

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES/PROCESSES UNDERTAKEN TO INITIATE PARTNERSHIP**

This document briefly summarizes information available as of 3 September 2003 on the proposed activities and/or processes undertaken to initiate partnerships for sustainable development that have been notified to the Secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

More extensive information on each of the proposals submitted thus far, such as the list of partners, relationship to Agenda 21, targets, expected results, implementation arrangements, and links to other sustainable development initiatives, can be found on the web at <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/partnerships/partnerships.htm>

Proposals are summarized for information purposes only. Each summary includes contact information, as many of the partnerships are looking for additional partners to join.

- **African Union Initiative on Promotion and Development of Agenda 21 in Africa**

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[Bindrasatya\\_pal\\_bindra@hotmail.com](mailto:Bindrasatya_pal_bindra@hotmail.com)  
**Dates:** January 2003 – January 2008

**Summary:** This initiative aims to critically assess successes and failures in implementing Rio decisions in each member African Union country by: focusing on the identification of accomplishments and areas where further efforts are needed to implement Agenda 21; ensuring that all members of African Union have a safer more prosperous future by dealing with environment protection economic development and social development issues in a balanced manner; accelerating economic and social development of Africa with better care for environment and raising awareness at regional, national and local level and further promote Agenda 21 in Africa.

- **Arafura Seas-Timor Seas Experts Forum**

**Leading Partners:** Australia, Indonesia, East Timor, Papua New Guinea  
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**Dates:** December 2002-2005

**Summary:** The *Arafura-Timor Seas Expert Forum* promotes effective information exchange and development of policy, scientific and institutional linkages to augment existing arrangements between littoral states and strengthen and extend intergovernmental regional cooperation. Expected results include: development of agreements or protocols concerning information exchange; identification of agreed management priorities for the Arafura-Timor Seas; identification of research and information requirements to support agreed management priorities and identification and development of opportunities towards sustainable development through the exchange of information on practical institutional policy approaches. The *Forum* will serve as a key coordination mechanism between Arafura and Timor littoral states in issues relating to information needs for sustainable marine management. Reports on key elements of the initiative will be produced and provided to participating governments as part of the regular meetings of the *Forum* experts.

- **Asia Pacific Leadership Forum on HIV/AIDS and Development**

**Leading Partners:** UNAIDS Secretariat and the Australian government (AusAID)  
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**Dates:** 2002 - N/A

**Summary:** The goal of the APLF is to minimize the impact of HIV/AIDS in the Asia-Pacific through increased political leadership for effective national and regional action against the epidemic. It will seek to involve leaders and decision-makers from government and civil society in countries in Asia and the Pacific. In line with the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, the APLF will be part of the collective efforts to strengthen the momentum building in the region to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Key activities include: intensive learning programs for leaders and decision-makers facilitated by leading institutions in the region; opportunities to enable decision-makers and leaders to exchange experience and ideas on expanding a comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS; decision makers and leaders will make use of a range of tool kits and strategic information to support their advocacy and policy work; and the APLF will initiate a range of research and other complementary activities aimed at supporting advocacy action by leaders in the region.

- **Award Scheme “Examples of Excellence”**

**Leading partner:** Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future, London

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**Dates:** April 2002- 2012

**Summary:** The aim of this international partnership is to increase the contribution of partnership initiatives for sustainable development that benefit from private sector's involvement through highlighting and supporting the replication of successful partnership models.

- **Central Asian Initiative on Preparation and Implementation of Sub-Regional Agenda 21 as a Model for Sub-Regions**

**Leading Partner:** Central Asian Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development  
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**Dates:** 2002-2003 until 2012

**Summary:** This initiative aims to develop and implement a Central Asian Sustainable Development Strategy and Convention to address priority national and transboundary environmental, social and economic problems in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The project will involve joint activities in situation analysis, prioritizing, sub-regional programming, institutional capacity building, and training.

