Agenda 21 in Brunei Darussalam

The quality of the environment has been a consideration in the five year national development plans, stating with the fifth plan 1985-1990, Brunei Darussalam is also addressing many policy elements for sustainable development.

In response to Agenda 21, a National Environment Strategy (NES) was formed. The strategy aims to provide a policy framework and a plan of action for environmental protection and management in the country for the period of 1996-2000 and beyond.

The policy objectives on environment for the seventh national development plan are:

* Maintain sustainable utilization of natural resources
* Minimise negative impacts on the environment arising from population growth and human activities
* Balanced goals of socio-economic development and the need to sustain sound environmental quality

To achieve these objectives, the policy directions and strategies are:

* Raise environmental consciousness
* Integrate environmental dimensions in economic planning and development
* Improve environmental and natural resources assessment and information database
* Strengthen urban and rural environment improvement programmes
* Enhance environmental quality
* Protect vulnerable ecosystems, habitats and biodiversity
* Protect coastal and marine environmental resources
* Strengthen regional and international cooperation

Brunei Darussalam has also signed international conventions and agreements dealing with environmental issues, including

* The Vienna Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
* The Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES)
* The ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
* The Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships