

SD:SPUR Key Principles
Drafting Group meeting, 26 April 2006

Input to discussions provided by Project Steering Group members

1. Definition of principles (text and diagram)

- ◇ **Policy** “A plan of action adopted or pursued by institutions, governments, corporations etc”. Thus a policy is a strategic approach based on certain principles and made up of different components, together with an administration and control structure to support their introduction and implementation, and a system of monitoring and review.

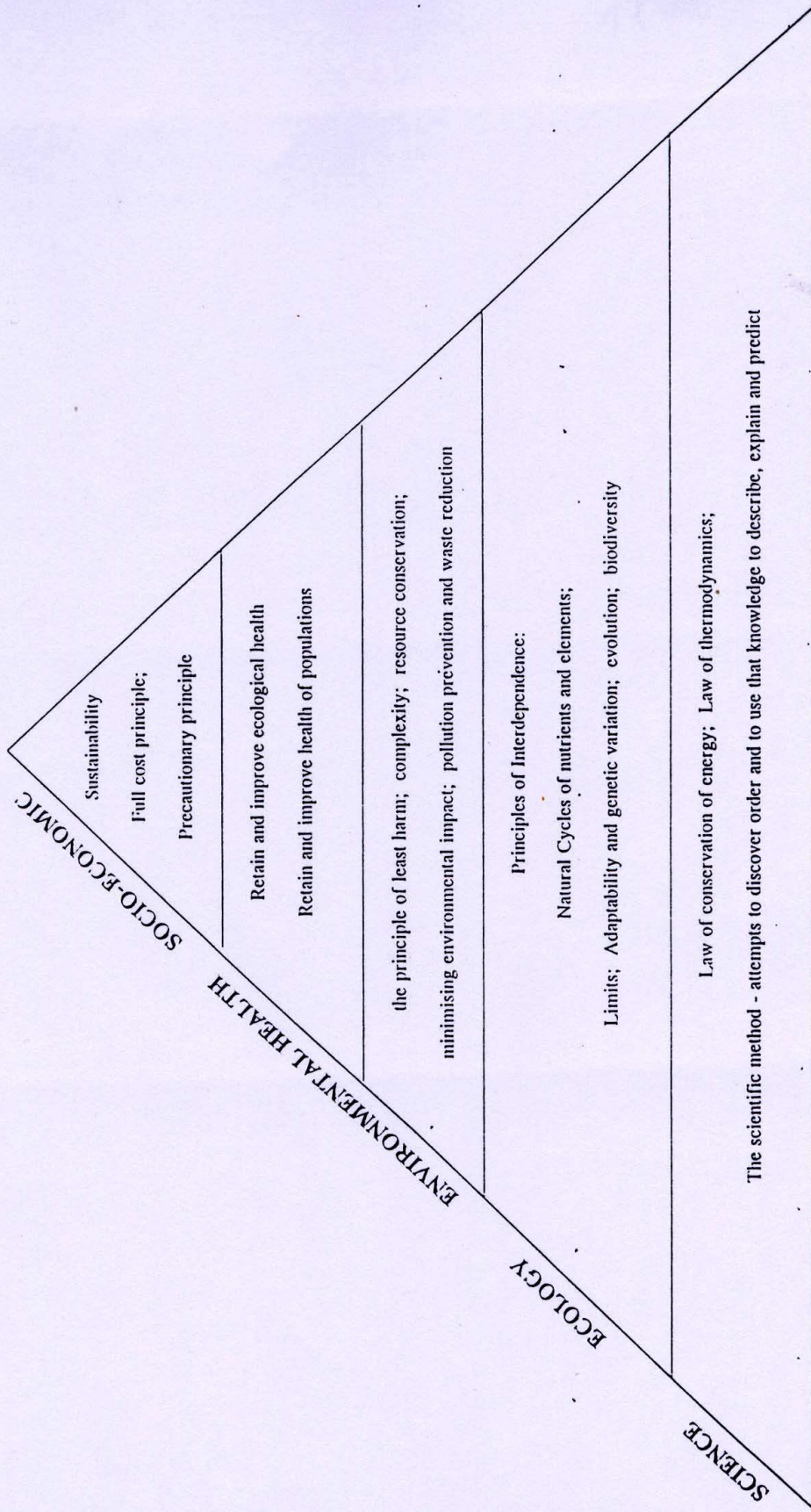
Objective: The subject (or aim) of a course of action

Target: A desired end, a goal set within a policy context

Criterion: A standard, rule or test on which a judgment or decision can be based

- ◇ **Principles** a fundamental truth or law, or an idea that forms the basis of reasoning or action, which can stem from physical, economic or social parameters. Examples include: Sustainable development; Polluter Pays; Precautionary principle; Subsidiarity; Equal access to health care according to clinical need

The diagram demonstrates fundamental scientific principles underlying the others ie physical principles which cannot be changed through ecological/environmental to socio economic ones which can be subject to interpretation and modifications etc.



2. The Aarhus Convention

Information was also provided on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.

Information is available at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/aarhus>

