts A and B. Below are highlights from the year:

- The **Action Blue Sky Campaign** was launched in July 2006 to encourage public participation in improving air quality in Hong Kong.
- An 18-month comprehensive study was announced to review **Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives (AQO)** and develop a long-term air quality management strategy.
- The **implementation framework for an emissions trading pilot scheme for thermal power plants in the Pearl River Delta region** was completed.
- **Charges** were introduced for the disposal of construction waste on 20 January 2006.
- A Trial Scheme on Municipal Solid Waste Charging was launched in November 2006 to examine the logistical arrangements for waste recovery and disposal in different housing settings. The information will be used in devising options for a variable rate charging scheme, on which the public will be consulted.
- 497 residential estates and buildings, covering two million people, joined the **Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste**.
- A proposal for higher sewage charges was announced to implement the polluter pays principle and provide sustainable financial support for the operating costs of **HATS Stage 2A** and other sewerage facilities.
- A **Draft Comprehensive Plan to Tackle Road Traffic Noise in Hong Kong** was launched for public consultation.
- The **Compliance Assistance Centre** was opened to provide businesses with updated information and advice on environmental compliance, pollution prevention and environmental management, all in one place.
- Paper consumption in EPD offices was reduced by five per cent and electricity consumption by 1.7 per cent.

[Chapter 6 - Part A Environmental Impacts of Policies and Programmes](#)

[Chapter 6 - Part B Environmental Impacts of Internal Operations](#)

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)

Chapter 6 – Part A Environmental Impacts of Policies and Programmes

1. Our work is divided into six programme areas: **air**, **environmental assessment and planning**, **conservation**, **noise**, **waste** and **water**. We also carry out activities that straddle two or more programme areas through the operations of **environmental compliance**, and **cross-boundary and international co-operation**. Our major achievements in 2006 are described here. Further details of our work can be found in our **homepage**.

AIR

AIM

To achieve and maintain satisfactory air quality through intervention in the planning process and enforcement of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance and other statutory requirements.

Air Quality

2. Air quality is monitored at 11 general stations and three roadside stations (see map in Figure 1). In 2006, the Air Pollution Index exceeded 100 on 57 days as compared with 49 days in 2005 and 87 days in 2004 (readings over 100 indicate non-compliance with short-term Air Quality Objectives). Details of monitoring results by pollutant and location can be seen in Table 1.

- General Air Quality Monitoring Station
- General Air Quality Monitoring Station with monitoring facilities for Toxic Air Pollutants
- ▲ Roadside Air Quality Monitoring Station



Figure 1 - Location of EPD's Air Quality Monitoring Stations.

Table 1 - Compliance Status of Long-term (1-year and 3-month average) Air Quality Objectives (AQO) in 2006.

Station		Sulphur Dioxide 1-year	Nitrogen Dioxide 1-year	Total Suspended Particulates 1-year	Respirable Suspended Particulates 1-year	Lead 3-month
General Station	Central/Western	.	.	.	.	.
	Eastern	.	.	--	.	--
	Kwai Chung	.	.	x	x	.
	Kwun Tong	.	.	.	.	.
	Sham Shui Po	.	.	.	.	--
	Tsuen Wan	.	.	x	x	.
	Sha Tin	.	.	.	.	--
	Tai Po	.	.	.	.	--
	Tung Chung	.	.	.	x	.
	Yuen Long	.	.	x	x	.
Tap Mun	.	.	--	.	--	
Roadside Station	Causeway Bay	.	x	--	x	--
	Central	.	x	--	x	--
	Mong Kok	.	x	x	x	.

Notes:
 "." Complied with AQO
 "x" Violated with AQO
 "--" Not measured

Regional Co-operation

3. The Hong Kong and Guangdong governments are co-operating to reduce air pollution to well below 1997 levels by 2010. They launched a [joint regional air quality monitoring network](#) in November 2005, with 13 stations in Guangdong and three in Hong Kong. A [report](#) on the network's first six months of operation was issued on 31 October 2006. The two administrations also began a mid-term review of their Management Plan to assess effectiveness and formulate further action as necessary (see also [Cross-boundary and International Co-operation](#), below).

4. The Government is confident Hong Kong can achieve its 2010 targets and is currently focused on reducing emissions from power plants, the major local source of sulphur dioxide pollution, as well as other polluting sources.

Controlling Emissions

Power plants

5. Power plants are Hong Kong's largest contributors to regional air pollution, accounting for 91 per cent of sulphur dioxide, 50 per cent of nitrogen oxides and 48 per cent of respirable suspended particulates emissions in Hong Kong in 2005. In 2006 we continued to impose caps on total yearly emissions from power plants when they renewed their specified processes licences; previously a cap was imposed on hourly pollution concentrations and rates. In February, Hong Kong's first wind power station was in commercial operation.

Phasing Out HCFCs

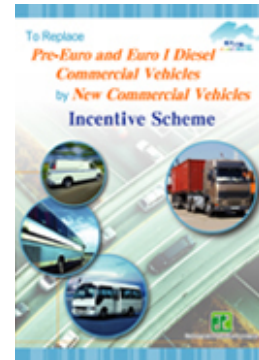
6. Hong Kong adheres to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and we are phasing out the consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). Since January 2004, the import quota of HCFCs has been reduced by 35 per cent. The EPD has advised stakeholders to replace air-conditioning and refrigeration systems that use HCFCs with systems using environmentally friendly refrigerants in order to reduce the import quota by 65 per cent in 2010 and by 90 per cent in 2015.

Volatile Organic Compounds

7. A draft Regulation to ban products in excess of prescribed limits of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) was prepared in 2006. It was expected to be implemented from 1 April 2007. Hong Kong is one of the few places in the world to impose VOC limits on products.

Motor Vehicle Emissions

8. Our programme to control motor vehicle emissions continued in 2006, with Euro IV emission standards for newly registered vehicles being introduced in phases on a par with the European Union (Euro IV motor petrol and motor diesel are already our statutory standards). We also made it a mandatory requirement for all pre-Euro diesel vehicles, except long idling ones, to be retrofitted with approved emission reduction devices. Since 1999 roadside levels of nitrogen oxides have fallen 19 per cent and respirable suspended particulates 13 per cent.



Review of Air Quality Objectives

9. The Government announced in 2006 that it would review Air Quality Objectives and examine the applicability of the latest reviews of air quality standards by the World Health Organisation, European Union and United States. The 18-month study will be commissioned in 2007 and will also include a brief to devise a comprehensive air quality management strategy for Hong Kong for the next two decades. The public will be consulted and engaged throughout the process.

Planning Advice

10. The EPD provides professional advice in the planning processes for strategic planning, land use and transport. In 2006 we provided advice in 622 cases (see Figure 2a and 2b).



Figure 2a - Statistics of Air Planning Advice in 2006.

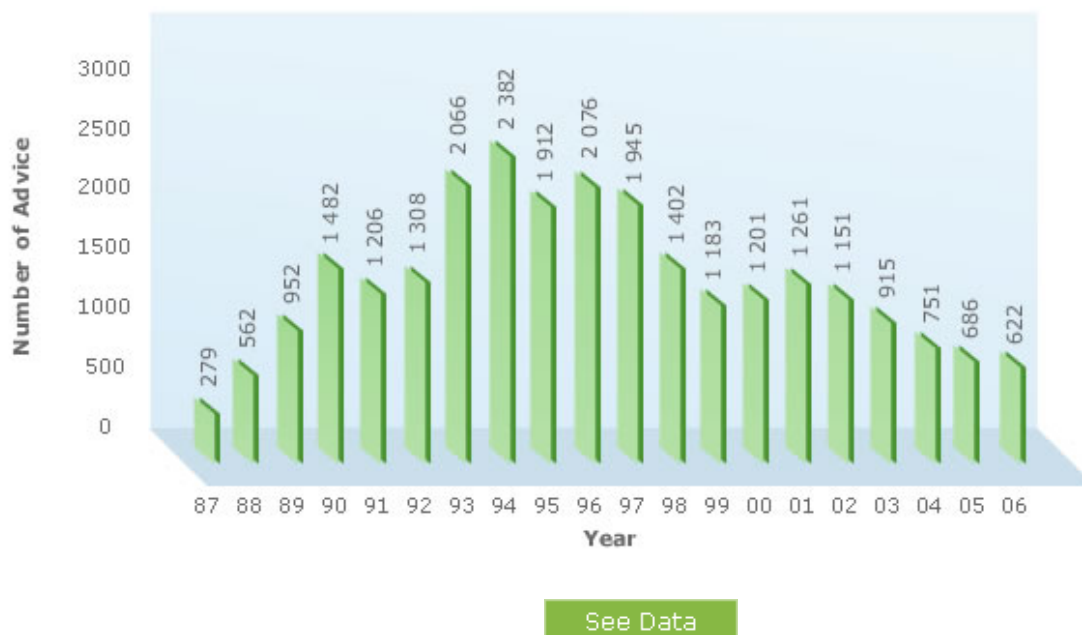


Figure 2b - Yearly Statistics of Air Planning Advice.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

AIM

To pre-empt environmental problems associated with projects, plans, policies and strategies by assessing their environmental implications and ensuring that effective preventive and mitigatory measures are implemented where potential problems are identified.

Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs)

11. SEA studies are carried out on major planning and development proposals such as the [Hong Kong 2030 : Planning Vision and Strategy](#). The application of SEAs in Hong Kong was reinforced in October 2005 when the Chief Executive announced that all major Government policy proposals would be subject to environmental protection scrutiny. In 2006 the EPD enhanced the guidelines and procedures for bureaux and departments to follow when formulating major policy proposals. Bureaux and departments would also need to report the environmental implications when submitting their proposals to the Policy Committee, the Executive Council, the Legislative Council's Public Works Sub-committee and Environmental Affairs Panel, and other official bodies. In 2006 the EPD reviewed over 40 SEA and planning studies, and over 200 environmental implication sections.

12. The [SEA Knowledge Centre](#), a web site established by EPD in late 2005 to promote the use of SEAs, received about 530 000 hits in 2006. It was also enhanced last year with the addition of information on overseas SEAs in various sectors, such as tourism, trade, waste management and transportation.

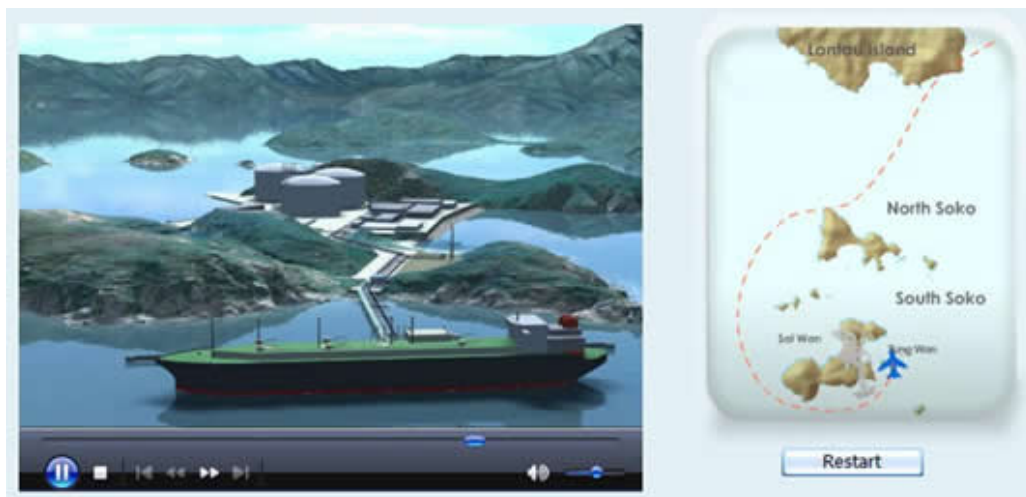
Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO)

13. The EIAO has been applied since 1998, protecting approximately 1.5 million people and many ecologically sensitive areas. By the end of 2006, environmental impact assessments (EIAs) for 103 projects worth about \$340 billion combined had met EIAO requirements and been approved.

14. In 2006 the EPD prepared new environmental outcome profiles, which feature useful results and mitigation measures from previous EIAs. The intention is to make these widely available as a reference for project proponents, consultants and the public in 2007.

Public Engagement

15. The EPD is promoting the use of the 3-D EIA public engagement tool in major projects to facilitate continuous public involvement and help people better understand key EIA findings. By the end of 2006, CLP Power Hong Kong Ltd's liquefied natural gas terminal was the first major project for which a 3-D EIA report was prepared to visualise key EIA findings. The 3-D EIA report was made available at the EIAO Register Office and other listed offices during the public inspection stage. A requirement to include 3-D visualisations has been included in the study briefs of 16 major infrastructure projects.



A 3-D tool was made available to the public during the inspection period for the South Soko EIA, one of the sites under consideration for CLP's proposed liquefied natural gas terminal.

CONSERVATION

AIM

To conserve the natural resources and bio-diversity of Hong Kong and promote efficient use of energy in a sustainable manner, taking into account social and economic considerations, for the benefit of the present and future generations of the community.

Energy Conservation

16. The Government is striving to set an example to the rest of the community on energy conservation. As standard house keeping practices, all bureaux and departments have been implementing a series of energy saving measures, including maintaining air-conditioned room temperatures at 25.5 degrees Celsius in summer months. Energy wardens have also been appointed to tighten the implementation of energy saving measures. In July 2006, the Government launched the [Action Blue Sky Campaign](#) to encourage the community to follow suit. The Government also endorsed the [Clean Air Charter](#) launched by the Hong Kong business community to promote community participation in improving air quality (see details in [Chapter 6 - Part B](#)).



