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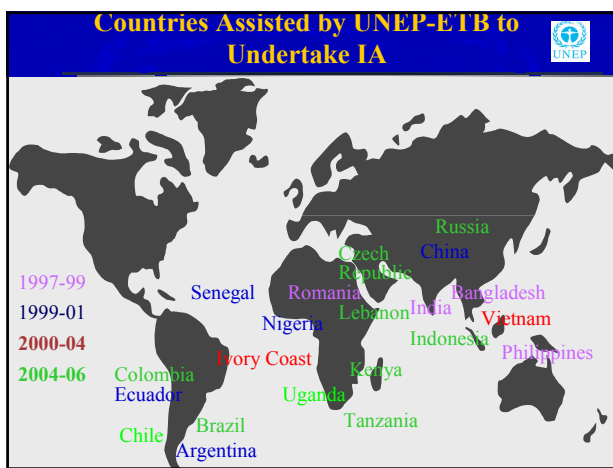
## UNEP Experiences with Integrated Assessment in Asia and the Pacific

Manila, The Philippines  
 16-17 June 2005  
 CBTF Workshop on Post Doha Trade and  
 Environment Issues  
 Asad Naqvi, UNEP-ETB

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### Structure of Presentation

- UNEP and Integrated Assessment
- Some Findings: IA (ESE) in Asia
- Lessons Learned and Future Plans





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### Asian Countries in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Round

- China. An Ex-anti Assessment of the Effects of Trade Liberalization on the Rice Sector
- Indonesia: Impacts of Trade Liberalization on the Rice Sector
- Vietnam: Impacts of the Economic Reforms on the Rice Sector





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### IA – Some Findings

#### Economic effects

- Mixed picture: from significant positive effects to minimal effects or negative impacts

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### IA – Some Findings

#### Social impacts

- Positive and negative impacts on employment
- Varying impacts on poverty reduction and food security

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## IA – Some Findings

### Environmental impacts

- Most commonalities among countries
- Agro-chemical use
  - Soil degradation
  - Water pollution
  - Loss of biodiversity

**Environmental impacts identified pose future threats to the human health**

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## IA - Some findings

### Environmental Impacts

- Increasing pressure on water resources
- Negative impacts related to change in land use
  - Intensification ⇒ increased and inadequate use of agrochemicals
  - Extensification ⇒ clearing of forests and wetlands
  - Conversion of land to other uses

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## IA – Some findings

### Integration of Impacts

- There is a need for policy development and implementation, including that of trade liberalization policies, that results in maximising the quality of human life through sustainable economic activity that respects the limits of the environment.



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## Overall Findings of IA studies

- Difficult to trace the specific effects that can be attributed to the application of trade liberalization
- Domestic reform measures (specific to trade and associated with macroeconomic adjustment) had more influence than changes resulting from the external trade agreements

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## Lessons learned

- Work with sustainability benchmarks in planning processes is not common.
- Stakeholder participation is widely applied but needs to produce manageable information.
- Additional information gathered through IA needs to be synthesized in a systematic way to have impact on decision making.
- Inconsistencies and discontinuity in the policymaking process are challenges for effective use of IA.


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## Successes of UNEP Integrated Assessment Projects

- Increased awareness about the linkages between trade, environment and development
- Improved coordination between trade, environment and relevant sectoral ministries
- Enhanced capacity in country projects to conduct integrated assessments
- Enhanced capacity for design and implementation of policy responses
- Replication of IA by other institutions, separate from UNEP's support



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### Challenges of UNEP Integrated Assessment Projects

- Difficulty integrating the three aspects of the assessment
- Difficulty establishing indicators and valuing certain impacts
- Need for better training and support of national institutions
- Inadequate dissemination and communication of project results



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### NEW Initiative on Integrated Assessment and Planning for Sustainable Development (IAP)


Wider perspective: Looking at sectoral and macroeconomic policies with focus on achieving sustainable development and poverty reduction

Objective: To strengthen and improve existing plans and planning processes in support of sustainable development


Approach: Ex-ante/ concurrent assessment as an integral part of a planning process (at regional or national level)

Selected planning processes include:

- Poverty reduction strategies
- Trade agreements
- National and regional development strategies
- Sectoral development strategies



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### Future Initiatives on Integrated Assessment

#### UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force

CBTF Organic Agriculture Initiative in East Africa (Kenya, Republic of Tanzania and Uganda)

- National assessment studies on organic agriculture

#### MEA implementation

- CBD Implementation Project – assessing impacts on agricultural biodiversity (6 ACP countries, EU funding)