

# Institution Building for Environment and Resource Governance

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# Introduction

## 1. Meaning of this theme

- ⌘ Environment and resource governance are two major issues faced by the mankind within the context of pursuit of peace
- ⌘ No shortage of wars of the history due to conflict in getting access to resources.
- ⌘ New terminology 'Conflict Resource'-those natural resources played an increasingly role in providing money to maintain conflicts.

- ⌘ In April 2007, the UN Security council debated the effects climate change will have on peace and security and record 55 delegations participated.
- ⌘ Natural disasters often associated with climate change, the number of deaths caused by natural disasters in Asia and the Pacific region reached 232500 in 2008.

## 2. Structure of the paper

Introduction—4 major parts—concluding remarks

- ⌘ Part I Basic concepts and framework of environment and institution study.
  - ⌘ Part II Review of major international conferences on institution building for environment and resource governance.
  - ⌘ Part III Regional institution building for environmental governance.
  - ⌘ Part IV Analysis and Suggestions
- Concluding Remarks

# Part I Basic Concepts and Framework of Environment and Institution Study

## 1.01 Concept of Institution

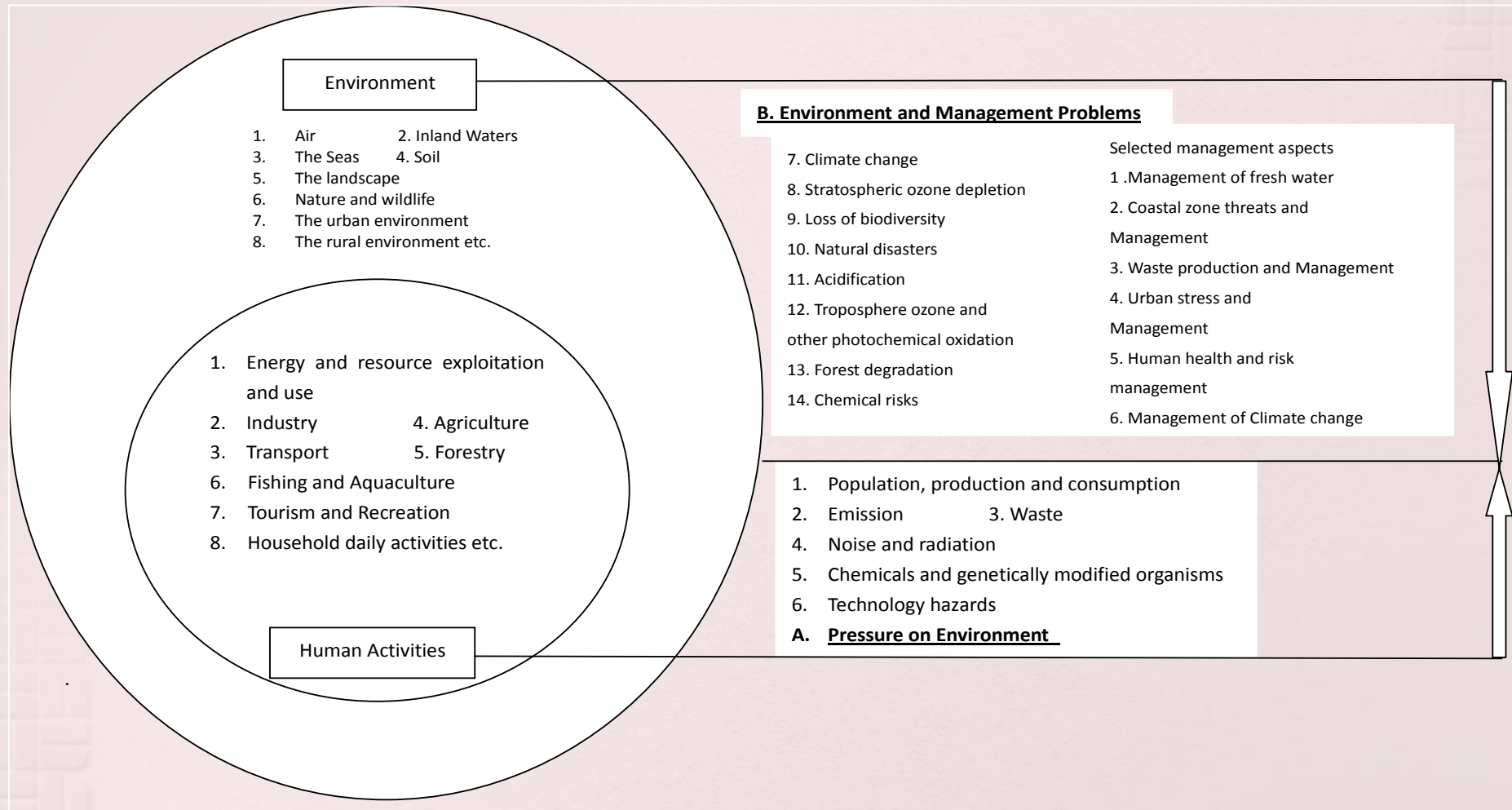
1. Institutions are structure and mechanism of social order and cooperation governing the behavior of a set of individuals or groups.

