

Kofi A. Annan

M. Grant/UNEP

The 2000 Annual Report reflects the work of an organization proud of its accomplishments, yet not complacent; an organization ready to take on any of the challenges that the new Millennium - - “the Environment Millennium” - - may bring.

No crisis in history has so clearly demonstrated the interdependence of nations as the environmental crisis. The pressures wielded by the forces of economic globalization and technological change are transforming the global environment as never before. A number of trends that characterized the last decade of the 20th century are coming to a head. They include the increasingly transboundary nature of environmental problems; the recognition of interlinkages between various environmental issues; the challenge of implementing the increasing number of multilateral environmental agreements; the growing size and number of mega-cities; the increasing role of civil society in crafting and influencing public policies; and the transition towards a knowledge-based information society.

There is no shortage of ideas on what should be done. We need only look at some of the proposals put forward in this Millennium year — in the Malmö Declaration of Environment Ministers at the First Global Environment Forum, in my Report to the Millennium Summit and in the Millennium Declaration. Nor is there a shortage of specific programmes of action, such as the Global Compact — an initiative for partnership between the UN and the private sector to encourage and promote good corporate practices and learning experiences in the areas of the environment, human rights and labour. What we need is a better understanding of how to translate our values into practice, and how to make new instruments and institutions work more effectively.

The Rio Earth Summit in 1992 sought to address this question. It looked at new ways of defining and producing the wealth of the world, and of sharing it at the global level by taking into account the great diversity of needs,

aspirations and potential among the various groups of countries. The Rio Summit will go down in history as the first example of global negotiation for a contract on global environmental wealth.

As we prepare for the 10-year review of progress made in implementing Agenda 21, there is a growing understanding of the causes and dynamics of environmental degradation. We must work towards establishing systems that are governed by people and institutions according to commonly defined rules and mechanisms. We must use these systems to ensure that all parties concerned contribute, and that they all benefit from the efficient and environmentally sound use of resources - - whether natural or man-made, whether already available or yet to be developed. We must apply universal values to safeguarding local diversity. And we must build global public awareness, so that individuals and groups all round the world can understand what is at stake, and join in the effort.

The Malmö Declaration and the Millennium Summit mapped out a strengthened role for the United Nations in the field of the environment in the 21st century. The United Nations Environment Programme has been assigned a pre-eminent role in identifying and assessing environmental issues of common concern, in working towards their resolution through international cooperation, and in providing policy guidance for the direction of environmental programmes within the UN system. In all these areas, I know UNEP will be at the forefront of our efforts. The *2000 Annual Report* reflects the work of an organization proud of its accomplishments, yet not complacent; an organization ready to take on any of the challenges that the new Millennium - - “the Environment Millennium” - - may bring.

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* Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2001.

** Members whose terms expire on 31 December 2003.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FORUM

In Resolution 53/242, the General Assembly of the United Nations welcomes "the proposal to institute an annual ministerial-level, global environmental forum, with the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme constituting the forum in the years that it meets in regular session and, in alternate years, with the forum taking the form of a special session of the Governing Council, in which participants can gather to review

important and emerging policy issues in the field of the environment, with due consideration for the need to ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the governance mechanisms of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as possible financial implications, and the need to maintain the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development as the main forum for high-level policy debate on sustainable development".



Klaus Töpfer

Bernard Wainika/UNEP

UNEP's mission

To provide leadership and encourage partnerships in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

The United Nations Environment Programme's Annual Report for the year 2000 clearly shows that the problems connected with environmental governance are now being tackled by all governments at the highest level of political responsibility. What is encouraging is that the discussions and negotiations, which take place in a number of forums inside and outside the United Nations system, are all about measures and solutions that originated over years of thorough analysis and discussions within the United Nations Environment Programme.

The "Malmö Declaration", which emanated from UNEP's First Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Sweden in May 2000, recognized that confronting environmental challenges require decision makers to give due regard to the interests of the civil society and important entities such as the regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as consider the obligations and responsibilities arising from multilateral environmental agreements.

The vision of the world in the 21st century that the Declaration articulated is compelling: *"We can decrease poverty by half by 2015 without degrading the environment, we can ensure environmental security through early warning, we can better integrate environmental consideration in economic policy, we can better coordinate legal instruments and we can realize a vision of a world without slums".*

As this Annual Report demonstrates, UNEP is assertively moving towards the achievement of this vision. UNEP is promoting a spirit of international partnership and solidarity, catalyzing decisions on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, on the protection of endangered species through CITES and on the Convention on Biological Diversity. UNEP has elucidated its water policy and encouraged linkages between multilateral environmental conventions. It has progressed in the realization of this vision by involving the private sector in a new culture of environmental accountability through the application of the polluter pays

principle, environmental performance indicators and reporting, and the establishment of a precautionary approach in investment and technology decisions. UNEP has accelerated its efforts to empower civil society through freedom of access to environmental information and broader participation in environmental decision-making.

UNEP's *Global Environment Outlook 2000* shows that environmental problems rarely disappear. As human activities continue to grow, old problems re-emerge and new ones appear. They require continuous monitoring, an increasing capacity for farsighted and integrated understanding and commitment to sustainable development. Moreover, as the human population grows, the trade-offs between the environment and economic growth are likely to become sharper and clearer. Although what happens to the environment may be the most important long-term social problem, it is rarely the most urgent one. Issues of national security, jobs and incomes remain at the top of policy agendas. In contrast, clear environmental threats that compel action are rare, making the challenge of effective and timely response all the greater.

The ten year review of the decisions of the Rio Summit in 2002 will provide an historical opportunity to the global community to reinvigorate the spirit of Rio. This Summit must address the major challenges to sustainable development, particularly the pervasive effects of poverty on a large proportion of the Earth's inhabitants, juxtaposed with excessive and wasteful consumption and inefficient resource use that perpetuates the vicious circle of environmental degradation and people's impoverishment.

One prime challenge that the Summit will face will be the possible requirement for a strengthened structure for international environmental governance, based on an assessment of future needs for an institutional architecture that has the effective capacity to address wide-ranging environmental threats in a globalizing world.

Highlights

January - Expansion of the UNEP Insurance Industry Initiative to 86 international companies in more than 50 countries. UNEP coordinates meeting on tourism, Paris, France. Adoption of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Montreal, Canada. AMCEN Expert meeting on forests.

February - 2nd phase of the joint UNEP/ UNCHS Balkans Task Force on detailed clean up feasibility studies at selected sites in Yugoslavia. Scientific assessment of the environmental impact of the cyanide spill from the Baia Mare gold mine in Romania, Hungary and the Yugoslavia. New UNEP policy paper on forest-related issues presented to Governments at United Nations Forum on Forests. Meeting on the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, Kingston, Jamaica.

March - Report on the environmental impact of refugees in Guinea. 4th round of negotiations on an international legally binding treaty on persistent organic pollutants, Bonn, Germany. World Water Forum, The Hague, Netherlands. 2nd meeting of parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. 28th International Symposium on remote sensing of Environment, Cape Town, South Africa. UNEP provides support to Ethiopia to combat forest fires.

April - 8th session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), Abuja, Nigeria. 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). UNEP organizes panel discussion on "multilateral environmental agreements and the World Trade Organization", alongside the 8th session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development.



Robert Dewilde/UNEP

When one year ends and a new one commences, there is both concern and elation. People are worried about the change the future will bring and yet enthusiastic about the possibility of new beginnings. And at the start of the new millennium, these feelings are magnified a thousand times.

