

United Nation

Economic Commission For Europe

Eighth Meeting of the Working Group on EIA Convention (27-29 April 2005)

Geneva- Switzerland

Country Report on

**Iran's Efforts for Progressive of
Environmental Impact Assessment
In a Transboundry Context**

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Area: 1,648,000 km²
 Average Rainfall: 250-300 mm
70 million Population
 60% Urban, 40% Rural
 1.6% Pop. growth rate
 70 years Normal life expectancy
 No. of Provinces: 30
 No. of Cities: >1000

Environmental Potentials:

8 million ha for:

- 10 National Parks
- 25 Wild Life Sanctuaries
- 47 Protected Areas
- 5 World Heritage, Biosphere & Forest Reserves
- 17 International Wetland

Iran Supports:

- 7,000 Plant Species (20% are endemic)
- 500 Species of Birds
- 148 Species of Mammals

No. of

Environmental NGOs: 600

Environmental Problems:

Urban Noise & Air Pollution,
River and Underground water
pollution,
Marine Pollution,
Soil Erosion,
Decreasing biodiversity,
Land Degradation,
Deforestation
Desertification....



Environmental Management



Environmental Control System
Environmental Management System
Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental Organization Structure

Vice - President & Head of Department of the Environment

Deputy of Administrative

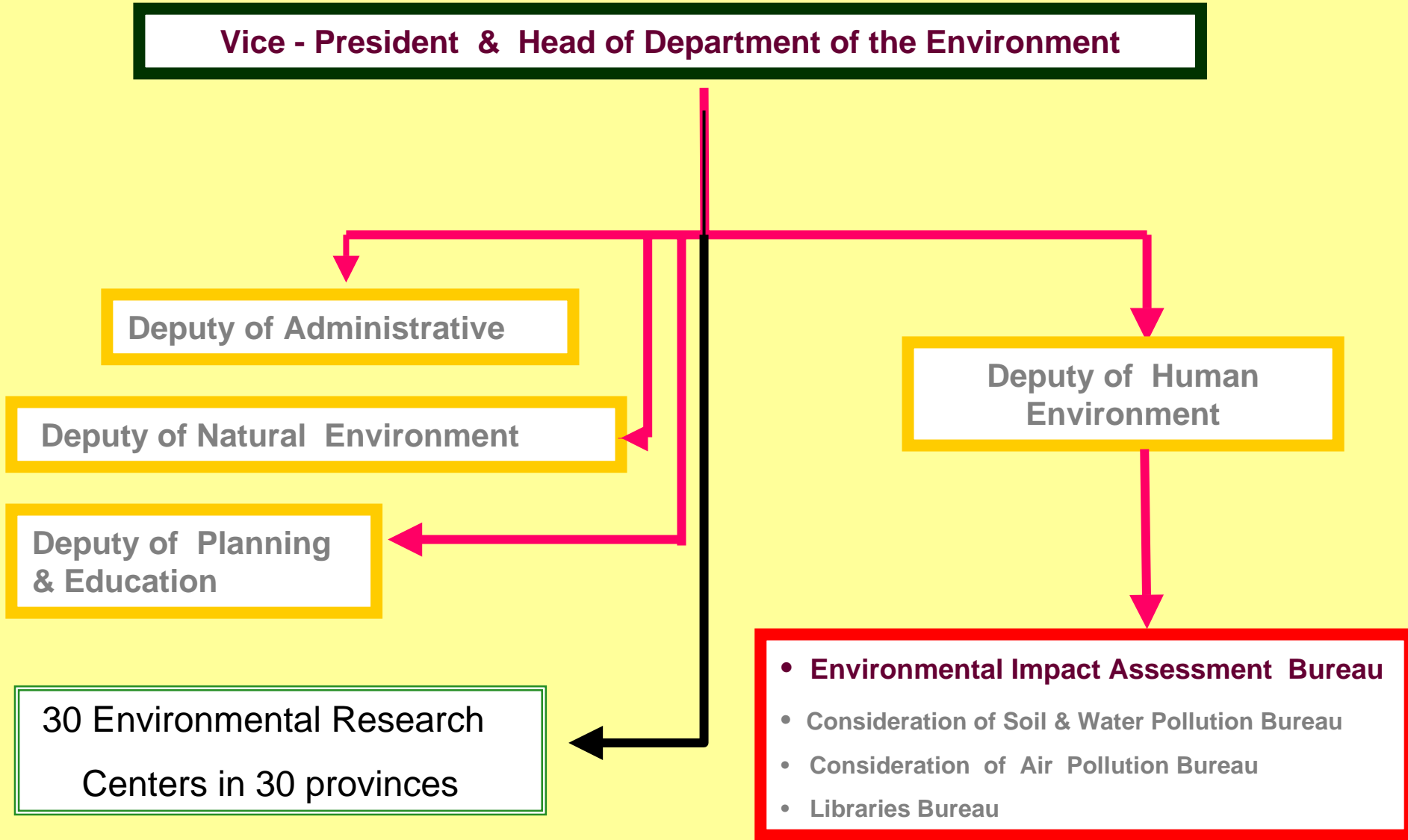
Deputy of Natural Environment

Deputy of Planning & Education

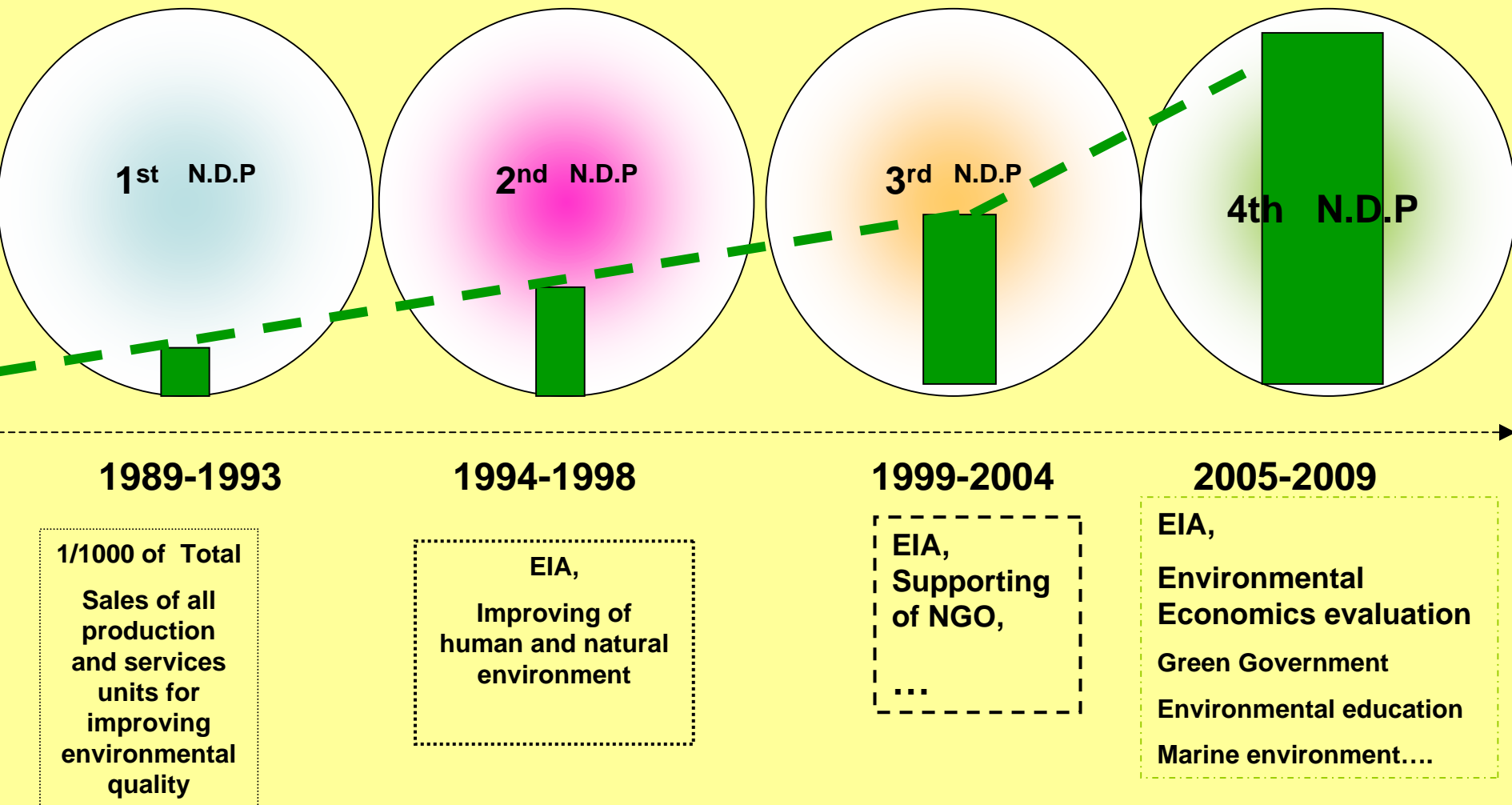
**30 Environmental Research
Centers in 30 provinces**

**Deputy of Human
Environment**

- **Environmental Impact Assessment Bureau**
- **Consideration of Soil & Water Pollution Bureau**
- **Consideration of Air Pollution Bureau**
- **Libraries Bureau**



Trend of Integration of Environmental issues in Iran's National Development Plans



1st N.D.P

2nd N.D.P

3rd N.D.P

4th N.D.P

1989-1993

1994-1998

1999-2004

2005-2009

1/1000 of Total
Sales of all
production
and services
units for
improving
environmental
quality

EIA,
Improving of
human and natural
environment

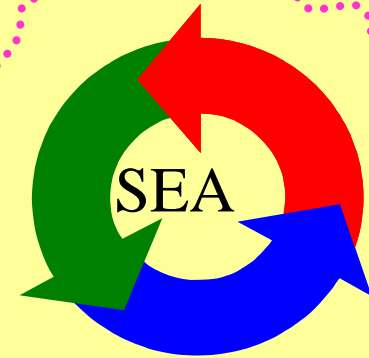
EIA,
Supporting
of NGO,
...

EIA,
Environmental
Economics evaluation
Green Government
Environmental education
Marine environment....

National Solutions

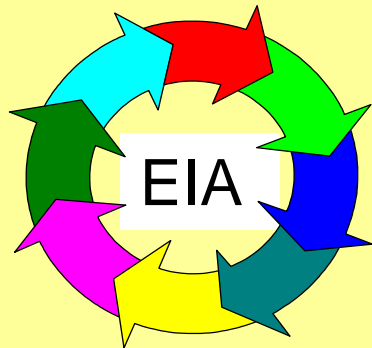
The Article 50 of I.R.I Constitution

In the Islamic Republic of Iran,
protection of the environment,
in which the present and
future generation must lead
an ever- improving community life,
*is a **general obligation.***
Therefore,
all activities,
economic or otherwise,
which may cause irreversible damage
*to the **environment, are forbidden.***

