

SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Towards sustainable consumption and production patterns in the Asia-Pacific region

The goal of IGES' Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) group is to contribute to the development of sustainable patterns of consumption and production in the Asia-Pacific region. Special attention is given to the use of raw materials (physical resources), the flows of materials through society, and the environmental impacts associated with those flows. The research of the SCP group is based on life-cycle thinking and explores how actors, institutions and policies can influence society's utilisation of materials and make it more sustainable.



RESEARCH COMPONENTS

☑ Sustainable consumption in developing Asia

This component focuses on emerging consumption patterns and lifestyles in Asia and explores how these can be reconciled with ecological constraints while meeting the needs of the poor. It aims to promote a wider recognition of the need for changing

consumption patterns and lifestyles, and to identify effective approaches to that end. In 2011 a study on barriers and drivers for energy efficient housing in developing Asian countries, initially focusing on China and the Philippines, is starting up.

☑ Governance for sustainable resource circulation in Asia

This component focuses on how regulatory and institutional measures can foster sustainable reuse and recycling. It aims to assess policies related with resource circulation, including trade in second hand goods and recyclable materials, from a multi-level governance perspective. In 2011, a three year collabora-

tive study, involving seven universities and institutes in Asia, will be concluded and is expected to come up with a series of policy recommendation for improved implementation of resource circulation policies in Asia.

☑ Sustainable waste management with multiple benefits

This component explores how local approaches and adapted technologies for waste management can generate environmental improvements as well as local development benefits. It aims to identify feasible options for local governments to minimise waste generation and to improve recycling and waste management. In 2011 country guidelines on organic waste management in Cambodia, Laos and Thailand will be published, and training workshops will be held in these three countries.



☑ Chemicals management for sustainable product and material life-cycles

This component focuses on the intersection between Chemicals Management and Materials Management and explores the sustainability benefits of integration of these two policy fields. It aims to contribute to improved and integrated management of

chemicals and materials based on a life-cycle perspective. In 2011, a two-year study is starting up on certification schemes on recycling businesses as an approach to safer recycling of electronic waste.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL / REGIONAL INITIATIVES

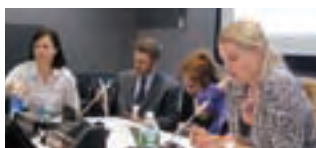
The Regional 3R Forum in Asia

At the East Asia Environment Ministers Meeting held in October 2008 in Hanoi, Viet Nam, the inauguration of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia was proposed by the Japanese government and endorsed by the leaders of the participating countries, as the platform to promote the 3Rs in Asian developing countries in cooperation with governments, international organisations and donor communities. The forum was officially launched in November 2009.



The forum promotes high level 3R policy dialogue and assistance in 3R projects in each country, shares the information to promote the 3Rs, and creates networks among the concerned parties.

IGES has contributed to this process from its original planning and is currently coordinating an international research project to support the forum and is also a member of the forum's subsidiary expert group.



The CSD18 side event "The Flow of Materials is also a Flow of Chemicals" (Co-organised by the Government of Sweden, UNEP and IGES May 2010, N.Y.)

Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is an international policy framework intended to support the achievement of the goal agreed at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development of ensuring that, by the year 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimise significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health. IGES SCP group is involved in the SAICM process by representing Asia-Pacific region in the Steering Group of the Chemicals in Products project, one of the identified emerging issues under SAICM.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- The International Chemicals Secretariat (Forthcoming: 2011) "Information on Chemicals in Electronic Products: A study of needs, gaps, obstacles and solutions to provide and access information on chemicals in electronic products". (IGES contributed on information sharing mechanisms)
- UNEP (Forthcoming: 2011) "Resource Efficiency: Economics and Outlook for Asia and the Pacific". (IGES contributed on policy tool evaluation)
- Sang-Arun, J., Bengtsson, M., Mori, H. (2011) "Practical guide for improved organic waste management: climate benefits through the 3Rs in developing Asian countries". IGES Policy Report. 69p. IGES. ISBN:978-4-88788-077-1
- Hotta, Y. (2011) "A Phased Approach to Implementation of 3R Policy in Asia – Based on Experiences from the 3R Initiative –". in *Waste Management Research*, Vol. 22. No. 2 (in Japanese)
- Aoki-Suzuki, C. (2011) "A survey on a potential of policy application of MFA indicators and resource productivity indicators in Asia -Potential Policy Incentives and Needs for Capacity Development in Asia -". in *FY 2010 MOEJ Commissioned Project Report "Supporting" "UNEP International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management"* (in Japanese)
- Tsydenova, O. and Bengtsson, M. (2011). "Chemical hazards associated with treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment". In *Waste Management*. 31 (1). 45-58
- Akenji, L. (2010) "Sustainable Consumption and Production in Asia and the Pacific: Policy overview and collaboration Opportunities". Invited presentation at *Tripartite Green Economic Policy Seminar*, 2-3 December 2010. Beijing, P. R. China
- Akenji, L. and Bengtsson, M. (2010) "Is the Customer Really King? Stakeholder Analysis for Sustainable Consumption and Production Using the Example of the Packaging Value Chain". In *Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Asia-Pacific Region: Effective Responses in a Resource Constrained World*, p23-46. IGES.
- Hotta, Y., Hayashi, S., Bengtsson, M. and Mori, H., (eds.) (2009) "Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Policy in East Asia - in Consideration of International Resource Circulation-". IGES.
- Asian Development Bank and IGES (2008) "Toward Resource-Efficient Economies in Asia and the Pacific - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle". Manila. Asian Development Bank.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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