Asia Pacific is the fastest-growing economic region in the world. It is home to some of the smallest and poorest countries, as well as some of the largest and richest. But population growth, urbanization and booming consumption and production are challenging the sustainability of the region’s development.

UNEP’s Regional Office for Asia Pacific (ROAP) is proud to help the countries of the region pursue sustainability, particularly in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We do this by providing technical expertise, facilitating access to finance, undertaking cutting-edge science-policy assessments, offering advisory services and strengthening laws, policies, management and governance.

We work with national and local authorities, civil society, other UN organizations, research institutions and the private sector to catalyze the efficient use of the region’s natural assets and reduce the degradation of the environment. Our work directly supports several of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

- **900,000 tons** of smuggled waste seizure facilitated by UNEP’s Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste in 2013
- **Asia Pacific is the first region** to agree on a regional roadmap for the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production
- **400 diving and snorkeling centres** involved in the Green Fins Initiative to “green” marine tourism
Support Delivery of the SDGs

Our New Initiatives

Our funding needs include:

• Supporting financing frameworks for sustainable development in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam – $1 million
• Supporting Nepal to ensure environmental resilience following the 2015 earthquake – $6 million
• Empowering women’s sustainable energy entrepreneurship and access – $5 million
• Implementing a Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Initiative for 41 Asia-Pacific countries – $4 million
• Implementing a market preparedness and capacity building programme on energy efficient lighting and sustainable buildings – $5 million
• Combating the illegal wildlife trade through strengthened cooperation between Asia and Africa – $2 million
• Enhancing the resilience of vulnerable people through innovative ecosystems-based approaches to disaster risk reduction – $4 million

Building resilience to disasters and conflicts by supporting healthier ecosystems and smarter natural resource management, including through post-crisis environmental assessments, post-crisis environmental recovery, environmental cooperation for peacebuilding, and reduced disaster risk.

Working with governments and other stakeholders to ensure that the region’s ecosystems are managed sustainably; catalyzing regional and national efforts to protect and manage critical natural capital.

Integrating the environment into the deliberations of regional and sub-regional forums; supporting the implementation of international and regional environmental agreements; supporting UN system-wide strategies on environment at regional and national levels; and integrating environment into national development planning.

Building capacity and supporting policies to promote resource efficiency and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, including in the fields of tourism, rice production, urban development, infrastructure and building design.

Promoting the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through the implementation of relevant international agreements; improving air quality; and promoting the integration of environment and health issues in policy-making.

Snapshot: Lighting the way in Viet Nam

Vietnamese farmer Nguyen Minh Cam earns over 70% of his income by cultivating dragon fruit, a regional delicacy that requires long daylight to blossom and bear fruit. After replacing the incandescent bulbs on his farm with compact fluorescent lamps, Minh Cam’s electricity bill dropped from $700 to $220 per lighting session. His farm is one of 60 dragon fruit plantations that are part of UNEP’s project to phase out incandescent lamps in Viet Nam. The initiative is funded by the Global Environment Facility and implemented alongside local partners.

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