As we begin our passage into the first century of what will be the "Environment Millennium", the prophetic words in the preamble of Agenda 21 ring true: *"Humanity stands at a defining moment in history"*.

Undoubtedly, there is a growing global consensus that the environmental harm caused by some is a threat to all. An increasing number of people understand the interrelationship between environment, national security and economics. Since Rio, the global community has shown what is possible when the nations of the world work together. But the fact remains that some of the objectives of Agenda 21 still elude us.

The update on the latest climate assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concludes not only that human activity is contributing substantially to the warming of the planet, but that the warming over the next century could turn out to be much worse than previously estimated. The Panel said it expects the increase in the average global temperature over the next century to be between 3 and 11

degrees celsius. A three-degree warming over the course of the century would probably be the fastest warming in the history of civilization.

This is not a disaster waiting to happen. It is already under way. The decade of the 1990s was the hottest of the last millennium. And 1998 — which raised temperatures through the El Niño phenomenon — appears to have been the hottest year ever recorded.

Seen in this context, the breakdown of the Climate Change negotiations at The Hague was a great disappointment. The global community has an obligation to address this issue quickly. Global warming is not an abstraction. It is an accelerating crisis that poses a grave threat to the younger generation around the world. Witness the devastating floods in parts of Europe, Mozambique, China, the forest fires in the United States and the continuing drought in many parts of the world.

The growing incidence of fires and floods around the globe last year underlined the need for accurate environmental data and information systems. An environmental catastrophe is not a single event. It is the result of a process of events, the effects of which impact the hardest on a population which is already vulnerable. It is possible to see these environmental catastrophes coming, to be prepared, and to save lives. As the flagship institution of the United Nations system concerned with environmental

protection, the United Nations Environment Programme is strengthening its assessment and early warning programme. This should enable access to scientific information needed by decision-makers for better environmental management. It will also assist in assessing environmental conditions and threats to alert policy-makers, facilitate development of impact reduction strategies, and identify emerging issues.

There were other environmental issues that captured international headlines: the cyanide spill in Romania, the effects of war on the environment in the Balkans and in Africa, and the issue of biosafety and health, for example the spreading incidence of 'mad cow' disease.

Amid the environmental catastrophes of 2000, there were some events which gave cause for hope. One of them was UNEP's First Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Malmö, Sweden, in May 2000. Over 500 delegates from more than 130 countries - including over 100 ministers, and representatives of IGOs and NGOs - attended the three-day forum. The purpose of the Forum was to institute a process for regaining policy coherence in the field of the environment. The "Malmö Declaration", which was the principal output of this forum, acknowledged that the central challenge is to work out how the global ambitions contained in the increasing number of international environmental agreements can be turned into concrete local action and implementation. While countries may join in the formulation and signing of ambitious global agendas, garnering support and invoking action in a domestic context is often a different story. The mobilization of domestic and international resources, including development assistance beyond current levels, is vital. The Declaration called for reinvigorated international cooperation based on common concerns and a spirit of international partnership and solidarity. It also called

for a closer partnership with civil society and the private sector in the attainment of sustainable development.

The resumed session of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the Adoption of the Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on 29 January 2000 in Montreal. The Protocol addresses the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms that may have an effect on biodiversity with a specific focus on transboundary movements. It also contains provisions regarding information sharing, capacity building and financial resources with special attention to the situation of developing countries.

The spirit of the Cartagena Convention extended to the eleventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Nairobi from 10 to 20 April 2000. The decision reached on the African elephant and the rejection of proposals to downlist populations of Gray and Minke whale and the Hawksbill turtle were the triumphs of this event.

The spirit of Cartagena was captured again at the fifth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000. This meeting took far-reaching decisions on measures to protect the world's natural bounty through the ecosystem approach, access to genetic resources, biodiversity and tourism and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation among others.

UNEP continued to work towards a legally binding agreement on certain persistent organic pollutants, which is now in its final stages. UNEP has assisted in the implementation of the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol through the development of market

May - Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change, Nairobi, Kenya. UNEP co-chairs United Nations inter-agency working group on sustainable water use in Africa. 5th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. 64 Governments and the European Community sign the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. Millennium International Children's Conference on the Environment, Eastbourne, United Kingdom. NGO Millennium Forum. Global Ministerial Environment Forum adopts the Malmö Declaration.

June - World Environment Day celebrated under the theme "the environment millennium, time to act". 14 laureates receive the UNEP Global 500 award. World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought. World Oceans Day. Entry into force in the Wider Caribbean of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife.

July - Inauguration of the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge, United Kingdom. 3rd meeting of the Governing Council of the Parties to the Lusaka Agreement, Nairobi, Kenya.

August - 1st cleaner production and sustainable consumption roundtable for Africa, Nairobi, Kenya. 2nd workshop on strengthening the operation of the Basel Convention Regional Centres for Training and Technology Transfer worldwide, San Salvador, El Salvador. Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders and launch of UNEP and the Interfaith Partnership's book "Earth and Faith: A Book of Reflection for Action."

September - United Nations Millennium Summit, New York. Awards ceremony for prize winners of UNEP's International Photographic Competition on the environment "Focus on your World". Convention on Migratory Species Standing Committee, Bonn, Germany. International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer. INFOTERRA 2000, Global Conference on Facilitating Access to Environmental Information, Dublin, Ireland. UNEP/HABITAT Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP) and Urban Development Forum (UEF) meetings, Cape Town.

October - 1st workshop on national reporting and national inventories of hazardous wastes, Pretoria, South Africa. 6th international high-level seminar on cleaner production, Montreal, Canada. Special Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), Dakar, Senegal. Opening of new Regional Office for North America in Washington. Executive Director's historic visit to North Korea. 7th session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee for an international legally binding instrument for the application of the Rotterdam Convention.

November - 10th international painting contest "Through the eyes of children, preserve the oceans, skies and forests for the 21st century". UNEP team assesses impact of depleted uranium in Kosovo. UNEP Sasakawa Environment Prize awarded to Dr. Michel Batisse. 3rd Global meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, Monaco. 6th session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, The Hague, Netherlands.

December - 1st meeting of the intergovernmental committee on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montpellier, France. 12th meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone layer, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. 5th meeting of the intergovernmental negotiating committee for a Convention on Persistent, Organic Pollutants, Johannesburg, South Africa. International Biodiversity Day.

based mechanisms. It has strengthened its contribution to the work of the Global Environment Facility. It has sought to develop consensus on the implementation and build global awareness of the provisions of the biosafety protocol. Regional seas programmes have been brought into line with current socio-economic realities. UNEP has built strategies to improve compliance with international agreements - to ensure that those agreements yield lasting results, not just promises. UNEP has also built on the synergies and interlinkages available within various environmental conventions. It focussed on the regional element to confront pollution and the scarcity of resources in key areas - especially the water policy - where there is a dramatic increase in tensions among nations.

In an era of accelerating globalization, it is imperative that if we are to have any hope of protecting our environment, we must understand the connections between the health of

the world's economies and the health of the resources on which our economies depend. Economists, financiers, businessmen and bankers will have to recognize the hidden costs in the exploitation of the seas, the land and the air for short-term wealth.

Nations are like people. Each must choose whether to live selfishly and complacently or to act with courage and faith. Ignoring the stewardship of any of our social, economic and environmental resources could seriously undermine the wellness of our societies. On the other hand, understanding our dependence on these precious and finite resources can lead us to new insights about the meaning of security.

