



# United Nations Environment Programme

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE  
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

## Concept Note

# Network of Institutions for Sustainable Development (NISD)

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## **I Background**

UNEP's mission in the field of trade, economics and the environment, is to enhance capacities of countries, particularly developing countries and countries in transition, in integrating environmental considerations in macroeconomic policies, including trade policies. This is done through the development and application of policy packages and an enhanced understanding of the interlinkages and complementarities between economics, trade, and environment.

As part of these activities, UNEP's Economics and Trade Branch (ETB) has entered into agreements with a number of institutions, including national training and research institutes, regional organizations, universities, and international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), thereby establishing a network of collaborating institutions. In March 2004, UNEP invited current and potential collaborating institutions to a Meeting of the Network of Institutions for Sustainable Development (NISD). The objectives of this meeting were three fold: (1) to provide organizations with a platform to present their capacity building activities relating to trade, economics, environment and sustainable development; (2) to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of current capacity building approaches; and (3) to discuss objectives and modalities of future cooperation.

Accordingly, the meeting, which was co-hosted by the Korean Environment Institute, brought together representatives from 24 institutions, including universities, research and training institutes and NGOs. Each institution briefly introduced its main capacity building activities, made presentations on existing network experiences and demonstrated the wealth of experience built up in research activities, training, advocacy work and thematic networks. The institutions present welcomed the initiative to establish NISD as a vehicle to enhance information exchange, capacity building, outreach activities, dissemination of existing materials on trade and economic-related issues and as a catalyst of new initiatives. The need to provide targeted knowledge that enables policy makers to understand potential synergies between environment and development objectives and to mainstream environment into development decision-making was acknowledged.

Section II of this Concept Note outlines the purpose, overall goal and expected results of the NISD based on discussions during the network meeting, as well as written feedback provided by participants. To work towards the goal, the institutions agreed to follow a two-step process, first stocktaking of existing activities, and second, an analysis of the current capacity building gaps based on experiences of network members. The first results of the stocktaking exercise and the possible role NISD could play are described in Section III and IV of this note. Sections V and VI present the role of UNEP as a facilitator of network activities and the possible relation of NISD to other networks.

A table in Annex I summarizes the priorities that the institutions would like to address within the scope of NISD as well as the capacity building approaches that the institutions have experience with (table by institutions). Annex II provides the list of participants at the network meeting held on 26 March 2004. Annex III provides the list of UNEP ETB's collaborating institutions that were unable to attend the network meeting, but will be included in NISD's activities. Annex IV summarizes the characteristics of similar networks.

## **II Purpose of the network and expected outcomes**

The institutions agreed that the overarching purpose of the network would be to promote the integration of environment and sustainability issues into economic and trade policies through the development and implementation of capacity building activities.

The main expected outcomes of the network include:

- a) Capacity building needs and current gaps in capacity building activities identified at the national and regional level.

- b) Tools and methods identified and tested to address capacity building gaps, particularly in the field of integrated assessment for sustainable development, with an emphasis on enhanced communication of results.
- c) Environmental and sustainability issues (including social aspects) further integrated in economic and trade policies at the national, regional and global level (by application of effective tools, outreach activities and institutional networks).
- d) Benefits experienced by network members as a result of networking activities within NISD (e.g. through joint website, exchange of approaches and experiences, joint research projects, learning activities (including training-of-trainers), shared workshops, joint fund raising).

It is anticipated that the expected results will evolve with time and experience.

### **III Stocktaking of ongoing activities and priority gaps**

#### **Ongoing activities as they relate to capacity building and integration**

Many institutions around the world are involved in various capacity building activities, including the development of manuals, training programmes, assessments, and advocacy. Moreover, UNEP and other organizations, such as the World Bank, UNCTAD, UNDP, WTO, CEC, IISD, IAIA, have developed and disseminated information (manuals, position papers, etc.) and provided for meetings and colloquia to discuss and further develop measures to enhance capacity building activities.

There is increasing interest in re-examining planning and development policies from an economic, social and environmental sustainability perspective. Efforts in this direction have been made worldwide by academics, governments, international agencies, and donors. At the project level, progress has been made in integrating sustainability issues into economic and trade policies and in environmental assessments of projects.