- **Coral Reefs and Fisheries Network**

**Leading Partner:** Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia  
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**Dates:** 2003-2005

**Summary:** The project aims to build an APEC region-wide network that provides a forum for collaboration and information exchange to link and build capacity among coastal communities, coral reef organizations and industries, working to ensure long-term sustainable livelihoods from healthy and well managed coral reefs and fisheries. The *Coral Reef and Fisheries Network* will result in a broader understanding and information base on the economic, environmental and trade issues affecting coral reefs in the APEC region leading to,

*inter alia*: sustainable development and conservation of coral reefs and fisheries; enhanced business investment in sustainable coral reef industries and trade; and improved knowledge of the trade and market links for coral reef industries (e.g. the live reef fish trade); improved standards and codes of practice for individuals and businesses involved in coral reef industries; improved technology to support sustainable aquaculture of coral reef biota; and a shift from destructive to sustainable industry practices for coral reefs and reef fisheries through new opportunities to invest in aquaculture, bio-discovery and eco-tourism. An annual workshop will be held to bring together network partners, interested agencies and individuals to develop the networks program and the responsibilities of participating institutes. Two coordination nodes will be established to bring together network partners, interested agencies and individuals to develop the Networks program and assign responsibilities. A GIS database and a web site will also be established as means to disseminate information.

- **Dialogue on Effective Water Governance**

**Leading Partner:** Global Water Partnership, UNDP, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)  
**Contact Person:** Mr. Torkil Jonch-Clausen, GWP  
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**Dates:** January 2002 - December 2015

**Summary:** The Dialogue seeks to bring together as many stakeholders as possible to examine water governance systems and plan action strategies to improve them. It will promote information exchange, capacity-building, cooperation, and collective planning and decision-making. It will raise awareness among decision-makers and opinion-leaders of the need for effective water governance; mobilize political support to analyze the existing water governance regime; facilitate national discussions on meeting the needs of water users; identify best practices; demonstrate the benefits of integrated water resources management; and identify and address problem areas and contentious issues.

It will look at developing and managing water resources as well as providing water services. Some outputs will include: documents on water governance; roundtable discussions; a synthesis report of the main outcomes of the roundtables; reports analyzing governance regimes in different countries/regions; reports from virtual electronic water forum debates; and identification of case studies for the IWRM ToolBox.

- **Education for our Common Future**

**Leading Partner:** Stakeholder Forum/Felix Dodds (UK)  
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**Dates:** on-going

**Summary:** This initiative aims at providing opportunities to engage non-traditional partners, all major stakeholders, institutions, the private sector, community groups, governments at all levels, and service organizations in a dialog on education for our common future. It seeks to initiate a broad alliance of the wider education community reaching out far beyond the formal sector as well as to make visible the dynamic and creative learning exchange that is occurring to create tangible solutions for achieving the goals of sustainability set out in the various international action plans. The main objectives of the next phase of work will be expansion; learning about what has and hasn't worked; assessing impact; identifying areas to improve; and replicating successful initiatives, such as stakeholder dialogues, informal negotiations, and direct action programs.

- **Environmental Law Programme Capacity Building Initiative**

**Leading Partner:** IUCN  
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**Dates:** 2002 - 2005

**Summary:** The goal of this project is for every country to have the capacity to take part in the international policy debate, to implement what is agreed through coordinated policies, laws and institutions, and to ensure effective compliance with environmental laws. Key mechanisms include academic education, practical training, expert forums, international experience, publications, technical assistance and information.

- **Establishment of Networking Partnership for Sharing Knowledge and Cooperation through the Activities of the Third World Water Forum**

**Leading Partner:** Secretariat of the Third World Water Forum  
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**Dates:** March 2003 – March 2013

**Summary:** The Third World Water Forum will allow governments, experts and NGOs to exchange knowledge, experiences and information to solve world water problems. This partnership initiative will build upon the Forum to promote networking among actors in the water sector, build links among activities that have been conducted separately so far and

establish a shared framework for cooperation and collaboration. It will result in more effective use of water resources management technologies in developing countries; capacity building, institutional development and increased ownership in the water sector in developing countries; information dissemination; and project monitoring.

- **Gender and Water Initiative -- Building a French-speaking Network of Partners, Resources and Initiatives**

**Leading Partner:** France  
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**Dates:** August 2002 – December 2004

**Summary:** This partnership will address strong demand among French-speaking water stakeholders for easier access to in-depth information about gender issues and gender-sensitive initiatives. It will provide information on gender mainstreaming in water and sanitation programs; tools for implementing gender-sensitive approaches; experiences and know-how to foster new partnerships; and capacity-building and awareness raising initiatives.

- **Getting Research and Pilot Activities into Practice to Improve Access to Water and Sanitation Services in African Cities and Towns**

**Leading Partner:** France  
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**Dates:** 2 September 2002 –22 March 2005

**Summary:** This initiative aims to put lessons from numerous research and pilot activities into practice in order to improve access to water and sanitation services in poor urban areas and small towns in Africa. It will incorporate these lessons of research into training tools; promote dialogue among stakeholders to promote incorporation of lessons learned; and build capacity through training of trainers and practitioners.