- ⌘ It is an organization with certain structure and purpose
- ⌘ It has the role in making and enforcing of rules governing human behavior.

2. Example of Institution UN; UNEP etc.



# 1.02 1. A Framework of study of Environment and Resource Governance



\*Fig.1 Framework of Analysis of Environment and Resource governance

Source: Derived from: Europe's Environment The Debris Assessment Edited by: David Stunners and Philippe Bourdeau European Environmental Agency Copenhagen 1995.

## 2. Clarification of concept on 'Resource'

- (1) Resource in broad sense means wealth, supplies of goods, raw materials etc. which a person, country etc has or can use.
- (2) Resource governance discussed in this paper refers to natural resources (1-6 listed in "Environment" of Fig.1). This is also the concept used in documents of 'Agenda 21'.
- (3) Governance of specific resource of extractive industries will not be discussed in this paper in order to simplify the discussion.

## **Part II Review of Major International Conferences and Events on Institution building for environment and Resource Governance**

### 2.01 General

- ⌘ In the early 1970's, few countries-mainly developed countries, had government departments concerned with environment, for example, Sweden (1969), U.S.A., U.K., Canada (1970); Japan, France (1971).
- ⌘ There are a series of conferences organized by UN, with the efforts contributed by governments, intergovernment agencies and NGOs, institution



building for environment and resource  
governance are established and perfected  
gradually since the Stockholm Conference, the  
first UN Conference on the Human  
Environment in June 5-15, 1972 which is the  
major international conference on environment.

## 2.02 Review of major historical conferences and events on institution Building of environment

**Table 1 Major Historical Conferences or events on institution building of environment**

Serial No.	Date of conferences of event	Name of Conferences or events	Remarks
1	June 5-16, 1972	Stockholm Conference	UN's first major conference on environment Laid framewrok for environment cooperation, creation of environmental monitoring network, creation of UNEP.
2	1983,1987	Establishment of Brundtland commission, Brundland Report	Established based upon Resolution of U.N. Preparation of environmental perspective to the year 2000.
3	1991.12	Publication of "Saving Our Plant-The state of the Environment 1972-1992"	Brief analytic report on changes in the state of the world environment done by UNEP. Preparation for coming UNCED.
4	June3-14,1992	UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)	Achieve agreement on Climate Change convention. Formation of five documents: Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; Agenda 21; Convention on Biological Diversity; Forest Principle and Framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC).
5	26 Aug-4Sept.2002	World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)	Review of Progress of implementation of Agenda 21, four areas of gap in implementation are summarized.
6	3-14 Dec.2007	UN Climate Change Conference (COP 13)	Adoption of the Bali Road map.

## 2.03 Supplementary Remarks on table 1

1. There are many institutions set up in UN or global society

- ⌘ UN has set up UNEP, CSD (Commission on Sustainable Development), CEB (Executive Board for cooperation), HCP (Higher Level Committee on Programmes), UNDG (UN Department Group) etc.

