SACEP STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME 1

1992 - 1996

(SSP-1)

Prepared by

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme

in collaboration with

United Nations Environment Programme
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

SEPTEMBER 1992

SACEP STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME 1

1992 - 1996

(SSP-1)

Prepared by

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme

in collaboration with

United Nations Environment Programme
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

SEPTEMBER 1992

Note: This document was prepared by the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) with the assistance of a Consultant. The financial support for its preparation was provided by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) under a Memorandum of Understanding between UNEP and SACEP. The support provided is part of UNEP's contribution toward strengthening the environmental institutions of the countries of the SACEP in addressing their environmental problems.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in the document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNEP and SACEP concerning the legal status of any State, Territory, City or Area, or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The document contains the views expressed by the Consultant acting on his individual capacity and may not necessarily reflect the views of UNEP and SACEP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Preface	**1**
Chapter 1. Introduction and Antecedents	**3**
1.1. The Conception and Establishment of SACEP	3
1.2. The Structure of SACEP and Salient Features of the Articles of Association	4
1.3. Subject Area Focal Points	7
1.4. Decisions of SACEP Governing Council Meetings	7
1.4.1. Salient Programme Decisions of the First SACEP GC, 27-29 January 1983	7
1.4.2. Salient Programme Decisions of the Second SACEP GC, 17-18 April 1985	9
1.4.3. Salient Programme Decisions of the Third SACEP GC, 12-13 January 1987	9
1.4.4. Salient Programme Decisions of the Fourth SACEP GC, 25-26 April 1988	10
1.5. Priority Identification and Review Consultancies	13
1.6. Activities Undertaken by SACEP in Collaboration with International Agencies	16
1.7 Major Outputs	17
1.8. A Brief Appraisal of SACEP's Activities and Outputs	19
Chapter 2. National Activities	**21**
2.1. Bangladesh	**21**
2.1.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point	21
2.1.2. Completed and On-going Activities	22
2.1.3. Key Prospective Activities	22

Page

2.2. Bhutan 22

2.2.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point 22

2.2.2. Completed and On-going Activities 23

2.2.3. Key Prospective Activities 24

2.3. India 24

2.3.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point 24

2.3.2. Completed and On-going Activities 25

2.3.3. Key Prospective Activities 26

2.4. Maldives 27

2.4.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point 27

2.4.2. Completed and On-going Activities 27

2.4.3. Key Prospective Activities 29

2.5. Nepal 29

2.5.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point 29

2.5.2. Completed and On-going Activities 30

2.5.3. Key Prospective Activities 30

2.6. Pakistan 31

2.6.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point 31

2.6.2. Completed and On-going Activities 31

2.6.3. Key Prospective Activities 32

2.7. Sri Lanka 32

2.7.1. Institutional Structure and SACEP Focal Point 32

2.7.2. Completed and On-going Activities 32

2.7.3. Key Prospective Activities 32

Page

2.8. Views of Other Inter-Governmental Organizations 33

2.8.1. South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) 33

2.8.2. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) 33

2.9. Summing Up 34

Chapter 3. A Need and Capacity Based Approach to Regional Environmental Co-operation 37

3.1. Bangladesh 37

3.1.1. Regional Environmental Activities 37

3.1.2. Training and Pooling of Expertise 37

3.1.3. Joint Actions 38

3.2. Bhutan 38

3.2.1. Regional Environmental Co-operation 38

3.2.2. Training and Pooling of Expertise 39

3.3. India 39

3.3.1. Regional Environmental Co-operation 39

3.3.2. Training and Pooling of Expertise 39

3.4. Maldives 40

3.4.1. Regional Environmental Co-operation 40

3.4.2. Training and Pooling of Expertise 40

3.5. Nepal 40

3.5.1. Regional Environmental Co-operation 40

3.5.2. Training and Pooling of Expertise 41

3.5.3. Joint Action 41

3.6. Pakistan 41

3.6.1. Regional Environmental Co-operation 41

Page

3.7. Sri Lanka 41

3.7.1. Regional Environmental Co-operation 41

3.7.2. Training and Pooling of Expertise 41

3.8. Summing up the SACEP Country Focal Point views on Regional Co-operation 42

Chapter 4. The Goals for SACEP Strategy and Programme (SSP-1) and Priority Areas 43

4.1. Goals for SACEP Strategy and Programme-1, 1992-1996 44

4.2. Selection of SSP-I Priority Programme Areas 46

4.3. Priority Project Proposals 47

Chapter 5. Priority Project Outlines 49

Chapter 6. Potential Funding Sources 65

6.1. Potential Sources of Funding 65

6.2. Financial Arrangements 66

Annex 1 Terms of Reference of the Consultant 69

Annex 2 Consultant's Itinerary and Resource People Met 71

Annex 3 Environmental Documents of Member Countries 77

Annex 4 List of the Participants of the Meeting of Country Focal Points to Review the First Draft of SSP-I (Colombo, 20-21 August 1992) 81

PREFACE

The Priority Subject Matter Areas for SACEP Activities were identified in consultation with the relevant National Institutions of the participating Governments by the SACEP/UNEP/UNDP Missions in 1982. These were adopted at the First Governing Council of SACEP held in January 1983.

In view of the fact that National, Regional and Global Environmental Problems and Priorities had changed significantly during the last decade, SACEP requested UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (UNEP/ROAP) to assist SACEP in reviewing its Programme and formulating a Strategy and Plan of Action for the next five years.

In response a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between UNEP and SACEP in November 1991 for the Preparation of SACEP's Strategy and Programme I (SSP-I).

The First Draft of SSP-I was prepared on behalf of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) by a Consultant after visiting the participating Countries. The First Draft was reviewed at a Meeting of the National Focal Points of the SACEP Countries and the Representative of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) held in Colombo on 20-21 August 1992.

The Revised Draft was first reviewed by the Preparatory Meeting of Senior Officials preceding the Fifth Governing Council of SACEP. The Final Draft was then presented to the Fifth Governing Council of SACEP during their September 1992 Meeting in Colombo which approved it as SACEP's Strategy and Programme for the 1992-1996 Period.

Without the invaluable assistance and input of the staff of UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, the preparation of this document would not have been possible. SACEP, on behalf of the Governments of the Region, acknowledges this and expresses its gratitude to all other persons who were involved in the preparation of the SSP-I.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION AND ANTECEDENTS

With the collaboration of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), an Inter-Governmental Meeting of Experts which was held in Bangalore in 1980 identified Subject Areas of common "ecological" interest for the countries of the South Asian Region. A year later a High Level Meeting which established South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), also demarcated and allocated Fifteen Subject Area Focal Points to Member Countries and International Agencies. Priority Areas for SACEP's activities within these Subject Areas were identified by SACEP/UNDP/UNEP Missions mounted in 1982. Since then, some of these activities have been implemented with the financial support of UNEP, Asian Development Bank (ADB), etc. However, due to the lack of financial resources the majority have not been carried out.

In addition to this, in the ten years since the inception of the SACEP priority areas in National, Regional and Global Environmental Priorities have somewhat changed. In view of these changes, SACEP Secretariat in 1991 decided that an evaluation of its technical activities and the formulation of a Medium Term Plan of Action was necessary.

The UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (UNEP/ROAP) was contacted for this purpose. On the basis of discussions held in November 1991, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between UNEP/ROAP and the SACEP. Under the Terms of Reference of this MOU it was agreed that SACEP should embark on the Preparation of a Strategy and Programme for the period 1992-1996 (SSP-I).

For the preparation of SSP-1, SACEP in consultation with UNEP/ROAP recruited a Consultant whose Terms of Reference are attached as Annex 1 to this document.

1.1. THE CONCEPTION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF SACEP

The First Executive Director of UNEP, in his address to the First Governing Council Meeting of SACEP (Colombo, January 1983) referred to the 1972 United Nations Conference on Human Environment. In connection with regional and sub-regional organisations dealing with environmental issues, he reminded the Meeting that these were envisaged by that Conference. Thus the antecedents of SACEP are as old as that of UNEP itself.

Taking up the mandate given by the Stockholm Conference, UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, convened a Meeting of Inter-Governmental Experts (Bangalore, 10-15 March 1980) to consider the feasibility of establishing a regional environmental organisation.

Delegations from Bangladesh, India, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka attended the Meeting, while the interests of Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, and Maldives were noted. The participants reflected on the many common ecological characteristics of the South Asian Region which extends from the Himalayan Chain at one end to the Indian Ocean at the other, and agreed on the principals of establishing the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP). The Meeting also recommended that a High Level Meeting of Government Officials should work out the Articles of Association and other Modalities of SACEP, followed by a further Meeting of High Level Officials to adopt a Declaration for SACEP.

Subsequently a High Level Officials Meeting to initiate the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme was held (Colombo, 18-21 February 1981). This was immediately followed by a Meeting of the "Environment" Ministers of the South Asian Countries (Colombo, 23-25 February 1981), where the Colombo Declaration was adopted on February 25, 1981. The Articles of Association of SACEP were then taken to Governments of the Region for ratification. Three countries ratified the Articles of Association by January 1982, and SACEP was formally established.

At the offer and the invitation of the Government of Sri Lanka, SACEP has been hosted in Colombo since its inception.

1.2. THE STRUCTURE OF SACEP AND SALIENT FEATURES OF THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The Organisational Chart of SACEP is shown in Figure 1. Member States are represented at Ministerial Level in the Governing Council, which is the Principal Review and Deliberative Body. It is normally scheduled to meet once a year, unless otherwise agreed by members. As of now four meetings of the Governing Council have been held in Colombo (1983), Dhaka (1985), Delhi (1987), and Kabul (1988).

A Consultative Committee comprising of the representatives of the diplomatic missions in Colombo, is responsible for facilitating the implementation of the programme and policies decided by SACEP Governing Council. The Consultative Committee meets regularly at quarterly intervals.

The SACEP Secretariat comprises of a Director plus locally recruited support staff.

The SACEP Secretariat is in contact and liaise closely with the National Focal Points and is also expected to be in direct contact with the Priority Subject Area Focal Points in each of the Member Countries.

The above mentioned structure is based on the Articles of Association of the SACEP, which envisages the Governing Council (Article 4), the Consultative Committee (Article 5), Focal Points (Article 6), and Secretariat (Article 7). Two additional points are noteworthy. First, the Director, as the Chief Executive Officer, also acts as the Secretary to both the Council and Committee. Second, Clause (e) of Article 7 requires the Director to maintain close liaison with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as well as with other Organisations or Countries not Members of SACEP, which are extending assistance within the region, or which may in the future decide to do so.

FIGURE I

SACEP ORGANISATIONAL CHART
AFGHANISTAN
BANGLADESH
BHUTAN
INDIA
MALDIVES
PAKISTAN
SRI LANKA
GOVERNING COUNCIL
MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION
PRINCIPAL REVIEW AND DELIBERATIVE BODY
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATION OF MEMBER STATE OF SACEP, THE HEADQUARTERS SHALL BE IN COLOMBO
RESPONSIBLE TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES DETERMINED BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
PRIORITY SUBJECT AREA FOCAL POINTS
SECRETARIAT
COUNTRY FOCAL POINTS
DIRECTOR PLUS SUPPORT STAFF HOSTED BY GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA ASSISTS THE COUNCIL, AND THE COMMITTEE AND FOCAL POINTS IN THE DISCHARGE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

1.3. SUBJECT AREA FOCAL POINTS

Subject Area Focal Points have been a feature of SACEP from its very inception. The Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Expert Group (Bangalore, 1981) held its discussion in a format that envisaged the formation of such Subject Area Focal Points. The deliberations were held around the Subject Areas for regional co-operation, namely Environmental Management, Natural Resource Management, Desertification, Regional Seas, Energy and Environment, and Education and Training.