The Chief Executive, Mr Donald TSANG (right), and the former Secretary for the Environment Transport and Works, Dr Sarah LIAO (left), officiate at the Launching Ceremony of Action Blue Sky Campaign.

17. Legislation for a mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme has been prepared and will be introduced into the Legislative Council in the second quarter of 2007. Progress is also being made towards the target of sourcing 1-2 per cent of Hong Kong's electricity supply from renewable sources by 2012, with both power companies taking positive steps in the application of wind energy in Hong Kong (see [Air section](#) above for details).

Nature Conservation

18. Two pilot Schemes were announced under [Hong Kong's New Nature Conservation Policy](#) in November 2004. The [Pilot Scheme for Management Agreements](#), which allows non-government organisations to apply for government funding to provide landowners with financial incentives for protecting ecologically sensitive sites, has started three projects and received positive feedback from landowners and the community. The [Pilot Scheme for Public-Private Partnership](#) allows applicants to develop less-sensitive areas of a site but commit to long-term conservation of the rest of the site. Results have not yet been announced on applications for the latter. A review of the Pilot Scheme for Management Agreements will be conducted in 2007.

19. The new Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Bill has been drafted to replace earlier legislation. The new Bill would ensure Hong Kong fully meets its obligations under the [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora](#), remove inconsistencies in the current legislation and streamline the licensing system. The EPD also proposed extending the [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#) to Hong Kong.

20. An amendment was made to the [Marine Parks and Marine Reserves Regulation](#) to control glass-bottomed boats in marine parks through a permit system and streamline procedures for collecting marine life and resources for educational or scientific studies in marine parks or reserves.

NOISE

AIM

To prevent, minimise and resolve environmental noise problems through formulation of noise policy, intervention in the planning process, implementation of noise abatement measures and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance.

Traffic Noise

21. More than one million people in Hong Kong are exposed to excessive traffic noise (more than 70 dB (A)). If nothing is done to address the problem, an additional 100 000 will be affected by 2016. The EPD has been tackling this situation on several fronts and in 2006 we sought to expand our scope through [A Draft Comprehensive Plan to Tackle Road Traffic Noise in Hong Kong](#). A wide range of stakeholders is being consulted on the proposals, including District Councils, the public transport operators, professionals, academia, developers, green groups and the general public.

Existing Roads

22. Most traffic noise problems arise from existing roads. We earlier identified 72 road sections for low-noise surfacing and by the end of 2006, 30 road sections had been resurfaced, benefiting 42 000 people. Funding had been secured for another 35 road sections deemed suitable to be retrofitted with noise barriers or enclosures. So far two have been completed, benefiting 7 000 people.



Noise barriers were retrofitted on the Fanling (left) and Sheung Shui (right) sections of Fanling Highway in 2006.

23. In 2006, the Draft Comprehensive Plan enhanced these initiatives and introduced other means of controlling traffic noise, as described below:

- New designs for low-noise road surfaces will be explored.
- More than 20 additional road sections will be earmarked for extended trials of various low-noise road surfacing materials.
- Optimum barrier design will be explored.
- The feasibility of controlling noise from in-use vehicles will be studied.
- The Professional Practice Note on Road Traffic Noise will be reviewed.
- Developers will be encouraged to disclose noise information in flat sales brochures.
- Improvement of road joints in flyovers will be studied.
- A night-time traffic noise standard will be explored.
- Public engagement and partnership will continue to be promoted.

New roads

24. The EPD uses planning and environmental impact assessment to reduce noise on new roads. Since 1990, some 500 000 people have been benefited through planning measures, while about 250 000 have benefited from road barriers on new roads, costing \$1.7 billion. In addition, low-noise surfaces are a standard feature of new high-speed roads. Some 7 900 flats have also been insulated against traffic noise since 1995.

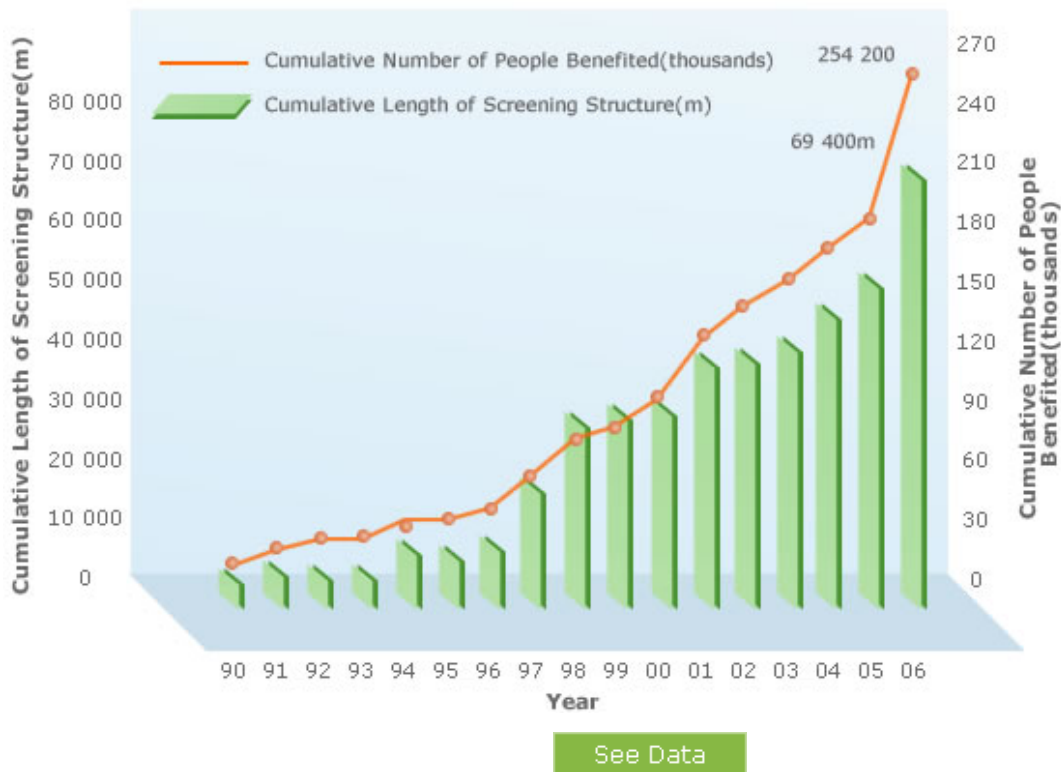
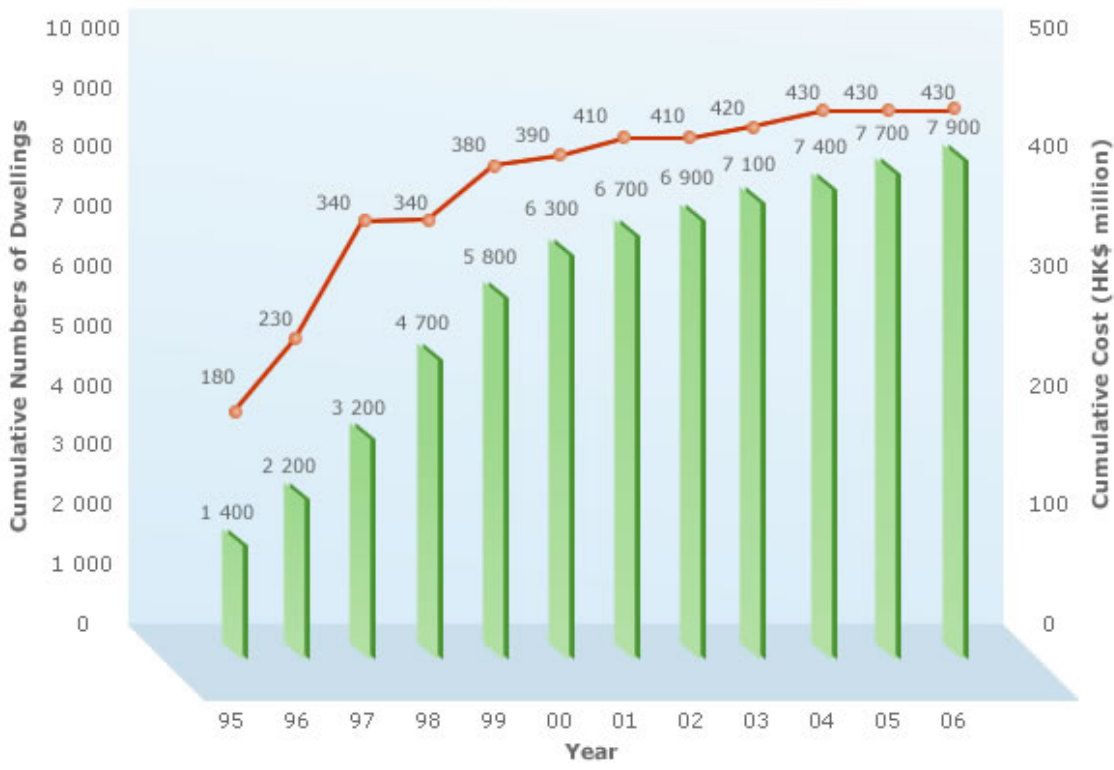


Figure 3 - Screening Structures to Reduce Traffic Noise.

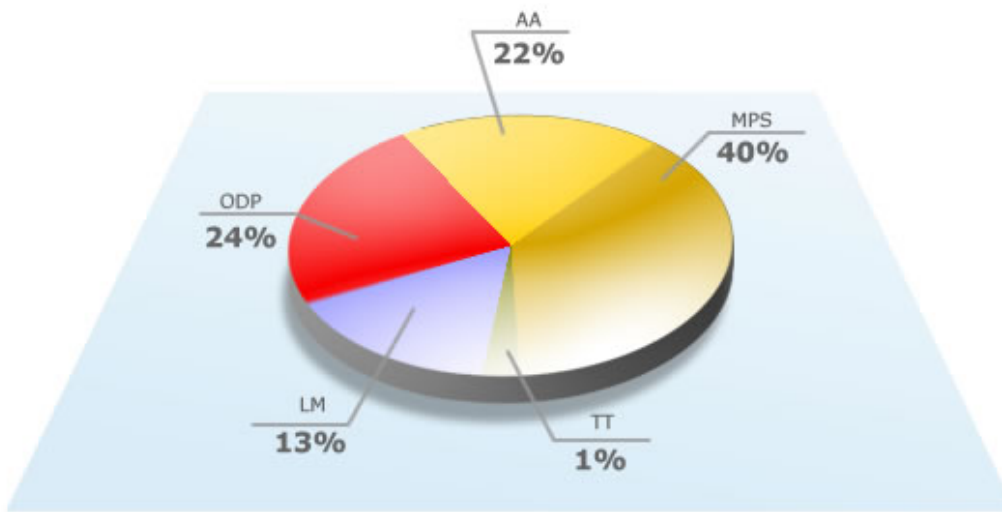


[See Data](#)

Figure 4 - Cumulative Number of Dwellings Insulated up to 2006.

Planning Input

25. Since 1986 the EPD has protected over 150 000 flats through intervention in the planning process. In 2006, we provided advice in 1 137 cases.



- TT Transport and Traffic Projects Studies
- LM Grants, Leases, Short Term Tenancies, Allocations, etc.
- ODP Outline Development Plans, Outline Zoning Plans, Layout Plans, Planning Briefs, School Sites/Layouts/Abatement Measures, Residential Development/Schemes
- AA Acoustic Advice to other Departments/Bodies
- MPS Major Planning Studies (Redamations, Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Assessments, etc.)

[See Data](#)

Figure 5 - Breakdown of 1 137 Noise Planning Advice/Cases in 2006.

WASTE

AIM

To develop and implement a sustainable waste management strategy for Hong Kong and to safeguard the health and welfare of the community from any adverse environmental effects associated with the improper handling and disposal of waste. This is achieved through implementation of policy tools and instruments enshrining the principle of polluter pays, provision of state-of-the-art waste management facilities, partnership with the trade, and sustained public education.

Solid Waste Arisings

26. To provide waste treatment and disposal, we will adopt a multi-technology approach to treat and reduce the bulk of waste, and invest over \$8 billion to extend existing landfills.

27. Landfills received 15 per cent less waste in 2006 than 2005, coinciding with the introduction of construction waste disposal charges and on-going efforts to improve waste recovery and recycling. Nonetheless, the three strategic landfills will still run out of space in five to nine years. A breakdown of municipal, construction and special waste arisings can be seen in Figure 6 and details of the three strategic landfills are in Appendix II.



Figure 6 - Types of Solid Waste Disposed of at Landfills.

28. The EPD is seeking to reduce the total of domestic, commercial and industrial waste that is generated by one per cent per year, as described in "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)" issued in December 2005. This was not achieved in 2006 when waste arisings increased by 3.6 per cent. However, the recovery of municipal solid waste rose two per cent to 45 per cent.

Initiatives to Reduce Waste

29. Under the Policy Framework, the EPD is pushing ahead on several fronts to reduce municipal waste. One goal is to minimise, recover and recycle waste at source. The Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste was extended to 497 housing estates and buildings by the end of 2006, of which 210 implemented floor-based waste separation and 287 set up waste separation facilities on the ground-floor. The quantity of recyclables recovered by the participating estates increased by over 50 per cent while the amount of waste they sent to landfills was reduced by almost four per cent. The goal is to have 80 per cent of the population, in more than 1 300 housing estates, participating in the programme by 2010, although this may be challenging given that the most willing estates have already signed up.

