

National Sustainable Development Strategies in Asia & the Pacific



Myanmar

Background: Myanmar with its unique political and social scenario has made promising progress towards NSDS. The Myanmar Agenda 21 was formulated and published in 1997, providing a blueprint for the country's approach to sustainable development. A stronger institutional mechanism for addressing environment and sustainable development may come about with the passage of an Environmental Protection Law expected in the near future. Myanmar has adopted the National Environmental Policy in 1994 and other sectoral strategies. Myanmar has requested support from UNEP and is stepping towards adopting NSDS in 2007-2008 in a participatory process.

Process



- The National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA) is the key coordinating body for environmental protection, conservation and sustainable development.
- The MoU between NCEA and UNEP RRCAP on NSDS was signed on 10 April, 2007.
- In the recent Inception workshop held on 28-29 June, 2007, the NSDS outline and goals were drafted.
- 1st consultation was conducted on 26-27 September, 2007 to revise the sectoral strategies in a participatory process. Team of national consultants of NCEA is incorporating all suggestions made by the participants to update the NSDS draft.
- 2nd consultation will be held in November, 2007 followed by revision of the draft NSDS and expert review meeting.

Institutional Setup

Leading Agency: National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA)

National Focal Point: Dr. San Win, National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA)

Partners: Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA), Committee for Environmental Conservation

Web site: <http://www.rrcap.unep.org>

Content

The draft NSDS vision in Myanmar is to achieve well-being and happiness for all people of Myanmar within 15 year time frame. The overarching goal of the draft NSDS of Myanmar to Sustainable development is to achieve economic, social, environmental protection as a basis for improvement of quality of life and provision for competitiveness of the country in the long run.

Myanmar's draft NSDS aims to achieve this vision through following the three integrated goals:

- **Goal 1-Sustainable management of natural resources:** Sustainable management of natural resources and as well as meet the future energy needs, conservation of biodiversity, development of environmental protection law and enforcement.
- **Goal 2-Sustainable economic development:** Develop agro-based industries; enhance the physical infrastructure and services like roads and power sector, creation of Special Development Zones, expand agriculture, livestock and fishery sectors for self-sufficiency and export promotion.
- **Goal 3-Sustainable social development:** Build healthy society, develop human capital, empower communities specially the rural areas and border areas, establish infrastructure for regional balanced development, establish educational and health services.

Follow-up

The 1st draft NSDS is currently being revised to be forwarded to different stakeholders for further discussions. The Team of national consultants will consider all suggestions made by the workshop and will collate the comments into the final draft for further Government endorsement process in 2007.