The crystallisation of these areas of common regional environmental interest into Fifteen Priority Subject Areas and the allocation for each of corresponding Focal Point to member countries, UNEP, other International Agencies took place during the February 1981 Meeting. Since then there has only been some minor changes to these arrangements. Table 1 shows the current allocation of the Fifteen Subject Area Focal Points to Member Countries and International Agencies.

1.4. DECISIONS OF SACEP GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Table 2 lists the major SACEP Inter-Governmental Meetings since its inception and establishment. The work programme related decisions of SACEP Governing Council, are pertinent to an understanding of its mandate. These decisions are outlined in the relevant reports of each of the SACEP Governing Council Meetings.

1.4.1. SALIENT DECISIONS OF THE FIRST SACEP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 27-29 JANUARY 1983

The following were the salient programme decisions of the First SACEP GC:

a. The GC approved 1988 as the Year of Trees for South Asia;

b. It laid down criteria for project selection and what would constitute a regional project; and

c. The following projects were accepted in principle, subject to specific approval of participating member countries and the specific comments contained against each;

(i) Integrated Energy Saving Domestic Stoves, Fuelwood Systems;

(ii) Environmental Education and Information. However, it was noted that, "Taking into consideration the large areas to be covered, the diverse languages and customs ... it would be impractical to get the necessary results by creating one centre ... institutions may carry out programmes in different countries, with necessary co-ordination mechanism established at SACEP headquarters";

(iii) Environmental Legislation;

(iv) Environmental Clearing House Services;

(v) Demonstration Plant for Rice-Husk Ash Cement in Sri Lanka;

(vi) Demonstration Plant for Surkhi in Nepal;

(vii) Demonstration Plant for Feed Blocks from Agriculture Residues in Pakistan;

(viii) Manpower Development Programme for Environmental Assessment;

(ix) Environmental Assessment for Investment Promotion Zones in Katunayake and Biyagama;

(x) Environmental Assessment of proposed Bombay High Gas based fertilizer plants in Gujerat and Maharashtra;

(xi) Environmental Assessment of Javedan Cement Limited; and

(xii) Environmental Assessment of Sanitation Development Programme in Male, Maldives;

d. Adoption of Resolution calling for the Establishment of a Trust Fund;

1.4.2. SALIENT DECISIONS OF THE SECOND SACEP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 17-18 APRIL 1985

The following are the salient decisions:

a. The Adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council;

b. The Approval of the Modalities of Focal Points.

c. SACEP should continue to formulate the South Asian Seas Programme and its implementation in close collaboration and co-operation with Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre (OCA/PAC) of UNEP;

d. An efficient Planning and Monitoring Cell should be created with SACEP Secretariat, with a 2 Year Plan for launching this Cell from 1987, subject to the availability of funds;

e. UNEP to function as the Focal Point for Desertification.

1.4.3. SALIENT DECISIONS OF THE THIRD SACEP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 12-13 JANUARY 1987

a. The Governing Council decided that the individual countries should seriously examine the appropriateness of their National and Subject Area Focal Points hitherto designated and should a change be necessary it should be done immediately and the Secretariat be informed accordingly; and

b. Governing Council expressed appreciation for the achievements of the Secretariat as the Secretariat for the implementation of Action Plan for South Asian Regional Seas Programme and the six priority projects of various International Agencies.

1.4.4. SALIENT DECISIONS OF THE FOURTH SACEP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 25-26 APRIL 1988

a. The need for revitalization of Subject Area Focal Points was stressed;

b. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) was to be requested to become the Focal Point for the Subject Area of Technology for Development of Renewable and Reusable Resources;

c. Terms of Reference were approved for A Panel of Experts from within South Asia to Review Activities of Subject Area Focal Points and SACEP, and draw up a Five Year Plan of Action, based on views of the Member States.

d. An early finalisation of the South Asian Regional Seas Programme was requested from the concerned Marine Member States of SACEP.

e. UNESCO was requested to prepare an Inter-country Environmental Education Project for South Asia;

TABLE 1

Priority Subject Matter Area	Focal Point
1. Environmental Impact Assessment and Cost/Benefit Analysis; Environment and Development	Sri Lanka
2. Environmental Quality Standards	Iran
3. Technology for Development of Renewable and Reusable Resources	UNIDO
4. Environmental Legislation	India
5. Conservation of Montane Ecosystems and Watersheds	Pakistan
6. Social Forestry	Afghanistan with the assistance of India
7. Regional Cooperation in Wildlife and Genetic Resources Conservation	Iran
8. Conservation of Coral, Mangroves, Deltas, Coastal Areas, and	Bangladesh
9. Island Ecosystems	Bangladesh and Maldives
10. Tourism and Environment	Nepal
11. Desertification	UNEP
12. Regional Seas Programme	UNEP
13. Energy and Environment	Iran in co-operation with Pakistan and India
14. Education and Training	India
15. Training in Wildlife Management	India

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

TABLE 2

Meeting	Venue	Dates
Expert Inter-Governmental Group Meeting to Study the Feasibility of the Formation of SACEP	Bangalore, India	10-15 March 1980
High Level Meeting to initiate SACEP (Officials - 18th to 21st February 1981 and Ministerial- 23rd to 25th February 1981)	Colombo, Sri Lanka	18-25 February 1981
Meeting of Experts to discuss Programme Activities of SACEP	Colombo, Sri Lanka	21-26 January 1983
First Governing Council Ministerial Meeting	Colombo, Sri Lanka	27-29 January 1983
Second Governing Council Ministerial Meeting	Dhaka, Bangladesh	17-18 April 1985
Third Governing Council Ministerial Meeting	New Delhi, India	12-13 January 1987
Fourth Governing Council Ministerial Meeting	Kabul, Afghanistan	25-26 April 1988

SACEP INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS

1.5. PRIORITY IDENTIFICATION AND REVIEW CONSULTANCIES

SACEP has periodically engaged the services of consultants to undertake specific tasks and make ad hoc recommendations for various facets of its work.

The following are the outline of the major consultancies to identify priorities and to review SACEP's performance:

a. Visit of Consultant for the Preparation of Project Proposals on Demonstration Units for Utilization of Renewable and Reusable Resources for the Countries of South Asia.

b. SACEP/UNDP Project Identification Mission, August - October 1982.

The Terms of Reference of the Mission were to identify in Member Countries - Afghanistan, India, Maldives, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka (I) National Programmes in the areas of (i) Environmental Education and Training, (ii) Environmental Legislation, and (iii) Energy and Environment, and (II) Programmes and Projects of Regional Character, which could be implemented with regionally available expertise, with short gestation periods, maximum benefit to the poor, and no conflict with on-going programmes. Furthermore, it was also stipulated that other needs for the environment management programmes as indicated by the participating countries were to be identified and reported.

The Mission reported unanimity about need for co-operative environmental projects in Education/Awareness Raising, Social Forestry, Efficient Fuelwood Use Systems, Biogas Plants, Solar and Wind Energy, and the Creation of a Regional Centre or Clearing House in SACEP for Information Exchange. In addition, some countries sought assistance in Review of Existing Environmental Legislation and drafting of new ones.

c. Consultancy Mission by UNEP Consultant in October 1982 and February 1983 to Coastal States of SACEP, to ascertain the feasibility of the South Asian Regional Seas Programme.

d. Visit of UNEP Consultant in November 1983 to SACEP Secretariat to provide assistance in the Preparation of the Document - "Review of the Marine Environmental Interests and Activities in South Asia, in relation to the Establishment of a Regional Seas Programme."

e. Consultancy visit of UNEP Consultant in August - December 1984 to Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka, in connection with Preparation and Country Reports on the South Asian Regional Seas Programme.

f. Consultancy visit in September 1984 of UNDP Consultant to SACEP on the feasibility of the Domestic Stoves Project and to Regional Centre for Technology Transfer (RCTT), Bangalore, India.

g. Consultancy visit of UNDP Consultant in February 1985 to Bhutan and Maldives in connection with the preparation of Country Reports on Environmental Legislation.

h. Pilot Study on Vector Borne Disease Problems in Small Scale Water Resources Development Projects in Sri Lanka, from January - June 1985, sponsored by WHO's Panel of Experts on Environmental Management (PEEM).

i. Panel of Experts Review of SACEP Activities, July 1989.

A Panel of Experts was given the task of reviewing SACEP's activities and making recommendations for improvement.

The Panel recommended the deletion of certain Subject Area Focal Points, because of intervening developments and duplication with the work of international and inter-country agencies. However, the subsequent Consultative Committee decided on retaining most of them.

The Panel also recommended retaining eight of SACEP's "on-going projects", while dropping six from its programme.

Projects recommended to be retained are:

- Modern Technologies for Treatment of Industrial Effluents;

- Inter-country Environmental Education Programme;

- Environmental Clearing House Services;
- Regional Seas Programme and its related projects;
- Demonstration Plant for the Manufacture of "Surkhi", a Building Material from Broken Bricks in Nepal;
- Demonstration Plant for the Production of Rice-Husk-Ash Cement in Sri Lanka;
- Demonstration Plant for Manufacture of Feed Blocks from Agriculture Residues in Pakistan; and
- Environmental Legislation.

Projects recommended to be deleted are:

- Environmental Assessment of Investment Promotion Zones at Katunayake & Biyagama
- Environmental Assessment of Proposed Bombay High Gas Based Fertilizer Plants at Hazira, Thal-Vaishat, Gujarat and Maharashtra;
- Environmental Assessment of Javedan Cement Ltd., Karachi;
- Environmental Assessment of Sanitation Development in Male;
- Manpower Development Programmes for Environmental Assessment in the region; and
- Integrated Energy Saving Domestic stoves and Fuelwood Systems.

The Panel, reflecting current global environmental trends, also recommended the addition of the following four new projects to SACEP's programme:

- Green House Gases and Sea Level Rise;
- Ozone Depletion Problems and the stand of developing countries;
- Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Dumping by Industrial Countries; and
- Degradation of Biological Diversity.

j. Visit of IMO Consultant in September - October 1989 to South Asian Marine Member States in connection with the " Development of an Operational Regional Contingency Plan for Responding to Marine Pollution Emergencies for the South Asia Region."

1.6. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY SACEP IN COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

SACEP has assisted in the organization and/or participated in a number of technical meetings and workshops. The most significant being the Preparatory Meetings convened by UNEP, with the co-operation of SACEP, in connection with the South Asian Seas Regional Programme. Some of the more important meetings in collaboration with UNEP, ESCAP and International Organizations are:

a. ESCAP/SACEP Regional Symposium on The Environmental Management of Mangroves, Corals and Island Ecosystems in the South Asian Region (Dhaka, August 1983);

b. First Meeting of National Focal Points on the Development of an Action Plan for the Protection and Management of the South Asian Regional Seas Programme. (Bangkok, March 1984;

c. PEEM/IMMI/SACEP Workshop on Irrigation and Vector Borne Disease Transmission (Digana, Kandy, Sri Lanka - October 1985)

d. EEC/University of Southampton/Sarvodaya/ SACEP Workshop on Integrated Mosquito Control using Community Participation and Environmentally Acceptable Techniques for South Asian Countries, (Colombo, November 1986)

e. Meeting of Experts on the South Asian Seas Regional Programme (Bangkok, December 1986);

f. UNDP/SACEP Workshop on Environmental legislation for SACEP Countries (New Delhi - January 1987);

g. UNEP/SACEP/Government of Sri Lanka & Netherlands Workshop for Senior Level Experts to evaluate Benefits and Constraints of Environmental Impact Assessment for SACEP Countries (Colombo, Sri Lanka - March 1987);

h. Second Meeting of the Focal Points on Regional Seas Programme (Bangkok, December 1987) for an Action Plan for the Protection and Management of South Asian Seas;

i. IMO/UNEP/SACEP Workshop on South Asian Marine Pollution Emergency Action Plan; (Bangkok, December 1983)

j. Meeting of Legal and Technical Experts to Consider the Legal Convention for South Asian Seas Bangkok, (February, 1990);

k. Workshop of the Regional Environmental and Natural Resources Information Centre (Colombo, February 1991);

l. SACEP/ESCAP/CEA Workshop on Coastal Resources Management Planning in the SACEP Region (Colombo, Sri Lanka - June 1991); and

m. Regional Workshop on Reduction of Vulnerability to Sea Level Rise (Colombo, February 1992).