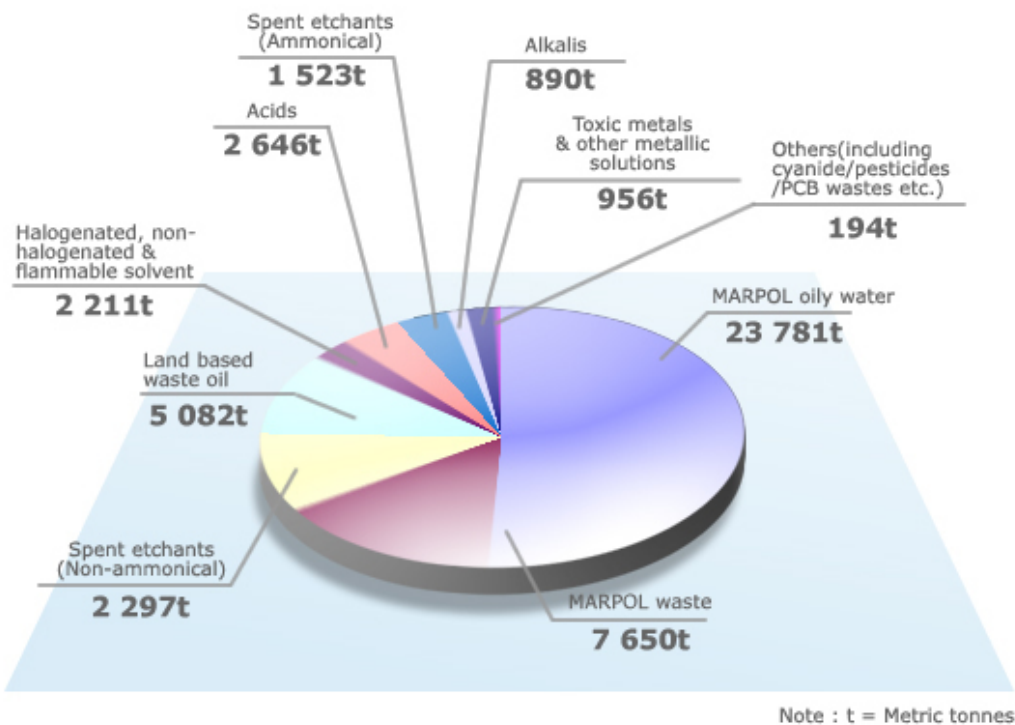
30. Economic Incentives are also needed to reduce waste and conserve resources, as described in greater detail in Chapter 5. In keeping with the principle of polluter pays, we propose to introduce producer responsibility schemes (PRSs), under which manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers and other waste producers are held responsible for avoiding, recovering and recycling their waste. A voluntary PRS on rechargeable batteries was set up in April 2005 and by the end of 2006, ten per cent of batteries were being recovered. Charges for solid waste disposal have also been introduced. Construction waste disposal charges were implemented from 20 January 2006, resulting in 40 per cent less construction waste at landfills and 25 per cent less construction waste overall. In addition, a three-month trial for municipal solid waste charging was launched in November.

Developing Waste Facilities

31. Waste reduction technologies will be used to reduce the bulk of waste loads. A site search was begun in late 2006 for developing state-of-the-art, multi-technology integrated waste management facilities. The three main components of the facilities will be: biological treatment (500 tonnes per day (tpd)), mechanical sorting and recycling (500 tpd) and thermal treatment (2 600 tpd). Feasibility studies and environmental impact assessments were also underway on extending two strategic landfills (Northeast New Territories and Southeast New Territories), to be completed in 2007. Investigations will start in 2007 on the third landfill in West New Territories. Construction began in 2006 on the \$257 million EcoPark in Tuen Mun to provide land and supporting facilities for recycling and environmental industries. Tenders for the tenancies of three lots of land in EcoPark's Phase I were invited in December.

Chemical Waste

32. The Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) treats chemical waste and, from 2009, will also handle clinical waste (see Figure 7 for details of chemical waste arisings). An environmental and engineering study in 2006 found the CWTC did not cause any adverse environmental impacts. To enhance the environmental performance of the CWTC, emission controls will be upgraded as part of the CWTC's contract renewal in April 2008 to further reduce emissions of sulphur and nitrogen oxides to meet the latest European Union standards.



[See Data](#)

Figure 7 - Chemical Waste Collected at CWTC in 2006.



Figure 8 - Chemical Waste Treatment Centre.

WATER

AIM

To ensure that the quality of our marine and fresh water is such that the various conservation goals for them can be met, and that plans are formulated and implemented to ensure Hong Kong's sewerage systems can operate safely and effectively both now and with further urban development in future.

Water Quality

33. The EPD celebrated 20 years of water quality monitoring in 2006. Beaches, marine waters, and rivers and streams are checked regularly to see if they comply with Water Quality Objectives (WQOs). The results from monitoring have provided a scientific basis for policies and programmes to improve water quality. In 2006 we achieved more than 80 per cent compliance with WQOs across Hong Kong as a whole. Further improvements will require extra investment in the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme and village sewerage improvement works. Details of our monitoring results can be seen in Figure 9 (Marine Water Quality in Hong Kong), Figure 10 (River Water Quality in Hong Kong) and at Beach Water Quality in Hong Kong.



Figure 9 - Overall Compliance with Marine Water Quality Objectives in Hong Kong 1986-2006.



Figure 10 - Overall compliance with River Water Quality Objectives in Hong Kong 1986-2006.

Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS)

34. Stage 1 of HATS was commissioned in late 2001 and treats 75 per cent of the sewage around Victoria Harbour. As a result of Stage 1, compliance with Water Quality Objectives in Victoria Harbour has risen from 50 per cent in 2001 to 90 per cent in 2006. However, water quality problems remain, particularly in the western waters where the treated effluent is discharged. Further improvements, and full compliance with the WQOs, will not be possible without Stage 2 of HATS. The public was consulted on options in 2004 and the Chief Executive-in-Council decided in 2005 that we should split Stage 2 into two phases and seek full recovery of the operating costs of sewage services. Stage 2A, costing about \$8 billion to build and \$420 million a year to operate, would collect the remaining untreated sewage and provide disinfection. Stage 2B, costing \$10.8 billion to build and \$700 million a year to operate, would provide a higher level of treatment.

35. Construction work on Stage 2A cannot commence until the financing is agreed. The Government proposed in 2006 to increase sewage charges in keeping with the polluter pays principle and provide sustainable financial support for Stage 2A and other sewerage facilities (see details in Chapter 5). If the Legislative Council supports higher sewage charges in 2007, Stage 2A could be completed by 2014.

36. Another issue to resolve is the use of chlorine-based disinfection. The Government has proposed de-chlorinating the treated effluent to remove residual chlorine. An environmental impact assessment (EIA) is due for completion in 2007 and preliminary results indicate the impacts of chlorination plus de-chlorination would be within acceptable limits. If the EIA is approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, and the proposed sewage charges as well as the funds for the disinfection facilities are approved by LegCo in 2007, the disinfection facilities could be in place by 2009, thus allowing beaches in Tsuen Wan to re-open.

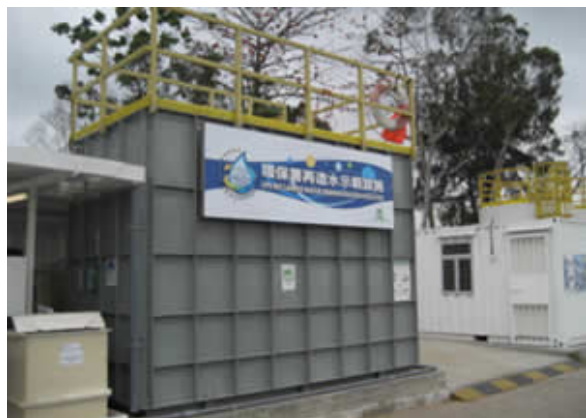
37. The timing of Stage 2B will be determined at a later stage. The Government has committed to review the timing in 2010/2011, taking into account trends in water quality, sewage flow and population growth. Monitoring of these planning parameters was ongoing in 2006.

Village Sewerage

38. Contamination of rivers and streams by unsewered village houses has been a long-standing problem. In 2006 the Government earmarked \$2.1 billion to connect sewers to the properties of 245 000 people in 402 villages. This was in addition to \$1.3 billion provided in 2005. The investment will bolster a programme that has already connected or is connecting the sewage from 94 000 people to sewers.

Reclaimed Water

39. A demonstration scheme on reclaimed water was initiated in North District in autumn 2006. Some of the effluent from Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works is undergoing membrane filtration and chlorination processes to produce high quality disinfected reclaimed water. Selected domestic homes, schools and homes for the elderly are being supplied with the reclaimed water for non-potable uses such as toilet flushing, landscape irrigation and water features. The scheme will end in 2008 and hopefully establish a basis for wider use of reclaimed water in North District.



The advanced treatment plant at Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works produces reclaimed water from effluent.



A primary school in North District uses reclaimed water for irrigation.

OTHER AREAS OF WORKS

Environmental Compliance

40. The EPD encourages compliance with environmental law through partnerships and enforcement. In April 2005 the Central Prosecution Unit was separated from the Environmental Compliance Division and now reports directly to a Deputy Director, providing a clearer division between prosecution and enforcement activities.

Partnerships

41. The EPD has formal partnerships with four key polluters: the **construction industry**, **restaurants**, **vehicle repair workshops** and **property management companies**. Seminars, technology transfers and recognition for good practices are among the initiatives undertaken by partnership programmes. In 2006, for example, we organised 11 seminars for the construction industry with 1 307 participants, worked with a restaurant association in controlling cooking fumes with financial support from the SME Development Fund, promoted environmentally friendly paint-spraying technology to vehicle repair workshops and launched a web site for the **green property management partnership programme**. Convictions for these four industries have dropped from 1 095 in 2000 to 125 in 2006.

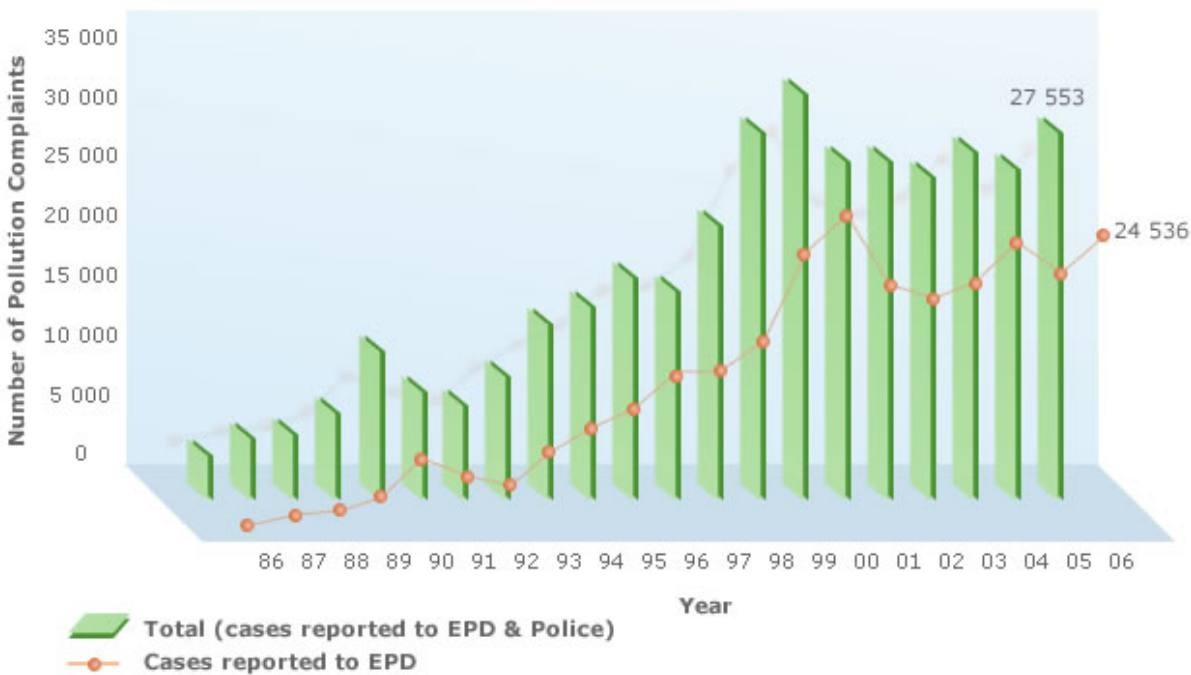
42. Other operators are being encouraged to similarly improve their environmental performance with the help of the new **Compliance Assistance Centre**, a one-stop shop set up in 2006 to provide information and facilitate licence applications relating to all areas of EPD's work. Operators of any type of business are welcome to drop in, pick up licence or permit applications and obtain information and advice on environmental compliance, pollution prevention and environmental management. About 450 cases are being handled each month at the Centre, which is located near the Wan Chai MTR at 28/F, Southorn Centre.



Representatives of the vehicle repair workshops trade visit the Compliance Assistance Centre.

