

SANDEE's Fourth Set of Research Grants, Dec 2002

SANDEE is glad to announce its fourth set of research grants. The grants that were recently approved include:

- **A Research Proposal for Economic Valuation of Dutch Canal Associated Wetlands, W.R. Rohitha, Industrial Services Bureau, Kurnegala, Sri Lanka.** This study seeks to assess the environmental services of Dutch Canal associated wetlands and changes in social welfare resulting from the presence of the shrimp industry (including shrimp farming, shrimp hatcheries and shrimp processing plants) in the region. The overall objective of the study is to formulate policy guidelines for the expected development of coastal aquaculture in Eastern and Southern Coastal belts of Sri Lanka by analyzing the current impacts of coastal aquaculture in the North Western Coastal belt.
- **Environmental Regulations in the Manufacturing Sector of Pakistan and their Effects on Output and Consumer Welfare: A CGE Approach, Malik Mohammad Sajid Manzoor, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan.** This work will focus on identifying economy-wide impacts of imposing environmental standards on industries. By constructing a CGE model that incorporates environmental variables, this study will show how and to what extent implementation of environmental quality standards or imposition of environmental taxes will change overall welfare and economic productivity in Pakistan.
- **Conservation and Management Practices of Non-Timber Forest Products in Mid-Hills of Nepal, Arun K.C., Institute of Agricultural and Animal Sciences, Chitwan, Nepal.** The study will foster NTFP conservation and management in the mid-hills of Nepal by assessing indigenous conservation practices and the problems and possibilities of developing management and marketing systems for NTFPs. The most important part of this research is the empirical analyses of contributions of NTFPs to household income.
- **An Investigation of Socio-economic and Institutional Factors that Determine the Sustainable Management of Seasonal Village Tanks in Dry Zone Sri Lanka, D.M.A.H. Senaratne, National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka.** This study investigates a paradoxical situation found in rural dry-zones of Sri Lanka where numerous villages face a situation of protein malnutrition, have reservoirs that are physically suitable for fish production, yet do not fully utilize these tanks. Based on few broad hypotheses, the study sets out to investigate institutional and socio-economic aspects of this problem in order to identify a solution that is economically acceptable to local communities.
- **Exploring the Poverty-Environment Nexus in the Indus Delta - Who is the Most Affected and what are their Responses to Environmental Degradation?, Usman A. Iftikhar, IUCN, Pakistan.** The aims of this project are two-fold: first,

to generate empirical evidence to provide to policy-makers for addressing poverty-environment linkages especially as they prepare the final draft of Pakistan's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. Second, and in the same vein, to demonstrate to policy-makers how the neglect of environmental constraints impacts both economic development and poverty alleviation. This study, which focuses on the downstream impacts of water scarcity, has been conditionally approved and is awaiting a final revision.

- **Air Pollution Health Impacts in Angul-Talcher Area in Orissa, India: An Economic Assessment, Mrutyunjaya Mishra, Department of Economics Science College, Hinjilicut, India.** This study is an attempt to assess the health damage caused by air pollution in the Angul-Talcher industrial agglomeration in Orissa, India. The study proposes a dose-response method to estimate the extent of morbidity caused by PM10 air pollution. Economic estimation will be made on the basis of the cost of illness method. This is a conditional grant with approval pending a final revision.