- **Global Dialogue of Governments on Mining Metals and Sustainable Development**

**Leading partners:** Department of Minerals and Energy, South Africa/Natural Resources, Canada

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**Dates:** End 2003-open

**Summary:** This Global Dialogue aims at providing a framework to address sustainable development issues relevant to the mining and metals sector that benefit from consideration at the global level. The participating governments will determine the structure and specific objectives of the Global Dialogue.

- **Global Village Project**

**Leading Partner:** Global Village of Humanity

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**Dates:** January 2003 - indefinitely

**Summary:** This initiative utilizes Social Architecture as a solution to poverty and environmental degradation. The project's main objective is to design and build an "incubator community" composed of 3000 homes with attendant municipal, economic, and educational facilities that are designed to operate as a regional training centre. The economic development results range from subsistence farming to capturing global markets. The environmental development results include respect and protection of natural ecosystems. The social development results extend from the personal, through the household to the community. Each regional Global Village operates in perpetuity, therefore the number of people achieving permanent self-sufficiency also compounds in perpetuity.

- **Healthy Environment for Children: A Global Alliance on Children's Health and Environment**

**Leading Partner:** World Health Organization (WHO)

**Contact Person:** Dr. David Nabarro, Executive Director, Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments, and Senior Policy Advisor to the Director General

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**Dates:** August 2002 – On-going, first phase August 2002 to August 2007

**Summary:** The Healthy Environment for Children initiative is an essential component of the efforts of WHO and its partners to implement Agenda 21, reduce global poverty and reach Millennium Development Goals. The aim of this initiative is to scale up global action to address priority health dangers and risks in the places where children live, are educated, and play. A number of important risk factors will be focussed on in different settings, for example water (quantity and quality); insect vectors of disease; air (e.g. indoor air pollution through solid fuel use, and passive smoking); chemicals (e.g. pesticides, lead), accidents in and around the home, and unhealthy behaviours. The initiative will help to position the UN system to develop a movement involving many institutions and groups to scale up action in creating healthier environment for children. It will also: address how interventions to tackle these risks can be integrated, be taken forward by communities themselves, and be shown to yield real benefits; encourage a groundswell of action at the local level in particular, through many sectors (including health, environment, education, housing, agriculture, energy, water, local government and social protection sectors), involving numerous groups (for example community groups, NGOs, private entities and others with an interest) alongside national governments, within the context of national and local plans where they exist.

- **High Seas Biodiversity Workshop**

**Leading partner:** Environment Australia  
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**Dates:** 17 - 20 June 2003

**Summary:** The initiative will be an international conference involving legal, scientific and policy experts, convened by Australia, with the objective of accelerating practical international action for the conservation of high seas biodiversity.

The conference will aim to identify:

- the nature and extent of the values of, and threats to, high seas and deep ocean biodiversity;
- practical actions needed to remove those threats or to reduce them to levels that are within the resilience or self repair capacity of the ecosystems affected;
- legal and institutional factors operating at the international, regional and national levels which should be addressed as opportunities or constraints to achieving conservation and sustainable management in ocean environments beyond national jurisdiction;
- the scope and timeframe of actions to address the threats to high seas biodiversity.

- **International Youth Dialogue on Sustainable Development**

**Leading partner:** Global Youth Network (Durban, South Africa)  
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**Dates:** On-going

**Summary:** This initiative aims to provide an official, recognizable international youth platform for dialogue on sustainable development issues; inform and educate youth about sustainable development; mobilize youth participation worldwide toward the achievement of sustainable development goals; allow for the exchange of information among youth; identify youth development priorities; and provide advice to governments, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs. The principal delivery mechanism will be a website (acting as an information clearing house) and electronic discussions involving both youth and sustainable development specialists.

- **“Kanagawa Declaration on Asian Local Government Initiatives for Sustainable Development” Network**

**Leading Partner:** Kanagawa Prefectural Government  
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**Dates:** October 2002 – September 2007

**Summary:** The main objective for this initiative is to steadily advance local initiatives through the exchange of information and experience such as excellent examples of innovative policy. It is expected that this initiative will lead to: effective implementation of local initiatives in Kanagawa Declaration Network; formation of firm partnerships between the local governments and NGOs in the Kanagawa Declaration Network; to widen the actions being taken through local initiatives in all regions of Asia through increasing the number of groups taking part in the Kanagawa Declaration Network and through collaboration with initiatives between local authorities and cities.