We cannot be secure until these resources are protected and ordinary citizens are empowered to be able to make decisions about their wise use. This must be our message for the "Environment Millennium".

MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

Strengthening Capacity to Manage Ecosystems for Human Development

"The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment is an outstanding example of the sort of international scientific and political cooperation that is needed to further the cause of sustainable development. I call on Member States to help provide the necessary financial support for the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and to become actively engaged in it."

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, From *We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century* (April 2000).

In light of growing demands for ecosystem goods and services and the vast scale of the human modification of ecosystems, it is imperative that wise choices are made in the use of these ecosystems. Both the challenges of effective management of the Earth's ecosystems and the consequences of failure will increase significantly during the 21st century. The scientific knowledge required to meet this challenge is unavailable today. A dramatic increase, or "step change", is needed in the information brought to bear on resource management decisions.

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA) is a four-year international scientific assessment of the condition of the Earth's ecosystems, the potential impacts of changes to ecosystems on their ability to meet human needs and policies, technologies, and tools to improve their management. The MEA is designed to enhance economic and environmental decisions by improving the information used by decision-makers and the public and strengthening the institutions involved in ecosystem assessments.

We, Ministers of Environment and heads of delegation meeting in Malmö, Sweden from 29 to 31 May 2000, on the occasion of the First Global Ministerial Environment Forum, held in pursuance of United Nations General Assembly resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 to enable the world's environment ministers to gather to review important and emerging environmental issues and to chart the course for the future,

Recalling the Stockholm Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the Rio Declaration of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Barbados Declaration on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States as well as the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Deeply concerned that, despite the many successful and continuing efforts of the international community since the Stockholm Conference, and some progress having been achieved, the environment and the natural resource base that supports life on Earth continue to deteriorate at an alarming rate,

Reaffirming the importance of the speedy implementation of the political and legal commitments entered into by the international community, in particular at the Rio Conference,

Convinced that urgent and renewed efforts are required to be undertaken by all countries in a spirit of international solidarity, and recognizing, *inter alia*, the principle of common but differentiated responsibility as contained in the Rio Principles to manage the environment so as to promote sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations,

Conscious that the root causes of global environmental degradation are embedded in social and economic problems such as pervasive poverty, unsustainable production and consumption patterns, inequity in distribution of wealth, and the debt burden,

Also conscious that success in combating environmental degradation is dependent on the full participation of all actors in society, an aware and educated population, respect for ethical and spiritual values and cultural diversity, and protection of indigenous knowledge,

Aware that the 10-year review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 to be conducted in 2002 will provide a further opportunity for the international community to take action to implement its commitments



Pierre Mens/Photo Archives of the Oeserund/Vision

and to strengthen international cooperation urgently required to address the challenges of sustainable development in the twenty-first century,

Convinced that the Millennium Summit of the fifty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly provides a unique opportunity to address at the highest level the role of the United Nations in the field of sustainable development, and noting in this regard the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as contained in his report "We the peoples: the role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century", which will serve as the basis of discussion at the Summit,

Determined to contribute to this historic endeavour from an environmental perspective, and having requested the President of the Governing Council to bring the following matters to the attention of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Millennium Assembly,

Declare that:

Major environmental challenges of the twenty-first century

1. The year 2000 marks a defining moment in the efforts of the international community to ensure that the growing trends of environmental degradation that threaten the sustainability of the planet are arrested and reversed. Hence there is an urgent need for reinvigorated international cooperation based on common concerns and a spirit of international partnership and solidarity.

2. There is an alarming discrepancy between commitments and action. Goals and targets agreed by the international community in relation to sustainable development, such as the adoption of national sustainable development strategies and increased support to developing countries, must be implemented in a timely fashion. The mobilization of domestic and international resources, including development assistance, far beyond current levels is vital to the success of this endeavour.
 3. The evolving framework of international environmental law and the development of national law provide a sound basis for addressing the major environmental threats of the day. It must be underpinned by a more coherent and coordinated approach among international environmental instruments. We must also recognize the central importance of environmental compliance, enforcement and liability, and promote the observation of the precautionary approach as contained in the Rio Principles, and other important policy tools, as well as capacity-building.
 4. The Global Environment Outlook 2000 of the United Nations Environment Programme provides a compelling assessment of the serious nature of the environmental threats faced by the international community. Special attention should be paid to unsustainable consumption patterns among the richer segments in all countries, particularly developed countries. Environmental stewardship is lagging behind economic and social development, and a rapidly growing population is placing increased pressures on the environment.
 5. Environmental threats resulting from the accelerating trends of urbanization and the development of megacities, the tremendous risk of climate change, the freshwater crisis and its consequences for food security and the environment, the unsustainable exploitation and depletion of biological resources, drought and desertification, and uncontrolled deforestation, increasing environmental emergencies, the risk to human health and the environment from hazardous chemicals, and land-based sources of pollution, are all issues that need to be addressed.
 6. Opportunities however exist that can redress this situation. Technological innovation and the emergence of new resource-efficient technologies, in which the private sector plays a major role, provide a source of great hope and increased opportunities to avoid the environmentally destructive practices of the past including through clean technologies.
 7. To confront the underlying causes of environmental degradation and poverty, we must integrate environmental considerations in the mainstream of decision-making. We must also intensify our efforts in developing preventive action and a concerted response, including national environmental governance and the international rule of law, awareness-raising and education, and harness the power of information technology to this end. All actors involved must work together in the interest of a sustainable future.
 8. It is necessary that the environmental perspective is taken into account in both the design and the assessment of macro-economic policy-making, as well as practices of government and multilateral lending and credit institutions such as export credit agencies.
 9. The trends of globalization in the world economy, with the attendant environmental risks and opportunities, require international institutions to adopt new approaches and to engage the major actors involved in globalization in new ways. We should encourage a balanced and integrated approach to trade and environment policies in pursuit of sustainable development, in accordance with the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session.
 10. The role and responsibility of nations based on the Rio Principles, as well as the role and responsibility of the main actors including Governments, the private sector and civil society, must be emphasized in addressing the environmental challenges of the twenty-first century. Governments are the primary agents in this process, whose actions are vital in implementing United Nations environment-related instruments since Stockholm, institutional capacity-building and strengthened international cooperation.
- The private sector and the environment**
11. The private sector has emerged as a global actor that has a significant impact on environmental trends through its investment and technology decisions. In this regard, Governments have a crucial role in creating an enabling environment. The institutional and regulatory capacities of

Governments to interact with the private sector should be enhanced. A greater commitment by the private sector should be pursued to engender a new culture of environmental accountability through the application of the polluter-pays principle, environmental performance indicators and reporting, and the establishment of a precautionary approach in investment and technology decisions. This approach must be linked to the development of cleaner and more resource efficient technologies for a life-cycle economy and efforts to facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

12. The potential of the new economy to contribute to sustainable development should be further pursued, particularly in the areas of information technology, biology and biotechnology. The ethical and social implications must be carefully considered. There must be recognition of the public interest in knowledge related to biodiversity, including the interest of indigenous and local communities. A corporate ethic guided by public interest should be promoted.
13. The Global Compact established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the private sector provides an excellent vehicle for the development of a constructive engagement with the private sector. UNEP should continue to enhance its engagement and collaboration with the private sector and consider the relation between foreign direct investment and the environment, with a view to minimizing negative environmental implications.