With respect to assessment activities, there is a set of separate and mutually overlapping initiatives to develop new assessment tools (e.g. sustainability assessments, integrated assessments, strategic environmental assessment, health impact assessment, etc). A number of countries have conducted introductory workshops for strategic environmental assessment and engaged in related studies.

In this context, UNEP has taken an important step in formulating an integrated assessment framework. However, as yet, there are no commonly agreed or widely accepted sustainability assessment procedures and tools. While both integrated assessment and strategic environmental assessment have been applied, there has been little consideration of the effectiveness of such assessments, nor has there been much discussion on the experience gained or how the assessment results influence decision-making.

In addition, there are some concerns as to whether current capacity building activities are meeting the needs of participating countries and bringing about the envisaged changes in policies and policy-making. Although capacity building is taking place to help the environmental community increase their capability to engage in political dialogues, in most cases, their influence still remains marginal. The problem appears to lie not so much with the number of activities undertaken, but the manner in which they are conducted. Many of these activities still remain one-off exercises, with limited effects at an institutional level. Thus, there is a need to overhaul the methods adopted in undertaking capacity building activities.

#### **Priority gaps identified**

In terms of the *understanding of the dimensions of sustainable development and respective interlinkages* the following priority gaps have been identified:

- There is insufficient understanding that sustainable development encompasses social, economic, and environmental sustainability. Currently, there are separate approaches for environment, trade and

economic policy-making. This is coupled with a lack of understanding of the inter-linkages between social, economic and environmental sustainability. Integration of all three is necessary and the link to poverty issues must be drawn.

- Poverty has not yet become a key issue while discussing trade, environment, and development (e.g. PRSPs have little environmental focus). As a consequence, it is difficult to convince policy makers and other decision makers that environmental sustainability issues must be given priority for long-term success of any economic-related (or other policy) planning.
- Academics and policy makers are not sufficiently aware of the different components of a sustainability analysis. A general framework and standards for what could provide a reference to countries for sustainable development is missing. Essential expertise and suitable institutions for integrating economic, social and environmental policies to achieve sustainability need to be identified and formal guidelines need to be provided at the university level to build manpower that will be able to implement sustainable development professionally in the future.

In terms of the *framework conditions* in countries for integrating environment and sustainability issues into economic and trade policy-making the following priority gaps have been identified:

- There is a lack of coordination amongst the different capacity building providers, MEA secretariats, donors and other providers to ensure a consistent effort. Recipient institutions exploit this lack of coordination, as there are rents to be captured, and repeat efforts at a lower level.
- Further, there is a lack of long-term perspective, including the problem that funds for monitoring and follow-up are often missing.
- Ministries tend not to have an integrated and common approach towards sustainable development policies and action. This is evident in the independent approaches taken at the level of the environment and trade ministries. The sectorial approach prevails. In addition, there is insufficient dialogue between policy makers, researchers and NGOs. The policy makers need an analytical framework to integrate environment and sustainability issues into policies.
- There is a lack of real solutions and options. The solutions proposed are often overwhelmingly of a mitigation nature, impractical (e.g. suggesting market-based instruments where the overall market institutions are ill developed) and not proactive with implementation options. Linked to this is the lack of real influence and results. Generally, there is no shortage of activities and case studies, but there is often insignificant change on the ground. Decision makers often face an oversupply of recommendations, but a short supply of efforts devoted to implementation. Policy makers would need to be supplied with cases that have worked in the past (not only pointing out what has gone wrong), thus drawing on positive knowledge gained instead of a post-mortem analysis approach. This could be done with the use of comparative assessment, which allows for comparison of different development pathways in terms of sustainability criteria.

