

World Environment Day

Introduction

World Environment Day is the United Nations Environment Programme's international environmental awareness-raising day held on 5 June each year. HSBC celebrates this event to raise staff awareness of topical programmes, campaigns and initiatives being implemented across the Group.

Aims

In 2006 and 2007, HSBC used World Environment Day as a platform to promote the significance of climate change and initiatives to reduce the Group's carbon footprint and emissions. In 2007, the focus for activities was the HSBC Climate Partnership, a five-year, US\$100 million programme to inspire action by individuals, businesses and governments on climate change.

Achievements

In 2007, thousands of HSBC employees in 25 countries and territories participated in World Environment Day events, including the following:

- 10,000 entries in a global staff competition to win tickets to 'Live Earth' concerts aimed at raising awareness and highlighting the need for global action to tackle climate change.
- Climate change presentations by WWF, one of the HSBC Climate Partnership participating organisations, were given in Sydney and in five US cities – Buffalo, New York City, Las Vegas, Salinas and Prospect Heights – on how HSBC staff can reduce their environmental impacts at home and at work.
- Reusable grocery bags were given to customers completing transactions on 5 June in Bermuda.
- 4,000 volunteers supported environmental regeneration projects in 89 HSBC-sponsored parks in the US.
- In Switzerland, HSBC staff hosted a screening of Al Gore's film on climate change, 'An Inconvenient Truth', and hosted a 'fair-trade' drinks reception for employees.



HSBC employees in Pakistan release turtles into the ocean at Sandspit beach, Karachi.

- 55 HSBC employees in Pakistan participated in a beach clean-up campaign in Sandspit, Karachi, collecting litter in order to protect the habitat of turtles nesting on the beach. The team also released recently hatched turtles into the ocean.
- In the UK, over 2,000 HFC employees took part in an 'eco quiz' to win climate kits containing 'green' goodies. HFC's head office in Winkfield also featured environmental displays, organic food tasting sessions, and an exhibition of hybrid cars.

'World Environment Day is an important day in HSBC's calendar. Colleagues have the opportunity to focus on the urgent threat of climate change – the most significant challenge we face this century.'

Stephen Green, HSBC Group Chairman