Civil society and the environment

14. Civil society plays a critically important role in addressing environmental issues. The role, capabilities and involvement of civil society organizations has seen a substantial increase over recent years, which highlights the need for national Governments and for UNEP and international organizations to enhance the engagement of these organizations in their work on environmental matters.
15. Civil society has found new and effective modes of expression of popular sentiments and concerns. It provides a powerful agent for promoting shared environmental purpose and values. Civil society plays an important role in bringing emerging environmental issues to the attention of policy makers, raising public awareness, promoting

innovative ideas and approaches, and promoting transparency as well as non-corrupt activities in environmental decision-making.

16. The role of civil society at all levels should be strengthened through freedom of access to environmental information to all, broad participation in environmental decision-making, as well as access to justice on environmental issues. Governments should promote conditions to facilitate the ability of all parts of society to have a voice and to play an active role in creating a sustainable future.
17. Science provides the basis for environmental decision-making. There is a need for intensified research, fuller engagement of the scientific community and increased scientific cooperation on emerging environmental issues, as well as improved avenues for communication between the scientific community, decision makers and other stakeholders.
18. We must pay special attention to threats to cultural diversity and traditional knowledge, in particular of indigenous and local communities, which may be posed by globalization. In this context we welcome the proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of the year 2001 as the International Year of Dialogue among Civilizations.
19. Greater emphasis must be given to the gender perspective in decision-making concerning the management of the environment and natural resources.
20. There is a need for independent and objective media at all levels in enhancing awareness and developing shared environmental values in global society. The media can serve the cause of sustainable development by identifying emerging issues, awareness-raising and promoting appropriate action.

The 2002 review of UNCED

21. The 2002 review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) should be undertaken by an international conference at the summit level. The objective should not be to renegotiate Agenda 21, which remains valid, but to inject a new spirit of cooperation and urgency based on agreed actions in the common quest for sustainable development. In this regard, the ratification of all environmental conventions and protocols, in particular those related to climate,



Bernard Wanjhu/UNEP

Summary of the Nairobi Declaration

The Nairobi Declaration was agreed by ministers of the environment and heads of delegation attending the nineteenth session of the Governing Council held during January and February, 1997. The declaration defining the future role and mandate of UNEP was endorsed by the special session of the United Nations General Assembly held in New York in June 1997.

The Heads of Delegation declare:

1. That the United Nations Environment Programme has been and should continue to be the principal United Nations body in the field of the environment and that we, the ministers of the environment and heads of delegation attending the nineteenth session of the Governing Council, are determined to play a stronger role in the implementation of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Environment Programme;
2. That the role of the United Nations Environment Programme is to be the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, that promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and that serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

For the full Declaration see <http://www.unep.org>

desertification, biosafety and chemicals, should be urgently pursued by Governments.

22. Governments and UNEP have to play a major role in the preparation for the 2002 review of UNCED at the regional and global levels and ensure that the environmental dimension of sustainable development is fully considered on the basis of a broad assessment of the state of the global environment. The preparations for the conference should be accelerated.
23. The 2002 conference should aim at addressing the major challenges to sustainable development, and in particular the pervasive effects of the burden of poverty on a large proportion of the Earth's inhabitants, counterpoised against excessive and wasteful consumption and inefficient resource use that perpetuate the vicious circle of environmental degradation and increasing poverty.
24. The 2002 conference should review the requirements for a greatly strengthened institutional structure for international environmental governance based on an assessment of future needs for an institutional architecture that has the capacity to effectively address wide-ranging environmental threats in a globalizing world. UNEP's role in this regard should be strengthened and its financial base broadened and made more predictable.

Conclusion

25. At the dawn of this new century, we have at our disposal the human and material resources to achieve sustainable development, not as an abstract concept but as a concrete reality. The unprecedented developments in production and information technologies, the emergence of a younger generation with a clear sense of optimism, solidarity and values, women increasingly aware and with an enhanced and active role in society - all point to the emergence of a new consciousness. We can decrease poverty by half by 2015 without degrading the environment, we can ensure environmental security through early warning, we can better integrate environmental consideration in economic policy, we can better coordinate legal instruments and we can realize a vision of a world without slums. We commit ourselves to realizing this common vision.

Adopted by the Global Ministerial Environment Forum
Sixth Special Session of the Governing Council of the
United Nations Environment Programme
Fifth plenary meeting
31 May 2000

EARLY WARNING AND ASSESSMENT

Formulating effective global, regional and national policies on the environment requires the assessment capability to make accurate, long-term projections of global trends and their interactions in areas such as economics, population, natural resources and environmental quality. It also requires a structure to link the results of such projections to decision-making. The early warning and assessment function brings better information into the decision-making process in order to link analysis with decisions and to obtain the best available description of the implications of policy choices. Early warning and assessment gives substance to the ecological insight that “everything is connected”.

UNEP’s Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA) performs these key functions with a view to stimulating new policies, environmental management practices and assessments based on credible, scientifically sound methodologies. It also develops new indicators and indexes to alert the global community to trends in critical and emerging environmental issues.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
OUTLOOK

The Global Environment Outlook (GEO) process and report series relies on a network of collaborating centres, advisory groups, scientists and policy makers and linkages with other UN bodies. The main output of the process is the GEO report series, which aims to reflect the best information and perspectives available on the global environment. Following the launch of UNEP’s second *Global Environment Outlook* Report (GEO-2000) in 1999, GEO-2000 has been published in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. Preparation of associated GEO products has continued, and includes a CD-ROM; Regional Environment Outlook reports for Latin America and the Caribbean

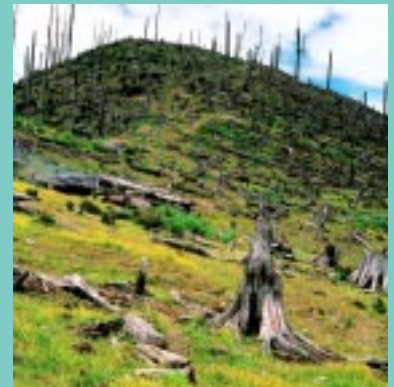
and West Asia; technical reports on data, acidification and eutrophication, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), emerging issues, and alternative policy studies for Asia and the Pacific, Europe and West Asia; a Training Manual; *Capacity Building for Integrated Environmental Assessment and Reporting*, in English, French and Spanish; *Pachamama* (GEO for Youth) Teacher’s Guide; a GEO Prospectus, and a newsletter.

Considerable progress has been made on the production of the third *Global Environment Outlook* Report (GEO-3), which will be published in early 2002, in advance of the next Earth Summit. GEO-3 will contain four chapters: Chapter One : Introduction, Chapter Two: Integrated state of the environment policy retrospective 1972-2002, Chapter Three : Outlook 2002-2032 and Chapter Four : Synthesis and Recommendations. Activities in 2000 have focused on the development of methodological frameworks and inputs for Chapters Two and Three. Capacity building activities, which are also an important component of the GEO process, have continued in all regions throughout the year.

A GEO user profile and qualitative analysis of the use of GEO reports and the GEO process has been prepared, and indicates that GEO reports are reaching decision makers - the report’s intended audience.

AFRICAN ENVIRONMENT
OUTLOOK

The Eighth Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in Abuja, Nigeria in April 2000 called upon UNEP to produce a comprehensive report on the state of the environment in Africa, under the title *African Environment Outlook*. Modeled as a GEO-type integrated retrospective assessment of the state of the environment in Africa, the report will



Zhui YI/UNEP



Dominique Reymond/UNEP

The World Conservation
Monitoring Centre

The UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) was established in June 2000 as the key biodiversity assessment centre of the United Nations Environment Programme. The Centre’s roots go back to 1979 when IUCN established a Cambridge office to monitor endangered species. In 1988, the independent, non-profit World Conservation Monitoring Centre was founded jointly by IUCN, WWF and UNEP. UNEP-WCMC’s over-arching objective is to provide biodiversity related assessment, information and training services to assist governments and organizations to implement policies and action plans to reverse the loss of species and ecosystems.