1.7 MAJOR OUTPUTS

In addition to the Reports and the Proceedings of various Meetings and Workshops, SACEP has co-ordinated the production of a number of technical reports, studies, project documents, as well as its own newsletter.

The following are the most important outputs of SACEP in the 1982 - 1992 period:

a. Three projects were prepared and presented for UNDP funding (July 1983): (i) Integrated Energy Saving Domestic Stoves and Fuelwood Systems, (ii) Environmental Legislation, and (iii) Environment Clearing House Services;

b. A Review by the Director SACEP of the Marine Environment interests and activities in South Asia in relation to the establishment of a Regional Seas Programme (January 1984);

c. Following Publications in connection with the South Asia Regional Seas Programme, coming under UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies;

d. Publications in connection with the South Asian Regional Seas Programme coming under the UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Study Series:

(i) No 59 - Environmental Problems of the Marine and Coastal Area of India; National Report.

(ii) No 62 - Management and Conservation of Renewable Marine Resources in the South Asian Seas Region.

(iii) No 74 - Environmental Problems of the Marine and Coastal Area of Sri Lanka: National Report.

(iv) No 75 - Environmental Problems of the Marine and Coastal Area of Bangladesh: National Report.

(v) No 76 - Environmental Problems of the Marine and Coastal Area of Maldives: National Report.

(vi) No 77 - Environmental Problems of the Marine and Coastal Area of Pakistan: National Report.

(vii) No 82 - Environmental Problems of South Asian Seas Region - An Overview.

(viii) No 104 - Maldives and the Impact of Expected Climatic Change.

(ix) No 123 - State of the Marine Environment in the South Asian Seas Region.

e. A Study on Vector Borne Disease Problems in Small Scale Water Resources Development Projects in Sri Lanka;

f. Twelve Newsletters (Volumes 1 to 12), with the latest issue in October 1990, disseminating news of SACEP's activities as well as other environmental news in the region;

g. Six technical reports under the RENRIC Project, printed during January - July 1991 period on:

(i) DataBase on Environmental Legislation;

(ii) DataBase on Environmental Training and Research Institutions;

(iii) DataBase on Environmental Expertise;

(iv) Report on the Environmental Information System (ENVIS) of India;

(v) Report on the South Asian Experience on Appropriate Research and Development; and

(vi) Report on the 100 million Trees Programme of Sri Lanka.

Furthermore, at present SACEP in addition to preparing the SSP-I is also implementing one of the priority projects of the South Asian Seas Regional Programme. The project is on the Promotion of Public Awareness for South Asian Countries with regards to the Environmental Problems of Coastal and Marine Areas.

1.8. A BRIEF APPRAISAL OF SACEP'S ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

SACEP's limited funds are provided by the voluntary contribution by the participating countries of the region.

Despite great financial constraints over the decade of its existence, SACEP has undertaken activities in various conferences, meetings and workshops; networking programmes and production of its newsletter; and preparation of some technical studies and reviews.

Activities have also been carried out in the South Asian Seas Regional Programme of UNEP as well as a Clearing House Programme, with the collaboration of and total funding by UNEP and ADB respectively. Other major contributors of funds for SACEP activities have been UNDP and to a much lesser extent ESCAP.

By comparison, there is little on record to show action on SACEP's other remaining projects designated for implementation by the National and International Priority Subject Area Focal Points. Follow up activities both by the SACEP and almost all of the appointed Priority Subject Area Focal Points has been minimal. It appears the main reason for lack of support and activities is the absence of financial and manpower resources, and the ambiguity within the National Institutions in connection with the SACEP programme.

The recent major output of SACEP has been with regards to the Regional Environmental and Natural Resources Information Centre (RENRIC) Project. Its three DataBase Reports are more in the character of "seeds", around which more comprehensive coverage of laws, institutions, and expertise in the region requires to be built up. The following examples demonstrate some of the problems SACEP encountered in collection of the information as well as the resultant shortcomings of the Databases.

Data on Environmental Laws could only be obtained from four member countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka); a total of 70 laws have been listed. While the DataBase format is comprehensive, only a few entries contain information under the critical heading of "Shortcomings and Inadequacies".

The database on the forty six environmental training and research institutes in the region is entirely based on a single secondary source, the UNEP Directory of Environmental Institutes, 1986. As a result, for Pakistan for example, almost all the key institutions for environmental training and research in the country are missed out.

More than half the one hundred and fifty seven entries in the DataBase on Environmental Expertise in the region are not by name but by designation of the head of an institute.

It should be clear from the above that a great deal of additional work needs to done in the next phase of the RENRIC Project.

CHAPTER 2

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

For the preparation of this document the Consultant visited seven Member Countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and Nepal) for detailed discussions and consultation.

In this chapter National Institutional structure for Environmental Management is briefly reviewed. An attempt is made to outline completed, on-going and planned national activities in the framework of SACEP's priority subject areas. Where available for each activity information on their objectives, sources of funding, collaborating agencies, status and schedule is also provided.

In addition to the National Focal Points and relevant National Institutions, the Consultant took the opportunity and visited two Inter-Governmental Organisations of the region: South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development(ICIMOD). A section on the views of these organisations regarding collaboration with SACEP is also provided.

Annex 2 contains the Consultant's itinerary, and the list of the resource persons contacted.

Annex 3 provides for each country, a bibliography of the salient environmental documents consulted.

Regional and joint environmental activities proposed by each country together with the areas identified for training and pooling of expertise are taken up in Chapter 3.

2.1. BANGLADESH

2.1.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT

The SACEP National Focal Point is the Ministry of Forestry and Environment (MFE). The Department of Environment is a unit of this Ministry. However, as noted below, the Bangladesh National Planning Commission in addition to its traditional planning function has evolved into having independent executive powers, including those in the environmental management domain.

2.1.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

Bangladesh is finalising a National Conservation Strategy (NCS), supported by IUCN. At the same time a National Environment Management Action Plan (NEMAP) is being prepared with the technical assistance of UNDP. Cabinet approval for both is expected in a few months. Drafts of these documents are available.

The second draft of the NCS comprises two parts: a general overview of the natural and cultural environment and a sectoral analysis of human, land and sectoral resources. In the NCS there are recommendations for the integration of environment and economic concerns. The NCS also proposes new ways of assessing economic development, as well as ways in which deterioration of the physical environment can be checked. The NCS is supplemented by the second draft of NEMAP which is an open-ended portfolio of project outlines. Action Plans for management of the physical environment are supported by action plans for institutional aspects.

2.1.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

Of particular interest to SACEP, given that Conservation of Coastal Area is the Subject Area Focal Point allotted to Bangladesh, is the forthcoming Coastal Area Resource Management Project. The co-ordination of a Coastal Zone Management Plan is a gigantic task. Project management has been given to a Division Chief (Additional Secretary) of the Bangladesh Planning Commission.

2.2. BHUTAN

2.2.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT.

The apex agency for environmental planning is the National Environmental Secretariat (NES) of the Planning Commission, while the Department of Forestry may be deemed the main implementing agency, as forestry is considered the chief environmental issue in Bhutan. A Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been the National Focal Point of SACEP. Now the NES has been assigned the task of co-ordinating with SACEP Missions.

2.2.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES.

Bhutan has recently prepared a number of documents within the priority areas of SACEP. Amongst these are:

- "Environment and Sustainable Development", is a Report of the Paro Workshop, held in May 1990, and attended by virtually all the senior government officials of the country. They produced the Paro Resolution on Environment and Sustainable Development, which is the prospectus for the National Environment Strategy; and

- Another document produced in 1992 is "Bhutan, Towards Sustainable Development in an Unique Environment".

In addition Bhutan is in the process of the preparation of a National Environment Strategy (NES). In order to assist the Government in the preparation of the NES, a Senior Technical Adviser has been provided through the support provided by DANIDA. The NES is due in 1993-4, while the new Five Year Plan has commenced from July 1992 and will run till 1997. Thus the NES will feed into the next five year plan (1997-2002).

Forestry is the biggest conservation area in Bhutan. All the forests are under the government control. Due to this fact, the Government's forestry management policies, as well as the local cultural and traditional values the country is still 60% under forest cover. However, as reported by the Joint Director, Forests, new thinking is under way of putting more emphasis on people's participation in Forestry Management. Under the policy, direct economic benefits are not considered the most important, but only taken into account after other interests, such as minimising disturbance.

2.2.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

A Bhutan Trust Fund (BTF) has recently been established for environmental conservation, with grant money from World Wildlife Fund-US and the Government of the Netherlands. The BTF is managed by a Management Board comprising of the representatives of the Government of Bhutan, WWF-US, and UNDP. The World Bank is also finalising the provision of a grant to the Kingdom of Bhutan equal to US$ 10 million from the resources of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) for the augmentation of the Trust Fund. Each of the activities of BTF will be reviewed by the NES, whose Chairman is the Member of BTF Management Board.

2.3. INDIA

2.3.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT

India has the infrastructure and the institutions in place for on-going environmental management at both the Union and State levels. The Department of Environment was created in November 1980, and has since been upgraded to the status of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MEF).

The National Wastelands Development Board (NWDB) is an important wing of MEF. There are also five autonomous agencies designated as Centres of Excellence:

- Centre for Environmental Education, Ahmadabad;
- CPR Environmental Education Centre, Madras;
- Ecological Research and Training Centre, Bangalore;
- Centre for Mining Environment, Dhanbad; and
- Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History.

Development planning in India has also since long taken cognisance of the need for environmental protection. The fourth Five Year Plan made specific reference to environment protection, while the sixth Five Year Plan had a separate chapter on the environment.

In 1987, as the Subject Area Focal Point for Environmental Legislation, India hosted the SACEP/UNDP Workshop on the subject. The workshop provided the framework for a model environmental law. The ENVIS Database has also been supporting enquiries for the RENRIC Clearing House Project of SACEP.

2.3.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the 1991-1992 lists Ten Programme Areas on Environmental Management under implementation.

These are:

- Survey of Natural Resources;
- Conservation of Natural Resources;
- Environment Impact Assessment;
- Control of Pollution;
- Regeneration and Development;
- Research;
- Education and Information;
- Legislation and Institutional Support;
- International Co-operation; and
- Administration, Plan Co-ordination and Budget.

The on-going programmes are supported by explicit policies, some of which are as follows:

- National Forest Policy;
- Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution; and
- National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development.

The policies are in turn supported by environment legislation. In addition to a Constitutional commitment to the environmental protection and improvement, and a direct reference to environment protection vide the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976, India has in place an Environment (Protection) Act, a Forest Conservation Act, Water and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Acts and a Wildlife Protection Bill, as mainframe legislation.

Salient supportive legislation enacted during 1991-1992 are:

- Public Liabilities Insurance Act, made more effective, and main rules notified, with a view to providing immediate relief to victims of accidents due to handling of hazardous substance;

- Rules under Motor Vehicles Rules 1989 for transportation of hazardous chemicals by road;

- Notification restricting the use of benzidine and benzidine based dyes;

- Notification under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 declaring the coastal stretches as Coastal Regulation Zone and imposing graded restrictions on industrial operations in these zones;

- Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Bill has been passed by both Houses of Parliament.

During 1991-1992, 5242 cases were filed by State Pollution Control Boards under the Water and Air Act.

