



Our Planet

Volume 16 No 1

The magazine of the United Nations Environment Programme



GREEN CITIES

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva
Challenges and Opportunity

Maria Mutagamba
Bridging the Water Gap

Yuriko Koike
The Spirit of "Mottai Nai"

Anna Tibaijuka
Cities without Slums

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Global Effort

Ken Livingstone
Charging into the Future

Han Zheng
Rapid Progress



3 Editorial

*Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director,
UNEP*

4 Challenges and Opportunity

*Luiz Inácio Lula Da Silva,
President of Brazil*

6 Bridging the Water Gap

*Maria Mutagamba, Minister of State
(Water) of Uganda and President of
the African Ministerial Council on Water*

8 Golden Gateway to Green Cities

10 The Spirit of "Mottai Nai"

*Yuriko Koike, Minister of the
Environment, Japan*



Martin Bond/Still Pictures



Markus Dlouhy/Still Pictures

12 Cities without Slums

*Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director,
UN-HABITAT*

14 People

15 Rapid Progress

Han Zheng, Mayor of Shanghai



Gautam Banerjee/Topfoto

16 Greening Cities

Tim Kasten, UNEP

18 Charging into the Future

Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London

20 Star profile: Tokiko Kato

21 The Female Factor

*Elisabeth Gateau, Secretary General,
United Cities and Local Government*

22 Unlocking People Energy

*Somsook Boonyabancha, Director,
Community Organisations
Development Institute*

24 Think Local

*Sheela Patel, Director,
Society for Promotion of Area Resource
Centres, and David Satterthwaite*

26 High Achievements

*Enrique Peñalosa, former Mayor
of Bogotá*

28 Life at the Top

Dusty Gedge, Livingroofs.org

30 Books and Products

31 Focus On Your World

32 Black Sea, Green City?

Halyna Alomova - Ukraine

Also available on the Internet at
www.ourplanet.com



Friedrich Stark/Still Pictures

Our Planet, the magazine of the
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
PO Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (254 20) 621 234
Fax: (254 20) 623 927
e-mail: cpiinfo@unep.org
www.unep.org

ISSN 1013-7394

Director of Publication: Eric Falt
Editor: Geoffrey Lean
Coordinators: Naomi Poulton, Elisabeth Waechter
Special Contributor: Nick Nuttall
Circulation Manager: Manyahleshal Kebede
Design: Sharon Chemai
Production: UNEP/DCPI
Printed by Interprint, Malta
Front cover photograph: Joe McNally/Getty Images

The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of UNEP or the editors, nor are they an official record. The designations employed and the presentation do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNEP concerning the legal status of any country, territory or city or its authority, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The non-copyrighted contents of this magazine may be reprinted without charge provided that *Our Planet* and the author or photographer concerned are credited as the source and the editors are notified in writing and sent a voucher copy.

Our Planet welcomes articles, reviews, illustrations and photos for publication but cannot guarantee that they will be published. Unsolicited manuscripts, photographs and artwork will not be returned.

Subscriptions: If you wish to receive *Our Planet* on a regular basis and are not currently on the mailing list, please contact Mani Kebede, Circulation Manager, *Our Planet*, for subscription details, giving your name and address and your preferred language (English, French or Spanish).

Change of address: Please send your address label together with your new address to: Mani Kebede, Circulation Manager, *Our Planet*, UNEP, PO Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya.

This magazine is printed on 100 per cent recycled, chlorine free paper.



From the desk of

KLAUS TOEPFER

**United Nations
Under-Secretary-
General and
Executive Director,
UNEP**

In the East Africa city of Dar es Salaam an innovative transport project promises to cut congestion, reduce air pollution and reclaim the streets for pedestrians, cyclists and the public. The Dar es Salaam Bus Rapid Transit system, or DART, is a partnership between the City Council and a wide variety of companies and organizations, including UNEP, with funding from the Global Environment Facility.

The blueprint for the scheme – which will combine modern, multi-door buses and fast boarding for passengers with novel ticketing systems, priority bus lanes and car restrictions – is Bogotá. In the 1990s the Colombian city was unloved by its citizens. As an article in this World Environment Day edition of *Our Planet* outlines, the car was king and the streets and public places were choking in traffic noise and fumes.

