



CSD-18: CROSS-REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

UN Regional Commissions

Marco Keiner
Director

Environment, Housing and Land Management Division
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

New York, 4 May 2010

Existing and prospective cross-regional partnerships

Joint presentation:

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)



A non-exhaustive list of examples of ongoing cross-regional activities and of the possible areas of cooperation

Areas of work related to the CSD-18 cycle

Presented projects are those implemented by RCs and other UN agencies as well as by countries in bilateral or triangular cooperation



TRANSPORT: ongoing cooperation

Climate change adaptation in transport – UNECE in cooperation with ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA

Goal: Enhancing the role of transportation in achieving socio-economic development through trade facilitation and mitigation of climate change including through a uniform analytical tool to evaluate CO2 footprint of land transport

Approach: development of a standard methodology, web-based publicly available analytical tool, training on application

Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) – UNECE and ESCAP

Goal: Coordinated development of coherent Euro-Asian inland transport links

Activities: EATL Study: identification of main road and rail routes for priority development

Eco-efficient and sustainable urban infrastructure development – ECLAC and ESCAP

Goal: Strengthening decision-making capacity to promote sustainable urban infrastructure

Approach: case-studies and guidelines on eco-efficiency in the design and implementation of urban infrastructure



TRANSPORT: S-S cooperation



Bus Rapid transport system (BRT) – Latin America / Africa

Goal: stimulate sustainable mass transit

Approach: BRT projects in Colombia, Brazil, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa, Senegal

Trans-Asian railway network – ESCAP

Goal: Efficient rail service for goods and passengers in Asia and between Asia and Europe, 114K km of railway, 28 countries

Approach: : Intergovernmental Agreement, sharing of technology and know-how

Design of public urban transport routes (Mexico/Nicaragua)



Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq (ITSAM) – ESCWA

Goal: To enhance intra-regional transport among the Arab countries

Approach: Follow-up to the intergovernmental agreement, transport infrastructure development, facilitation of the flow of goods and passengers, enhancement of transport sustainability

Offer: Can be replicated in other regions



SCP

Ongoing cooperation

The Global Energy Efficiency Project (CEE21) – all RCs

Goal: Promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements

Approach: Capacity building, technical assistance on policy reforms and financing mechanisms, network of experts

Possible area for cooperation

Assessments of the Economic Impact of Climate Change – ECLAC

Goal: Measure long-term economic impact of climate change (under mitigation and adaptation scenarios)

Approach: multidisciplinary country-teams → country studies, subregional studies

Offer: project methodology, methodologies for marginal abatement cost curves



SCP: S-S cooperation

The Marrakesh process in Africa

Goal: Providing forum for a dialogue and cooperation on SCP

Approach: Contributed to the development of the regional 10-YFP, development of national SCP programs, capacity-building, demo projects, African Roundtable on SCP

Regional Council on SCP in Latin America and the Caribbean

Goal: Implementation of regional priorities for the 10 YFP

Approach: Information exchange, needs assessment, identification of funding sources and regional cooperation mechanisms

Arab Countries Water Utilities Association – ESCWA

Goal: Fostering inter-Arab dialogue between water supply and sanitation service providers and relevant stakeholders

Approach: Working Groups on Utilities Management, Capacity Building, Water Resources Management, Water and Health, Utilities Reform and Benchmarking

UNIDO Integrated Development Program in Africa

Goal: Improving quality, production, efficiency and increasing market access for agricultural products, increasing employment and incomes, reducing poverty

Approach: UNIDO Cleaner production Centers: assist with cleaner production techniques and ISO certification



SCP: S-S cooperation

Production of Ethanol from sugar cane (Brazil / LA & Africa)

Goal: Contributing to local economies by producing biofuel without affecting food supply

Approach: Regionally-developed technology, bilateral cooperation between Brazil and countries in LAC and Africa

Offer: Expertise and regionally-developed technology

Mesoamerican Biofuels program

Goal: Development of biofuels



SCP: S-S cooperation

ESCAP Green Growth Initiatives

PES site water and electricity production

Goal: More sustainable production of water and electricity

Approach: Regional experience sharing on policy development and practical implementation

Solar Energy Rentals for poor communities

Goal: Empowering local technicians to set up an affordable local service

Approach: PPP, provision of solar lanterns and charging station, initial equipment and training

Green tanneries in the Asian and Pacific Region (China/Viet Nam)

Goal: Supporting Green Business through sustainable leather production

Approach: Successful eco-tannery in China expanding to Viet Nam and exploring a possibility to developing opportunities in Vanuatu



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Landfill Methane recovery - ECLAC

Offer: Lessons learnt through methane recovery experience, methodology to assess financing of environmental projects by public and private sector

UN Habitat: Improvement in Municipal Waste Management in Tanzania

Approach: private sector involvement, solid waste management and income generation

Offer: Can be easily replicated in other countries

S-S cooperation

Waste to Energy program in West Africa (Mozambique, Ghana, Tanzania) (UNIDO, HABITAT)

Goal: Converting solid and liquid waste to gas and electricity

Approach/benefits: Building biogas plants, job creation, reducing deforestation, cheaper energy source, waste reduction, reduce methane emissions, use of effluents as fertilizers

Offer: Significant demand in Africa for conversion of waste to gas and electricity.

