South Asian Conference on Environmental Justice

ADB: The Way Forward

Irum Ahsan Legal Counsel, Asian Development Bank 24 March 2012 Bhurban, Pakistan



- Conference supported under ADB's Regional project For ASEAN and SAARC member countries with Indonesia as pilot for ASEAN and Pakistan for SAARC
- Implementation:
 - In Pakistan working with Supreme Court in coordination with IUCN
 - In Indonesia working with Ministry of Environment
 - Completion date: 31 Dec 2013



Project Activities in Pakistan:

- South Asian conference on environmental justice
- participation in AJNE; knowledge and resource sharing among judges- Pakistan based website developed
- Facilitation for integrated environmental adjudication
- Inclusion of environmental law as a subject in judicial academies for sustainable capacity development



Project Activities in Indonesia:

- Roundtable for South East Asian judges on Environment
- Participation in AJNE; knowledge and resource sharing among judges
- Continued support for the judicial certification program
- Piloting of an integrated environment enforcement program involving the MOE and the Supreme Court



Implementation Status:

- PAK:
 - Constitution of the Committee for enhancing Environmental Justice (CEEJ);
 - CEEJ Portal containing up-to-date environmental laws, rules, and case law which can feed into the proposed AJNE portal <u>www.ceej.pk</u>
 - South Asian Conference on Environmental Justice
 - Work in progress for developing curriculum on environmental law for the judicial academies



Implementation Status:

- INO:
 - Judges' Roundtable on Environment conducted
 - Judges adopted a Common Vision on Environment for ASEAN Judiciaries including:
 - i. Collaboration in improving environmental law enforcement

ii. Development of an action Plan for Justice, Governance, and the Rule of Law and Sustainable development in ASEAN countries

Continue convening the roundtable; Chief Justice of Malaysia agreed to host the next roundtable in KL in December 20⁻



ADB's Way Forward

- Establishment of an Asian Judges Network on the Environment (AJNE-Website)
- 2nd Asian Judges Symposium
 - Regional event in late September 2012 at ADB Headquarters in Manila
 - Recommendations from ASEAN roundtable and SAARC Conference will be brought forward
- Supporting UNEP in World Congress.



Thank You!

Tel: (632) 632-4953 E-mail: <u>iahsan@adb.org</u> www.adb.org