2.3.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

As stated in "Environment and Development, India's Approach", a document produced in July 1992, after the Rio Conference, India intends, inter alia,:

- to work on a massive programme of wastelands development;

- to have an independent forestry policy in view of its already strong traditional as well as modern forestry management practices;

- to launch a major programme to improve the water quality of river Ganga as well as a plan to cover other major rivers;

- to establish a carefully designed system for prevention of accidents in handling hazardous chemicals;

- to meet the energy needs of India in an environmentally benign manner;

- to take remedial actions against the shortage of housing, potable water and sanitation in human settlements; and

- to continue a major programme of increasing environmental awareness.

2.4. MALDIVES

2.4.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT

The Department of Environment Affairs, which is the SACEP National Focal Point, is located in the Ministry of Planning and Environment. As such, environment and development integration is ideally achieved.

Since the sea surge of 1987, the Department of Environment has the highest level political support in its work for controlling such development as could have adverse long term effects.

However, the Maldives has severe constraints of skilled manpower and the Republic is using whatever opportunities are available for training abroad. At present, the Department of Environment Affairs has one person under training in Singapore and three in United Kingdom.

As regards Maldives' role as the Priority Subject Area Focal Point for Island Ecosystems, the concerned person was abroad. The other staff of the Marine Research Section, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture, apparently were not fully aware of this function.

2.4.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

In addition to the National Report to UNCED, the Republic of Maldives has also produced a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP).

This document has been prepared with the technical assistance of UNEP and UNDP. The NEAP outlines in detail a framework for action, comprising development of national capabilities, training, areas for priority action in 1990-1991, a work programme, plans and projects. Areas for priority action are as follows:

a. Marine Environmental Problems:

- coral mining;
- sewage contamination of coastal water;
- sea level rise;
- solid waste management; and
- dredging.

b. Terrestrial /Human Environmental Problems:

- freshwater management;
- migration to Male;
- population growth;
- solid waste disposal;
- sewage contamination of ground waters; and
- fuelwood supplies and deforestation.

The Work Programme lists nineteen activity areas, mainly research related, such as Hydrography, Ground Water, Coral Reef, Geomorphological and Terrestrial Resource Survey, and Weather Monitoring. In addition, studies of demographic and social trends, and Assessments of Sewage Disposal Alternatives, are also proposed. The other programmes address enhancement of environmental awareness and capacity building in government institutions.

From within the SACEP region, two studies have been supported by India; the studies are:-

> "Causes and Consequences of Natural Disasters and the Protection and Preservation of the Environment." by Dr V.S. Bhatt, Director, Department of Ocean Development, Government of India, February 1990.
>
> "SAARC Study on Greenhouse Effect and Its Impact on the Region." by Dr Sen Gupta, National Institute of Oceanography, India, February 1992.

As far as regional co-operation in fishing is concerned, Maldives is a member of the Indo-Pacific Tuna Development and Management Programme (IPTP), an FAO body. Another body under FAO, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) is proposed to be set up in 1993. It will have a stronger management and research base in the region.

The people of Maldives have a strong oral tradition of conservation: most of the adults are literate, and more than 75% of the adult population signed a petition for presentation to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development drawing attention to the problem of saving the Maldives from accelerated sea level rise.

2.4.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

None of the nineteen NEAP programmes have as yet been initiated. The main problem is the funding constraints. However, five of the programmes are now scheduled to be taken up by Asian Development Bank, three by Canadian International Aid Agency, and one by UNEP.

2.5. NEPAL

2.5.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT

Nepal is not yet a member of SACEP. The decision to join the SACEP and ratify the Colombo Declaration is still under consideration of the Government and will be taken in the context of SAARC. The Meeting of SAARC Ministers of the Environment before the Rio Conference, and their common understanding to sign the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biodiversity has cleared the way for further regional environmental work.

The recently redesignated Ministry of Forests and Environment, (MFE), previously the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, is the proposed National Focal Point for SACEP as well as the country's overall environmental institution. According to the Chief, Environment Division, MFE, after UNCED, environment is the highest priority issue in Nepal.

A Member, National Planning Commission (NPC) has been appointed to look after wider conservation and sustainable development issues. A National Resource Conservation Agency (NRCA) is envisaged, which would be responsible for the environmental co-ordination and enforcement, while the National Planning Commission would act as the Secretariat for the Coordinating Council under the Prime Minister for Natural Resources (CCNR). How these agencies would relate to the recently redesignated Ministry of Forestry and Environment is still under consideration.

Nepal does not have a centralised environmental database. With the assistance of the US-AID a Forestry Statistics Division is being set up in the Ministry of Forestry. This Division will be furnished with a Remote Sensing Centre.

There is no separate SACEP Subject Area Focal Point on "Tourism and the Environment" in place. All correspondence on the matter comes to the Under Secretary, Ministry of Forestry and Environment.

2.5.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

The National Conservation Strategy for Nepal, entitled "Building on Success" was prepared with the technical assistance of IUCN. After the Government's approval "Building on Success" was published in 1988. This was followed in 1991 with "Developing a National System of Environmental Planning in Nepal", prepared by the National Planning Commission, also in collaboration with the IUCN.

2.5.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

An IUCN project for implementation, extension and communication of the NCS is under development. Vanguard programmes of the NCS are being incorporated in the sectoral master plans for forestry and agriculture to ensure sustainability. However, post-UNCED it is being questioned whether the Vanguard Programmes adequately reflect the latest environmental thinking.

2.6. PAKISTAN.

2.6.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT

The Environment and Urban Affairs Division (EUAD), in the Ministry of Housing and Works is the National Focal Point for SACEP. The EUAD has a staff of four professionals, none of whom are environmental specialists. However, it has recently been strengthened by the creation of a National Conservation Strategy Unit and the recruitment of a Director General, Federal Environment Protection Agency.

The Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar is the Subject Area Focal Point for the Conservation of Montane Ecosystems and Watersheds.

The Water and Power Development Authority's Watershed Management Unit has done good work over the last 30 years in the integrated management of the Mangla watershed, extending the life of the dam by seventy years.

2.6.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

In March 1992, the Pakistan National Conservation Strategy (NCS) was approved by the Federal Cabinet. The Pakistan NCS has sixty eight constituent programmes in fourteen core programme areas, viz:

- Maintaining soils in croplands;
- Improving irrigation efficiency;
- Protecting watersheds;
- Supporting forestry and plantations;
- Restoring rangelands and improving livestock;
- Protecting water-bodies and sustaining fisheries;
- Conserving biodiversity;
- Increasing energy efficiencies;
- Developing and deploying renewable sources of energy;
- Preventing and abating pollution;
- Managing urban wastes;

- Supporting institutions for common resources;
- Integrating population and environment programmes; and
- Preserving the cultural heritage.

2.6.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

At present the NCS programmes are being dovetailed into the Eighth Five Year Plan, to commence from June 1993. Simultaneously, an Environment Section is being established in the Planning Commission.

2.7. SRI LANKA.

2.7.1. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND SACEP FOCAL POINT

Sri Lanka has a National Environmental Act, and a Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs. The apex civil service body is the Committee of All Secretaries. Below it are the Committee of the Environment Plan and the National Environment Steering Committee (NESC) which is a multi-sectoral body including all major sectoral development agencies. The Secretary of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs co-chairs the NESC. Thus environmental management is well integrated into the decision-making structure in Sri Lanka. The Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs is SACEP's National Focal Point.

2.7.2. COMPLETED AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES.

As a follow up to an early National Conservation Strategy Sri Lanka has prepared a National Environment Action Plan, 1992-96. It is an open-ended programme open to amendments.

2.7.3. KEY PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITIES

Meetings have been held with the Office of Policy Planning and the Sri Lankan Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a donor strategy to implement NEAP.

2.8. VIEWS OF OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

2.8.1. SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL CO-OPERATION (SAARC)

Within the institutional arrangement of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) there is an Environment Directorate. A closer linkage and co-operation between SAARC and SACEP on environmental issues is,therefore, advantageous.

SAARC has declared 1992 as the Year of the Environment. In addition SAARC has accomplished a Regional Study on "The Causes and Consequences of Natural Disasters and the Protection and Preservation of the Environment." Chapter eighteen of the document lists out a twenty three point agenda for regional co-operation in the above areas. The next steps for the SAARC Environment Directorate are to develop concrete programmes and recommend the creation of an Environmental Fund. However, the funding mechanisms for the proposed environmental fund are not yet clear. SAARC is not mandated to respond to International Agencies so far.

2.8.2. INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT (ICIMOD)

In the mountain environment, ICIMOD has had some success in cost-effective inter-country transfer of sustainable agriculture practices. For example, a solution to the high-mountain winter feed problem in Nepal was found in a fodder variety in Bhutan with high urea and molasses content. A pilot project for its documentation was completed and the information dissemination stage is now in hand. Similarly, ICIMOD is engaged in establishing the range of Seabuckthorn, a mountain tree or bush of the Himalayan dry region, with a wide temperature range tolerance. Taking from Nepal the wild cultivar of Seabuckthorn, the Chinese have already developed fifty two commercial products.

Collaboration between ICIMOD and SACEP too could be beneficial to both organizations. A broad action oriented umbrella project would be the most suitable vehicle for such collaboration. In particular, development and dissemination of an Information Kit for Regenerative Agriculture Technologies for the Hill Farmers of South Asia could be a collaborative programme between ICIMOD, SACEP and some of the National Non-Governmental Organisations.

2.9. SUMMING UP

SACEP was envisaged as an active inter-governmental environmental organization for the participating countries of the sub-region. The Subject Area Focal Points of SACEP were designed to co-ordinate at national and regional level environmental activities prioritized. This was expected to make SACEP an active organisation co-operating closely with relevant international organisations, particularly United Nations Environment Programme. However, this has not proved to be the case and SACEP has not fully received the support and cooperation of the Subject Area Focal Points.

The actual functioning of the Subject Area Focal Points has been mixed. A few examples illustrates the actual situation:

a. A contribution has been made by Bangladesh in hosting a Regional Symposium on Mangroves, Corals and Island Ecosystems;

b. The Range Management Division of the Pakistan Forestry Institute, Peshawar, has trained people from other countries in the region, but has no explicit Regional Programme for Watershed Management;

c. In Maldives, there was a lack of knowledge among the staff of the Marine Research Station, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture about their function as a Regional Centre of Excellence for Island Ecosystems;

d. Nepal has no designated Agency for its function as a Subject Area Focal Point for Tourism and Environment, though this may be attributed to its not yet having joined SACEP;

e. While the annual report of ENVIS in India mentions its role as Environmental Clearing House for the RENRIC Project of SACEP, not much activity has followed. However, India hosted the Workshop on Environmental Legislation, as Subject Area Focal Point for this activity; and

f. There is no record of the Sri Lankan work on Environmental Impact Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis to the other countries of the region.

In a majority of cases, the reason for lack of activity and participation appears to be the absence of follow up both at National Level as well as on SACEP's part. Indeed, much needs to be done to activate Subject Area Focal Points to function as originally intended.

It may be asserted that the Subject Areas envisaged some ten years ago fail to cover all the latest trends on environmental issues or the thinking about the close linkage of the environment and development. Yet the latest thinking about cross-sectoral and proactive planning of the environment already has been institutionalised in most SACEP countries. Six have prepared National Conservation Strategies, one has a National Environmental Strategy under preparation, three countries have prepared National Environmental Action Plans, and two are in the process of doing so.

It was evident that a new approach to the environmental problems of the participating countries and the region was needed. It was on this assumption that SACEP with the assistance of UNEP, embarked upon the preparation of the present SACEP Strategy and Programme 1 for the 1992-1996 period. It entails the design and implementation of Strategy and Plan of Action based on the needs and capacities of the Member Countries for Regional Environmental Co-operation.

These needs and capacities are the subject of Chapter 3 of this document.

CHAPTER 3

A NEED AND CAPACITY BASED APPROACH TO REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION.

