



Environmental Economics Programme

**World Bank Aided: Environmental Management
Capacity Building Technical Assistance Project**

Newsletter

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Implementing Agency:

Ministry of Environment & Forests
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Executing Agency:

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In Brief

The objectives to be achieved under the Capacity Building programme in Environmental Economics include: a) creation and strengthening of an environmental economics and planning cell in the MoEF; b) development of an environmental economics curriculum; c) creation of a faculty upgradation programme; d) development of a visiting fellows programme for environmental economics faculty from other countries; e) development of training programmes for practicing economists and non-economists; f) support to university and institute libraries; g) creation of applied research in environmental economics; and h) award of post-doctoral research fellowships in environmental economics.

The implementation of this program is through four core institutions - Madras School of Economics, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Institute of Economic Growth and Indian Statistical Institute as well as through network of interested institutes. The objectives of the programme are achieved through a network of four subcommittees that have divided up the work and assigned clear responsibilities, under the overall guidance and supervision of the Expert Committee on Environmental Economics (ECEE): a) Environmental Economics Course and Curriculum Committee (EECCC) at Madras School of Economics; b) Environmental Economics Training Committee for Practising Economists and Non-economists (EETCPN) at Institute for Economic Growth; c) Environmental Economics Research Committee (EERC) at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research; and d) Environmental Economics Overseas Fellowship Committee (EEOFC) at National Institute of Public Finance and Policy.

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The Environmental Economics Component of the World Bank – MoEF Environmental Management Capacity Building Project at the Madras School of Economics, Chennai will be closed as scheduled on June 30, 2003.

Activities completed during October to December 2002 under the core committees

The Environmental Economics Research Committee (EERC)

- Held the X Final Review Workshop (FRW), at IGIDR, Mumbai, during November 7, 2002. Six Principal investigators presented findings of their projects before EERC members and invited experts. The 22nd EERC meeting was held after the workshop.
- Held the XI Final Review Workshop (FRW), at IGIDR, Mumbai, during January 3 – 4, 2003. Five Principal investigators presented findings of their projects before the EERC members and invited experts. The 23rd EERC meeting was held after the workshop.

The Environmental Economics Course Curriculum Committee (EECCC)

Conducted a Faculty upgradation programme in Environmental Economics for undergraduate faculty at the Jadavpur University, Kolkata during December 2 – 28, 2002. The course coordinator was Dr.Gautam Gupta

The Environmental Economics Training Committee for Practicing Economists and Non-Economists (EETCPN)

- Conducted a training program for private sector executives from southern India at the Madras School of Economics, Chennai, during December 2- 4, 2002.
- Conducted a training program for urban Environmental Managers from the Central and State Governments at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, during December 2- 6, 2002.
- Conducted a training program for the members of the judiciary at the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad during December 23-27, 2002.
- Conducted an integrated course for mixed group of Government officers (IFS, ISS and IES) at the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal during December 16-20, 2002.

The Environmental Economics Overseas Fellowships Committee (EEOFC)

Provided logistics support to the candidates selected under the various fellowship programmes.

Activities planned from January to March 2003 under the core committees

The Environmental Economics Research Committee (EERC)

- Plans to complete all the technical components, which include receiving revised final reports and getting approvals from peer reviewers. Also plans to release the 3rd instalment of funds to all the final review process completed projects.

- Proposes to bring out five to six monographs based on the executive summaries of the projects funded by it. Also plans to initiate review and finalization of these monographs in a phased manner as soon as the necessary approval is granted. The draft monographs will be discussed at thematic workshops and interministerial meetings. After necessary revisions and fine-tuning, the monographs will be printed and disseminated. Plans to initiate work and prepare draft versions of two to three monographs in this quarter. One or two thematic workshops may be organised to discuss the monographs.

The Environmental Economics Course Curriculum Committee (EECCC)

Plans to organize a Faculty upgradation program in Environmental Economics

- For postgraduate faculty, at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, during February 3 – 28, 2003. Prof. B. Sudhakara Reddy, IGIDR will be the course coordinator.
- For environmental engineers and scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, during February 10 - March 7, 2003. Prof.S.K.Gupta will be the course coordinator.

The Environmental Economics Training Committee for Practicing Economists and Non-Economists (EETCPN)

Plans to co ordinate the following training programs

- For Private sector executives at the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta during January 27 – 31, 2003.
- For Indian Economic Services and Indian Statistical Services officers at the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune during February 2003.

Publications

- Jyoti K Parikh, “Consumption Patterns: Economic and Demographic Change”, *Encyclopedia of Global Environmental Change, Volume 3, Causes and consequences of Global Environmental Change*, edited by Ian Douglas and Ted Munn, John Wiley & Sons, LTD., Chichester, 2002, pgs 249 - 252.
- Kalpana Balakrishnan, Jyoti K. Parikh, Sambandam Sankar, Ramaswamy Padmavathi, Kailasam Srividhya, Vidhya Venugopal, Swarna Prasad and Vijay Laxmi Pandey, “Daily Average Exposures to Respirable Particulate Matter from Combustion of Biomass Fuels in Rural Households of Southern India”, *Environmental Health Perspectives, Volume 110, no.11*, pgs 1069 – 1075.
- Vinish Kathuria (2002), “Vehicular Pollution control in Delhi, India”, *Transportation Research – Part D, Vol.7, No.5*, pp.373-87.
- Vinish Kathuria (2002), “Technology Transfer for GHG Reduction – A Framework with Application to India,” *Technological Forecasting and social Change, Vol.69, No.4*, pp.405-30.
- Vinish Kathuria and Nisar A.Khan (2002), “Environmental Complicance Vs.Growth: Lessons from Malaysia’s Regulation of Palm Oil Mills”, *Economic and Political Weekly Vol.XXXVII, No.39, September 28*, pp.3393-99.

Visits/Conference Participations

Visits

- Dr. G. Mythili of Madras School of Economics, Chennai visited PG Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Srilanka as a visiting fellow in Environmental Economics, during January – September 2002.
- Dr. Pushpam Kumar of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi visited the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London to carry out research on corporate responsibility for environment and development during December 10 –26, 2002.

- Prof. Charles Perrings, York University, United Kingdom will participate in the Faculty Upgradation Programmes to be organised at IGIDR and IIT, Mumbai in February, 2003. He will also give lecture at Madras School of Economics on February 13, 2003.

Conference/Lectures and Seminar Participation:

- Prof. Jyoti K Parikh of the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai
 - Attended a videoconference session on ‘Millennium Ecosystem Assessment’ organized by World Resources Institute, Washington with support of Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) held at TERI, New Delhi during October 10, 2002.
 - Attended inter-regional conference on ‘Adaptation to climate change’ held at New Delhi during October 18 – 20, 2002.
 - Participated in an International Conference on ‘S & T Capacity Building for Climate Change’, a joint Program of FICCI and Department of Science & Technology, held at New Delhi during October 20 – 22, 2002.
 - Convened a side event at COP8 on ‘Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Sustainable Development (SD)’ held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi during October 25, 2002.
 - Chaired a session in the conference on ‘Climate Change and Insurance’, organized by MOEF and UNEP during October 28, 2002.
 - Attended the 142nd meeting of the Board of Directors of Indian renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd, held at IREDA, New Delhi during November 27, 2002.
 - Participated at the ‘Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, chapter Workshop’ held at London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom during December 13-15, 2002.