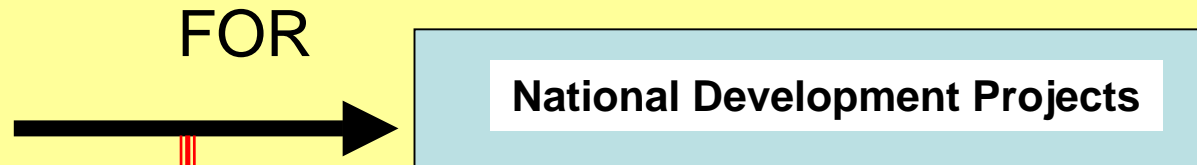
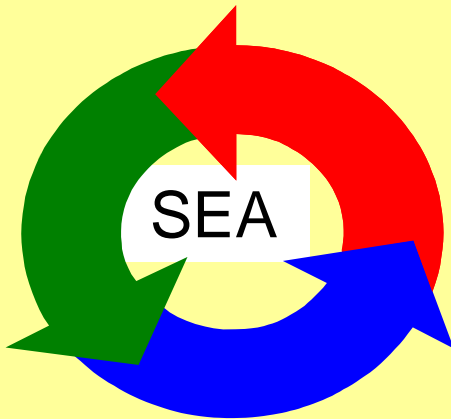


The Main Source of Iran's EIA

Iran and EIA



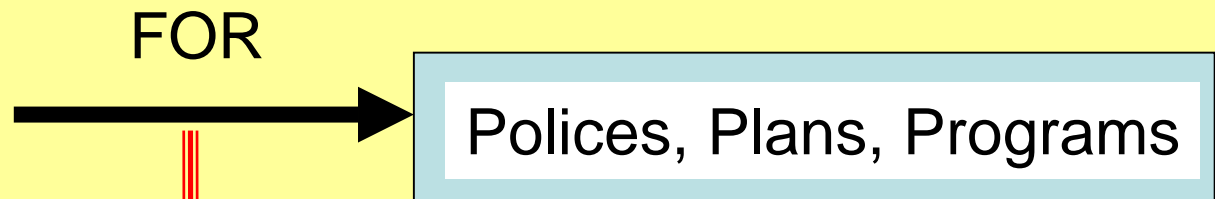
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Next Step