Civic pride

But Bogotá is now reclaiming its sense of community and civic pride, largely thanks to its rapid transit system and other measures like restricting car use, planting trees, establishing or redeveloping some 1,000 parks, and encouraging more human-friendly modes of transport. It now boasts Latin America's biggest network of bicycle ways, some 300 km of them, and the world's longest pedestrians-only street, 17 km long.

I believe it is vital to flag up these kinds of success stories. They underline the importance of partnerships and are proof that even seemingly monumental problems of

urban squalor, decline, and pollution can be overturned by communities and city leaders with vision, creativity and enthusiasm.

Half the world now lives in cities and two thirds of its population are set to be urban dwellers by 2030. We tend to focus on the huge problems of coping with the accompanying global explosion of unplanned, informal, settlements. Slums and sewers – rather than soaring spires and tantalizing social and professional possibilities – are all too often our sole preoccupation.

Of course we must tackle the misery, unhealthy living conditions and sub-standard services which blight too many city dwellers in both developing and developed countries.

But urbanization, on its own, is far from being a bad thing. From fine buildings and leafy boulevards to city parks and centres for the performing arts, cities can inspire and invigorate, and be sources of wonder, excitement and contemplation. They are also the engines of commerce and trade, and seats of government and power. It was in San Francisco – this year's host for World Environment Day – that the Charter of the United Nations was signed 60 years ago.

Social hierarchies

Cities are also melting pots of cultures, where social hierarchies are blurred, social mobility is always possible, and diversity can thrive and be cherished. They are catalysts for new ideas and political movements. Most of the world's great universities, libraries, theatres, art galleries, concert halls,

teaching hospitals and research institutes are in urban settings.

Sadly, however, through incompetence, poor governance or a lack of resources, too many cities are badly run and administered. In many developing countries, the sheer rate of urbanization has been overwhelming for all but the most stoic mayors and town planners.

Ecological footprint

Cities use enormous amounts of natural resources, while their wastes – from sewage to the gases that cause global warming – impact vast areas; by some calculations London, which physically occupies 170,000 hectares, has an ecological footprint of 21 million hectares – or 125 times its size. But they also could help deliver a more environmentally stable and resource efficient world.

As UNEP's *Global Environment Outlook 3* puts it: "The relatively disproportionate urban environmental footprint is acceptable to a certain extent because, for some issues, the per capita environmental impact of cities is smaller than would be made by a similar number of people in a rural setting. Cities concentrate people in a way that reduces land pressure and provides economies of scale and proximity of infrastructure and services."

Clearly, the battles to eradicate poverty and deliver the Millennium Development Goals will be won or lost by whether we can manage the urban environment effectively and creatively. If we can – as the examples of Dar es Salaam and Bogotá suggest – we will be a long way down the road to truly sustainable development ■

YOUR VIEWS

*We would like to receive your feedback on the issues raised in this edition of **Our Planet**. Please either e-mail: cpiinfo@unep.org or write to:*

*Feedback, **Our Planet**
Division of Communications and
Public Information, UNEP
P O Box 30552, Nairobi
KENYA*



John Waters/Still Pictures

Challenges *and Opportunity*

LUIZ INÁCIO LULA DA SILVA describes how sustainable development can protect the environment and generate jobs and income for the poor in urban and rural areas

Although Brazil is known worldwide for its great forest and water resources, it has now become largely urbanized. Eighty-two per cent of its 183 million inhabitants live in urban zones, mainly in metropolitan areas and cities with over 100,000 people. This urban agglomeration results from industrialization and accelerated growth that took off in the 20th century and resulted in major income concentration and social exclusion. The cities reproduced this economic model, concentrating large amounts of public resource into affluent areas while at the same time not providing adequate infrastructure and living conditions for less prosperous neighborhoods.

Brazil does not offer housing to at least 6.6 million of its low-income population. Nearly 30 million people do not have access to drinking water. Half the urban housing is not connected to a sewerage system, and only 10 per cent of the sewage is treated. There is, therefore, a close link between social exclusion and environmental degradation. The poor are the major victims of urban environmental problems. In view of the heightened awareness of the emerging threat of environmental degradation, it is now understood that poor populations in coastal zones are especially vulnerable to the impact of global warming on ecosystems and sea level rise.

In the first two years of our Government, we set out to meet the challenge of promoting economic growth with income distribution, achieving rapid industrial growth while at the same time generating employment and improving workers' incomes.