In terms of the *capacity building approaches* the following priority gaps have been identified:

- There continues to be insufficient capacity in developing countries for the promotion of sustainable development. To improve the situation, capacity building should pursue three main purposes: awareness raising, creating analytical abilities and creating the ability to take informed decisions. Gaps are mainly identified in the last two areas as too much emphasis has been placed on awareness raising without focusing on the opportunities to create capacity for critical analysis and better decision making in the future.
- Capacity building activities remain too focused on national government personnel. The relevant stakeholders, especially NGOs, are not sufficiently involved in the process of policy development and assessments.
- Capacity building activities often fail to consider local conditions and actors. Currently, it is often the suppliers who create activities and training manuals (at times away from the realities on the ground) and push for their implementation. Trainings are often given by foreign consultants without taking

into account the availability of national expertise. Moreover, training materials are often based on case studies from developed countries or countries beyond the national or regional focus of where the training is given. In other cases, tools already exist, but are not used regularly.

- Another shortcoming is the lack of action oriented research and planning. Trainings and manuals tend to be based on wishful aims and policies. There is a need for concrete experiences on how to make policy recommendations to decision makers and ensure they are implemented. This requires on-the-job training, monitoring, studies on the impact of integrated assessment, and follow-up activities. Independent research undertaken in developing countries needs to be fed into the policy-making process. So far, much of capacity building remains uncritical or circumscribed by government institutions.
- Capacity building activities in the trade policy area are currently insufficient and should be targeted at those economic and trade professionals who have direct influence on policy design, planning and implementation. Integration of environmental concerns into trade policies is often regarded as increasing pressure from outside. A strong emphasis is still placed on traditional economic indicators (to assess economic development), which fail to indicate the environmental damage that might follow the pursuit of economic growth.
- Capacity building, though important, tends to be portrayed as the main factor in enhancing environmental and sustainability issues into economic and trade policies. However, while an important dimension of it, there are a number of other relevant factors. Countries need to have the technical capacity to integrate policies, which are influenced by social and political factors related to time and cost evaluation. There is a need to explore which of these factors really matter in order to clearly identify the real obstacles to policy integration.

#### **IV Role of NISD to fill the gaps**

International and regional networks can play an important role in promoting sustainable development. By strengthening and expanding existing networks one can ensure that new capacity is developed in these and other institutions to provide for the demand for knowledge-based inputs to sustainable development and trade-related issues in international policy-making. As relevant information becomes more extensively shared through networks, capacity building for example with regard to integrated assessment can be more rapidly advanced.

An interactive network such as the NISD can contribute substantially towards improving institutional and individual capacities and reaching out to decision makers. NISD could be seen as a global umbrella under which regional collaboration would be developed (e.g. emphasizing studies with regional importance). NISD could start by taking an overall look at all factors that come into play when governments and policy makers in general take a decision on adopting an integrative approach to trade, environment and sustainable development. This would help explain to what extent capacities are a determining factor, while at the same time, identifying other key factors in the decision-making process. The profile of NISD and its members could be raised so that member institutions may be appropriately engaged and called upon to provide knowledgeable inputs into trade and sustainable development decision-making at the national and international levels.

NISD could contribute to:

- Fostering a common and enlightened understanding of sustainable development in terms of its three components (through all modes of dissemination).
- Enhancing upstream thinking by anticipating future opportunities and problems, e.g. through brainstorming sessions and consensus building workshops.
- Improving coordination and communication channels for the exchange of experiences and information on trade and the environment, including also political and social information, particularly with respect to successful experiences.

- Fostering independent and joint research and capacity building focused on offering governments a robust source of policy advice.
- Advocating the integration of environment and sustainable trade promotion in PRSPs and other national planning processes, as well as the integration of environment, poverty reduction, social equity and sustainable development issues in the WTO and regional FTA processes.

NISD needs to ensure that it is positioned to provide decision makers with the necessary perspectives on trade, development and environment issues to enable sustainable development. This can best be achieved after a network-wide identification of existing strengths within NISD is carried out. This would be followed up by specific proposals for engagement and action. The network should build on the existing capacities of members and use their comparative advantages. NISD members could join efforts to facilitate local-based identification of real needs and priority areas in their countries and regions. In this context, it is necessary to differentiate between long-term awareness raising and focused efforts that address more immediate and pressing issues and problems.

Following the suggestions of the institutions, NISD could play a role in the following specific areas:

The first activity areas (training and education, methods and tools, case studies) would mainly contribute to result (b) described in Section II. The last activity area would mainly contribute to result (d).

