

INFORMATION SOURCES FOR TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

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A. WEBSITES ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE UN COMMON SYSTEM

Asian Development Bank, Environment Topic

<http://www.adb.org/Environment/default.asp>

Environmental sustainability is a prerequisite for economic growth and poverty reduction in Asia and the Pacific. [ADB's Environment Policy](#) aims to promote environmental interventions that reduce poverty directly; assist member countries to mainstream environmental considerations into economic growth and development planning; help maintain global and regional life support systems that underpin future development; build partnerships to maximize the impact of ADB lending and non-lending activities; and integrate [environmental safeguards](#) across all ADB operations.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

<http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml>

Signed by 150 Government leaders at the [1992 Rio Earth Summit](#), the Convention on Biological Diversity is dedicated to promoting sustainable development. Its objectives are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from commercial and other utilization of genetic resources. The agreement covers all ecosystems, species, and genetic resources. The website also host the [Joint Website of the Biodiversity Related Conventions](#), namely also the the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species ([CMS](#)), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ([CITES](#)), the [Ramsar Convention](#) on Wetlands and the World Heritage Convention ([WHC](#)).

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

<http://www.cites.org/index.html>

CITES is an international agreement between Governments which aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. The page offers information about CITES (member countries and national contacts), official documents and programmes and access to resources such as species database, trade database, export quotas, national reports, publications and useful links.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNFCCC)

<http://unfccc.int/>

The objective of Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements, in the framework of an integrated approach which is consistent with [Agenda 21](#), with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas.

UNCTAD Biotrade Initiative

<http://www.biotrade.org/>

Since its launch in 1996, the UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative has been promoting sustainable biotrade in support of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Initiative has developed a unique portfolio of regional and country programmes. Since 2003 it has also hosted the [BioTrade Facilitation Programme \(BTFP\)](#) which focuses on enhancing sustainable bio-resources management, product development, value adding processing and marketing. Biotrade refers to those activities of collection, production, transformation, and commercialisation of goods and services derived from native biodiversity under the criteria of environmental, social and economic sustainability.

UNCTAD Trade, Environment and Development Branch

http://r0.unctad.org/trade_env/test1/openF1.htm

The Trade, Environment and Development Branch of UNCTAD works to undertake analytical work on trade, environment and development, and to disseminate the results; to monitor developments in the field of trade and environment, in particular in the WTO; to build consensus among member States on the interaction between environment and trade policies from a development perspective; to assist developing countries in the area of trade and environment; to support the effective participation of developing countries in deliberations of the relevant international forums; to contribute to the design and implementation of economic policies and measures to ensure that developing countries obtain economic benefits from the full use of the Convention on Biological

Diversity; and to disseminate information on the relationship between trade and environment to policy makers. Areas of work include: [market access](#), [environmental goods and services](#), [organic agriculture](#), [traditional knowledge](#) and [multilateral environmental agreements and trade](#).

UNDESA Division of Sustainable Development

The Division for Sustainable Development provides leadership and is an authoritative source of expertise within the United Nations system on sustainable development. It promotes sustainable development as the substantive secretariat to the [UN Commission on Sustainable Development \(CSD\)](#) and through technical cooperation and capacity building at international, regional and national levels. The context for the Division's work is the implementation of [Agenda 21](#), the [Johannesburg Plan of Implementation](#) and the [Barbados Programme of Action](#) for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. [Trade and Sustainable Development](#) is addressed in [Chapter 2](#) of Agenda 21, and in [Chapters V](#) and [X](#) of the Plan of Implementation. The webpage offers links to the main UN documents of the issue, as well as to other agencies doing relevant work on the subject.

