



Global Environment Facility

GEF/C.14/3
November 19, 1999

GEF Council
December 8-10, 1999
Agenda Item 6

WORLD BANK GROUP PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

(Prepared by the World Bank)

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.14/3, *World Bank Group Progress Report on the Preparation of an Environment Strategy*, takes note of the progress that has been made by the World Bank Group in developing a strategy for addressing global environmental concerns in World Bank Group policies and programs as a part of a corporate strategy covering local, regional and global aspects of the environment as a whole. The Council notes that the World Bank Environment Strategy is to be presented to the World Bank Group's Senior Management in 2000, and requests that the final report be submitted to the Council at its second meeting in 2000 together with a summary setting out specific elements of the strategy that will have a direct bearing on integrating global environment concerns into Bank policies and programs.

World Bank Group Progress Report on the Preparation of an Environment Strategy to be Submitted to the GEF Council Meeting December 8, 1999

Background

1. In October 1998, World Bank Group (WBG) management informed the GEF Council that a strategy for addressing global environmental concerns in WBG policies and programs would be developed as part of the preparation of a corporate strategy for the environment as a whole, covering local, regional and global aspects. Six months later, the WBG apprised the GEF Council of the initial steps taken toward the preparation of such a strategy, and provided an update on recent global environmental mainstreaming initiatives. At the time, the GEF Council requested the WBG to come back to the Council at its December 1999 meeting with a draft report on its Environment Strategy and a summary of specific elements that will have a direct bearing on integrating global environmental concerns into WBG policies and programs.
2. Over the last five months, the WBG has engaged its environment family in formulating a strategic framework for the detailed development of an environment strategy. Furthermore, it has held extensive discussions with other sectors, networks and constituencies within the WBG regarding the key principles and direction of the strategy. The results to-date from these efforts are enclosed in the attached presentation (in Power Point): "Improving the Environment to Reduce Poverty: Toward An Environment Strategy for the World Bank Group".
3. This presentation summarizes work in progress. It proposes a strategic framework to guide the further development of the elements and supporting action plans of the environment strategy. Such further development will take place in conjunction with an extensive process of internal and external consultations, involving a broad range of stakeholders, on the direction and potential implications of the proposed approach.
4. Parallel to the efforts to develop a corporate environment strategy is the evaluation that the World Bank's Operations Evaluation Department (OED) is undertaking of the Bank's past performance in the area of environmental assistance. Through a series of planned thematic reviews and case studies this work will add importantly to the foundation of lessons learnt upon which the WBG's new environment strategy can be crafted. Given the obvious need for close coordination between the two initiatives and the timeline for the completion of the OED study (Executive Board review scheduled for July 2000), the presentation of the Environment Strategy to Senior Bank Management for review is targeted for October 2000.

5. The current presentation to the GEF Council Meeting of the proposed framework for the WBG Environment Strategy represents the first early step toward consultations with external partners. WBG management welcomes the early opportunity to obtain the GEF Council's views and suggestions regarding the proposed overall direction and underlying principles of the strategy.

The Proposed Strategic Framework – A Summary

6. As part of its efforts to mobilize and refocus its resources for effective development assistance, WBG management earlier this year adopted *a mission statement* which emphasizes “fighting poverty with passion and professionalism for lasting results”. To support this mission, WBG sectoral, thematic, and regional strategies as well as country assistance programs are being reviewed to sharpen their focus on poverty reduction.

7. The WBG's past and implicit environmental strategy has emphasized strict compliance with safeguard policies, mainstreaming the environment in operational work, maximizing environmental benefits through environmental assistance, and helping countries to implement their obligations under the international environmental conventions. While progress has been good on the development and application of safeguard policies, results have been mixed for targeted environmental assistance and mainstreaming the environment, including the integration of the global environmental agenda.

8. These shortcomings and the need for anchoring the WBG's environmental assistance (lending and non-lending services) to the overall mission of the Bank Group drive the development and implementation of a corporate environmental strategy. Hence, the *proposed goal* of the strategy is to “contribute to the Bank's mission of fighting poverty by improving poor people's livelihoods, health, and security today and in the future” and to do this by “helping to enhance environmental quality and natural resource management and to maintain the global ecosystems”.