#### Training and education:

- Develop curricula to improve degrees in environment and economics, e.g. make integrated assessments part of formal curricula (similar to CBA), and help universities teach these courses nationally.
- Develop training programmes on the indicators of sustainable development.
- Conduct training programmes for policy makers.

#### Development of methods and tools

- Conduct analysis to identify gaps and improve methodologies, especially with respect to integration methodologies, and develop better tools and approaches.
- Establish a general framework and methodology for the integration of environment, trade, sustainable development and poverty reduction.
- More widely test and review the currently proposed UNEP framework for integrated assessment. Once a common framework for integrated assessment exists, the NISD members can then help to translate it into training resource manuals, including its adaptations for various contexts, organisation of training-of-trainers, etc.
- Develop materials for comparative assessment, and investigate opportunities for collaboration between institutions to provide support for such assessments.

#### Case studies/research:

- Develop a databank of case studies and examples that clearly set out the case for placing priority on environmental and sustainable development issues.
- Develop case studies on the relationship between environment, trade, sustainable development and poverty reduction.
- Help raise funds to undertake integrated assessment studies and their follow-up.
- Promote work on environmental and natural resource accounting at national level.

### Information exchange/outreach:

- Facilitate an exchange between countries on best practices and lessons learned about environmental and integrated assessment, for example through an electronic platform that shows actual cases of application of integrated assessment. The exchange can be done on a regional or thematic basis.
- Create an NISD website to make available information on the institutions, best practises and tools (including newsletters, electronic conferences, etc.).
- Support networking for the design and implementation of sustainable development policies and programmes.
- Establish a code of coordination among members, so that when one country plans to undertake a project, NISD members will be notified for possible collaboration and input. Interested members will have an opportunity to get involved, serving as members of the projects' advisory teams, providing inputs to projects/reviewing outputs, organizing training workshop, etc.
- Help to create regional capacity building centres that will undertake training and provide region-specific expertise, manuals, guidelines and technical backstopping to local teams.

### **V Potential functions of the UNEP Secretariat as Facilitator to the NISD activities**

Potential functions of the UNEP Secretariat as the Facilitator of the NISD include:

#### *(1) Ongoing functions*

- Act as facilitator for NISD.
- Act as a focal point for information pertinent to member institutions and facilitate the implementation of Network activities.
- Assemble interested partner organizations in order to share lessons learned, discuss best practices, identify/discuss areas for collaboration and report on ongoing and future activities.
- Act as a liaison between the regional member institutions, NISD and external partners.
- Identify sources of funding for the UNEP secretariat and the NISD either on its own or in collaboration with members institutions.

#### *(2) Specific activities*

- Information dissemination through a joint website and newsletter.
- Initiate workshops/training seminars together with NISD members.
- Organize an annual meeting for NISD.

### **VI Relationship of the network with already existing networks**

NISD should avoid duplication of work by other existing networks and endeavor to join efforts with such networks in the following manner:

- Existing networks and their members could serve as partner institutions either on an ongoing or on a project-by-project basis. Joint efforts could be made with fundraising and experience sharing.

- Members of other networks will be invited to joint meetings and NISD representatives will also aim to participate in the meetings of other networks.
- NISD should explore organizing joint activities including workshops and training programmes with other networks.

**Annexes:**

Annex I: Priority themes and approaches in NISD (see attached)

Annex II: List of Participants, Network Meeting, 26 March 2004, Jeju Island, Rep. of Korea (see attached)

Annex III: List of Further Collaborating Institutions (see attached)

Annex IV: Characteristics of other networks related to the topics (see attached)