UNEP Economics and Trade Programme (UNEP-ETB)

<http://www.unep.ch/etu/etp/index.htm>

Located within the United Nations Environment Programme's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, the Economics and Trade Branch seeks to conserve the environment, reduce poverty, and promote sustainable development by enhancing the capacity of Governments, businesses, and civil society to integrate environmental considerations into economic, trade, and financial policies and practices in accordance with the partnership and integrated policy-making approaches of sustainable development. UNEP-ETB focuses on four complementary programme areas: 1. Promoting integrated policy design and implementation emphasising sound environmental management, sustainable trade promotion, and poverty reduction; 2. Strengthening environmental management and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements through economic instruments and subsidy reform; 3. Promoting mutually supportive trade and environment policies; and 4. Enhancing the role of the financial sector in sustainable development. UNEP-ETB has entered into agreements with a number of institutions including national training and research institutes, regional organizations, universities, and international and NGOs with a view to establish a [collaborative network of institutions for sustainable development](#) (NISD).

UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force

<http://www.unep-unctad.org/cbtf/cbtf2/F1.htm>

The Capacity Building Task Force of UNEP and UNCTAD aims to strengthen the capacities of countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to effectively address trade-environment-development issues. Main thematic areas are [environmental goods and services](#), [organic agriculture](#) and multilateral environmental agreements ([MEAs](#))-[WTO relationship](#). The website offers resources, updates on meetings, projects, and contacts.

UNESCAP Environment and Sustainable Development Division

<http://www.unescap.org/esd/>

In the area of environment and sustainable development, the main objectives of UNESCAP are to promote regional and subregional cooperation for sustainable development and to strengthen the national capacity of members and associate members in designing and implementing environment and sustainable development policies and strategies that would enable them to maximize the benefits from globalization. One focus area of the division is [capacity building in trade and environment](#).

World Bank, Environment Topic

<http://Inweb18.worldbank.org/ESSD/envext.nsf/41ByDocName/Environment>

The World Bank's environment strategy focuses on encouraging countries to adopt policies and incentives for efficient and sustainable use of natural resources; working across sectors to enhance the environmental outcome of sectoral projects and programs; helping develop and implement projects that focus on critical environmental problems; and bringing together groups of countries and stakeholders to address common problems. The website provides access to an overview of the work on environmental issues and links to relevant activities of the World Bank, both in the operational regions and in different sectors.

B. WEBSITES ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

Asia Forest Partnership (AFP)

<http://www.asiaforests.org/default.asp>

Asia forest partnership (AFP) promotes sustainable forest management in Asia through addressing five issues. Topic areas include control of illegal logging, control of forest fires, and rehabilitation and reforestation of degraded lands. Cross cutting issues are [good governance and forest law enforcement](#), and [capacity building for effective forest management](#). The partnership acts as a catalyst for already existing initiatives by increasing synergies and reducing duplication between programs and ongoing efforts. AFP provides a formal framework for the exchange of information and experiences.

Basel Action Network (BAN)

<http://www.ban.org/>

The Basel Action Network works to prevent the globalization of the toxic chemical crisis by opposing trade in toxic wastes, toxic products and toxic technologies that are exported from rich to poorer countries. Alternatively, BAN works to ensure national self-sufficiency in waste management through clean production and toxics use reductions and in support of the principle of global environmental justice.

Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)

<http://www.ciesin.org/>

The Center for International Earth Science Information Network is a center within the Earth Institute at Columbia University. CIESIN works at the intersection of the social, natural, and information sciences, and specializes in online data and information management, spatial data integration and training, and interdisciplinary research related to human interactions in the environment. It maintains a gateway on [Trade Policy and Global Environmental Change](#).

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

<http://www.ciel.org/>

The Center for International Environmental Law is a non-profit organization working to use international law and institutions to protect the environment, promote human health, and ensure a just and sustainable society. The Center provides a wide range of services including legal counsel, policy research, analysis, advocacy, education, training and capacity building. CIEL's [Trade Programme](#) seeks to reform the global framework of economic law, policy and institutions in order to create a more balanced global economy that is environmentally sustainable and beneficial to all people in a more equitable way.

Environmental Protection Agency (United States of America), Gateway to best practices

<http://www.epa.gov/innovation/international/>

This website is a gateway to information and resources on innovative environmental projects and programmes from around the world. The issue-specific sections provide access to information on innovative programmes and policies; tools and guidelines; databases and case studies; as well as newsletters, publication collections and reports of interest.

