



UNEP's Comparative Advantage



- Scientific assessments, monitoring, early warning;
- Linking science to policy (capacity building, enabling activities) at national, regional and global levels;
- Innovation, technology transfer and lifting barriers;
- Regional and global cooperation;
- Awareness raising, advocacy, and KM.



UNEP's Commitment to Water Resources Management



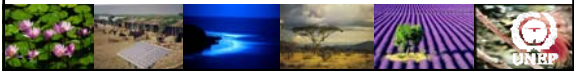
The mandate of UNEP and the UN system to work on water and the way this mandate is operationalized through the WPS were introduced and outlined. It was emphasized that the MTS should guide the development of the operational freshwater strategy and that it needs to respond to emerging issues and challenges. Furthermore, it would be based on a review of what has worked, the catalytic role that UNEP can play and the need for pragmatic implementation arrangements within the matrix management system. In turn, the operational strategy and discussion leading to it would provide input to the development of UNEP's new MTS for the period 2014-2017. The MTF framework stemmed from a desire to make UNEP more results-oriented. The MTS (2010-13) provides the medium term planning guidance for the biennial strategic frameworks (2010-2011 and 2012-2013) and associated Programmes of Work (PoW).



The Programme of Work against UNEP's six subprogrammes:



- (1) Climate change
- (2) Disasters and conflicts
- (3) Ecosystem management
- (4) Environmental governance
- (5) Harmful substances and hazardous waste
- (6) Resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production



Partnership




- UNEP complements its freshwater activities by cooperating and expanding existing agreements with other UN agencies that are addressing water nationally, regionally and internationally.

Some Examples in the Pacific:


- The first Asia-Pacific Adaptation Forum took place Oct. 2010, and the second meeting held early this year in Bangkok.
- Vulnerability and Impacts Assessments (VIA) capacities to support adaptation strengthened in 27 countries: PNG, and through 3 sub-regional ECCOs (the Pacific).



Some Examples in the Pacific:



- Integrated marine management mechanisms are developed and networks of Marine Protected Areas are promoted to increase the sustainability of fishing and the stability of coastal and marine habitats [Cook Islands].
- Training for Chief justices and senior judges from a number of Asian and Pacific countries committed to enhance the capacity of their national judicial systems to handle environmental matters was convened jointly by the Asian Development Bank and UNEP.



Some Examples in the Pacific:



- GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (GEF-PAS) in the areas of waste water invasive alien species, solid and hazardous waste management.
- Two regional reports on Resource Efficiency: Economics and Outlook have been completed so far (REEO Asia & Pacific and LAC/Mercosur), building on work initiated in 2009 and covering a range of critically affected countries including Indonesia, Laos, Kazakhstan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay and Uruguay. The reports will be published in beginning 2011.