Enforcement

43. Prosecutions and complaints increased in 2006. There were 341 prosecutions with 315 convictions (see **Table 2**), and 27 553 complaints (see **Figure 11 & Table 3**) including 3 017 noise complaints made to the Police. There was a sharp increase in complaints related to waste (3 375 in 2006 up from 1 153 in 2005). In addition, our Customer Service Centre handled 42 413 general enquiry calls during the year. We also conducted about 56 000 inspections (see **Table 4**) and issued some 7 000 licences and permits (see **Table 5**).



[See Data](#)

Figure 11 - Annual Record of Pollution Complaints.

Table 2 - No. of Convictions in 2006 - Breakdown by Ordinance

Ordinance	No. of Conviction
Air Pollution Control Ordinance (APCO)	142
Dumping at Sea Ordinance (DASO)	0
Noise Control Ordinance (NCO)	81
Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO)	20
Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance (OLPO)	1
Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO)	71
Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO)	0
Total	315

Table 3 - Complaints Breakdown by Media

Nature	2006
Air - Vehicle Emissions	6 976
Air - Other	6 288
Noise*	5 738
Waste	3 375
Water	1 939
Miscellaneous	220
Total	24 536

* Excluding complaints handled by Police (The Police investigated 3 017 cases in 2006).

Table 4 - No. of Inspections in 2006

Ordinance	No. of Inspections
APCO	18 833
OLPO	1
DASO	518
NCO	4 653
WDO	12 536
- Livestock Waste	2 895
- Chemical Waste	3 628
- Illegal Dumping	5 505
- Import & Export	508
WPCO	18 742
EIAO	457
Cumulative Total	55 740

Table 5 - Licences and Permits Issued in 2006

Ordinance	Activities	No. Issued
APCO	Chimney Approval	268
	Specified Process Licence	6
	Open Burning Permit	1
	Sub Total: 275	
NCO	Construction Noise Permit (Percussive Piling)	173
	Construction Noise Permit (General Construction Work -Total)	2418
	Sub Total: 2591	
WDO	Registration of Chemical Waste Producer	777
	Chemical Waste Disposal Licence	9
	Chemical Waste Collection Licence	4
	Waste Import and Export Permit	4
	Sub Total: 794	

WPCO	New Licence	1362
	Licence Renewal	1774
	Sub Total: 3136	
DASO	Marine Dumping Permit	96
	Sub Total: 96	
Other	Clinical Waste Disposal Permit	88
	Sub Total: 88	
Total		6 980

Cross-boundary and International Co-operation

Cross-boundary Co-operation

44. The Hong Kong and Guangdong governments have agreed to reduce air pollution levels to well below those of 1997, by 2010. Both sides are working separately to control emissions in their jurisdictions, as well as undertaking joint initiatives (see section on [Air](#), above). At the seventh meeting of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection, they also endorsed an implementation framework of an emissions trading pilot scheme, which will be presented to prospective participating power plants in 2007.

45. The EPD engaged the Hong Kong Productivity Council in November 2006 to conduct a pilot project to raise awareness of cleaner production among Hong Kong-invested factories in the Pearl River Delta region. Separately, the Hong Kong and Guangdong governments are supporting an initiative by the Federation of Hong Kong Industries to promote better environmental performance in these factories.



A Hong Kong-owned factory under the Cleaner Production Technical Support Pilot Project, receives an on-site assessment.

46. On regional water quality management, Hong Kong is continuing to collaborate with other administrations in the Pearl River Delta to monitor and control pollution in Deep Bay and the Pearl River.

International Co-operation

47. The Government submitted an implementation plan for controlling persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in Hong Kong to the Central People's Government in September 2006. This forms part of China's National Implementation Plan for submission to the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on POPs before its third meeting in May 2007. The Government also introduced the Hazardous Chemicals Control Bill to the Legislative Council in May 2006 to regulate non-pesticide hazardous chemicals, including those that are subject to the [Stockholm Convention](#) and the [Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade](#).

Climate Change

48. Under the Kyoto Protocol, Hong Kong, as part of China, is not required to limit greenhouse gas emissions, but must submit information on its greenhouse gas emissions and activities relating to climate change. This is now being compiled and shows that Hong Kong has nonetheless reduced annual greenhouse gas emissions by six per cent since 1990, to 6.5 tonnes per capita in 2005. The Government has also undertaken scientific research to assess the impact of climate change on Hong Kong.

Chapter 6 - Sustainability at EPD - Environmental Impacts

Chapter 6 - Part B Environmental Impacts of Internal Operations

Previous

Next

Chapter 6 – Part B Environmental Impacts of Internal Operations

1. The EPD manages its environmental impacts through the Departmental Environment, Safety and Health Committee (DESHC) (see [Chapter 3](#) for details). We have two kinds of environmental impacts arising from internal operations. One arises from our office work and concerns mainly paper and electricity consumption and the use of recyclables. The other arises from our waste facilities, laboratories and field work, where the impacts are more complex and require special controls.

2. A map and photos of our offices and facilities can be seen in [Appendix II](#).

Minimising Impacts from Our Offices

Electricity Consumption

3. The EPD consumed 1.7 per cent less electricity in our offices in 2006, largely due to the following energy saving initiatives:

- Energy audits were conducted for major EPD offices and energy management opportunities identified.
- Awareness of energy conservation was enhanced among staff.
- Office lighting hours were adjusted.
- Electronic ballasts were installed in fluorescent lamps.
- T5 fluorescent lamps replaced T8 lamps.

4. The EPD will continue to pursue opportunities to reduce energy consumption further, through such efforts as self-audits of our offices, ensuring electrical equipment is switched off during non-office hours and implementing medium- and long-term Energy Management Opportunities recommended by energy audits.

5. Energy wardens have also been appointed in all EPD offices to actively check and remind colleagues of measures to conserve energy. We are strictly adhering to the Government's directive that air-conditioner temperatures be maintained at 25.5 degrees Celsius during summer months.

Paper Consumption

6. In 2006, we met the former Environment, Transport and Works Bureau's Government-wide target to reduce paper consumption and used five per cent less paper compared with 2005. This was achieved mainly through the following on-going paper-saving initiatives:

- Printing or photocopying on both sides of paper;
- Reusing single sided paper;
- Promoting the use of annual reports in electronic version;
- Extending the use of email systems to EPD staff;
- Disseminating administrative information through an electronic daily bulletin system;
- Using e-application and processing in the internal procurement system;
- Using an electronic leave application and processing system;
- Distributing departmental Christmas cards and Lunar New Year cards electronically; and
- Extending the internal knowledge management portal to encourage more storage and sharing of reports and presentation materials in electronic form.

Waste Reduction

7. The EPD has introduced a number of initiatives to minimise waste. Apart from using less paper and improving the recycling rates for paper and laser cartridges, we have reduced consumption of disposable batteries and new ballpoint pens. In 2006 we streamlined the arrangements for collecting recyclables in some offices to improve recycling rates, and continued to provide convenient collection channels in branch offices. Environmental contractors have been hired to collect our waste for recycling and re-use. A total of 51 131 kg of waste paper and 429 kg of plastic waste were collected in 2006 for recycling.

Indoor Air

8. The EPD participates in the voluntary Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme. By the end of 2006 14 premises were certified, one as "Excellent Class" and 13 as "Good Class" (see below).

	EPD Premises	Certification Date	Class Awarded
1	IAQ Information Centre	November 2006	Excellent
2	Offices in Southorn Centre	December 2006	Good
3	Offices in Revenue Tower	December 2006	Good
4	Wan Chai Enironmental Resource Centre	December 2006	Good
5	Offices in Tsuen Wan Government Offices	December 2006	Good
6	IWTS Administration Building	June 2006	Good
7	Offices in Sha Tin Government Offices	June 2006	Good
8	Offices in Chemical Waste Treatment Centre	September 2006	Good
9	Fanling Environmental Resource Centre	January 2006	Good
10	Office in South East New Territories Landfill	February 2006	Good
11	Offices in Chinachem Exchange Square	February 2006	Good
12	Offices in Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices	February 2006	Good
13	Offices in Chinachem Tsuen Wan Plaza	February 2006	Good
14	Offices in Nan Fung Commercial Centre	May 2006	Good

Audits

9. All offices underwent a self-audit exercise in 2006 to check and review the current green, safety and health aspects of the working environment, and to identify possible and potential enhancement areas.

Transport

10. The EPD has a fleet of 51 vehicles, which are powered either by petrol or liquefied petroleum gas. We have a non-idling policy and we combine trips to reduce air emissions and fuel consumption.

Minimising Impacts from Our Facilities

Waste Facilities

11. The EPD operates 25 waste facilities, all of which are subject to a range of legal, contractual and technical controls. In 2006 we received 142 complaint cases against our waste facilities, mainly concerning odour, dust and fly nuisance. All valid complaints were thoroughly investigated and remedial actions have been instigated. None of our waste management contractors were prosecuted for environmental offences.

Other issues at our waste facilities include:

11.1. *Landfill gas.* In 2006 an average 653 000 cubic metres of landfill gas was recovered daily, 48 per cent of which was used to meet nearly all on-site energy needs. In the summer of 2007, the North East New Territories Landfill contractor will start to sell extra landfill gas to public utilities operators. The operator of the restored Shuen Wan landfill has been supplying landfill gas for the production of Towngas and in 2006 provided the equivalent of 66 362 000 Mega-joules.

11.2. *Chemical waste treatment.* The CWTC in Tsing Yi is equipped with a wide range of pollution controls to ensure emissions from incineration and other processes are safe. The ambient air around the CWTC is monitored twice yearly and dioxins measured monthly, and the results are lower than or comparable to other large developed cities. Emission controls will be upgraded further as part of the CWTC's contract renewal in April 2008 and arrangements will be made to start accepting clinical waste (see [Waste of Chapter 6 - Part A](#) for details). In terms of solid wastes, all process residues, including incineration ash, are chemically treated and confirmed by analysis to be stable before final disposal at the South East New Territories Landfill. In addition, the CWTC recovered 3 734 tonnes of oil and 465 tonnes of copper oxide in 2006.

Laboratories

12. The EPD operates air, water sciences and microbiology laboratories. In 2006 they fully complied with legal requirements and statutory licence conditions. Special attention is paid to emissions from fume cupboards and safety cabinets and discharges from sinks, which are treated as required.

13. Chemical waste from laboratories are collected by licensed collectors, then treated and disposed of at the CWTC. Biological waste is disinfected and disposed of in accordance with World Health Organisation guidelines. A licensed collector delivers asbestos samples from the air laboratory to the South East New Territories Landfill for disposal.

14. Environmental audits of the EPD's laboratories are carried out regularly by laboratory staff.

Field work

15. Only non-toxic dye is used to trace pollution sources, to minimise the environmental impacts of investigations. Field samples are sent to the Government Laboratory and EPD's laboratories for appropriate action. Safety guidelines are issued to all field staff who are trained in the handling of hazardous materials.

Emergency Response

16. The EPD has internal emergency response plans for its facilities. In 2006, four emergency drills were carried out at the CWTC. The CWTC contractor is also required to conduct at least one drill for marine incidents each year. No incidents were reported at the CWTC or in any of EPD's laboratories or other facilities in 2006.

ISO 14001

17. Our Environmental Infrastructure Division has had its Environmental Management System (EMS) certified under ISO 14001 since 2000. The scope of the EMS covers all of the division's activities, operations and services. The division also urges contractors of new waste management facilities to implement an EMS compliant with ISO 14001 and obtain EMS certification for long-term contracts.

Clean Air Charter

18. The Government endorsed the [Clean Air Charter](#) in 2006, a business-led initiative to control, monitor and report air emissions from all sources, including vehicles and vessels, and to reduce energy consumption related to our activities. All departments have been asked to report their performance in future EPRs. The EPD will form an Energy and Emission Management Team in 2007 to collect data on current emissions/energy consumption, identify emission sources, assess the current position by benchmarking, formulate and implement energy/emission reduction measures, and review the effectiveness of these measures. The progress will be reported in our next EPR.



The Chief Executive, Mr Donald TSANG (right), endorses the Clean Air Charter.

[Chapter 6 - Sustainability at EPD - Environmental Impacts](#)
[Chapter 6 - Part A Environmental Impacts of Policies and Programmes](#)

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)



環境保護署
Environmental
Protection Department

Environmental Performance Report

2007

Chapter 7 Sustainability at EPD - Social Impacts

1. The EPD's policies and programmes have impacts beyond the environmental field, and beyond the polluters and key stakeholders that we interact with on specific policy issues. There is a public health element to our work and our **air and beach water quality** programmes produce indices which are related to the quality of life. Community awareness and education programmes bring environmental protection into people's everyday lives and encourage them to change their behaviour. Closer to home, we are also concerned about the needs of our staff through health, safety and professional development programmes.

Community Awareness and Education

2. Two themes dominated community awareness and education programmes in 2006, air pollution and waste management. Under both themes, the public was encouraged to reduce pollution and waste production in their homes, schools and offices.

3. The **Action Blue Sky Campaign** was kick-started by the Chief Executive, Mr Donald TSANG, on 25 July 2006, appealing for the whole community to help the Government clean up Hong Kong's air by clean air measures such as setting air-conditioned room temperatures at 25.5 degrees Celsius, dressing down during summer months, switching off idling engines, using energy saving electrical appliances and non-volatile organic compounds (VOCs) containing products. Energy conservation was also incorporated as a theme in on-going programmes, including the 6th Hong Kong Green School Awards, the Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme and the 2006 Hong Kong Eco-Business Awards. Joint programmes with an energy saving and clean-air focus were undertaken with community groups and 15 one-minute television episodes were broadcast on TVB Jade, as well as two series of 30-second announcements in the public interest.