9. This goal in turn translates into three *specific objectives*:

- improve health conditions affected by environmental factors because the poor are key victims of environmental health impacts and risks;
- improve livelihoods through sustainable natural resource management because secure access to natural resources and associated ecosystem services is essential for the quality and sustainability of the livelihoods of the poor; and
- reduce vulnerability to environmental risks and natural disasters because short term climate variability and long term consequences of global climate change will disproportionately affect both poor people and poor countries.

10. In developing a strategy and associated actions that meet these three objectives, the WBG would be guided by a set of key principles

- listen to the people in client countries;
- focus on environmental interventions benefiting the poor;
- identify and work toward tangible outcomes;
- take a cross-sectoral and long-term perspective on development;
- facilitate regional cooperation and global policy dialogue on environmental issues;
- harness the role of markets and the private sector to promote sustainable environmental management and investment;
- promote cost-effective solutions to environmental problems; and
- be selective and work with partners for better results.

11. The above directions for the environment strategy, if formally adopted, would call for the development of a number of broad strategy elements. Firstly, environment would have to be better integrated into the country assistance policy dialogue, requiring greater investments in analytical work on understanding the linkages with poverty reduction, a stronger contribution by the WBG's Environment Family to the upstream policy dialogue, and the creation of incentives for working to a greater extent in cross-sectoral teams. Secondly, and through internal capacity building, the compliance with safeguard policies would need to be strengthened and improved, and the WBG's targeted environmental assistance lending would have to be refocused on tangible outcomes. Thirdly, synergies and complementarities between local, regional and global environmental benefits would need to be reflected in the country assistance dialogue and strategy. Fourthly, provide policy advice and design projects which make better use of the power of the market place. Finally, for all of the above, the Environment Family would need to mobilize and transfer knowledge more effectively, adjust its programs and skill mix to fit the new strategic priorities, and rely more on partnerships toward common goals.

Implications for Mainstreaming the Global Environment

12. The detailed elaboration and development of the above strategy elements is scheduled over the next 12 months, with the global environment dimension to be woven into the strategy together with the local and regional dimensions. It is, however, possible at this stage to identify some broad implications that the proposed framework for environment strategy development would have for mainstreaming the global environmental agenda in WBG work.

13. **First**, the proposed framework is consistent with the responsibilities that the WBG has assumed vis-a-vis the global conventions and recent global public policy initiatives. The proposed framework for developing a corporate environment strategy explicitly embraces global environmental concerns, be they related to the degradation of the global commons or to the loss of natural resources, including biodiversity, on a global scale. Maintaining "the global ecosystem" is viewed as a means to provide for the basic needs of the poor in the longer run. The proposed objectives for the strategy refer to the need to reduce vulnerability of people to adverse local impacts of climatic variability and long term climate change. Finally, the proposed framework supports a role for the WBG in the international policy dialogue that is required to help manage

global environmental issues, as well as for promoting regional cooperation on management of trans-boundary water resources and terrestrial ecosystems.

14. Hence, these principles and objectives reinforce the WBG's commitment to help its client countries build capacity to implement the conventions on climate change and ozone as well as to capture the benefits under their associated protocols and financing mechanisms, i.e. the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Multilateral Fund for The Montreal Protocol (MFMP). Under this commitment, the WBG would ensure as an implementing agency for GEF and MFMP that its developing country clients are compensated for the incremental costs of achieving global benefits. It would also use its own and GEF resources to help address negative impacts from global environmental degradation. In addition, the WBG would have a role to play in helping countries access markets for global public goods, e.g. carbon offset trading as per the Prototype Carbon Fund, now being launched by the Bank.