2. There are also broadening and strengthening the mandates and activities of global institutions such as IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature): ICSU (International Council for Science), WWF (World Wildlife Fund) and others.

- ⌘ Global NGOs such as IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development), the World Resource Institute, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and others have established and are now instrumental in providing independent advice on different environmental and resource issue.



## 2.04 Agenda 21 (Description for Illustrative Purpose)

⌘ This is one of important document formed in UNCED.

It has given important guidelines on organizations and rules on environmental and resource governance.

(Please refer to Box1 of the paper)

### Box-1 Agenda 21—Table of Contents

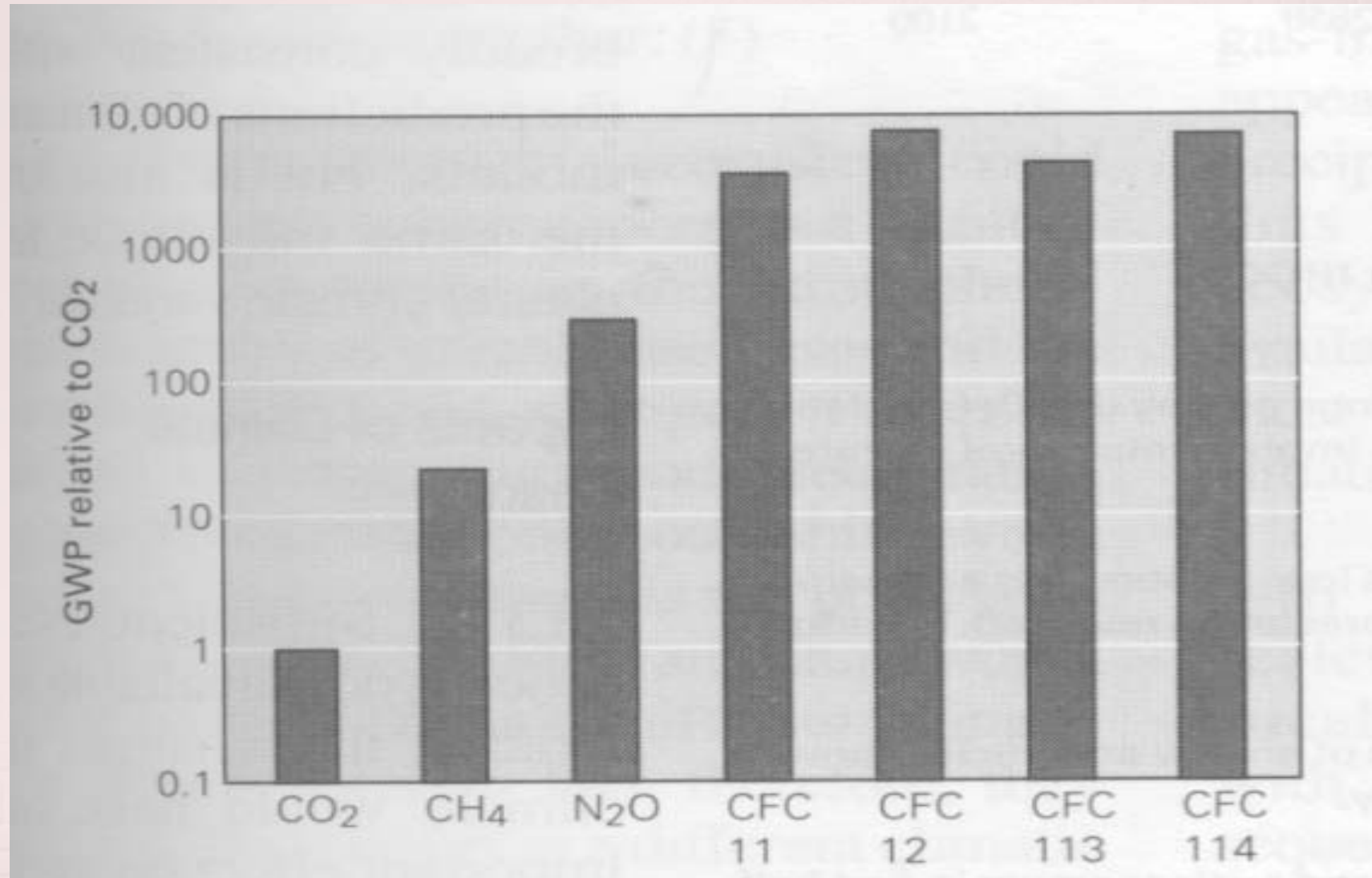
Chapter	Paragraph
1. Preamble	1.1-1.6
Section I Social and Economic Dimension	
2. International cooperation to accelerate sustainable development ... in developing countries and related domestic policies	2.1-2.43 .....
8. Integrating environment and development in decision making	8.1-8.54
Section II Conservation and management of resources	
9. Protection of the atmosphere	
10. (Note:9-22 includes various resources and major issues of management, such as ....air, land , water, fresh water and sea), waste, forest etc.)	
22. State and environment sound management of radioactive waste	22.1-22.9
Section III Strengthen the Role of Major Groups	
23. Preamble	
....	23.1-23.4
....	.....
27. Strengthening the role of NGOs: partners for ... sustainable development	27.1-27.13 .....
32. Strengthening the role of farmers	32.1-32.14
Section IV Means of Implementation	
33. Financial resources and mechanisms	33.1-33.4
....	.....
37. National mechanisms and international ... Cooperation for capacity-building in developing ... countries	37.1-37.13 ..... .....
38. International institutional arrangements	38.1-38.45
....	.....
40. Information for decision making	