This Chapter outlines the prominent points from the discussions held between the Consultant, the SACEP National Focal Points, and other relevant officials during his mission to member countries. They concern envisaged and proposed regional environmental activities, areas for training and pooling of expertise, as well as proposals for joint activities.

The outcome of these discussions contributed greatly to the deliberation of the Two Day Meeting of Officials of the National Focal Points and UNEP Representative (Colombo, 20-21 August 1992) which reviewed the Draft SSP-I and in the formulation of the activities envisaged therein.

However, for the sake brevity, wherever possible, the descriptive text in this Chapter is kept to a minimum and only significant points outlined.

3.1. BANGLADESH

3.1.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Information exchange in the following areas:

- Atmospheric Pollution;
- Urban Wastes Management;
- Bio-diversity Conservation;
- Forestry, specially Community Forestry; and
- Pesticides and other agri-chemicals.

3.1.2. TRAINING AND POOLING OF EXPERTISE

- Learning Coastal Zone Management Plan formulation and implementation from Sri Lanka;
- Co-operation in Climate Change Studies, specially Estimation of Rice Paddy Emission and Cattle Emissions;
- Learning from India about Low Cost Sanitation, Bio-Gas Plant, and Solar Technology;
- On-job training on EIAs; and

- Training in Industrial Effluent Treatment.

3.1.3. JOINT ACTIONS.

- Water Quality Control; Data On River Pollution by stretches;
- Collaboration with India in the Management of the Sundarbans;
- Collaboration in Monitoring of Solid and Liquid, Land and Sea-Source Pollution in Bay of Bengal, and its abatement;
- Wildlife Conservation Joint Action Plan with India; and
- Wetland Conservation (under Ramsar Convention) in collaboration with Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

In addition to the above, it was noted that expertise in Bangladesh on community based rural poverty alleviation strategies and rural credit schemes was considerable and of potential value to some of the other participating countries of the SACEP. The existing networking between South Asian NGOs was already quite well developed in this regard.

3.2. BHUTAN

It appears that Bhutan has too many one-off aid projects and donors. There is severe shortage of skilled personnel resources to implement programmes. Only high priority programmes can and should be implemented. In view of all this the policy is to approve only long-term programme aid.

3.2.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION

Due to the fact that well planned regional environmental co-operative schemes and projects could be cost-effective and socially and culturally appropriate, there is considerable scope for co-operative ventures with and within Bhutan. These could include:

- Development of Regional Inventory of Environmental Institutions of Excellence and Experts: and
- Co-operation in Long Term Applied Research in various areas of particular relevance both to Bhutan and the region, for example specially Soil Conservation.

3.2.2. TRAINING AND POOLING OF EXPERTISE

- Human Resource Development in Regional Institutes.

3.2.3. JOINT ACTIONS

Specific projects could include:

- Exchanges on NES/NCS formulation and implementation;
- Regional Forestry (Conventions, Workshops and Conferences;
- Regional Biodiversity Research; and
- Co-operation in Fodder Development within the Region.

Bhutan would be prepared to share its experience with other SACEP member countries on the Bhutan Forest Conservation Policy and Practice. Under the Social Forestry section of this scheme every household has the responsibility to raise ten trees.

Department of Forestry and Bhutan Logging Corporation could consider being the host for a Regional or South Asia Convention of Foresters.

3.3. INDIA

3.3.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION

As a follow up to the UNCED, there are certain areas under the Agenda 21 and within the framework of the Rio Declaration that could provide scope for possible regional co-operation:

- Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- Convention on Bio-diversity; and
- Non-legally binding Principles on Forestry.

3.3.2. TRAINING AND POOLING OF EXPERTISE

India's expertise in the following fields could be utilized for regional environmental co-operative programmes:

- Experience in Mangroves Ecosystems Management;
- Experience in Wastelands Management;

- Experience in Global Climate Change Studies, such as accelerated Sea Level Rise and Green House Gas studies;

- Further development of RENRIC through the support of ENVIS;

- Collaboration in improving Environmental Legislation; and

- Conservation of Endangered Ecosystems.

Furthermore, it is also possible that training of personnel from other participating countries in SACEP, be undertaken at the following institutions with appropriate funding through SAARC or SACEP:

- Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun; and

- Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal.

3.4. MALDIVES

3.4.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION

The Maldives has requested SACEP to support its programme activities in the areas of Weather Monitoring, Solid Waste Management for Urban Centres and Tourist Resorts and in Assessment of Sewage Disposal Alternatives. In the first case, proximity of regional weather stations, and in the other two cases, the possibility of the region having developed low-cost, reuse or recycling options, have lead to the request.

3.4.2. TRAINING AND POOLING OF EXPERTISE

The Maldives could offer some regional expertise and training in Sustainable Fisheries as well as Mangroves Management.

3.5. NEPAL

3.5.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION

It seems international and regional projects have so far only had catalytic and clearing house functions in Nepal. Yet Nepal, as one of the poorest countries in South Asia, needs projects which can directly address the poverty of the people and the country.

3.5.2. TRAINING AND POOLING OF EXPERTISE.

Nepal supports the idea of a Regional Environmental Talent Pool as well as the regional exchanges in environmental policy and experiences.

3.5.3. JOINT ACTION

Co-operation with ICIMOD for the development and implementation of relevant action programmes would be supported by Nepal.

3.6. PAKISTAN

3.6.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION

Pakistan looks forward to working in the area of Desertification Control with Afghanistan, India and Iran. Its Arid Zone Research Institute, Quetta could profitably share its experiences with counterpart agencies in the other countries of the region with semi-arid climatic conditions and facing desertification. This area of co-operation has also been listed as a key area of co-operation by SAARC.

Furthermore, the coastal countries of the region could also share experiences in the Protection and Regeneration of Mangroves under the auspices of SACEP.

3.7. SRI LANKA

3.7.1. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION

Substantive areas of proposed co-operation could be:

- Transfer of Pollution Abatement Technology within the region on preferential terms;
- Co-operation in Sustainable Fisheries; and
- Co-operation in Abatement of Sea and Land Source Pollution of Regional Seas.

3.7.2. TRAINING AND POOLING OF EXPERTISE

Noting that international expertise is very expensive, the Sri Lankan authorities contacted support the idea of a Regional Pool of Expertise for exchange on a regular basis under the auspices of the SACEP. As an example Bangladesh could provide experts on Wetlands, Sri Lanka on Wildlife Management, and India and Pakistan on Large Dams. In addition to being cost-effective, socio-cultural and institutional similarities would make the work of such a regional pool more productive.

In addition, Sri Lanka also supports the idea of sharing more formal courses of Training within the countries of the region. Such a programme could involve the Identification of Centres of Excellence in the Region for Exchange of Scholars or Regional Study Tours in relation to specific Training Course that could draw on the national experiences.

Sri Lanka is prepared to share its Coastal Zone Management Plan expertise with other interested countries of the region and to identify its Centres of Excellence in environmental related training. SACEP could have an important co-ordinating role in this and also assist in finding possibilities for further upgrading of these faculties.

3.8. SUMMING UP THE SACEP NATIONAL FOCAL POINT VIEWS ON REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

From the discussions held with the National Focal Points of SACEP and other relevant Officials certain common points of view with regards to regional co-operation on the environmental issues and the potential thrust of the SSP-I became evident. These in brief are:

a. Member Countries perceive the commonality of environmental interest, owing to the many shared ecosystems;

b. Member Countries perceive the commonality of environmental problems and issues, specially with reference to the relatively common standard of development; and

c. The Member Countries have wide diversity of Environmental Management and Training Capacities, yet owing to socio-cultural and economic similarities, perceive the possibility of Cost-effective Intra-regional Training as well as Pooling of Expertise.

CHAPTER 4

THE GOALS FOR SACEP STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME -1 AND PRIORITY AREAS

In the previous Chapter important points from the discussions held with the SACEP Country Focal Points and other relevant officials were briefly outlined. In this Chapter based on the results of these discussions, the deliberations of the Meeting of the National Focal Points (see below), and the survey of SACEP and other relevant documents an attempt is made to crystalize the goals of the SSP-I and outline Specific Priority Areas of Action for the Period 1992-1996.

In order to reflect a faithful account of the needs of the Regional Co-operation and reflect an accurate outline of the activities commensurate with the Policies and Plans of the Participating Countries, SACEP in co-operation with UNEP organised a Meeting of the National Focal Points. The Meeting was held in Colombo during 20-21 August 1992. The List of Participants of this Meeting is given in Annex 4. The Meeting essentially was requested to review the First Draft of the SSP-I and in particular refining its Goals and the Project Proposals.

The outline of the SSP-I document was first presented to the meeting. This was followed by the presentation and detailed review and discussion of the draft of the goals of SSP-I. Next followed the review and deliberations on potential project concepts, based on the co-operative environmental proposals outlined during the visit of SACEP Consultant to the Country Focal Points in the region.

The following is the outcome of discussions on the goals and agreed priority project proposals for implementation in 1992-1996.

4.1. GOALS FOR SACEP STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME-1, 1992-1996

In principle the goals for SSP-1 are already established by the general goals, mandate, and the objectives of the SACEP, as the joint environmental programme for the participating countries.

After the discussions held with the National Focal Points of the SACEP and the deliberations of the same during the above mentioned meeting it was felt that the basic goals of the SSP-I should conform closely with those of the SACEP. These are essentially within the following broad framework:

a. Amelioration of the environment of the countries of the Region through joint action on the priorities areas already established;

b. Encouragement of Co-operative Environmental Activities between the Countries of the Region and Exchange of Knowledge;

c. Improvement in Safeguarding the Region's Flora and Fauna and achieving sustainable use of the same; and

d. Enhancement of the Quality of Life of the People of the Region through development in harmony with nature and the environment.

During the initial phase of the SSP (1992-1996) it is feasible that a good start towards achieving these medium and long-term goals could be made by undertaking co-operative activities within the framework of the existing Fifteen Priority Subject Matter Areas of SACEP. The Priority Subject Matter Areas as agreed upon by the participating governments are presented in Table 1, together with the appointed Focal Points of activities. Below, for ease of reference, are the same where Regional Co-operation is emphasised and Focal Points for activities not listed:

a. Regional Co-operation in Environmental Impact Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis; Environment and Development;

b. Regional Co-operation in establishing Environmental Quality Standards;

c. Regional Co-operation in Technology Development of Renewable and Reusable Resources;

d. Regional Co-operation in Environmental Legislation;

e. Regional Co-operation in Conservation of Mountain Ecosystems and Watersheds;

f. Regional Co-operation in Social Forestry;

g. Regional Co-operation in Wildlife and Genetic Resources;

h. Regional Co-operation in Conservation of Corals, Mangroves, Deltas, and Coastal Areas;

i. Regional Co-operation in Conservation of Island Ecosystems;

j. Regional Co-operation in Tourism and Environment;

k. Regional Co-operation in Desertification;

l. Regional Co-operation in the Regional Seas Programme;

m. Regional Co-operation in Energy and Environment;

n. Regional Co-operation in Education and Training; and

o. Regional Co-operation in Training in Wildlife Management.

The Priority Subject Matter Areas at this initial stage of the SSP-1 adecquately cover the concepts behind UNCED's Agenda 21. However, towards the end of the present phase of the SSP (1992-1996), the Fifteen Priority Subject Matter Areas should be reviewed and amendments in the light of Agenda 21 and the emerging Global and Regional Environmental Problems be carried out.

4.2. SELECTION OF SSP-1 PRIORITY PROGRAMME AREAS.

The selection of the Priority Programme Areas for the SSP-I is based on a number of premises. Foremost among these were the activities already completed, undertaken or under implementation by SACEP. The time constraint for this phase (approximately four years) also limits the number of activities that could realistically be undertaken. Time and effort needed for raising funds for projects also has a confining effect on the number and scope of the project proposals.

In view of the above, this phase of SSP should focus on the four or five of the most significant and relevant areas, where regional environmental co-operation would have the potentiality of the most impact on the environmental issues of the region.

