Regional UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI)

Asia-Pacific

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6 countries across three stages (+ scoping studies)

- $5.5 million between 2007-2012
- Potential to expand programme with interest from countries across A-P region
**Bhutan: Complimenting Gross National Happiness Development Philosophy**

**Phase 1** August 2008 to 31 December 2009

**Activities**
1. Supporting the Government’s Targeted Poverty Intervention programme (REAP) – identifying environmentally sound poverty reduction measures;
2. Developing planning guidelines for p-e mainstreaming
4. Local Development Planning Manual – reference guide for local authorities to prioritize investments

**Key implementing partner**
Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC)

**Features**
- GNHC - a champion for mainstreaming environment
- PEI used as catalytic support for REAP
- Collaboration with DANIDA
**Phase 1** will commence in April 2009.

**KEY IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**
- Ministry of Planning and Investment
- Provincial governments
- National Assembly

**ACTIVITIES**
- Integrate poverty and environment concerns into the 7th National Socio Economic Development Plan
- Support to develop sustainable investment strategies in several provinces
- Support for social and environmental impact assessment
- Strengthening capacity and increasing awareness of National Assembly on p-e issues

**FEATURES**
- Collaboration with ADB/IFAD
- Implemented using existing project modalities
Bangladesh – Poverty Environment and Climate Mainstreaming

Phase 1 will commence in April 2009.

KEY IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS
Ministry of Planning

ACTIVITIES
- Integrate poverty and environment concerns into the PRSP – analysis, capacity building
- Incorporating poverty and environment concerns in template of Project Pro-forma
- Guidelines and performance assessments for poverty-environment-climate mainstreaming at local level
- Demonstration of p-e mainstreaming in five eco regions.

FEATURES
- Implemented using existing project modalities
Nepal, Thailand and Timor-Leste: Support inclusive planning and decision-making

Key implementing partners:
Ministry of Local Development – Nepal
Ministry of Interior – Thailand
Ministry of Economy and Development – Timor-Leste

Other partners:
Nepal: Community groups, district and local governments
Thailand: Network of forest user groups, provincial and local governments

KEY FEATURES

• Decentralization initiatives – entry point to mainstream p-e concerns
• Evidence-based approaches to integrate p-e concerns in planning process
• Economic analysis – creating a platform for PES, CSR
• Tapping synergies between on-going projects
• Agencies responsible for planning and budget decisions must be in the driving seat
• Economic analysis – key to making the case and capturing attention of finance agencies
• PEI – a conduit for knowledge dissemination
• Environment – recognized as being important but treated as a sector.
• Challenge for poverty-environment mainstreaming – upstream interventions based on evidence and tools
• Poverty environment linkages are more tangible local level. Decentralization initiatives - are a useful entry point
• Private sector - significant agent of environmental change
• Economic planning and spatial planning are de-linked
• Mainstreaming efforts can in turn be mainstreamed
Thank you

Questions?