

BACKGROUND PAPER

on

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



December 2003

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INTRODUCTION

The agencies of the United Nations system play an essential role supporting work for a more sustainable future for everyone. Stakeholder Forum carries out capacity building to ensure effective stakeholder involvement in enhancing the UN.

Stakeholder Forum works closely with a number of UN Agencies, UNEP, UNDP, UN Habitat and the UN Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the UN.

This report is to enable the members of the Network of Regional Government for Sustainable Development (NRG4SD) to get a better understanding of the work of UNDP.

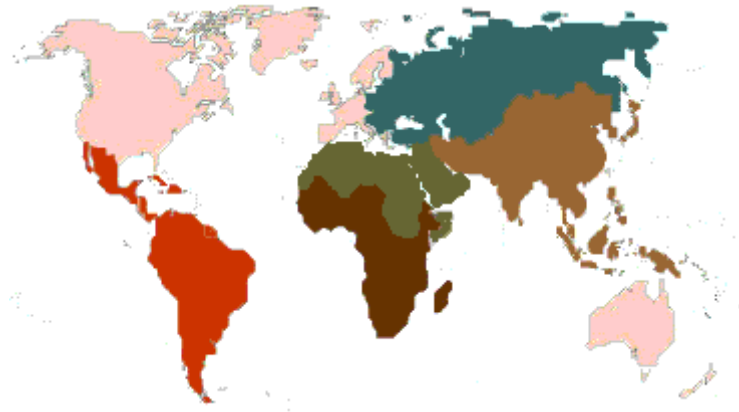
It was compiled with information taken from the UNDP website.

Aretha Moore, Stakeholder Forum.

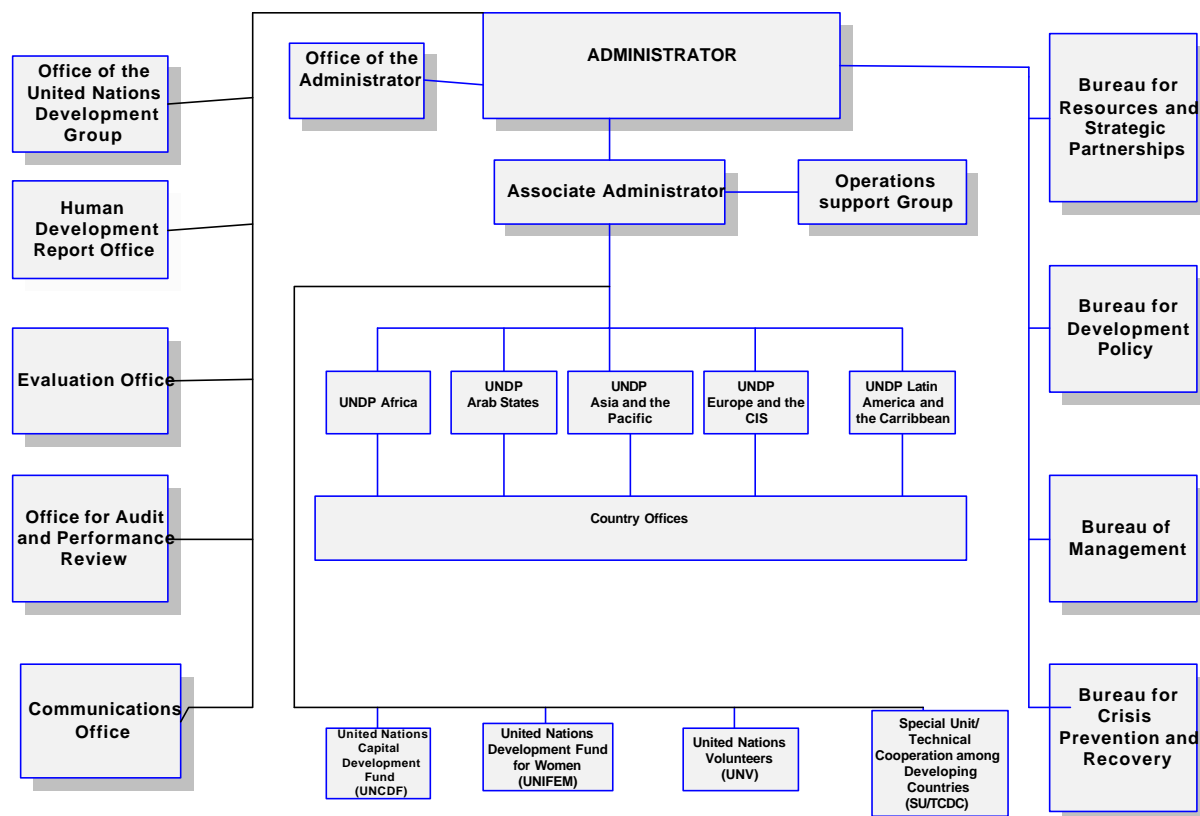
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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

Working together throughout the world



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3. BACKGROUND

The UNDP Administrator is the third highest ranking official in the United Nations System after the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General. He is appointed by the Secretary-General and confirmed by the General Assembly appointed for a term of four years.

Paul G. Hoffman was appointed as the first Administrator of UNDP in 1966 and served until retirement in 1972.

David Owen, who led UNDP's predecessor organization, the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA), was appointed as Mr. Hoffman's Co-Administrator.

Rudolph A. Peterson was appointed Administrator in 1972 followed by Bradford Morse in 1976; William H. Draper III, 1986; and James Gustave Speth, 1993 to 30 June 1999.

MARK MALLOCH BROWN UNDP ADMINISTRATOR



Since 1 July 1999, Mark Malloch Brown has been the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the UN's global development network. He is also the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of the heads of all UN funds, programmes and departments working on development issues.

During his tenure at UNDP, Mr Malloch Brown has overseen a comprehensive reform that has been widely recognized as making UNDP more focused, efficient and effective across the 166 countries where it works. His efforts have included a major push to expand UN support to developing countries in areas such as democratic governance and using information and communications technology to support development. At the request of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Mr Malloch Brown is also leading the UN system in developing a strategy to help support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals – eight, time-bound development targets with the overarching goal of halving extreme poverty by 2015 – which were agreed to by world leaders at the UN Millennium Summit of September 2000.

From 1994 to 1999 Mr Malloch Brown served at the World Bank as Vice President for External Affairs and United Nations Affairs. From 1986 to 1994, he was a lead partner in an international consulting firm, where he advised governments, political leaders and corporations.

Mr Malloch Brown's first exposure to the United Nations was from 1979 to 1983 when he worked for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

As founder of the *Economist Development Report*, he served as its Editor from 1983 to 1986 after working as a political correspondent with the *Economist* magazine from 1977 to 1979.

A British citizen, Mr Malloch Brown received an Honours Degree in History from Magdalene College, Cambridge University, and a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan. He is married and has four children.

ZÉPHIRIN DIABRÉ
UNDP ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR



Zéphirin Diabré assumed his position as Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme in 1999.

Prior to joining the UN system, Mr Diabré was an Economic Adviser to the President of Burkina Faso in 1998. He was a Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Institute for International Development and Fellow of the Weatherhead Centre for International Affairs in 1997. He was also Chairman of the Economic and Social Council of Burkina Faso from 1996 to 1997.

From 1994 to 1996 he was Minister of the Economy, Finance and Planning. He had served in various high-level positions such as Minister of Trade, Industry and Mines (1992-1994); Member of Parliament 1992-1998); Founder and President of the Burkina Management Association (1989-1992); Founder and Secretary-General of the Burkina and France Business Association (1989-1992); Director for Human Resources Burkina Brewery Corporation (1989); Head of the Business Department, University of Ouagadougou (1987-1989).

Mr Diabré holds a degree in Master of Business Administration, Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Bordeaux (1982); and a PhD in Business Finance, Institut d'Administration des Entreprises, University of Bordeaux (1987). M. Diabré was born on 26 August 1959.

3.1 Understanding UNDP

“From politics to security to public health, from crime to the environment, a growing agenda of development issues can no longer be managed within the boundaries of any single nation. Global, regional and national coalitions for action are emerging centred around the United Nations’ indispensable role. The UN can bring together governments, civil society, multinational corporations and multilateral organizations - coming together around particular issues of concern and looking for innovative ways to address them”. —Mark Malloch Brown, Administrator of UNDP

At the United Nations Millennium Summit, world leaders put development at the heart of the global agenda by adopting the Millennium Development Goals¹ (MDGs), which set clear targets for reducing poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women by 2015. On the ground in 166 countries, UNDP uses its global network to help the UN system and its partners to raise awareness and track progress, while it connect countries to the knowledge and resources needed to achieve these goals.

Our substantive focus is helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges of:

- **Democratic Governance**

More countries than ever before are working to build democratic governance. Their challenge is to develop institutions and processes that are more responsive to the needs of ordinary citizens, including the poor. UNDP brings people together within nations and around the world, building partnerships and sharing ways to promote participation, accountability and effectiveness at all levels. We help countries strengthen their electoral and legislative systems, improve access to justice and public administration, and develop a greater capacity to deliver basic services to those most in need.

- **Poverty Reduction**

Developing countries are working to create their own national poverty eradication strategies based on local needs and priorities. UNDP advocates for these nationally owned solutions and help ensure their effectiveness. We sponsor innovative pilot projects; connect countries to global best practices and resources; promote the role of women in development; and bring governments, civil society and outside funders together to coordinate their efforts.

- **Crisis Prevention and Recovery**

Many countries are increasingly vulnerable to violent conflicts or natural disasters that can erase decades of development and further entrench poverty and inequality. Through its global network, UNDP seeks out and shares innovative approaches to crisis prevention, early warning and conflict resolution. And UNDP is on the ground in almost every developing country — so wherever the next crisis occurs, we will be there to help bridge the gap between emergency relief and long-term development.

¹ Millennium Development Goals¹ (MDGs), see Annexe 1

- **Energy and Environment**

Energy and environment are essential for sustainable development. The poor are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation and lack of access to clean affordable energy services. These issues are also global as climate change, loss of biodiversity and ozone layer depletion cannot be addressed by countries acting alone. UNDP helps countries strengthen their capacity to address these challenges at global, national and community levels, seeking out and sharing best practices, providing innovative policy advice and linking partners through pilot projects that help poor people build sustainable livelihoods.

- **Information and Communications Technology**

ICT is an increasingly powerful tool for participating in global markets; promoting political accountability; improving the delivery of basic services; and enhancing local development opportunities. But without innovative ICT policies, many people in developing countries —especially the poor— will be left behind. UNDP helps countries draw on expertise and best practices from around the world to develop strategies that expand access to ICT and harness it for development. UNDP also relies on ICT solutions to make the most effective use of its own global network.

- **HIV/AIDS**

To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and reduce its impact, developing countries need to mobilize all levels of government and civil society. As a trusted development partner, UNDP advocates for placing HIV/AIDS at the centre of national planning and budgets; helps build national capacity to manage initiatives that include people and institutions not usually involved with public health; and promotes decentralized responses that support community-level action. Because HIV/AIDS is a world-wide problem, UNDP supports these national efforts by offering knowledge, resources and best practices from around the world. In each of these six practices, UNDP advocates for the protection of human rights and especially the empowerment of women. Through our global network, we seek out and share ways to promote gender equality as an essential dimension of ensuring political participation and accountability; economic empowerment and effective development planning; crisis prevention and conflict resolution; access to clean water, sanitation and energy services; the best use of new technologies for development purposes; and society-wide mobilization against HIV/AIDS.

- **Human Development Reports**

UNDP also engages in extensive advocacy work. The annual Human Development Report, commissioned by UNDP, focuses the global debate on key development issues, providing new measurement tools, innovative analysis and often controversial policy proposals. It is guided by the belief that development is ultimately "a process of enlarging people's choices", not just raising national incomes. The independent team of experts who write the Report draw on a worldwide network of leaders from academia, government and civil society who contribute data, ideas, and best practices. Developing countries and their international partners use the Report to gauge results and shape new policies.

African States:

Comoros	(2004)	Cape Verde	(2005)
Democratic Republic of the Congo	(2003)	Comoros	(2004)
Djibouti	(2003)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	(2003)
Egypt	(2002)	Djibouti	(2003)
Gabon	(2003)	Gabon	(2003)
Mauritania	(2003)	Mauritania	(2003)
Mozambique	(2003)	Mozambique	(2003)
Togo	(2002)	Tunisia	(2005)

Asian and Pacific States:

China	(2003)	China	(2003)
Indonesia	(2002)	India	(2005)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	(2003)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	(2003)
Pakistan	(2004)	Nepal	(2005)
Philippines	(2003)	Pakistan	(2004)
Viet Nam	(2002)	Philippines	(2003)
Yemen	(2004)	Yemen	(2004)

Latin America and Caribbean States:

Antigua and Barbuda	(2004)	Antigua and Barbuda	(2004)
Brazil	(2002)	Ecuador	(2003)
Ecuador	(2003)	El Salvador	(2005)
Honduras	(2002)	Peru	(2004)
Peru	(2004)	Uruguay	(2005)

Eastern European and other States:

Bulgaria	(2003)	Bulgaria	(2003)
Czech Republic	(2004)	Czech Republic	(2004)
Romania	(2004)	Romania	(2004)
Russian Federation	(2002)	Russian Federation	(2005)

Western European and other States:

Belgium	(2002)	Australia	(2005)
Canada	(2004)	Canada	(2004)
Denmark	(2002)	Finland	(2003)
Finland	(2003)	France	(2003)
Japan	(2002)	Germany	(2003)
Luxembourg	(2003) ¹	Italy	(2005)
Netherlands	(2002)	Japan	(2005)
Spain	(2003) ²	Norway	(2005)
Switzerland	(2004)	Sweden	(2003)
Turkey	(2003) ³	Switzerland	(2004)
United Kingdom	(2004)	United Kingdom	(2004)
United States	(2004)	United States	(2004)

1 Luxembourg relinquishing its seat as of January 2003; Sweden proposed to complete term;

- 2 Spain relinquishing its seat as of January 2003; France proposed to complete term;
- 3 Turkey relinquishing its seat as of January 2003; Germany proposed to complete term.

4. UNDP BY REGION

4.1 AFRICA

Helping The People Of Sub-Saharan Africa Build A Better Life

In each African country, UNDP has an office and team through which we connect governments and other development partners to knowledge, experience and resources from across the region and around the world.

As part of the global effort to halve the poverty rate by 2015, and reach the Millennium Development Goals, UNDP helps the countries of the region build their own solutions to development challenges.

This includes support for the development of critical capacities at all levels and for democratic governance. UNDP is a leading supporter of electoral assistance but also emphasize that the most important part of any democracy is what happens "between the elections" in terms of participatory and accountable decision-making.

Since conflict affects one out of five countries in the region, UNDP supports initiatives for crisis prevention, peace and reconciliation. In many areas, conflict and disease have ravaged essential social structures, requiring us to assist in rebuilding communities and their basic institutions.

UNDP supports comprehensive responses to the devastating HIV/AIDS pandemic, including by seeking out and sharing best practices developed in the region and elsewhere. We help countries put HIV/AIDS at the centre of national planning; develop national capacity to manage initiatives that include people and institutions not usually involved with public health; and promote community-level action.

UNDP also supports efforts to conserve environmental resources, including through the promotion of alternative sources of energy that are both clean and affordable. And since information and communications technology can strengthen development initiatives and expand participation in the global economy, UNDP is helping African countries to bridge the digital divide.