Accordingly, fourteen (14) Project Proposals are selected for implementation during 1992-1996. These cover or touch upon one or more of the Fifteen Priority Subject Matter Areas of SACEP. With such cross-sectoral approach the selected project proposals fall within the following five broad groups:

a. Capacity Building and Enhancement of Environmental Awareness for Policy and Decision-Makers and the Public in the Region.

b. Systematic Information Exchange and Intra-Regional Technology Transfers;

c. Environmental Management Training and Institutional Development for Training;

d. Regional Co-operation in Management Plans for Montane Ecosystems/Watersheds and Coastal Zones; and

e. Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Conservation in the Region.

In the selection of the Project Proposals in addition to the premises already mentioned, the following criteria were also taken into consideration:

a. Collective Regional Priorities and Interests;

b. Consistency with Agenda 21;

c. Current Programmes of International, Other Regional, and National Organisations and Agencies; and

d. Prospective availability of Donor Funding for various Programmes and Project Packages.

4.3. PRIORITY PROJECT PROPOSALS

Below is the listing of the Proposed Priority Projects for implementation during the First Phase of SSP (1992-1996):

A. CAPACITY BUILDING AND AWARENESS RAISING

i. Environment and Sustainable Development within the context of Agenda 21: Capacity Building and Enhancement of the Awareness and Practical Implementation Options for High Level Government Policy and Decision-makers in the Member Countries of SACEP;

ii. Enhancement of the Public Environmental Awareness in connection with existing as well as emerging environmental issues of concern in the Countries of the Region;

B. SYSTEMATIC INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND INTRA-REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS

i. Preparation of Guidelines for the Assessment of Highly Polluting Industries, for Import of Potentially Harmful Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes, and for dealing with Chemical Disasters;

ii. Regional Environmental and Natural Resources Information Centre (RENRIC) - Phase 2;

iii. Sharing of Pollution Abatement Technology through Exchange of Information and Training; and

iv. Regional Air Quality Monitoring and Management Systems.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FOR TRAINING AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TRAINING

i. Strengthening of the Environmental Management in the SACEP Countries-Phase I (Training);

ii. Establishment of a Regional Training and Information Centre for Environmental Management;

D. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR MONTANE ECOSYSTEMS/WATERSHEDS AND COASTAL RESOURCES

i. Regional Co-operation in Conservation of Montane Ecosystems and Watersheds;

ii. Assessment of Land-Based Sources of Coastal and Marine Pollution in the Countries of the Region;

E. WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION IN THE REGION

i. Regional Co-operation in Conservation of Marine Species (Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles);

ii. Regional Co-operation for Strengthening the Management of Terrestrial (Wildlife) and Marine Parks;

iii. Regional Co-operation in the Protection of Shared (Transboundary) Wildlife Habitats (Conservation of Mountain and Wetland Ecosystems);

iv. Regional Co-operation in Conservation of the Habitat of the Terrestrial Migratory Species;

CHAPTER 5

PRIORITY PROJECT OUTLINES

In Chapter 4, the Priority Project Proposals were listed as the components of a feasible programme for the First Phase of SSP-I. This Chapter essentially consists of the Priority Project outlines, where for each of the Project Proposals, additional details are provided. The details consist of institutional arrangements, collaborating agencies, schedules, initially estimated costs, and relationship of the proposed activity to SACEP's Priority Subject Matter Areas.

It is expected that once the SSP-I is adopted by the SACEP's Governing Council, based on the information presented in Chapter 5, brief descriptive Project Concepts will be prepared. These will form the basis for SACEP and/or UNEP on behalf of SACEP to approach potential funding organisations and donors.

PROJECT

1. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AGENDA 21: CAPACITY BUILDING AND ENHANCEMENT OF AWARENESS AND PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS FOR HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT POLICY- AND DECISION-MAKERS IN THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN SACEP

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

The purpose of the Project is the introduction of the relevant chapters of Agenda 21, Examination of their practical implications and Discussions on the implementation options aimed at High-Level Government Policy and Decision-Makers in each of the Countries of the Region.

In each of the countries of the SACEP region a number of Workshops will be held for the High-Level Government Policy and Decision-Makers (Afghanistan: 1, Bangladesh: 2, Bhutan: 1, India: 4, Maldives: 1, Pakistan: 2, and Sri Lanka: 1). These Workshops will consider and recommend for implementation Work Programmes and Project Documents for Regional Priorities under Agenda 21.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in close co-operation with UNDP and UNEP as well as the National Focal Points of participating Governments.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

250,000

DURATION

One year.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

3 - 15.

PROJECT

2. ENHANCEMENT OF THE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS IN CONNECTION WITH EXISTING AS WELL AS EMERGING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OF CONCERN IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

The Project will be aimed at raising the general public's awareness on general as well as specific environmental issues of regional, national, and local concern. This is essentially envisaged to be achieved through audio-visual channels: Preparation and Dissemination of Printed Material (brochures, posters, booklets, slides and photographs, etc.) as well as Preparation and Broadcasting of Short Films and Videos, basically for Television Broadcasting. Radio Spots will also be prepared and disseminated through the countries of the region for local language broadcasting.

A Meeting of Journalists and Other Media Representatives from the Countries of the Region will first be convened in order to advise and prepare brief guidelines on the preparation of the most effective and appropriate audio-visual material, taking the diverse cultural and traditional values into account. Wherever possible the audio-visual material will be prepared in consultation with relevant governments' department so that they would reflect national and regional policies and programmes.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in co-operation with UNEP and other concerned UN Agencies and in close consultation with the relevant Government Organisations.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

650,000

DURATION

Three years.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

3 - 15.

PROJECT

3. PREPARATION OF GUIDELINES FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF HIGHLY POLLUTING INDUSTRIES; IMPORT OF POTENTIALLY HARMFUL CHEMICALS AND HAZARDOUS WASTES; AND DEALING WITH CHEMICAL DISASTERS

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

The Project will examine IBRD, ILO, ESCAP and other relevant Guidelines, Regional Training and Workshop Schedules, and Institutional Arrangements, and recommend, if necessary, the Preparation of Region-Specific Guidelines, for (i) Assessment of Existing and Planned Highly Polluting Industries, (ii) Control of Potentially Harmful and Hazardous Chemicals and Hazardous Wastes produced or imported into the countries of the region, and (iii) Dealing with Chemical Disasters.

An initial inventory of the above mentioned will be prepared and this would be followed by Workshops/Seminars which will prepare the Guidelines, Consider Institutional Arrangements, and Develop Project Documents for further regional collaboration in the above areas.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP with the co-operation of UNEP and other competent International Organisations and with the collaboration of the relevant Institutions of the Countries of the Region.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

280,000.

DURATION

18 Months

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

1 and 2.

PROJECT

4. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTRE (RENRIC) - PHASE 2

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

This is the Second Phase of the RENRIC which was completed in 1991 with Asian Development Bank funding.

The Second Phase of the Project was formulated in consultation with participating Member Countries of SACEP at a Meeting held in Colombo. The Project Proposal outlines a detailed workplan, whose salient elements are as follows:

(a) Establishment of RENRIC Cells in each country;

(b) Collection, Collation and Dissemination of Relevant Environmental and Natural Resources Information;

(c) Preparation of a Compendium of All Relevant Seminars, Workshops, Meeting held in each Priority Subject Area in the Region during the last two decades;

(d) Updating the Regional and National Directories.

(e) Training of RENRIC Country Cell Officers in the use of Information Technology.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in close co-operation with National Institutions, relevant UN organisations, and ADB and/or IBRD.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

850,000

DURATION

Three years.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

4 and 14.

PROJECT

5. SHARING OF POLLUTION ABATEMENT TECHNOLOGY THROUGH EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

Efforts to develop Appropriate Technology and Management Systems for Municipal, Industrial and Agricultural Wastes have succeeded to varying degrees in member countries. This Project envisages sharing the most appropriate Pollution Abatement Technologies, and the most successful Technology Development and Management Systems, achieved in any participating Member Country with other countries in the region, through Systematic Exchange of Information and Training Programmes.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in collaboration with UNIDO, and the designated Priority Subject Matter Area Focal Point in India.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

250,000

DURATION

Three years

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

2, 3, 13, and 14.

PROJECT

6. REGIONAL AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

The Project will assess the Coverage and Quality of Air Quality Monitoring in the Main Urban Airsheds of the Region; Collate and Analyse the Data, Develop Comparative Rankings and Appropriate Standards for General and Specific Situations; Evaluate Alternate Mitigation Measures being practised within and outside the region,and Promote the Adoption of the most practical and efficient measures.

IMPLEMENTATION

UNEP, WMO, and other UN agencies; IDRC, Canada; IIEC, Washington DC; and other relevant Multi and Bilateral Agencies, in close co-operation with National and City Agencies.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

200,000

DURATION

Two years external support; continuous/on-going with National Agencies thereafter.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

2, 4, 13, 14.

PROJECT

7. **STRENGTHENING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE SACEP COUNTRIES-PHASE I (TRAINING)**

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

This Project is Cross sectoral, covering almost all of the "SACEP Priority Subject Matter Areas (PSMA)".

In the First Phase of this Project only a few of the Priority Subject Areas in the Priority Subject Matter Area (PSMA), are selected for concentrated attention: i.e. (i) Environmental Impact Assessment, (ii) Forestry, (iii) Wildlife Management, (iv) Eco-tourism, and (v) Pollution Control.

The Project envisages a Series of Training Workshops to be held in the Countries of the Region with the involvement of institutions that each have experience in one of the selected areas. The Training Workshops will be preceded by a Meeting of Experts outlining details of the coverage and the needs of each workshop and will end with a meeting, evaluating the results and making recommendations for the Second Phase of the Project.

IMPLEMENTATION

The overall co-ordination and the project will be with the SACEP, with the co-operation of UNEP and the collaboration of relevant institutions in the countries of the region. The co-operation and participation of specific UN and non UN Organisations will be expected and arranged by SACEP (e.g. ESCAP, FAO, WTO, IUCN, WWF, ADB, etc.)

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

380,000

DURATION

Two years.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

1, 6, 7, 10, 14, and 15.

PROJECT

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL TRAINING AND INFORMATION CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

The justification for the Project is the absence of a Regional Centre of Excellence in Environmental Management in South Asia, while there is a well demonstrated need for it to meet the environmental challenges lying ahead. The Centre will create a Regional Database on the Environment and Train Manpower to Understand and Tackle Environmental Problems facing the Region.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP with the co-operation of UN agencies, ADB, World Bank and other agencies.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

A Capital Investment of 10,000,000 (over 10 years);
1,000,000 during SSP-1.

DURATION

Start in year 3 of SSP-1; Establishment period 3 years; Operations - on-going.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREA

14.

PROJECT

9. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN CONSERVATION OF MONTANE ECOSYSTEMS AND WATERSHEDS

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

Conservation of the Montane Ecosystem is a high priority issue owing to immediate and long term needs. Present Forestry and other Mountain Resources Management Techniques and Watershed Conservation Practices leave much to be desired. To be successful, an Integrated approach is needed, drawing upon public participation for common social issues. Under the Project:-

(a) Management Plans prepared at National and Local Level for Montane Ecosystems and Watersheds will be exchanged, leading towards comprehensive co-operation in Management of the Himalayan Ecosystem;

(b) The carrying capacity of crucial and representative Montane Ecosystems and Watersheds will be assessed;

(c) Select Pilot Plans for Watershed Conservation will be implemented, such as Dissemination of Regenerative Agriculture Technologies and Practices, including High Altitude HYV Fodders and Rotational Grazing.

(d) In Co-operation with Sister Organisations, a Recurrent Manpower Training Programme may be established to ensure the Availability of Expertise in the Region for Sound Montane and Watershed Management.