Global Environment and Trade Study (GETS)

<http://www.gets.org>

Established in 1994, the Global Environment and Trade Study seeks to provide better analytical underpinnings for the “trade and environment” debate. GETS draws together a diverse group of trade, environment and development experts (scientists, policy analysts, economists, lawyers, geographers, ecologists, ethicists, and political scientists) with the goal of formulating concrete, practical, and politically feasible proposals for reconciling trade liberalization and environmental protection. The underlying premise of the effort is that improved information and analysis can lead to more constructive dialogue and action by national governments, international organizations, and civil society groups. The [Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy](#) and the [Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy](#) are the two institutions engaged in this collaborative effort.

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

<http://www.gefweb.org/>

GEF assists its member countries conserve and sustainably use their biological diversity, reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases, manage shared water bodies and reduce their emissions of ozone-depleting substances by accessing GEF resources to cover the incremental costs of additional actions on these global issues.

Global Water Partnership

<http://www.gwpforum.org/servlet/PSP>

The Global Water Partnership is a working partnership among all those involved in water management: Government agencies, public institutions, private companies, professional organizations, multilateral development agencies and others. The website offers news, policy tools, relevant publications and links. The [Integrated Water Resource Management \(IWRM\) ToolBox](#) is a comprehensive source of knowledge, experience and guidance for sustainable water resources development and management including service provision.

GRAIN

<http://www.grain.org/>

GRAIN is an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) which promotes the sustainable management and use of agricultural biodiversity based on people's control over genetic resources and local knowledge.

GREENPEACE, Trade and the Environment

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/campaigns/trade-and-the-environment>

Greenpeace is a non-profit organisation, with a presence in 40 countries across Europe, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific. Greenpeace opposes the current form of globalisation and demands that the World Trade Organisation adopts a policy of trade that truly works for all and that preserves and restores the environment. Greenpeace support global environmental standards and argues that Governments must work to achieve sustainable development, integrating environmental, social and economic priorities.

Institute for Trade, Standards and Sustainable Development (ITSSD)

<http://www.itssd.org/>

The Institute for Trade, Standards and Sustainable Development is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan educational organization dedicated to the promotion of a positive paradigm of sustainable development consistent with private property, free market and WTO rules-based principles. It examines evolving international law and policy as it relates to trade, science, technology and sustainable economic freedom and development around the world.

International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

<http://www.ictsd.org/>

The International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development works to contribute to a better understanding of development and environment concerns in the context of international trade. It is an independent non-profit and non-governmental organisation and engages a broad range of actors in ongoing dialogue about trade and sustainable development. The website features relevant news and updates on WTO-related matters, Doha Round briefing series, trade-related discussion papers, trade negotiations insights, issue areas (Africa, agriculture, environment, services, intellectual property), online dialogues and contacts.

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Trade Topic

<http://www.iisd.org/trade/>

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)'s work on trade seeks to find those areas of synergy where trade, environment and development can be mutually beneficial, and to help policy makers exploit those opportunities. IISD seeks to increase civil society's understanding of the issues, and create mechanisms of openness by which that understanding can help make better policy. The website is a comprehensive sources of [Russian language](#) material on trade and sustainable development.

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)

<http://www.iucn.org>

International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources is world's largest conservation network. The Union brings together 82 States, 111 government agencies, more than 800 NGOs, as well as some 10,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership. IUCN supports efforts to integrate economic perspectives and methods in nature conservation. This includes work on valuing environmental benefits and costs, developing [positive economic incentives for nature conservation](#) and investment in biodiversity-friendly business, and removing or reforming so-called "perverse" incentives that result in the loss of biological diversity. The website also links [to private sector biodiversity initiatives](#). The [website on Asia](#) contains further region-specific information.

OECD Environment Directorate

http://www.oecd.org/department/0,2688,en_2649_33713_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Environment Directorate provides Governments with the analytical basis to develop policies that are effective and economically efficient, including through country performance reviews, data collection, policy analysis, projections and modelling, and the development of common approaches. The [OECD programme on globalisation and environment](#) aims to help realise the full benefits of economic globalisation, by exploiting synergies between trade/investment liberalisation and environmental policies.