Working in partnership with other development agencies, civil society, and the private sector, UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively. At the regional level, UNDP promotes and supports the continent-wide development objectives set by African leaders, including through piloting and the dissemination of lessons learned.

UNDP uses two main instruments to define the areas of cooperation at the regional level and at the individual country level respectively. The Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) and the Country Programme reflect the key results African regional institutions and recipient governments expect to achieve with UNDP support.

Focus on Governance, Globalization, Peace-Building and HIV/AIDS

The UNDP Africa Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) for the period 2002-2006 was approved by UNDP's Executive Board in January 2002. It will help UNDP and its partners to mobilize the vast amount of accumulated knowledge and development experience in the region and elsewhere to address the most critical development challenges of today in Africa, including those embodied in the Millennium Development Goals.

The RCF is the culmination of an extensive and widespread process of consultations that included all African Governments, as well as civil society organizations, African think-tanks, regional and sub-regional organizations and other stakeholders. These consultations connected policy-makers, development practitioners and thinkers specializing in African development issues, all focusing on the identification of the key priority areas for African development, where UNDP-supported interventions can have the maximum impact.

Four strategic areas of support to Africa were identified:

- (1) Strengthening democratic and participatory governance
- (2) Making globalization work for Africa
- (3) Conflict prevention, peace-building and disaster management
- (4) Reducing the threat and impact of HIV/AIDS on Africa

Through the RCF, UNDP Africa will help develop coalitions of action among African partners, as well as partnerships within the UN system, and with the private sector both in Africa and in developed countries, in order to articulate and implement regional programmes and projects that address issues in these four strategic areas. This includes support to the transition from the OAU to the African Union, and to the operationalization of NEPAD.

Governance

Strengthening The Management Of Sustainable Development

Current African leaders have made landmark regional commitments to democratic governance through, most notably, the Constitutive Act establishing the African Union (AU) (2000) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (2001). Embodied in these documents are commitments to maintain macroeconomic stability, promote democracy and human rights, empower civil society especially women and youth, strengthen mechanisms for conflict prevention, institute transparent legal and regulatory frameworks, and revitalize human security including education and health services with priority given to tackling HIV/AIDS. All of these commitments are central to reducing poverty.

Responding to specific nationally identified priorities, UNDP Africa is working together with Governments as well as civil society organizations, and development partners in a number of areas critical to strengthening the governance capacities in partner countries. Areas of intervention include improving access to justice constitutional reform, human rights; decentralization of local Governance, supporting parliaments and strengthening of legislatures, promoting transparency and

accountability. An integral part of the assistance provided is facilitating civil society participation in each of the areas.

The National Human Development Report has become an important tool for innovative dialogue on policy action. For instance, the Botswana Human Development Report 2000 launched a national policy debate which culminated in a decision by that country's President to provide HIV/AIDS drug "cocktails" to every citizen who needed them. In Nigeria, the NHDR was used for training of ministers and special advisers on poverty reduction.

From Lesotho to Mali to Sierra Leone, UNDP's regional and global development network connects our provide to support for elections, electoral legislation and for strengthening the institutional capacity of electoral commissions, systems and processes. Assistance has ranged from coordination of international observers and facilitation of negotiations between political parties and civil society to advancing electoral reforms. Support has also been provided for development of database systems, voters registration, election resource and information centers and technical assistance through the provision of international observers. The human capacity of electoral commissions has also been strengthened through training in civic education and leadership skills.

In Benin, Burundi, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Togo and Zambia, UNDP has been supporting the promotion of human rights. Human rights commissions have been established and the preparation of human rights bills have been supported. Awareness of human rights has been promoted through sensitization, civic education and production of human rights textbooks, training workshops and formulation of education and information strategies.

In collaboration with UNCDF and UNV assistance has been provided for building local government capacity in countries such as Burkina Faso, Burundi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zambia. This assistance has included interventions to improve the participation of CSOs and CBOs in local planning budgeting through open dialogue, sensitization, training in participatory planning, budgeting and dissemination of good governance practices. Support has also been provided for development of legislative reforms for decentralization in Malawi and Tanzania. Decentralization needs assessments have been carried out and strategies for decentralization and local self-governance have been formulated.

To strengthen civil service accountability, assistance is being given for public sector reform, changes in the codes of conduct, review of public administration and anti-corruption acts. Training has also been provided for government and judiciary staff in personnel management, public procurement, information systems service contracting, investment procedures and strengthening public services. Countries benefiting from such assistance include Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

At the regional level, assistance has been provided for activities that center around policy dialogue, advocacy and capacity building on economic, political and social governance initiatives. The UNDP Africa annually organized Africa Governance

Forums (AGF) are currently one of the most visible policy dialogue for an African development issues.

UNDP Africa support to ICT for Development

The socioeconomic impact of the knowledge and information revolution derived from Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has been compared to the industrial revolution, providing nations and individuals alike an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate economic growth, promote human development and eradicate poverty. But without innovative ICT policies, many people in developing countries - especially the poor - will be left behind.

In Africa, UNDP is working in close partnership with key public and private sector players to craft comprehensive regional and country strategies and implementation plans to help transform the digital divide into a digital opportunity for this region. As the countries of Africa seek to develop national and local capacity and effective policies, we connect them to knowledge, experience and resources from across the region and around the world. We are building partnership networks - including governments, companies, foundations, non-governmental organizations (NGO's), and multilateral organizations.

Capacity Building

The Internet Initiative for Africa (IIA), launched in 1996, provides Internet connectivity infrastructure, policy advice, and capacity building support to Angola, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, and Swaziland. Through a cost-sharing partnership with the governments of these countries, this programme - in many instances - established the first national Internet gateway, national backbone infrastructure, increased national bandwidths and established Internet points of presence. The IIA also serves to provide an array of policy and technical advisory services and training to national experts to manage and administer the infrastructure and foster sustainability and growth.

UNDP / CISCO Networking Academies is a strategic partnership with Cisco systems and others to establish facilities in Least Developed Countries to provide network technology skills and training facilities to prepare students for the 21st century workplace. CISCO Networking academies have now been established in nineteen African countries, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia. Fifteen of these in partnership with UNDP Africa.

Policy Advisory Services

The second Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) is an initiative of the Japanese government in partnership with UNDP Africa focused on the theme of poverty reduction through accelerated economic growth and sustainable development, and effective integration of African economies into the global economy. Recognizing the contributing effect of ICT in bringing emerging economies to the global market, TICAD aims to build on the success of the IIA to raise awareness and

contribute intellectually to policy and institution building through South-South cooperation with particular emphasis on Asia-Africa cooperation.

The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) is a pledge by African leaders, establishing a common vision and a firm and shared conviction, on the pressing duty to eradicate poverty and place their countries individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development, participating actively in the global economy. The strategic role of ICT in these efforts is now being defined, with the identification of key strategic goals in the areas of enhancing telecommunications infrastructure and telephone penetration rates; improving accessibility, reliability and affordability of connectivity services; and increased cross border interconnection of networks. UNDP Africa is an active participant in this august partnership to overcome the overwhelming development challenges faced by the region, including the widening digital divide.

HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA

HIV/AIDS is the World's most serious development crisis as well as the most devastating epidemic in history. It is quickly becoming the biggest obstacle to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

In several Southern African countries (Botswana, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Malawi) the prevalence rate among pregnant women has now reached 30%. In West Africa at least five countries are experiencing serious epidemics, with adult HIV prevalence exceeding 5%. The numbers orphaned by HIV/AIDS has risen three-fold in six years to reach 13.4 million.

The social and economic impact of HIV/AIDS is already significant in many high prevalence countries, reflected in decline in life expectancy, loss of skilled manpower, weaker agricultural sectors, and reduced living standards.

Advocating for the way forward

Experience across all countries and regions shows that effective responses are characterized by political commitment of communities including community leaders, women's and youth groups - and regional leadership including a country's highest political echelons. Government, civil society organizations and development agencies have a major responsibility in preventing the further spread of HIV and in mitigating the impact of AIDS. Together, they can set priorities, define their respective roles and develop strategic plans to support efforts to integrate a multifaceted approach into programmes, policies and strategies.

So in every country in Africa (and elsewhere) UNDP is a strong advocate for:

- (1) Political will, vision and leadership.
- (2) Early and coordinated action at the national and regional level.
- (3) A large-scale strategic response.
- (4) Advocacy activities to encourage total mobilization of government and civil society.
- (5) Capacity development in planning, management and implementation, especially at the local level.
- (6) Earmarking of adequate domestic resources.

- (7) Making response to HIV/AIDS part and parcel of poverty reduction strategies.
- (8) Addressing the socio economic factors that make people vulnerable.
- (9) Ensuring equitable access to accurate information about HIV/AIDS, STDs and male and female condoms.
- (10) Protecting the right of vulnerable groups and integrating human rights to fight stigmatization and discrimination.

Support from UNDP's regional and global network

As countries develop their own capacity to move forward on the above priorities, UNDP is there to connect them to knowledge, experience and resources from across the region and around the world. UNDP Africa has also assisted in the identification of gaps and issues that cannot be addressed from a purely national or local perspective. We encourage and conduct joint programming with all agencies and bi-lateral donors to ensure synergy and coherence of donor programmes of assistance for the national and regional response to the pandemic.

Environment & Energy

Sustainable development, which balances economic development, social cohesion and environment protection, is fundamental to the objective of lasting poverty reduction. Africa faces many challenges to sustainable development, including high population growth rate, low levels of investment in human resources and development. Rapid and unplanned urbanization creates new environmentally related problems. Extreme climate variations already present a serious threat in Africa in the form of droughts and floods. High levels of land degradation, desertification and deforestation afflict large proportions of population in Africa. In rural areas, more than 90% of the population still relies on traditional sources of energy, such as fuel-wood, charcoal and dung. (for "hard facts and tough choices" about environment in Africa.

What UNDP is doing

Environment protection and regeneration is therefore a strategic component of UNDP commitment to poverty reduction in Africa. The focus area is on promoting sustainable environment management and energy development, through:

- the formulation of national policy and regulatory frameworks
- capacity building in management and policy implementation

In Cameroon, for example, UNDP provided key support in the formulation of a National Plan for the management of environment, out of which a regulatory framework was designed and concrete programmes and projects are being implemented.

In Mozambique, the National Environmental Management Programme, which UNDP helped to design, is now in operation and has started to fulfill its objectives, i.e. promoting the sustainable management of natural resources, and protection of the environment.

In Ghana, a 1988 study revealed that the cost of environmental degradation was equivalent to about 4% of GDP. That prompted UNDP and the Government to consider environment as a major area of support, especially with regard to production

and provision of energy; click here. A concrete project linking poverty reduction, alternative renewable energy systems and rural development through employment generation for women in Ghana is vividly described.

As the UN's global development network, UNDP is close to energy and environment issues in all developing countries. We seek out and share lessons learned and build innovative partnerships. UNDP typically plays the central role of a network facilitator for capacity development and for donor coordination and resource mobilization. The Mozambique initiative, for example, connected the country's government to knowledge, experience and resources from Denmark, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, UNEP and the World Bank.

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For inquiries regarding: Countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Indian Ocean

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4.2 ARAB STATES

Supporting economic growth and improved governance

UNDP has offices in 17 countries in the Middle East and North Africa (or the Arab States region as it is referred to in UNDP). UNDP's work has ranged from capacity building to policy formulation, within a region that has diverse needs due to the varied economic base of the countries it serves.

UNDP–Arab States has succeeded in bringing to the forefront important social issues, which have become the subject for advocacy, debate, and policy development. In these efforts a focus has been placed on improved economic growth and enhanced governance, through capacity building, public participation, and legal frameworks.

UNDP understands that an improved regulatory system and rule of law, in addition to a better developed human capacity, will enable the Arab States to improve their economic, as well as social and political environments to the betterment of their peoples and States.

Furthermore, UNDP realizes the importance of public awareness with regards to the status of development issues in the various Arab States it covers. In that regard, the National Human Development Reports have become a feature of many Arab countries, and have had a significant impact on the development debate in the region. At the beginning of 2002, the first regional Arab Human Development Report was issued, which will assist in comparative analyses in the region and encourage further dialogue, while highlighting important development issues of the region and various Arab countries.

UNDP works directly through its 17 country offices to target development assistance based on the needs of each Arab country, whether it is an LDC (Least Developed Country) or NCC (Net Contributory Country). UNDP also has a regional programme for the Arab States, i.e. the Regional Bureau for Arab States, which focuses on programmes of a regional nature with a minimum of three countries participating. For the current planning period of 2001–2004, the regional programme is focusing its efforts on governance, global economic competitiveness, and information and communications technology (ICT).

The Regional Bureau of Arab States is currently headed by the Assistant Administrator and Regional Director Rima Khalaf Hunaidi, who reports to the UNDP Administrator.

Fostering partnerships throughout the region is an important objective in the UNDP–Arab States strategy. In this effort UNDP-Arab States will be upgrading this internet site in the near future. One of the goals of the new site will be to include information that will assist in fostering these partnerships, and provide a place for development related dialogue and networking.

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4.3 ASIA & THE PACIFIC

Our mission is to empower people and organizations to achieve Sustainable Human Development in the Asia and Pacific region. We strive to be service-oriented development partners who provide and mobilize knowledge, ideas, management skills, information technology, human and financial resources for the solution of development problems. We draw in particular upon the region's rich traditional values, human resources and development experience. Operating on the basis of annual workplans agreed between Country Offices and RBAP New York (two-way compacts), shared values and clear standards of managerial and individual responsibility we are committed to measurable results. We are engaged in a process of continuing self-evaluation and reform aimed at improving our own efficiency and effectiveness and at assisting the United Nations system in becoming a stronger force for the benefit of the people and the countries in the region.

"The RBAP we aspire to be"

We aspire to be a Regional Bureau for Asia & Pacific where We all value, listen, and respect the views and opinions of all colleagues at all times. We work to ensure that we earn the trust and confidence of our superiors, colleagues, and subordinates. We strive to understand, to respect, and to celebrate the diversity of cultures and values. We are aware that what may be considered as appropriate and respectful behavior and language for one may not be so for another. We endeavor to establish effective working relationships that reflect and respect this diversity. To this end, we all have an obligation to find common grounds, to mutually accommodate differences in culture and values. We know that a balance of work and life is essential for well being of every staff member and the organization. We recognize that achieving that balance is a continuing process. Using the different Work-Life options available, we strive to ensure that all staff members achieve the proper balance consistent with their preferences, their lives outside work, and the exigencies of service. Supervisors and senior management are supportive and do recognize competencies and good work, as well as provide timely feedback to improve performance. As professionals, we all strive to go the extra mile when needed. Beyond the demands of work, we look after each other because we want to rather than because we have been asked to: It is a choice.

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4.4 REGIONAL BUREAU FOR EUROPE AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES (RBEC)

The Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (RBEC) administers the UNDP's programmes in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), playing an important role in the

transition process through empowering people, organizations and governments to promote sustainable human development.

Working under a mandate issued by the UN Secretary-General, RBEC (then the Regional Directorate for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States – RDEC) began the process of establishing offices and programmes in the CIS states in 1992. Today, of the 30 programme countries in the RBEC region, there are UNDP country offices in 23 of them: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. In addition, following the Kosovo crisis, in October 1999 a Programme Office was established to facilitate UNDP’s reconstruction and rehabilitation activities in that UN-administered territory. The country programme for the remote South Atlantic island of St. Helena where the UNDP has been active since 1984, is managed from RBEC Regional Support Centre in Bratislava.