15. **Second, the proposed framework calls for better integration of the WBG's global environmental agenda with local sustainable development agendas**The envisaged focus of the environment and other "real" sector strategies on poverty outcomes, the recognition of longer term impacts, and the emphasis on cross-sectoral perspectives should help accomplish this objective. Specifically, it provides opportunities for building more strategic linkages between on the one hand the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, management of regionally shared water resources, reversal of land degradation, and on the other hand poverty alleviation interventions. In so doing, it would help to identify in a more systematic way entry points for GEF interventions in the above areas that are better aligned with the WBG mission. As the country assistance strategy dialogue becomes better informed by these strategic linkages, WBG-GEF support in the form of "freestanding" projects can be expected to gradually phase out.

(a) Climate Change

16. The obligations of WBG clients under the Climate Change Convention framework are limited and, with the possible exception of the Economies in Transition (that will have binding greenhouse emissions constraints under the Kyoto Protocol), are not viewed as the driver of Bank investment in climate-friendly technologies and infrastructure. A sharper focus on poverty in the WBG's development assistance, however, has important implications for WBG's efforts to address climate change. The character and volume of WBG activities on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions abatement will be largely determined by the WBG's strategies in the "real" sectors: especially energy, but also transport, infrastructure and urban services. The following are key implications and opportunities:

- *Access to energy.* The WBG's recently adopted Energy-Environment Strategy assigns high priority to environmental health impacts on the rural and urban poor. Hence, it stresses the provision of basic modern energy services to the rural poor and peri-urban populations. This would involve substitution of low quality biomass fuels by more efficient modern fuels or substituting centralized fossil fuel electricity generation by off-grid renewable systems. The ensuing greenhouse benefits would not likely be large

relative to promoting large scale, centralized renewable energy systems. Substitution from traditional biomass fuels, however, has a potential of scaling up to 2 billion people.

- *Carbon sinks.* Efforts to protect and sustainably use natural systems for the maintenance of local environmental and biodiversity services could have strong benefits for the enhancement of forests and soils as carbon sinks. Local and global synergies can be utilized if climate change-motivated finance increases the benefit of sustainable land management.
- *Adaptation.* Resilience to climate change is inversely related to economic prosperity: the poor will suffer most. Hence, assessments of the vulnerability of our clients' agriculture, water resources, coastal zones, urban infrastructure, etc., --and improving their long-term capability to adapt to global climate change – need to be at the core of a poverty focused environment-based climate change strategy.

17. A number of GEF operational programs for climate change recognize the above synergies between efforts to address poverty and climate change. Such synergies also exist with respect to addressing certain local and regional environmental externalities. The future level of WBG-GEF climate change assistance may therefore depend in part on the extent to which GEF operational programs remain flexible and relevant to a poverty-focused assistance agenda. Such flexibility would also be needed in the further development of the World Bank-GEF Renewable Energy Strategic Partnership which aims to shift the programming of GEF resources for renewable energy from “one-off” project components to large-scale, long-term renewable energy programs. Countries as diverse as China and Uganda are now formulating specific renewables investment programs for presentation to the GEF Council beginning in May of 2000.

(b) Biodiversity

18. Biodiversity is an issue of global concern, yet many of the benefits derived from its conservation and sustainable utilization accrue at local and national levels. The proposed framework for environment strategy development emphasizes support for the maintenance of sustainable livelihoods in rural areas, with full consideration to sustainable natural resources management. It also recognizes that rural poverty can be reduced in the long term by ensuring that human use functions do not degrade natural resources so that ecosystems services are disrupted. Finally, it acknowledges that vulnerability to natural disasters affects the poor disproportionately. These issues call for the maintenance of ecological integrity at the landscape level, including the need to maintain ecological services that minimize disaster risk and support sustainable resource use. These are natural entry points for GEF interventions, on an incremental cost basis, to support holistic management of biological resources in agricultural, forested and coastal ecosystems.

19. It is expected that protected area projects will be better anchored within WBG interventions linking them to sustainable rural development projects. Biodiversity that is unique from a global perspective can be conserved within protected areas whose functions and benefits will accrue more clearly to local stakeholders. Careful zoning within protected areas and their buffer zones will continue to be a critical tool for ensuring that biodiversity conservation objectives are maintained while achieving poverty alleviation outcomes. On the other hand, the

proposed approach to the strategy provides disincentives for "stand-alone" protected area projects with limited linkages to local development goals.