National Development Projects

In A Transboundry Context

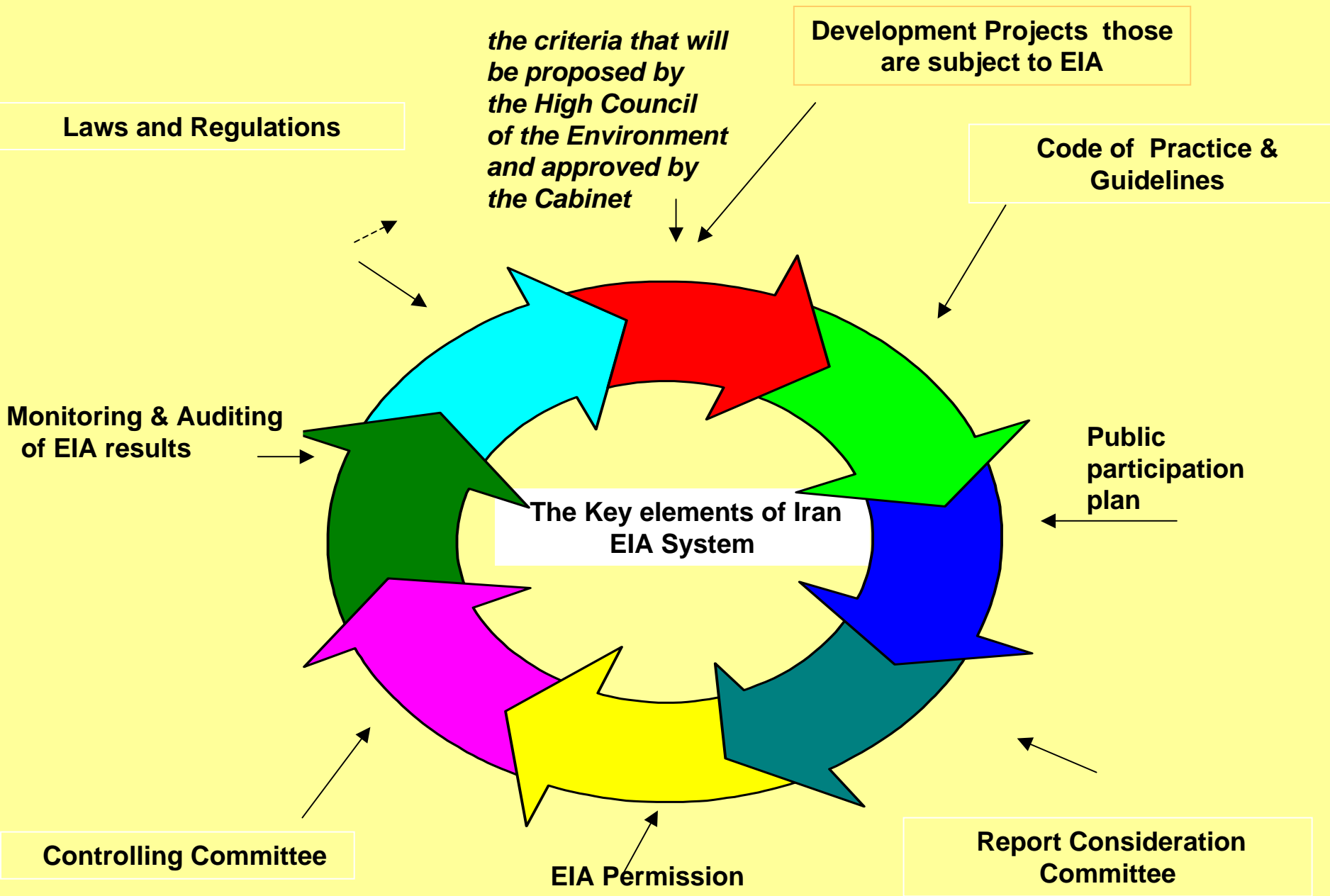


Next Step

Policies, Plans, Programs

Different Sectors

EIA



Specific EIA's Laws and Regulations

**Technical and
Executive System for
Country's Projects**

Act: 1996

**The Article 71
of 4th
N.D.P.**

Act: 2004

***The Note 82
of 2nd
N. D. P.***

Act: 1994

**The Article 105
of 3rd and Article 71 of 4th
N.D.P**

Act: 1998

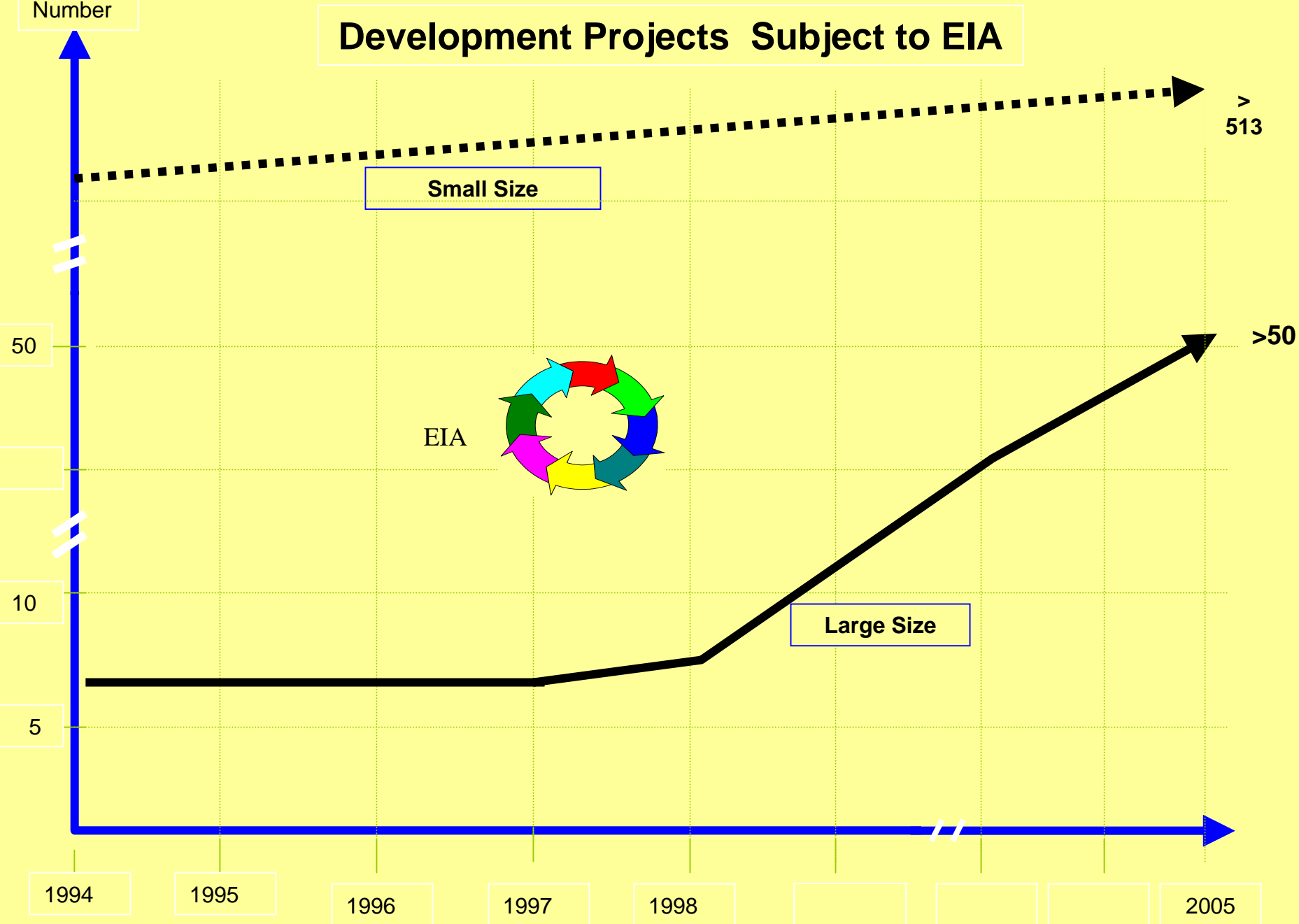
**Decree No.138 and ...
of Environmental Protection High Council**

1994-2005

**The Article 105 of Third Development Plan
and Article 71 of Fourth Development Plan
Laws**

All the large production and service providing projects must, in the process of the feasibility study and before execution, be assessed from the standpoint of their impact on the environment, on the basis of the criteria that will be proposed by the High Council of the Environment and approved by the Cabinet. The persons in charge of execution of the projects are required to observe finding of the assessment...