REGIONAL BUREAU FOR EUROPE & THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

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The **RBEC Regional Support Centre (RSC)** was established in 1997 in Bratislava, capital of the Slovak Republic which, apart from administering the country programmes for countries where UNDP has no office (Czech Republic, Hungary, Malta, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and St. Helena), provides management support services for all programme countries in the region.

The Sub-Regional Resource Facility (SURF) represents new organizational structure of UNDP BDP (Bureau for Development Policy) to reorient BDP towards serving the field, provide policy support to country offices in the region and Regional Bureaux, and outsource expertise to the field. Policy specialists are clustered in SURFs servicing several country offices and managed by SURF Boards. BDP and Regional Bureaux sign annual Service Agreements to ensure policy relevance and effective support.

The RBEC SURF, located in Bratislava, Slovak Republic, has been operational since February 1999, providing a range of specialized services to UNDP country offices. The main mission of the SURF is to tap collective knowledge, foster learning and

sharing, improve performance and capacity, thus empowering country offices. The SURF service dimension is to respond to queries from country offices, discuss issues and challenges, share comparative experiences, identify expertise, align corporate policy and share information.

The UNDP goal “to strengthen the position of UNDP as a trusted and leading partner of programme countries in overcoming their development challenges through swift, high-quality support in proven areas” (“The Way Forward, the Administrator’s Business Plan 2000-2003) is expressed in six priority focus areas: democratic governance, pro-poor policies, environment and sustainable energy, crisis prevention and recovery, Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D), HIV/AIDS, the latter two being special corporate initiatives. Besides supporting the corporate plan, the transformation in RBEC is being undertaken with the primary objective of creating the best enabling environment to support the country offices in resource mobilization and operational assistance.

RBEC is proud of its achievements in supporting the unique process of transition to democratic, market-oriented societies throughout the region. Among the most visible initiatives supported by RBEC are: advisory services on economic reform, particularly public-administration, the advancement of ombudsman and national human rights institutions in terms of advocacy, experience-sharing, institution building and policy making; development of poverty alleviation strategies at the national level and significant contributions to poverty research at the regional and sub-regional level; and the establishment of Gender-in-Development units and action plans to follow-up the Fifth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

RBEC takes particular pride in being the first region in UNDP to achieve the annual publication of National Human Development Reports in all countries of the region. First published in May 1995, the purpose of the reports is to serve as a tool for promoting policy dialogue and debate on human development. The NHDRs have taken up a wide variety of issues, such as the Role of the State in a transition country, Gender and Development, Sustainable Development, Human Rights, Poverty, etc. RBEC is paying special attention to developing best practices, highlighting effective methods of cooperation between public and private entities at regional and local levels.

In the area of post-conflict assistance, UNDP is active in Yugoslavia, its former republics, Tajikistan and Georgia. UNDP is promoting national reconciliation and economic recovery at the local level in the most war-affected areas through activities in the areas of employment rehabilitation, small infrastructure rehabilitation, private sector development and humanitarian support to the most vulnerable population.

Many of these activities were undertaken with the important support of various donors such as Japan, EU, Italy, UK, Norway, Netherlands etc. As the situation in South-Eastern Europe and other RBEC countries has begun to stabilize, UNDP has increased its activities in strengthening local capacities to plan and implement economic development activities. UNDP has also undertaken activities at the regional level in the areas of early warning (Early Warning reports), human development (Human Development Reports), and regional policy development.

In the context of the forthcoming Regional Cooperation Framework for 2002-2004, three regional programmes will be developed in the democratic, economic, and environmental governance areas. Each will have distinct programme priorities based on regional assessments undertaken by RBEC during the RCF preparation process and through analytical work completed under the first RCF. The second RCF has also identified seven issues that will be addressed in an integrated manner across the regional programme: protecting and promoting human rights; ensuring transparency, accountability and anti-corruption policies; decentralising and deconcentrating power; addressing the complex intersections of conflict prevention and early warning, conflict mitigation, and post-conflict recovery; promoting equity in development; combating HIV/AIDS; and integrating ICT as an instrument for development.

RBEC Programme Countries

- Albania
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Georgia
- Hungary
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo*
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Malta
- Moldova
- Poland
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- St. Helena
- Tajikistan
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Ukraine
- Uzbekistan
- Serbia and Montenegro

4.5 Latin America & the Caribbean

Most United Nations Development Programme country offices in the Latin America-Caribbean region have existed for over three decades - most of the life of most of the people in this region.

In fact, many high-ranking officials today in government or heading national institutions have at one time or another benefited from UNDP fellowships to enhance their knowledge abroad. UNDP offices have served the region through good times and bad. They have witnessed - indeed, have often supported - transitions from dictatorship to democracy.

As neutral outsiders that are nevertheless committed to the well-being of the countries they serve, UNDP offices in Latin America-Caribbean are often called on to offer policy advice on sensitive issues regarding socio-economic and political development, to pull in expertise and experience from different countries within the region and around the world, and to support government capacity to plan and

manage development programmes.

UNDP's work is very decentralized so that each country office can respond to the needs and concerns of the government and people of that country. In addition, clusters of countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region share certain specific needs, and so UNDP's regional managers have developed strategies to address the concerns of each of the Caribbean and the Central American sub-regions, within an overall five-year strategy 2000 - 2005 for UNDP operations in the region.

UNDP Resident Representatives have authority to sign programme documents and to fully manage staff and resources totaling around a billion dollars a year. The primary signatory on all programme documents is the government of the country concerned, but the programmes may be implemented by government or by national institutions, and in some cases by non-governmental organizations.

Decentralization enables UNDP Resident Representatives to respond with speed to a country's development needs. Plus, Latin America-Caribbean country offices are very well-networked, which makes it possible for UNDP Resident Representatives to respond not just quickly, but with quality services that draw on regional and international expertise. As one high-ranking government official put it, "UNDP is our window to the world".

UNDP invests in the knowledge and skills of its staff. Last year, 50 percent of its Resident Representatives participated in an intensive course on the environment organized by Harvard University. Staff have also participated in development management courses. Substantive and managerial knowledge and skills are constantly enhanced through exchange of experience and investment in learning.

Of the total number of staff - 27 - in UNDP's Regional Bureaux for Latin America and the Caribbean - the majority are nationals from the region. UNDP also practices what it preaches: a drive for the advancement of women within the organization has been underway for over a decade. Today, 25 percent of the Resident Representatives in the region are women, as compared to 8 percent a decade ago; 45 percent out of the Deputy Resident Representatives are women, as compared to 14 percent a decade ago.

Focus Area

- **Institutions for Democratic Governance**
- **Policies for Poverty & Inequality Reduction**
- **Energy and Environment**
- **Information Technology for Development**
- **Human Development at Local Level**

UNDP has decided to focus on five areas in which to produce region-wide Service Lines. Services which fall outside these Service Lines, and that are demanded by Governments or partners at the country or regional levels, can still be provided within the framework established by the Administrator's Business Plans.

However, the five region-wide Service Lines are the ones that will benefit from the collective efforts and resources of all UNDP units assigned to the region, whether at New York or in Country Offices, in addition to corporate resources such as the support and knowledge networks, and out-posted policy advisors . They will provide countries with cost-effective and quick access to the knowledge they need to address their most pressing development challenges.

This section previews each Service Line. It provides the rationale for choosing the issue, why the services fit UNDP's niche, the assets in which UNDP has already invested or is planning to do so, and the goals and targets by which UNDP will measure the difference it has made to poor people's lives and to the global public good.

Democratic Governance

The decentralized presence of UNDP allows its office in a country to respond to the specific needs and concerns of the government and people of that country. In addition, UNDP regional managers develop sub-regional strategies within a five-year (2000-2005) programme to meet the needs of clusters of countries sharing common problems.

The Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBLAC) organizes services to programme countries. It is currently headed by by Assistant Administrator and Regional Director Elena Martinez, who reports to the UNDP Administrator.

UNDP works with governments and national institutions to enhance their capacity to plan and manage development policies and programmes. Offices in the Latin America-Caribbean region have extensive experience in such areas as public sector reform, decentralization, law reform, strengthening the judiciary, human rights, and other areas.

Just one example of a comprehensive state reform process is that launched by the Dominican Republic after the election of a new government in May 1996. The problems that ministries faced included lack of institutional memory, very cumbersome processes and procedures, antiquated equipment, outdated knowledge, and absence of a service mentality. The UNDP country office provided the core funding to jump-start the reform process (since then, the European Union pledged around \$30 million), drew on its knowledge networks to provide experts in different areas, helped government counterparts quickly design reform programmes, and served as advisor as problems occurred. As the national coordinator of the overall state reform programme put it: "When we started, we had no budget, nothing. UNDP was fundamental: when nobody would bet on this process, UNDP did".

At the regional level, UNDP has established partnerships with recognized institutions of excellence, such as the Barcelona-based International Institute of Governance (www.iigov.org). Together with the Institute, UNDP is supporting an information exchange and discussion email list with over 10,000 members throughout Latin America, an electronic magazine, a Virtual School for Governance

using the Virtual Campus of the Catalanian Open University (www.uoc.org), and other resources.

The United Nations Development Program, in partnership with Generon Consulting, is sponsoring a major effort to research, develop and promote civic scenarios as a tool for consensus building, policy making, and governance; for effecting societal change.

Policy Formulation:

The aim is to contribute to the region's efforts to strengthen democracy as a political regime and social organization, geared to human development.

UNDP is also helping to refine and disseminate methodologies for promoting civil dialogue, such as those used in the War Torn Societies project, the national dialogues in Panama and multi-stakeholder consensus-building, using the scenario planning methodology applied in the project "Vision Guatemala". Substantive partnerships with centres of excellence in the region, in Europe and in North America will strengthen UNDP cooperation in this area.

UNDP provides advice in response to demands of Governments to strengthen democracy. The assistance includes support to build consensus on institutional reform and the construction of State development agendas on critical national issues, bringing diverse and competing stakeholders to forge a common ground. Methodologies for promoting civil dialogue will be used in this regard in six countries.

Programme Management:

The regional programme will assist in making best-practice programmes available to other countries upon request: e.g., judicial reform focused on access to justice, as well as rule of law, legal security and security of investments and decentralization. Cost-effective assistance in the modernization of information and management systems and capacity-building of high-level State organizations will be provided in eight countries. Support will also be provided to subregional programmes such as the participation of civil society in the Consultative Council of International American Integration System and integration institutions and constitutional reform in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Maximizing the impact against poverty

Over one billion people live in poverty today. The scale of poverty around the world is such that one organization alone cannot have an impact. Partners closest to UNDP in addressing poverty eradication in the Latin America-Caribbean region are the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Together these four organizations work with governments in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama and Suriname on tools to analyze the causes and consequences of poverty to underpin strategies on poverty eradication. This creates baselines for poverty reduction strategies, strengthens

national institutes of statistics, and ensures that governments are able to monitor poverty reduction programmes and hold managers accountable for results.

The regional programme for Latin America and Caribbean has established a network of 30 experts in the region's best institutions and universities to (IPEA, UDAPE, GRADE, CEDES, and the Universities of Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, and the West Indies). They are working with the governments of four countries -- Bolivia, Guyana, Honduras and Nicaragua -- to analyze the impact of national policies on poverty so that these can be reformed to address poverty reduction. International partners include UNICEF, the region's Economic Commission, the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Food Policy Research Institute.

These and other activities will enable governments to redesign economic and social policies to address poverty. UNDP has commissioned a world expert to pull together such experiences. UNDP has developed tools, methodologies and approaches that can be tailored to the diverse needs of clients at different stages of the problem.

Assessing the Millennium Target to Reduce Extreme Poverty by Half by Year 2015: To reduce the percentage of people living in extreme poverty (less than one dollar PPP a day) by the year 2015 is one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) agreed upon by the international community. RBLAC has gathered a number of specialists to develop a new methodology to be tested in a comprehensive regional study, incorporating at least 18 countries.

Diagnosis: UNDP has developed a system of permanent household surveys to measure and monitor poverty and inequality, in partnership with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank. This enables countries to accurately measure living conditions as well as to monitor the impact of policies designed to address poverty and inequality. UNDP clients currently include Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Suriname and Bolivia. UNDP and its partners have ensured that all the data and analysis they support are available -- publicly and online -- so that diverse stakeholders can be informed in order to be involved.

Policy Formulation: UNDP is in a position to advise governments on how to integrate specific poverty reduction and inequality targets in their national economic policies -- the single most important tool to address poverty and inequality. The service is country-specific. In some cases, these targets would constitute an integral part of macro-economic policy. In others, specific strategies to reduce poverty and inequality would be developed alongside macro-economic policy. UNDP is currently providing advisory services to countries eligible for debt reduction. UNDP will also introduce instruments for "green accounting" and "full-cost pricing". By so doing, environmental sustainability will be factored in at the policy design stage -- alongside social and economic ones.

Programme Management: UNDP will strengthen government capacity to manage programmes aimed at poor and vulnerable groups: increasing opportunities (land titling, credit and micro-finance, IT connectivity); strengthening access, efficiency and quality to basic social services (education, health, water and sanitation); providing and improving social insurance and protection. In all these areas, UNDP

will build the capacity for programme management. Its demonstrably successful programme management package helps clients correctly define the problem; identify the inputs necessary to address it; sequence the inputs and outputs to deliver on target; monitor and evaluate interventions so as to remain on track; and document lessons learned. UNDP will also introduce information and communications technology tools so clients can continuously access and develop the knowledge they need beyond the life-span of individual programmes.

Support for climate and environment roles

Latin American and Caribbean countries are playing leading roles on the world's environmental stage, with support from UNDP. In terms of climate change, Argentina hosted the Conference of Parties in December 1998, becoming the first developing country to propose initiatives for joint implementation. Regarding energy, Brazil has fostered many of the ideas that led to the Clean Development Mechanism. Moreover, the continent has the greatest proportion of urban dwellers, and urban poverty is the key poverty issue. The region has gone furthest in terms of experimenting with privatization of urban environmental services.

UNDP's regional strategy on the environment -- "Forging and Strengthening the Development-Environment Links" -- will promote investment in new areas, such as the impact of macro-economic policies, the interface between environment and crisis management, and green investments. There are also plans for a periodic sustainable development report and a sustainable development index.

In addition to country and regional activities, UNDP supports Latin American and Caribbean sub-regional initiatives. For example, Mesoamerica -- the area covered by the seven countries of Central America and Panama and the five southernmost states of Mexico -- faces rapid degradation of its natural resource assets, reduced productivity, increased poverty, and greater vulnerability to hurricanes and other extreme climatic events. UNDP is assisting governments in the Mesoamerican region to design and implement a "biological corridor", providing a strategic framework for investments and technical assistance.

The framework covers biodiversity conservation by connecting protected areas, agricultural development, watershed protection to maximize ecosystem services, and decreased vulnerability to the effects of extreme climatic events. Some \$100 million is being invested for biodiversity conservation by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The GEF is a fund which is managed by a secretariat representing UNDP, the World Bank and the UN Environment Programme amongst others. Additional contributions are flowing in from the Inter-American Development Bank, and German, Danish, American and other bilateral agencies.

