

## 17. The challenges of international environmental

- Human and environment- human behaviour and interaction with environment degrades it, need to understand humans to put policies in place. Economic policies often cause reverse effects.
- Environmental impacts:
  - Land Use – rural/natural landscape to urban or agricultural
  - Water use – salinity, erosion and flooding pollution, flow and biodiversity, depletion,
  - Energy Use- CO2 emissions, pollution
- Common Pool Resources- everyone has access, no one has ownership, causes exploitation, over used and polluted if unmanaged
  - Common Local – shared by community- public parks, sport grounds, etc.
  - Global commons- shared across country borders- rivers lakes. All want to manage, extract from it and all impact it.
  - Truly global commons- Ocean, atmosphere, weather and land conditions change if ocean and atmosphere are effected.
  - Global value commons – Heritage sites, Flora and fauna-all have interest in its protection, management even if not spatially connected or impacted
- Trans-boundary Impacts- Technology increases spatial and generation scale of impact. Pollution can impact future generation or other countries. You benefit they suffer.
- Management/control is either militaristic approach or negotiated and cooperation - Voluntary agreements, External governing authority or International regulations schemes
- Management- trans Boundary Corporation, global management like UN making people recognise problems, establishment of world heritage values/global preference creates a moral pressure.
- Co-operation Challenges-
  - countries have different cultural, religious values
  - Different benefits and impacts on different countries
  - Environment benefits/Morales conflict with economies- ie. stricter rules increase costs of production,
  - sovereignty- don't like take over, rules, ownership, , trust and responsibility hand over also hard, challenges a nations authority,
  - How to enforce- countries can sign up but not respond. Compliance mechanisms
  - Different players- who's right? Firms (business) scientists (environment), NGO's (society) all have conflicting advice
  - Different circumstances- LDC and MDC. MDC- already destroyed env, want it protected. LDC- have existing env needs protection but don't want to
  - Who pays, distribution of equity- loses and gains,
  - History- some already benefited/lost
- Co-operation Advantages- Benefits for those who can reduce emissions cheaper, sharing burdens and the pollution reduction quota means trade to those who can do it cheaper, and mutual gains shared

## 18. Economic tools for environmental management

- Emissions Trading Schemes (ETS) 'Cap and trade' –
  - Developed in the US to reduce SO2 released in the atmosphere causing acid rain on a large geographical scale.
  - Works such that the govt sets emissions limits and creates emitting permits, and if you don't have a permit you are penalised
  - Components:
    - A limit- socially acceptable and economically achievable
    - Need an authority- a method of monitoring time and distribution of permits
    - Method of enforcement and penalty.
    - Market determines the cost - the lower the cost of reducing emissions is the more they are reduced. The higher the cost of a permit, lesser permits are given.