IMPLEMENTATION

National Institutions of participating Member Countries with Montane Ecosystems, WFP, ICIMOD, in close co-operation with the Pakistan Forestry Institute, the SACEP Priority Subject Matter Area Focal Point. New programmes of SACEP should be linked up with existing activities under World Food Programme, ICIMOD, and for Regional Seismological, Meteorological, and Hydrological Studies of the Himalayan Range.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

1,000,000

DURATION

36 months Institutional Development; followed by continuous operations.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREA

5

PROJECT

10. ASSESSMENT OF LAND-BASED SOURCES OF COASTAL AND MARINE POLLUTION IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

As an adjunct to the Regional Seas Programme, the Project is expected to provide an up-to-date estimate and Assessment of the Land-Based Sources of Coastal and Marine Pollution, originating from both land-locked and coastal countries participating in the SACEP, in the coastal countries of the region.

A simplified and easy to utilise Guidelines for the Assessment of Land-Based Sources of Pollution will be prepared. The techniques outlined will be introduced to Representatives of the relevant Institutions of the countries of the region through a number of short Training Courses/Workshops.

The results will be published in the form of National Reports as well as a Regional Overview.

IMPLEMENTATION

UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in close co-operation with the National Institutions, SACEP, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and other pertinent UN Organisations.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

200,000

DURATION

15 Months.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13.

PROJECT

11. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN CONSERVATION OF MARINE SPECIES (MARINE MAMMALS AND SEA TURTLES)

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

As an adjunct to the UNEP Regional Seas Programme and the UNDP/IOMAC Marine Mammals Programme, the Project will concentrate on collection on available data on Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles within the Coastal Countries of the Region (Species, Types, Extent of habitat, Breeding Grounds, Existing Management Practices, Environmental and Human Pressures, etc.). Based on these information, National and Regional Guidelines for the Coastal Countries of the Region would be developed, and Capacities of National Institutions for Implementation and Regional Co-operation augmented.

IMPLEMENTATION

UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in close co-operation with SACEP, IUCN, WWF, National Institutions and relevant UN and non-UN Organisations.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

200,000

DURATION

30 Months.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

7 and 12.

PROJECT

12. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR STRENGTHENING THE MANAGEMENT OF TERRESTRIAL (WILDLIFE) AND MARINE PARKS

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

The Project will have two components: (i) Terrestrial (Wildlife) and (ii) Marine Parks.

Through separate Workshops and/or Seminars, the present status of the Terrestrial and Marine Parks and their management will be assessed and evaluated. Based on the information gathered and exchanged a Report will be prepared with Guidelines on the Ways and Means of Improving and Strengthening of the Management of these Parks. Strong emphasis will be placed on utilization of these Parks as Venues for Eco-tourism.

The Project will be concluded by a series of Training Workshops for the Managers and Staff of the Regions Terrestrial and Marine Parks. As much as possible, existing Management Institutions will be relied on for the exchange of experience and training purposes.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in close co-operation with IUCN, WWF, UNEP, and National Institutions.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

400,000.

DURATION

38 Months

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 15.

PROJECT

13. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PROTECTION OF SHARED (TRANSBOUNDARY) WILDLIFE HABITATS (CONSERVATION OF MOUNTAIN AND WETLAND ECOSYSTEMS)

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

Due to the high density of human population in most of the countries of the region there is an inevitable pressure on the Wildlife Habitats. The Project is aimed at Regional Co-operation on Shared Habitats which might not enjoy Conservation measures commensurate with their significance. In its First Phase, the Project will concentrate on Shared Mountain and Wetland Habitats.

Through Preparation of an Inventory of Significant Mountain and Wetland Habitats, the Project will attempt in Preparation of Guidelines and Workplans for Joint Activities necessary for the Conservation of these habitats. Conservation measures for two of such shared habitats would be implemented as Case Studies and Models on the experience of which further phases of the Project will be developed.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in close co-operation with IUCN, WWF, and relevant National Institutions and with the co-operation of UNEP, other appropriate UN Organisations

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

300,000.

DURATION

25 Months.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

5, 7, and 15.

PROJECT

14. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN CONSERVATION OF THE HABITAT OF THE TERRESTRIAL MIGRATORY SPECIES

DESCRIPTION/COMPONENTS

This Project is complementary to Projects 12 and 13. The focus of this Project would be on the Conservation of the Habitat of the Terrestrial Migratory Species.

In the initial stages of the Project, an Inventory of the Terrestrial Migratory Species and their Habitat in the region will be prepared. This would be followed by a number of Workshops/Seminars, relying on the existing and established institutions in the Region, in order to Prepare Guidelines for Co-operative Action in Conservation of the Habitats.

IMPLEMENTATION

SACEP in close co-operation with IUCN, WWF, National Institutions, and the relevant UN Organisations.

INITIAL BUDGET SUM (US$)

250,000

DURATION

26 Months.

SACEP PRIORITY SUBJECT MATTER AREAS

5, 7, and 15.

CHAPTER 6

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS

The available financial resources of SACEP are quite limited. On the decision of the participating governments SACEP is funded through voluntary contribution which if paid on time and in full, it just covers the salary of the staff and the running costs. There are no funds left or intended for the implementation of projects and other relevant activities.

In the past SACEP has had some success in obtaining limited funds for the implementation of a few of its programmes. Most of these funds have come from the UNEP with some from UNDP, ADB, and other sources. There appears to be no record of any co-ordinated and concerted effort by the Participating Governments and/or the SACEP Secretariat to raise funds for the Implementation of the Projects outlined in its Priority Subject Matter Area.

There is little doubt that even with partial financial support from the participating countries of the region, substantial additional funds are required if SACEP is expected to mount a meaningful environmental programme. It is, therefore, essential that through A Co-ordinated Programme, Donor Organisations are approached for funding specific and clearly defined Project Proposals, adopted by the Governments of the Region.

To assist SACEP and the Participating Governments, in this Chapter proposals as to the potential sources of funding as well as a more concrete financial arrangement to support the programme implementation are put forward.

6.1. POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FUNDING

In view of the above various SACEP should examine and solicit various options for funding its programmes. The key for the success of securing funds would be well defined Project Proposals and co-ordinated and concerted negotiations. It might be helpful that in the initial phases, SACEP acquires the assistance of International organizations such as UNEP in trying to obtain funds. It is obvious that SACEP and the International Organisations should receive full support from the participating countries in their endeavours.

There are several potential ways of raising the necessary funds for the Priority Project Proposals of the SSP-1. In addition to cash, in certain cases assistance to the programmes could be in kind contributions. The in kind contribution could be in the form staff time and equipment usage or secondment of personnel to a programme.

This type of contribution is particularly significant where institutions such as Centres of Excellence undertake the implementation of a part of the specific activities.

The potential sources of funding fall into few broad categories listed below;

a. Regular contributions from the Participating Countries of the SACEP;

b. Additional contributions (cash or in kind) from the Participating Countries of the SACEP;

c. Contributions (cash or in kind) from the Countries outside the region;

d. Contributions from International Organisations;

e. Contributions from Bilateral and Multilateral aid Agencies;

f. Contributions from Existing Special Trust Funds or Facilities; and

g. Any other Relevant Sources.

6.2. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The success of the SSP-I depends on the availability of funds on a relatively regular and secure basis. Voluntary contributions are irregular at the best of time. Case by case and *Ad hoc* funding of projects, although important, has the disadvantage of periods of inactivity and a hiatus in the programmes, particularly detrimental if the programmes are inter-related.

One of the possibilities of securing a relatively constant source of funds is the Establishment of a Trust Fund where contributions can be paid into. The management of the Trust Fund is a professional task which is beyond the capabilities of SACEP, given its present manpower resources. It might be advisable that initially the experience of the International Organisations such as UNEP in the Management of Trust Funds are utilized for the SACEP Trust Fund. There is also the possibility of one or more participating governments could undertake this responsibility.

Irrespective of the entity managing the Trust Fund, it is understood that all decisions concerning programme implementation and utilization of funds are taken through the Regular Meetings of the SACEP Governing Council.

ANNEX 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CONSULTANT

1. The CONSULTANT under the general guidance of SACEP and UNEP/ROAP will be responsible for the preparation of a Report based on the decisions of the past SACEP Governing Council Meetings which identified, reviewed and adopted its "environment programme" and such other areas of current concern to the Member States of SACEP.

2. The Report which inter alia would contain a series of proposed activities and projects through 1996 would be entitled SACEP'S STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME I (SSP-I), 1992-1996.

3. The CONSULTANT will be expected to adhere as closely as possible to the Workplan and Timetable which will be discussed at the Initial Briefing Meeting scheduled for 1-3 June 1992 at the SACEP Secretariat in order to have the SSP-I ready for the 5th Governing Council Meeting.

4. In the preparation of the SSP-I, the CONSULTANT will have to work closely and in consultation with the SACEP and UNEP National Focal Points in order to reflect their views and positions clearly and satisfactorily.

5. SSP-I which would be in English and about 40-50 pages will have the following main sections:

   (a) Introduction:

   UNEP/SACEP relationship, reasons for preparation of SSP-1, goals of SSP-1, etc.

   (b) Antecedents:

   Brief history on SACEP's formation, Decisions of the SACEP Governing Councils I-IV concerning the environment programme for the participating countries (The Subject Matter Areas), Activities and Projects already undertaken in this framework, The October 1990 ESCAP/UNDP Ministerial-Level Conference on Environment and Development and how SACEP's Proposed Programme would fit in the Regional Strategy, etc.

(c) National Activities:

Completed and on-going National activities and Projects that fall within the framework of the Subject Matter Areas of SACEP, Objectives, Sources of their funding, Collaborating Agencies, Status and Schedule, etc.

(d) Proposed Projects under SSP-I:

Brief details of Proposed Projects and Programmes proposed by the National Focal Points that are within the Subject Matter Areas approved by the SACEP Governing Council and any other areas of current concern to the Member States of SACEP, Objectives of the Proposals, some details of Costs (Cash and Counterpart), Potential Collaborating Agencies, Potential Source of Funding, Schedule, etc.

(e) Potential Funding Sources:

A description of various funding sources that could provide finances necessary for the implementation of SSP-I.

6. The Projects and Activities selected should have a regional complexion and take into consideration the existing projects in operation within the region to ensure strengthening of the same and avoid duplication of work.

ANNEX 2

CONSULTANTS ITINERARY AND PERSONS MET

The SACEP Consultant in charge of the preparation of the draft SSP-I was required to visit the participating countries and hold discussions with the SACEP National Focal Points and other relevant officials. This was in order to reflect the views and the desires of these Governments in the Preparation of the First Draft of SSP-I.

The following is the itinerary of the Consultant and the persons contacted in each country.