## Annex 1: Priority themes and approaches in NISD

List of Institutions	Priorities that institutions would like to address, falling within the scope of NISD	The type of Capacity Building approaches the Institutions has experience with and would like to be taken by NISD			
		Training Activity/Course programme	Case Studies /Researches	Seminars and workshops	Advocacy and outreach
<b>AID Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Facilitate needs assessments at regional scale (expected result under a)</li> <li>-Undertake studies and reviews of integrated assessment and their follow-up in specific themes like agricultural commodities such as palm oil or wheat (expected result under b)</li> <li>-Undertake outreach activities through effective external communication (expected result under c)</li> <li>-Develop manuals, newsletters and training materials free of charges; CD ROMs with up-to-date information on specific subjects like natural resource management (expected result under d)</li> <li>-Evaluate the impacts of capacity building activities to determine what is useful and effective (expected result under d)</li> <li>-To activate the network the NISD undertakes a well-prepared electronic conference on a well-defined subject of high current interest for most NISD members</li> </ul>	-AID Environment does training by a mixed team of an external and local trainer	-AID Environment has experience with UNEP-GPA, through questionnaires and self-assessments to identify current needs - Develop manuals, newsletters and training materials free of charges, CD ROMs with up-to-date information on specific subjects like natural resource management	-Undertaking and moderating on-line electronic conferences on specific subjects	-AID Environment has a unit specialized in capacity building on external communication strategies

<b>Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Identification of human capability and institutional capacity for application of CAC/RI, EI/MBI, moral suasion for environmental protection and management (expected result a and c)</li> <li>-Developing and disseminating the (simple but powerful) role of: (1) Internalization of externalities dealing with problem of pollution. (2) Ensuring property rights (innovatively /imaginative) to deal with destruction of natural resources. (3) Infusing elements of private goods dealing with the free riding of environmental goods/services (public goods)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Professional training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Higher level of educational research</li> <li>-Case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Seminar and workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Outreach</li> </ul>
<b>CAIRO University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-To establish a general framework and methodology for the integration of environment, trade, and SD</li> <li>- Subjects on integration of sustainable development into environmental accounting and trade (expected results: exchange approaches and enhance funding)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Case studies</li> <li>-Material preparation</li> </ul>		
<b>Centre for International Project (CIP)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Support for MEA implementation</li> <li>-Environmental impact assessment</li> <li>-Strategic environmental assessment</li> <li>-Coverage of NIS Countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Seminars and workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dissemination of information through different channels</li> </ul>
<b>Centre International des Technologies de l'Environnement (CITET)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Need assessment for capacity building (expected result under a)</li> <li>-Development and testing of tools (expected result under b)</li> <li>-Networking (expected result under d)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training activities</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seminars and workshops</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC)</b></p>	<p>-Reform of the resource management/economic policy for the purpose of sustainable use and competitiveness of Chinese agricultural sector under the open market commitment made at accession to WTO (expected result under a, b, c, d)          -The integrated assessment of GMO products and its threats and opportunities for China, (expected result under a, b, c, d)          -Comparison study of agricultural and environmental related clauses in the recent signed bilateral and regional FTAs, (expected result under a, b, c, d)</p>		<p>-Case studies</p>	<p>-Information providing</p>	<p>-Outreach          - Providing information and guidance</p>
<p><b>Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)</b></p>	<p>-Development/refinement/customisation of IA tools in Hong Kong and China and the subsequent dissemination of the results in any network or electronic platform to be established          -Study on the interface between IA and national planning process; examine what types of tools and process can fit into the institutional settings of different countries</p>	<p>-Courses at the undergraduate level include: Sustainable development, resource issues in age of globalisation and trade liberalisation, globalisation and development, planning and governance for sustainable development</p> <p><u>In the Future:</u>          Run training programs on EIA and Strategic Environmental Assessment in Hong Kong and China Mainland          -Run training workshops on EIAs and SEAs</p>	<p><u>-Offered to:</u>          Provide case studies and examples in Hong Kong and China for dissemination through any network to be established          - Provide advice and professional support to those in the region in undertaking IA          -Serve as reviewers on projects related to Integrated Assessment in the region</p>	<p>-Run policy forums and conferences for environmental assessment and strategic planning professionals from time to time          -Team up with others in China and the region in running capacity building programs</p>	