20. It is also expected that the WBG may be able to better exploit its inherent comparative advantage in projects supporting sustainable biodiversity use. The framework's emphasis on sustainable livelihoods recognizes the crucial reliance of the rural poor upon biological resources, and promotes a greater emphasis upon sustainable resource use. These are important entry points for GEF interventions based on barrier removal approaches to promote long-term sustainable biodiversity use. Projects that develop or strengthen markets for environment services will also have a greater grounding on WBG projects supporting rural development.

(c) Land degradation

21. Land degradation is receiving increasing attention since the development of the Convention on Desertification. The strongest impacts of land degradation tend to coincide geographically with high areas of poverty. Hence, land degradation and poverty are linked through a negative feedback mechanism, in which increased degradation fuels increased poverty, which in turn results in additional negative impacts upon land resources. Clearly, the Bank has an important role in supporting efforts to help break this cycle of poverty in client countries through financing programs that enhance land and natural resources management and mitigate land degradation. The GEF has an opportunity to supplement these efforts, on an incremental cost basis, through existing Operational Programs and through the opportunities that may emerge from the proposed new programs.

(d) International waters

22. Poverty-oriented environmental outcomes have regional and global dimensions that call for appropriate Bank involvement. One such area is in the management water resources/bodies that transcend national boundaries. In such cases, regional collaboration and dialogue is required to help harmonize policies, coordinate national institutional capacities and responsibilities, and prioritize investments. With support from the GEF, the WBG has come to play an increasingly visible role in the international waters area in the past decade. It has promoted collaboration of countries around inland seas, river basins and other shared water bodies. The proposed emphasis on poverty outcomes will help strengthen the implementation of key regional initiatives in which regional water management is key to maintaining the sustainability of long-term poverty outcomes.

23. **Third, the Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF) presents an important tool to help integrate local, regional and global environmental issues in the process of developing and implementing a country assistance program** The CDF has been adopted by WBG as a holistic approach to outcome oriented development assistance planning, emphasizing multi-sector and

donor coordination. This orientation, and the longer term time perspective of CDF, offers an opportunity for more systematic and integral treatment of environmental issues in the development of country assistance strategies.

24. **Fourth**, the increased emphasis in the proposed framework on utilizing the power of the marketplace supports the WBG's on-going efforts to mobilize private sector capital, technology and management skills in support of global environmental objectives. It is also consistent with GEF's interest in maximizing the leveraging of its own funds and mainstreaming of its objectives into private sector decision-making. There is growing integration among the WBG's private sector activities, and IFC already co-ordinates its GEF efforts closely with the Bank. In particular, IFC has demonstrated a broad range of innovative GEF activities involving the use of non-grant financing modalities, new approaches to risk mitigation and significant leveraging of GEF funds through private equity funds and financial intermediation. The WBG expects these activities to expand and deepen in the future

Next Steps

25. The process of completing the Environment Strategy report will be coordinated with that of the Operations Evaluation Department's Environment Review. It involves three main sets of activities. First, are the broad internal and external consultations on the proposed strategy framework, i.e. the overall direction, the key underlying principles, and the implications for strategy elements and action plans. Second, additional analytical and thematic review work is required on linking outputs to outcomes, defining indicators, looking at plausible futures, etc. Finally, cross-regional and cross sectoral working groups will work on the detailed development of the strategy elements and their associated action plans.

26. Once the internal process is completed, the World Bank Group will present the Environment Strategy report to the GEF Council.

Attachment: PowerPoint presentation

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Improving Environment to Reduce Poverty

Toward an Environment Strategy
For The World Bank Group

Are we on the right track?

We need to take stock...

- Four pillars of the existing WBG implicit strategy:
 - Safeguards
 - Mainstream environment
 - Maximize environmental benefits through environmental assistance
 - Fulfill global mandate
- Progress on safeguards, but mixed results on targeted assistance, limited progress on mainstreaming, and separate global agenda

...to address pressing environmental challenges of development...

