United Nations Environment Programme

Highlights on 2008 activities

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**UNEP Medium Term Strategy**

- A strategy to meet the global environmental challenge
- A strategy covering the 4 year period, from 2010 to 2013
- A strategy with a clearly defined vision, objectives, priorities, impact measures and a robust mechanism for review
- 6 priority areas identified

*Provides a medium-term vision for UNEP*
UNEP Medium Term Strategy

- Climate change
- Disasters and conflicts
- Ecosystem management
- Environmental governance
- Harmful substances and hazardous waste
- Resource efficiency - sustainable consumption and production

6 cross-cutting thematic priorities
**UNEP Medium Term Strategy**

- Medium term strategy to guide all UNEP activities for the 2010-2013 period
- Framework for the design of the programmes of work and activities of all 6 priorities
- Guided the mission statement elaborated by UNEP FI Steering Committee in February 2008
- 4 priorities identified as more relevant to UNEP FI:
  - Climate change
  - Ecosystem management
  - Resource efficiency - SCP
  - Disasters and conflicts

**Relevance for UNEP FI**
Capacity building for adaptation and ecosystems
  Africa, SIDS, mega deltas: low lying coast, dry lands
  Asia, Latin America: mountains, tropical forests

Mitigation finance and technology:
  Middle income, emerging and carbon intensive economies

CDM and the carbon market:
  Developing countries with few CDM projects to date, especially those in Africa

LULUCF; REDD:
  Developing countries, especially those with sizeable tropical forests

Limiting scope to achieve greater impact
• Insurance: Assistance for the development of financial risk insurance policies for renewable energy projects in emerging and developing countries

• Commercial finance
  − Technical assistance and support for lending for solar water heaters in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt (MEDREP). Scheme being extended in the Balkan region (BALREP)
  − Cost sharing support for innovative clean energy investment funds (SCAF)

• Public finance: UNFCCC/UNEP Public finance instruments for climate change mitigation-Options document

Mobilizing finance for clean energy technologies
**Finance:** $60 million for capacity building to mobilize finance
  - Policy advice
  - Local banks: end users + seed capital products

**Technology support:** $60 million
  - Needs assessments, market analysis, policy support
  - Regional capacity building networks
  - Phasing out of most obsolescent technologies

**The way forward**
UNEPA Resource efficiency

Resource Panel
Global Environment Outlook
Life Cycle Initiative & Approach

Green Economy
(subsidies, macroeconomic policies, labor markets)

Marrakech Process
(priorities & national SCP plans)

Buildings
Transport
Tourism
Food & Agriculture
Finance
Small & Medium Enterprises

Waste; water

CESR
Green Economy
- Value of environmental investments to economic growth, decent jobs creation, and poverty reduction
- Encourage policy makers to reflect it in their investment and economic policy decisions
- ILO/UNEP report “Green jobs

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB):
A global study and process to analyze the benefits of biodiversity, the costs of its loss due to inaction, and the costs of effective conservation

Economic hindsight
Objective: to reduce GHG emissions and improve sustainability of UN organisations

Activities:
- Prepare GHG inventories
- Design and implement emission reduction strategies
- Analyze implications of purchasing offsets for remaining emissions

Supporting tools created; Development of UN wide policy changes

Collaboration with SBCI (Sustainable Building and Construction Initiative)

Walk your talk
UNEPA

Activities
- Sustainability principles and criteria
- Scientific understanding

The Way Forward
- Field testing/application of sustainability principles
- Policy support to governments
- Sustainability criteria for 2nd & 3rd generation biofuels
- Outreach and communication to build political consensus
- Global sustainability standard: engagement with certification bodies such as ISO

A dedicated biofuels initiative
**UNEP Natural resources**

- **Business and Water**
  - Engage business and industry in collaborative work with UNEP on water efficiency.
  - Aim: advance action for sustainable water use.
  - Means: changes in supply chain management, production processes, the design of products and services, and marketing & pricing influence on consumer behavior.

- **Food and fisheries**
  - Promoting sustainable fisheries management, through reform of fishing subsidies, trade policies, application of labeling and certification.
  - Establishing sustainable, resource efficient agro-food supply chains.

**Applying Resource Efficiency**
Global Environment
Up-coming Events

- October 2008: UNEP/ICC Business and Industry Meeting in Paris
- December 2008: UNFCCC COP meeting in Poznan
- February 2009: Meeting of world environment ministers in Nairobi ➔ food, water and energy security
- May 2009: World Business Summit on Climate Change in Copenhagen
- June 2009: World Environment Day in Mexico

Environment to remain at the centre of the world agenda
Thank you

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