

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

APFED Partnership Initiatives for Knowledge Network and Capacity Building

Expected date of initiation: September, 2002

Expected date of completion: December, 2004

Partners Involved:

Governments: Japan's Ministry of the Environment. Other countries in the region are expected to join the initiatives.

Intergovernmental organizations: Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN/ESCAP) have been involved in developing the new partnership initiatives.

Major groups:

During the development of APFED recommendations including its commitments, major groups have been involved through multi-stakeholder meetings. Those include Tata Energy Research Institute (India), Thailand Environment Institute (Thailand), and WALHI (Indonesian Forum for Environment). Gender groups, NCSD groups and youth representatives were also involved in the APFED deliberations.

The Asia Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED), which is a regional forum with participation of twenty-three eminent persons nominated by Asia and the Pacific countries. The purpose of the forum is to propose a new framework of more equitable and sustainable development in the region.

Leading Partner:

Name of the contact person/focal point:

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

The new partnership initiatives were proposed by APFED in May 2002 and were welcomed at the side-event of Prep. Com. IV in Bali, Indonesia. The initiatives will be jointly implemented by APFED and its partners to keep momentum of WSSD and further promote efforts to sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific region.

Recognizing the importance of firm knowledge base in supporting policy making for sustainable development in the region, the new partnership initiative consists of the following three

components with aim of developing knowledge network and facilitating the access to the capacity building programmes.

- (a) **Collect and analyze best policy practices (BPP)** related to the issues that the APFED Message to the WSSD covers, as a common asset for policy makers in Asia and the Pacific region. The issues the Message contains are freshwater resources, renewable energy, trade, finance, urbanization, good governance and capacity building.
- (b) **Develop a network of researchers and research institutions (NetRes)** to develop policy recommendations to WSSD to put into practice the APFED recommendations in the final report on governmental policies and measures in the region which will be prepared by the end of 2004.
- (c) **Make an inventory of capacity building programs (CBP)** in Asia and the Pacific region and disseminate the information to those needing training.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

This partnership supports implementation of the following components of Part IX. Means of implementation of **the Draft Plan of Implementation for the WSSD** (based on draft unedited text)

95. [Agreed] Establish regular channels between policy makers and the scientific community for requesting and receiving science and technology advice for the implementation of Agenda 21, and create and strengthen networks for science and education for sustainable development, at all levels, with the aim of sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices, and building scientific capacities, particularly in developing countries.

108. [Agreed] Enhance and accelerate human, institutional and infrastructure capacity-building initiatives and promote partnerships in this regard that respond to the specific needs of developing countries in the context of sustainable development.

AGENDA 21

Chapter 2 International Cooperation to Accelerate Sustainable Development in Developing Countries and Related Domestic Policies

Chapter 9 Protection of the Atmosphere

Chapter 18 Freshwater resources

Chapter 33 Financial Resources and Mechanism

Chapter 34 Technology Transfer

Chapter 36 Education and Public Awareness and Training

Chapter 37 National Capacity Building

Expected results:

- (a) Dissemination of BPP (Best Policy Practices) Report which contains best policy practices related to the seven issues mentioned above, as a knowledge base for policy making for sustainable development in the region;
- (b) Creation of NetRes (Network of Research and Research Institutions) which will support policy formulation and implementation in the region;
- (c) CBP (Inventory of Capacity Building) in Asia and the Pacific region, to be disseminated through both the Internet and hard copies;
- (d) APFED Final Report that contains policy recommendations for sustainable development in

<p>the region, in which recommendations will be developed through this partnership initiative.</p>
<p>Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:</p> <p>The three components of this initiative will be completed by the end of 2004.</p>
<p>Coordination and Implementation mechanism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force Teams will be formulated consisting of representatives of organizations which strongly commit to the initiatives, to enhance the effective implementation of the initiatives as appropriate. • Four more APFED Meetings will be held by the end of 2004 to review the progress of the initiatives and discuss further development of the partnership. • Multi-stakeholder Meetings and Expert Meetings will be also held to review the progress of the initiatives and strengthen the linkages among the relevant stakeholders. • The progress of the initiative will be reported to the ministerial Environment Congress for Asia and the Pacific (ECO ASIA) to review and assess the effectiveness of the initiatives.
<p>Arrangements for funding</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment, Japan</p>
<p>Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer</p> <p>APFED recognizes the importance of capacity building. CBD (Inventory of capacity building programs) will be developed and the information on capacity building will be provided widely. The inventory will help to avoid unnecessary duplication of capacity building programs and enhance coordination of institutions/organizaions which provide the programs. It will also help more effective development of capacity building programs by identifying what is missing in the existing capacity building programs.</p> <p>The multi-stakeholder dialogues and expert meetings will help capacity building of the relevant organizations as appropriate.</p>
<p>Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)</p> <p>Close linkages with other programs of partner organizations.</p>
<p>Monitoring Arrangements</p> <p>Through APFED Meetings, Multi-stakeholder Meetings, and Expert Meetings, the initiative will be reviewed periodically. ECO ASIA ministerial meetings will also review and assess the progress of the initiatives.</p>
<p>Other relevant information:</p> <p>http://www.iges/apfed-message/ (to access the APFED Message to the WSSD)</p>

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