- Despite significant progress in improving quality of life...
 - Every year, some 5.5 million people die in LDCs from water-borne diseases and air pollution.
 - Two thirds of the world's population will face water scarcity by 2025.
 - Forest cover of the size of Greece is lost annually.
 - 60% of the world's fisheries are over-exploited.
 - Hurricane Mitch set the development of Honduras back by 20 years...

...to respond to changing contexts...

- Changing role of governments, private sector, and civil society
- Growing demand for environmental infrastructure and ecological services
- Pressure of rapid population growth in many ecologically vulnerable areas
- Growing cross-boundary and global dimensions of environmental problems

...in a changing World Bank Group

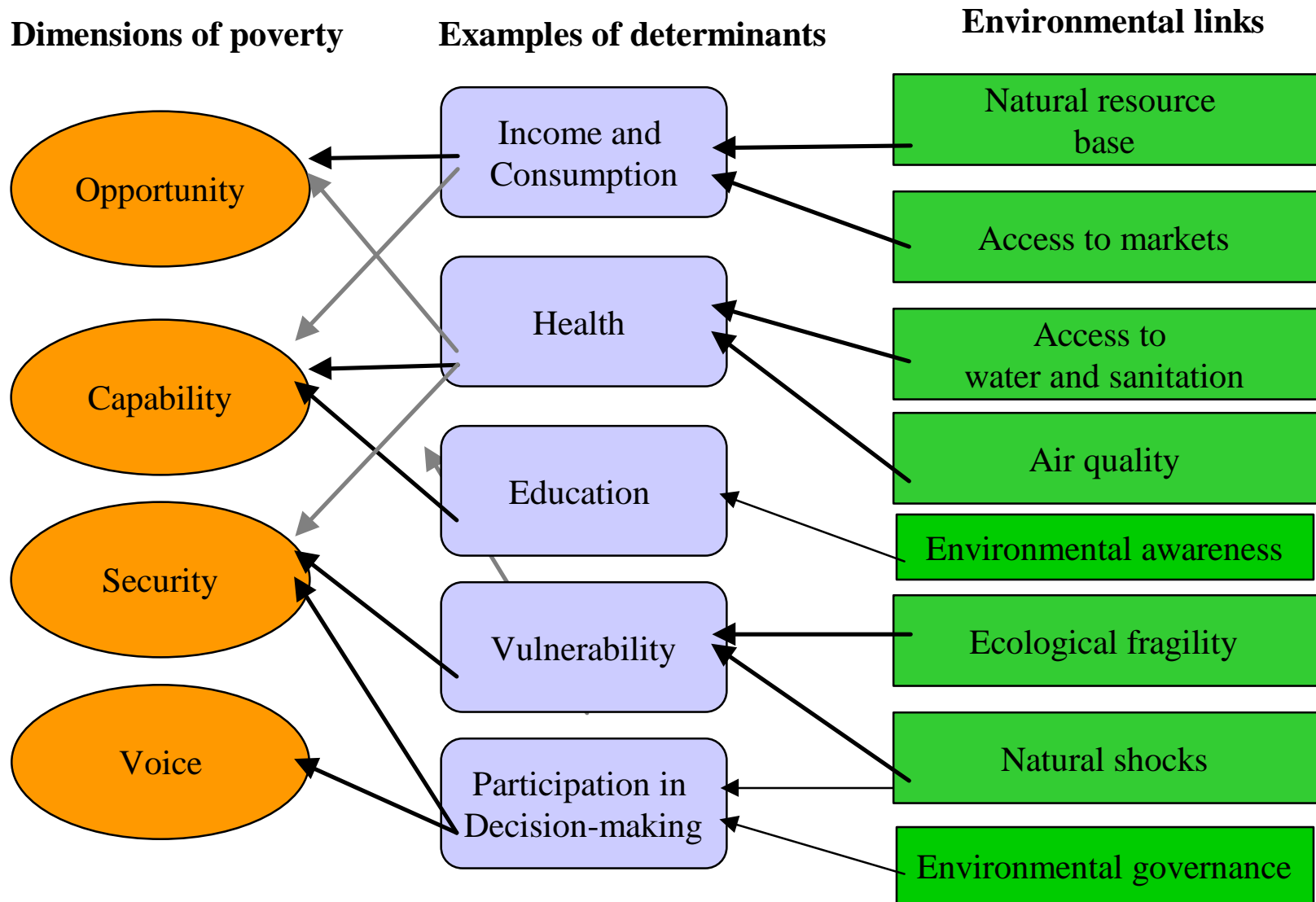
- Mission statement:

“To fight poverty with passion and professionalism for lasting results.