Development Projects Subject to EIA



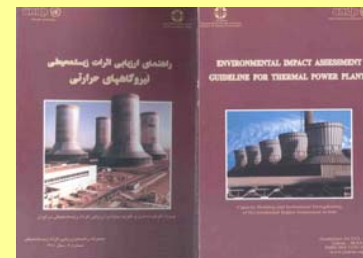
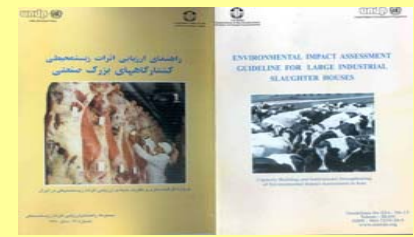
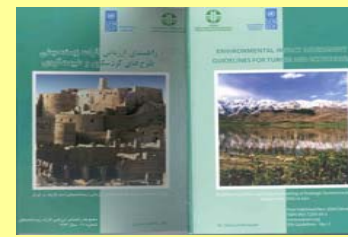
Code of Practice for EIA

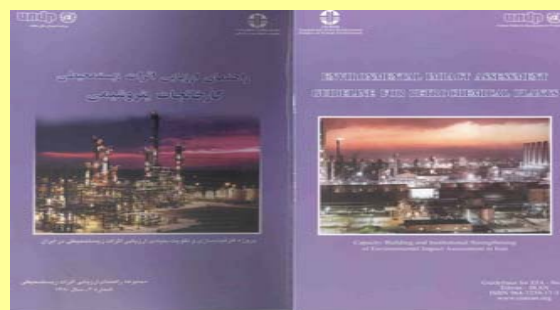
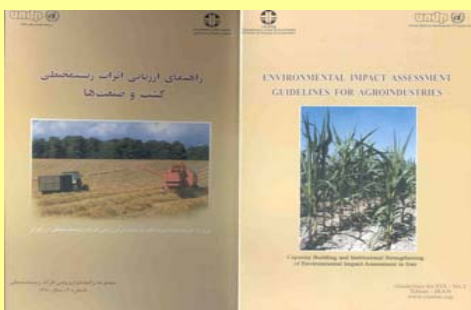
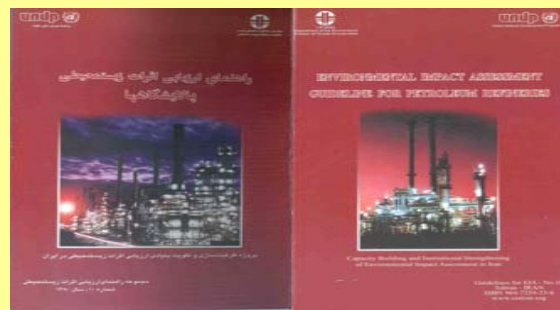
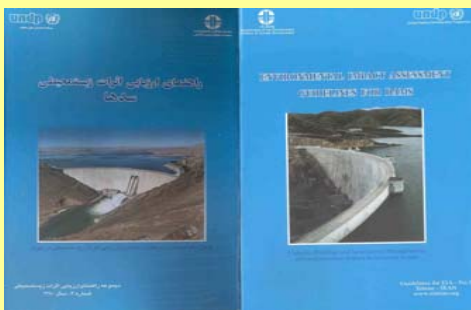
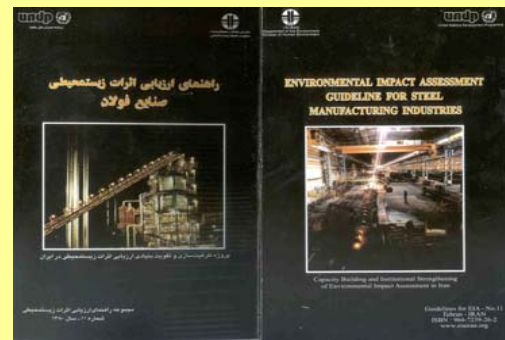
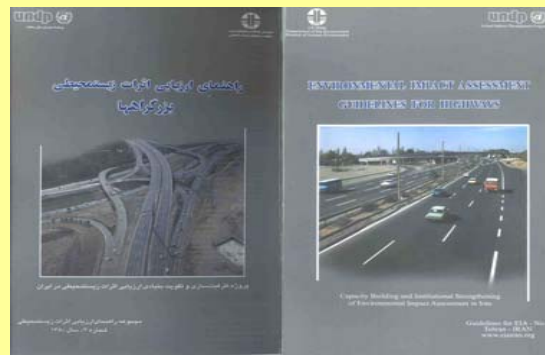
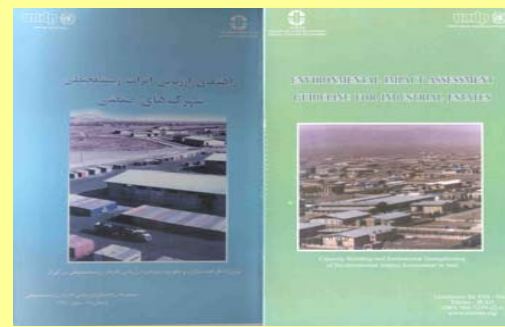
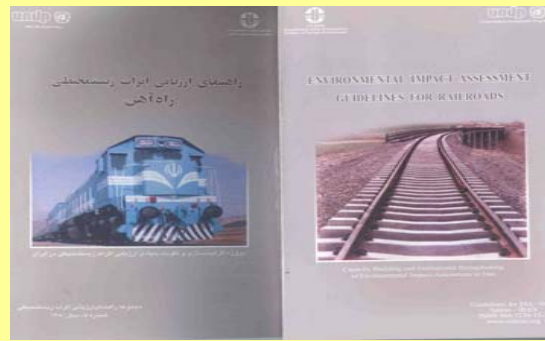
It 10 Articles include:

- 50 Categories of Plans and Projects for subject to EIA
- Structure of EIA report for **Construction** and **operation** Phases.
- Duty of developer for submit a **primary report** and than **EIA report**.
- Duties of DoE for point out of **Special Ecological Areas & Sensitive Issues**
- Investigation Areas for EIA (**existing environment**, physical, **natural**, **social and cultural environment**, development projects)
- Recommendation of EIA report for the execution of the project:
 - * **Is not advised;**
 - * **advise with necessary measures for reduce negative impacts;**
 - * **execute without extensive measures**