However, it is time to take on board the wider meaning of sustainability which covers not only economic and social dimensions but environmental aspects as well. In Brazil, dealing with the so-called social deficit implies not only fighting hunger and poverty – a major focus of my Government and one of the Millennium Development Goals. It also requires reducing social inequality through the “right to city”, which stands for adequate living conditions, sanitation, transport, and other urban services. Improving the urban milieu will surely improve environmental conditions, especially as concerns water resources.

This is a major challenge. The investments needed to make basic sanitation universally available are estimated at US\$ 2.5 billion a year for the next twenty years. On-going negotiations with the International Monetary Fund aim to reclassify resources devoted to sanitation as investment for the purpose of estimating the primary deficit in national accounts. This initiative reflects our understanding that making full use of these resources is crucial to the country's social and environmental development and to enhancing economic growth.

Yet sustainable development requires more. When I invited Senator Marina Silva to become my Minister for the Environment we accepted the challenge of putting environmental issues at the center of government policy. This is no simple task: it requires fostering economic growth without ignoring social and environmental issues. Clearly one cannot disassociate industrial and agricultural development policies from questions of social inclusion and environmental preservation. These different dimensions form a whole, generating mutually reinforcing outcomes, results and impacts.

Renewable energy

Electricity provides a good example: increasing industrial production requires higher energy consumption. Brazil is widely known for its high level of renewable energy use: 85 per cent of its installed capacity is hydroelectric in origin. Bringing on stream new units has social and environmental implications that can and must be minimized. The Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry of Mines and Energy are jointly implementing new planning measures geared to reducing damaging environmental effects and human displacement. This involves a strategically integrated approach to water basins and their multiple uses. Two other programs focus on reducing energy wastage by rationalizing industrial production processes, curtailing consumer demand and providing incentives for research into novel energy sources, such as solar and wind power.

The National Water Resources Plan – recently discussed at UNEP's Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Nairobi – is relevant here. Brazil has developed legislation concerning Water Resources Policy and set up the National Water Agency, which encourages the establishment of water basin committees. These committees regulate conditions for water use, sanitation programs and basin recovery measures.

The crosscutting theme of environmental sustainability is also relevant to Brazil's expanding agricultural frontier vis-à-vis the need to preserve our forests. Global concern with climate ►

change underscores the interdependence between environmental and development issues, which involve all countries, as well as urban and rural areas and natural resources. As a signatory of and key actor in negotiating the Kyoto Protocol (although not included in the annex I list of countries with reduction targets) Brazil believes public policies should aim to reduce harmful atmospheric emissions.

We are determined to combat burning and deforestation in the Amazon. Government initiatives covered in the "Sustainable Amazon Plan" include sustainable development for the area surrounding the BR-163 highway and the Illegal Deforestation Prevention and Control Action Plan for the Amazon. As a result of federal monitoring and control, deforestation indexes between 2002 and 2003 have stabilized. Although present levels remain unsatisfactory, they do bear witness to the Government's endeavors.

Safe control

The recent murder of Sister Dorothy in an Amazonian agricultural settlement highlights the conflict between land-grabbing groups that settled along the agricultural frontier by burning down forestland where state control is weak, and local settlements that practice novel government-sponsored forms of sustainable occupation. This new approach symbolizes a determination to put into practice policies protecting the environment and fostering sustainable

production. The assassination gave added impetus to ongoing initiatives which include the creation of an inter-ministerial taskforce to reinforce the Deforestation Combat Program. I hope to make this task force permanent and thus reinforce the state's presence through greater police action, land regulation and encouragement for sustainable production. Since 2003, 7 million hectares – 23 per cent of all extant conservation areas – have come under protection in the Amazon region.

To return to climate change – and therefore to global environmental issues – Brazil pioneered ethanol fuel (derived from sugar-cane). This renewable energy source replaces petroleum-derived fuels, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Many vehicles in Brazil run exclusively on ethanol while the remainder run on a mixture that is 25 per cent ethanol. Recently 'bi-fuel' cars have come on the market. Because they run on any combination of gas and ethanol, an added impulse has been given to the country's ethanol industry.

Furthermore, we recently launched the National Biodiesel Production Program, which adds two per cent of a vegetable-derived diesel fuel to normal diesel. This percentage is set to rise over the coming years and thus foster the output of castor oil and palm oil by mostly low-income populations in the North and Northeast of Brazil. This will

We are determined to combat burning and deforestation in the Amazon

be one more effort to link environmental protection to issues of development, job creation and better income for poor people.

