Internet-based Information Resource and Discussion Platform on GHG Reduction Strategies in Asia

Submitted to US Department of Energy, Washington, DC
DISCLAIMER

This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.
DISCLAIMER

Portions of this document may be illegible in electronic image products. Images are produced from the best available original document.
Contents

Chapter 1: Final activity report: 22 September 99 – 30 September 00

Country specific sections

General sections

Conclusions
TERI developed and launched the climate change in Asia web site (www.ccasia.teri.res.in) in December 1998 with support from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, United States Department of Energy. This web site provided information on country profiles, greenhouse gas inventories, mitigation options, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, status of climate change activities, key projects and regional studies, publications, and major players in different Asian countries.

Under a grant from US-DOE for the second phase of this project, the information base of the web site is expanded. The expanded web site now covers ten Asian countries that are expected to become important players in the climate change arena, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Country specific sections

Section 1: Country profiles

The web site provides information on geographic, economic, social and political profiles of ten Asian countries. These profiles also presents the status of climate change activities in respective countries, including information related to the signing and ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Section 2: Greenhouse gas inventory

Up-to-date sector-wise information on national greenhouse gas inventories for
nine Asian countries has been provided. The inventory section also provides sector-wise baseline projections for greenhouse gas emissions from these countries up to the year 2020 from the recently concluded ALGAS (Asia Least-cost Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategy) project. For each country, updated data tables from the ALGAS reports are provided, in addition to data from such earlier projects as 'Regional Studies on Global Environmental Issues' (Asian Development Bank 1994) and from the US Country Studies Program.

Section 3: Mitigation options and sector-wise potential for greenhouse gas reduction

For each country, the write-up on mitigation options provides sector-wise information on the potential for greenhouse gas reduction. Additionally, the website now also provide data on the greenhouse gas reduction potential and cost of different mitigation options. This information is essential to help identify potential areas for undertaking CDM (clean development mechanism) projects in Asia.

Section 4: Vulnerability and adaptation information

Information on current state of knowledge regarding the implications and threats of climate change for sectors such as agriculture, forestry, water resources, and coastal areas has been presented on the website in the form of country-specific sections on vulnerability and adaptation.

Section 5: AIJ/ JI programmes with focus on Asia

The website features a comprehensive compilation of projects related to AIJ (activities implemented jointly) that are in progress in the ten Asian countries, including information on location, impacts, benefits, and contact information. One section is devoted to programs in Asia related to AIJ or JI (joint implementation), e.g. the World Bank AIJ Program, US Initiative on Joint Implementation, the Swiss and the Norwegian AIJ programs, and The Netherlands pilot program. For each program, the following details are given:
focus, projects specific to individual countries, contact information, key people, and information on private companies and local collaborating agencies.

Section 6: Publications

Abstracts and bibliographies of various publications on climate change, both general and country specific can be found in this section. In addition, the full-text of selected publication can also be downloaded from the web site.

Section 7: Key contacts

A number of organizations and individuals have submitted their contact information through online submission form available on the web site. The information provided is screened for relevance and is then put up on the web site in the key contact section under different categories for respective countries.

General sections

Section 1: Discussion forum

Discussion forum was initiated by posting a background paper on the theme "Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies in Asia". This paper takes stock of three most important sectors in climate change research that is the basis for the Climate Change in Asia project. These are the energy, agriculture, and forestry sectors. Taking each sector individually it highlights the most important abatement strategies. The paper also lists numerous factors that impede adoption of GHG abatement strategies by acting as barriers. It concludes by posing relevant queries that could be used as discussion points.

Number of experts in the climate change arena including members of Working Groups II and III of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), AEI members were invited to participate in this discussion. About 35 experts
were actively participated in the discussion. Many of them also sent other relevant publications, which are posted, on this web site.

Section 2: Events

The event section is being updated regularly. This section acts has a bulletin board to upcoming events, covering most of the major events on climate change all over the world with special emphasis on Asian events. An online submission form is provided for users to submit the events to be posted on this web site.

Section 3: Links

Links section - a pointer to web resources on climate change has been updated. All the links are validated, and information is updated for the same. There is also an online form, where user can submit a new web site. Several new sites were added during this project period.

Section 4: Promotion and cross linkages

A brief write-up on this project has been published in two of TERI's publications - TERIGlobe, and Global Environment Review (GER). A number of international organizations like Joint Implementation Network (JIN), The Netherlands; Philippine Climate Change Information Center; The Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, U.S. Global Change Research Program, NASA (Global Change Master Directory), etc., have given link from their web sites to the Climate Change in Asia web site. The web site also consistently appears in the search results of engines such as Google, InfoSeek, Excite, AltaVista, About, Northern Light, Lycos, Dogpile, All The Web, Snap, Mamma, and so on.

Conclusion
The web site now provides a consolidated Internet-based information resource and a platform for discussion on climate change related issues in Asia. When a request for information was posted through IISD's Climate-L mailing list, the response was tremendous. This resulted in establishing new contacts with persons and organizations working in this field. A number of organizations requested permission to link their web sites to the Climate Change in Asia web site so that all relevant information on Asia can be inter-related. When the discussion forum was initiated, many of the experts showed willingness to participate and suggested changes/updation required in the information of not only in the paper but also to some of the sections of the web site itself. With this one can say that this effort has reached the target audience in stimulating awareness about the crucial debate on GHG Reduction Strategies in Asia.