To help people to help themselves and their environment...”

- CDF: holistic approach to development, and a focus on outcomes -- an opportunity to address environmental issues more systematically and effectively

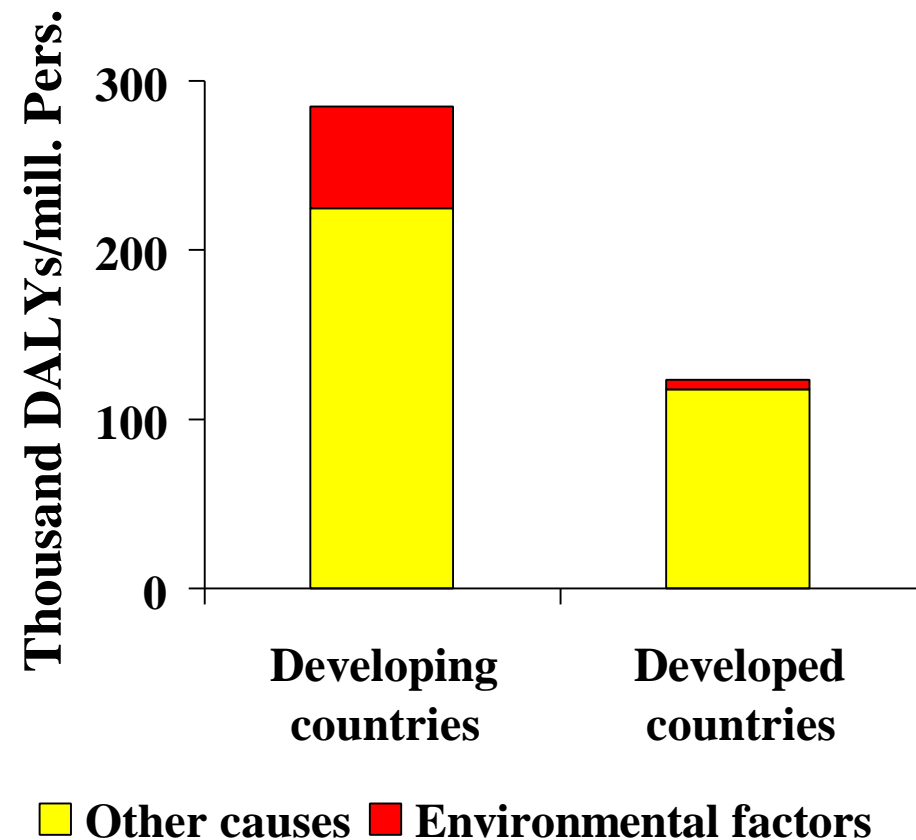
Poverty is multi-dimensional



Environment is closely linked with poverty

- The poor are key victims of environmental health impacts and risks
- Access to environmental resources is essential to livelihoods of the poor

Environmental factors cause large health damage in LDCs



Proposed Environment Strategy-- Our Goal

To contribute to the Bank's mission of fighting poverty by improving poor people's livelihoods, health, and security today and in the future.

The WBG will do this by helping to enhance environmental quality and natural resource management and maintain the global ecosystem.