- Prof. Kanchan Chopra of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
 - Attended the National Workshop on Rural Livelihood Futures Organisation by the Ministry of Rural development, New Delhi and the Overseas Development Institute, London at New Delhi during October 17 – 19, 2002.
 - Made a presentation on Asia Pacific forum of Environmental Journalists at Colombo, Sri Lanka during October 28, 2002.
- Dr. Pushpam Kumar of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
 - Participated and presented a paper on ‘Valuing Hydrological Functions of Floodplains for the Sustainable Land Use Planning’ and ‘Modeling Local Knowledge in Benefit Sharing of Bioprospecting’ in the Berlin conference on Human Dimensions of Global Environmental change organized by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Berlin during December 6- 7, 2002.
 - Participated and presented a paper on ‘Inter linkages of Deforestation and Population Dynamics: evidences from Assam, India’ in the LUCC – ISPRS workshop on LUCC contribution to Asian environmental problems at ISRO, Hyderabad, India during December 2, 2002.
 - Participated in the Scenarios Meeting of Millennium Ecosystem Assessment in Bangkok organized by the Thailand Development Research Institute Foundation during October 6-11, 2002.
- Dr. Purnmita Dasgupta of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi participated in the SANDEE research workshop and meeting held in Dhaka during December 15-20, 2002.
- Prof. M. N. Murthy of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi participated as a resource person in the SANDEE research workshop and meeting held in Dhaka during December 15-20, 2002.
- Prof. Kanchan Chopra and Dr. Purnmita Dasgupta gave a Faculty seminar at The Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi on, ‘Nature of Dependence on Common Pool Resources and Household Decision Making: An empirical study, for some states in India’, on November 29, 2002.

- Dr. Joyashree Roy and Prof. Debesh Chakrabarty of the Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata presented papers on ‘Project Carbon Emissions and Abatement Costs in Developing Countries :Impact of country – specific substitution elasticities’, and ‘An Input-Output study on the effect of water pollution control scheme on output and prices of different goods and services of the Indian Economy’, respectively at the 14th International Input-Output Conference held at Montreal, Canada during October 10 – October 15, 2002. .
- Dr.Joyashree Roy and Dr.Sugoto Hazra of the Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata presented papers on ‘Behaviourial response parameter: implication for clean development mechanism ‘ and ‘Vanishing islands for Sunderbans’ at the COP8 of UNFCCC at New Delhi during October 2002.
- Sudarshan Iyengar of The Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahemedabad attended the 5th Biannual Research and Training Workshop of SANDEE held at Dhaka during December 16 – 21, 2002.

Other Information

- The National Institute of Public Finance and Policy plans to organize a training programme on market based instruments for pollution control for the officials of the SPCBs and CPCB during January 13-17, 2003.
- The Madras school of Economics, Chennai jointly with the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, under the guidance of Dr.Raja J.Chelliah, submitted an interim report on eco-taxes to the Ministry of Environmental and Forests on December 13, 2002.
- Dr.G.Mythili and C.S.Shyalajan submitted a report on ‘Management of non-timber forest products in Kerala: Some issues in collection, marketing and valuation’, to the project unit of EMCaB at Madras School of Economics, Chennai.
- Dr.U.Sankar of The Madras School of Economics, Chennai is offered ICSSR National Fellowship for two years. He will be working on Environmental Policy Reform for Sustainable Development.

- Prof. Sriraman of the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune is engaged in a study on “Particular Matter Reduction Strategies for Mumbai” in collaboration with NEERI, Nagpur. A preliminary draft report of the study has been submitted to the World Bank and the Mumbai Metropolitan Department who are sponsoring the study.
- The Department of Economics of the Jadavpur University, Kolkata Conducted a one day workshop on incorporating Environmental education in Management and Business School Curriculum organized by Global change Programme, Jadavpur University with the support from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India on October 3, 2002.
- Dr.Raghu Ram Tata of the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai completed a report on “Impact of Dams on Biodiversity in India”, a sub-thematic review paper prepared under the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.
- The Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahemedabad submitted a report on “Developing Environmental Indicators for Gujarat” to the Director (Environment), Department of Forests and Environment, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.
- Presented paper titled “Does informal regulation of pollution work? – Empirical evidence from Gujarat, India” as part of the project “Industrial Pollution Control-choosing the right option” in the 5th bi-annual workshop of the SouthAsian Network of Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 16-19.

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