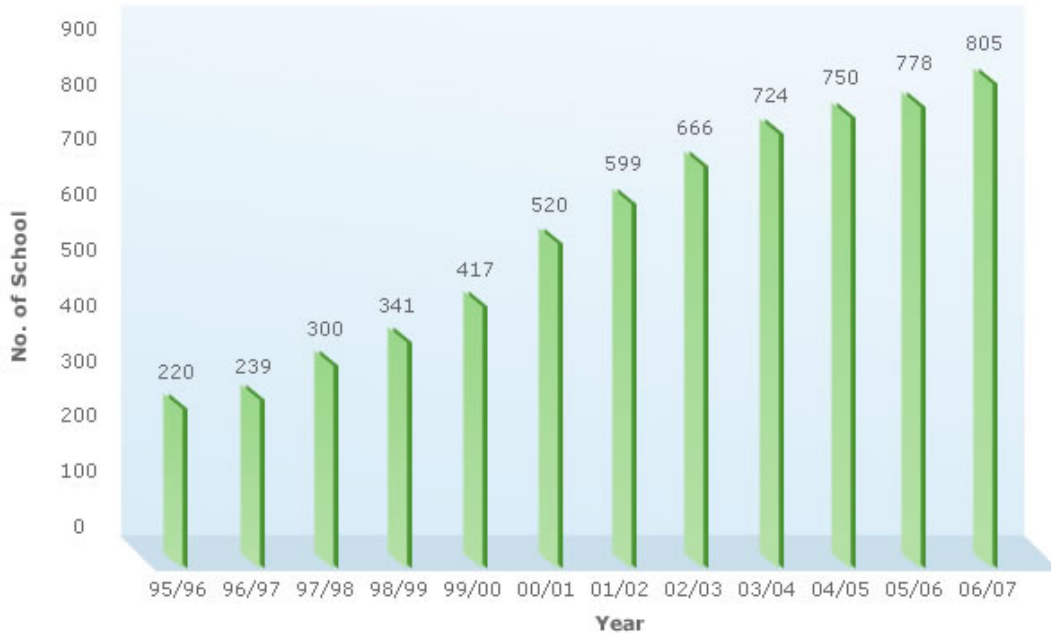
4. On waste reduction, publicity efforts were carried out to promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste (see **Waste of Chapter 6 - Part A** for details). These included mounting a roving exhibition, producing ten one-minute episodes for TVB Jade, and incorporating waste reduction as a central theme for **World Environment Day 2006** and the annual Hong Kong Environmental Protection Festival, which straddled 2005-06. Financial support for waste recovery projects has also been provided to community groups. The **Environment and Conservation Fund** has funded about \$21 million for more than 70 community waste recovery projects since 2001, and grants were provided to pair larger green groups and smaller organisations on waste-related projects.



Education and publicity programmes promote the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste and enhance public awareness of waste recovery.

5. Our other achievements in 2006 included:

5.1. **Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme.** Co-organised by the EPD, the Environmental Campaign Committee (ECC) and the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB), this annual programme attracted 805 schools and 16 639 students.



[See Data](#)

Figure 1 - Number of Primary and Secondary Schools participating in the Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme.



[See Data](#)

Figure 2 - Number of Students participating in the Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme.

5.2. **Hong Kong Green School Awards.** About 240 pre-school and primary and secondary schools participated. The awards are co-organised by the EPD, ECC and EMB.



Dr Sarah LIAO, former Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (centre), together with other guests officiate at the Launching Ceremony of the 6th Hong Kong Green School Award.

5.3. **2006 Hong Kong Eco-Business Awards.** 185 entries were received in the categories of Green SME Award, Green Innovative Practice Award and Green Property Management Award (with separate categories for Commercial and Industrial Buildings, Public Housing and Private Housing). The awards are organised jointly by the ECC, the EPD, The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and Hong Kong Productivity Council.

5.4. **Environmental Resource Centres.** About 100 000 people visited the centres in Fanling, Tsuen Wan and Wan Chai and the Mobile Environmental Resource Centre.

5.5. **Community Green Network Programme.** 95 "Green Desks" were set up in housing estates and other public areas to provide advice and answer questions. Another 48 Green Desks were set up alongside the Mobile Environmental Resource Centre. 49 talks were also organised under the Programme.

5.6. **Environmental Education and Information Counter.** This counter handled almost 12 000 enquiries, received more than 4 800 visitors and served 588 organisations.

5.7. **Others.** The EPD reports regularly on [beach water quality](#), [the Air Pollution Index](#), [the Regional Air Quality Index](#), [prosecutions](#), [environmental impact assessments](#), [monitoring of rivers, streams and marine waters](#) and [monitoring of solid waste](#) in Hong Kong. The [Environmental Protection Interactive Centre](#) enables users to set parameters for the information they are seeking, and apply, pay for and receive permits and licences on-line.

Staff Programmes

Safety and Health

6. The EPD was the first government department to receive certification under the Occupational Safety and Health Council's Continual Improvement Safety Programme Recognition of System in 2001. The certification has been extended to 2007.

7. Our occupational injury rate is very low compared with other workplaces. In 2006 we had an average of about 1.2 incidents per 1 000 employees, against the Labour Department's reported average of about 18 per 1 000 employees for all economic activities in 2005. The incidents mainly involved injury while lifting or carrying, road traffic accidents and slipping, tripping or falling. These problems were generally caused by low alertness and inexperience so we are providing more training and awareness programmes to staff.

8. We carry out annual safety audits and we have designated Group Safety Representatives for each group to look after safety and health matters. In 2006, we provided 70 safety and health training courses which were attended by more than 390 staff.

Training and Development

9. All new staff are briefed on the EPD's green management measures as part of their induction training. Professional development courses are also offered to existing staff. In 2006 we organised 64 courses and 11 conferences/symposiums for 875 colleagues on various environmental topics, including 12 occasions for 148 colleagues on green issues such as corporate social responsibility, green management, energy conservation etc., as well as other training to enhance staff's professional knowledge.

10. The EPD contributes to the development of the environmental engineering profession through its Environmental Graduate Training Scheme, which has been certified for the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers' "Scheme A Training" since 1997. So far 32 environmental engineering graduates have received on-the-job training with the EPD, of whom 18 completed their training in 2006.

Staff Awareness

11. Staff are encouraged to participate in various environmental schemes. In the workplace, that includes recycling and energy-saving (see [Chapter 6 - Part B](#)), as well as contributing green ideas through our Departmental Staff Suggestion Scheme. Outside the workplace, the staff committee organises environmental programmes for staff and their families, which in 2006 included visits to the Island West Transfer Station and dolphin watching in Tai O and the western waters of Hong Kong. The department also arranged field visits to sewage treatment works, the Science Park and the Lamma Wind Power Station to enhance staff environmental awareness.



EPD staff and their families participate in a day trip of dolphin watching in Tai O organised by the Staff Recreation and Social Committee.



[Previous](#)

[Next](#)



環境保護署
Environmental
Protection Department

Environmental Performance Report

2007

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

- I - CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING
- II - PREVENTION AND MITIGATION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
- III - BETTER AIR QUALITY
- IV - QUIETER ENVIRONMENT
- V - BETTER WATER QUALITY
- VI - ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND WASTE MANAGEMENT AND FACILITIES
- VII - CROSS-BOUNDARY AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION
- VIII - NATURE AND ENERGY CONSERVATION
- IX - EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE
- X - BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE
- XI - ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
- XII - CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
- XIII - MINIMISING THE IMPACTS OF OUR OPERATIONS
- XIV - GREENER OFFICE
- XV - STAFF AWARENESS, TRAINING AND PARTICIPATION

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

I – CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING

Long term objective (1) : Promote SEA to the public locally and internationally by providing easy access to the SEA Manual and related information.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To widely distribute the SEA Manual.	Measured in terms of number of visits to the web-based SEA Knowledge Centre.	Progress In 2006, there were approximately 530 000 visits to the web-based SEA Knowledge Centre.
Targets for 2007 i.To improve the web-based SEA Knowledge Centre by adding SEA resources for Mainland China & other countries, e.g. hyperlinks to their SEA reports, SEA web sites, etc.	Measured in terms of number of visits to the web-based SEA Knowledge Centre.	Remark Number of new hyperlinks added in 2007 will be logged.

II – PREVENTION AND MITIGATION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Long term objective (1) : Help the public to understand EIA findings.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue to promote and facilitate Continuous Public Involvement for various stages of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and further apply the 3-D EIA public engagement tool to enhance public involvement.	Measured in terms of progress and achievements in developing a common GIS-based platform for all of Hong Kong, which will use 3-D technologies to facilitate public participation in major projects.	Progress A common GIS-based platform for all of Hong Kong was established. A requirement to include 3-D visualisations of key EIA findings has been included in the study briefs of 16 major infrastructure projects issued under the EIA Ordinance.
Targets for 2007 i.To put into practice the application of the 3-D EIA public engagement tool to enhance public involvement in the EIA process.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement in making use of the 3-D EIA tools in facilitating Continuous Public Involvement in real-life EIA cases.	Remark Nil.

III – BETTER AIR QUALITY

Long term objective (1) : Comply with the requirements of the Beijing Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To include a new controlled substance under the Montreal Protocol, Bromochloromethane (Halon 1011), as a scheduled substance in the Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance.	Measured in terms of successful passage of the amendment to the Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance.	Progress The EPD obtained agreement in principle from the Central People's Government to extend the Beijing Amendment to Hong Kong when it ratifies this Amendment.
Targets for 2007 Nil.		Remark

Long term objective (2) : Reduce local air pollution.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue to vigorously control pollution from vehicular traffic, power stations and VOC-containing goods.	Measured in terms of achieving the relevant targets as specific to particular policy measures.	Progress Emissions caps will continue to be imposed on power stations during renewal of their licences. For vehicles and VOCs, legislation was introduced in 2006 to tighten emission standards for newly registered vehicles to Euro IV standards, and a regulation was tabled in the Legislative Council to control VOCs in paints, printing inks and selected consumer products.
Targets for 2007 i.To implement a new programme to encourage owners of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles to replace their vehicles with Euro IV ones by offering a one-off grant.		Remark Scheduled for implementation on 1 April 2007.
ii.To Implement a new programme to promote the use of environment-friendly petrol private cars through a tax concession.	Measured in terms of achievement of relevant targets as specific to particular policy measures.	Scheduled for implementation on 1 April 2007.
iii.To consult the public on whether to ban idling vehicles from running their engines.		A public consultation is planned in 2007.
iv.To implement the Air Pollution Control (Emission Reduction Devices for Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulation 2006.		Scheduled to become effective on 1 April 2007.
v.To implement by phases the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation to control VOC levels in paints, printing inks and selected consumer products.		Scheduled to become effective on 1 April 2007.

Long term objective (3) : (effective as of 2007) Review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives and develop a long-term air quality management strategy.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets for 2007 i.To commission an 18-month study to review the Hong Kong Air Quality Objectives and develop a long-term air quality management strategy.	Measured in terms of timely completion of the study.	Remark The Study is to be started by mid 2007.

IV – QUIETER ENVIRONMENT

Long term objective (1) : Prevent and minimise environmental noise through early intervention in the planning process.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To review 140 planning schemes and strategic proposals to minimise noise problems for about 32 000 people.	Measured in terms of number of planning schemes / strategic proposals reviewed, and number of people benefited.	Progress 122 planning schemes and strategic proposals were reviewed, benefiting more than 27 000 people.
Targets for 2007 i.To review 120 planning schemes and strategic proposals to minimise noise problems for about 27 000 people.	Measured in terms of number of planning schemes / strategic proposals reviewed, and number of people benefited.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (2) : Resolve road traffic noise issues through implementation of abatement measures.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue implementation of noise barrier retrofitting work for 36 identified road sections and low noise resurfacing work for 72 identified road sections.	Measured in terms of progress in the programme, including road sections where works have commenced.	Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Completed retrofitting noise barriers on two road sections. •Proceeded with construction of a noise barrier retrofit project. •Proceeded with investigation / design of 18 Public Works Programme (PWP) Category B noise barrier retrofit projects. •Resurfaced eight road sections.
Targets for 2007 i.To continue implementation of noise barrier retrofitting work for 36 identified road sections and low noise resurfacing work for 72 identified road sections.	Measured in terms of progress in the programme, including road sections where works have commenced.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (3) : Develop a comprehensive plan to tackle road traffic noise.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To launch the proposed comprehensive plan for public consultation and commence studies under the plan.	Measured in terms of progress made in launching the consultation and the studies.	Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Released the proposed plan on 31 July 2006. •Consulted concerned stakeholders on the proposed plan. •Identified over 20 road sections for extended trials of low noise road surfacing materials. •Commenced / proceeded with studies of new designs for low noise road surfacing materials, optimum noise barrier design and improvement to flyover joints.
Targets for 2007 i.To further develop and continue implementation of the proposed comprehensive plan.	Measured in terms of progress in the plan, including the studies commenced.	Remark Nil.