Provided EIA guidelines for related development projects:

- Petrochemical
- Refineries
- Steel Industries
- Dams & Irrigation
- Agro-Industry Units
- Rails
- Roads
- Airport
- Land fill
- Industrial Parks
- Tourism
- Cement





Provided EIA guidelines for related development projects:

Members of EIA Reports Consideration Committee

- **Deputy of DoE's Human Environment
(Head of the Committee)**
- **Director General of EIA Bureau**
- **Superintendents of EIA Bureau**
- **Representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Industry,
Oil, Hydro-power,**
- **Representative of National Standards Organization**
- **Academic bodies**
- **Representative of NGO's Network**
- **Environmental Director General of Related Province**
- **Representative of Management and Planning Organization**
- **Representative of Developer**

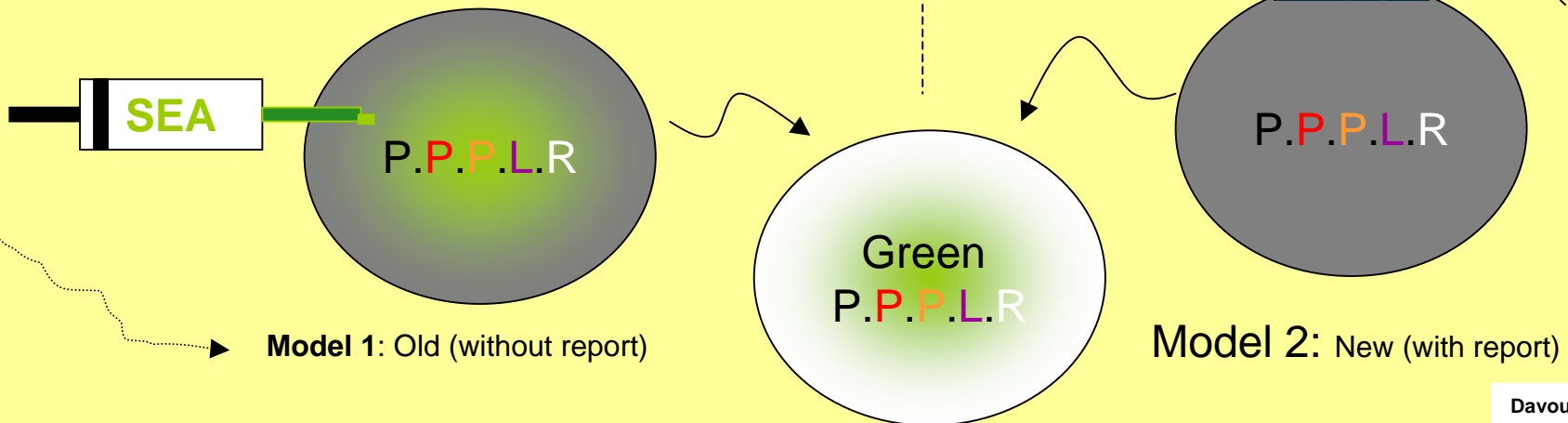
320 E I A Reports Considered by DoE During 1999-2004

Type of Development Project	Number of reports
Petrochemical plants	15
Refineries	8
Power plants	31
Steel industries	18
Dams and other hydro structures	53
Agro-industries	10
Industrial parks	27
Air ports	1
Waste landfill	4
Compost	5
Oil & Gas pipe lines	31
Oil Installations	12
Forest plans	-
Tourism and eco-tourism sites	20
Economic and trade sites	10
Prawn nourishment	21
Roads & Rails	15
Mining	22
Large Water Pipe	7
Others	14

SEA

SEA Models: Iranian Initiative

- Strategic Consideration related Plan, Program, Policy, Law & Regulation,
 - Framework & Laws related to each of P. P. P. L. R.
 - Comparison alternatives in related to all issues
 - To introduce the best alternative
-
- Environmental Assessment for best alternative
 - Mitigation plan for significant impacts
 - Monitoring plans during taking decision (or approve) and implementation
 - Capacity building in order to achievement of environmental objectives



International Co-operation In SEA Context

To Introduce the Joint Project

Between Iran and UNDP

Project Title: Sustainable Development Strategy and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (Enabling Activities and Capacity Building)

National Executing Agency:
Management & Planning Organization

National Implementing Agency:
Department of the Environment

Project Site:

Tehran, Iran

Project Duration:

18 Month

Total budget: \$ 173,300

Project's Objectives and Outcomes

Overall objectives: To contribute to incorporate environmental concerns into policies, plans and programs

