

South Asia Environment Outlook 2009 (SAEO – 2009)

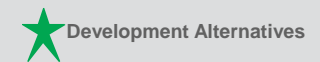
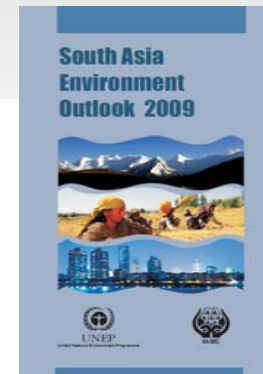
ANAND KUMAR
Development Alternatives, New Delhi

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Presentation Profile

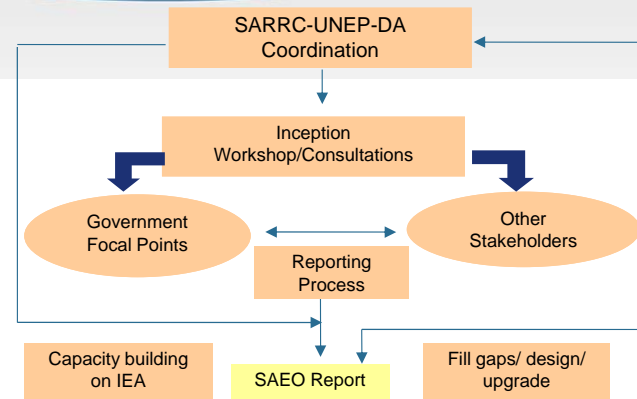
- ❖ SAEO - 2009
..... Process
- ❖ SAEO - 2009
... key highlights



South Asia Environment Outlook : Objectives

- ❖ Provide policy makers with comprehensive, participatory, policy-relevant, science-based assessment of the state and trends of the environment in South Asia
- ❖ Identify key issues and priorities for policy makers to take action and to guide resource allocation.
- ❖ Build sub-regional capacity for assessing environmental state and trends.

SAEO Process





SAEO: Integrated analysis of Environmental Trends and Policies - Analytic Framework

DPSIR framework has been used to analyse the various issues

- ❖ Driver/Pressure : Agents of environmental changes
- ❖ State : Analysis of the past trends or projection of the future
- ❖ Impact : Effects on environment quality and
- ❖ Response : Societal response with policies to affect State of the Environment

SAEO 2009 – Structure

- ❖ Chapter 1: “Regional Overview”

Presents brief profile of South Asia (Bio-physical profile, Socio culture pattern; biodiversity, climate and economic base)

- ❖ Chapters 2: State and trends of the Natural Environment

Present State of Environment & trends; integrated analyses of four major themes (Land, Air, Water and Biodiversity).

- ❖ Chapter 3: Regional Priorities for Cooperation

Mainstreaming of environmental concerns into sectors and developmental process (Climate Change, Food Security, Water Security, Energy Security, Urbanisation)

- ❖ Policy and Institutional options

Building awareness, participatory management, technology transfer, Trade and Investments, Ecosystem Services

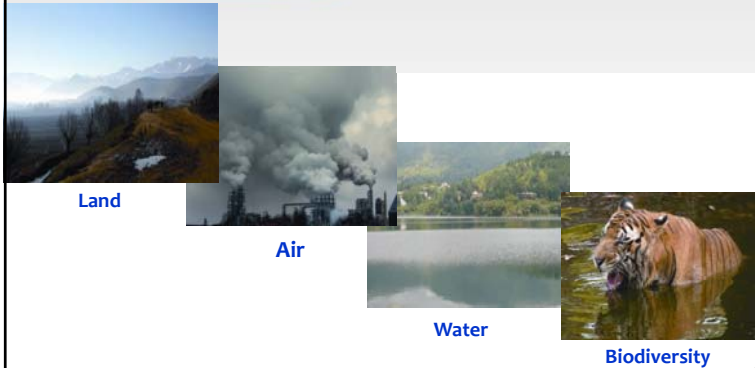
The South Asia

South Asia is home to one of the oldest civilisation in the world

- ❖ Subregion consists of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ Subregion is bounded in the south by the Indian Ocean, in the south-east by the Bay of Bengal and in the south-west by the Arabian Sea and in the North by the mighty Himalayan Mountains.
- ❖ The entire coastline runs to about 10,000km with wetlands area of 1,34,161 sq.km.



State & Trends of Natural Environment



Land

❖ State and Trends

- SA occupies 5% of world's land , home of 20% population
- Approx. 42% land degraded, half of it face desertification
- Forest cover increased by 1.6 mh between 1990 to 2005. Plantation forest increased from 10 to 13% of the total forest cover
- Arable land per capita reduced

❖ Strategies

- Integrated land management
- Organic farming
- Research and Development (Biotechnology)
- Building awareness and local capacity
- Landuse and landcover measurements
- Sustainable forestry management



Air

❖ State and Trends

- Increasing trend of RSPM, SPM , NO₂ and SO₂ levels in cities (vehicle and industrial emissions)
- Increasing trends in CO₂ emissions per capita
- Indoor air pollution has increased causing health problems
- Atmospheric lead is decreasing

❖ Strategy

- Promotion of cleaner technology (biomass and biogas)
- Integrated air quality management plan
- Improved cooking stoves
- Promotion of cleaner fuel (CNG, unleaded gasoline)
- Strengthen air quality monitoring and reporting



Water

❖ State and Trends

- Access to improved water supply is 84%
- Access to sanitation: 39%
- 90% of water supply used for agriculture
- Water quality is deteriorating (Problem of Arsenic contamination)

❖ Strategy

- Integrated water Resource Management
- Watershed Management (water harvesting, wetland)
- Demand and supply side management (water use efficiency)
- Participatory management at local level
- Abatement and treatment of pollution



Biodiversity

❖ State and Trends

- 3 biodiversity hotspots: Eastern Himalayas, Western Ghats and Indo-Burma
- Approx. 14 per cent of the world's remaining mangrove habitation
- 6% of the world's coral reef
- highest percentage of threatened wetlands
- Protected areas have increased, number of threatened plant species decreased & number of threatened bird and mammal species increased.



❖ Strategy

- Protected area management (Biodiversity corridors)
- Marine protected area management
- Access and benefit sharing
- Participatory management
- Traditional conservation knowledge

Climate Change

❖ State and Trends

- Climate change vulnerability very high (drought, floods, sea level rise, GLOF)
- per capita emissions are extremely low (less than one-fifth of the developed countries)
- Impacts on glaciers
- Crop yields could be affected
- Impacts on human health

❖ Strategy

- Climate change vulnerability assessments
- Climate change strategy at sub-regional, national and local level
- Technology transfer and the Clean Development Mechanism
- Sink projects through forestation and wasteland development
- Education and awareness



Urbanization

❖ State and Trends

- Currently ~ 28% urban population –increasing at 3.7%
- Increase volume of municipal solid waste including hazardous waste
- Increase trend in migration

❖ Strategies

- Addressing population growth and rural-urban migration
- Promotion of small scale enterprises through micro-finance
- Integrated waste management in all cities
- Creating sustainable livelihoods through human resource development



Policy Options

❖ Building Awareness

- Education, awareness and empowering communities

❖ Participatory Management

- Community based natural resource management

❖ Technology Transfer

- Promotion and sharing of green technologies

❖ Trade and Investments

- Market based instruments for environmental protection

❖ Ecosystem management

- Adequate investment
- Assessment and Monitoring
- Access and benefit sharing



THANK YOU