Next

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

V – BETTER WATER QUALITY

Long term objective (1) : Restore Deep Bay to a clean and healthy state.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i. To complete the remaining river pollution surveys in the North District in March 2006 and develop a revised Deep Bay Water Quality Model by December 2006.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of target.	Progress All river pollution surveys were completed in March 2006. For the water quality model, work related to the pollution load estimation and projection was much more complicated than expected. The model development will extend to June 2007.
Targets for 2007 i. To complete the revised Deep Bay Water Quality Model by June 2007. ii. To complete the first review of the Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme by December 2007.	Measured in terms of number of planning schemes / strategic proposals reviewed, and number of people benefited.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (2) : Develop a regional water quality management plan for the Pearl River Estuary.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i. To complete the Pearl River Delta Water Quality Model development work by December 2006.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of target.	Progress Further calibration was required to improve the model performance. The model development work will extend to May 2007.
Targets for 2007 i. To complete the Pearl River Delta Water Quality Model in May 2007. ii. To discuss with Guangdong the next stage of cooperation to undertake a joint study for Pearl River Estuary regional water quality management.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (3) : Make reclaimed water usage one of the key options under the Total Water Management initiative in Hong Kong.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To complete construction work and start generating treated water for selected users under the Demonstration Scheme on Reclaimed Water Uses in the North District.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of target.	Progress The advanced treatment plant for the Demonstration Scheme was commissioned in October 2006, and supply of reclaimed water to some users started in November 2006.
Targets for 2007 i.To supply reclaimed water to all selected users.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (4) : Achieve full recovery of the costs of operating sewage services through the sewage charging scheme.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To finalise and implement the results of a review of the Trade Effluent Surcharge Scheme.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Progress In 2006, the review of the operation of the Trade Effluent Surcharge Scheme has been completed and improvement proposals have been publicised.
ii.To secure unequivocal community support for recovery of the full operating costs of sewage services from all users.		A proposal for the gradual increased recovery of sewage service operating costs has been put forward to the community.
Targets for 2007 i.To secure the approval of the legislature to the proposed increases in the sewage charge.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (5) : Implement HATS Stage 2 to improve the harbour water quality and sustain the improvement in the long term.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason(s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To finalise and implement the results of a review of the Trade Effluent Surcharge Scheme.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Progress The review of the sewage charging scheme has taken longer than expected. This has had a knock-on effect on the funding applications. Funding for tunnel design and investigations was secured but the funding application for the planning and design of the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works upgrade was deferred to 2007.
ii.To decide on the disinfection process to be adopted for HATS Stage 2A.		Chlorination (using purchased sodium hypochlorite) followed by de-chlorination is the proposed disinfection process and it will be submitted for consideration under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) in 2007.

<p>iii. To decide on the procurement arrangements for upgrading Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works under HATS Stage 2A.</p>		<p>It was decided to procure the upgrading of Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works by an "Enhanced Design-Build" arrangement.</p>
<p>Targets for 2007</p> <p>i. To obtain approval under the EIAO for the advance disinfection facilities.</p> <p>ii. To obtain funding for the planning and design of the upgrading works for Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works and associated facilities for HATS Stage 2A (dependent upon LegCo's agreement to the proposed increases in sewage charges).</p> <p>iii. To obtain funding for the construction of the advance disinfection facilities for HATS Stage 2A (dependent upon LegCo's agreement to the proposed increases in sewage charges).</p>	<p>Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.</p>	<p>Remark Nil.</p>

<p>Long term objective (6) : Deliver the sewerage programme in a more cost-effective way through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements.</p>		
<p>Targets</p>	<p>Measurement Method / Indicator</p>	<p>Progress (or slippage with reason(s) if applicable) / Remark</p>
<p>Targets in 2006</p> <p>i. To draw up a road map for the implementation of PPP in sewerage projects.</p>	<p>Measured in terms of progress and achievement of target.</p>	<p>Progress Discussions for drawing up the road map continued.</p>
<p>Targets for 2007</p> <p>i. To produce the road map for the implementation of PPP in sewerage projects.</p>	<p>Measured in terms of progress and achievement of target.</p>	<p>Remark Nil.</p>

<p>Long term objective (7) : Review subjects related to the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO).</p>		
<p>Targets</p>	<p>Measurement Method / Indicator</p>	<p>Progress (or slippage with reason(s) if applicable) / Remark</p>
<p>Targets in 2006</p> <p>i. To conduct an internal review of proposals for changes to the WPCO.</p> <p>ii. To conduct an internal review of proposals for changes to the WPCO Technical Memorandum.</p> <p>iii. To initiate a review of the Water Quality Objectives.</p> <p>iv. To review the guidance for setting WPCO effluent standards.</p>	<p>Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.</p>	<p>Progress Items (i) and (ii) were completed, while item (iv) is on-going.</p> <p>For item (iii), the areas for the review have been identified. To meet the potential expectation of the public, the review proposal has been revised in order to speed up the overall review process.</p>

<p>Targets for 2007</p> <p>i. To initiate the review of the Water Quality Objectives, with further refinement of the review proposal as necessary.</p> <p>ii. To complete the review of the guidance for setting WPCO effluent standards.</p>	<p>Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.</p>	<p>Remark Nil.</p>
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[Previous](#)

[Next](#)

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

VI – ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND WASTE MANAGEMENT AND FACILITIES

Long term objective (1) : Promote waste reduction and recycling, and develop integrated waste management facilities to reduce the environmental burden and landfill space requirement arising from waste disposal.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006		
i.To develop long-term plans for integrated waste management facilities to achieve bulk reduction of municipal solid waste.	Measured in terms of progress in preparing a draft development plan for integrated waste management facilities.	Progress A site search exercise for developing integrated waste management facilities commenced in late 2006.
ii.To implement the 2nd phase of the pilot scheme on waste tyre recycling.	Measured in terms of quantity of tyres recycled.	1 850 tonnes of waste tyres were diverted away from landfills for recycling. Waste tyres were processed into rubber crumbs for production of various rubber products.
iii.To engage contractors to recycle a combined total of 42 000 used computers, electrical appliances and cathode ray tubes at Kowloon Bay Transfer Station (KBTS).	Measured in terms of number of items recycled or processed at KBTS.	More than 45 000 used computers, electrical appliances and cathode ray tubes were processed in KBTS by Caritas and St. James Settlement .
iv.To complete a pilot computer recycling project with the computer industry to collect commercial operation data by the end of 2006.	Measured in terms of progress of the project.	Completed.
v.To enhance the collection of rechargeable batteries under the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme to improve the rate to 10% by April 2007.	Measured in terms of the recovery rate of rechargeable batteries.	In progress. Recovered 22 tonnes in 9 months from April to December 2006, which is equivalent to a yearly recovery rate of 11.7%.
vi.To commence construction of the EcoPark in mid 2006, and make Phase I of the EcoPark ready for occupation by tenants by the end of 2006.	Measured in terms of tenancies leased.	Leasing of the first batch of Phase I lots in EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 (3 lots) commenced in December 2006.
vii.To recruit 470 housing estates/buildings to participate in the programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste by the end of 2006.	Measured in terms of number of participating housing estates/buildings.	By the end of 2006, 497 housing estates/buildings had signed up to join the Programme.

viii.To identify and implement potential waste management/ recycling activities in the Island East Transfer Station (IETS), and propose and acquire the most suitable and cost effective operational arrangements for the follow-on operation of the IETS after its existing contract expires.	Measured in terms of the completion of the consultancy study and the procurement of the follow-on contract.	In progress. Pre-qualification submissions from tenderers were received in December 2006. The contract will commence by the end of 2007.
ix.To commission a grease trap waste treatment facility at the West Kowloon Transfer Station in 2007.	Measured in terms of progress towards commissioning the project.	A Supplementary Agreement was signed in 2006 followed by commencement of the design of the facility.
x.To complete examination of the Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill for the control of clinical waste by the Legislative Council.	Measured in terms of completion of the examination of the amendment.	The Waste Disposal (Amendment) Ordinance 2006 was enacted in April 2006.
xi.To submit the draft Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste) (General) Regulation to the Legislative Council after passage of the Bill.	Measured in terms of the timing of submission of the Regulation.	Drafting of the regulation was in progress.
xii.To develop voluntary schemes on plastic bag reduction with the major supermarkets and retail chains.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of the target.	Ten major retailers, including the three largest supermarket chains, entered into a "Voluntary Agreement on Plastic Bag Reduction" with the EPD in 2006, and pledged to distribute 120 million fewer plastic shopping bags in a year. By the end of 2006, they exceeded their pledge by saving more than 124 million plastic shopping bags. In parallel, major green groups co-organised a monthly "No Plastic Bag Day" campaign from June to December 2006, with the participation of some 30 retail chains and support from the EPD. The distribution of plastic bags reportedly fell by between 33% and 54% at participating retail chains. Riding on this success, the retailers will continue the campaign in 2007.
Targets for 2007		Remark
i.To develop long-term plans for integrated waste management facilities to achieve bulk reduction of municipal solid waste.	Measured in terms of progress in preparing a draft development plan for integrated waste management facilities.	A site search exercise for developing integrated waste management facilities commenced in late 2006.
ii.To lease the land in Phase I of the EcoPark to the recycling and environmental industry in 2007.	Measured in terms of tenancies leased.	Leasing of the first batch of Phase I lots in EcoPark (3 lots) in first half of 2007.
iii.To engage contractors to recycle a combined total of 42 000 used computers, electrical appliances and cathode ray tubes at KBTS.	Measured in terms of number of items recycled or processed at KBTS centres.	Nil.
iv.To submit the draft Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste) (General) Regulation to the Legislative Council after passage of the Bill.	Measured in terms of the timing of submission of the Regulation.	

v.To present a specific proposal on an environmental levy on plastic shopping bags, as foreshadowed in the 2007/08 Budget Speech.	Measured in terms of fulfilment of the target.
vi.To identify and implement potential waste management/ recycling activities in the IETS, and propose and acquire the most suitable and cost effective operational arrangements for the follow-on operation of the IETS after its existing contract expires.	Measured in terms of the completion of the consultancy study and the procurement of the follow-on contract.
vii.To enhance the collection of rechargeable batteries under the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme to improve the rate to 15% by April 2008.	Measured in terms of the recovery rate of rechargeable batteries.
viii.To recruit 700 housing estates/ buildings to participate in the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste by the end of 2007.	Measured in terms of number of participating housing estates/ buildings.

Long term objective (2) : Achieve full recovery of the variable operating cost of collecting and treating chemical waste and MARPOL waste at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC).		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue with the programme to revise the charges for disposal of chemical waste and MARPOL waste at the CWTC.	Measured in terms of implementing the increased charges.	Progress MARPOL waste charges were adjusted on 31 March 2006. The revision of chemical waste charges has slipped due to legal complications.
Targets for 2007 i.To revise the charges for disposal of chemical waste.		Remark Nil.

Long term objective (3) : Award the follow-on contract of the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre including modification for co-treatment of clinical waste. (effective as of 2007)		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets for 2007 i. To pre-qualify the potential tenderers. ii.To tender.	Measured in terms of completion of the pre-qualification of tenderers and invitation of tender.	Remark Nil.

Previous

Next

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

VII – CROSS-BOUNDARY AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

Long term objective (1) : Fulfil the HKSAR's obligations under the Stockholm Convention.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i. To submit the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HRSAR) Implementation Plan to the Central People's Government for inclusion in China's National Implementation Plan, which will be submitted to the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention before November 2006.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Progress The HKSAR Implementation Plan was submitted to the Central People's Government in September 2006. China's National Implementation Plan will be submitted to the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Stockholm Convention before the 3rd COP in May 2007.
ii. To introduce the Hazardous Chemicals Control Bill into the Legislative Council in 2006.		The Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council in May 2006.
Targets for 2007 i. To initiate priority action items under the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention. ii. To secure early passage of the Hazardous Chemicals Control Bill.	Measured in terms of progress and achievement of targets.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (2) : Work with Guangdong authorities to improve regional air quality in the Pearl River Delta region.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark

Targets in 2006 i.To implement jointly with Guangdong authorities the 2006 Work Plan for the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan.	Measured in terms of progress of tasks in the Work Plan by end 2006.	Progress Good progress has been made. A summary of achievements can be found in a press release issued on 18 December 2006 .
Targets for 2007 i.To implement jointly with Guangdong authorities the 2007 Work Plan for the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan.	Measured in terms of progress of tasks in the Work Plan by end 2007.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (3) : Explore with Guangdong authorities the introduction of emissions trading and other measures to improve air quality.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To work out jointly with Guangdong authorities an Emissions Trading Pilot Scheme for Thermal Power Plants in the Pearl River Delta Region in 2006.	Measured in terms of progress in developing the proposed pilot scheme.	Progress The implementation framework of the emissions trading pilot scheme was endorsed on 18 December 2006.
Targets for 2007 i.To set up the Hong Kong-Guangdong Emissions Trading Management Panel to promote the Emission Trading Pilot Scheme for Thermal Power Plants in the Pearl River Delta Region to power plants and seek their participation on a voluntary basis.	Measured in terms of progress in setting up the Management Panel.	Remark Nil.