- **Network of international model scientific-educational production centers of sustainable development**

**Leading Partner:** Irkutsk Regional Public Fund  
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**Dates:** September 2004 - June 2008

**Summary:** This initiative involves the creation of a network of international model scientific-educational production centers of sustainable development as the forerunners of sustainable settlements. The partnership focuses on developing short and middle term strategies for the implementation of an Education System for Sustainable Development (ESSD). Other activities include creation of a internet-based information and exchange system; seminars and conferences on ESSD; distance education and consultation on ESSD; and the organization of the International Youth Pedagogical Festival in 2005.

- **Network of People and their Representatives for Action on Atmospheric Issues**

**Leading Partner:** CUTS-Centre for Sustainable Production and Consumption  
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**Dates:** January 2003 - Ongoing

**Summary:** The initiative proposes establishment of a Network of People and their representatives for action on atmospheric issues (NPRAA). The objectives of NPRAA include:

- Increase awareness of legislators on relationship of production and consumption patterns with atmospheric problems (pollution, ozone depletion and climate change);
- Increase awareness of legislators on the mal-effects of ozone depletion and climate change on people;
- Inform legislators about the commitments and progress made by their governments, and enable them to catalyse the progress;
- Increase consumer awareness on these issues; and
- Empower consumers and their groups to lobby parliamentarians and government to adhere to the commitments.

The initiative is expected to result in: increased awareness of policy makers and better progress by governments to be assessed by interventions made in the legislature; better regional understanding to be assessed by progress made in the SAARC forum and its relevant committees; and a global model based on the degree of success in South Asia

- **Northeastern Asia Policy Proposal Forum**

**Leading Partner:** NPO Training and Resource Center (TRC)  
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**Dates:** 1 April 2002 - 31 March 2005

**Summary:** This initiative will strengthen environmental governance in the region around the Sea of Japan by creating a roundtable and a network of NGOs and government representatives to solve common environmental problems.

- **Pacific Umbrella Initiative: Planning for Sustainable Community Lifestyles in the Pacific**

**Leading Partner:** SPREP, SPC and USP – Land Management  
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**Dates:**

**Summary:** The main objective for this partnership is to provide long-term community based capacity-building activities to fully integrate environmental and development needs, using people and customs as the central parameters for decision-making, management and fostering social cohesion.

The expected results from this initiative include:

- Productive interface between Indigenous and Western information, science and management models to ensure sustainable land and resource use for enhanced quality of life opportunities;
- Improved understanding of Pacific land resource use systems and their role in societal and economic development;
- Peaceful and equitable use of land and marine resources in the Pacific stimulated by greater confidence and certainly at the local level;
- Establishment of effective partnering regimes at the local levels, between grass-roots and central government, and governments, business and civil society; and
- Greater exposure of traditional know-how, communication and entertainment through advancement of Pacific music, art and dance.

- **Pacific Umbrella Initiative: Pacific Strategies for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, and Regional Consultation on Sustainable Water Management**

**Leading Partner:** South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)

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**Dates:** 2002 - 2003

**Summary:** The main objective of this partnership is to achieve water and wastewater management in Pacific island countries through: the establishment of a regional water network of all relevant stakeholders that work in the different fields of water resources management and service delivery in the region; the implementation of the capacity- building oriented SOPAC Strategies for Water Sanitation and Hygiene; and the implementation of the Regional Action Plan for Sustainable Water Management”.

- **Pan-European East-West Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development**

**Leading Partner:** Ministry of Environment of Georgia  
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**Dates:** April 2002 (initiation), May 2003 (adoption) – 5 years (or next environment for Europe Ministerial meeting)

**Summary:** Development of “New Europe” (EU enlargement, Central and Eastern Europe accession, South-East Europe development, necessity to involve Newly Independent States’ (NIS) region in these processes) and recognition of new links between environment and security, calls for new types of partnership in order to ensure sustainable development in the European region. Development of common European Environment Strategy, called for by Ministers of Environment from 12 non-accession States of Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia, is actually the call for new type of partnership that, on the one hand, would aim to find solutions to common (first of all transboundary) environmental problems of these 12 states on the basis of close co-operation. A common approach is also needed because many environmental problems identified as a priority in national policies of individual countries have common roots in the legacy of the Soviet Union and in the specific features of economies in transition.

