

## **5. Examination of Assistance Strategy**

### **5.1 Need for Assistance**

#### **(1) Necessity for Assistance for Environment and Development**

Pakistan has been experiencing a rapid deterioration of the environment in recent years as the progressive pollution of air and drinking water in urban areas, soil degradation in rural areas and the depletion or degradation of the natural environment, such as groundwater and forests, are highly noticeable. The fiscal expenditure to tackle environmental problems is extremely limited, partly because of the continual fiscal deficit since the 1990's. Meanwhile, recent government policies for the environment have been largely confined to paper work, such as the establishment of the MERGRD and Federal EPA under the MERGRD and the formulation of the Environmental Conservation Strategy and the Environmental Protection Act. There has been a distinctive lack of effective environmental measures and the implementation capacity in terms of organization, facilities and equipment has not been sufficiently developed. A general understanding of the situation of the environment, which is essential for the planning of appropriate environmental measures, is also lacking as such understanding has only been sporadically obtained through a limited number of projects assisted by international assistance organizations, making it extremely difficult to establish the historical changes of the environment.

Although the NEAP indicates the general direction for environmental measures in Pakistan, the number of projects or programmes which have actually been implemented in the field is small compared to the seriousness of the widespread environmental problems. Although the contents of the planned projects and programmes within the framework of the NEAP-SP reflect the need for international assistance for environmental problems as conceived by the Government of Pakistan, negotiations with the EDCG for funding have made little progress except for some exceptions. International assistance for the environment sector in Pakistan has instead centered on the implementation of projects which are planned and designed as a result of a direct approach made by international organizations and NGOs, etc. to such front-line organizations as the EPA, provincial forest departments and public service departments of municipalities.

In discussions on assistance for the environment sector, the Pakistani side primarily requests applied technologies which are inexpensive to use and which are based on past experience to deal with specific problems to achieve improvement effects rather than large-scale projects or assistance involving advanced technologies. Good examples are the development and wide use of an emission gas and noise reducer for fitting to auto-rickshaws and a treatment system for each type of plant. Assistance for these technologies which could prove highly effective with small investment is hoped for based on proven technologies in Japan.

Pakistan's assistance needs in the environment sector as inferred from the candidate projects under the NEAP-SP, ongoing projects and field survey results are listed below. Capacity building, including the development of human resources (staff members), and a programme designed to transform the awareness of all stakeholders, including local community members, are also necessary in connection with all of the listed needs.

#### 1) Urban Environment

##### < Monitoring >

- Establishment of a monitoring system to clarify the reality of environmental pollution

##### < Industrial Environment Management >

- Promotion of the implementation of the SMART
- Extension of cleaner production

##### < Air Pollution >

- Improvement of the vehicle emission gas inspection system and introduction of a vehicle inspection system
- Facilitation of a change of fuel to CNG
- Reinforcement of the air quality testing facilities and training of technical staff

##### < Water Pollution >

- Reinforcement of the water quality testing facilities and training of technical staff
- Development of centralised waste water treatment facilities for each type of business or each industrial estate
- Water supply using boreholes
- Technological improvement and expanded use of septic tanks
- Development of the sewerage system
- Surveys and analysis of soil/groundwater pollution and development of technologies to control such pollution

##### < Solid Waste Management >

- Improvement of the administrative capacity for solid waste (including hazardous solid waste) management
- Improvement of planning, environmental measures, construction and management methods/technologies for final disposal sites
- Establishment of a participatory solid waste management system

2) Natural Environment

< Ecosystem Conservation >

- Sustainable use and management of natural resources and conservation of biodiversity with resident participation
- Conservation of the rich ecosystem at wetland and mangrove forests
- Ecosystem management at Protected Areas

3) Policies and Institution, etc.

- Capacity building at the Pak-EPA and provincial EPAs
- Conservation of energies
- Basic examination of the application of a clean development mechanism (CDM), including a greenhouse gas reduction project
- Improvement of the efficiency of the use of irrigation water as a measure to combat damage due to water-logging and salinization

**(2) Activities of International Organizations**

In the environment sector, the Environment and Development Coordinating Group (EDCG) was established in 1991 by the World Bank, UNDP, UNIDO, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Japan and others and is currently led by the UNDP. While each organization or donor conducts its own aid efforts, the UNDP launched the NEAP-SP in 2001 to achieve the self-reliant development of environmental measures and poverty reduction in Pakistan. Under the framework of a five year umbrella project, the UNDP is taking the initiative for technical cooperation and financial assistance as collaborative assistance for the EDCG. However, no priority field or sector has been determined by the EDCG and funding sources must be sought when ever a request for assistance is made by the Government of Pakistan. The main international organizations providing assistance for the environment sector in Pakistan are listed below by subject issue.

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| • Capacity building of the administration and environmental policies               | : UNDP, CIDA, SDC (Switzerland), NRE (the Netherlands), NORAD (Norway), IUCN, JICA |
| • Ecosystem conservation and natural resources (forests, etc.) management          | : EU, WB, ADB, UNDP, IUCN, GEF   |
| • Cleaner production   | : UNIDO, ADB   |
| • Vehicle emission gas control   | : CIDA (change to CNG), GTZ (VETS→2000)  |
| • Industrial waste water treatment   | : NRE (Karachi PTA)  |
| • Solid waste management   | : JICA, UNDP (→2000), GTZ (→2000)  |
| • Comprehensive improvement of local environment (autonomy, community, water, air) | : ADB (Rawalpindi), GTZ (Peshawar)   |
| • Development of alternative energy  | : GTZ (more efficient power generation and minimisation of social impacts)         |