Enhancing Environmental Sustainability in Asia and the Pacific

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1. **Introduction to ADB**: Responding to changing needs in Asia and the Pacific
2. **Key issues**: Critical environmental trends shaping the region
3. **Strategy**: How has ADB been responding?
4. **Action**: Examples of innovation
5. **Partnerships**: Working with universities and institutions to create change
1. Asian Development Bank: What is Our Role?
Introduction to ADB's Strategy 2030: Responding to a Changing Asia and the Pacific
2. Critical Environmental Trends Shaping Asia and the Pacific
Air pollution is choking Asian Cities.

95% of cities with >100,000 people with poor AQ
4.5 million annual premature deaths in Asia
Asia’s GHG emissions have grown faster than the rest of the world. Climate risks and impacts are rising rapidly.

42% global CO2 equivalent emissions (2014) from developing Asia.
Increasing vulnerability to extreme weather events
Biodiversity across the region is declining and land degradation has escalated.

60% decline in species since 1970
23-55% rural populations with degraded agricultural land
Water scarcity is rising with overconsumption, pollution and climate change.
Ocean health and productivity declining

Asia and the Pacific region produces 80% of the world’s aquaculture and 60% of capture fisheries.

Marine populations have declined by 49% in the past 50 years. No exploitable wild fish stocks for commercial fishing by 2048.
Waste generation outstrips disposal capacity, leading to marine and land pollution.

About 1/3 of wastewater treated
75% of municipal waste collected but less than 60% treated
3. Strategy: How is ADB responding?
### Key Historical Milestones of Environment Operations in ADB

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<th>Year</th>
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| 1972 | ADB begins to act on environmental pollution  
Projects include: Metropolitan Water Intake Project, Republic of Korea and Environmental and Water Supply Study of Laguna de Bay, Philippines |
| 1978 to 1979 | ADB develops guidelines for Fisheries and Forestry and incorporates environmental considerations in ADB operations |
Emphasized on environmental protection as part of ADB developmental role |
| 1995 | ADB Forestry Policy |
| 1997 | ADB Fisheries Policy |
| 2002 | • Creation of Environment and Social Safeguards Division  
• ADB Environment Policy |
| 2008 | ADB Strategy 2020  
Promoted environmentally sustainable growth as one of ADB’s strategic agenda, with environment and climate change as one of the core areas of operations |
## Key Historical Milestones on Environment Operations in ADB

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| 2009 | ADB Safeguard Policy Statement  
      | Strengthened protections already in place for environment, involuntary settlement, and indigenous peoples |
| 2013 | Environmental Operational Directions (EOD) 2013-2020 |
| 2015 | Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Addis Ababa Action Agenda, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Sustainable Development Goals), and Paris Agreement on Climate Change  
      | Supported DMCs in adopting the 4 global agreements |
| 2018 | ADB Strategy 2030  
      | Included enhancing environmental sustainability in Operational Priority 3, along with tackling climate change and building climate and disaster resilience |
| 2019 | ADB Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and the ADB Oceans Financing Initiative  
      | ADB committed to expand its investments and technical assistance in ocean health and the blue economy to $5 billion between 2019-2024 |
ADB’s Strategy 2030: Vision

Expanded vision

STRATEGY 2020 VISION
An Asia and Pacific region free of poverty

Aligned with global commitments

STRATEGY 2030 VISION
prosperous inclusive resilient sustainable
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
ADB Strategy 2030: Operational Priorities

**Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities**
- Human development and social inclusion, quality jobs, education and training, better health, social protection

**Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability**
- Low greenhouse gas emissions development, approach to building climate and disaster resilience, environmental sustainability, water–food–energy security nexus

**Promoting rural development and food security**
- Market connectivity and agricultural value chain linkages, agricultural productivity and food security, food safety

**Fostering regional cooperation and integration**
- Connectivity and competitiveness, regional public goods, cooperation in finance sector, subregional initiatives

**Accelerating progress in gender equality**
- Scaled-up support for gender equality; women’s economic empowerment; gender equality in human development, decision-making, and leadership; reducing time poverty for women; strengthening women’s resilience to shocks

**Making cities more livable**
- Integrated solutions, funding for cities, inclusive and participatory urban planning, climate resilience and disaster management

**Strengthening governance and institutional capacity**
- Public management reforms and financial sustainability, service delivery, capacity and standards
OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability
ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY ENHANCED

Focal Areas

A. Pollution control and resource efficiency
   A1. Air quality management
   A2. Freshwater and marine pollution management

B. Natural capital management
   B1. Coastal and marine resource management
   B2. Sustainable tourism
   B3. Sustainable land, forest and water management

Cross-cutting issues

Sustainable infrastructure design
Green businesses, jobs, and technologies
Environmental governance
Water–food–energy security nexus
ADB’s Action Plan for Healthy Oceans

ADB commits to expanding its investments and technical assistance in ocean health and the blue economy to $5 billion between 2019–2024

FOCUS AREAS

**Blue Economy**
Creating inclusive livelihood and business opportunities in sustainable tourism and fisheries.

**Ecosystem Management**
Protecting and restoring coastal and marine ecosystems and key rivers.

**Pollution Control**
Reducing land-based sources of marine pollution including plastics, wastewater, and agricultural runoff.