<p><b>Conservation International (CI)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Members of NISD should collectively voice the support and advocate the integration of environment and poverty reduction in the PRSP and other national planning processes and trade policies in the WTO and regional FTA process</li> <li>-NISD members should join efforts to facilitate local-based identification of real needs/priority problems in specific countries that are not the direct beneficiaries of capacity building activities, and pull resources to address the real needs focusing on options/results/problem solving</li> <li>- Establishing a code of coordination among members, so that the action by one member will be notified and comments could be generated from other members</li> <li>-Support the establishment of a World Environment and Sustainable Development Institute (WESDI) as a specialized training arm of the MEAs, UNEP, UNCTAD, and other interested and relevant bodies</li> <li>-Achieve effective trade and economic growth, poverty reduction, social equity, and environmental conservation simultaneously</li> </ul>		<p><u>-CI focuses on:</u> Sustainable financing for globally significant protected areas; enforcement of environmental laws and regulations with a focus on illegal logging and wildlife trade in Southeast Asia; comparative assessment of development options with different location, temporal, and sector characteristics</p>		
<p><b>International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Bring the findings of the recent comprehensive assessment of the existing assessment capacity (conducted in various regions) together systematically</li> <li>-Enhance efforts to identify capacity building training courses</li> <li>-IAIA could serve as a clearinghouse for questions on methods/integrated assessment, and take the lead in developing appendices to the UNEP training manuals on specific components of integrated assessment like HIA, SIA, biodiversity, etc</li> </ul>	<p>-Training for its members</p>	<p>-Case studies</p>	<p>-Seminars and workshops</p>	<p>-Outreach -Website section on Environment and Trade related policies</p>

<b>Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Some upstream thinking (in pre-emptive mode anticipation problems ahead)</li> <li>-Brainstorming sessions and consensus building workshops</li> <li>-Valuation studies that will give some ideas about the importance of various issues in different countries (e.g. how does trade of aquaculture products impact livelihood and environment) (expected result under b)</li> </ul>	<u>Training on:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Trade and Environment</li> <li>-Environmental Accounting</li> <li>-Conservation and Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Case studies</li> <li>-Valuation studies for trade, environment, conservation and development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Seminars for consensus building and for multi stakeholders discussion on multilateral agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Advocacy and outreach at local, national, international and global levels</li> </ul>
<b>International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Trade and sustainable development</li> <li>-Investment and sustainable development</li> <li>-Environment and conflict</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Joint research</li> <li>- Policy analysis (Trade and Environment Handbook)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Seminars/workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Advocacy and outreach</li> <li>-Active networking</li> <li>-Web development and management</li> <li>-Trade knowledge network</li> </ul>
<b>Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Explore policy integration in the context of bilateral and regional trade agreements and economic integration, focusing on the Asia-pacific and experiences from elsewhere (expected results of c &amp; d)</li> <li>-IGES will focus on strategic policy research and online training (turning research outcomes into training modules)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Online training (e-courses)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Strategic research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Involved in various seminars and workshops</li> </ul>	
<b>Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Infrastructure development policies for energy, water, transport, materials, building</li> <li>-Participatory decision making methods including innovative approaches that incorporate representative and deliberative process</li> <li>-Capacity building-identification of gaps, tools and methods and the integration of sustainability into policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training and development of training materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The development, researching and reporting of case studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Organising and facilitating seminars and workshops</li> <li>-Organising and facilitating representative and participatory decision making process</li> <li>-Organising and facilitating futures, scenario planning and backcasting session</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Advocacy and outreach</li> </ul>

<p><b>Korean Environmental Institute (KEI)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-NISD to be a project based and action oriented network</li> <li>-Memorandum of Understanding among NISD participants</li> <li>-Open and multilateral demand-supply matching mechanism to bring together providers and hosts</li> <li>-Technical secretariat for co-ordinating and fund raising projects and activities of NISD, to organize annual meetings of NISD, to review and assess ongoing NISD activities and keep online web-based platform for public relations among NISD participant institutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training programme on economics, trade and environment, and sustainable development issues including EIA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Bilateral and multilateral cooperative research</li> </ul>		
<p><b>McGill University</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Integrated assessment of trade-related policies</li> <li>-Identification of gaps in capacity building in integrated assessment and EIA</li> <li>-Development and application of indicators to measure IA and trade policy</li> <li>-Providing capacity building in EIA and IA through workshops and colloquia</li> <li>-Providing capacity building in EIA and IA through a graduate course options and new courses targeted specifically with relevance to the these fields</li> <li>-Strengthening linkages with major national/international agencies with existing mandates for IA and sustainable development (CEC, IJC, CEAA, WB, CIDA)</li> <li>-Active engagement with NISD website and “Community of Practice” type networking to facilitate information exchange and joint work on relevant topics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Major capacity building approach in international university through mid – to-long term educational activities including undergraduate courses, graduate course and specific advanced programs at the graduate level</li> <li>-Developing graduate masters degree in environmental assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Research</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The development of direct institutional linkages between partner institutions</li> <li>-Exchange of staff and students for both training and for collaborative work on specific projects</li> </ul>