I am convinced that these programs and technologies can be adopted both in developed countries, by substituting these new fuels for fossil fuel consumption, and in poorer countries, by producing these renewable fuels themselves and thus helping to better distribute income worldwide. This is Brazil's contribution to bringing about change in the global production and consumption matrix.

Clearly, sustainable development is not just a challenge, but rather an opportunity for the Brazilian government and society. It is challenging because it requires profound change in the socially unfair economic growth models and patterns of the past and present. It also demands a new awareness on the part of governments, entrepreneurs and society as a whole. It offers the opportunity to develop wide-ranging initiatives as well as novel technological patterns of production and distribution. Finally, within a "democratic sustainability" approach, all stake-holders should be invited to take an active interest in these new processes. Clean production methods, environmental education together with increased local Agenda 21 initiatives are essential to achieving these goals and improving the living conditions in our cities and our planet ■

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva is President of Brazil.





Friedrich Stark/Still Pictures

Bridging the *Water Gap*

MARIA MUTAGAMBA describes how her country is meeting the Millennium Development Goals in bringing water and sanitation to its towns and cities

Uganda may be predominantly rural, but it has a fast rate of urbanization. Among the consequences of this urban influx is growing demand for water and sanitation services. The gap is continuously widening between this demand and supplies in urban areas – where water, sanitation and hygiene are vital components of sustainable development and the alleviation of poverty.

Poverty eradication

The water sector is one of the Government's priority areas – essential, as it is, for poverty eradication and the welfare of society. The Government pledged to increase access to safe and clean water and sanitation facilities by mobilizing resources for: constructing and rehabilitating facilities for domestic water supply through piped water schemes, boreholes, protected springs, and rainwater tanks; constructing dams and valley tanks; and promoting hygienic practices. Driving forces in the water sector include the need:

- to promote co-ordinated, integrated

and sustainable water resources management to ensure conservation of water resources and provision of water for all social and economic activities;

- to promote the development of sustainable safe water supply and sanitation facilities within easy reach of 80 per cent of the urban population – rising to 100 per cent by 2010 – based on management responsibility and ownership by the users; and
- to promote the development of water supply for agricultural production to modernize agriculture and to mitigate the effects of climatic variations on rain-fed land.

The trend in urban safe water coverage shows a progressive increase over the years. Improved access to water sources within reasonable range of people's homes has increased from below 10 per cent in 1986 to 65 per cent today. Household sanitation service coverage is now estimated at 53 per cent. These initiatives are in line with achieving the targets of the Millennium Development Goals.

The Ugandan Government has been reforming the water and sanitation sector

over the past years. This is intimately linked to the Government's poverty alleviation plans, and is financed largely by debt relief funds. The Government has led others and built a high level of trust and consensus with its sector development partners and with civil society organizations, through initiating progressive and innovative reforms.

This reform process aims at providing efficient and effective service delivery to urban areas. It has involved comprehensively assessing the water and sanitation sector – including studying the rural and urban sub-sectors – and preparing action and investment plans. Key strategies in implementing the urban initiatives that Government has identified include: decentralized delivery of services; increased public-private partnerships; and a sector-wide approach to planning. The Government of Uganda recognizes that a deficiency in resources for implementing the delivery of basic services is a critical constraint to development.

Great investments

Great investments have been made, most notably within the last decade. They have improved coverage or service levels as extensively as expected in achieving the present level of 65 per cent of the urban population with access to safe water supply or sanitation services.

Reform in the urban water supply and sanitation sub-sector began in the 1990s and introduced commercialized operations based on increased private sector participation. It is believed that▶

public-private partnerships are key to efficiency, with the public sector retaining ownership of the assets and private operators delivering the service. The reforms were developed through an unprecedented participatory process, with strong links to the public service reform process and to the Government's primary objective of poverty alleviation.

This process has been high quality, sustained and influential, bringing civil society organizations, external support agencies and Government together, and leading to real partnerships and mutual understanding among sector stakeholders. It has also fostered the development of networks of policy advocates, such as the Uganda Water and Sanitation Network, and legitimized civil society's role in monitoring the use of water sector funds. The reform process has also raised the profile of the water and sanitation sector, and increased confidence among its backers – resulting in a tripling of funding over the last four years.

