Optimizing the Participation and Contributions of Civil Society in Environment and Sustainable Development

Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
  - Unique roles of key stakeholders in environment and sustainable development (ESD):
    - Government
    - Business
    - Civil society
    - Development institutions
- Context of civil society in Asia
- Approaches for involving civil society in Asia
- Multi-stakeholder mechanisms for ESD in Asia
  - Regional/Sub-regional level/s
  - National (generically called National Councils for Sustainable Development) and local levels
    - Roles
    - Features, e.g., Heads, bases of creation, composition
    - Challenges
- Optimizing contributions of civil society
  - In formulating and implementing sustainable development strategies
  - In strengthening institutional mechanisms for sustainable development
- The Earth Charter: A guide to ethical interaction between people and environment
  - Formulation process
  - Principles
  - Global initiatives particularly in relation to substantiating the UN Decade for Education in SD
- Concluding Remarks