<b>Mongolian Natural and Environmental Consortium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The promotion of trade and economic policy aimed at sustainable development (expected result c)</li> <li>-Promotion of access to information through website and citizens participation in public entities and involvement of NGOs in protection of the environment (expected result d)</li> <li>-Make assessment of capacity building needs in Mongolia (expected result a)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training on capacity building for national organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Case studies on sustainable development</li> <li>-To make interdisciplinary and participatory research which aims to generate concrete proposals and recommendations for public policy and good practise</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Develop programmes with public, private, organisations on SD</li> <li>-Environment and SD database design and application</li> </ul>
<b>North-South University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Develop curriculum for IA at bachelor level for Economics/Environmental programs at the University</li> <li>-Conduct research to help improve the tools</li> <li>-Conduct training programs for policy makers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training of trainers on environmental education and environmental impact assessment (economic valuation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Research and dissemination</li> </ul>		
<b>Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Capacity building for south to be able to comply with environmental standards in certification, accreditation and access to information on environmental standards</li> <li>-Cooperate social responsibility: outsourcing under exploitive conditions that has environmental and social dimension</li> <li>-Removing agricultural subsidies in the North for the benefit of the South</li> <li>-Intra-State market assessment to determine the beneficiaries of removing agricultural subsidies</li> <li>-Long term training the trainers by identified and accredited trainers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training unit that assist in country level training methodologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Research</li> <li>-Case studies with a focus on building capacity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Weekly seminars on issues of national interest which could extend to regional levels</li> </ul>	
<b>Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Monitoring and evaluation of major trade items like pine apples, rubber plantation, shrimps, etc</li> <li>-Chemical waste study</li> <li>-Involving the members of Thailand Business Council for SD and more in cause and effects of trade and environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Cleaner Technology training</li> <li>-Strategy management for SD training for policy makers and implementers</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Plan to establish Trade and Environmental unit</li> </ul>

<p><b>The Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)</b></p>	<p>-Work on integrated assessment as well as in economic instruments and implementation of MEAs          -To identify capacity building gaps and to address tools and methods particularly in the field of integrated assessment, (expected result under b)</p>	<p>-Training and fellowship program          -Technical assistance (combined with awareness raising and on-the-job training)</p>	<p>-Comparative studies          -Elaboration of position papers on key issues</p>	<p>-Organising of multi-stakeholder workshops to discuss issues of broader interest</p>	<p>-Grants to NGOs or municipalities          -Awareness raising and lobbying          -Coordination of negotiating positions on international treaties</p>
<p><b>Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre (CATIE)</b></p>	<p>-Enhance awareness of and support additional research on; poverty, trade and environment, and the role of trade in poverty alleviation and sustainable development          -Research on economic incentives, natural resource valuation and accounting, market access and sustainable trade, environmental goods and services and sustainable agriculture and forest</p>	<p>-Short-term training activities and courses          -Formal education at the graduate level</p>	<p>-Country studies, and regional case studies</p>	<p>-Seminars and workshops</p>	
<p><b>Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar</b></p>	<p>-Identify gaps in terms of capacity buildings at national and regional level          -Integrate environmental issues in economic policies, at national and regional level</p>	<p>-Training activities</p>	<p>-Case studies</p>	<p>-Seminars and workshops</p>	



# United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

## Annex II

### **1st Meeting of the UNEP Network of Institutions for Sustainable Development (NISD)**

26 March 2004, Jeju Island, Republic of Korea

Cohosted by

UNEP/Economics & Trade (UNEP/ETB)

Korean Ministry of Environment (KMoE)

