

WORLD RESOURCES

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WORLD RESOURCES REPORT

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) is committed to the principle that development is inseparable from the quest for peace and human security and that the United Nations must be a strong force for development as well as peace. UNDP's mission is to help countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable human development by assisting them to build their capacity to design and carry out development programmes in poverty eradication, employment creation and sustainable livelihoods, the empowerment of women, the protection and regeneration of the environment—giving first priority to poverty eradication.

UNDP, at the request of governments and in support of its areas of focus, assists in building capacity for good governance, popular participation, private and public sector development and growth with equity, stressing that national plans and priorities constitute the only viable frame of reference for the national programming of operational activities for development within the United Nations system.

UNDP strives to be an effective development partner for the United Nations relief agencies, working to sustain livelihoods while they seek to sustain lives. It acts to help countries to prepare for, avoid, and manage complex emergencies and disasters.

Visit the UNDP website

<http://www.undp.org>

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP) was established in 1972 as the environmental conscience of the United Nations. UNEP has created a basis for comprehensive, coordinated action within the UN on problems of the environment. UNEP's mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnerships in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and people to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

One of the most important functions of UNEP is the promotion of environmental science and information. UNEP has always recognized that the environment is a system of interacting relationships that extends through all sectors. It places, among other things, emphasis on environment for development. UNEP nurtures partnerships with other UN bodies possessing complementary skills and delivery capabilities and enhances the participation of the private sector, scientific community, NGOs, youth, women, and sports organizations in achieving sustainable development.

UNEP derives its strength and influence from the authority inherent in its mission—environmental management. UNEP has and will continue to play a pivotal role in caring for the environment for the future.

Visit the UNEP website

<http://www.unep.org>

WORLD BANK GROUP

FOUNDED IN 1944, THE WORLD BANK GROUP CONSISTS OF five closely associated institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD); International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC); Multi-lateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA); and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

The World Bank is the world's largest source of development assistance, providing nearly \$30 billion in loans annually to its client countries. The Bank uses its financial resources, its highly trained staff, and its extensive knowledge base to individually help each developing country onto a path of stable, sustainable, and equitable growth. The main focus is on helping the poorest people and the poorest countries, but for all its clients the Bank emphasizes the need for:

- Investing in people, particularly through basic health and education
- Protecting the environment
- Supporting and encouraging private business development
- Strengthening the ability of the governments to deliver quality services, efficiently and transparently
- Promoting reforms to create a stable macroeconomic environment, conducive to investment and long-term planning
- Focusing on social development, inclusion, governance, and institution-building as key elements of poverty reduction.

Visit the World Bank website

<http://www.worldbank.org>

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

THE WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL think tank that goes beyond research to create practical ways to protect the Earth and improve people's lives. Its mission is to move human society to live in ways that protect Earth's environment for current and future generations.

WRI's program meets global challenges by using knowledge to catalyze public and private action:

- *To reverse damage to ecosystems.* WRI protects the capacity of ecosystems to sustain life and prosperity.
- *To expand participation in environmental decisions.* WRI collaborates with partners worldwide to increase people's access to information and influence over decisions about natural resources.
- *To avert dangerous climate change.* WRI promotes public and private action to ensure a safe climate and sound world economy.
- *To increase prosperity while improving the environment.* WRI challenges the private sector to grow by improving environmental and community well-being.

In all of its policy research and work with institutions, WRI builds bridges between ideas and action, meshing the insights of scientific research, economic analysis, and practical experience with the need for open and participatory decision-making.

Visit the World Resources Institute website

<http://www.wri.org>