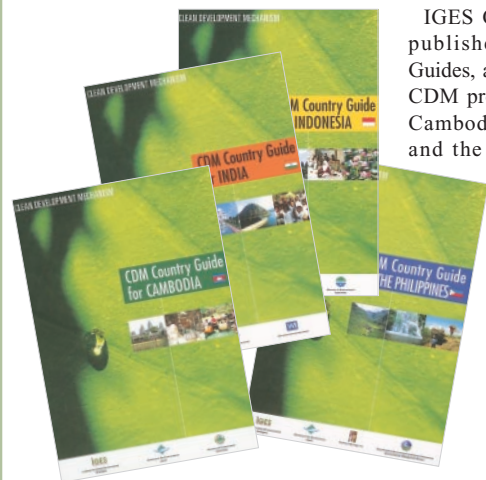


Publications

CDM Country Guides



IGES CDM Programme has published CDM Country Guides, a series of manuals for CDM project development for Cambodia, India, Indonesia, and the Philippines. These practical guides provide the country-specific information and useful annexes.

The guides on China and Thailand will be available by March 2006.

For more information: <http://www.iges.or.jp/en/cdm>

Policy Brief (Number 2)



IGES has launched Policy Brief #2, entitled "Information Access as a Vehicle for Sustainable Development in Asia - Establishing regional agreement in Asia".

To promote environmentally sustainable development, it is imperative that access to relevant information, in advance, for the stakeholders, and in particular to the local people, is ensured. At the same time, it is essential that their views and concerns are appropriately reflected in the decision-making process. Compared to Europe, where countries have promoted information disclosure in accordance with the Aarhus Convention, the status of Asian disclosure

is lagging behind, especially in the developing countries. This issue proposes the steps for promoting information access, such as the establishment of an agreement at the regional level, the development of a basic model of legislation on access to environmental information in the region and the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue regionally and internationally.

For more information: <http://www.iges.or.jp/en/pub/>

Visitors to IGES

Study Tour of the 15th Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change

On 11 and 12 September, the 15th Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change was held in Yokohama. The aim of this seminar is to bring together experts from countries in the Asia-Pacific region to exchange information, experiences and opinions on climate change in order to promote efforts to tackle this problem. The seminar functions as a vital channel for policy dialogue within the region.

On 12 September, nine of the participants paid a visit to IGES. Following a summary of IGES's activities given by Prof. Morishima, Chair of the Board of Directors, there were presentations by the project leaders of the

Climate Policy Project and Long-term Perspective and Policy Integration Project. Participants were then taken on tour of the facilities. This visit provided an important



forum for interaction, with the participants and project researchers taking the opportunity to exchange information.



Affiliate and Associate Membership

IGES welcomes affiliate and associate members from private companies, NGOs, the public and students. The purpose of the IGES affiliate and associate membership is to publicise IGES strategic research activities and ask the members for their support of IGES activities.

Registered affiliate members receive priority information and announcements of symposiums, workshops and seminars hosted by IGES, as well as publications featuring new research findings, including the International Review for Environmental Strategies (IRES), the IGES Newsletter, the IGES annual report and other activity reports.

Associate members receive announcements of IGES activities including symposiums and seminars (although they do not receive priority regarding these announcements) and also receive IGES free-of-charge publications such as the Newsletter and annual report.

IGES welcomes you to become a member and take part in IGES research activities.

■ Affiliate Members (Japanese Yen)

| Classification | Registration Fee | Annual Fee |
|----------------|------------------|------------|
| Corporate | 50,000 | 100,000 |
| NGO | 15,000 | 30,000 |
| Individual | 5,000 | 10,000 |
| Students | 5,000 | 3,000 |

■ Associate Members (Japanese Yen)

| Classification | Registration Fee | Annual Fee |
|----------------|------------------|------------|
| Corporate | 25,000 | 50,000 |
| NGO | 7,500 | 15,000 |
| Individual | 2,500 | 5,000 |
| Students | 2,500 | 1,500 |

Mail News: E-alert

Our mail news service, E-alert, is sent out to subscribers, reporting the activities of IGES projects and environmental news. Recently "E-alert interviews" has been started to deliver candid reports on people involved in environmental policies in their own voices.