Korea Environment Institute (KEI)

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## Annex III

### List of Further Collaborating Institutions

(which could not attend the Network Meeting in Jeju, Rep. of Korea, 26 March 2004)

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#### Annex IV: Characteristics of other networks related to the topics

Name of the NETWORK	Coverage of countries	Regional Coverage	Focus
<p><b>Trade Knowledge Network (TKN)</b></p>	<p><b>Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America</b></p> <p>Current Trade Knowledge Network members are located in eight countries: Argentina, Bangladesh, China, Chile, Costa Rica, Pakistan, South Africa and Vietnam. These partners focus on building stronger networks at the national level, and creating a lasting presence on the issues of trade and sustainable development.</p>	<p>No Regional coverage</p>	<p>Composed of research and policy institutions that are exploring <u>the connection between trade and sustainable development</u> and working to ensure that increased international trade can contribute to sustainable development in their countries and regions.</p> <p>The Trade Knowledge Network has three inter-related objectives to achieve this goal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. to produce high-quality, objective, in-country and thematic research to increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of the sustainable development dimensions of trade;</li> <li>2. to utilize policy workshops and other fora to inform and promote dialogue among policy-makers and stakeholders in TKN countries as a means to incorporate sustainable development into trade policy, negotiation and application at the country and international level; and</li> <li>3. to facilitate through the Trade Knowledge Network, its partners and among broader global audiences, the exchange of information, best policy and practice on trade and sustainable development.</li> </ol> <p>The research provides important capacity building opportunities that will enable decision-makers and policy-makers to incorporate sustainable development issues into national trade and development policy</p>

<b>EU-LDC Network</b>	<p>Only countries of European Union and its member states (EU) and developing countries (LDCs)</p>	<p>Regional coverage:</p> <p>When comparing Network Regional Focal group's country location with registrations from those countries, it is interesting to note that Argentina (a total of 32) represents the greatest number of South American users, coinciding with a one of the most active Regional Focus Groups. This is compared to ten users from India; nine from Thailand; seven from South Africa; and five users from Egypt. One would expect Regional Focal Group activities would generate interest in the website and other EU-LDC activities through their in-country networks resulting in increased registrations from their home country. The lack of registration from Regional Focal Group countries is consistent with the difficulties and slow progress in activating Regional Focal Groups and their contributions to the Network.</p>	<p>The EU-LDC Network is a network of researchers, policy makers and NGOs. It focuses on the economic relations between the in the field of trade, investment and aid.</p> <p>The themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">WTO</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">REGIONAL FOCUS</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; WELFARE ASPECTS OF TRADE</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">EU ENLARGEMENT</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS</a></li> </ul> <p>The diversity of economic relations between the EU and developing countries implies a wide range of possible themes to be treated.</p>
<b>The Global Action Network Net (GAN-Net)</b>	<p>Global</p>	<p>Different Types of GANs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Internal Collaboration GAN:</b> Examples - GRI, FSC</li> <li>• <b>Associative GAN:</b> Examples - TI, MSC</li> <li>• <b>Supportive GAN:</b> Example - TAI</li> <li>• <b>Adaptive GAN:</b> Example - UNFCCC</li> </ul>	<p>The Global Action Network Net is a growing community of researchers, consultants and practitioners who support development of GANs that address such pressing international issues as poverty, environmental degradation and economic globalization. The Group focuses on developing new knowledge, tools, processes, organizational designs and strategies to increase the effectiveness of GANs.</p>
<b>UNEP Network – Trade, Economics, Environment and Sustainable Development (to be discussed)</b>	<p>In principle all Developed Countries-EU</p> <p>Developing –Asia, Africa, America</p>	<p>Regional Networks</p>	<p>UNEP Network –aims to work for network members on trade, economics, environment and sustainable development.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overall objective of the network is to contribute to enhance capacity building, economics, trade and sustainable development at local, regional and global level through empowerment of communities especially women.</li> <li>• To contribute to strengthening the capacity to integrate environment into policies and programmes of government institutions at national level and regional level To provide a platform for knowledge exchange and joint projects between the institutions at regional and sub regional level.</li> </ul>