Proposed Environment Strategy -- eight key principles

1. *Listen* to and work with the people in client countries
2. Focus on environmental interventions benefiting the *poor*
3. Help identify and work towards tangible *outcomes*
4. Take a *cross-sectoral* and *long term* perspective
5. Facilitate *regional and global policy dialogue*
6. Harness the role of *markets and the private sector* in improving environmental management
7. Promote *cost-effective* solutions to environmental problems
8. Be *selective* and work with partners for better results

Proposed Environment Strategy -- Three key objectives

- Improve *health conditions* affected by environmental factors
- Improve *livelihoods* through sustainable natural resource management
- Reduce *vulnerability* to environmental risks and natural disasters

Environmental health risks pose large burden on LDCs

Environmental health group	Percent of total DALYs in each country group							
	AFR	India	China	Asia & Pacific	LAC	FSE	LDCs	EME
Water supply & sanitation	10	9	3.5	8	5.5	1.5	7	1.0
Malaria	9	0.5	0	1.5	0	0	3	0
Indoor air pollution	5.5	6	9.0	4	0.5	0	5	0
Urban air pollution	1	2	4.5	2	3	3	2	1
Agro-industrial waste	1	1	1.5	1.5	2	2	1	2.5
All causes	26.5	18.5	18.5	17	11	6.5	19	4.5

Source: Murray and Lopez 1996, Smith 1998, World Bank estimates

DALY: Disability Adjusted Life Year; AFR: Africa; LAC: Latin America & Caribbean; FSE: Former Soviet Economies; EME: Established Market Economies in

Environmental interventions and health outcomes

<i>Source of Health Damage</i>	<i>Associated Projects</i>	<i>Health Endpoints Affected</i>	<i>Monitorable Health Indicators</i>	<i>Proxy Sector Indicators</i>
Indoor Air Pollution	Energy (cleaner fuels, improved stoves) Rural development	Mortality Chronic lung disease (COPD) Acute respiratory infections (ARI)	Deaths (child) Symptom days / COPD Cases of ARI	Number/share of households using clean fuels/improved stoves Type of housing
Outdoor Air Pollution	Energy Transport	Mortality COPD ARI Respiratory Hospital Admissions (RHA) IQ impairment (lead)	Deaths (adult) Symptom days / COPD Cases of ARI RHAs	Annual mean levels of PM10 (ug/m3) Lead level in blood (children) (ug/dl)
Vector-Borne Disease	Irrigation Reforestation Infrastructure (drainage) Health (vector control)	Malaria mortality Malaria morbidity	Deaths due to malaria Malaria cases	
Lack of Water and Sanitation (WSS)	WSS Infrastructure Social funds	Mortality due to diarrheal disease	Deaths due to diarrhea (child)	Access to sanitation (% of households, urban/rural) Community coverage (% of households in a community) Access to water (% of households with year round access, % of household with in-house connections, lpcd, urban/rural) Community cost-sharing and maintenance
		Diarrhea morbidity	Diarrhea cases (child)	
Pesticide Residues	Agriculture	Acute poisoning Cancer Fetal defects	Cases of acute poisoning Cases of cancer	Application norms Storage and handling practices
Other Toxic Substances	Industrial pollution control	Cancers IQ impairment (lead)	Cases of cancers	Environmental performance Waste management codes Land zoning regulations

Natural resource management outcome and indicators

Desired Outcome	Source of Damage	Associated Projects	Proxy Indicators
Sustainable livelihoods	Policy distortions Ineffective institutions / property rights	Policy reforms (pricing, subsidies, etc.) NRM (community-based)	Natural and social capital (e.g. resource productivity, water scarcity, security of tenure)
Maintenance of ecological goods and services	Policy distortions, ineffective institutions, missing global markets	Financial transfers (GEF, etc.)	Area protected (by type of habitat), contiguity, etc.

Reducing the vulnerability of the poor

Problem	Source of problem	Public actions	Outcome indicators	Proxy sector indicators
Deaths, increased malnutrition, income shocks caused by natural shocks * droughts * floods * hurricanes * earthquakes * landslides	Unsustainable resource management fostered by distorted or unclear property rights, policies and institutions. People living in vulnerable areas * arid * steep sloped * flood plains Precarious housing	Policy reform on land and housing markets Improvement in prediction and emergency preparedness	Reduced death, malnutrition, income poverty in event of natural shock	Proportion of people living in vulnerable areas Implementation of prevention measures (e.g., clean storm drains) Existence and capacity to use predictions.
	Few coping mechanisms * credit * insurance * savings	Micro credit Insurance Emergency response		Access to micro credit Access to insurance