For subscription: <http://www.iges.or.jp/en/news/mail/>

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IGES What's New From IGES

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies November 2005

Adaptation to Climate Change: A Critical Challenge for Asian Development

Dr. Ancha Srinivasan, Principal Research Fellow, Climate Policy Project



Recent catastrophic events, such as Tsunami in the Indian Ocean, Hurricane Katrina in the United States and tropical storm Damrey in northern Vietnam, received great attention in the public media due to their extensive human and infrastructure-related losses. While such events cannot be attributed solely to climate change, the Third Assessment Report (TAR) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change suggests that the magnitude and frequency of extreme climate events would increase in the future due to climate change. It is regrettable that the Asia-Pacific region bears the brunt of 90% of global climate-related disasters with over half a million lives lost since the 1970s.

Mainstreaming Adaptation in Development

Adaptation to climate change is a dynamic multi-faceted process that refers to adjustments through policies and actions in ecological, social and economic systems in response to impacts of actual or expected climatic stimuli. Adaptation has become an urgent challenge in the Asia-Pacific region due to its high vulnerability characterised by large and relatively poor populations with low adaptive capacity besides technological, resource and institutional constraints. While communities and ecosystems everywhere continue to adapt to some extent, such adaptations have often proved inadequate, painful, costly and unreliable. As climate change threatens to undo decades of development and poverty-reduction efforts, it is crucial for Asian policy-makers to make earnest efforts to move from reactive "blind" adaptations to proactive, deliberative and systematic strategies through mainstreaming adaptation in developmental plans at local, national and international levels.

In international negotiations, adaptation received much less attention than mitigation of greenhouse gases, primarily due to lack of adequate knowledge on differentiating the impacts of anthropogenic climate change and of natural climate variability. However, given the fact that a certain level of adaptation has to occur, even if mitigation measures are in place, negotiators from developing countries have argued for creating mechanisms to facilitate adaptation since COP8. Several funding mechanisms, such as the Special Climate Change Fund, the Least Developed Countries' Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Special Priority on Adaptation of the Global Environmental Facility, have been created but contributions have been both inconsistent and inadequate. The adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Work on Adaptation and Response Measures at COP10 in December 2004, and the decision to ask the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to develop a five-year work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, have raised the profile of adaptation agenda in international discussions. Such discussions would continue at COP11 in Montreal.

The multilateral institutions such as, the World Bank and bilateral cooperation agencies, such as JICA, have just begun to integrate adaptation concerns in their programmes. However, much remains to be done at the operational level, for example, in terms of "climate-proofing" large projects on infrastructure development. While the capital costs of the "climate-proofed" infrastructure would obviously be higher than the case in which infrastructure was constructed without considering climate change impacts, the accumulated costs, including repairs and maintenance, would be much lower in the latter over a period of time (as short as 15-20 years). "Climate-proofing" of projects during early stages of planning can, therefore, save enormous resources.

Despite widespread recognition that adaptation is necessary, Asian countries have undertaken limited efforts at the national level largely due to lack of reliable and adequate information on the vulnerability and capacity of their communities to adapt to climate change. Another reason for the lack of effective mainstreaming adaptation concerns in development plans is the existence of a great divide in the policy debate. For example, although climate change will have significant impacts on sectors, such as agriculture and water resources, policy debates on these issues are going in parallel without much consideration for the other. Some progress is evident, however, in countries such as Bangladesh and Kiribati, where mainstreaming of adaptation concerns has been done at the policy level to some extent. However, much remains to be done at the operational level in various climate-sensitive sectors.