- ⌘ It has a chapter titled ‘International Institutional Arrangements’ that institutions are well defined. For example

38.1 of this chapter described “...with the General Assembly being the supreme policy making forum that would provide overall guidance to governments, the U.N. system and relevant treaty bodies. At the same time, governments as well as regional economic and technical cooperation organizations, have a responsibility to play an important role in the follow up of the conference.....”

## 2.05 1. Change of focus of priority of greenhouse gas

- ⌘ Key issue addressed in Stockholm conference was the use of CFCs. But global warming and impact of CO<sub>2</sub> is focused more in recent years. Fig.2 shows the GWP of greenhouse gases.



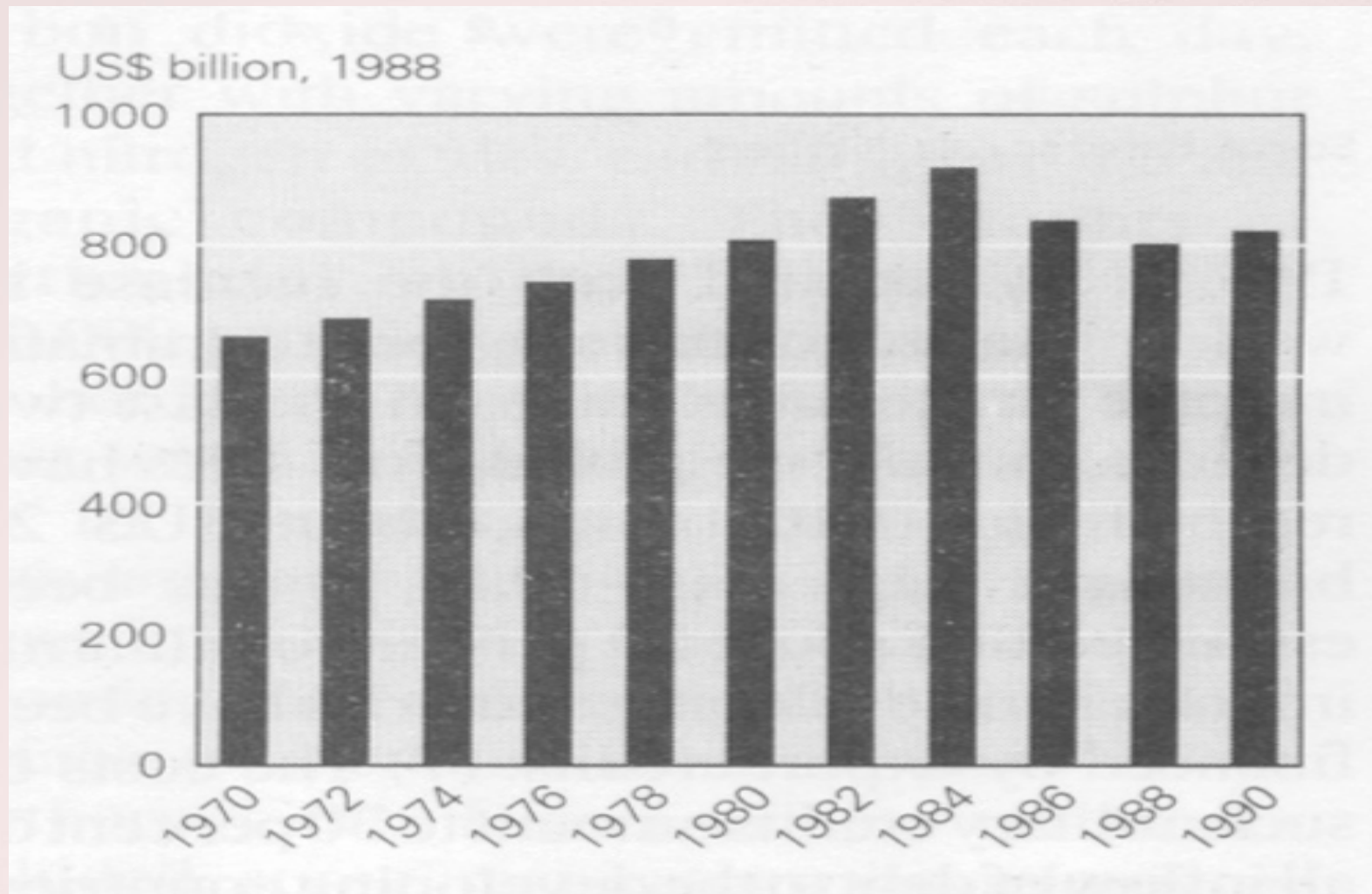
**Fig.2 Global Warming Potential of Greenhouse Gases**

Source: Saving Our Planet UNEP 1991



## 2. Change of concept on Security and Peace

- ⌘ In the last two decades, the World has spent about U.S. \$17 trillion on military activity (Fig.3). And it is recognized that: “Environmental degradation imperils the nations most fundamental aspects of security...” (Saving our Planet UNEP 1991)and “Peace, development and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible.”(Rio Declaration Principle 25)



**Fig.3 World Military Expenditure**

Source: Saving Our Planet UNEP 1991

## Part III Regional Institution Building for Environmental Governance

3.01 General Various institutions were established at regional and country level. Selected aspects of selected regions will be described

3.02 Institution building in Europe and EU

1. Europe had created the Environment and Consumer Protection Directorate and composed the first Environment Action Program in 1973.

2. It had prepared ‘A European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development to be part of its contribution to WSSD in 2002. It was prepared from the directive of Helsinki European Council (Dec.1999) who invited EC to ‘prepare a proposal for a long term strategy dovetailing policies for economically, socially and ecologically sustainable development.’

### 3. Process of preparation

(1) Consultation papers of six topics (Climate change and energy; public health; management of natural resources; poverty and social exclusion; ageing; mobility, land use and territorial development) are prepared to provide the analytic underpin for this strategy.



(2) A public hearing process was held involving businesses, trade unions, NGOs, academic field and public authorities to express their views on these consultation papers.

