



# Press Release



7 January 2009

## HANG SENG BUILDS BIOGAS TOILETS TO PROVIDE RENEWABLE ENERGY IN MAINLAND CHINA

Hang Seng Bank has financed the construction of 300 biogas toilets for about 1,200 villagers in mainland China's Yunnan province — saving 750 tons of firewood every year (equivalent to 30 acres of forest) and reducing annual carbon dioxide emissions by 3,750 tons.

The environmentally friendly toilets were built in a remote village in Yanshan county, a five-hour ride from Kunming, with the help of a team of Hang Seng volunteers from Hong Kong and the Mainland. The project was initiated by The Conservancy Association and sponsored by Hang Seng.

Under the project, methane — which is released from pig manure and human waste collected in a specially designed underground pit — is channelled to provide a free and stable energy supply for cooking and lighting.

Mrs Dorothy Sit, Hang Seng's Chief Operating Officer and Green Champion, said: "Environmental protection is a key part of our corporate responsibility programme. This is the second time the Bank has sponsored this sustainable initiative in Yunnan. We are pleased to again work with The Conservancy Association to provide renewable energy in mainland China."

The green toilets can help conserve natural resources and protect the environment, and, at the same time, bring positive change to villagers' lives by saving energy and time spent on collecting firewood.

The project will also help slow the pace of soil erosion resulting from deforestation. The residue left in the underground pit can be used as a natural substitute for chemical fertilisers.

A carbon neutral bank, Hang Seng's wide-ranging environmental initiatives have been widely recognised. The Bank's environmental programmes have earned it a Silver Award at the 2008 China Golden Awards for Excellence in Public Relations. In 2007, the Bank won the Award for Environmental Excellence at the Asian CSR Awards organised by the Institute of Asian Management and in 2006 was named Green Enterprise of the Year by the Federation of Hong Kong Industries. In 2005, Hang Seng became the first Hong Kong-incorporated financial institution to receive ISO 14001 certification.

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新聞稿



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HANG SENG BANK



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Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank operates over 210 service outlets, of which 106 are branches serving both personal and business customers. The Bank also maintains a branch in Shenzhen for foreign currency wholesale business, branches in Macau and Singapore, and representative offices in Xiamen and Taipei.

Established on 28 May 2007, wholly owned subsidiary Hang Seng Bank (China) Limited operates a mainland China network of 33 outlets in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Fuzhou, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Tianjin and Kunming.

With consolidated assets of HK\$747.9 billion as at 30 June 2008, Hang Seng Bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$9,064 million for the first six months of 2008 and HK\$18.24 billion in 2007. Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. For further information on Hang Seng Bank, please visit the Bank's website at [www.hangseng.com](http://www.hangseng.com).

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