Working in concert with UNEP, the Centre will be able to expand and emphasize its role in advice, technical assistance and training, especially in developing countries.



Marco Antonio Flores Teixeira/UNEP

**World Resources 2000 — 2001
People and Ecosystems
The Fraying Web of life**

World Resources 2000-2001 was produced by the World Resources Institute in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the World Bank.

Human demands on ecosystems have never been greater and yet these demands are likely to increase dramatically, especially in developing countries, as rising populations mean more and more people are seeking better lives. Human intervention in ecosystems is evident everywhere, yet so little has been done to protect them. The challenge for the 21st century is to reconcile the demands of human development with the tolerances of nature. The latest edition of the World Resources Report enhances understanding of the vulnerabilities and resilience of ecosystems. The book sounds the alarm bell and warns that we must recognize “that the well-being of people and ecosystems is interwoven and that the fabric is fraying”.

The Report makes clear that the capacity of ecosystems to produce goods and services, ranging from food to clear water, is fundamentally important for meeting human needs and, ultimately, influencing the development prospects of nations. It calls for new trends in managing the world’s critical resources and calls on us to:

- Tackle the information gap;
- Engage in public dialogue on goals, policies, and trade-offs;
- Recognize the value of ecosystems services; and
- Involve local committees in managing ecosystems.

Comprehensive current data and indicators in more than 150 countries also make the World Resources data tables an invaluable reference for environmental research and decision making.

include policy responses since 1972, a chapter on emerging issues, and a forward-looking, scenario-based analysis linking major issues to policy measures, to reveal best policy options. This report will be based on the inputs being produced by the African GEO collaborating centres for GEO-3, which are under development, and supplemented with specialist inputs to fill gaps and respond to specific needs. The report will be launched at the next AMCEN session, to be held in Kampala, Uganda, in April 2002.

**UNEP.Net
Enabling access to global environmental data and information**

DEWA has embarked on the development of UNEP.Net to ensure better public access to environmental information, while supporting environmental assessment for well-informed decision-making. UNEP.Net is a web-based interactive catalogue and multifaceted portal that offers access to environmentally relevant geographic, textual and pictorial information. It also provides a platform for UN national focal points, UNEP partners and collaborating institutions and centres, e.g. GEO collaborating centres, national consortia, the Global Environmental Information Exchange Network (INFOTERRA), and the Global Resource Information Database (GRID) to share among themselves and with the public the environmental information they possess. The design of UNEP.Net will support global reporting processes and ensure that these processes are mutually supportive. UNEP.Net, which will be launched at the twenty-first session of UNEP’s Governing Council in February 2001, is the result of a partnership with two leading players from the private sector in the field of environment information: Environment Systems Research Institute (ESRI) and National Geographic.



Pham Nguyen Tung Nguyen/UNEP

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND LAW

Policy analysis, review and development, and law are central to the work of the United Nations Environment Programme. The quality, success and acceptance of UNEP's policies are a major determinant of its prestige within the United Nations system and the global community. The standards for judging the quality of policies are efficiency, effectiveness and equity. At the same time there are standards for judging the processes of policy making - such as participation, procedural fairness and predictability in delivery. The challenge before the Division of Policy Development and Law (DPDL) is to promote constructive and structured dialogue on strategic policy issues, while drawing on the creativity and expertise of a range of UNEP divisions while working towards common corporate objectives.

This can be seen in the policy inputs that the Division provided to various important initiatives taken by other divisions - such as the start-up process for Global Environment Outlook - 3 (GEO-3), the Regional Seas Programmes, the Global Programme of Action, the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification, the process of regionalization, with support to Africa as a concentration area in the current biennium and its assistance to the Balkans Task Force, and the Guinea Assessment of the environmental impact on the refugee influx from Sierra Leone and Liberia.

The new policy direction, as identified by the United Nations Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements, was widely endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999. During the period under review, areas of priority action have been the development of terms of reference for the Environment Management Group (EMG), the nomination of focal points and the preparation of the issue papers for discussion by the EMG. The period also saw an active involvement of DPDL in the preparation of the first Global

Ministerial Environment Forum in Malmö, Sweden. The impetus provided by the Malmö Declaration can be seen in the various activities of the Division during the year.

The year 2000 was a milestone in the development of international environmental law. There was a move towards the development of policy instruments to reflect the concerns of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition. There was a focus in making environment-related legal instruments and social, economic and trade instruments mutually supportive.

This resulted in the further development of UNEP's long-term strategic programme on environmental law through the adoption of the Montevideo Programme III. DPDL furthered the development of international environmental agreements of a binding and non-binding nature. It provided strategic support to the UNEP-wide efforts which culminated with the adoption of the Malmö Declaration, the start of the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade, and in the finalization and expected adoption next year of an International Legally Binding Instrument for Implementing International Action on certain persistent organic pollutants. DPDL also assisted in the development of an Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution and in the negotiation of a draft framework convention on the protection of the marine environment of the Caspian Sea.

DPDL provided legal advisory services to developing countries and countries with economies in transition such as Antigua and Barbuda, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Peru and



Lawrence Worcester/UNEP

**Development and Periodic Review
of Environmental Law
Montevideo Programme III**

The draft Montevideo Programme III has been prepared through the meetings of high-level expert groups and the Meeting of Senior Government Officials Expert in Environmental Law, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 October 2000 with the participation of 85 delegates. The new programme, the third UNEP long-term programme in environmental law, will provide UNEP with strategic guidance in the field of environmental law for the first decade of the 21st century, following the successful implementation of the Montevideo Programmes I and II. The draft Montevideo Programme III consists of twenty programme areas, ranging from implementation, compliance and enforcement to military activities and the environment, thus providing legal responses to major environmental challenges of the new millennium. It will be submitted for adoption by the 21st session of the Governing Council in February 2001.

Ghana to develop national environmental legislation and institutions. It also assisted Antigua and Barbuda, Oman, Nigeria, Rwanda and Suriname in the harmonization and development of their environmental laws.

DPDL enhanced its consultations and dialogue with the NGO community and civil society to build synergy between environmental policy and social and economic development policies.

In recognition of the complexity of water issues, and the linkage between freshwater basins and coastal and marine environments, the UNEP water policy has undergone a critical review. Instead of its traditional sectoral approach to environmental issues, the new UNEP water policy sets goals that cut across sectoral and administrative boundaries (see box). UNEP also contributed to the second World Water Forum through substantive inputs to the preparations and conduct of the Forum which was held in The Hague in March 2000.

DPDL embarked on a review and analysis of sustainable land use, including soil management. Particular attention is being accorded to interlinkages between the UNEP policy elements relating to land, water, climate, biodiversity, industry, chemicals, technology, legal, economic and other instruments.

During 1999, as an active representative of UNEP within the Inter-agency Task Force on Forests, DPDL continued to facilitate the implementation of proposals of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IPF/IFF). It participated actively in the fourth session of IFF (January-February 2000). A UNEP position paper on forest-related issues was prepared in March 2000.