Expected results include: Harmonization of Environmental Policies and Legislation; Pollution Prevention and Control; Natural Resources Management in Economies in Transition; Integration of Environmental Considerations into Sector Policies; Financing Mechanisms, including Debt-for-Environment Swaps and other mechanisms mentioned in *the Doha Development Agenda and the Monterrey Consensus*; Democracy of Environmental Decision-

Making and Providing Information to the Public; Identification of Transboundary Problems of the Participant Countries.

- **Preparation of a Regional Sustainable Development Strategy for the Mediterranean: Policy and Tools**

**Leading Partner:** UNEP/MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan)  
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Coordinator of UNEP/MAP  
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**Dates:** September 2002 – December 2005 for the preparation and adoption of the Strategy by concerned partners; December 2010 for the implementation of specific time-bound targets.

**Summary:** The main objective of this proposal is to prepare a Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Mediterranean, involving all concerned actors, most of them already active partners in MAP and the MCSD. In addition to the Mediterranean Countries, this initiative will be actively supported by Mediterranean representatives of the Major Groups and Civil Society, as well as, Regional Actors such as EMP/SMAP and METAP (these last two Partners are expected to provide substantial financial support for the preparation and later on the implementation of the Regional Strategy).

The preparatory process of this Regional Strategy will make appropriate use of relevant information and analysis, available at regional and national levels, notably the Strategic Review prepared recently as an assessment of activities related to Sustainable Development at national and regional levels in relation with the implementation of Agenda 21. This Regional Strategy will focus on relevant policies and practical tools necessary for building up a coherent Strategic Programme with time bound and implementable results. The expected results include:

- Better preparation at national and regional levels to ensure that the environment and trade policies are mutually supportive, in view of the Euro-Mediterranean Free-Trade area;
- Better coordination and use of national and external investments in the Region;
- Strengthening of the MCSD through a stronger implication of concerned Major Groups;
- Exchange of experience among multi-stakeholders on sustainable development;
- Publications related to and international workshops on the Mediterranean Regional case for exchange of experience and possible replication;
- Awareness raising and capacity building in the field of sustainable development;

- Coherence between regional and national approached for sustainable development; and
  - Strengthening of existing networks (MAP, METAP, SMAP, Major Groups networks) and inter-linkages among them.
- **Protecting the Coastal and Marine Waters of South Asia through Partnerships: Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of Coastal and Marine Environment in South Asia**

**Leading Partner:** South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme  
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**Dates:** 2003 - 2008

**Summary:** The main objective for this initiative is to enhance regional cooperation through building partnerships within existing regional bodies and national agencies with the goal to contribute to human security and conserving the natural resource endowments. It is expected to incorporate GAP objectives at the regional and national level in South Asia, through policy initiatives and capacity-building. Effective operation of the SACEP/Regional activity unit as the Regional Sea coordinating unit of all coastal and marine activities in the SA region.

- **Strategic Alliance for Sustainable Development -- Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica**

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**Dates:** 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2002 – long-term

**Summary:** To reaffirm its commitment to pursue sustainable development and to build upon existing Sustainable Development Agreements that each Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica have with the Government of the Netherlands, these countries are forming a strategic alliance. Their partnership agreement provides a broad framework for approaching sustainable development from a south-south perspective. It will result in sharing of knowledge and experiences; exchange programmes; and enhanced participation of civil society organizations

in the decision-making process. Information support and training will be important components of the program.

- **The Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for Environmental Protection towards Sustainable Development**

**Leading Partner:** State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA)  
Italian Ministry of the Environment and Territory (IMET)

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Andrea De Angelis

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**Dates:** February 2002 - 2008

**Summary:** The Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for Environmental Protection towards Sustainable Development was launched in 2000 and consists of the implementation of pilot projects and feasibility studies for the development of scientific and commercial projects on environmental protection including ecological conservation, air quality improvement, sustainable agriculture development. This partnership includes the following pilot projects: air quality monitoring systems; urban sustainable mobility; technology transfer for the construction of low capacity boilers fed with diesel oil; urban energy plans for a sustainable environment; strengthening technology and capacity of sustainable agriculture; and control and phase out of POPs. Most projects will be carried out through knowledge transfer (training programs) and technical assistance.

- **The Sustainable Development Initiative in the Arab Region**

**Leading partner:** League of Arab States

**Contact Person:**

**Address:**

**Tel:** +

**Fax:** +

**Email:**

**Dates:** 2002 - ongoing

**Summary:** Based on the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Development issued in Cairo on 25 October 2001, the League of Arab States adopted a comprehensive regional approach, through the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment and other specialized Ministerial Councils and in cooperation with international, regional and Arab organizations. This approach aims at developing a regional program for sustainable development, and enhance the participation of the Arab countries by strengthening their efforts in realizing

sustainable development, as well as finding a mechanism for financing the programs for environmental protection and sustainable development.