**Sustainable Infrastructure**
Improving sustainability in port and coastal infrastructure development.
4. Actions and Innovations
Financing Air Quality with Policy Based Lending
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Ulaanbaatar Air Quality Improvement Program (2018)
AMOUNT: $130 million

Ulaanbaatar Air Quality Improvement Program, Phase 2
AMOUNT: $160 million (proposed) to include:

**URGENT measures to support ban on raw coal burning by households**
- Strengthening of National Committee’s structures
- Establishment of improved fuels supply chain
- Nighttime tariffs for rollout of electric heaters to 40,000 households
- Filters installed in public coal-fired heat boilers

**LONGER TERM measures to deliver green heating supplies in ger areas**
- Certificate of green buildings
- Financed incentives for green housing
- Embedding green standards in urban master plan
- Long term plan on clean heat supply to ger areas

**MEASURES aimed at reducing health impacts of air pollution**
- National program of pneumococcal conjugate vaccinations
- Community engagement on mitigating indoor air pollution
- Upgrading air pollution monitoring systems
In Jiangxi Pingxiang “Sponge Cities” Project wetlands are flooded during heavy rainfall events and used as a park during normal water levels.
What Does It Take To Build Resilient Communities?

Beetle
Quality Principles vs Traditional approach

- Higher upfront costs
- Long-term benefits
- Environmental and Financial Sustainability
- Embedded Resilience
Building Quality Infrastructure

Consider Project Lifecycle
Build Resilience against Natural Disasters
Strategic Planning
Integrate Environmental and Social considerations
Eco-sensitive planning and design

Wildlife corridors designed for elephants under the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation Road Connectivity Project in Bhutan
Elephants do use crossings

Monitoring data from "camera traps" indicates elephants and other species are using the wildlife crossings in Southern Bhutan.
5. Partnerships with universities, think tanks, and key institutions
Partnership with Wildlife Institute of India
Partnership with Wildlife Institute of India

ECO-FRIENDLY MEASURES TO MITIGATE IMPACTS OF LINEAR INFRASTRUCTURE ON WILDLIFE
ADB - Japan Scholarship Program (JSP)

29 Partner Institutions across Asia and the Pacific

LEGEND
- ANU - The Australian National University, Australia
- HKU - The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
- IIT Delhi - Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi, India
- IUSM - International University of Japan, Japan
- GRIPS - National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan
- Ritsumeikan APU - Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan
- TOYO TECH - Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan
- UNU - United Nations University, Japan
- LUMS - Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan
- AIM - Asian Institute of Management, Philippines
- IRRI - International Rice Research Institute, Philippines
- NUS - Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- NUS - National University of Singapore, Singapore
- AIT - Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand
- HKU - The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
- NTU - National University of Singapore, Singapore
- UNU - United Nations University, Japan
- AIT - Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand
- East West Center
- The University of Auckland
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Sydney
- Hitotsubashi University
- IUJ
- Keio University
- Kobe University
- Kyoto University
- Kyushu University
- Nagoya University
- GRIPS
- Ritsumeikan APU
- Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
- Saitama University
- The University of Tokyo
- TOKYO TECH
- UNU
- University of Tsukuba
• Expanding the portfolio of clean development mechanism (CDM) projects
• Harnessing climate change mitigation initiatives for women in the Greater Mekong Subregion
• Regional stocktaking study and workshop on environment-related SDGs
• Project Preparation Support for Livable Cities project
• Technical support for the Japan Fund for the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JFJCM)
ADB and Yokohama City

- Partnerships on addressing solid waste management
- Annual Asia Smart City conference
Developing Environmental Law Champions
Building the capacity of environmental law professors and teachers in Asia and the Pacific is crucial to sustainable development.

*Train-the-Trainer programs on innovative teaching methodologies for university professors and lecturers delivered at these host institutions:*

- Cambodia, with Lao PDR participants (Faculty of Law and Public Affairs, Pannasastra University)
- India (GD Goenka University)
- Malaysia (National University of Malaysia)
- Myanmar (Department of Law, University of Yangon)
- Nepal with Bangladesh participants (Tribhuvan University)
- Philippines, University of Cebu College of Law
- People’s Republic of China (Peking University Law School)
- Sri Lanka (Open University of Sri Lanka)
- Thailand (Faculty of Law, Chang Mai University)
- Vietnam (Hanoi Law University)
And ever since then it was holding steady between 25 to 30...
1. **Ocean health**
   - Technologies and approaches to tackle marine plastic pollution

2. **Circular economy**
   - Economic costs and benefits of a circular economy
   - Policy and fiscal measures to drive change

3. **Green business**
   - Approaches to make tourism sustainable
   - Creating markets and incentives for sustainable agribusiness

4. **Climate resilience**
   - The role of nature-based approaches
Thank You

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https://www.adb.org/themes/environment/main/