Proposals are being developed for other countries.

Waste Recycling (bilateral and triangular projects in LAC)

Approaches: experience sharing, addressing vulnerable population, waste management in protected areas, exchange between sub-national authorities, assistance with hazardous waste management facilities and solid waste management systems



WASTE MANAGEMENT: S-S cooperation

ESCAP Green Growth Initiatives

Biogas as a multiple solution

Goal: Creating supporting opportunities for turning waste into business and energy generation and access of rural communities to sustainable energy sources

Approach: Based on Viet Nam experience: scheme for an affordable biogas model for rural areas in Upolu Samoa, training of local community, loan scheme for biogas installation



Innovation in wastewater management

Goal: Integration of eco-efficient water infrastructure development into socio-economic development

Approach: Guidelines and pilot demonstration projects, rehabilitation of urban water bodies and rivers, building on socio-economic benefits of the projects, Regional Dialogue on Wastewater Management in Asia



CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT

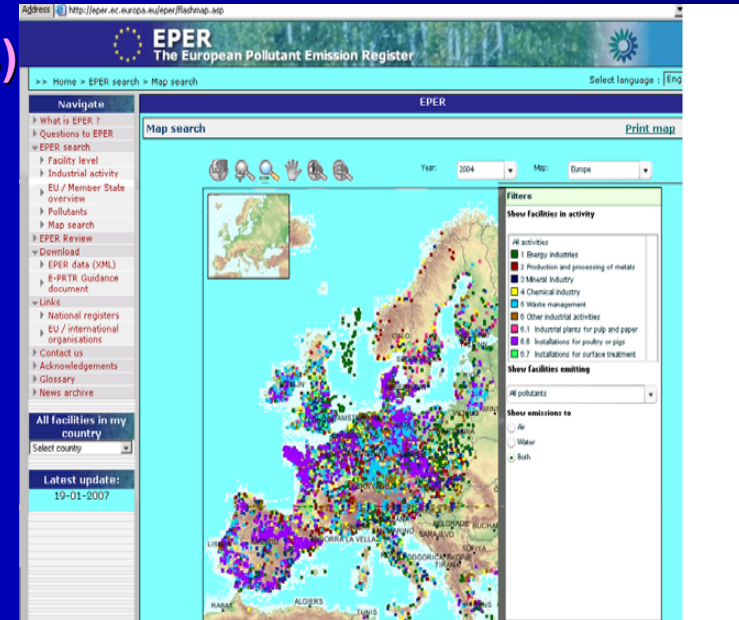
Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs)

Regional Protocol on PRTR - UNECE

Goal: legally binding requirements to develop and operate registers

Approach: Common requirements for PRTRs in 56 countries, 28+ countries have operational registers, Guidance on development and operation of PRTRs, capacity-building for countries with economies in transition to gradually set up registers and train operators and authorities

Offer: Methodology, expertise, adaptable Guidance documents



Implementation of PRTRs in Chile and Mexico - ECLAC

Offer: Know-how in the implementation

Basel Convention implementation

Basel Convention Regional Centers

Goal: Centers in Mexico and El Salvador cooperate with African Coordinating Center

Approach: exchange of experience on the Environmental Sound Management of Hazardous Materials and Wastes



MINING

Coalmine methane recovery project – UNECE (with the Methane to Markets Partnership and US EPA)

Approach: Best practices and technical assistance in planning, designing and financing coal mine methane projects

Offer: Share available best practices

Good Practices for small scale mining and Corporate Social Responsibility – ECLAC

Goal: Entrepreneurial development of small scale mining and CSR in the mining sector

Approach: CSR (role of industry associations and desertification), development of environmental indicators and conflict management in mining, environmental liabilities and gender perspectives in industry

Offer: Sharing of expertise with other regions

Good practices in the mining sector in Africa – ECA and the AUC (with AfDB)

Goal: Reviewing existing natural resources laws and regulations to better accommodate the interests of African countries

Approach: Establishment of the International Study Group, sharing of best practices, identification of national capacity gaps, formulation of recommendations for stakeholders and advocacy for change of modalities and approaches, African Mining Vision – formal basis for new development-oriented mineral regimes

Geological Services (LAC countries)

Scope: Bilateral cooperation on geological services in the region and with countries in Asia and Africa

Approach: Bilateral Agreements, mapping of mineral resources in border regions, including mapping of geo-diversity in potential mining areas

