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Front Cover: Dire Tune of Ethiopia breaks the tape to win the 2006 Hong Kong Marathon. Dire Tune's victory in the final leg of the Greatest Race on Earth lifted her team, Haji Adilo, to second place in the series.

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## Leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Drawing on over 150 years of international banking experience, Standard Chartered is actively driving value creation in its markets with a clear strategy for growth. Combining deep local knowledge with international capability, Standard Chartered offers innovative, award-winning financial products and services, in many of the world's fastest growing markets.

Employing almost 44,000 people, representing 89 nationalities in over 1,200 locations and engaged in a broad range of Consumer and Wholesale Banking activities, Standard Chartered's strengths lie in breadth, diversity and balance.

Standard Chartered is committed to being The Right Partner to all its stakeholders. Across its network the Group is trusted for its outstanding standards of governance and its commitment to making a difference to the communities in which it operates.

The Business Review section of this Report combines information on corporate responsibility and people strategies, along with operating highlights, to give a balanced account of the year at Standard Chartered.



From our earliest branches in Africa, to our state-of-the-art priority banking centre in Taipei, our commitment to the customers, employees and communities in the markets in which we operate makes us one of the world's best international banks.