IGES Organises a Consultation Meeting on Proactive Micro-Adaptation (PMA)

Adaptation often requires site-specific considerations, taking into account many local benefits and interests, hence, the involvement of communities in adaptation planning is vital. Proactive Micro-Adaptation (PMA) — which encompasses anticipatory strategies and measures taken by communities, businesses, governments and other stakeholders at the local level — has, therefore, a significant potential to be a crucial component of the strategies to address climate change. IGES organised a consultation meeting on 13 and 14 July 2005 (Photos), where several case studies on local adaptation were reviewed and their implications for international negotiations and sustainable development were examined. It was concluded that the integration of PMA in local planning is crucial to increase the resilience of communities and reduce poverty. The meeting recommended that "partnerships in shared learning" through two-way dialogues between practitioners and the local community should be the basis for mainstreaming adaptation at the local level. Participants also underscored the need for the creation of incentives and approaches that prompt politicians and high-level decision-makers to take early action on the PMA, and the need for additional international support for facilitating the PMA.



Consultation Meeting on PMA



Left : Dr. Stewart Cohen (Environment Canada & University of British Columbia)
Right : Dr. Youssef Nassef (UNFCCC)

IGES Contributions to the 6th IHDP Open Meeting with two special sessions on climate policy and urban environmental management

The International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) held its sixth open meeting at the University of Bonn from 9 to 13 October 2005 with IGES and four other institutions as co-organisers. This year's meeting focussed on the theme of "Global Environmental Change, Globalisation and International Security". With about 600 participants, the plenary sessions, together with about 130 parallel sessions, covered diverse topics.

IGES hosted two special sessions on urban environmental management and climate policy. During the session "Urban Transformation and Reform for Sustainability - Local solutions for global change", held by the Urban Environmental Management Project on 11 October, through presentations and a panel discussion, the participants discussed how global environmental concerns can be integrated with local management in a developing urban context. Topics discussed included: greenhouse gas mitigation, urban transportation and solid waste management.

The session "Mainstreaming Climate Change Concerns in Development Policy: Issues and challenges for Asian countries", was held by the IGES Climate Policy Project on 12 October. It discussed various options for integrating climate policies and measures in the national and local development plans of selected Asian countries and took into account such diverse aspects as the Clean Development Mechanism, adaptation policies, technology transfer and capacity building.

The presentations at both sessions will be published after a further review by relevant experts.

What is IHDP?

The IHDP, supported by the International Social Sciences Council (ISSC) and the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), has conducted research on the human dimensions of global environmental change. The open meetings started at Duke University in 1995 with the aim to share and exchange the latest interdisciplinary expertise. The third meeting was held at IGES in Japan in 1999.



Open Meeting held at IGES in 1999



Session "Mainstreaming Climate Change Concerns in Development Policy"



Session "Urban Transformation and Reform for Sustainability"

IGES Participates in the Asia Forest Partnership

Forest Conservation Project

The Ad Hoc Working Group for Strengthening the Asia Forest Partnership (AFP), of which the Forest Conservation Project (FC) is a member, held a meeting on 8 September in Bogor, Indonesia. The AFP is a voluntary network of governments from timber producer and importing countries, intergovernmental organisations and civil society groups promoting sustainable forest management. The AFP was formally announced at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 and aims at addressing the underlying causes of forest loss and degradation in the region by creating a framework for collective action amongst partners.

The two topics for discussion at the recent Ad Hoc Working Group meeting were the need for the establishment of a permanent secretariat and operating procedures of the AFP. Good progress was made on both issues and the results will be submitted for deliberation amongst all partners at AFP5, to be held in Yokohama from 13-15 November. FC took the opportunity to participate in the Ad Hoc Working Group meeting while conducting research in Papua New Guinea and Indonesia on forest certification.



Certified timber production, natural forest, Papua New Guinea

IGES Contributes to GEO-4 Process

Long-term Perspective and Policy Integration Project

From 4-7 October 2005, the lead authors meeting on the Global Environmental Outlook (GEO)-4 Chapter 10 (Policy Options) was held at the IGES headquarters. The GEO-4 is scheduled to be published in September 2007 by the UNEP DEWA (Department of Early Warning Assessment).

The purpose of this meeting was to make a draft document based on the outline of each chapter formed at the plenary workshop held by the UNEP DEWA in Nairobi in June. Thirteen experts from each region of the world were invited and zero draft was completed. Besides support for organising the meeting, Mr. Hideyuki Mori, project leader of the Long-term Perspective and Policy Integration Project, and the researchers from the project, contributed to the draft.

