

Leading the way

Our aim in building a sustainable business is to deliver value to customers and shareholders whilst helping to address the significant social, economic and environmental issues the world is facing. Standard Chartered is well placed to achieve this in Asia, Africa and the Middle East through its longstanding relationships and deep involvement in these regions.

Many of these countries are major engines of the world's future growth and prosperity. Often they are also the most adversely impacted by environmental and social changes. Our role, therefore, is to create wealth through practices that are environmentally responsible and socially inclusive.

In this report, we review progress made in delivering our sustainable business strategy. It is the second Sustainability Review and the seventh year of non-financial reporting. You will find performance data and activities carried out in 2007 (unless stated otherwise within this report) in more than 50 countries where the Bank operates.

More detailed information is available on our website including:

- The Global Reporting Initiative and UNEP Finance Initiative recommendations for financial sector reporting index; and
- The United Nations Global Compact guidelines for Communication on Progress.

 For more information visit: www.standardchartered.com/sustainability

Financial highlights

Operating income

\$11,067m

2006 – \$8,620m
2005 – \$6,861m

Profit before taxation

\$4,035m

2006 – \$3,178m
2005 – \$2,681m

Total assets

\$329bn

2006 – \$266bn
2005 – \$215bn

Non-financial highlights

Employees

70,000

2006 – 59,000
2005 – 44,000

Countries and territories

57

2006 – 56
2005 – 56

Nationalities

115

2006 – 105
2005 – 89

Throughout this document, unless another currency is specified, the word 'dollar' or symbol '\$' means United States dollar and the word 'cents' or symbol 'c' means one-hundredth of one United States dollar.

Within this document the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China is referred to as 'Hong Kong'; The Republic of Korea is referred to as Korea or South Korea; 'Middle East and other South Asia' (MESA) includes: Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates ('UAE'), Bahrain, Jordan and Bangladesh; 'Other Asia Pacific' includes: China, Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan and the Philippines.