VIII – NATURE AND ENERGY CONSERVATION

Long term objective (1) : Formulate policies and implement measures to regulate, protect and manage natural resources that are important for the conservation of biological diversity of Hong Kong.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To oversee the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, in particular the pilot scheme on two new conservation measures, viz. management agreements and public-private partnership.	Measured in terms of progress of the programme.	Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Three pilot management agreement projects were launched in Long Valley and Fung Yuen at the end of 2005. Their progress is satisfactory. •An inter-departmental task force was set up to examine the applications received under the Pilot Scheme for Public-Private Partnership.

ii.To oversee the implementation of the new Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance.	Measured in terms of on-going progress review.	The Ordinance has been in smooth operation since its implementation on 1 December 2006.
iii.To prepare a legislative proposal to extend the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the Convention on Biological Diversity of Hong Kong.	Measured in terms of progress of the proposal.	The draft Bill is under preparation.
iv.To amend the Marine Parks and Marine Reserve Regulation to strengthen the control of vessels and specimen collection activities in marine parks and marine reserves.	Measured in terms of progress of the proposal.	The Amendment came into effect on 18 October 2006.
Targets for 2007 i.To oversee the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, in particular the pilot scheme on two new conservation measures, viz. management agreements and public-private partnership.	Measured in terms of progress of the programme.	Remark Nil.
ii.To amend the Schedule to the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, so as to implement the decisions made by the Conference of the Parties.	Measured in terms of progress of the proposal.	
iii.To prepare a legislative proposal to extend the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the Convention on Biological Diversity of Hong Kong.	Measured in terms of progress of the proposal.	

Long term objective (2) : Formulate policies and implement measures to promote energy efficiency and conservation.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To oversee the implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programmes.	Measured in terms of progress of the programmes.	Progress The "Action Blue Sky" Campaign was launched in July 2006 to encourage the public to participate in improving air quality, including conserving energy. A wide range of energy efficiency and conservation initiatives have been implemented, including the voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, the Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Registration Scheme for Buildings, and the Pilot Scheme for Wider Use of Fresh Water in Evaporative Cooling Towers.

ii.To prepare a legislative proposal on a mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme.	Measured in terms of progress of the proposal.	New legislation is being prepared to implement a mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, which will be introduced into the Legislative Council in the second quarter of 2007.
Targets for 2007 i. To oversee the implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programmes. ii.To introduce legislation for a mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme into the Legislative Council.	Measured in terms of progress of the proposal.	Remark Nil.

Long term objective (3) : Formulate policies and implement measures to promote the development of renewable energy in Hong Kong.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To gather the public's views on proposed measures to promote renewable energy, as set out in the Stage II Consultation Paper on Future Development of the Electricity Market in Hong Kong.	Measured in terms of progress of the programme.	Progress The Stage II Consultation on Future Development of the Electricity Market in Hong Kong was completed in March 2006. Discussions are underway with the two power companies on the post-2008 Scheme of Control Agreements.
Targets for 2007 i.To discuss with the two power companies the post-2008 Scheme of Control Agreements, in particular to promote the use of renewable energy.	Measured in terms of progress of the programme.	Remark Nil.

Previous

Next

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

IX - EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Long term objective (1) : Monitor dumping operations by remote and instant means to better protect the marine environment from short-dumping of dredged sediments.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To complete all tests and sea trials with a view to applying the Real Time Monitoring System for marine dumping control use in 2006.	Measured in terms of progress and application of the Real Time Monitoring System.	Progress Tests and sea trials were completed. The Real Time Monitoring System was firstly applied to a private project involving marine disposal of Type III sediment.
Targets for 2007 i.To apply the Real Time Monitoring System to Civil Engineering and Development Department's Construction and Demolition Material Export Project.	Measured in terms of stipulating the application of the Real Time Monitoring System in the project's Dumping at Sea Ordinance (DASO) permit.	Remark Nil.
ii.To notify stakeholders of the proposed effective date for mandatory requirement of the Real Time Monitoring System.	Measured in terms of sending letters to stakeholders and uploading relevant information of the Real Time Monitoring System to the EPD web site.	

Long term objective (2) : Apply mobile computing solution in all enforcement activities to improve data manipulation and communication efficiency.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To fully implement a mobile computing system after the launch of an integrated electronic platform.	Measured in terms of progress in implementing a mobile computing system.	Progress A trial of a mobile computing system with an interface to existing enforcement databases began in February 2006.
Targets for 2007 i.To review the need to develop an enhanced mobile computing system with interface to the new integrated electronic platform.	Measured in terms of progress in implementing a mobile computing system.	Remark To complete the review of user experience and new requirements in 2007.

Long term objective (3) : Provide a common integrated electronic platform for quality management of enforcement information and for facilitating data sharing and modelling use.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue the development of an integrated data / information management solution for streamlining multimedia enforcement workflow and data management.	Measured in terms of percentage completion of the project.	Progress About 80% of the project is completed and most of the implementation work has been done. The final completion date will be adjusted from early 2007 to mid 2007 due to the complexity of accommodating both workflow control and database management.
Targets for 2007 i.To roll out the integrated electronic platform in mid 2007.	Measured in terms of progress in implementing the system.	Remark To review user experience and explore the necessity and feasibility of enhancing the platform in 2008.

X – BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

Long term objective (1) : Promote environmental compliance by introducing new control technologies and good management practices, and provide a dedicated advisory service to the trades.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To identify and promote wider application of environmentally friendly technologies and materials.	Measured in terms of number of activities organised.	Progress •12 seminars/speeches were delivered to 1 481 professional and technical staff in the construction and property management trades; and •13 seminars/ speeches were delivered to 1 438 professional and technical staff in the restaurant and vehicle repair workshop trades.
ii.To conduct on site non-enforcement audits and evaluations of the environmental performance of public and private housing estates.	Measured in terms of number of buildings subjected to non-enforcement environmental performance audits.	401 audits conducted.
iii.To conduct on site non-enforcement audits and evaluations of the environmental performance of construction site contractors.	Measured in terms of number of construction site visits conducted for non-enforcement environmental performance audits.	100 audits conducted.
iv.To jointly develop with the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau, Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA), Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) and others, all necessary management tools (Environmental Management Plan (EMP) templates), supporting logistics and training programmes to facilitate the smooth implementation of the Pay for Safety and Environment Scheme.	Measured in terms of completion of the benchmark generic EMP template and the rolling-out of the Environmental Protection Officer Training Course.	An outline EMP was completed in February 2006 and provided to HKCA for further development of the details. Two new training courses associated with the Pay for Safety and Environment Scheme were rolled-out by CITA in 2006 - the Environmental Officer Course in July and the Environmental Management Course for Construction Managers in September.

v.To replace the Help Desk with the Compliance Assistance Centre (CAC) in the Business Facilitation Office.	Measured in terms of successful launch of the CAC.	The CAC successfully opened on 20 September 2006. An average of about 450 cases per month are being handled by the CAC.
Targets for 2007 i.To develop a Business Guide on Environmental Protection Legislation and Infrastructure in Hong Kong to facilitate the local trade and industry on environmental compliance matters.	Measured in terms of progress of the project.	Remark Production of the Business Guide is targeted for the second quarter of 2007.
ii.To identify and promote wider application of environmentally friendly technologies, practices and materials.	Measured in terms of number and nature of activities organised.	Nil.
iii.To conduct on site non-enforcement audits and evaluations of the environmental performance of public and private housing estates.	Measured in terms of number of buildings subjected to non-enforcement environmental performance audits.	
iv.To conduct on site non-enforcement audits and evaluations of the environmental performance of construction site contractors.	Measured in terms of number of construction site visits conducted for non-enforcement environmental performance audits.	

Long term objective (2) : Enhance environmental awareness of the need to control cooking fume emissions for the restaurant trade and reinforce the partnership programme for the vehicle repair workshop trade.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To support a local restaurant trade association's (HKFORT) project to establish a programme to help small- to medium-sized restaurants and the catering industry control and mitigate cooking fume emissions. The project commences in April 2006 under the SME Development Fund.	Measured in terms of project deliverables.	Progress The SME Project commenced in June 2006 and is scheduled for substantial completion by the end of 2007. The project is in good progress.
Targets for 2007 i.To enhance the features of the Green Restaurant and Green Garage partnership programme web sites to increase their user friendliness and attractiveness to the trades.	Measured in terms of progress of the project.	Remark The enhancement project is scheduled for substantial completion in the third quarter of 2007.
ii.To promote the Vehicle Repair Workshop partnership programme by renewing the tenure of Environmental Ambassadors and organising a special seminar for them.	Measured in terms of activities organised.	Preparatory work commenced towards holding an appointment ceremony and seminar for the newly nominated Ambassadors and related stakeholders in the second and third quarter of 2007 respectively.

XI – ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

Long term objective (1) : Promote Government initiatives on environmental protection.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
<p>Targets in 2006</p> <p>i.To encourage public participation in waste reduction and recycling.</p>	<p>Measured in terms of number of housing estates joining the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste and promotional activities.</p>	<p>Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •By the end of 2006, 497 housing estates/ buildings had joined the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. •A series of one-minute TV programmes was broadcast to promote the producer responsibility scheme and Polluter Pays Principle. •Waste reduction was adopted as one of the themes of the Hong Kong Eco-Business Awards, World Environment Day, Hong Kong Environmental Protection Festival, Hong Kong Green School Award and Student Environmental Protection Ambassadors Scheme in 2006. •Education programmes on waste reduction were organised in 48 schools in Tuen Mun, Tai Po and North District. •"No Plastic Bag Days" were jointly organised with the Green Student Council. •A publicity programme on the Municipal Solid Waste Charging Trial Scheme was launched.
<p>ii.To enhance public awareness of energy conservation.</p>	<p>Measured in terms of promotional activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A series of one-minute TV programmes on energy saving was broadcast. •The territory-wide Action Blue Sky Campaign was launched to promote energy efficiency and clean air. •Energy saving was adopted as one of the themes of the Hong Kong Eco-Business Awards, World Environment Day, Hong Kong Environmental Protection Festival, Hong Kong Green School Award and Student Environmental Protection Ambassadors Scheme in 2006. •Education programmes were organised with green groups to promote setting air-conditioned room temperatures at 25.5°C.
<p>Targets for 2007</p> <p>i. To encourage public participation in waste reduction and recycling.</p> <p>ii.To enhance public awareness of energy conservation and air pollution.</p>		<p>Remark</p> <p>Nil.</p>

Long term objective (2) : Reach out to the community and bring the latest environmental information to the public.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To arrange the Mobile Environmental Resource Centre (ERC) to visit local communities.	Measured in terms of number of visits conducted.	Progress 105 visits were conducted.
ii.To set up Green Desks in local communities to promote environmental messages.	Measured in terms of number of Green Desks set up.	143 Green Desks were set up in housing estates, schools and other public areas.
iii.To promote environmental messages through the ERCs.	Measured in terms of number of visitors to the ERCs.	Some 100 000 visitors visited the four ERCs.
Targets for 2007 i.To arrange the ERCs to visit local communities.		Remark Nil.
ii.To set up Green Desks in local communities to promote environmental messages.		
iii.To promote environmental messages through the ERCs.		

Long term objective (3) : Build the capacity of stakeholders for achieving long-term environmental goals.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To provide environmental training for target groups.	Measured in terms of number of training sessions organised.	Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •16 639 students joined the Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme and 78 workshops were organised for them. •21 environmental workshops were organised for school administrators and teachers. •16 training programmes were organised for Environmental Protection Ambassadors for Property Management. •91 workshops were organised for the Civil Service.
ii.To promote environmental management in schools and the business sector.	Measured in terms of number of participating schools and organisations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •111 primary and secondary schools and 126 pre-schools participated in the Hong Kong Green School Award. •185 organisations competed for the 2006 Hong Kong Eco-Business Awards.
Targets for 2007 i.To provide environmental training for target groups.		Remark Nil.

ii.To promote environmental management in schools and the business sector.

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)

Chapter 8 Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007

Major Reporting Areas under EPD's Programmes

XII – CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Long term objective (1) : Pursue continual improvement in the environmental performance of our internal operations by implementing an effective management system.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason(s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue to monitor the potentially significant environmental aspects of EPD's internal activities.	Measured in terms of monitoring the potentially significant environmental aspects of EPD's internal activities.	Progress Monitoring kept up. The potentially significant environmental aspects were being reviewed in December 2006.
Targets for 2007 i.To continue to monitor the potentially significant environmental aspects of EPD's internal activities.	Measured in terms of monitoring the potentially significant environmental aspects of EPD's internal activities.	Remark Nil.
ii.To form an Energy and Emissions Management Team to identify and implement energy/emissions reduction measures.	Measured in terms of monitoring energy use and emissions.	

XIII – MINIMISING THE IMPACTS OF OUR OPERATIONS

Long term objective (1) : Ensure treatment and disposal of wastes at our facilities are managed in the most environmentally acceptable manner.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason(s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To continue close supervision of our waste facilities contractors, aiming at full compliance with both legal and contractual environmental requirements.	Measured in terms of compliance rate.	Progress <u>Landfill and Refuse Transfer Stations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Full compliance with legal requirements. •21 097 environmental monitoring measurements were carried out, of which 21 078 measurements complied with contractual requirements.