UNDP has developed tools, methodologies, and approaches that can be tailored to the diverse needs of clients at different stages of the problem.

Diagnosis: UNDP is, with resources from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), currently assisting 31 of 33 countries in the region to prepare their First and Second National Communications, as required by parties to the Climate Change

Convention. These documents provide baseline information about the impact each country has on one of the most important global public goods on earth: the atmosphere. They provide data on sources and sinks of greenhouse gases, vulnerability to the effects of climate change, prospective adaptation requirements and mitigation measures, and assessments of national capacities.

Policy Formulation: UNDP has taken the lead in supporting the capacity of national negotiators to play a leading role at international conferences, where global policy is shaped. At the national level, UNDP helps countries put the right legislation in place to both protect the environment and promote trade in environmental products, for example incentives to reduce use of carbon dioxide intensive energy, and patents for sustainable use of forests and ecosystems.

Programme Management: UNDP will support programmes that reduce emissions while giving poor and disadvantaged groups access to affordable and renewable sources of energy. It will help governments upscale pilots in renewable energy, for example, connecting poor communities through off-grid approaches, issuing of carbon certificates, and reducing both emissions and energy costs through more efficient light bulbs. Moreover, drawing on experience in the Caribbean, UNDP will support Governments in programmes dealing with climate change mitigation and adaptation, including risk management, and disaster prevention and reduction.

In each one of these areas, UNDP will build national capacity for programme management. Its package helps clients correctly define the problem; identify the inputs necessary to address it; sequence the inputs and outputs to deliver on target; monitor and evaluate interventions so as to remain on track; and document lessons learned. UNDP will also introduce information and communications technology tools so clients can continuously access and develop the knowledge they need beyond the life-span of individual programmes.

Analysis helps ensure development benefits people and the environment

The annual global Human Development Report (HDR) introduced a yardstick called the Human Development Index (HDI) to measure the extent to which governments invest in people, by assessing progress in health, education, and purchasing power. The HDI demonstrated that countries that had a smaller gross national product (GNP) sometimes did better than countries with higher incomes, because they put their people first.

Since 1992, over 120 developing countries have seen the value of analyzing development using the tools provided by the global HDR. They began to produce national HDRs. The analysis in these reports helps policy makers and activists find ways to ensure that development serves people and protects their environment. UNDP supports this work in practically every developing country it serves.

Between 1995 and 1998, 30 NHDRs were produced in 17 Latin American and Caribbean countries. In 1999, another 17 were published, including in seven first-time countries. In each case, the work has been carried out by national experts or institutions, with support from UNDP country offices.

In some countries -- for example, Bolivia -- cutting-edge research resulted in publication of HDRs for major cities. This enabled policy makers to identify disadvantaged groups within different cities and ways to target them. In Brazil, similar analysis led the state of Minas Gerais to pass a law, known as the "Robin Hood Law", giving more of its state budget to the poorest municipalities.

Decentralization of responsibility to local authority is rapidly taking place without the commensurate decentralization of resources and capacities. Experience shows that neither capacity nor resources can be mobilized and sustained without real participation and empowerment of citizens at the local level, particularly citizens' ability to hold their elected bodies accountable. Only if people are empowered to manage their affairs to achieve growth with equity and environmental sustainability, will they participate in the creation of global public goods.

Despite the growing number of community-based organizations and national and international non-governmental organizations active at the local level, there is insufficient experience in cross-sectoral development interventions that cut across levels of government. Yet it is at the local level that development is truly integrated in all its dimensions -- social, economic, civil, political, cultural, and environmental. It is here that the opportunity to make a difference is greatest: this is where national policy and plans interact with the reality of people's lives.

Diagnosis: UNDP is in a position to develop the capacity of municipalities to map, measure and analyze the following: their institutional environment, the conditions of poverty and inequality, the factors impacting on sustainable development, as well as the risks and opportunities arising from climate change and information technology. Given that UNDP cannot possibly hope to serve the hundreds of thousands of municipal authorities in the region, information technology will be used to share information and develop networking approaches.

Policy Formulation: Methodologies developed for the first four Service Lines can also be adapted to bring stakeholders -- community groups, the private sector, local government, and others -- together to identify strategies, roles and resources for sustainable local development, as well as local, provincial and national linkages. UNDP will help establish a Local Development Website to capture experience and lessons learned, which will help ensure that citizens have access to information and knowledge they need to participate in designing local action plans and to hold elected officials accountable.

Programme Management: UNDP will also develop an e-package for programme management in local development, that will pull together the experience of the organization as a whole, as well as the experience of Country Offices in the region in local development in special development situations.

Regional Programme

The second regional cooperation framework (RCF) for Latin America and the Caribbean was approved for the period 2001-2005. The RCF is an instrument for UNDP to promote sustainable human development in Latin America and the Caribbean and to reaffirm its role towards achieving the United Nations Millennium

Declaration commitment to halve the number of people living in extreme poverty by 2015. The RCF represents the policy framework within which UNDP will undertake activities in areas of priority concern to the countries in response to the aggregated regional demands and priorities; it also serves as an interface between national, regional and global issues. It will contribute to shifting the role of UNDP in the region further towards the provision of knowledge-based advisory services; institutional strengthening; facilitation of multi-stakeholder consensus-building; advocacy work; and demonstration projects. These functional areas will underpin interventions in three priority thematic areas in line with the Administrator's Business Plans, 2000-2003:

- poverty reduction;
- democratic governance; and
- energy and climate change.

The RCF will also incorporate three cross-cutting themes:

- gender and development;
- information and communication technology for development; and
- human development at the local level.

UNDP has consulted widely with a range of stakeholders in preparing the second RCF with a view to determining the development priorities, achieving consensus on its guidelines and ultimately securing broad-based ownership for the regional programme.

The Context:

After the lost decade of the 1980s, the majority of Latin American economies resumed growth during the first half of the 1990s but were hit by the repercussions of the South-east Asian financial crisis, which started in 1997, experiencing a setback at the end of the decade with uneven results. The region's gross domestic product (GDP) increased by an estimated 3.8 per cent in 2000 compared with 2.3 per cent in 1998 and 0.3 per cent in 1999. There were, however, significant differences; for example, in the English-speaking Caribbean, very few countries showed any meaningful growth over this period. During the 1990s, most countries implemented trade and financial liberalization policies based on the prevailing idea that they were efficient strategies for growth in contrast to past excessive trade protection and high levels of State intervention. However, vulnerability and macroeconomic management that emphasized overvalued exchange rates and high interest rates produced low rates of growth. The average in the 1990s was only 3.2 per cent per year, far below the 5.5 per cent record set during the three decades from the 1950s to the 1970s. High levels of debt-servicing and a downturn of the global economy, lower foreign direct investment and shrinking markets for exports constitute major concerns in 2001.

These same policies were also thought to be effective means of fully exploiting the opportunities generated by globalization. However, the Asian crisis showed that without an adequate institutional setting, liberalization could be the source of macroeconomic instability. In fact, the Latin American and Caribbean economies

turned out to be highly vulnerable to external shocks. In particular, the small size, insularity, narrow resource base and high dependence on international trade of the Caribbean States exacerbated their vulnerability to external financial vagaries in addition to their susceptibility to natural disasters and global environmental change.

The ensuing institutional reforms did not set up mechanisms that guarantee economic competition and ensure access to formal markets by the poor. Although the trend with respect to the incidence of poverty was favorable in the period 1990-1997 compared with the 1980s, the situation worsened in the following years and the absolute figure of 244 million income-poor people in 1999 is the region's highest ever. At the same time, income inequality worsened during the 1990s and is now the highest worldwide.

Progress has been achieved in the region in the recognition and protection of women's rights and mainstreaming of gender equality at the policy level. All the countries of the region have adopted conventions affirming women's rights. In several countries, women have joined the political process and benefit from expanding opportunities in the labour market. However, significant challenges remain: domestic violence, trafficking in girls, lack of protection of women in conflict situations, absence of gender equity in the development of poverty-eradication strategies, and unequal access of women to basic services.

HIV/AIDS has emerged as a particular challenge for a number of countries in the region. Indeed, the Caribbean now has the highest incidence of cases in the Americas and the fastest growing prevalence rate after sub-Saharan Africa. It has become the leading cause of death in both males and females in the 25-44 age group. It has a disastrous impact on human development, poverty, social cohesion and gender equality in the region. In Central America, the epidemic has spread beyond the high-risk population to the general population and affects women in particular.

The consolidation of democratic governance is a challenge to the region. In the past 20 years, the overwhelming majority of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have adopted democratic political regimes. However, some democracies are fragile and incomplete and are subject to failure. Longstanding poverty, deteriorating patterns of income distribution and personal and social insecurity erode democracy.

The sustainability of democracies is linked to the ways in which society resolves the issues of poverty, unemployment and social inequity, incorporates the concerns of minorities, in particular ethnic groups, and ensures enjoyment of fundamental rights. Public opinion polls show that in many countries, people have low confidence in political parties, judicial systems and the police. Political and civil leaders identify corruption as a factor that undermines the credibility and legitimacy of institutions. In several countries, internal conflicts persist and drug trafficking remains a major threat to internal and regional security. High-level leaders and Governments in the region have recognized these problems and have committed themselves to consolidating democratic governance in the region. Civil society organizations, local governments and other actors, assuming new roles, have mobilized in support of democratic processes, leading to a more participatory and inclusive society.

Natural resources and global public goods such as water, forest and the environment are overused. One third of the population of the region are poor and live in isolated communities, without access to energy. Energy investments of more than \$17 billion per year are increasing the use of fossil fuels. Climate change exacerbates natural disasters with enormous human and economic costs. The 244 million poor of the region are the most vulnerable to climate change and related risks and disasters. Yet, an environmentally sustainable approach has not been fully mainstreamed into development policy.

The majority of people and organizations have scant access to the ultimate public goods, namely knowledge. With 8 per cent of world population, the region has 3.5 per cent of Internet users and less than 1 per cent of electronic trade, although its Internet market has been projected as the fastest growing for the next years. The digital divide is growing within and between countries of the region. The mainstreaming of information and communication technologies (ICT) in development activities can play a meaningful role in the transformation to a more informed society and a competitive and service-oriented economy and can benefit the poor particularly.

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5.0 Democratic Governance

More countries than ever before are working to build democratic governance. Their challenge is to develop institutions and processes that are more responsive to the needs of ordinary citizens, including the poor. UNDP brings people together within nations and around the world, building partnerships and sharing ways to promote participation, accountability and effectiveness at all levels. We help countries strengthen their electoral and legislative systems, improve access to justice and public administration, and develop a greater capacity to deliver basic services to those most in need.

The critical importance of democratic governance in the developing world was highlighted at the Millennium Summit, where the world's leaders resolved to "spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development." A consensus was reached which recognized that improving the quality of democratic institutions and processes, and managing the changing roles of the state and civil society in an increasingly globalised world must

underpin national efforts to reduce poverty, sustain the environment, and promote human development.

UNDP's work in democratic governance is reinforced by its network of over 166 offices and its global partnerships with democratic governance institutions. No organization has a wider reach.

UNDP's core services to support national processes of democratic transitions, focus on: (1) Policy advice and technical support; (2) Capacity development of institutions and individuals; (3) Advocacy, communications, and public information; (4) Promoting and brokering dialogue; and (5) Knowledge networking and sharing of good practices.

UNDP's work in democratic governance can be summarised into the following categories :

- **Legislatures**
- **Electoral Systems and Processes**
- **Access to Justice and Human Rights**
- **Access to Information**
- **Decentralization and Local Governance**
- **Public Administration and Civil Service Reform**

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6.0 Poverty Reduction

Promoting national initiatives to empower the poor

Through the Millennium Development Goals the world is addressing the many dimensions of human development, including halving by 2015 the proportion of people living in extreme poverty. Developing countries are working to create their own national poverty eradication strategies based on local needs and priorities.

UNDP advocates for these nationally-owned solutions and helps to make them effective through ensuring a greater voice for poor people, expanding access to productive assets and economic opportunities, and linking poverty programmes with countries' international economic and financial policies. At the same time, UNDP contributes to efforts at reforming trade, debt relief and investment arrangements to better support national poverty reduction and make globalisation work for poor

people. In doing so, we sponsor innovative pilot projects; connect countries to global best practices and resources; promote the role of women in development; and bring governments, civil society and outside funders together to coordinate their efforts.

UNDP promotes the concept of human poverty as a complement to income poverty, emphasizing that equity, social inclusion, women's empowerment, and respect for human rights matter for poverty reduction.

UNDP's work to assist developing countries meet the many challenges of poverty reduction can be summarized in the following categories:

Millennium Development Goals (see Annexe 1)

Pro-poor Policies

Re-orienting policy to serve the needs of people-centred development

Since the World Summit for Social Development in 1995, UNDP has supported national poverty reduction strategies. More recently, support has been extended to national efforts to formulate and implement Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) in order to gain access to debt relief or concessional lending.

UNDP is actively involved in advocating participatory processes for human development and supporting pro-poor economic policies. In the area of poverty monitoring, UNDP provides technical assistance and resources to undertake household income-expenditures surveys (in order to provide up-to-date estimates of income poverty); focused surveys (in order to provide in-depth data on human poverty); and participatory poverty assessments (in order to give the poor a voice in defining poverty). Such monitoring is linked to monitoring of progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

UNDP focuses its assistance on policy advisory services - attempting, for example, to make economic policies and budget allocations more pro-poor. A growing number of countries are now involved in undertaking studies on the links between macroeconomic policies and adjustment policies, on the one hand, and national poverty reduction strategies, on the other hand. This includes the examination of fiscal, monetary and exchange-rate policies and trade liberalization, financial liberalization and privatisation/de-regulation. Increasingly, UNDP will also support in-depth studies on the poverty impact of public expenditures and taxes. A major new joint initiative that is currently being prepared, in conjunction with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), will concentrate on the relationship between employment and poverty reduction.

UNDP recognizes, however, that national economic and social policies can not be implemented completely independently. The forces of globalization pose many challenges to countries (such as increased volatility of capital flows) as well as promise many benefits (such as increased income from exports). Along with international partners such as UNCTAD, UNDP is supporting a number of regional and national efforts to strengthen the ability of programme countries to integrate into the global economy on their own terms, and with the greatest possible impact on

poverty. Major areas of focus are the relationship between trade and poverty reduction and the strengthening of the bargaining power of countries in World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations.

6.1 Gender and Poverty Reduction

Mainstreaming gender into poverty reduction policies and interventions

There have been profound changes in the status and role of women over the past two decades. The Beijing+5 review noted progress in most countries including narrowing gender gaps in education and health, but progress has been slow and uneven. Of the world's 1 billion poorest people, an estimated three-fifths are women and girls. Of the nearly 1 billion adults in the world who cannot read, two thirds are female. Women also represent a growing proportion of people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to basic inequalities in access to education and resources, and an unequal share of the burdens of poverty, women continue to be under-represented in formal decision-making structures.

UNDP advocates for participatory approaches to budgeting, creating strategies and targets aimed at reducing gender disparities, examining linkages between poverty reduction and women's empowerment, and improving national capacity for gender-disaggregated monitoring and analyses. These strategic elements represent the crux of UNDP's work on mainstreaming gender into poverty reduction policies and interventions.

