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United Nations Development Programme

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY THEMATIC TRUST FUND 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

FOREWORD

UNDP recognizes that social, economic and environmental objectives are supporting goals that can reinforce each other. Rio+20 presents a critical opportunity for resetting the development agenda, stimulating a greening of economies within the framework of sustainable development and poverty eradication that is inclusive and respects planetary boundaries. Supporting developing countries to advance sustainable human development is one of UNDP's principal goals. UNDP's Environment and Energy Group (EEG) helps developing countries achieve their sustainable development objectives by strengthening national capacity to make informed policy and investment choices that are both pro-poor, pro-growth and also less carbon intensive, and redirecting public and private investments towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and longer term sustainability.

The catalytic support from the Environment and Energy Thematic Trust Fund (EE TTF) continues to enable EEG to provide high quality, global policy services ranging from policy development and advocacy to investment support and knowledge management in the field of environment and sustainable development. Benefitting from UNDP's on-the-ground presence in over 170 countries, EEG also brings local realities and needs to global level policy processes on key environmental issues, including climate change, ecosystems, energy, water, and chemicals.

As in previous years, demand for the services provided by EEG continued to rise in 2011, both from countries and across UNDP and the UN system. This trend is reflected in an increased allocation of UNDP country offices' own core funds to environment and energy activities. However, given the relatively modest contributions received by the EE TTF in the last 2 years, activities had to be streamlined. In 2011, EEG placed major emphasis on policy services and knowledge management, in particular in the area of climate change, while continuing on-the-ground piloting of innovative activities and approaches as much as possible. The integration of environmental concerns into national development planning and programming – the mainstreaming agenda – was one of the focuses during 2011. The results documented in this year's Annual Report continue to demonstrate the catalytic nature of this funding modality, showing how the EE TTF has continued to stimulate and contribute to a wide array of processes and new projects at the regional and country level.

Moving forward, EEG maintains its commitment to deliver high quality policy advisory services and innovative programmes under the current UNDP Strategic Plan (2008-2013). The continued support of the EE TTF will be critical in helping EEG to deliver on its strategic priorities in developing countries – ensuring that environmental action benefits the poor and development action does not harm the environment.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CIF	Climate Investment Fund
COP	Conference of the Parties
CPD	Country Programme Document
DESA	Department for Economic and Social Affairs
DNA	Designated National Authority
EEG	Environment and Energy Group
EE TTF	Environment and Energy Thematic Trust Fund
EMG	United Nations Environment Management Group
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoAL WaSH	Governance, Advocacy and Leadership for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
GCF	Green Climate Fund
LECRDS	Low-emission and Climate-resilient Development Strategies
LDC	Least Developed Country
LIC	Low Income Country
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MLF	Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
PEI	UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative
RBEC	Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
Rio+20	UN Conference on Sustainable Development
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SGP	Small Grants Programme
TACC	Territorial Approach to Climate Change
TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
UN	United Nations
UNCT	UN Country Team
UNDAF	UN Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UN-REDD	United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

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OVERVIEW OF THE EE TTF

The Environment and Energy Thematic Trust Fund (EE TTF) provides UNDP with a source of discretionary finance to fund innovative, catalytic and strategic interventions. It has been instrumental in developing global sustainable development policy services and supporting on-the-ground initiatives that contribute to poverty reduction. The EE TTF also helps UNDP to better align and focus its global, regional and country programmes around the four strategic areas of the Strategic Plan.

The EE TTF complements UNDP's work funded from its core resources and from other sources such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (MLF). As a flexible co-financing modality designed for the rapid approval of proposals and swift disbursement of funds at the global, regional and country level, **the EE TTF enables UNDP to effectively address the continuing and emerging challenges in the global and local environment through initiatives that are innovative, catalytic and strategic and raise external resources.** The EE TTF supports programmes and projects under the four strategic areas of the Strategic Plan, with the following main objectives in 2011:

