

The software key to sustainable road

The International Road Federation (IRF) has released Changer, a user-friendly greenhouse gas (GHG) calculator specifically tailored to road infrastructure projects. Since its launch a year ago, this pioneering software is being successfully applied on major projects in a number of countries and regions throughout the world, including Australia, New Zealand, Europe and India.

As the IRF points out, governments will be increasingly required to submit regular GHG emission accounts as part of their commitments under the UN Climate Change Convention. Changer offers an easy and reliable emissions assessment and accounting tool for both the public and private sectors. An additional advantage is that proactive and accountable steps to reduce emissions enables countries to gain support from leading international financial institutions, which are progressively including compulsory GHG assessments of road

construction projects in their tendering procedures.

Meanwhile, Changer is, in its own right, attracting keen interest from some of the same donor agencies, including The World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the International Energy Agency – all of whom instinctively recognise the lead taken by the project in terms of defining the elusive ‘common methodology’ that is an essential prerequisite for measurable and credible progress that transcends mere ‘greenwash’.

The involvement of IRF has enabled Changer to be developed with the direct technical support, sector-wide expertise and cooperation of leading industry participants drawn from the Federation’s membership throughout the world.

www.irfghg.org

