Male Declaration Regional Stakeholders Meeting

October 2003



"Miraculously Clean Air"

- Is how we describe the atmosphere in many rural, mountain, lake and ocean areas in South Asia.
- But in many places, especially in Urban and Industrial settings
- "Clean Air" is a Miracle !



When is the Air Unclean?

- When it has
 - Sulphur and Nitrogen Oxides
 - Carbon Monoxide
 - Solid Particulate Matter (TSPM), PM10, PM25
 - Ozone
- Most of them are toxic and affect human and animal health causing chronic respiratory and heart diseases





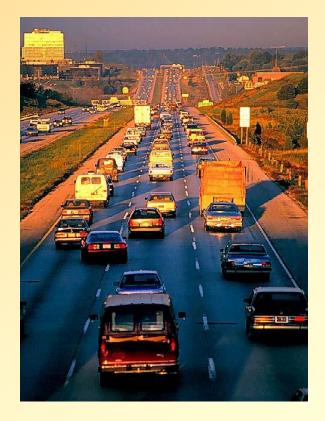
- The pollutants also impact on
 - Soil nutrients
 - Crops
 - Forests
 - Monuments and Materials (Corrosion)
- Acid Rain can be caused

Need to Act quickly

- Follow "precautionary principle" -Now universally recognised in all environmental conventions
- Please lock the stable before the horse is stolen

Sources of Emissions

- Industrial
- Power Stations
- Automobile Exhausts
- Domestic fuels
- Fuel in other projects
- Brick manufacturing
- Agriculture and burning of vegetation



Transboundary Air Pollution

- How is it caused?
- By dispersal of pollutants due to winds and other causes

What is the remedy?

 Polices and practices which focus on regional cooperation

- "Male" declaration is an example

Male declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Transboundary effects for South Asia

- Signed in April 1998 by members of the Governing Council of SACEP being Environmental Ministers of South Asia
- To initiate studies and programmes in all countries for better understanding of the phenomena and impacts
- It is implicit that member countries use the results of studies to initiate national and regional action

Learning within and From Others

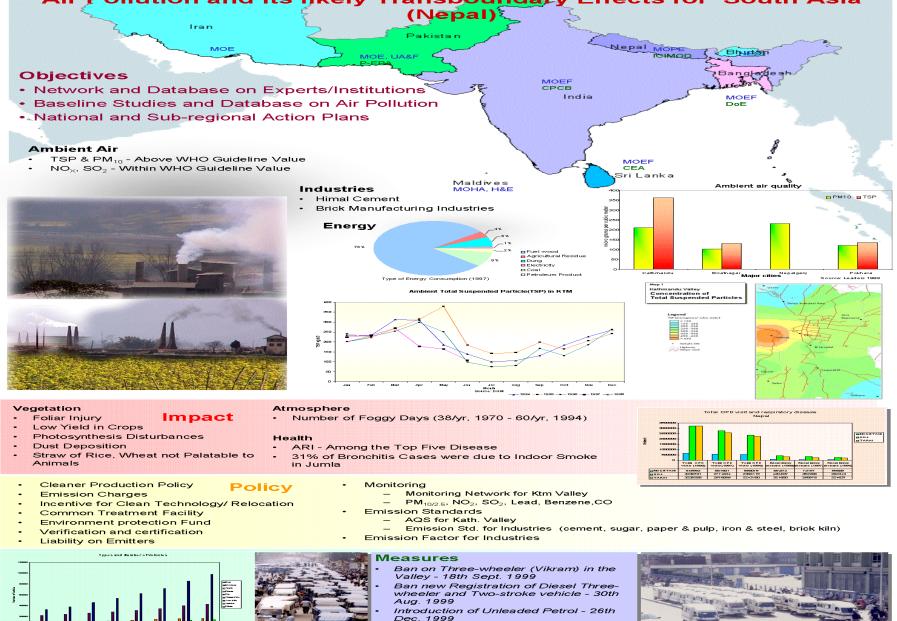
- Others include European Union cooperation

 UNECE convention on long range
 transboundary air pollution
- ASEAN cooperation plan on transboundary air pollution - Haze Action Plan after Indonesian fires 1991-1994
- RAINS ASIA model from East Asia Air Quality Modeling and Forecasting

The 'Male' Process So far... Phase-I

- National focal points (NFPs) and National implementing agencies (NIAs) constituted
- Baseline studies made
- National Action plans formulated
- Regional network created
- Review of policy responses
- Example from Nepal

Implementation of Malè Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia













- Dec. 1999
- Introduction of Nepal Vehicle 2056 -

Phase-II

- Expand Network
- Strengthen Monitoring capacity
- Analyse the status and effects of Air Pollution in South Asia
- Monitoring Committee constituted and gave key suggestions on sites for monitoring stations, methodology of monitoring
- Monitoring manual prepared
- Stress the importance of sustainability of monitoring network

Stakeholders Meeting

- This is part of the expansion of the network
- The Objectives are
 - Increase awareness
 - Share views and ideas on implementation of the "Male" declaration
 - Improve exchange of information between those who manage sources of pollution and those affected by it

Who are the Stakeholders?

- In Air pollution they are
 - Those who cause contribute air pollution
 - Manufacturers and users of Automobiles, Industrialists, etc.
 - Those who are affected directly or through assets
 - Pedestrians, Cyclists, Police man, Women, Tribals, Householders, Slum dwellers, etc.
 - Those who have interest or influence
 - Governments, Local bodies, Technologists, Experts, NGOs and Doctors

Regional Stakeholders

- Numbers will be very large
- Optimum solution is to have a small number who can represent various stakeholders and can reach out to their own constituencies to explain all the dimensions and solutions
- Stakeholders should also give feed back and identify how to balance the sacrifices against gains
- Also to evolve communication strategies

Issues for Discussion

- Has the stage has been reached for collective action ?
- What should be done about local as well as Transboundary air pollution?
- Role of stakeholders to increase there own awareness and its spread
- Role of National regulators and policy makers in regional issues

- Should 'Male' get into more formal legal structures?
- Role of business and Industry
- Role of S&T Institutions and academia
- What should medical science and clinical practitioners do - State of Epidemiological studies
- Role of Agriculture veterinary institutions -Impacts on vegetation, Animals, Soils
- Engineers and Architects to look at corrosion of material and monuments

Role of Non-Regulatory, Non Business, Non S&T Stakeholders

- Women
- Youth
- NGOs working on Socio economic problems
- Think tank Institutions
- Media

Role of Regulators

- Legislators
- Bureaucrats
- National Governments
- Local Self Governments

Strategy for Regional Network

- Organizational links
- Study of gains and losses and optimal solutions
- Funding mechanisms
- Drawing upon South Asian values and Ethos