The Bank's Strategy is Evolving

FROM

- Environmental objectives
- Focus on inputs and outputs
- Short-term sectoral (add-on)
- Win-win only
- Work mostly with environmental agencies
- Main focus on project design
- Free standing global agenda



TO

- Environmental contribution to poverty reduction
- Focus on outcomes
- Longer-term, cross-sectoral (integrated)
- Acknowledge trade-offs
- Work with a wider range of sectors and stakeholders, including the private sector
- Increased focus on implementation and results
- Global agenda better complements local

Help identify and work toward tangible outcomes

- Identify country-specific outcomes and indicators
- Understand causal links between interventions and outcomes
- Promote most cost-effective actions to improve outcomes
- Consider and improve the capacity of client
- Establish a baseline and monitor performance

Elements of the proposed strategy

- Integrate environment into *policy dialogue* better
- Work more effectively with *other sectors*
- Strengthen compliance with *safeguards*
- Refocus *targeted environmental assistance* toward tangible outcomes through better capacity
- Harmonize *local, regional, and global* environmental benefits better
- Mobilize and *transfer knowledge* more effectively

Tentative implications for the Environment Family

- More *analytical work* to understand linkages with poverty reduction
- Stronger *contribution* to upstream policy dialogue
- *Participation* in cross-sectoral teams
- *Capacity-building* focused on tangible outcomes and safeguards
- *Programs and skill mix adjustment* to reflect strategic priorities
- Better *alignment* of operations, anchor, DEC and WBI
- Greater reliance on *partnerships* toward common goals

Broad Implications for Mainstreaming The Global Environment

- Proposed framework reinforces commitment to help implement global conventions, protocols and financing mechanisms.
- Sharpening poverty focus in sector strategies provides opportunity to better integrate global agenda with local and regional agendas.
- Emphasis on marketplace calls for enhanced efforts to mobilize private sector resources, technology, and skills for global environmental objectives.
- CDF provides suitable mechanism for integrating environment, including its global dimension, in country assistance programs.

Climate Change

Proposed Strategy Framework

- places vulnerability and adaptation at the core of a poverty focused, environment strategy
- recognizes that poverty focus of energy/infrastructure strategies, results in
 - ▲ improved access to energy for the poor; and
 - ▲ improved environmental health conditions; and
 - ▲ greenhouse gas reduction benefits (through scale up)
- highlights potential to promote two-way synergies between sustainable management of natural systems and the protection/enhancement of carbon sinks

Biodiversity

Proposed Strategy Framework

- recognizes that reducing poverty depends on preserving ecosystem services and their biodiversity elements
- emphasizes building strategic linkages between sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and poverty alleviation interventions
- promotes more systematic identification of GEF interventions with WBG mission and country assistance programs
- builds a stronger WBG-GEF biodiversity portfolio.

Land Degradation & International Waters Proposed Strategy Framework

- acknowledges strong land degradation and poverty linkages
- stresses need for supplementing WBG resources with GEF funding to enhance effectiveness of development assistance
- reinforces importance of WBG-GEF partnership on land and water degradation in Africa
- emphasizes regional cooperation in management of water resources to maintain sustainability of poverty outcomes with closer WBG-GEF linkages

Work in progress -- Where are we?

- Broad Bank-wide *discussions*
 - Environment Forum (May' 99)
 - ENV Sector Board retreat and presentations
 - Dialogue with other Sector Boards
- *Working groups* and *background papers*
 - *Cross-Regional* -- poverty, natural resource management, outcomes, safeguards...
 - *Cross-Sectoral* -- health, urban, transport, infrastructure...
- *Synthesis* -- ENV Sector Board retreat (Sept' 99)

Next steps for the next 10-12 months

- Coordination with *OED's Environment Review*
- Broad internal and external *consultation* on general direction, key principles, implications
 - ENV, Regions, ESSD Council, Other Sectors, IFC, CODE, OPC, GEF, Clients, IFIs, NGOs, Bilateral donors...
- Further *analytical work* on safeguards, outcomes, current trends & plausible futures, capacity building...
- Cross-regional and cross-sectoral *working groups* to develop an action plan