



CELMUN/ UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Topic A: Clean energy for Economic growth in Developing countries

Energy service provision is not without problems. Energy generation can be costly in both economic and environmental terms. To date, most developing countries have financed their energy sectors with loans from bilateral and multilateral lending institutions. The Developing countries constitute an increasingly important component of the global energy scene. With three-quarters of the world's population they account for one-quarter of total energy consumption and four-fifths of energy exports. Most of them are oil importers who share with industrial countries the twin problems of coping in the short term the most effective combination of energy supply alternatives to imported oil. For many, there is the further problem of dwindling supplies of traditional forest and farm-based fuels with severe consequences in environmental degradation and reduced agricultural productivity.

The Rapid pace of economic development in most of the developing world since 1950s has been accompanied by an even greater increase in use of energy. It can be noted that the South has greatly outpaced the North in this respect since 1965, and especially since 1973. The vast preponderance of the increase, moreover, was in the form of oil. Between 1960 and 1978, to share of oil in the commercial energy supplies of developing countries. Natural gas is currently a significant energy source only for developing countries with substantial associated oil production. Hydroelectricity also supplies only a modest share overall, but provides a substantial proportion of total electricity output and specially important in some major countries.

The sharp increases in energy consumption are natural concomitants of the changes in economic structure involved in development. In the run-up to Rio + 20, UNDESA and UNDP supported more than seventy countries to engage stake- holders in nationally-led processes whose aims were to review progress, challenges and gaps in the implementation of sustainable development approaches over the last

two decades. These preparations were informed by national development plans and strategies and reflected the views of participating stakeholders.

Incorporating environmental issues into economic planning remains a challenge; there is considerable scope to learn from and build upon the comparatively more successful integration of social issues in mainstream development practice that resulted from national and international commitments the Rio+20 national preparations underscored the need for more coherent planning and decision-making at and between the national, subnational, and local levels of government as well as across thematic sectors. The evidence shows that few countries boast a well-functioning coordination mechanism with the capacity to align efforts around key, often multi-sectoral, national objectives. The evidence is overwhelming that a gap exists everywhere between stated commitments to sustainable development and the reality of sustainable development implementation, which is constrained by the integration, inclusion, and coherence challenges flagged above.

[...The national reports suggest five priority areas for advancing sustainable development...]

Few countries had initiated specific policies or plans for a green economy; however a range of environmental, energy, climate change and other sectoral policies being pursued could fall under the general green economy umbrella. Undoubtedly, this is because the “green economy” concept is still very new for most countries, and there remains a lack of clarity around how green economy differs from what countries are already doing in the areas of climate change, energy, environmental management, and inclusive growth. However, some countries have formulated national development plans or strategies that provide a strong foundation for inclusive green economy approaches.

Economic development has led to dramatic improvements in the quality of life in developing countries, producing gains unparalleled in human history. But the picture is far from entirely positive. Gains have been unevenly distributed, and a large part of the world’s population remains desperately poor. At the same time, natural resources-land, water, and forests-are being degraded at alarming rates in many countries, and environmental factors such as indoor and outdoor air pollution, waterborne diseases, and exposure to toxic chemicals threaten the health of millions of people. Addressing these concerns, successive international conferences have reaffirmed the commitment to eliminate poverty through environmentally sound and socially responsible economic development.

“...currently there is no national definition on the meaning of the term “green economy” in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. However, green economy is broadly considered as the economy that ensures sustainable development and does not encourage environmental degradation.”

If the vision of a world without poverty is to be realized, sustainable development is the key. Given such close links, there is a strong argument for developing indicators that integrate economic activity and environmental change. One solution that appears to hold much promise is environmental accounting. Aimed at deriving “greener” measures of national income, savings, and wealth, environmental accounting adds natural resources and pollutants to the assets and liabilities measured in the standard national accounts. But preparing full-fledged integrated environmental and economic accounts is costly, and not all countries are doing so. In the absence of such integrated accounts, physical indicators and descriptive statistics can provide useful information for monitoring the state of the environment.

One of the major challenges highlighted in national reports from all regions is climate change and its impact on increased frequency and intensity of natural hazards such as hurricanes cyclones, floods, land slides and droughts over the last few decades.

The debate will concentrate in what the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a part of the United Nations (UN) is trying to achieve in the last 10 years, the delegates will focus in alternate a viable energies, and how this will impact on a country, also searching for programs that encourage the people to think about and caring about the environment (campaigns, marches, etc.).

Delegates the UNDP have to consider the next questions:

- 1 How is the environment related to the Economy?
- 2 Will developing countries be able to apply the clean energy change?
- 3 Why are the Earth Summit commitments haven't been reflected?
- 4 What measures the International Community is going to take, to reduce the environmental damage?
- 5 States are capable of facing the world situation?

Bibliography:

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