SESSION 5: ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, POLICY, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

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Governance and the Environment

Environmental Management System (EMS)

1. Institutions
2. Land use planning
3. Laws & enforcement
4. Infrastructure – sewage treatment, modern sanitation systems; emissions/effluent from factories, transport systems, Mass Rapid Transit/trains, airports, ports
5. People – education, public participation
6. Government – vision and political will, “clean” government
Investing in the environmental infrastructure

- Sewerage & drainage systems
- Air pollution monitoring stations
- Laboratories for testing effluent etc
- Incinerators, sanitary landfills,
- Hazardous waste management
- Securing clean water – cleaning up rivers, storing rain water, reservoirs, re-use of waste waters, desalination
- Modern sanitation, public housing
- Investments in clean technology, renewable & clean energy eg wind, solar, green vehicles
LAW & POLICY

• Pollution laws
• Conservation laws
  - natural environment (nature reserves, forests, parks)
  - man-made/built environment (heritage sites/buildings)
• Planning laws – siting of industries, residential/commercial areas, recreation etc
• Environmental impact (EIA) laws
• Public Participation & access to justice
• Right to Information?
• Public education, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
• Q – climate change- Clean energy, sea level rise
• Tax incentives
POLLUTION LAWS -

• Air – industrial emissions, traffic
• Fresh water – rivers & lakes
• Marine waters
• Waste management – sanitary landfills, incinerators
• Toxic substances – chemicals, pesticides, fertilisers
• Noise
• Country–specific: identifying areas of special concern eg. mining, oil & gas, agriculture
• Cities – squatters, lack of modern sanitation; Need for public housing; Drainage & sewerage systems; trade effluent; regulating traffic; noise control, greening the urban environment
Conservation Laws

- Nature reserves & heritage sites
- Protection of Forests
- Protection of native wildlife /biodiversity
- Trade in endangered species – flora/fauna
- Implementing MEAs – CITES, Ramsar, CBD
- Indigenous /local communities as partners
- ASEAN Heritage Parks
- ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network
- Singapore’s Cities Biodiversity Index – https://www.nparks.gov.sg/biodiversity/urban-biodiversity/the-singapore-index-on-cities-biodiversity
Environmental Laws

• Extending liability to directors and officers of corporations, enhanced penalties, mandatory jail
• Reversing onus of proof
• Enforcement of laws – self-monitoring, inspections, warnings, prosecutions, composition of offences
• Efficiency in attending to complaints – govts should set up 24 hour ‘hotlines’
• Tax incentives
• Wildlife trade laws – penalties tied to value of the products & multiplied; reversing onus of proof; no ceiling on fines, imprisonment of at least 4 years to bring it within UNODC “serious crime”
• Building capacity – working with Interpol, Customs, ASEAN-WEN, NGOs, local community as stewards
On a little street in (old) Singapore 1965 - independence
Tiger Hunt, 1928, Singapore
Supply of drinking water to rural areas by water wagon during dry season. c.1959
SINGAPORE
Man carrying night soil buckets along Clarke Quay, 1981

SINGAPORE
Singapore River - yesterday & today
Old shop-houses : pre-conservation
Preserving the Built Environment – Conservation houses, Singapore
A “Fine” City
Pulau Semakau Landfill site, Singapore

Public Housing in Singapore