The Joint UNEP/Habitat (UNCHS) unit initiated the process of developing a UNEP urban environment policy and strategy that will provide a framework for collaborative work with UNCHS and other relevant parties. The joint unit also initiated several consultative meetings such as the follow-up on the UNEP/Habitat/Shenyang Memorandum of Understanding, the Sustainable Cities Programme and the Urban Environment Forum meetings in October 2000.

DPDL organized five regional and thematic workshops in Africa to assist countries in the region to build national capacities and policies on mitigation and adaptation to climate change. As a direct result of the above work by DPDL, a number of countries finalized their first national communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A Global project to develop methodological tools for developing countries in their assessment of climate change impact

“Assessments of impacts of and adaptation to climate change in multiple regions and sectors in coordination with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)” was approved by the GEF Council. A climate change policy was developed in consultation with relevant UNEP divisions. An expert meeting on Land use, Land-use Change and Forestry and Carbon sequestration was held in October in Nairobi. The experts highlighted the various scientific and policy aspects of the issue from different perspectives.

A number of issues related to environmental policies and health as well as air pollution were addressed during events held in Hanover, Germany and Nairobi, Kenya.

Through the UNEP office in New York, the division played a crucial role in intergovernmental dialogue on environment and development, notably within the framework of the United Nations General Assembly, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Commission on Sustainable Development-8 (CSD-8) session on trade, land, forests and Rio +10. The office ably represented UNEP at landmark events such as the special session of the General Assembly on Women (June 2000) and the Millennium Summit. It ensured that the environment issues receive systematic and coordinated attention at UN inter-agency meetings, most notably through the adoption by the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) of the terms of reference and cost-effective working methods for the Environmental Management Group. DPDL also established an inter-agency liaison sub-unit in Geneva. Continued outreach efforts were made towards the private sector through the greater involvement of the telecommunications sector.

The Resource Mobilization Unit (RMU) developed a draft strategy on resource mobilization for UNEP to achieve stable, predictable and adequate funding. It facilitated resource mobilization contacts and negotiations with Governments. RMU developed an electronic database of more than 50 project proposals for additional funding by donors. Projects were formulated in close collaboration with programme divisions. RMU developed contacts with more than 70 non-traditional donors (e.g. foundations, the private sector, service organizations). Through this process, contributions were generated from about 30 non-traditional donors, including Toyota, Environmental Communication Operates/Dynamic Digital Network, Visual Arts Foundation and 24 Kenyan private companies, banks, etc. Agreements in support of various UNEP activities and the organization of fundraising events or promotional campaigns were signed with Toyota and the Kenya Television Network. In addition, contributions to UNEP from the public were obtained through sales of the UNEP calendar and the donation form on UNEP's website.

UNEP's new water policy and strategy

One of UNEP's major policy documents in 2000 was the new water policy and strategy. This was released and endorsed by Ministers at Malmö during the Special Session of the Governing Council.

The new water policy and strategy states "As we enter the 21st century, one-third of the world's people live in countries with moderate to high water stress. If current consumption patterns continue, two out of every three people on Earth will live in water—stressed conditions by 2025. Already, more than 5 million people die every year as a result of poor water quality — ten times the number killed in wars. More than half the victims are children. In short, water is life". Clearly, the unsustainable use of water is the most serious and immediate environmental and sustainable development problem facing the planet at the beginning of the new millennium.

The policy also recognizes that despite the efforts of the international community, the United Nations and other agencies, water problems are worsening in many parts of the world. As UNEP has the lead role within the United Nations for promoting environmentally sustainable water management, it is important that UNEP periodically update its approach to water issues.

The key components of the UNEP water policy and strategy are assessment, management and co-ordination activities.

Assessment

The main purpose in the assessment component is to provide information and analysis to identify priorities and enable appropriate policy responses to address the issues identified. The main framework for the assessment component is the Global International Waters Assessment (GIWA). Information and data from existing assessment activities, such as the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water (GEMS/Water), will be integrated with the results of the GIWA work to provide a comprehensive, prioritized assessment of international and other water bodies. The results of the assessment component will be used to set priorities in key

activities within the management component.

Management

There are three main interlinked programmes under the management component: the revitalization of the regional seas programmes and action plans; the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities and Freshwater. A key aim in the management component is to improve synergies between related programmes. For example, control of land-based sources of pollution will improve environmental quality in the regional seas. Similarly, a reduction of pollution discharge into rivers and other freshwater bodies will decrease the amount of pollution in marine areas.

Coordination

One of the most important challenges facing the international community is the need for better coordination of existing efforts, policies and techniques. UNEP will focus on improving coordination within UNEP itself, within the UN system, and also within sub-regional and regional groupings. UNEP will continue co-chairing, together with the World Bank and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the water cluster of the United Nations system-wide special initiative in Africa, thus contributing significantly to the implementation of the Governing Council's decision on "Support to Africa". UNEP will also be more active within established and newer coordination mechanisms, such as the Administrative Committee Coordination Sub-committees and the

Open Ended Forum on Oceans and Law of the Sea.

Through the new water policy and strategy, UNEP has reasserted that major environmental problems, such as the unsustainable use of water, cannot be addressed in a compartmentalized manner. It also recognizes the close links between the sustainable use of environmental resources and the reduction of poverty. The UNEP Water Policy and Strategy will be a priority implementation focus for all UNEP's divisions.



Sebastian Martin Ruano/UNEP

Liaison with NGOs and civil society organizations

Civil society : *Individuals and groups, organized or unorganized, who interact in the social, political and economic domains and who are regulated by formal and informal rules and laws. Civil society offers a dynamic, multilayered wealth of perspectives and values, seeking expression in the public sphere.*

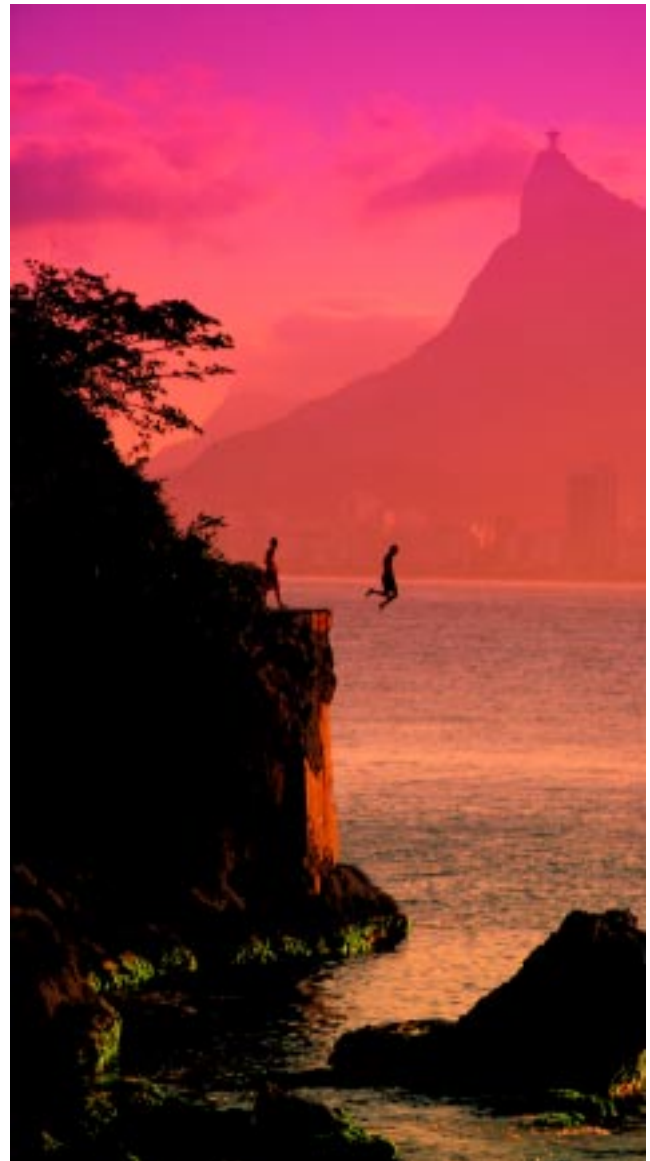
Source: UNDP Governance Policy Paper, 1998