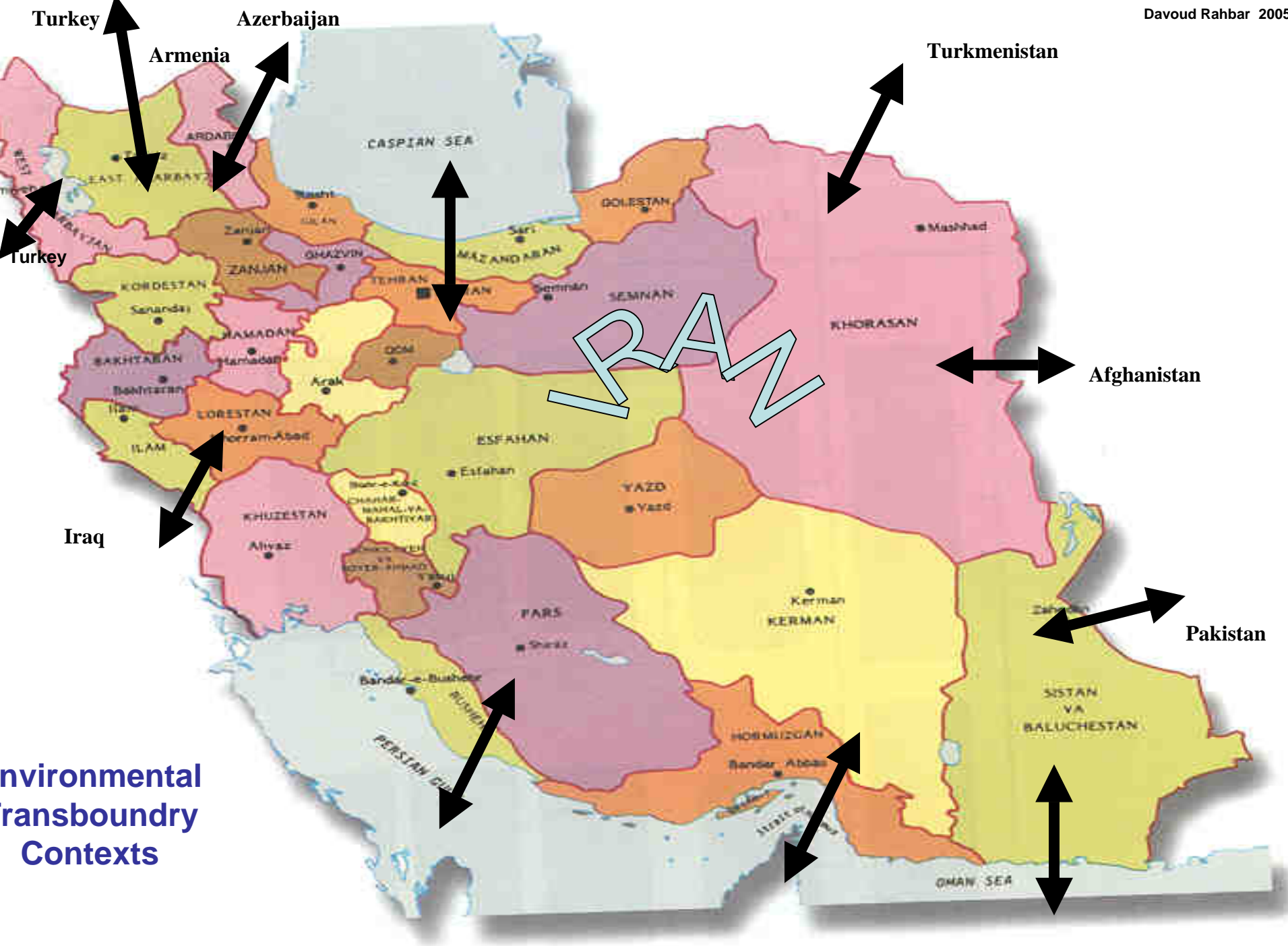
Immediate Objectives:

- Building sound human and institutional capacity for SEA
- Establish a Sea data and Information system
- Working out a regulatory process to enforce SEA
- Enhance national technical capacity to carry out

Outputs: Establish project office; Steering Committee; Training Workshops, Carry out case studies; Regulatory frameworks into effect, Draft national guidelines on SEA, Finalize and published guidelines

Intended Outcome: A comprehensive approach to environmentally sustainable development integrated in national development planning

EIA
For
Transboundary
Context



Environmental
Transboundary
Contexts

Length of Borderlines and likely development projects

Iran- Iraq	1609 km	Oil installations, Road and Rail development projects
Iran- Turkey	486	Oil and Gas Pipelines, Dam,...
Iran-Turkmenistan	1206	Dam, Road, Gas Pipeline,
Iran- Azarbajejan	767	Different projects in Caspian Sea
Iran- Armenia	40	Dam,....
Iran- Afghanistan	945	Road, Dam,....
Iran Pakistan	978	Road, Rail, Oil and Gas pipelines
Northern water border	657	Different development projects
Southern water border	2043	Different development projects
Total:	8731 km	