Efforts have also been made to strengthen the operational and financial standing of the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC)– which serves 19 towns across the country – so as to reduce its commercial risks. Performance contracts between the NWSC and Government have improved operational standards and led to reduced staffing, increased connection rates – and

a profit of over US\$2 million in 2001. The reforms also contained some pro-poor elements, such as reducing the fee for connection to urban water supplies, and allocating new water supply connections to poor households. All these actions have contributed to ensuring improved provision of services, especially to the urban poor.

International commitment

The challenges for the urban sub-sector are many and call for all stakeholders to join hands, if Uganda is to achieve its national and international commitments. The major ones include the following:

1. Equity and equality issues in Ugandan Water Sector Reform. While implementing the urban reforms, concerns regarding perceived exploitation by the private sector and commercially-oriented companies taking over previously public-owned utilities must be addressed. Above all, the reforms for efficient and effective service delivery must be established and sustained.
2. The necessity continuously to address the needs of the poor. A well-performing utility can deliver water services efficiently to its customers, but it must also be seen adequately to supply and meet the needs of the poor, and those living in informal, urban and peri-urban areas for whom water is the single most

important priority. The real challenge, therefore, is to tailor the reforms to achieve exactly what is intended in the definition of strategies for the poor.

3. Cost recovery. The need to ensure the survival of Government investments clearly requires sufficient generation of internal cash flow to meet expected expenditures. The issue of cost recovery should not be confused with the ability of the poor to meet the real cost of water services. A balance must be struck between the two so as to be able to adopt appropriate tariff structures and strategies that will ensure the long-term sustainability of urban water sector investments.

4. Urban sanitation and hygiene. Selling water is relatively easy, even to the poor – but selling sanitation is much harder, despite the clear public health benefits. Much work therefore has to be done on sensitization and awareness campaigns to all citizens of the country. Resources are also needed, since this has been a neglected area in the past.

Many and varied challenges therefore definitely remain – but we are continuing to move forward towards realizing the Government's vision to ensure water for all cities ■

Hon. Maria Mutagamba is Minister of State (Water) of Uganda and President of the African Ministerial Council on Water.



Golden Gateway to *Green Cities*



California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger explains how protecting the environment and economic growth can go hand in hand

United Nations World Environment Day is one of the most important events on the international environmental calendar. California and San Francisco are honored to be the first hosts in the United States for World Environment Day.

The environment is an essential part of the California experience. The state's stunning beauty lies in its diverse natural wonders and resources. I am passionately committed to defending California's environment, and providing real leadership to protect our precious land, air, and water.

Here in California, we have rejected the notion that we must choose between protecting the environment, and protecting jobs and economic growth. We know that if our beaches are soiled by oil spills, tourists will not experience the wonders of our magnificent coastline. If we log our forests irresponsibly, streambeds will be destroyed and our fishing industry will suffer.

But, California is not alone in facing this challenge. If we are going to leave a better planet for generations to come, we must work within a global effort to ensure the economy and the environment never become competing interests. United

UNEP has selected the City of San Francisco to host the main celebrations of World Environment Day 2005. The event will coincide with the 60th anniversary of the birth of the United Nations in the Californian city. Mayors from around the world will meet to celebrate green cities and create a plan for a sustainable urban future.

Jared Blumenfeld describes a pioneering series of accords for sustainable cities

For the first time in history, the majority of the planet's population will soon live in cities. By 2025, 60 per cent of humanity will do so. One million people move to them each week in a massive, continuing demographic migration.

Our new urban planet has already created common environmental challenges and opportunities. Mayors can shape the destiny of the planet by developing truly sustainable urban centers.

The key legacy of World Environment Day 2005, celebrated in San Francisco, will be the Urban Environmental Accords. Drafted by mayors, NGOs, universities, and UN agencies, they focus on 21 actions that all cities can take – and will be signed on the 60th Anniversary of the UN Charter, itself signed in this city in 1945.

The Accords are a series of environmental actions that have been implemented by at least one city. They take into account the fact that large city mayors share many common responsibilities: providing energy, clean water, recycling, public transportation, parks, and urban planning. Clear and achievable, the entire Accords document takes up only two pages.

They include:

- Adopting and implementing a policy to increase the use of renewable energy to 10 per cent of the city's peak load within

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_11397