South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWATEE)

<http://www.sawtee.org/>

A consortium of South Asian non-governmental organisations (NGOs), South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE) is non-profit, non-governmental organisation. Its overall objective of SAWTEE is to build the capacity of the concerned stakeholders in South Asia, by equipping them with knowledge, information and skills to voice their concerns, particularly in the context of liberalisation and globalisation.

Trade and Environment Website

<http://www.trade-environment.org/>

Conceived by [ICTSD](#), the site contains a wide range of key resources related to trade, environment and sustainable development. It includes the latest news on trade and environment, a calendar of trade and environment events, links to institutions working on trade and environment and relevant legal texts. It also offers links to international, regional and bilateral legal instruments.

Trade and Environment Database (TED)

<http://www.american.edu/TED/ted.htm>

The Trade and Environment Database is a unique inventory of the impacts of trade on environment, culture, and a variety of other issues. It is possible to search TED, participate in TED virtual conferences and create own TED case studies.

TRAFFIC

<http://www.traffic.org>

TRAFFIC is a wildlife trade monitoring network that works to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature. TRAFFIC is a joint programme of [WWF](#) and [IUCN](#). TRAFFIC has [regional offices](#) in the Asian and Pacific region. It partners the [Asean Wildlife Trade Initiative](#), which aims to increase regional cooperation in addressing wildlife trade issues of importance to the ten Member Nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Concurrently, the project seeks to leverage national-level action and commitments centred on three key species: tigers, elephants and marine turtles. The implementation of effective measures to conserve and to combat illegal and unsustainable trade in key species will have beneficial impacts on other CITES-listed species.

WTO, Trade and Environment

http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envir_e.htm

The page offers WTO background documents on the cross-cutting issues of trade and environment as well as information on the [negotiations on trade and environment](#), on the work of the [Committee on Trade and Environment](#), links to the [WTO provisions](#) and [disputes](#), information on WTO events and publications, and [links](#) to Multilateral Environmental Agreements secretariats and other international organizations websites.

C. SELECTED READING

Environment and Globalization. November 2003. Available online (PDF-Format, 40 pages, 313 KB). Working Papers Series. National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).

This paper argues that fears that globalization necessarily hurt the environment are not well-founded. A survey reveals little statistical evidence, on average across countries, that openness to international trade undermines national attempts at environmental regulation through a race to the bottom' effect. If anything, favorable gains from trade' effects dominate on average, for measures of air pollution such as SO₂ concentrations. Perceptions that WTO panel rulings have interfered with the ability of individual countries to pursue environmental goals are also poorly informed. Recent rulings have in fact confirmed that countries can enact environmental measures, even if they affect trade and even if they concern others' Processes and Production Methods (PPMs), provided the measures do not discriminate among producer countries. People care about both the environment and the economy. As real incomes rise, their demand for environmental quality rises. This translates into environmental progress under the right conditions – democracy, effective regulation, and externalities that are largely confined within national borders and are therefore amenable to national regulation. Increasingly, however, environmental problems spill across borders. Global externalities include climate change and ozone depletion. Economic growth alone will not address such problems, in a system where each country acts individually, due to the free rider problem. Multilateral institutions are needed, and national sovereignty is the obstacle, not the other way around.

Accessed on 7 February 2005 <<http://papers.nber.org/papers/w10090.pdf>>

Environment and Trade. A Handbook. 2nd Edition, 2005. Available online (PDF-Format, 140 pages, 2.46 MB). United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

This handbook aims to foster that sort of understanding, describing in detail how trade can affect the environment, for better and for worse, and how environmental concern can work through the trading system to foster or frustrate development, in both rich and poor countries. It is aimed mainly at those with some knowledge about trade, environment or development, but who are not expert on the intersection of the three. It should serve as a practical reference tool for policy-makers and practitioners, and be equally useful to the media and civil society. With this in mind, the handbook uses clear language and a minimum of jargon to foster a greater understanding by all segments of the public.

Accessed on 30 January 2007 http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2005/envirotrade_handbook_2005.pdf

Linking Trade, Climate Change and Energy. November 2006. Selected Issue Briefs. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD).