BANGLADESH

1-3 July 1992 was spent in Dhaka and Meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other Organisations and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Dr. Mohammad Abdur Rashid, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest

2. Dr. S. Zaman Mozumder, Division Chief (Additional Secretary), Environment and Integrated Agriculture Division, Planning Commission

3. Mr. Risalat Ahmed, Director-General, Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forest

4. Dr. Mostafa Kamal Farooque, Joint Director, Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forest

5. Mr. Karar Mahmudul Hassan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest

6. Mr. Mahiuddin Ahmed, Joint Director, Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forest

7. Mr. Abdul Malik, Administrative Officer, Department of Environment

8. Mr. M.D. Shahjehan, Assistant Director, Department of Environment

(b) NGO Resource Persons:

9. Dr. Saleemul Huq, Executive Director, and

10. Dr. A. Atiq Rahman, Director, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies

11. Dr. F.U. Mahtab, Consultant, and former Planning Minister

12. Mr. Haroun er Rashid, President, POUSH, and principal writer of Bangladesh NCS and NEMAP

13. Mr. A.K.H. Morshed, Chairman, Institute of International and Strategic Studies, and former Foreign Secretary

BHUTAN

29 June -1 July 1992 was spent in Thimpu and meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other Organisations, and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Mr. Tshering Tashi, Head, National Environmental Secretariat, Planning Commission

2. Ms. Dechen Tsering Gyaltshen, National Environmental Secretariat, Planning Commission

3. Dr. Arne Schiotz, Senior Technical Adviser, National Environmental Secretariat, Planning Commission

4. Mr. Subo, Joint Director, Forests, Ministry of Agriculture

5. Dr. Mani K. Rai, Director, Animal Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture

6. Mr. Dao Pancho, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

7. Mr. D.K. Chhettri, Bhutan Olympic Commission, and former SACEP Focal Point in Ministry of Foreign Affairs

8. Mr. Kinlay Dorji, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

(B) International Organisations:

9. Mr. Jeffrey Michael Avina, Assistant Resident Representative, UNDP, Thimpu

INDIA

6 - 11 August 1992 was spent in New Delhi and meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other organisations, and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Mr. Mukul Sanwal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests

2. Mr. M. Parabrahman, Adviser, Ministry of Environment and Forests

3. Mr. Avina Vaish, Director, International Cooperation, Ministry of Environment and Forests

4. Mr. Keshav Desiraju, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests

5. Mr. Damodaran, Under Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests

NEPAL

25 -29 June 1992 was spent in Kathmandu and meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other organisations, and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Dr. Ram Prakash Yadav, Member, National Planning Commission

2. Mr. Tara N. Bhattarai, Chief, Environment Division, Ministry of Forests and Environment

3. Mr. Mohan P. Wagley, Under Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment

(b) International Centres:

4. Dr. N.S. Jodha, Head, Mountain Farming Systems Division, ICIMOD

(c) Intergovernmental Organizations:

5. Mr. R.M. Roy, Director Environment, SAARC Secretariat

(d) NGO Resource Persons:

6. Dr. Bhekh Bahadur Thapa, Visiting Scholar, Institute of Integrated Development Studies, and former Finance Minister

7. Mrs. Krishna Tamrakar, Editor-Broadcaster, Radio Nepal, and Global 500 Awardee

MALDIVES

29 July - 1 August 1992 was spent in Male and meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other organisations, and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Mr. Hussain Shihab, Director, Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Planning and Environment

2. Mr. Mohammed Ali, Deputy Director, Environmental Research, Ministry of Planning and Environment

3. Director, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture

4. Deputy Director, Marine Research Section, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture

PAKISTAN

5 - 13 and 21 July 1992 was spent in Islamabad and meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other organisations, and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Qureshi, Additional Secretary In-charge, Environment and Urban Affairs Division, Ministry of Housing and Works

2. Mr. Shamsul Haq, Joint Secretary, Environment and Urban Affairs Division

3. Mr. Ali Asghar Awan, Deputy Secretary, Environment and Urban Affairs Division

4. Dr. Parvez Tahir, Chief, Policy Planning and In-charge, proposed Environment Section, Planning Commission

5. Dr. Akmal Hussain, Member, Steering Committee, Independent Group for South Asia Consultation

(b) International Organisations:

6. Ms. Fatima Shah, Programme Officer, Environment, UNDP, Islamabad

SRI LANKA

30 May - 7 June and 26 - 29 June 1992 was spent in Colombo and meetings were held with the following Government Officials, Relevant Officials from other organisations, and NGO Resource Persons:

(a) Government Officials:

1. Dr. Devanesan Nesiah, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs

2. Dr Leslie Herath, 1st Director of SACEP & Honorary Advisor to the Minister of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs,

3. Mr. Leslie Wijesinghe, Adviser, Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs

4. Mr. V.K. Nanayakkara, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment

5. Mr. G.K. Amaratunga, Chairman, Central Environmental Authority

6. Mrs. N. Mohottala, Director Planning, Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs

7. Mr. Malika Fernando, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs

8. Mr. Sterling Perera, Project Co-ordinator, NORAD Project

9. Ms. P. Battuwitage, Project Officer, NORAD Project

(b) International Organisations:

10. Dr. Reza Amini, Senior Environmental Affairs Officer, UNEP/ROAP, Thailand

(c) Intergovernmental Organisations:

11. Mr R.K. Midha, Director, SACEP

12. Mr. P.N. Dias Abeyegunawardene, Consultant, SACEP

13. Ms. Marlene Pereira, Administrative Assistant, SACEP

(d) Bilateral Aid Agencies:

14. Ms. Sukanya Devarajan, Science and Technology Adviser, CIDA

(e) NGO Resource Persons:

15. Professor C. Suriyakumaran, Chairman, Centre for Regional Development Studies, and former Director, Regional Office and Regional Representative, UNEP

16. Mr. Nalin Ladduwahetty, Trustee, Mihikatha Trust Fund

17. Dr. Poona Wignaraja, Co-ordinator, United Nations University, South Asian Perspectives

ANNEX 3

BIBLIOGRAPHY

As mentioned in the text SACEP documents were examined extensively. In addition during the Consultant's mission to the participating countries various documents were also provided for his reference. These documents which reflect the latest and up-to-date publications on environmental policy, planning and management or related technical matters in the countries of the region were also consulted in the preparation of SSP-I. Below is a list of the same:

BANGLADESH

1. "Towards Sustainable Development, The National Conservation Strategy of Bangladesh", Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of Bangladesh and International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Second Draft, December 1991.

2. "National Environment Management Plan, An Action Plan for Bangladesh", Ministry of Environment and Forest, GOB, and UNDP, Dhaka, Second Draft, November 1991.

3. "Bangladesh Country Report for UNCED, Brazil, 1992", Ministry of Environment and Forest, GOB, Dhaka, October 1991.

4. Clark, J., Jens Sorensen, and Gerhardus Schultink, "Coastal Area Resource Management Identification/Project Formulation Mission", draft Phase 1 Project Report, submitted to Planning Commission, GOB, and UNDP, November 1991.

BHUTAN

1. "Environment and Sustainable Development", report of the Paro Workshop, 4-5 May 1990, UNDP, RGOB, and Royal Government of Denmark.

2. "Bhutan, Towards Sustainable Development in a Unique Environment", National Environmental Secretariat, Planning Commission, 1992.

3. The World Bank, "Memorandum and Recommendation on a Proposed Grant from the Global Environment Trust Fund to the Kingdom of Bhutan for a Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation", 21 May 1992.

4. The World Bank, "Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation, Technical Appendix", 21 May 1992.

5. "Towards a National Environmental Strategy for Bhutan", NES, Planning Commission, June 1992, (mimeo).

INDIA

1. "Environment and Development, India's Approach", Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI, New Delhi, July 1992.

2. "National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development", GOI, Ministry of Environment and Forests, June 1992.

3. "Environment and Development: Traditions, Concerns and Efforts in India; National Report to UNCED, June 1992", Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI, May 1992.

4. "People-Oriented Strategies for Regenerating India's Wastelands", National Wastelands Development Board, MEF, May 1992.

5. "Annual Report 1991-92", Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI, New Delhi.

6. "Annual Report 1990-91", Centre for Environment Education, Nehru Foundation for Development, Ahmedabad.

7. "National Forest Policy, 1988", Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.

NEPAL

1. "Developing a National System of Environmental Planning in Nepal", proceeding of the workshop for developing national environmental planning guidelines and procedures, Kathmandu, Nepal, 31 March to 12 April 1991, National Conservation Strategy Implementation Programme, National Planning Commission, HMG Nepal, in collaboration with IUCN, the World Conservation Union.

2. "Building on Success, The National Conservation Strategy for Nepal, HMG of Nepal and IUCN, 1988.

MALDIVES

1. "National Report, UNCED, Maldives", Ministry of Planning and Environment, Republic of Maldives, June 1992.

2. "National Environmental Action Plan", Ministry of Planning and Environment, Male, Republic of Maldives, 1990.

3. Bhatt, V.S., "The Republic of Maldives; Causes and Consequences of Natural Disasters and the Protection and Preservation of the Environment", Report to the Group of Co-ordinators of the SAARC Countries, Department of Ocean Development, Government of India, New Delhi, February 1990.

4. Dr. R. Sen Gupta, "SAARC Study on Greenhouse Effect and its Impact on the Region, Country Report, Maldives, Ministry of Planning and Environment, Republic of Maldives, February 1992.

PAKISTAN

1. "The Pakistan National Conservation Strategy, where we are, where we should be, and how to get there", Government of Pakistan and IUCN.

SRI LANKA

1. "Sri Lanka National Report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", published by the Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs, Sri Lanka, September 1991.

2. "National Environmental Action Plan, 1992-1996", Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs, October 1991.

SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

1. SAARC, "Sixth SAARC Summit, Sixth Meeting of the Heads of State or Government, Colombo Declaration", Colombo, 21 December 1991.

2. Regional Study on the Causes and Consequences of Natural Disasters and the Protection and Preservation of the Environment", South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, 1992.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

1. "Regenerative Agriculture Technologies for the Hill Farmers of Nepal: An Information Kit", Nepal Rural Reconstruction Association, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Philippines, ICIMOD, DANIDA, CARE, and USAID.

2. Jodha, N.S., "A Framework for Integrated Mountain Development", MFS Series No. 1, ICIMOD, 1990.

3. Jodha, N.S., "Sustainable Agriculture in Fragile Resource Zones: Technological Imperatives", MFS Series No. 3, ICIMOD, 1990.

4. Jodha, N.S., "Global Changes and Environmental Risks in Mountain Ecosystems", MFS Series No. 23, ICIMOD, 1992.

5. Jodha, N.S., "Sustainable Land Use involving Trees in the Himalayan Region: Perspectives and Policy Implications", MFS Series No. 24, ICIMOD, 1992.

6. Jodha, N.S., "Agriculture Growth and Sustainability: Perspectives and Experiences from the Himalayas", MFS Series No. 25, ICIMOD, 1992.

7. Lu Rongsen, "Seabuckthorn, A Multipurpose Plant Species for Fragile Mountains, ICIMOD Occasional Paper No. 20, Kathmandu, Nepal, 1992.

ANNEX 4

LIST OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING OF COUNTRY FOCAL POINTS TO REVIEW THE FIRST DRAFT OF SSP-1 (COLOMBO, 20-21 AUGUST 1992)

BANGLADESH

1.	Mr. Risalat Ahmed	Director-General, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Dhaka

BHUTAN

2.	Mr. Dasho Nakchung Tshering	Head of City Corporation, Thimpu

INDIA

3.	Mr. Keshav Desiraju	Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi

SRI LANKA

4.	Mr. V.K. Nanayakkara	Secretary/Environment, Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs, Colombo
5.	Mr. G.K. Amaratunga	Chairman, Central Environmental Authority, Colombo
6.	Mrs. N. Mohottala	Director/Planning, Ministry of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs, Colombo

OBSERVERS

7.	Mr. Mostafizur Rahman	Counsellor, High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
8.	Mr. Mizanur Rahman	Second Secretary, High Commission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka

9.	Mr. A. Gopinathan	Counsellor, Indian High Commission, Sri Lanka
10.	Mr. E. Khorrami	First Secretary, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Sri Lanka
11.	Mr. Qasim Raza Muttaqi	Second Secretary, Pakistan High Commission, Sri Lanka
12.	Dr Leslie Herath	Honorary Advisor, Ministry of Environment & Parliamentary Affairs, and Senior Consultant, RENRIC Phase I.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

13.	Dr. M.R. Amini	Senior Environmental Affairs Officer, UNEP/ROAP, Thailand

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

14.	Mr. R.K. Midha	Director, South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, (SACEP)
15.	Mr. P.N.Dias Abeyegunawardene	Consultant, SACEP
16.	Mr. Syed Ayub Qutub	Consultant, SSP-1

SACEP SECRETARIAL STAFF

17.	Ms. Marlene Pereira	Administrative Assistant
18.	Ms. Shelaan N. De Silva	Secretary
19.	Ms. Fathima Doole	Receptionist/Typist