

## PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

**Name of the Partnership/Initiative**

Dams and Development

**Expected date of initiation:** August 2002

**Expected date of completion:** 2004 or beyond

**Partners Involved:** (Initial partners listed below – this is expected to increase over the next six months)

**Governments:** Water resource and related agencies in South Africa, Pakistan, Brazil, Lesotho and Vietnam

**Intergovernmental organizations:** Members of the DDP Steering Committee including UNEP, World Bank, and IUCN

**Major groups:** Governments, affected peoples' and indigenous peoples' groups, industry, NGOs, bilateral agencies, private sector, multi-lateral development banks, professional associations and research institutes.

**Other:** N/A

**Leading Partner:**

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**Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative**

Please provide a brief description:

To link national initiatives aimed at improving decision-making, planning and management of dams and their alternatives. Exchanging experiences and learning from national initiatives will enhance the influence and effectiveness of inclusive national multi-stakeholder processes. The Network will bring together governments, civil society, the private sector and researchers in an area which has historically been divisive, but where solutions need to be found in order to meet the increasing needs of the developing world for water and energy in a sustainable way. New approaches to resolving controversies related to dam projects are expected to emerge.

**Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with**

**the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nations Millennium Declaration:**

It is our common aim to achieve the International Development Targets agreed at the UN Millennium Summit, in particular, to half the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by the year 2015 and to half the proportion of people which suffer from hunger and are unable to reach, or to afford, safe drinking water.

Nowhere are the difficulties posed by meeting targets of equitable and sustainable use and protection of the world's freshwater resources more visible than in dam projects. The conflicts of the past are a key challenge facing national governments, particularly in developing countries, who are striving towards sustainable development. Agenda 21, called for the protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources through the application of integrated approaches to the development, management and use of water resources. It is now increasingly important to achieve these principles in meeting the UN Millennium Declaration targets.

The 'Network for Dams and Sustainable Development' relates directly to these challenges as it aims to support and link local, national and regional multi-stakeholder initiatives to improve decision-making, planning and management of dams and their alternatives. This integrated 'Network' approach has the potential to generate far-reaching benefits affecting the social, environmental and economic dimensions of water and energy resource development.

**Expected results:**

Please provide a brief description:

The 'Network for Dams and Sustainable Development' will facilitate an exchange of experiences, case studies, tool and methodologies between nations. This networking will raise the capacity of national multi-stakeholder initiatives to deal with re-examining their own water resource policies, including their environment and social development procedures, and determine the extent to which these policies require change.

The network will facilitate countries to develop their own locally appropriate solutions and national reforms will improve decision-making, planning and management of water and energy resources.

**Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:**

- At least four international partner organisations to join the Network in the first year
- Four national processes to be established within the first year and join the Network.
- Preliminary results of two processes disseminated within first year.
- A further six initiatives to join the network in the second year.

**Coordination and Implementation mechanism**

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

The Dams and Development Project (DDP), a two year initiative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), has the mandate of promoting a dialogue on improving decision-making, planning and management of dams and their alternatives.

The DDP will coordinate the 'Network for Dams and Sustainable Development' through liaison with all the national partners and offering guidance to broad-based national or sectoral process, workshops and dialogues. Preliminary finance to support the establishment of the voluntary 'network' is available, thereafter initiatives have to be self-sustaining. The DDP will be available to help facilitate broad multi-stakeholder meetings of the 'network'. It is proposed that the parties of the Network be brought together at the Third World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, in March 2003, to exchange opportunities, successes and inadequacies of the 'Network'.

#### **Arrangements for funding**

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

The DDP may co-finance the 'Network' if requested through the UNEP Trust Fund which is supported by various bi-lateral donors. Additional financial support will be required in the longer term from national sources to satisfy the diversity of the national and institutional processes that are likely to emerge.

#### **Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer**

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

- Dissemination via the internet, e-mail, newsletters, published articles and other documentation
- Participation in broad-based multi-stakeholder processes through national processes
- Raised awareness to the social, economic and environmental issues related to integrated water resources management.

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

The DDP will support a programme of exchanging information on good practice and lessons learnt in the planning, implementation and management of dams and their alternatives through development of a database of submissions.

#### **Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)**

Please provide a brief description:

- IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Vision for Water and Nature Initiative
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Dialogue on Food, Water and Environment
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
  - Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)
  - UNEP Financial Services Initiative (UNEP-FI)
- Global Water Partnership – Associated Programme on Integrated Water Resources Management

#### **Monitoring Arrangements**

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:  
(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

Progress reports on the Network will be published by the DDP every six months. In the interim, updates on specific activities will be available via the internet. As the DDP will be available to provide support to the 'network' regular contact will be made with the all national processes.

reports from the various network partners will be available on the DDP website and disseminated through the DDP newsletter at six monthly intervals.

**Other relevant information:**

N/A

Web-site (if available): Once operational, a dedicated area of the DDP website will be developed to disseminate the outcomes of the Network at [www.unep-dams.org](http://www.unep-dams.org)

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