This special collection of issue briefs begins with an introduction that summarizes ICTSD's analysis of the key links between three broad areas that are too frequently addressed in isolation from each other: trade, climate change and energy. The second section explains more specifically some of the most important issues facing policy-makers concerned with international policy on energy and trade, including the specific circumstances in Asia and especially China. The final section focuses on bioenergy, looking both at the global picture and at experiences in Africa, Asia and Brazil

Accessed on 29 January < http://www.trade-environment.org/output/ictsd/resource/Energy_issuebriefs.pdf >

Reference Manual for the Integrated Assessment of Trade-related Policies. 2001. Available online (PDF-Format, 104 pages, 661 KB). UNEP.

This manual is designed to help policy makers and practitioners, in the developed world and in developing countries, to conduct integrated assessments of the economic, environmental and social impacts of trade policy and trade liberalization. An integrated assessment considers the economic, environmental and social effects of trade measures, the linkages between these effects, and aims to build upon this analysis by identifying ways in which the negative consequences can be avoided or mitigated, and ways in which positive effects can be enhanced.

Accessed on 10 February 2005 <http://www.unep.ch/etu/etp/acts/manpols/refmania_final.pdf>

The Trade and Environment Review 2006. February 2006. Available online (PDF-Format, 296 pages, 1.34 MB). UNCTAD.

The Trade and Environment Review 2006 examines some specific examples and sectors to show what Governments and other key stakeholders in developed and developing countries could do to limit the trade-restricting effects of environmental requirements and to maximize their contribution to sustainable development in developing countries, for example by helping to enhance resource efficiency, lower emission intensity and improve occupational safety. The Review also elaborates on how countries could seize the export opportunities arising from more stringent environmental requirements and growing markets for environmentally preferable products. It highlights the fact that the role of WTO rules and disciplines for limiting the trade-restrictiveness of environmental requirements is often overestimated.

Accessed on 30 January 2007 <http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/ditcted200512_en.pdf>

Lessons Learned on Trade and Sustainable Development. 2004. Available online (62 pages, 2.35 MB). International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

This book distils the lessons from six years of research undertaken by and for the Trade Knowledge Network (TKN) (1998 - 2004) on the issues faced by the South in the area of trade and sustainable development. It draws on in-country research, thematic research and workshop papers to identify the key issues, and explores in depth what the TKN research has to say about them.

Accessed on 10 February 2005 http://www.tradeknowledgenetwork.org/pdf/tkn_lessons_learned_en.pdf

The State of the Environment in Asia and the Pacific 2005. April 2006. Available online (PDF-Format, in chapters). United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

This report takes a new and deeper look at the pressures on the environment arising from rapid economic growth in the region. It argues that member Governments have made progress in improving environmental performance (i.e. environmental governance and responses to common environmental policy concerns). However, because of the limited environmental carrying capacity of the region and the immense pressure exerted by the changing consumption and production patterns, environmental degradation continues. The report argues that for true environmental sustainability, a long-term perspective, greater focus on the eco-efficiency of production and consumption activity, investment in natural resources and true measures of sustainability inter-alia, are needed. The publication elaborates on "green growth" policy measures as a key requirement for achieving MDG 7 (environmental sustainability) and MDG 1 (poverty reduction).

<http://www.unescap.org/esd/environment/soe/2005/>

Trading away our oceans. Why trade liberalization of fisheries must be abandoned. January 2007. Available online (PDF-Format, 76 pages, 4.68 MB). Greenpeace International.

This paper intends to show the real and negative conservation and development impacts of trade liberalization in fish and fishery products, which were included in the scope of the Doha Round's Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) negotiations. It argues that further liberalization will speed up the pace of over-fishing, further increase unsustainable aquaculture production, and have generally devastating consequences for fish, the wider marine environment, developing countries and the one billion poor people worldwide who depend on fish as their primary source of protein.

Accessed on 30 January 2007 <http://www.greenpeace.org/raw/content/international/press/reports/trading-away-our-oceans.pdf>

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