UNDP Strategic Plan Key Result Areas	2011 Objectives of the EE TTF*
<i>Key Result Area 1:</i> Mainstreaming Environment and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide global policy support and backstopping to programme countries in preparation for Rio+20. • Strengthen the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change into UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs). • Pilot and finalize UNDP's Environmental and Social Safeguards. • Develop a framework for the strategic quality review of environmental sustainability and climate change in Country Programme Documents (CPDs).
<i>Key Result Area 2:</i> Mobilizing Environmental Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support partner countries on direct access to climate finance. • Support climate policy expenditure and institutional reviews (CPEIRs) in programme countries. • Support the design phase of the Green Climate Fund.
<i>Key Result Area 3:</i> Promoting Adaptation to Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate UNDP's global knowledge and advocacy activities on climate change, including engagement with the UNFCCC negotiations at global and national levels. • Provide policy support to LDCs and SIDS on climate change. • Establish the SIDS DOCK programme to support SIDS transition to low-emission, climate-resilient development. • Strengthen capacity of government decision-makers, UNCTs and UNDP Country Offices to integrate climate change risks into national development policy and planning, and UN country programming.
<i>Key Result Area 4:</i> Expanding Access to En- vironmental and Energy Services for the Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and implement UNDP's new Environmental and Social Compliance Review and Grievance Processes (Accountability Mechanism). • Provide policy and implementation support to projects on the ground through earmarked funds.

*2011 objectives of the EE TTF as per the UNDP Strategic Plan 2008-2013 and the EEG Global Programme

This report builds on the EE TTF 2010 Annual Report. In 2011, the availability of unearmarked funds was significantly lower than in previous years. As a result, UNDP has focused the available resources on those programme areas with greater impact and most in demand by developing countries, namely Promoting Adaption to Climate Change and Mainstreaming Environment and Energy. In comparison to 2010, fewer on-the-ground initiatives could be supported and some programmes are being phased out as these are integrated into country office programming. However, the EE TTF has continued to serve as a catalytic instrument to mobilize funds and to make the link between national programmes and global policy processes. The more limited resources have been used strategically to mobilize funds for follow-up activities or replicate successful approaches in other countries. Examples of this catalytic impact are highlighted throughout the report.

The EE TTF continued to enable UNDP to deliver on the sustainable development priorities of its Strategic Plan 2008-2013 and to move the Environment and Energy Practice away from the previously thematic and project-based approaches towards more integrated programmatic ones. The EE TTF continues to be critical in making this transition by supporting strategic planning, guideline preparations and consultations with development partners; assisting global environmental policy processes and UN inter-agency coordination (such as the UN Development Group (UNDG), UN-Energy, UN-Water, UN-Oceans, etc.); and initiating a number of innovative interventions, particularly in the field of climate change and environmental financing. Major emphasis has been placed on ensuring the coherence of UNDP-supported environmental policies and programmes from the global to the regional and national levels and between regions. The EE TTF has continued to support such integration at different levels:

- **Policy advisory services:** The EE TTF continued to enable the provision of policy advice, capacity development and programme design support to national governments, UNDP Country Offices and international processes. For example, the EE TTF supported UNDP's involvement as an "active observer" in the **Climate Investment Funds (CIF)**, under which UNDP provided specific inputs into the CIF design process and assisted recipient developing countries in preparation of their participation. Similarly, UNDP provided dedicated technical expertise and resources to the design phase of the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)**, demonstrating leading-edge thinking on climate finance through the publication of advocacy papers and analyses on climate finance. UNDP is also providing support to the UN Secretary General's **Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All)** initiative and has increased investment in this area, including in decentralized renewable energy, energy efficiency efforts, and in national energy planning work.

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OVERVIEW

The EE TTF has been instrumental in developing innovative initiatives on the ground while bringing in new partners and resources to respond to the urgent needs of countries to move towards sustainable development.

- **Informing global policy processes:** In the area of environmental negotiations, UNDP has built a strong reputation as a neutral trusted advisor to developing countries. In 2011, in response to strong demand, EE TTF funding enabled UNDP to provide capacity development services to partner governments and UNDP Country Offices in the lead-up to the 2011 UN Climate Change Conference in Durban, as well as to offer negotiation training to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and female negotiators. In addition, UNDP supported the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, or Rio+20, preparatory process as co-chair of the undg Task Team on Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change and Rio+20. In the form of expertise and resources, UNDP advocated for strengthening all three dimensions of sustainable development and addressing them in an integrated manner at the country level. UNDP also supported national-level Rio+20 preparations by facilitating stock-taking exercises and multi-stakeholder dialogues in collaboration with the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).
- **Flagship initiatives:** Over the years, EE TTF support has enabled the development of a number of UNDP's most innovative and catalytic initiatives. These flagship initiatives, designed with support from UNDP's policy advisory services, include the UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI), the Africa Adaptation Programme, UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD), and Green, Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies (Green LECRDS). These initiatives have in turn helped UNDP to raise the profile of environmental issues in the development agenda at the global, regional and country level.
- **Setting Corporate Standards for Environmental and Social Safeguards:** In 2011, funding from the EE TTF supported the development and testing of UNDP's new **Environmental and Social Screening Procedure**, which is being rolled out across UNDP in 2012. This

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