Working in more than 160 programme countries and territories, UNDP:

- promotes an enabling environment for the inclusion of gender equality objectives into national policy and strategy;
- mainstreams gender concerns across all programme areas;
- fosters networks and partnerships and the creation of a wide community of knowledge to share good practices;
- co-ordinates the UN response to country demands with strategic and high impact interventions that bring UN agencies and development partners together around the CCA/ UNDAF and Millennium Development Goals.

As scorekeeper and campaign manager for progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, UNDP has the responsibility to highlight and focus attention and resources on the gender dimensions of these goals. In addition, it has a role to play in monitoring disparities between men and women in the achievement of MDGs, in flagging gender gaps, and in ensuring gender monitoring of all goals and indicators.

Civil Society, Participation and Aid Coordination

Civil Society and Participation

"Our partnerships with civil society organizations are going to be as important as our partnerships with governments in shaping the future of

development." Mark Malloch Brown, Administrator, UNDP

UNDP has a rich and active history of engaging with a wide array of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as key partners in reducing poverty and improving development effectiveness. UNDP values a broad definition of CSOs that enables collaboration with a range of voluntary actors - from people's movements to international policy NGOs - which reflect the values and practices of human development.

All poverty reduction strategies must reach and include those who have been most marginalized from the benefits of society's development. The role of CSOs in articulating, advocating and, in many instances, boldly addressing these issues is widely recognized. UNDP works with CSOs in recognition of the differentiated impacts of development on vulnerable populations and to ensure that they have a voice in key policy processes that affect their lives. This includes fostering partnerships with government, donors and CSOs for reducing poverty and inequality.

As UNDP repositions itself as a leading policy and advocacy organization for sustainable development and poverty eradication, substantive partnership with civil society organizations is of greater strategic importance than ever.

Through the coordination of the Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships, the policy support of Bureau for Development Policy at Headquarters, and the strategic role of UNDP's Civil Society Advisory Committee in providing policy advice, UNDP has established a strong framework for partnering with CSOs at all levels from global campaigns such as pursuing the Millennium Development Goals to national initiatives such as pro-poor budgeting exercises. Much of the support is exercised through UNDP's network of country offices.

6.2 Aid Coordination

The importance of development cooperation and aid coordination for poverty reduction is well-established. Since the early 1990's, there is increasing pressure for donors to improve organizational effectiveness and demonstrate clearer linkages between financial contributions and improved development outcomes. Nowhere has this proven more evident than with the growing convergence of global development goals, particularly noted by the outcome of the Millennium Summit of 2000 that resulted in internationally agreed-upon and time-bound targets embodied in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

UNDP supports national and global efforts to improve aid coordination through existing institutional arrangements such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), Round Table Activities, and Multi-donor Forums. Attention is given to the following areas:

- I) Linking aid and donor efforts to the MDG targets as well as encouraging governments to meet the internationally agreed upon target of 0.7 percent of a country's Gross National Product (GNP) to be deployed for development assistance;
- II) Improving the effectiveness of aid to reach vulnerable groups;
- III) Ensuring aid targets poverty and social investments;
- IV) Fostering local ownership of resources and;
- V) Maintaining dialogue processes with Governments to ensure internalization of Round Table Meetings.

6.3 Micro Finance

United Nations Capital Development Fund, through its microfinance programmes, supports a variety of initiatives that facilitate the provision of financial services to the poor. These initiatives include all the items under the Activities menu above such as investments in microfinance institutions (MFIs) and the MicroStart Programme with UNDP country offices; technical advisory services such as MFI appraisals and project design; a supportive learning agenda; and best practice dissemination and capacity building.

To facilitate coordination between the different microfinance initiatives in the UNDP Group, a joint unit between UNDP and UNCDF was established in 1997 and called the Special Unit for Microfinance (SUM). Today SUM is integrated fully into UNCDF, and is now considered the lead technical unit on all matters pertaining to microfinance in the UNDP Group. UNCDF/SUM supports the growth of effective microfinance institutions that have transparent track records and solid institutional and financial performance in reaching poor clients, particularly women, on a sustainable basis. SUM also fosters an understanding of microfinance best practices and assists UNDP and other UN agency country offices worldwide to incorporate those elements into new programmes. As the global technical unit for microfinance of the UNDP group, SUM supports UNDP's microfinance portfolio, including those countries outside of UNCDF's geographic focus.

SUM was created by the Administrator of the UNDP as a joint partnership between the Bureau for Development Policy (BDP) in UNDP and UNCDF. The purpose of this partnership was to bring together the growing work of UNDP in the area of microfinance with the established credit and microfinance portfolio of UNCDF. UNCDF's capacities in microfinance were strengthened in 1999 by the UNDP Administrator's decision to locate SUM within UNCDF. In December 2001, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between UNCDF and UNDP's Bureau for Development Policy, spelling out the advisory support services that UNCDF provides to UNDP country offices and programme countries worldwide.

6.4 Crisis Prevention & Recovery

Many countries are increasingly vulnerable to violent conflicts or natural disasters that can erase decades of development and further entrench poverty and inequality. Through its global network, UNDP develops and shares innovative approaches to conflict prevention and peacebuilding, disaster mitigation and post-crisis recovery. UNDP is on the ground in almost every developing country - on hand to

operationalize crisis prevention and recovery and to help bridge the gap between emergency relief and long-term development.

The Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) assists UNDP country offices to set up and provide a quicker and more effective response for natural disaster reduction, justice and security sector reform, small arms reduction, disarmament and demobilization, mine action, conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and recovery. BCPR strives to ensure UNDP plays a pivotal role in transitions between relief and development; promotes linkages between UN peace and security and development objectives; and enhances governments' responsibilities and technical and national capacities to manage crisis and post-conflict situations. BCPR supports the Secretary-General's agenda in conflict prevention, through building capacities of governments and civil societies to analyze potential risk factors that could give rise to violent conflict and through developing strategies to address structural root causes.

BCPR Mission Statement:

To enhance UNDP's efforts for sustainable development, working with partners to reduce the incidence and impact of disasters and violent conflicts, and to establish the solid foundations for peace and recovery from crisis, thereby advancing the UN Millennium Development Goals on poverty reduction.

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What we do

Drawing heavily on its work in areas such as support for democratic governance and poverty reduction, UNDP has a well-established track record in building, consolidating, and preserving the peace. From Mozambique and Afghanistan to Guatemala and Albania, UNDP has played a major role in helping countries make the transition to a development- oriented agenda by promoting the rule of law and good governance; justice and security; demobilizing soldiers; reducing the flow of small arms; supporting mine action; and providing war-affected populations with alternative livelihoods.

In responding to natural disasters, UNDP has worked from Goma, the Democratic Republic of Congo to Gujarat, India to pick up where humanitarian relief leaves off and put in place early recovery initiatives that can be sustained by attention to disaster mitigation and preparedness in the rebuilding process. These development

responses are at the heart of the UNDP mandate for poverty elimination and democratic governance.

UNDP is also mainstreaming the crisis prevention perspective into all of its development work through policy dialogue, staff training and knowledge networking.

Why and when we get involved

Today, 90 percent of deaths in wars are civilian, 11 million refugees are seeking protection, and there are 20 to 25 million internally displaced persons around the world.

In September 2000, at the United Nations Millennium Summit, world leaders unanimously endorsed a set of international development goals, including the overarching goal of halving the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 2015. Reaching those goals, however, will require greater attention of the international community to issues of crisis prevention and recovery.

UNDP supports these goals with its partners and other UN agencies by strengthening coordination mechanisms to:

- (1) work together more effectively with national governments, agencies, donors and other aid partners;
- (2) prevent a crisis, mitigate natural disasters, response planning and transition to recovery;
- (3) reinforce in-country cooperation;
- (4) support resource mobilization;
- (5) develop national capacities to reduce the continued impact of residual weapons, such as land mines, on social and economic infrastructure and livelihoods;
- (6) strengthen and implement policies and programmes that incorporate conflict prevention and peace-building perspectives;
- (7) support strengthening of justice, the rule of law and human security; and
- (8) support demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants in order to protect civilians from post-conflict eruptions and to reduce the impact of illicit small arms proliferation and availability.

Where we help

The continued presence of UNDP, before, during and after crisis, puts it in a unique position to support crisis prevention and recovery initiatives. As UNDP's crisis prevention and recovery arm, BCPR works in over 60 developing countries and stands ready to respond to emerging conflicts and crisis situations.

UNDP promotes a strong and coordinated UN response in crisis and post-conflict situations. UNDP also works in close partnership with local governments, businesses and civil society organizations in developing country communities. In most of these circumstances, UNDP works closely with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UN Department of Political Affairs, UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and many other UN agencies as well as the World Bank.

BCPR is headed by a UNDP Assistant Administrator at the Assistant Secretary General level and Bureau Director. Three units — Recovery, Natural Disaster Reduction and Small Arms Reduction, Disarmament and Demobilization — are located in Geneva and another three units — Strategic Planning, Mine Action and Operations — are located in New York. BCPR also has staff in the UNDP programme office based in Rome.

7.0 Energy and Environment

Energy and environment are essential for sustainable development. The poor are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation and lack of access to clean affordable energy services. These issues are also global as climate change, loss of biodiversity and ozone layer depletion cannot be addressed by countries acting alone.

UNDP helps countries strengthen their capacity to address these challenges at global, national and community levels, seeking out and sharing best practices, providing innovative policy advice and linking partners through pilot projects that help poor people build sustainable livelihoods.

- (1) Capacity 21
- (2) Drylands Development Centre (formerly UNSO)
- (3) Energy for Sustainable Development
- (4) Equator Initiative
- (5) Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- (6) Montreal Protocol Unit
- (7) Poverty and Environment Initiative
- (8) Public Private Partnerships for the Urban Environment (PPPUE)
- (9) United Nations Volunteers: Environment
- (10) Water Governance

7.1 Capacity 21

Launched at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment & Development (UNCED), Capacity 21 works with developing countries and countries in transition to find the best ways to achieve sustainable development and meet the goals of Agenda 21.

Working with governments, civil society and the private sector, Capacity 21 programmes support the development of integrated, participatory and decentralized strategies for sustainable development.

Capacity 21 programmes are country-owned, country-driven processes that support and influence national and local decision-making to build long-term capacities at all levels of society.

Three principles lie at the heart of any Agenda 21 process and are the main building blocks for Capacity 21:

- **Participation** of all stakeholders in programme development, implementation, monitoring and learning.
- **Integration** of economic, social and environmental priorities within national and local policies, plans and programmes.
- **Information** about sustainable development to help people make better decisions.

Capacity 21 is operational in each of UNDP's 5 regions: Africa, the Arab States, Asia, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Since 1993, Capacity 21 has worked with over 75 developing countries and countries in transition to adopt innovative capacity-building approaches to address environmental degradation, social inequity and economic decline.

7.2 Drylands Development Centre (formerly UNSO)

UNDP's Drylands Development Centre specializes in assisting countries to fight poverty and encourage development in the drier parts of the world. The Centre located in Nairobi, Kenya, is one of the three UNDP Thematic Centres around the world.

In 2002, UNDP launched an Integrated Drylands Development Programme (IDDP) to assist countries make operational the goals and objectives set out in their National Action Plans and other Macro Economic frameworks.

In the past, UNDP has supported 60 countries affected by desertification and drought in the preparation of national and sub regional action programmes for the implementation of the CCD. The IDDP builds upon achievements in the implementation of the CCD so far.

a) Integrated Drylands Development Programme (IDDP)

About 1 million people worldwide live in the drylands and depend upon natural resources for their livelihoods. They include some of the world's poorest and most marginalized. Significant development assistance has gone to dry areas, but the bulk has been to provide emergency and humanitarian relief.

Governments throughout the world tend to marginalize their dry areas by not providing adequate services: health, education, water and markets. Insufficient investment has been made in long-term development of the drylands.

Fortunately there is a great deal of evidence that with good policies and adequate support, the drylands can be productive and people's livelihoods can be greatly improved.

The Integrated Drylands Development Programme aims to achieve results in three areas of focus:

- i) The needs of poor people in the drylands are being reflected in national policy and planning frameworks.
- ii) The vulnerability of poor people to climatic shocks, particularly droughts and floods, is being reduced, and capacities are being strengthened to respond to the effects of climate change.
- iii) People in the drylands are benefiting from systems of good local governance.

b) UNDP Drylands Development Centre & the UNCCD

UNDP Drylands Development Centre also supports drylands development and the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification.

At the heart of these efforts is our support to the development of Action Programmes. It is through National Action Programmes (NAP) processes, supplemented by Sub regional and Regional Action Programmes (SRAP), that problems are identified, country-level goals are set, partnerships built, problems are addressed, and action is taken.

i) National Action Programmes (NAP)

The Drylands Development Centre provides:

- a) Concept development and methodological guidance
- b) Technical backstopping to the NAP process
- c) Support to programme formulation
- d) Assistance in mobilization of catalytic resources for programme development
- e) Capacity strengthening and training
- f) Assistance for partnership building among all stakeholders

ii) Sub regional Action Programmes (SRAP)

While there is a strong emphasis on country activities, the Centre recognizes the need to support activities that cut across several countries in a given region. For that reason the Drylands Development Centre also works with Sub-regional organizations in developing programmes of a transboundary nature. These action programmes include priorities for sub-regional cooperation.

iii) National Desertification Funds

The Centre's initial support of technical and financial assistance was geared towards:

- a) Development of a design by a multi-disciplinary taskforce
- b) National workshops to validate the recommendations of the taskforce
- c) Setting -up and operation of the NDF
- d) Resource mobilization and fund capitalization

7.3 Energy for Sustainable Development

The Challenge

Strategies and interventions are needed that promote energy as an engine for equitable economic growth and sustainable development. Energy use is highly

unequal between North and South, rich and poor, men and women. In April 2001 at the ninth session of the Commission for Sustainable Development the governments of the world concluded: ***"To implement the goal accepted by the international community to halve the proportion of people living on less than US\$ 1 per day by 2015, access to affordable energy services is a prerequisite."*** This challenge presents an opportunity to find ways of producing and using energy that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable and of using this important tool as a means to achieve sustainable development.

Today, two billion people rely on traditional fuels such as wood, dung and agricultural residues to meet their heating and cooking needs, entrenching poverty and limiting opportunities. Though 800 million people have been connected to power grids in the last twenty years in developing countries, two billion people, mostly in rural areas, still do not have access to electricity and the services that electricity provides (illumination, mechanisation, refrigeration etc). People in developing countries consume an average of one sixth of global primary energy per capita compared to industrialized countries, while the majority of citizens of the least developed countries (LDC) have no access to electricity at all. At the same time, current patterns of energy production and consumption also contribute to environmental degradation at the local, regional and global levels.

Since access to modern energy services is an essential pre-requisite for increasing productivity and improving people's livelihoods, new approaches are needed to deliver such energy services to meet the needs of the poor and support sustainable development. Capacity development, technology access, policy innovation, integrated energy and development solutions, and new partnerships with energy investors are all required to overcome energy bottlenecks. Market mechanisms if properly designed and complemented by regulatory measures can go along way to solve the energy crisis in the South, while contributing to protecting the environment. Supportive solutions are possible.

UNDP's approach to sustainable energy

UNDP focuses on six thematic practice areas, selected because of developing country demand: poverty reduction, democratic governance, sustainable energy and the environment, crisis management, ICT, and HIV/AIDS. Sustainable energy is thus placed as one of the thematic pillars of UNDP for achieving poverty reduction and sustainable development goals as set by the Millennium Declaration.

