

# Introduction of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) into Asian Countries



Sadatsugu NISHIURA, Mizuo KISHITA, Hideki UEHARA Sadahisa IWAYA, Satoko MOURI, Mihoko M. MATSUYUKI Asian Center for Environmental Research (ACER), Meisei University (Japan)

## What is Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

SEA is the formalised, systematic and comprehensive process of evaluating the environmental effects of a policy, plan or programme and its alternatives, including the preparation of a written report on the findings of that evaluation, and using the findings in publicly accountable decision-making. (Therivel et al, 1992)



Figure1 Policy, Plan, Programme and SEA

Though general SEA stages are shown in the Figure2, not every SEA will involve all of the stages, nor will all the stages be carried out in the same depth.

#### **Background**

SEA is widely conducted in Western countries. In Asian countries which are developing rapidly, how to develop economically with environmental conservation is becoming a critical issue and it is vital to consider environment on the policy making and planning stage, and to assess environmental impact of the policies and plans. In order to implement SEA in a country where SEA has been hardly implemented, It is essential to consider appropriate process of SEA which fits background of the country and significance of implementing SEA.

# Joint Research Methodology



Figure2 Stages in, and Links Between, PPP-making and SEA

## **Objectives**

i) To Propose appropriate process (which stage of SEA should be involved and in how deep these stages should be carried out) of SEA to the targeted countries.

ii)To examine significance of SEA in the targeted country



# Workshop with Mahidol University in Thailand (Apr. 19th, 2005)



ACER already started joint research project with Mahidol University in Thailand and held the first joint workshop on Apr. 19th, 2005.



Asian Center for Environmental Research (ACER), Meisei University E-mail: nishiura@es.meisei-u.ac.jp

#### Science Council of Asia, May 12th, 2005