Laws and Regulations

Determination of Focal Point

Code of Practice & Guidelines for Transboundary Context

Regional and International Co-operation,

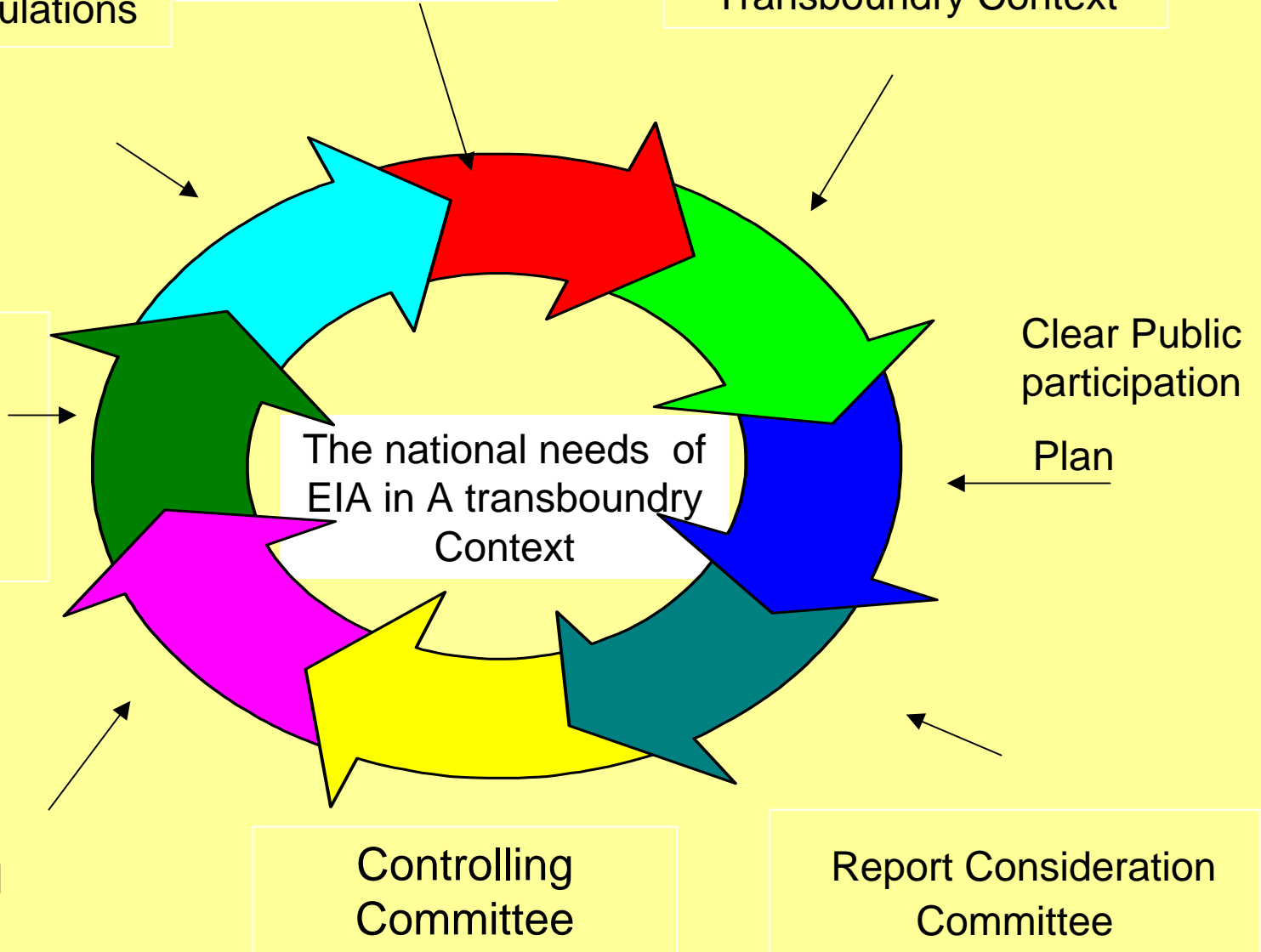
The national needs of EIA in A transboundary Context

Clear Public participation Plan

Specific Measures & Environmental Standards

Controlling Committee

Report Consideration Committee



Actions for EIA In A Transboundary Context

- **Follow up the international experiences,**
- **To translate the ESPOO Convention documents and sending to all related organizations.**
- **Arrange expert meeting in EIA Bureau for EIA in a transboundary context.**
- **To participate in UNECE related meetings of EIA Convention in Geneva, Moscow, Buko and Cavtat,...;**
- **Arrange Expert team for providing of all issues related to EIA in transboundary context.**
- **Arrange annual national consultation meetings with different related representatives**
- **Review of draft Guidelines and providing suggestions.**

Some Suggestions from National Consultation Meetings for EIA in Transboundry Context

- Urgent necessary to create the Share Environmental Standards for Region**
- Clearness in scale and type of Development Projects subject to EIA**

Suggestion for Code of Practice in a Transboundary Context

- Determining of categories of policies, plans , programs subject to **SEA** and projects for subject to **EIA** in transboundary Context
- Determining the **easy structure for EIA report** to consideration and decision;
- Determining of **duties of related bodies** for submit a primary EIA report;
- Determining of **duties of consideration committee** for point out of special sensitive issues;
- Determining of **investigation levels** for EIA(Existing environment, Health, physical, Natural, Social and Cultural environment,)
- Determining of **recommendation of EIA report for the execution** of the Project, policy, plan or program for example:
- **Is not advised;**
- **Advise with necessary measures for reduce negative impacts;**
- **execute without extensive measures.**

Suggestion for Structure of Iran's EIA Reports In A Transboundry Consideration Committee

- **Deputy of DoE (Head of Committee)**
- **Director General of EIA Bureau**
- **Two senior experts of EIA Bureau**
- **The representative of Natural Resources organization**
- **The representative of Marine environmental organization**
- **Expert of university scholar**
- **Representative of NGO's network**
- **The representative of related Ministry based on project type.**
- **The representative of Management and Planning Organization.**
- **The representative of foreign Ministry**

Suggestion for Iran's references objectives for EIA in a Transboundary Context

- **Decrease emission causing climate changes;**
- **Decrease emissions causing air pollution in region;**
- **Limit point and area pollution of water and soil in region;**
- **Decrease drawing from non-renewable sources of energy and energy raw material;**
- **Decrease drawing from non-renewable sources of raw materials and minimize waste production and hazards;**
- **Preserve the natural diversity of fauna, flora & habitats in region;**
- **Protect and improve the condition and functions of ecosystems and culture landscape in region;**
- **Protect and improve the condition of settlement in region;**
- **Improve environmentally - responsible behavior of the inhabitants in region.**

Future Plan

- **Using private consultants for review EIA reports;**
- **Using private consultants for Monitoring & Auditing of EIA results;**
- **Developing Environmental Economic valuation**
- **Extend international Co-operation in EIA with World Bank**
- **Development of EIA and SEA in a transboundry context under EIA Convention of UNECE .**