UNDP's efforts in sustainable energy support the Millennium Summit objective of reducing by half the number of people living in poverty by 2015. To do this concerted international efforts are needed to help reduce by half the proportion of people without access to modern energy. Indeed, none of the agreed upon Millennium Summit development goals can be achieved without major increase in energy services in the developing world. UNDP's experience in integrated development solutions gives it a unique perspective to address the multiple social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable energy approaches. UNDP is able to work with multiple stakeholders from the public and private sectors, consumer groups, technical experts as well as civil society. This multi-dimensional development perspective, cross-sectoral working ability and inclusiveness in

constituency building are UNDP's greatest strengths and define its development niche.

UNDP defined its energy strategy in the UNDP Initiative for Sustainable Energy (UNISE) in 1996. UNISE discussed how energy relates to UNDP's thematic areas and programme goals (poverty alleviation, improvement of the situation of women, job creation, environmental protection, etc.) and outlined how energy programmes and projects can become instrumental in achieving sustainable human development.

In 2000, UNDP in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA) and the World Energy Council (WEC), established the World Energy Assessment: Energy and the Challenge of Sustainability, which provides the best current thinking on the social, economic, environmental and security issues linked to energy, and the compatibility of different energy options.. The World Energy Assessment has defined **"sustainable energy" as energy produced and used in ways that support human development over the long term in all its social, economic and environmental dimensions.** It concluded that the adoption of new policies that encourage the delivery of energy services in cleaner and more efficient ways is a prerequisite to address current development problems. The World Energy Assessment showed that by acting now to embrace these policies, a more equitable, economically prosperous, and environmentally sound world is within our reach.

In the fall of 2001, UNDP launched the Thematic Trust Fund on Energy for Sustainable Development to mobilise resources and promote coherency across UNDP in its approach to energy issues. It established four areas of priorities that UNDP should focus on to promote energy as a means to achieve sustainable development: strengthening national policy frameworks; promoting rural energy services; promoting clean energy technologies; and increasing access to investment financing for sustainable energy.

The Trust Fund modality is a new, more flexible and agile co-financing modality specifically designed for a rapid approval of proposals and swift disbursement of funds at the country level. The Energy Thematic Trust Fund has been designed to be fully complementary to the Global Environment Facility, building on UNDP's existing track record and is a means to help integrate GEF programmes. The thematic trust fund, together with the existing UNDP-GEF programme, can address a full range of sustainable energy activities.

Around the world UNDP has a well-defined presence in sustainable energy issues, both due to our role as a GEF implementing agency, as well as through core-funded energy activities.

Last year, about 70% of all UNDP country offices surveyed reported working on sustainable energy with the major areas of focus on energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy planning. Emphasis on climate change issues clearly emerged based on GEF funding and overlays the three areas mentioned. Core funding on sustainable energy issues focuses on rural energy, community development and the provision of social services.

Energy Priorities

UNDP's activities focus on the upstream enabling environment and policies needed to support energy options for sustainable development addressing economic, social and environmental goals simultaneously. Downstream activities concentrate on integrated energy solutions addressing social, economic and environmental objectives to address poverty and promote sustainable development. Actions taken at the local level to promote sustainable energy options also support global sustainable development goals, generating win-win outcomes in environment and development.

UNDP focuses on four priority areas (or so-called service lines), which are briefly described below. For more details, please see the Thematic Trust Fund on Energy for Sustainable Development.

Energy Priority 1: Strengthening national policy frameworks

UNDP efforts in this priority area focus on incorporating sustainable energy considerations into three types of policy dialogue: macro-economic reform, energy sector reform and sustainable development planning. All three must address energy in ways that support growth and equity if the Millennium Summit goals for poverty reduction are to be achieved. Within processes of national economic, environmental and energy policy setting and re-regulation, UNDP's energy activities will advance the interests of poor and marginalized groups to have increased access to energy services.

Energy Priority 2: Promoting rural energy services

UNDP efforts in this priority area focus on heating, cooking and electricity needs in rural areas to support household and productive activities. UNDP assistance will focus on energy efficient options through both conventional and renewable energy. In this focus area, special attention must be given to the distinct energy needs of women related to household and economic activities, and the essential role of energy services in supporting value-added activities in rural areas. UNDP efforts in this service line will focus on LDCs where needs are most acute.

Energy Priority 3: Promoting clean energy technology

Modern energy technologies are available that can support win-win development options, addressing both global environmental protection and local development needs. These include modernised biomass, solar photovoltaics, wind, hydrogen and other renewable energy options. High-efficiency, super-clean carbon-based energy systems are part of win-win solutions.

UNDP efforts in this priority area will support the introduction and adaptation of low emissions technologies that can support economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability. UNDP-GEF continues to play a major role in this area. The Thematic Trust Fund on Energy for Sustainable Development will complement UNDP-GEF energy programmes through the provision of funding for activities not eligible for GEF support, but essential for addressing local sustainable development needs.

Energy Priority 4: Increasing access to financing for energy

As the majority of all new investments in energy will come from non-ODA sources, this service line will focus on support to enhance developing countries' ability to attract investment financing for sustainable energy options. In addition, with increasing international attention on climate change issues, and the pending entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and associated mechanisms, new energy financing opportunities from both the public and private sectors are emerging. For developing countries to take maximum advantage of all these opportunities, information sharing and capacity building mechanisms are needed. UNDP will support developing countries' efforts to shape, learn about and participate in new energy financing mechanisms including the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

Cross-cutting Issues:

In addition to the four priority areas, UNDP conducts advocacy and analysis on energy trends and its linkages with development and promote south-south and north-south knowledge exchanges to maintain UNDP's cutting edge presence on sustainable energy and development issues and expand energy and development dialogue in the international community. Emphasis will be on innovative policy and programme approaches linking energy and poverty reduction efforts to achieve sustainable development.

Climate Change and CDM

"Developing countries, and the poorest people who live in them, are the most vulnerable to climate change. Yet it is also they who are most in need of expanded energy services to meet their growth and development needs. UNDP is working across the world to help developing countries build the capacity needed both to adapt to the impacts of climate change and dramatically expand the reach of affordable, improved energy services to the 2 billion people who currently go without. As global citizens we cannot afford to wait to address these urgent issues."

- Mark Malloch Brown

UNDP is committed to supporting developing countries in responding to climate change concerns as part of their overall sustainable development efforts. UNDP works with developing countries to create integrated solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges, with a primary focus on improving the lives of those living in extreme poverty.

7.4 Equator Initiative

The Equator Initiative is designed to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the equatorial belt by fostering, supporting and strengthening community partnerships.

A partnership for sustainable communities in the tropics

The Equator Initiative is a partnership that brings together the United Nations, civil society, business, governments and local groups to help build the capacity and

raise the profile of grassroots efforts that promote sustainable communities in developing countries within the equatorial belt.

A simple fact lies at the heart of the Equator Initiative's work: the world's greatest concentration of biological wealth is found in the tropics, in countries often beset by acute poverty. This biological wealth is under threat as never before.

The good news is that local grassroots and indigenous communities are actively charting a path towards a more sustainable future, using their biological resources in creative and sustainable ways for food, medicine, shelter and improved livelihoods.

The Equator Initiative aims to champion and support community-level development projects that link economic improvement with the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. To this end, the Equator Initiative partners are undertaking seven activities:

- Sponsoring the biennial **Equator Prize**, awarded to recognize outstanding communities from developing countries in the tropics that demonstrate in practical terms how efforts to conserve biodiversity can also reduce poverty,
- Offering **learning exchange** grants so that grassroots practitioners can share best practices with other communities in the tropics,
- Facilitating **eco-entrepreneur mentoring** to provide business and financial advice for small sustainable business startups,
- Assisting **people and protected** areas where communities must balance income generation with the conservation of biodiversity in or near World Heritage Sites,
- **Making the community to policy connection** by linking local sustainable development innovations with policies that affect them, and working to ensure communities have the input, political support and funding they deserve,
- Fostering **research and learning** by enlisting networks of experts and practitioners to use community best practices to inform policy and development priorities, and
- Mounting a global **public awareness campaign** to raise the profile of sustainable communities in donor countries and encourage adoption of community best practices in developing regions.

As sustainable community initiatives take root throughout the tropics, they are laying the foundations for a global movement of similar local efforts that are collectively making a substantive contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

7.5 Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the development arm of the United Nations, was designated by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as one of its three Implementing Agencies. With its special mandate from the United Nations General Assembly and global conventions, UNDP works to advance the UN

agenda on development. By drawing extensively on its broad network of country offices and country contacts, special knowledge of development issues, thematic expertise and country-specific experience, UNDP assists countries to achieve their development goals. UNDP provides support to countries in the development of effective policies and institutions, such as integrating environmental and development objectives into national development agendas and processes, to protect the environment as well as reduce poverty.

The GEF is a financial mechanism structured as a trust fund that operates in collaboration and partnership with the three implementing agencies (UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank) for the purpose of achieving global environmental benefits.

Specifically, the UNDP-GEF supports the development of projects in the environmental focal areas of biodiversity, climate change, international waters, and ozone depletion. The new focal areas of persistent organic pollutants and land degradation were approved at the GEF Assembly meetings held from 16-18 October 2002. On behalf of the GEF partnership, UNDP-GEF also manages two corporate programmes, the Small Grants Programme (SGP), and the Country Dialogue Workshops (CDW). The May 2003 GEF Council approved the GEF National Consultative Dialogue Initiative. This new corporate Initiative will replace the CDWs and focus on the next phase of multi-stakeholder dialogue between the GEF and countries.

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The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a partnership that includes the GEF Assembly, GEF Council, GEF Secretariat, and three Implementing Agencies (UNDP, UNEP, World Bank). Restructured in 1994, the GEF is a Trust Fund that serves as the financial mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The GEF's mandate is guided by these global environment conventions, collaborates with other international agreements, and is evolving to include others. Most recently, these agreements have highlighted the need to concentrate more on land degradation and persistent organic pollutants. The GEF brings together countries from all over the world, including over 160 member governments, as well as other international organizations, bilateral development agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, private sector entities and academic institutions.

Focal Areas of Action

The different types of activities and projects that UNDP-GEF undertakes through the GEF to benefit the global environment fall under four main categories: biological diversity, climate change, international waters, and ozone depletion. More recently, the GEF Council has recommended to the October 2002 GEF Assembly that it approve the inclusion of two new focal areas: land degradation and persistent organic pollutants (POPs). Both land degradation and POPs will be fully incorporated into GEF operations following approval by the GEF Assembly.

UNDP-GEF projects in the focal area of biological diversity, or biodiversity, seek to help countries protect the global environment through an ecosystem approach that will have long-term benefits. The importance of biodiversity is widely recognized and the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) provides the guidance for projects in this focal area. Loss of biodiversity impacts not only the ecological, genetic and aesthetic concerns of the global community, but also affects sustainable development, and has social, economic, cultural and educational consequences. In this regard, the development of scientific, technical and institutional capacity is often an intrinsic part of UNDP-GEF projects in biodiversity. Projects aim to address the various root causes of reduction of biological diversity, with a focus on sustainable use that allows for the local communities involved to see socio-economic benefits. Enabling activities are designed to assist countries with achieving their Convention commitments.

More recently, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (adopted in January 2000), a supplementary agreement to the Convention, has acknowledged the potential for living modified organisms that are the product of modern biotechnology to threaten biological diversity. UNDP-GEF also supports activities related to the Protocol.

Human activities contribute to global warming by increasing levels of greenhouse gases (e.g., carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, halocarbons). From the use of fossil fuels for energy, to cutting down and burning forests, or agricultural activities and land-use change, to industrial processes and exhaust from automobiles -all of these activities contribute to the production of greenhouse gases (GHGs) that deplete the ozone layer.

Addressing the problems created by climate change requires the participation of the international community to reduce GHG emissions and concentrations. Present and future emissions of GHGs can be reduced by using energy more efficiently and by using more renewable energies. Human populations and economies are vulnerable to the adverse impacts caused by climate change.

The climate change focal area recognizes the impacts on the global environment caused by growing levels of greenhouse gases. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) guides UNDP-GEF projects in this focal area. Currently, there are 186 Parties to the Convention, which was adopted in 1992. Negotiations on the decisions to advance the Conventions objectives have continued since its inception, and the forum for discussions is the Conference of the Parties (COP). UNDP-GEF enabling activities are designed to assist countries with achieving their Convention commitments.

Marine and freshwater systems, including surface waters and groundwater,

constitute the world's water resources, which provide drinking water, sustenance, income, transportation routes and other amenities to a majority of the human population. Much of the earth's water resources is shared by two or more countries (e.g., 261 international river basins comprise 45% of the earth's total land area; 70% of the world's 50 large marine ecosystems, where 95% of the world's fish are caught). Within the GEF context, the term "international waters" refers to the following: oceans, large marine ecosystems, enclosed or semi-enclosed seas and estuaries, in addition to rivers, lakes, groundwater systems, and wetlands with drainage basins that overlap or share borders.

Poorly managed and uncoordinated human activities across sectors are threatening these shared water resources internationally and the livelihoods of billions of people who depend on them. Major threats include sea and land-based pollution, depletion of freshwater resources, habitat loss, introduction of exotic species, and over-harvesting of living and non-living aquatic resources.

Addressing these threats requires UNDP-GEF projects in the international waters focal area to aim at achieving a comprehensive, ecosystem-based approach to the sustainable management of international waters and to incorporate both developmental and ecological needs. Action programs take remedial and preventive approaches to restore and maintain the proper functioning of critical shared waterbodies and foster sustainable resource use. Rather than an international waters convention, regional and international agreements often provide guidance and the legal framework for developing projects in this focal area.

The reduction of ozone depleting substances (ODS) is clearly related to the climate change focal area. A relatively small number of UNDP-GEF projects involve ozone depletion and these projects must have climate change as the primary focal area, often through a focus on energy efficiency. Ozone depletion, then, generally appears as a component of UNDP-GEF climate change projects. Guidance for the ozone depletion focal area comes from the United Nations Secretariat of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

Land resources can suffer degradation from human activities, in turn affecting water and biological resources. Often, land degradation weakens the ability of communities to depend on their environment for their livelihoods. This is seen clearly when land resource potential is diminished through desertification and deforestation. Activities that contribute to land degradation include: soil erosion, denudation, pollution, loss of organic matter, fertility and vegetation cover, invasive species, habitat conversion (whether urban or agricultural) and aquifer degradation. UNDP-GEF projects in land degradation support countries in developing sustainable uses of land and policies for improved land use management. Cross-cutting projects seek to protect biodiversity of global significance, decrease GHG emissions and enhance carbon sequestration, and improve the management of transboundary waters.

In December 2001, the GEF Council agreed to create a new focal area for land degradation. This process was completed at the 16-18 October 2002 GEF Assembly meetings with approval of land degradation as a new focal area for GEF activities. Guidance to the GEF for this focal area will come from the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Global Mechanism. The UNDP-GEF

presentation Best Practices for Community-Based Land Management Practices, given during the GEF Assembly, highlights projects and activities that UNDP-GEF and UNDP have already undertaken in this focal area.