Major activities undertaken in 2000

- Dialogue with development, scientific and policy research institutions as well as civil society representatives and NGOs such as the World Resources Institute, E-Law, the Earth Council, the Uganda Wildlife Society and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions:
- Periodic meetings with African NGOs to exchange views on the effectiveness of efforts to achieve environmental protection and sustainable development in Africa.
- Panel discussions with NGOs during the Conference of Parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- NGO Forum in conjunction with the First Global Ministerial Forum in Malmö, and establishment of a formal mechanism to solicit civil society input into the deliberations as well as to the Malmö Declaration. The Forum brought together 45 national and international NGOs.
- Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between UNEP and United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS). NGLS provides information, advice and opportunities for strengthening consultations between UNEP and NGOs.
- Establishment of closer links with the Stockholm Environment Institute, GLOBE, the Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI) and the Environment and Development Forum (UNED Forum).
- Initiation of a process to organize a Civil society/NGO segment for the 21st session of the Governing Council of UNEP.



Xun Wang/UNEP



Roberto Gomes/UNEP

Earth and Faith A book of Reflection for Action

UNEP launched *Earth and Faith, A book of Reflection for Action* in 2000. This publication is the result of nearly 14 years of work with the Interfaith Partnership for the Environment representing many faith communities. Born from a dialogue between the scientific and faith communities, *Earth and Faith* compiles sacred words in homage to our Earth. Against this backdrop, *Earth and Faith* reaffirms core teachings to inspire care for our natural world in order to engage and mobilize people across borders, including across the borders of faith.

It explores the lessons that various faith traditions offer and provides accessible information on freshwater, oceans, coral reefs, small islands, biological diversity, biotechnology, environmental justice, production and consumption patterns, as well as globalization.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

In 2000, the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) provided technical and advisory services to partners around the globe and implemented capacity and institution building activities. It also developed and implemented pilot projects and participated in the identification and dissemination of best practices. In addition to these technical cooperation activities, the Division spearheaded UNEP's response to environmental emergencies, promoted the enforcement of, and compliance with MEAs, and streamlined the implementation of the Global Programme of Action.

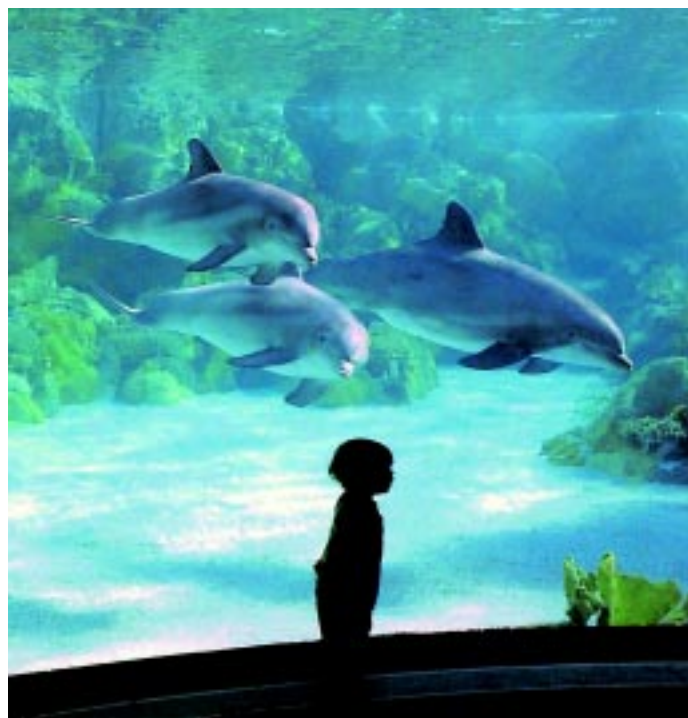
ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES

As part of the reform and revitalization process, UNEP focused on emergency prevention, preparedness, assessment, mitigation and response. UNEP, with other UN agencies active in the field of emergency assistance, especially with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) through the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit, played an active role in environmental emergency response.

The UNEP/UNCHS (Habitat) Balkans Task Force conducted a feasibility study on the specific activities and technical requirements at the four "hot spots" in the region and produced a project document for their clean up. UNEP, Habitat and the Chinese Government jointly implemented a project on mitigation and management of floods in China and started a vulnerability assessment for floods in the Yangtze River Basin. They also developed a project entitled Mitigation, Management and Control of Floods in South Asia. UNEP conducted post emergency assessments, to contribute to the mitigation of the disasters as well as to preparedness for future disasters, in Albania, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Hungary and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (chemical spills), Venezuela, Mozambique (mud slides, floods), Guinea (refugee impacts) and Kenya (drought).

ENFORCEMENT OF MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

Through the specialized unit within UNEP on enforcement of and compliance with Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), UNEP regularly updated and disseminated the database on national enforcement contacts and distributed it to Governments. The development of draft framework guidelines on compliance with environmental agreements and on enforcement and prevention of environmental crime continued to be a priority. The first meeting of the intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Compliance and Enforcement of Environmental Conventions, expected to take place in April



Matthew Warner/UNEP

2001, will discuss these guidelines. The guidelines will not be legally binding. They will provide general guidance to countries in their efforts to improve on their compliance with and the enforcement of environmental agreements and to prevent and combat environmental crime.

At the regional level, UNEP offered policy and advisory services to the Parties to the Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. In collaboration with the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the Organization of African Unity, UNEP initiated the process for the revision of the 1968 African Convention for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

SUPPORT TO AFRICA

The UNEP/UNDP/Dutch Joint Project on Environmental Law and Institutions in Africa has, since 1995, undertaken institution building in the project countries by training national lawyers how to develop and enforce environmental law. Phase II of the project, which began in 2000, focuses on institution building. Assessments have been carried out in four countries, viz. Burkina Faso, Malawi, Mozambique and Uganda, to ascertain their needs. In April 2000, UNEP released the *Handbook on the Implementation of Conventions Related to Biological Diversity in Africa*. The handbook will enhance the implementation of the conventions through national laws, facilitate harmonization of the modalities of implementation of the conventions and offer analogies which could be replicated in other regions of the world.



Lina Nasr/UNEP

activities of the GPA clearing-house mechanism continue to expand with the development of the pollutant source categories nodes by the relevant UN agencies and of regional prototype nodes in selected regions of the Regional Seas Programme.

In cooperation with the World Health Organization, Habitat and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, the GPA has prepared a strategic action plan on sewage. The purpose of this plan is to translate recommendations into practical guidelines for local and regional decision-makers on appropriate and environmentally sound wastewater management systems.

Preparations for the intergovernmental review on implementation of the GPA have begun, with focus on creating partnerships, promoting binding and non-binding agreements among stakeholders and the use of innovative financial mechanisms for implementing the GPA. The review meeting will be hosted by the Government of Canada in November 2001.

The GPA has provided support to the Regional Seas Programmes in the implementation of existing Protocols, the development of instruments on land-based activities as well as policy guidance on how to address municipal wastewater through a Strategic Action Plan.

