

Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia

The Declaration was adopted by the SACEP member states in 1998 in Malé, Maldives. Malé Declaration aims at controlling and monitoring of the transboundary air pollution and data sharing by SACEP member countries including Iran, a non member country.

Malé Declaration was envisaged in phases and Phase I, II, III and IV was implemented successfully by UNEP in partnership with SACEP

Phase V (2014-2016) aimed to promote policy measures to control emissions of air pollution including Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) in South Asia.

Phase VI (2017-2020) is now in progress.



Post 2015 South Asia Development Agenda & SDG 2030 Strategic Plan

The SACEP Post 2015 Agenda highlights the key challenges and the critical analysis on means of implementation of the Rio+20 outcome and the policy/programme responses in South Asia in addressing environmental priorities identified in the Rio outcome document 'The future we want' as well as their linkages to poverty reduction and development. The report identifies the common and trans-boundary priorities of South Asian countries to achieve Sustainable Development

SACEP is preparing a five year SDG Strategic Plan for harmonized capacity building, awareness raising, enhanced coordination and database development and over all enabling environment for the implementation of SDGs in South Asia including specific approaches, indicators, monitoring and evaluation.

South Asian Seas Programme (SASP)

SASP is one of the eighteen Regional Seas Programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The priority activities are in four specific areas:

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM);
- Development of national and regional oil and chemical spill contingency planning;
- Human Resources Development through Regional Centers of Excellences; and
- Protection of Marine Environment from Land based activities.



Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Strategic Plan

SACEP-ICT strategy aims at strengthening links among Member States Regionally and Globally. It also focuses on information sharing, early warning and response tool in events of any environmental disaster. Social media, apps, dedicated blogs and other such tools and techniques are being used to increase awareness about the environmental challenges and stakeholders response.



South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme

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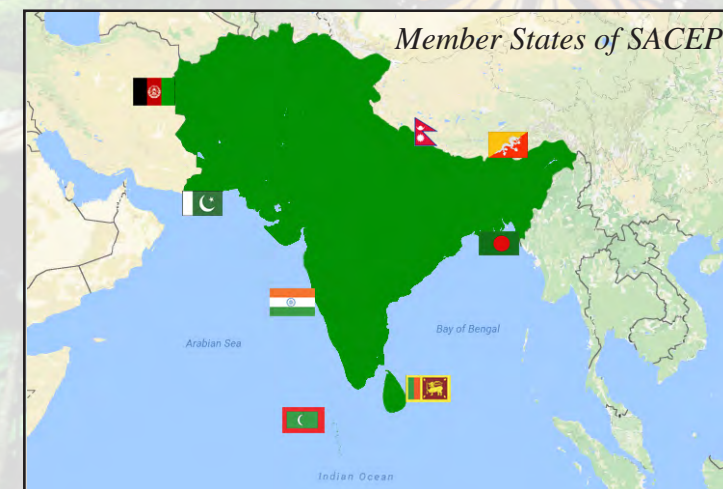


South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) is an inter-governmental organization, established in 1982 by the governments of the eight South Asian Countries. It is registered with the secretariat of the United Nations as a Multilateral Organization. SACEP also serves as the secretariat of the South Asian Seas Programme (SASP).

SACEP, as mandated by its Member States, i.e. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka is entrusted to;

- Promote cooperative activities in priority areas of environment of mutual concern;
- Ensure that these activities are beneficial individually and collectively to the SACEP member countries;
- Extend support as needed through exchange of knowledge and expertise available among the member countries;
- Mobilize resources for implementation of programme and project activities.
- Maximize the impact of support received from donors

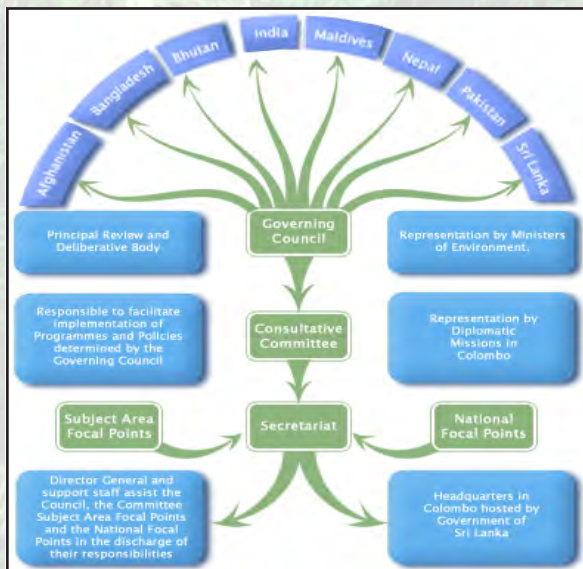


Overview of South Asia

- Home to about 1.744 billion people;
- Covers an area of approximately 4,770,000 sq.km²;
- Population growth rate of 1.34% per annum;
- Has only 4.8 per cent of the world's total land area;
- Bordered in the south by the Indian Ocean, in the South-east by Bay of Bengal and in the South-west by the Arabian Sea;
- Host over 15% of the world's flora and 12% of it's fauna including several iconic species;
- The coastline harbours around 10 percent of the world's mangroves;
- Host 06 mega cities of the world;
- Emerging economies of the world.

Organizational Structure

Colombo Declaration and the ratification of Articles of Association by the nations of South Asia constitute the legal base of SACEP. The principle organs of the governance structure of SACEP are the Governing Council (GC), Consultative Committee (CC), National Focal Points (NFP), Subject Area Focal Points and the SACEP Secretariat.



Governing Council (GC)

Governing Council is the principle review and deliberative body of SACEP and is responsible for determining its policy and programmes. It is represented at the ministerial level and periodically meets to take decisions of strategic significance.

Consultative Committee (CC)

The Consultative Committee is responsible for facilitating the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes approved by the Governing Council and provides guidance to the Secretariat in its activities. It consists of representatives of diplomatic missions of member countries residing in Colombo.

National Focal Points (NFP)

The National Focal Points are designated by each member state to facilitate the work of the Secretariat and to function as the main communication link between the Secretariat and the respective country. They are deemed to be the liaison points in their respective countries for all matters related to SACEP.

Programmes and Activities of SACEP

Biodiversity Conservation

SACEP has been implementing a number of activities in the area of Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management since its inception in 1982.



Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

As a followup to the decision of the 13th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP to promote SCP within policy-making mechanisms of South Asian countries, as well as the Asia-Pacific Road map of the Rio+20, 10 -Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, SACEP has been undertaking a number of activities/projects to promote SCP in the region.



Waste Management

The South Asian region with the current population of 1.6 is generating approximately 70 million tons of solid waste per year, with per capita values ranging from 0.12 to 5.1 kg per person per day and an average of 0.45 kg/capita/day. In 2005 the Ninth Governing Council identified, Waste Management as one of the priority areas in the SACEP work programme and currently SACEP is the Sub-regional Secretariat for International Partnership for expanding waste management services of local authorities (IPLA) in South Asia region.



Adaptation to Climate Change

The 9th Meeting of the Governing Council (GC) of SACEP held in August 2005 in Thimphu, Bhutan identified the 'Adaptation to Climate Change' as one of the key areas concerned in the region and since then, it has been in the SACEP's work programme as a priority area.