Persistent organic pollutants, or POPs, are chemicals such as pesticides, industrial chemicals, and unwanted by-products of industrial processes or combustion. These chemical substances cause injury to human health and to species and ecosystems both adjacent to and far away from their sources. Their effects include disruption of endocrine systems, suppression of immune system functions, carcinogenic traits, and induction of reproductive and developmental changes. POPs have three main traits:

- persistence: they are able to resist degradation in various media (air, water and sediments) for months and even decades;
- bio-accumulation: POPs can accumulate in living tissues at levels higher than those in the surrounding environment; and
- potential for long range transport: they have the potential to travel great distances from the source of release through air, water, and migratory species.

GEF Grant Opportunities

Through the GEF, UNDP offers four main opportunities to obtain grants for projects that meet the eligibility requirements: (1) full projects; (2) medium sized projects; and (3) enabling activities.

Preparatory funding for full projects and medium sized projects can be accessed through the (4) project development facility.

GEF Small Grants Programme

Established in 1992, the year of the Rio Earth Summit, the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) embodies the very essence of sustainable development. By providing financial and technical support to projects in developing countries that conserve and restore the natural world while enhancing well being and livelihoods, the SGP demonstrates that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives. The SGP links global, national and local-level issues through a transparent, participatory and country-driven approach to project planning, design and implementation. Grants are made directly to non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations in recognition of the key role they play as a resource and constituency for environment and development concerns around the world.

GEF Country Dialogue Workshops

The GEF Country Dialogue Workshop (CDW) Programme is a joint initiative of the GEF Secretariat, UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank, that UNDP implements on behalf of Member States. The Program is designed to promote country ownership of the GEF and build awareness through targeted, multi-stakeholder workshops that engage the countries in a direct dialogue on national priorities and the GEF.

Dialogue participants include a broad range of government representatives, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, scientific communities, donor organizations, the private sector, the media, and the GEF Secretariat and its Implementing and Executing Agencies. The May 2003 GEF Council approved the GEF National Consultative Dialogue Initiative. This new corporate Initiative will replace the CDWs and focus on the next phase of multi-stakeholder dialogue between the GEF and countries.

7.6 Montreal Protocol Unit

UNDP's Montreal Protocol Unit works with public and private partners in developing countries to assist them in meeting the targets of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Partners include:

- (a) governments, at both national and local levels
- (b) industry, including large and small and medium-sized enterprises
- (c) representative organisations (eg. refrigeration and air-conditioning associations, agricultural institutions)
- (d) civil society (eg. NGOs and farmers)

UNDP's Multilateral Fund activities are conducted by the UNDP Montreal Protocol Unit (MPU) located at UNDP headquarters in New York.

MPU and the Multilateral Fund

UNDP's Multilateral Fund activities are carried out by the Montreal Protocol Unit (MPU) at UNDP headquarters in New York. The MPU team is made up of programme coordinators with expertise in relevant technical and economic sectors, as well as regional and national experts, who help governments and industry design, implement, monitor and evaluate ozone-depleting substances (ODS) phase-out projects. Technical consultants are brought in to advise on projects as needed.

The MPU works closely with the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) on the implementation of project activities, as well as with UNDP's country offices, who play an important role in the national execution of MPU programming.

As one of the implementing agencies for the Multilateral Fund, MPU/UNDP is working in 85 countries to help them phase out the use of ODS through the following means:

- *Capacity Development*: Provision of assistance to governments in developing more effective national policies and programmes to meet compliance targets for eliminating ODS including, development of country programmes, refrigerant management plans, national and sector phase-out strategies and, institutional strengthening.
- *Technical Assistance, Training and Demonstration Programmes*: Provision of technical support and dissemination of information regarding ozone friendly

alternatives through practical, hands-on training sessions and in-field demonstrations.

- *Technology Transfer*. Provision of services, including financial and technical assistance to allow enterprises and governments to adopt alternative production processes and ozone-friendly technologies. Much of the focus has been on conversion of factory operations to eliminate the use of ODS used as foaming agents, refrigerants, aerosol propellants, solvents and fire extinguishers.

More recently, there has been new emphasis on eliminating the use of methyl bromide used as a fumigant in agricultural operations for soil, crops and storage applications

MPU and the GEF

UNDP also receives funding for Montreal Protocol activities through the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to carry out projects in countries with economies in transition (CEITs). Such projects are implemented jointly by GEF and the MPU.

MPU and Bilateral Programmes

UNDP also partners with a number of donor countries that engage in bilateral programming under the Multilateral Fund. These have included: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Sweden and the USA.

The Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol

In 1985, scientific concerns about damage to the ozone layer prompted governments to adopt the Vienna Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer (Adobe PDF), which established an international legal framework for action. Then, two years later, in 1987, international negotiators met again to adopt legally binding commitments in the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, which required industrialized countries to reduce their consumption of chemicals harming the ozone layer.

During the evolution of its implementation, as a result of changing conditions and increased information, additional requirements have been added to the Montreal Protocol through amendments adopted in London (1990), Copenhagen (1992), Montreal (1997) and Beijing (1999).

Phase-Out Targets

As of September 2002, 183 countries have ratified the Montreal Protocol which sets out the time schedule to "freeze" and reduce consumption of ozone depleting substances (ODS). The Montreal Protocol requires all Parties to ban exports and imports of controlled substances to and from non-Parties.

Production and consumption of CFCs, halons and other ozone depleting chemicals have been phased out in industrialized countries and a schedule is in place to eliminate the use of methyl bromide, a pesticide and agricultural

fumigant. Developing countries (Article 5 Parties) operate under different phase-out schedules, having been given a grace period before phase-out measures would apply to them, in recognition of their need for industrial development and their relatively small production and use of ODS.

Developing countries have agreed to freeze most CFC consumption as of 1 July 1999 based on 1995-97 averages, to reduce this consumption by 50% by 1 January 2005 and to fully eliminate these CFCs by 1 January 2010. Other control measures apply to ODS such as halons, carbon tetrachloride and methyl chloroform. For methyl bromide, used primarily as a fumigant, developed countries froze their consumption at 1995 levels and will eliminate all use by 2010, while developing countries have committed to freeze consumption by 2002 based on average 1995-98 consumption levels.

Control Measures of the Montreal Protocol

Substance	Developed Countries		Developing Countries	
	Consumption Freeze	Phase-Out	Consumption Freeze	Phase-Out
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC)	1 July 1989	1 January 1996	1 July 1999	1 January 2010
Halons	---	1 January 1994	1 January 2002	1 January 2010
Other Fully Halogenated CFCs	---	1 January 1996	---	1 January 2010
Carbon Tetrachloride	---	1 January 1996	---	1 January 2010
Methyl Chloroform	1 January 1993	1 January 1996	1 January 2003	1 January 2015
Hydro-chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs)	1 January 1996	1 January 2030	1 January 2016	1 January 2040
Methyl Bromide	1 January 1995	1 January 2005	1 January 2002	1 January 2015

7.7 Poverty and Environment Initiative

The United Nations Development Programme and the European Commission are engaged in a joint initiative on poverty and the environment aimed at identifying concrete policy recommendations and practical measures that address the environmental concerns of the poor in developing countries.

Past assumptions and biases

Conventional thinking on poverty and environment includes assumptions that are increasingly being called into question:

- poverty needs to be eradicated in developing countries before they can turn their attention to environmental protection;
- poverty and environment are linked in a "downward spiral" in which poor people, forced to overuse environmental resources for their daily survival, are further impoverished by the degradation of these resources. Population growth and economic change are also seen to contribute to this process. In addition, many of the environmental problems that have been identified in the international arena as the world's most pressing are not those that affect poor people in developing countries most severely. For example, lack of sanitation and clean water – rather than issues that preoccupy the North, such as ozone depletion and global warming – are arguably the South's worst environmental problems.

Current thinking

Many donors and policy-makers – especially since UNCED - have begun to embrace more localized, community-based approaches to natural resource management and sustainable development. This approach is informed by an understanding that the various groups in a society often experience environmental problems in very different ways. Others are advocating an alternative, 'environmental entitlements' approach to understanding poverty-environment linkages, which shifts the emphasis from questions of resource availability to those of access, control and management, and highlights the role of formal and informal institutions in shaping people's resource endowments and entitlements. At the root of this entitlements approach is an understanding that poor people's livelihoods are more likely to depend upon a mix of skills, assets, access to natural resources, social capital, and income-generating activities than on any single income source. Thus, improving their lot will require holistic rather than sectoral interventions.

The EC-UNDP Initiative

Development practitioners are increasingly searching for ways in which policy interventions can achieve multiple objectives and thus more effectively address the livelihood needs of people living in poverty. The goal of the Poverty and Environment Initiative is to provide a forum for practitioners, policy-makers and researchers working in this area to share their experiences and identify solutions.

To that end, the initiative supports a process that includes the preparation of a literature review and a series of analytical, in-depth issues papers. The expected outcome of the Ministerial meeting will be concrete recommendations for national-level policies and programs that will promote both poverty eradication and sound environmental management, thus creating "win-win" situations for poor people and the environments in which they live.

7.8 Public Private Partnerships for the Urban Environment (PPPUE)

UNDP's Public-Private Partnerships for the Urban Environment (PPPUE) facility supports the development of innovative partnerships between public and private actors at the local level. Focusing on assisting small and medium-sized cities, PPPUE works with all potential stakeholders, including investors, providers, regulators, users, and experts to meet the challenge of providing basic urban environmental services..

Innovative Partnership Grants (IPG): IPGs are awarded on a competitive basis to reward innovative projects in support of PPPs at the local level.

Global Learning Network (GLN): The GLN provides an international forum for institutions and individuals involved in the design of PPP policies and projects.

The GLN offers the following benefits:

- *PPP Experience Exchange*

The exchange of knowledge between PPP practitioners can only help foster the implementation of successful public-private partnerships. The resources available within this section will provide you with opportunities to meet with your PPP colleagues both virtually and in person through activities such as the GLN News e-mail forum through which you can receive the PPP Newsletter, by applying to add your details to the Consultant Roster, or by participating in one of the upcoming events detailed in the PPP Events Calendar.

- *Professional Development*

Engaging in PPPs in order to improve the access of the urban poor to essential services requires a wide range of skills and the development of strong multidisciplinary teams. PPPUE recognises that these specialist PPP skills need development at a range of levels and in a range of ways appropriate to the target audience. The GLN and its partners support the development of a global cadre of highly trained and experienced PPP professionals by developing a range capacity development tools.

- *PPP Resource Exchange*

The Resources section is a learning tool. Information is easily available to government officials, business people, NGO and community representatives, researchers, students and others who want to learn about examples of innovative solutions to urban environmental problems from around the world. Resources include Case Studies, Virtual Library, Project Database, and Working Paper and Conference Series.

At the beginning of the 21st century, more people live in cities and towns than in rural areas. While this trend is likely to continue, it has been accompanied by an alarming growth in the incidence of poverty, especially in developing countries. In particular, the provision of basic urban services like water, sanitation, and energy represents a major urban environmental challenge.

Private-Public Partnerships (PPP) are an effective means of establishing cooperation between public and private actors and to bundle financial resources, know-how and expertise to address these urban environmental needs. PPPs offer alternatives to full privatization, combining the advantages of both the public and the

private sector.

UNDPs Public-Private Partnerships for the Urban Environment (PPPUE) facility supports the development of such innovative partnerships at the local level. Focusing on assisting small and medium-sized cities, PPPUE works with all potential stakeholders, including investors, providers, regulators, users, and experts to meet the challenge of providing basic urban environmental services.

Participation, local ownership and shared responsibility are important aspects of PPPUEs innovative approach. This complementary approach with a unique international network, flexible design and a constant feedback mechanism contributes to the success of Public-Private Partnerships.

The management structure reflects PPPUEs arrangement as a multi-partner and multi-donor facility. While the PPPUE Consultative Group, consisting of contributing donors, UNDP senior managers, and a PPIAF representative provides strategic leadership, the PPPUE National Programmes are implemented by the respective UNDP Country Office in selected programme countries. The PPPUE Trust Fund allows donors to contribute to PPPUEs general activities or to specific projects.

PPPUE is designed as a complementary facility to the many existing initiatives and institutions, and works with a variety of partners at global, regional, and country levels. PPPUE offers numerous opportunities for partners, and invites interested parties to join the facility.

7.9 United Nations Volunteers: Environment

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that supports human development globally by promoting volunteerism and by mobilizing volunteers. It is administered by UNDP and operates amidst growing recognition that volunteerism makes important contributions, economically and socially, to more cohesive societies by building trust and reciprocity among citizens. Every year some 5,000 UN Volunteers from more than 150 different nationalities actively support the programmes of the United Nations itself and almost all UN funds, programmes and specialized agencies.

The What is UNV?

United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) is the volunteer arm of the United Nations. Created by the UN General Assembly in 1970 to serve as an operational partner in development cooperation at the request of UN member states, it mobilizes qualified UN Volunteers and encourages people to become active in volunteering in their countries. It is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and works through UNDP's country offices around the world.

What is UNV's mission?

Volunteering brings benefits to both society at large and the individual volunteer. It makes important contributions, economically as well as socially. It contributes to more cohesive societies by building trust and reciprocity among citizens. The United Nations Volunteers is the United Nations organization that supports sustainable human development globally through the promotion of volunteerism, including the

mobilization of volunteers. It serves the causes of peace and development through enhancing opportunities for participation by all peoples. It is universal, inclusive and embraces volunteer action in all its diversity. It values free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity, which are the foundations of volunteerism.

Who are the UN Volunteers?

Some 5,000 qualified and experienced women and men of nearly 160 nationalities serving each year in developing countries as UN Volunteers. Since 1971, some 30,000 UN Volunteers have worked in about 140 countries. Currently, nearly 70 per cent are citizens of developing countries while the remaining 30 per cent come from the industrialized world.

What do they do?

They work in technical cooperation with governments, with community-based initiatives, in humanitarian relief and rehabilitation and in support of human rights, electoral and peace-building processes. They are professionals who work on a peer basis. They listen and discuss; teach and train; encourage and facilitate. Volunteers also share and exchange ideas, skills and experience.

In which sectors do they work?

The UNV programme involves a wide spread of sectors: it maintains a roster covering 115 professional categories. Agriculture, health and education feature prominently, as do human rights promotion, information and communication technology, community development, vocational training, industry and population.

Where are they working?

Over the years, they have served in about 140 countries. Today 40 per cent are at work in Africa, 26 per cent in Asia and the Pacific, and 15 per cent in Central and Eastern Europe; the remainder are to be found in the Arab States, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Thirty per cent serve in the world's poorest nations -- the least developed. Half work outside capital cities, frequently in remote towns and villages. This is in response to expressed needs, and it reflects the commitment which volunteers bring. Included here are the field workers serving at the grassroots level in Asia, the Pacific and Africa. These are practitioners with excellent track records in village-level community work; they exchange skills and knowledge among countries of those regions.

How does the programme operate?

It works in partnership with governments, UN Agencies, development banks and non-governmental and community-based organizations. The programmes within which UNV specialists serve are usually managed by governments; often there is technical input and supervision from one of the UN system's specialized agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) or from the World Bank. At the request of some governments UNV itself acts as executing agent.

How is it funded?

Part of UNV's resources come from country and regional funds provided by UNDP. Other significant sources include the regular programme budgets of UN agencies, contributions from host governments, special purpose grants by donor governments, and the UNV Special Voluntary Fund. Contributions to UNV's Special Voluntary Fund and other funds exceed \$17 million annually.

Who is in charge?

