



United Nations
ESCAP

Regional Cooperation in Promoting Eco-efficient Society through 3R in Asia and the Pacific

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Introduction

- *What ESCAP is...?*
 - UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
 - One of the five Regional Commissions under ECOSOC, like ECE, ECLAC, ESCWA, ECA
 - Regional arm of UN in AP region
 - Secretariat for Commission - main economic and social development forum within UN system in AP



Introduction

- *What ESCAP does...?*
 - Convenes Commission and other important fora in the region (multi-disciplinary socio-economic topics and multi-ministerial outreach)
 - Follows-up and coordinates the implementation of their recommendations (specific programmes and projects for regional and subregional cooperation and integration)
 - Altogether, promotes sustainable economic and social development



UN ESCAP Approach to Environment and Sustainable Development

- UNESCAP Environment and Sustainable Development Division (ESDD)
- ESDD Mandate : Integrating Environment into Socio-economic Development
- Monitor and assist countries to achieve MDG1 (Poverty) and MDG7 (Environment)



UN ESCAP Approach – Green Growth

- **Key Messages of SOE 2005 discussed in MCED2005**
 - AP still need to pursue economic growth to address persistent poverty
 - Current pattern of growth cannot be sustained as already exceeding the region's environmental carrying capacity
 - Lack of sustainability in continuing growth



UN ESCAP Approach – Green Growth

- **Action Needed**
 - **Harnessing economic growth in an environmentally sustainable manner**
 - **Minimizing the environmental pressure arising from economic growth on limited carrying capacity**
 - **Eco-efficiency of economic growth pattern needs to be improved**



UN ESCAP Approach – Improving Eco-Efficiency

- **Eco-Efficiency**
 - Achieving more economic outputs from less environmental inputs
 - Decoupling of economic growth and environmental pressures
 - A must for achieving SD in AP
- **Intervention for Its Improvement**
 - Focusing on Economic and Social Policy Instruments
 - Regional and Subregional Programmes backed up by Analytical and Research Work



Green Growth and 3R

- 3R in GG context
 - Both addresses improving eco-efficiency of production & consumption, but...
 - 3R is particularly significant, as it
 - showcases a political commitment to provoke actions across ministries and agencies
 - addresses policy principle to impact comprehensively C & PC pattern in the entire society
 - Promotes regulatory, incentive & technical tools providing practical guidance and methodology
 - 3R is certainly a practical and useful tool to achieve GG
 - Synergy to be explored



UN ESCAP Activity Focus

- **Analytical and Research Work**
 - **State of the Environment in Asia and the Pacific in 2005**
 - Provide a theoretical basis / rationale for green growth and eco-efficiency improvement
 - **Eco-efficiency of the economic growth pattern in the region**
 - Trends and patterns of eco-efficiency of the economic growth of the countries in the region
 - Review/Development of indicators of eco-efficiency and GG
 - Development of an indicative policy framework to improve eco-efficiency of economic growth



UN ESCAP Activity Focus

- **Policy advocacy, facilitation of dialogue (1)**
 - Facilitate mainstreaming sustainability concerns in national development planning
 - targeting finance and development planning ministries
 - A series of Green Growth policy dialogue being conducted on Economic Policy (Budget / Tax Reform, Market-based approach, etc.) and National Policy Framework for SCPP
 - Setting-up ESCAP/UNEP Regional Help Desk on SCPP in collaboration with NRDC, China
 - Leadership training programme for (future) policymakers



UN ESCAP Activity Focus

- **Policy advocacy, facilitation of dialogue (2)**
 - Awareness raising and capacity building on options for integrating sustainability concerns in sectoral policies
 - Targeting environment and other sectoral ministries
 - Initial focus on infrastructure (energy, transport, water) development planning
 - Possible future target –, product design and certification, trade, waste management and material recycling



UN ESCAP Activity Focus

- **Promoting Local Initiatives**
 - **Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment**
 - Adopted by 4th MCED held in Kitakyushu, 2000
 - Acknowledged by WSSD/JPOI in 2002 as a major regional initiative
 - Progress reviewed by 5th MCED in 2005 and recommended for continuation for 2010 (Second Cycle)
 - Supported by GOJ and implemented in partnership with IGES
 - Mandate to achieve measurable progress in improvement of the urban environment in Asia and the Pacific, principally through the local initiatives targeting control of air and water pollution, minimization of all kinds of wastes.



UN ESCAP Activity Focus

- Promoting Local Initiatives
(Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment 2)
 - Basic Features
 - Focus on ground-level activities
 - Successful Practices – Identification, Analysis and Transfer
 - Increasing Focus on Multiple (Socio-Economic) Benefits
 - Pilot/Demonstration Projects for Replication
 - Networking / Matchmaking - KI Network operated by IGES Kitakyushu
 - Solid Waste /3R related activities include:
 - Dhaka – Policy analysis on linking solid waste management groups and local fertilizer industry
 - > Replication being attempted
 - Nonthaburi – A pilot project on participatory programme for promoting waste reduction and recycle
 - Successful implementation and self-replication
 - Study tour to facilitate transfer to other cities



Areas of Synergy

- Continuation/expansion of existing activities in the relevant field, in particular through:
 - GG / Eco-efficiency – Promotion of More Resource Efficient Society, Study on Market based mechanism and Incentives
 - Kitakyushu Initiative – Bettering local waste management practices with strengthening 3R components, etc.
- Share information and experiences with other 3R-related programmes, through 3R Knowledge Hub
- More activities in preparation
 - Linkage with the global CSD / post WSSD process (Marrakech Process)
 - Northeast Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NESPEC)
 - Joint Study - International Harmonization in Recycling Requirements/ Extended Producer Responsibility particularly targeted on WEEE



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