#### 4. Selected abstracts from the document

(1) This document has identified six common problems for the failure of institution

(2) Topic 1 Climate change and clean energy

Detail analytic work had done to project the growth of GHG by sector. (Table 2)

**Table 2 Projected growth of greenhouse gas emissions between 1990 and 2010**

	1990 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq.	Baseline 2010 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq.	Growth 2010/1990%
Energy supply	1421.7	1276.6	-10.2
Industry	757.1	686.1	-9.4
Transport	753.1	1098.2	45.8
Households	447.5	440.0	-1.7
Private and public services	175.6	188.9	7.6
Agriculture	417.0	397.6	-4.7
Waste	166.4	137.3	-17.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>4138.3</b>	<b>4224.8</b>	<b>2.1</b>

Source: A EU Strategy for Sustainable Development EC 2002

### 3.03 Regional and Country Institution of UN and other selected regional institutions on environmental governance

1. ESCAP The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific Region is responsible to implement related activities of U.N. It had prepared report of “State of the Environment in Asia and Pacific” every five years. Its 2000 report was prepared jointly with ADB with financial support from the Japanese government.

2. UNDP It is set up by UN at country level, it implements related activities of UN and UNEP on environmental and resource governance.
3. Others There are Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean environment and climate; ASEAN Cooperation on environment, it developed a series of ASEAN Sub-regional environmental programmes (ASEP I , II , III) since 1977 followed by the Strategic Plan of Action on the Environment 1999-2004 (SPAEE) and Asian Vision 2020.

## Part IV Analysis and Suggestions

4.01 General There is no shortage of efforts of institutional building on environment and resource governance either at international, regional or country level. The major issue is failure in implementation.

4.02 Lessons of failure of environmental governance

1. Comparison of common problems for the failure of institutions for environment governance (Table 3).



**Table 3 Comparison of Result of Study on Common Problems of Failure on Environmental Governance**

	Lessons Summed up by UN	Lessons Summed up by EC
1	A fragment approach towards sustainable development	Sectoral policy inconsistency
2	Lack of mutually policies in finance, trade, investment, technology on sustainable development	Policy Inertia Inadequate communication and dialogue
3	No major changes in the sustainable patterns of consumptions and productions	Limited understanding Wrong Incentive
4	Shortage of financial resources for implementing Agenda 21	Short-termism in policy making

Source: 2.02-6-(2) of this paper  
3.02-4-(1) of this paper

## 2. Selected views from the academic field

- (1) The world is running out of time to deal with a set of seeming overwhelming environmental threats
- (2) The World's economy and its institutions needed fundamental changes
- (3) It is a real challenge to involve BRICs in subscribing to principles and codes of conduct they have taken no part in developing

- (4) The commitment to sustainable development have been taken far more seriously in Europe than in the rest of the world, but even there the record has been spotty.
- (5) Much of the blame for the ineffectiveness of multilateral environments lies of ineffectiveness of UNEP to do its job.
- (6) There is need to call for leadership, especially the role of U.S.A.

### 4.03 Analysis and comments

1. General The gap of implementation of sustainable development is quite complex, it is effected very much by politics and vision of development strategy. Leadership at internatioanl and country level is important.

2. Needs of people among the world differs greatly.

This is the major challenge of vision of sustainable development for the people in general.

3. Pattern of consumption and production cannot be changed within a short historical period.

#### 4.04 Three Major Suggestions

- (1) To support fully the role of U.N. and UNEP, assist actively to improve the performance of them
- (2) Every country should does its utmost effort on institution building of environmental and resource governance to contribute to solution of global environmental issues.
- (3) There is need to promote the awareness of environment governance at grass roots level.



## Concluding Remarks

- (1) There are already many existed institution buildings for environment and resource governance at international, regional and country level. It is necessary to strengthen and improve them.
- (2) Each country should learn the best practice of existed institution building for environment and resource governance to adapt to their national context. Innovative and system approach should be developed.

3. NGOs have contributed very much to the progress of institution building for environment and resource governance. It is recognized that “Peace, development and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible.” APSN and Peace Science Society can contribute more on this in coming future.