Targets for 2007 i.To continue close supervision of our waste facilities contractors, aiming at full compliance with both legal and contractual environmental requirements.	Measured in terms of compliance rate.	Remark Nil.
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XIV – Greener Office

Long term objective (1) : Demonstrate efficiency and commitment to environmental conservation by reducing expenditure and resources consumption.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006		
i.To continue paper saving initiatives to meet the reduction target (i.e. an average of 2.5% per year with 2002/03 as the base year).	Measured in terms of consumption of paper.	Progress Target met. Paper consumption reduced by 5% when compared with 2005.
ii.To continue energy saving measures in conjunction with the energy audit.	Measured in terms of power consumption in offices.	Power consumption reduced by 1.7% as compared with 2005.
iii.To continue energy audits in offices to look for energy saving opportunities.	Measured in terms of number of self-audits conducted in our offices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Appointed Energy Wardens to remind staff of housekeeping measures for saving energy. •Self-audits were conducted in EPD offices to identify areas for saving energy.
iv.To monitor consumption and encourage recycling.	Measured in terms of consumption and recycling monitoring.	Monitoring kept up and showing good progress.
v.To continue Indoor Air Quality certification work and arrange renewal as necessary.	Measured in terms of number of IAQ certificates obtained or renewed.	The EPD has 14 premises certified as meeting the requirement.
Targets for 2007		
i.To continue paper saving initiatives to meet the reduction target (i.e. an average of 2.5% per year with 2002/03 as the base year).	Measured in terms of consumption of paper.	Remark Nil.
ii.To continue energy saving measures in conjunction with the energy audit.	Measured in terms of power consumption in offices.	
iii.To continue energy audits in offices to look for energy saving opportunities.	Measured in terms of number of self-audits conducted in our offices.	
iv.To monitor consumption and encourage recycling.	Measured in terms of consumption and recycling monitoring.	
v.To continue Indoor Air Quality certification work and arrange renewal as necessary.	Measured in terms of number of IAQ certificates obtained or renewed.	

XV – STAFF AWARENESS, TRAINING AND PARTICIPATION

Long term objective (1) : Promote staff environmental awareness and encourage participation.		
Targets	Measurement Method / Indicator	Progress (or slippage with reason (s) if applicable) / Remark
Targets in 2006 i.To arrange training sessions / seminars and awareness campaigns for staff.	Measured in terms of number of training sessions and activities organised.	Progress •Provided interesting tips to staff on environment, safety and health issues through the daily internal bulletin system. •Organised field trips to enhance staff environmental awareness.
Targets for 2007 i.To arrange training sessions / seminars and awareness campaigns for staff.	Measured in terms of number of training sessions and activities organised.	Remark Nil.

Previous



Appendix I Environmental Policy

Vision

Our vision is of a Hong Kong which enjoys an environment that is both healthy and pleasant, in which the community places a premium on sustaining such an environment for both themselves and future generations.

To realise this vision, we will continue to strengthen our ability to meet environmental sustainability goals. We will formulate and implement programmes to improve and safeguard the environment while contributing proactively to strategic decision-making in the government that will have an impact on the environment. We are committed to ensuring that all services and programmes offered by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), as well as our own internal operations, are developed and conducted in an environmentally responsible manner and meeting the commitments of the [Clean Air Charter](#).

In pursuance of these goals, the EPD has adopted the following principles:

Compliance

We aim to establish an effective legislative and an efficient control framework to safeguard the health and welfare of the community from any adverse environmental effects.

We will seek to provide moral leadership by not only complying with the letter of the law, but the spirit of all applicable environmental legislation, standards and regulations, as well as our internal guidelines and procedures, in all our operations within the EPD. We will endeavour to surpass them whenever possible.

Pollution Prevention

We aim to pre-empt environmental problems associated with development projects, plans and policies by applying environmental impact assessment in the planning process and seeking opportunities to improve the environmental quality of Hong Kong.

We will implement ISO14001 environmental management systems to improve continually the environmental performance of our major facilities. We will avoid, reduce and control environmental pollution arising from our day-to-day working practices. We will require our contractors to adopt and implement sound environmental management systems and pollution control measures, and actively encourage businesses and other organisations in Hong Kong to adopt similar systems and measures. We will help reducing air emissions by implementing plans and measures that are relevant to EPD's operations for meeting the commitments of the [Clean Air Charter](#).

Response to Environmental Incidents

We will implement an emergency response system for handling environmental incidents, and will work closely with other government departments in responding quickly to minimise the damage to the environment.

Minimisation of Consumption

We aim to plan and provide convenient and cost-effective waste management facilities, as well as promote a sustainable approach to waste management in Hong Kong, in which we consume less, produce less waste, and reuse or recover value from waste.

We will exercise the principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle in the consumption of materials and seek continual improvement in the efficient use of natural resources and energy in all our operations.

Sustainable Development

We will actively contribute to government-wide policies and programmes that support sound environmental management and sustainable development. We will use and promote evolving scientific and technological systems, work with others and continue to build new partnerships in the pursuance of sustainable development objectives.

Communication

We aim to promote community awareness, through environmental campaigns, publicity, education and action programmes, and public access to environmental information, with a view to harnessing the community's support for, and contribution to, achieving the desired environmental goals.

We will also publicise to the community our Environmental Policy and report annually on our environmental performance. We will ensure that all our staff are aware of our Environmental Policy, that they will be able to provide detailed information about our Policy and initiatives to stakeholders in their particular areas of concern.

Training

We will ensure through appropriate training and professional development, that every member of our staff has the knowledge and competency to assume his/her environmental responsibilities and to participate constructively in environmental activities.

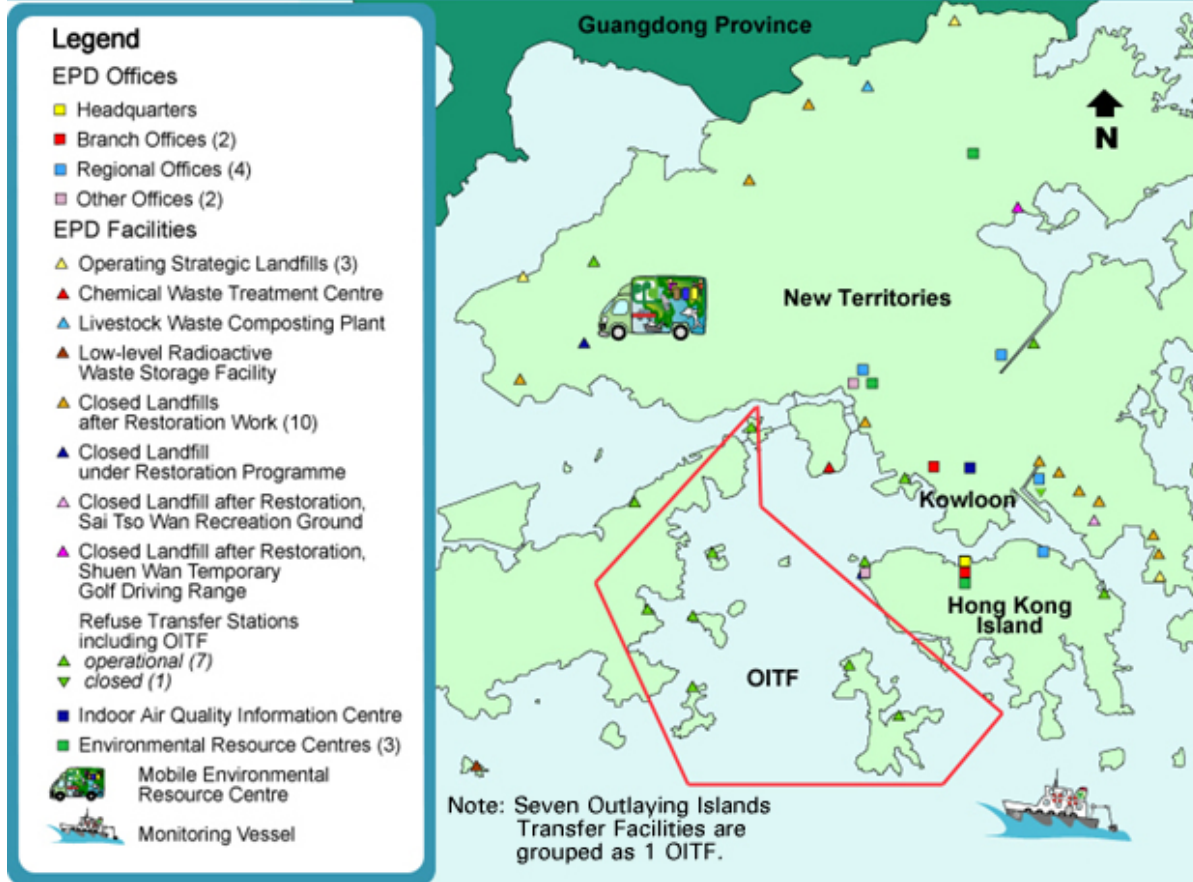
Management Review

The Management will review this policy and the department's environmental objectives and targets vis-a-vis the changing internal and external factors, and seek continual improvement in our environmental performance.



Appendix II EPD Offices and Facilities

EPD Offices and Facilities



Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, Tsing Yi.



Low-level Radioactive Waste Storage Facility, Siu A Chau.



North East New Territories Landfill.



West New Territories Landfill.



South East New Territories Landfill.



Sai Tso Wan Recreation Ground.
(Restored Sai Tso Wan Landfill)



Regional Office (North).



Regional Office (South).



Headquarter Reception Counter at 46/F
Revenue Tower.



Compliance Assistance Centre at 28/F
Southern Centre.



Roadside Air Monitoring Station at Central.



Fanling Environmental Resource Centre.



Marine Monitoring Vessel.



The Mobile Environmental Resource
Centre.



Appendix III Environmental performance reports of government bureaux / departments and agencies

Reference can be made to environmental performance reports of government bureaux/departments and agencies through the hyperlink below:

http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/how_help/tools_epr/collect_1.html



Verification Statement



BMT Asia Pacific Limited (BMT) was commissioned by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to benchmark and verify the contents of the Department's web-based Environmental Performance Report 2007 (EPR 2007). The Report describes the environmental, as well as social and economic performance of EPD during the calendar year of 2006.

Objectives

The verification intends to provide EPD's stakeholders with an external assurance of the accuracy and completeness of information presented in the Report.

This Statement is issued based on:

- Independent third party opinion - BMT was not involved in any aspects of the preparation of Report; and
- The findings of a verification process that involved validation of a representative selection of data and claims, checking of data collection mechanisms and information management systems, assessment of the report's comprehensiveness, and identification of areas to improve EPD's reporting process.

Approach

During the verification process, a series of interviews covering data review sessions was held between 14th May and 21st May of 2007 with EPD's divisional representatives including senior professional and technical staff. BMT reviewed the selected claims and reported figures, examined and checked supporting data and documented evidence, as well as data collation systems. Where further investigation was necessary to confirm claims, additional information was requested and reviewed.

A benchmarking exercise was also conducted in parallel to identify possible areas for future improvement in the annual environmental performance reporting. Local and international reports, reference guidelines and standards were adopted for the benchmarking, in which results would be provided in the form of the recommendations and areas for further improvement.

Results and Commentary

Report Accuracy

- The claims made in EPR 2007 examined by BMT represent an accurate account of EPD's actions and performance in 2006. For some minor outstanding claims and figures that were deemed questionable or unclear during the verification, EPD has made amendments to BMT's satisfaction; and
- Data collection mechanisms and information management systems are generally considered to be reliable, efficient, organised and effective. In particular, data were systematically collected, recorded, filed and analysed following prescribed methodologies. Specific data used to support claims and compile reported figures were correctly retrieved and appropriately interpreted.

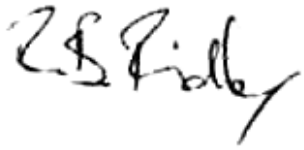
Report Coverage and Relevance

- EPR 2007 provides a balanced overview of EPD's performance in 2006 with respect to its roles and responsibilities in Hong Kong, key programme areas, relevant projects, and significant aspects related to daily operations and services.
- EPD's ongoing measures to address impacts from its own operations and services on the Hong Kong community were clearly set out in the Report. EPD has graphically presented the major year-on-year trends in services and environmental performance, and presented progress of targets for 2006, and sets out targets for year 2007.
- EPR 2007 considerably increases coverage of EPD's initiatives in addressing air pollution and waste management in response to the feedback on EPR 2006.

Recommendations for Future Reports

EPD is encouraged to:

- Further improve the presentation of achievements of internal environmental, social and economic performances by providing trend analysis in graphical format, and an at-a-glance overview.
- Expand the reporting scope to include further elements, where appropriate, to demonstrate positive influence upon contractors' and / or suppliers' environmental performance.
- Move towards sustainability reporting in accordance with the internationally recognised Global Reporting Initiative's G3 guideline, and include the application level achieved when reporting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Ridley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Ridley
Director
BMT Asia Pacific Limited



Feedback

We welcome your valuable feedback on our Environmental Performance Report 2007 (the report), which will help us make improvements in the coming year. You may complete this form online and send it to us by clicking the "Submit" button below. Comments may also be sent by email to: epr@epd.gov.hk. Thank you.



1. How do you rate the report in terms of the following:

	Good	Average	Poor	Other comment
a) Conciseness and readability				
b) Presentation of charts and tables				
c) Understanding EPD's environmental performance				

2. Which chapter(s) of the report would you like to have more information on? (You may mark more than one box)

Vision and Strategy	Organisation and Governance	Stakeholder Engagement
Sustainability at EPD - Economic Impacts	Sustainability at EPD - Environmental Impacts of Policies and Programmes	Sustainability at EPD - Environmental Impacts of Internal Operations
Sustainability at EPD - Social Impacts	Targets - Progress review and setting for 2007	

3. Which of our policies/programmes are you more interested in? (You may select more than one box)

Air	Environmental Assessment & Planning	Conservation
Noise	Waste	Water
Environmental Compliance	Cross-boundary and International Co-operation	Community Awareness and Education

4. Which of the following aspects would you like more? (You may select more than one box)

Statistical information	Illustrations	Hyperlinks to other information
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Other (please specify):

5. Other comments and suggestions:

6. Please specify your background (general public, green group, professional / academic, other government department / organisation, etc.) (optional)

Name

Email