

# Time for a change

Climate change resulting from human activities is recognised as one of the most urgent environmental issues facing the global community.

The road industry is committed to making a difference. Given that 13% of global Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and 23% of energy-related carbon dioxide (CO<sup>2</sup>) emissions are currently attributable to the transport sector, it clearly has the scope and means to make a decisive contribution in terms of championing more eco-friendly techniques and technologies.

Up to now, however, what has been lacking is a common methodology, offering a credible and universally accepted system of measurement for defining strategy and monitoring progress. CHANGER marks a significant breakthrough aimed at, as its brand name implies, changing this situation.

Developed by the International Road

Federation (IRF), in conjunction with a number of technical partners, CHANGER takes the form of a user-friendly software package that enables public and private entities to monitor and assess GHG emissions generated during the various stages of the road construction process.

Easy to use, accessibly priced and fully compatible with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines, CHANGER is designed to help engineers simplify the processing and analysis of complex information by providing a unique 'clear path' methodology. Once the relevant technical input data is in place, it takes only about 20 minutes to perform the calculation and arrive at results that can be readily visualised on graphs. Dropdown menus and data entry wizards are designed to enhance user-friendliness at every stage. Furthermore, CHANGER automatically generates comprehensive reports that can be conveniently exported to Excel, Word, PDF

or HTML in a manner that makes the results clear and accessible even to those who are not familiar with technical data, including the general public.

By virtue of its extensive global membership, the Federation has benefited from technical support from a wide range of technical partners throughout the development of the project. This has been particularly invaluable for ongoing review and validation of the modelling approach and databases, as well as for testing and comparison.

CHANGER has been conceived as an evolving tool, subject to ongoing review and development so that it ultimately covers every phase and aspect of road construction. Users benefit from regular updates as well as a dedicated technical support desk.

**IRF**

[www.irfghg.org](http://www.irfghg.org)