

Seminar: Carbon Footprint Analysis for Hotels on 27 April 2012

On 27 April 2012, the Department of Building Services Engineering (BSE) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) organized a seminar for a project entitled “Carbon Footprint Analysis of Hotels in Hong Kong”.

The project, funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) of the HKSAR Government, was carried out by a study team at the BSE of PolyU comprising Dr. Joseph LAI as the Principal Investigator and Prof. Francis YIK as the Co-Investigator. Primarily an empirical study, the project aimed to probe into the sources and levels of GHG emissions and removals from selected hotels in Hong Kong, analyze their carbon footprints in detail and investigate into the factors and practices that can help mitigate GHG emissions or enhance their removals.

Based on the data of the hotels, analyses were carried out on the following areas of GHG emissions/removals:

1. Direct emissions/removals due to: stationary sources combustion, mobile sources combustion, fugitive emissions, and assimilation of carbon dioxide into biomass through planting of trees;
2. Energy indirect emissions due to: consumption of purchased electricity, and consumption of town gas; and
3. Other indirect emissions due to: methane gas generation at landfill due to disposal of paper waste, consumption of fresh water, and treatment of waste water.



Dr. Joseph LAI introducing the project



Purpose and scope of the study being explained



A full-house attendance with BSE alumni and building professionals

The seminar, attended by a large number of participants from various professional disciplines, was successfully held for disseminating the experience of carrying out the study and its results to the BSE industry.