Lecture for Global Environmental Issues and Corporate Social Responsibility

Project Office in Bangkok

Since its inauguration in May 2003, the IGES Project Office in Bangkok has contributed to research activities, outreach of the institute's outcomes and the enhancement of partnerships and networking in the neighboring countries. On 16 September 2005, Taeko Takahashi of the IGES Bangkok Project Office held a half-day lecture on business for sustainability and global environmental issues. A group of promising managers from the Siam Cement Group (SCG), headed by Mr. Kitjar Ruangthai, the Safety and Environment Executive Consultant, attended. The lecture was a part of the SCG's project called "Young Talent Manager." The purpose of this project is to create environmental and safety awareness among the managers and motivate them to integrate environmental consciousness into their business management.

Topics, such as challenges companies are facing today, Corporate Social Responsibility, and environmental management systems, were highlighted in the lecture.

The discussion was followed by the introduction of IGES' functions as a research institute and the UNEP RRC.AP as an international organisation.



First IGES Affiliate Members Seminar 2005

IGES holds Affiliate Members Seminars as a good opportunity to provide research results in a prompt and easy-to-understand way, and gain opinions about IGES activities directly from the affiliate members. The first seminar was held on 28 September, organised jointly with the Kanagawa Foundation for Academic and Cultural Exchange (K-FACE).

The seminar welcomed 2 guests including the deputy director of IGES Centre for Sustainability EcoAction 21 office, Mr. Ken Morishita. Under the theme "EcoAction 21 and Environmental Management", a report was given on the certification and registration system of EcoAction 21, an environmental management system that can be easily used by small and medium sized businesses. The situation of EcoAction 21 in Kanagawa was also

mentioned. The participants, including affiliate members and company representatives, paid close attention to the speakers, who in turn fielded many questions from the audience and experienced close-hand the heightening of interest in environmental management systems.



Seminar: Guide to Creative Environmental Policy -Beyond the border between environment and welfare

IGES holds a seminar titled "Shonan Academia" once a year that introduces the latest topics on environmental issues for the local people. The seminar is co-organised with the Kanagawa Foundation for Academic and Cultural Exchange (K-



FACE). This year's seminar was held on 17 September 2005, under the theme of environment and welfare. The lecturer was Mr. Shigeru Sumitani, Administrative Vice-Minister of the Environment and about 80 participants attended.

At the seminar, Mr. Sumitani, also an advisor of the Society of Environmental Welfare of Japan, indicated that the environment and welfare are essentially related to each other and introduced the new concept of "environmental welfare." He plainly explained the concept using examples familiar to us, such as environmental education for the younger generation who refuse to attend school or to work; and, the reformation of towns that were made infamous for pollution, like Minamata-city. Based on the experience from his long career as a government official, he suggested how environmental policy and welfare policy could be harmonised.

IGES Kansai Research Centre

New Deputy Director Appointed



Mr. Choei Konda took up the position of deputy director at the Kansai Research Centre in July 2005. He will work on the further enhancement of

project promotion.

After completing his postgraduate studies at the Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University Faculty of Science, Mr. Konda joined the Environment Agency (now the Ministry of the Environment) in 1977. Since then, he worked in the field of the environment for more than twenty-five years. During this time, he worked for the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Prior to joining IGES, he was a senior fellow at the UN University Institute of Advanced Studies.

Business for Sustainable Society (BSS) Project Study Meeting

At the Kansai Research Centre, BSS Project Study Meetings are organised with the participation of its stakeholders.

On 12 July, the second study meeting was held. First, the guest speaker, Dr. Suehiro Otoma, professor at the Graduate School of Environmental Engineering, University of Kitakyushu, gave a presentation entitled "Lifecycle Regulated Business Models" that focused on regulating the entire life cycle of products. Following this, there were reports on continuing BSS project research into "Environmentally-sound Business Models" and "Environmentally-sound Local Development Systems" on themes, such as methods to carry out quantitative analysis of car-sharing and housing with reduced environmental burden. A lively exchange of opinions on these research themes followed.