The initiative is considered as a framework for the implementation of programs and activities using the available resources in the Arab countries, in the relevant Arab regional and international organizations, and in the Arab regional and international financial institutions. The initiative will also be implemented through building partnerships with the other regions, groups and international organizations and institutions, as part of the international framework for achieving sustainable development, and with the involvement of all the stakeholders at the national and regional level, particularly Civil Society, including the media. The initiative covers the following areas: Peace and Security, Institutional Framework, Poverty Alleviation, Population and Health, Education, Awareness, Scientific Research, & Technology Transfer, Resources management, Production and Consumption, Globalization, Trade and Investment.

- **Tuberculosis (TB) Control Network**

**Leading Partner:** Medical Cooperation Department, Japan International Development Corporation  
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**Dates:** 2002-2007

**Summary:** JICA has launched TB control programmes in Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines, Yemen and Zambia. It is planned to provide similar programmes in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Myanmar and Pakistan. The objective of this proposed network is to share the knowledge and experience obtained from Japanese cooperation with other relevant countries. The programme is being carried out in cooperation with WHO, UNICEF and WFP and with donors USAID, NORAD and CDC.

- **UNIDO Initiative on Technology Transfer: Assessing Needs-Promoting Action**

**Leading partner:** UNIDO  
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**Dates:**

**Summary:** This UNIDO initiative aims at promoting national Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs) in developing countries and economies in transition and start pilot projects with a process for setting national and sectoral priorities in building the capabilities to

acquire modern technologies, and ensure rapid technology transfer. The UNIDO initiative also incorporates a process for “match-making “ (or alliance building) for specific cooperation endeavours, based on UNIDO’s previous experiences in this area.

- **Water for the Poor Signature Initiative**

**Leading Partner:** US Agency for International Development (USAID)  
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**Dates:** October 1, 2003 - September 30, 2006 (with expectations of continuation)

**Summary:** This initiative was launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with a proposed investment of up to \$970 million over the next three years (2003-2005), to work with other governmental and non-governmental partners to address three key objectives: access to clean water and sanitation services, improved watershed management, and increasing the productivity of water. The initiative comprises dozens of individual activities in more than 50 countries worldwide, each with different expected results in one of the three target areas. The activities under this initiative have a central focus on training and capacity building of host country institutions (public and private), as well as support to information management and overall institutional strengthening for good water governance.

- **White Water to Blue Water: A Crosscutting Approach to Regional Oceans and Coastal Ecosystem Management**

**Leading Partner:** USA  
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**Dates:** October 2002 – October 2006

**Summary:** This partnership, which focuses on the Caribbean, aims to increase coastal state and regional capacity for cross-sectoral approaches to the management of watersheds and marine ecosystems; to develop a framework for regional management programs that will promote a common vision and the efficient use of program resources as well as address the entire scope of watershed and marine ecosystem management from forests to the sea; and reverse the downward trend in fisheries. It is expected to result in greater regional capacity; greater availability of data from remote sensing platforms for use by technical experts, policymakers and the public; new partnerships among private, public and non-governmental

organizations; the identification of new research and training priorities by key stakeholders; and stronger regional institutions.

- **Workplace Assessments Partnerships**

**Leading Partner:** ICFTU/TUAC  
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**Dates:** 2004 - until Rio+20

**Summary:** This partnership envisions a process where trade unions and employers in one or several worksites, a sector or region, work together to assess workplace performance according to agreed checklists of environmental, occupational and social criteria. The results of this assessment can lead to joint plans of action to identify and resolve problems ranging from the simple to the complex and be of short duration or stretch over several years to fulfil complex objectives. The partnership aims to bring relevant parties together to engage in a worldwide process over a broad selection of issues.

- **WTO Capacity Building Initiative**

**Leading Partner:** Japan  
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**Dates:** September 2002 - 2005

**Summary:** This initiative aims to assist developing countries in implementing WTO agreements and negotiating effectively in the WTO negotiations so that they can participate more fully in and enjoy greater benefits from world trade. It seeks to expand knowledge and improve skills for implementation of WTO agreements; develop legal frameworks and enhance physical infrastructure for domestic implementation; and build capacity to participate in the international dispute mechanisms of the WTO.