Created in 1949, the LCPC is a French National Scientific and Technological Institute. It reports to the Ministry for Research and the Ministry for Public Works, Transport and Housing.

**Missions**

- Conduct research and studies in civil engineering, urban engineering and their link with the environment,
- carry out surveys and provide consultancy services,
- orient, program, evaluate in its fields of expertise, research and development in the Technical Studies Centers for Public Works (CETE),
- Steer the regional civil engineering inter-laboratory committee (LRPC),
- coordinate with European and international research, promote French techniques overseas and support innovation,
- implement a scientific information policy and disseminate new knowledge, regulations and standards.

**Fields of Activity**

- roadways: structural design material and equipment, assessment, maintenance management
- geotechnics: geology, aggregate, soil and rock mechanics, foundations and supports, natural risks, geophysics
- highway structures: materials, structural elements, maintenance, condition assessment and engineering structure pathology
- environment and urban engineering: water, pollution, hydrology, road noise
- road operation and safety: driving aids, lighting, vehicles-infrastructures-driver interactions
- engineering science: computer sciences, modeling, metrology and instrumentation, physico-chemistry of materials, materials and structures for civil engineering

**Key Figures**

- an annual budget of 42.5 million euros (2001)
- 600 employees, including 250 research workers and 220 technicians
- a technical network that represents about 2,500 employees and covers the whole country
- 4 sites (Paris, Nantes, Marne-la-Vallée, Satory-Versailles)
- 4 mixed units with INRETS, the CNRS and the ENPC