Sharon Capeling-Alakija **Executive Coordinator, United Nations Volunteers**



Sharon Capeling-Alakija has been in her current position as Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers programme since 1 January 1998.

Based in Bonn, Germany, the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) is widely regarded as the "human face" of the UN's development efforts. Working through country offices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) around the world, UNV sends out some 5,000 UN Volunteers each year to assist in the areas of technical cooperation, community development, humanitarian relief, human rights, electoral support and peace-building processes. UNV also serves as the focal point for the UN-designated International Year of Volunteers 2001 (IYV 2001).

Prior to joining UNV, Ms. Capeling-Alakija was Director of the Office of Evaluation and Strategic Planning (OESP) at UNDP's New York headquarters, a post she held from April 1994 until December 1997. As Director of OESP, she was responsible for the overall management of UNDP's evaluation and planning functions, in particular ways to monitor programme effectiveness and impact; strengthen feedback mechanisms and encourage the growth of a "learning culture" within UNDP.

From 1989 to 1994, she was Director of UNIFEM, the UN Development Fund for Women based in New York which strives to ensure the involvement of women in mainstream development. While at UNIFEM, she introduced new programme initiatives and enhanced UNIFEM's comparative advantage as an organization born of the international women's movement to assist women at both the policy and grassroots levels.

She holds a degree in education from the University of Saskatchewan and began her career as a volunteer with the Canadian organization CUSO (formerly Canadian University Service Overseas), serving first in the Caribbean and then in Tanzania. During her subsequent 14 years with CUSO, she served as Director of Public Affairs and Programme Funding, Director of the Human Resources Division, and -- for seven of those years -- Director for the programme in West Africa, based in Lomé, Togo.

Born on 6 May 1944 in Moose Jaw in the Canadian Province of Saskatchewan, Ms. Capeling-Alakija, is the fifth Executive Coordinator of the UNV programme since its inception. Ms. Capeling-Alakija serves on the Board of Directors of the North/South Institute in Ottawa, Canada and the Netaid.org Foundation in New York, USA. She is affiliated with the American, Canadian and European Evaluation Societies. In May 1998, the University of Saskatchewan awarded her an honorary doctorate of law.

7.10 Water Governance

Effective governance: the key to sustainable water management and poverty eradication

Water plays a pivotal role for sustainable development, including poverty reduction. The use and abuse of and competition for increasingly precious water resources have intensified dramatically over the past decades, reaching a point where water shortages, water quality degradation and aquatic ecosystem destruction are seriously affecting prospects for economic and social development, political stability, as well as ecosystem integrity.

Water crises can be directly linked to issues of governance. Consequently, resolving the challenges in this area must be a key priority if we are to achieve sustainable water resources development and management.

Water governance refers to the range of political, social, economic and administrative systems that are in place to regulate the development and management of water resources and provision of water services at different levels of society.

UNDP's water strategy is directed by a commitment to assist countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals, with an emphasis on poverty reduction and reduced child mortality. The two specific goals related to water are:

- 1) To halve the number of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015.
- 2) To stop the unsustainable exploitation of water resources by developing water management strategies at the regional, national and local levels which promote both equitable access and adequate supplies.

UNDP is focussed on achieving effective governance of fresh water resources and the aquatic environment and targets actions to address four principal challenges - human health, food security, the decline of the environment, and social, economic and political stability.

UNDP's water strategy is implemented at global, regional and national levels. This website focuses on global and regional strategies on Sustainable Water Management. National level programmes and projects are documented on UNDP country office websites.

UNDP is also one of the implementing agencies of the Global Environment Facility. UNDP-GEF administers and implements an important program on International Waters. In addition, several UNDP-GEF Biodiversity projects involve coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems.

8.0 Information and Communications Technology

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is an increasingly powerful tool for participating in global markets; promoting political accountability; improving the delivery of basic services; and enhancing local development opportunities. But without innovative ICT policies, many people in developing countries - especially the poor - will be left behind. UNDP helps countries draw on expertise and best practices from around the world to develop strategies that expand access to ICT and harness it for development. Working in 166 countries, UNDP also relies on ICT solutions to make the most effective use of its own global network.

UNDP and ICT for Development:

Since 1992, UNDP has been a pioneer in ICTD. It has gained substantial on the ground expertise and knowledge through global initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Networking Programme (SDNP), the Small Islands Developing States Network (SIDSNet) and the Cisco-UNDP Network Academies programme for 24 LDCs; regional initiatives such as the Asia Pacific Development Internet Programme (APDIP) and the Internet Initiative for Africa (IIA); and national programmes such as Ukraine's FreeNet, Egypt's Community Access Centers and Cameroon's SchoolNets, to mention a few.

Based on this extensive work, UNDP has explicitly recognized the key role that ICT can play in the fight against global poverty and as an effective tool in helping to achieve the MDGs. UNDP has promoted this innovative approach to ICTD through its participation in global fora such as the G-8 DOT Force, the UN ICT Task Force and, more recently, at the various WSIS regional and global preparatory meetings.

UNDP's ICTD strategy focuses on upstream policy advice to help countries design a strategic approach to ICT as an enabler for development and link it to Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRS) and related development focus processes. This is complemented by support to the implementation of ICTD priority programmes based on a multi-stakeholder approach and innovative national and global partnerships to secure additional resources and expertise.

To accomplish the above goals, UNDP has identified, in consultation with developing country stakeholders, five strategic areas for ICTD related interventions. They are:

- National ICT for Development Strategies
- Capacity development through strategy implementation
- E-governance to promote citizen participation and government transparency
- Bottom-up ICTD initiatives to support civil society and SMMEs
- National awareness and stakeholder campaigns

UNDP has created a dedicated ICTD Trust Fund as a new and flexible mechanism to support the above activities. To date, the trust fund has received contributions of over 7 million dollars and started financing new ICTD programme activities in close to 25 developing countries, on a demand driven basis.

9.0 HIV/AIDS

Responding to the world's most serious development crisis

To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and reduce its impact, developing countries need to mobilize all levels of government and civil society. As a trusted development partner, UNDP advocates for placing HIV/AIDS at the centre of national planning and budgets; helps build national capacity to manage initiatives that include people and institutions not usually involved with public health; and promotes decentralized responses that support community-level action. Because HIV/AIDS is a world-wide problem, UNDP supports these national efforts by offering knowledge, resources and best practices from around the world.

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10.0 The Human Development Report Office (HDRO)

The Human Development Report (HDR) was first launched in 1990 with the single goal of putting people back at the center of the development process in terms of economic debate, policy and advocacy. The goal was both massive and simple, with far-ranging implications — going beyond income to assess the level of people's long-term well-being. Bringing about development of the people, by the people, and for the people, and emphasizing that the goals of development are choices and freedoms.

Since the first Report, four new composite indices for human development have been developed — the Human Development Index, the Gender-related Development Index, the Gender Empowerment Measure, and the Human Poverty Index. Each Report also focuses on a highly topical theme in the current development debate, providing path-breaking analysis and policy recommendations. The Reports' messages — and the tools to implement them — have been embraced by people around the world, evidenced by the publication of national human development reports at the country level in more than 120 nations.

In 1999, the media brought the Report's messages to more homes, and in

more mediums than ever before. From Albania to Zambia, last year's Report sparked dialogue, provided tools for advocacy and offered strategies for more equitably capturing globalization's opportunities. One day following the launch of HDR99 in Ireland, the government pledged new funds and a campaign to combat illiteracy. Brazil created a special commission on poverty, drawing heavily on HDR99 findings on national income inequalities. President Clinton, in a speech in September 1999, spoke of the potential for human development, the need to put a human face on the global economy and of the Report's Human Development Index.

The Human Development Report is an independent report. It is commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and is the product of a selected team of leading scholars, development practitioners and members of the Human Development Report Office of UNDP. The teams were led by Mahbub ul Haq and Inge Kaul from 1990 through 1994; by Mahbub ul Haq and Sakiko Fukuda-Parr in 1995, by Richard Jolly and Sakiko Fukuda-Parr from 1996 through 2000, and by Nancy Birdsall and Sakiko Fukuda-Parr since 2001. The Report is translated into more than a dozen languages and launched in more than 100 countries annually.

What is Human Development

"The basic purpose of development is to enlarge people's choices. In principle, these choices can be infinite and can change over time. People often value achievements that do not show up at all, or not immediately, in income or growth figures: greater access to knowledge, better nutrition and health services, more secure livelihoods, security against crime and physical violence, satisfying leisure hours, political and cultural freedoms and sense of participation in community activities. The objective of development is to create an enabling environment for people to enjoy long, healthy and creative lives." Mahbub ul Haq

Human development is about much more than the rise or fall of national incomes. It is about creating an environment in which people can develop their full potential and lead productive, creative lives in accord with their needs and interests. People are the real wealth of nations. Development is thus about expanding the choices people have to lead lives that they value. And it is thus about much more than economic growth, which is only a means —if a very important one —of enlarging people's choices.

Fundamental to enlarging these choices is building human capabilities —the range of things that people can do or be in life. The most basic capabilities for human development are to lead long and healthy lives, to be knowledgeable, to have access to the resources needed for a decent standard of living and to be able to participate in the life of the community. Without these, many choices are simply not available, and many opportunities in life remain inaccessible.

This way of looking at development, often forgotten in the immediate concern with accumulating commodities and financial wealth, is not new. Philosophers, economists and political leaders have long emphasized human wellbeing as the purpose, the end, of development. As Aristotle said in ancient Greece, “Wealth is evidently not the good we are seeking, for it is merely useful for the sake of something else.”

In seeking that something else, human development shares a common vision with human rights. The goal is human freedom. And in pursuing capabilities and realizing rights, this freedom is vital. People must be free to exercise their choices and to participate in decision-making that affects their lives. Human development and human rights are mutually reinforcing, helping to secure the well-being and dignity of all people, building self-respect and the respect of others.

THIRTY YEARS OF IMPRESSIVE PROGRESS - BUT A LONG WAY STILL TO GO

Human development challenges remain large in the new millennium (tables 1.1 and 1.2). Across the world we see unacceptable levels of deprivation in people's lives. Of the 4.6 billion people in developing countries, more than 850 million are illiterate, nearly a billion lack access to improved water sources, and 2.4 billion lack access to basic sanitation. Nearly 325 million boys and girls are out of school. And 11 million children under age five die each year from preventable causes —equivalent to more than 30,000 a day. Around 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1 a day (1993 PPP US\$), and 2.8 billion on less than \$2 a day. Such deprivations are not limited to developing countries. In OECD countries more than 130 million people are income poor, 34 million are unemployed, and adult functional illiteracy rates average 15%.

TABLE 1.1
Serious deprivations in many aspects of life

Developing countries

Health

968 million people without access to improved water sources (1998)

2.4 billion people without access to basic sanitation (1998)

34 million people living with HIV/AIDS (end of 2000)

2.2 million people dying annually from indoor air pollution (1996)

Education

854 million illiterate adults, 543 million of them women (2000)

325 million children out of school at the primary and secondary levels, 183 million of them girls (2000)

Income poverty

1.2 billion people living on less than \$1 a day (1993 PPP US\$), 2.8 billion on

less than

\$2 a day (1998)

Children

163 million underweight children under age five (1998)

11 million children under five dying annually from preventable causes (1998)

OECD countries

15% of adults lacking functional literacy skills (1994 –98)

130 million people in income poverty (with less than 50% of median income)(1999)

8 million undernourished people (1996 –98)

1.5 million people living with HIV/AIDS (2000)

Source: Smeeding 2001b; UNAIDS 2000a, 2000b; UNESCO 2000b; World Bank 2000d, 2001b, 2001c, 2001f; WHO 1997, 2000b; OECD and Statistics Canada 2000.

The magnitude of these challenges appears daunting. Yet too few people recognize that the impressive gains in the developing world in the past 30 years demonstrate the possibility of eradicating poverty. A child born today can expect to live eight years longer than one born 30 years ago. Many more people can read and write, with the adult literacy rate having increased from an estimated 47% in 1970 to 73% in 1999. The share of rural families with access to safe water has grown more than fivefold. Many more people can enjoy a decent standard of living, with average incomes in developing countries having almost doubled in real terms between 1975 and 1998, from \$1,300 to \$2,500 (1985 PPP US\$).

The basic conditions for achieving human freedoms were transformed in the past 10 years as more than 100 developing and transition countries ended military or one-party rule, opening up political choices. And formal commitment to international standards in human rights has spread dramatically since 1990. These are only some of the indicators of the impressive gains in many aspects of human development.

Behind this record of overall progress lies a more complex picture of diverse experiences across countries, regions, groups of people and dimensions of human development. The indicator tables in this Report provide a rich array of data on many indicators of human development for 162 countries, as well as aggregates for countries grouped by region, income and human development level.

TABLE 1.2

Countries suffering setbacks in the human development index, 1999

HDI lower than in 1975	HDI lower than in 1980	HDI lower than in 1985	HDI lower than in 1990	HDI lower than in 1995
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Zambia	Romania Russian Federation Zimbabwe	Botswana Bulgaria Burundi Congo Latvia Lesotho	Belarus Cameroon Kenya Lithuania Moldova, Rep. of South Africa Swaziland Ukraine	Malawi Namibia
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Source:Indicator table 2.

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The global challenge: Goals and targets

The Millennium Development Goals are an ambitious agenda for reducing poverty and improving lives that world leaders agreed on at the [Millennium Summit](#) in September 2000. For each goal one or more targets have been set, most for 2015, using 1990 as a benchmark:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target for 2015: Halve the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day and those who suffer from hunger.

More than a billion people still live on less than US\$1 a day: sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and parts of Europe and Central Asia are falling short of the poverty target.

2. Achieve universal primary education

Target for 2015: Ensure that all boys and girls complete primary school.

As many as 113 million children do not attend school, but the target is within reach. India, for example, should have 95 percent of its children in school by 2005.

3. Promote gender equality and empower women

Targets for 2005 and 2015: Eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015.

Two-thirds of illiterates are women, and the rate of employment among women is two-thirds that of men. The proportion of seats in parliaments held by women is increasing, reaching about one third in Argentina, Mozambique and South Africa.

4. Reduce child mortality

Target for 2015: Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five

Every year nearly 11 million young children die before their fifth birthday, mainly from preventable illnesses, but that number is down from 15 million in 1980.

5. Improve maternal health

Target for 2015: Reduce by three-quarters the ratio of women dying in childbirth.

In the developing world, the risk of dying in childbirth is one in 48, but virtually all countries now have safe motherhood programmes.

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Target for 2015: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Forty million people are living with HIV, including five million newly infected in 2001. Countries like Brazil, Senegal, Thailand and Uganda have shown that the spread of HIV can be stemmed.

7. Ensure environmental sustainability

Targets:

- *Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.*
- *By 2015, reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water.*
- *By 2020 achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.*

More than one billion people lack access to safe drinking water and more than two billion lack sanitation. During the 1990s, however, nearly one billion people gained access to safe water and the same number to sanitation.

8. Develop a global partnership for development

Targets:

- *Develop further an open trading and financial system that includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – nationally and internationally*
- *Address the least developed countries' special needs, and the special needs of landlocked and small island developing States*
- *Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt problems*
- *Develop decent and productive work for youth*
- *In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries*
- *In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies – especially information and communications technologies.*

Many developing countries spend more on debt service than on social services. New aid commitments made in the first half of 2002 could mean an additional \$12 billion per year by 2006