With respect to biological and genetic resources, UNEP worked jointly with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute in order to develop appropriate conservation strategies on African forest species and the sustainable use of forest genetic resources in three countries.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION

The major threats to the health, productivity and biodiversity of the marine environment result from human activities on land. Some 80% of the pollution load in the oceans originates from land-based activities and includes municipal, industrial and agricultural waste and run-off, as well as atmospheric deposition.

The year 2000 saw the completion of the first phase of the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA).

This included the preparation of ten regional assessments and nine regional programmes of action on land-based activities. These assessments were the basis of two global assessment reports which focussed on the state of the marine environment and on land-based sources and activities affecting the quality and uses of the marine, coastal and associated freshwater environment. The

FRESH WATER

UNEP and Habitat are developing a concept for assessment of vulnerability to flood impacts, based on the Expert Working Group on the Yangtze River flood events and impacts and the South Asia flood mitigation and preparedness project. The developed concept will be applied to the Yangtze River basin in China.

As part of the demonstration of the “Conceptual Framework and Planning Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management” for the Cetina River Basin and associated coastal areas (Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina), UNEP and the Priority Action Programme Regional Activity Centre of the Mediterranean Action Plan are developing a study on economic development options and their impacts on natural resources and the environment.

UNEP is also developing a proposal for demonstration of the Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management to be applied in some demonstration sites in Southeast Asia.

UNEP collaborated with the World Commission on Dams in the preparation of the report *Dams and Development: A new Framework for Decision Making*. Along with IUCN, UNEP also prepared a study on ecosystem impacts of large dams.

BEST PRACTICES AND SUCCESS STORIES

The Division of Environmental Policy Implementation has drawn up a framework on success stories and best practices as a prelude to the creation of a UNEP-wide database on best practices. This will help cross-reference various initiatives and facilitate reporting for information users. Collaboration has also been initiated with the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies with a view to incorporating initiatives in soil and water conservation in the proposed UNEP-wide database.

UNEP played an important role in the first Local Initiatives Awards run under the auspices of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Given at a ceremony in Dessau, Germany, on 29 June 2000 during the Cities21 World Congress, the best practices awards covered governance for sustainable development, land resources, freshwater, atmospheric protection and waste management.



GEF-FUNDED BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITIES

DEPI has been implementing two projects on GEF funded Biodiversity Enabling Activities. These projects have a strong capacity building component.

1) National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

Under Phase II of Biodiversity Enabling Activities, which is currently under implementation, the GEF has approved additional funding to assist countries to assess their capacity building needs in accordance with selected decisions of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity. These cover assessment of capacity-building needs for:

- Implementation of general measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use;
- Methodologies to evaluate and mitigate specific threats to biodiversity components ;
- Biosafety initial assessment and monitoring programmes, including taxonomy;
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity important for agriculture;
- Access to genetic resources, benefit-sharing and formulation of mechanisms for these purposes; and
- Preservation of biodiversity related knowledge of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles.

To date, this project has assisted over 27 countries in preparing their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and First National Reports to the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

2) Biodiversity Support Planning Programme

The programme was established to respond to needs recognized by the Parties to the CBD for strengthening national capacity to prepare and implement National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans. Under this programme, specialized information on biodiversity planning and issues related to the CBD is compiled and distributed to national planning teams.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In partnership with UNESCO, DEPI focussed on advisory and clearing-house services to governments, civil society organizations, academia, schools and individuals. It provided advisory services on utilizing the African Learning Channel of the US-based “WorldSpace Foundation” for environmental education and training, particularly in remote areas of the African region. DEPI also advised the Kenya Organization of Environmental Education on the development of guidelines on environmental action learning to institutionalize education and training as a component in the rehabilitation of the Nairobi river. DEPI also participated in the joint UNEP/German Organization for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) Workshop on Environmental Action Learning in Kaimosi Teachers’ Training College, Vihiga District, Kenya, in September 2000. The training of teacher trainers in Kaimosi developed new tools for in-service training of teachers in the East and Southern Africa sub-region.

REGIONAL COOPERATION



Yamin Tolertmengkoi/UNEP

The ministerial sessions of these forums decided on workplaces either to run over periods of several years as with AMCEN whose action plan covers 2000 - 2004 and MCED with a Regional Action Programme for 2001 - 2005, or for the year ahead as in LAC and West Asia.

RIO +10

UNEP, working with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) prepared a European perspective towards regional preparations for RIO +10 to synchronize with the “Environment for Europe” process. A regional mechanism has been developed for West Asia, led by a joint secretariat of CAMRE, the Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) and UNEP, through the Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (JCEDAR). The LAC region has approved a regional work programme for the preparatory process for Rio+ 10 through the Intersessional Committee of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment. Asia and the Pacific countries identified preparations for RIO +10 as a priority objective to be coordinated through an inter-agency mechanism with a secretariat run by UNEP.

SUBREGIONAL COOPERATION

Subregional partnerships ensure that regional programmes of work are developed that build on synergies and avoid duplication, for example, in activities under the Global Programme of Action of the Protection of the Marine Environment (GPA) and the Global Initiative on Water Assessment (GIWA).

Major Arab regional coordinating bodies — CAMRE, the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME) and the body for the Protection of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) — forged new alliances. Work has begun through the Gulf Collaborative Council secretariat on a regional strategy to protect coastal reefs and on protocols to protect biodiversity and establish protected areas in the marine areas covered by ROPME and PERSGA. The first of several projected meetings on culture and the environment brought Islamic scholars from around the world to Jeddah in October to address the links between environment and Islam.

In the Asia and the Pacific region new collaboration with the South Pacific Region Environment Programme (SPREP) resulted in joint action on environmental education and awareness. With the Association of South Eastern Asian Nations (ASEAN), there was cooperation in the formulation of a legal instrument on transboundary haze. UNEP was

The year 2000 saw a steady strengthening of the process of regionalization through the activities of the Division of Regional Cooperation and Representation (DRCR). The Regional Office for North America was established in Washington with the inauguration of its premises in October. New liaison offices were established in Brussels and Moscow and the intention to open one in Addis Ababa was announced. There is increased harmonization of environmental actions in all regions. This is the result of a focus on strengthened intergovernmental policy dialogue through ministerial forums and increased regional and sub-regional cooperation. These developments are underpinned by enhanced information exchange within regions and the building of public environmental awareness on environmental issues.

MINISTERIAL FORUMS

Four regions hosted sessions of their ministerial forums during the year; - the Eighth Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in Abuja, the Twelfth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) (Barbados, March 2000), the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED) (Japan, September 2000) and the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) (Cairo, November 2000). For two of these processes, UNEP serves as the secretariat, while in Asia and the Pacific UNEP is a key partner of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). In West Asia, UNEP is a partner of the League of Arab States (LAS) which serves as the secretariat to CAMRE. UNEP was also a partner in preparatory meetings for the fifth ministerial conference “Environment for Europe”.

chosen as the secretariat for the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia. Collaboration between UNEP, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the ADB, national focal points and collaborating centres in the region is developing a regional environmental action plan for Central Asia.

The Conference on Biodiversity in Europe (March 2000, Riga, Latvia) prepared for the sixth Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity and made its implementation an integral part of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS). Eastern European countries began to receive advice and assistance on implementing national biodiversity strategies. Negotiations on a Caspian marine environment protection convention progressed well and specialized environmental management regimes for the Black Sea region, the Caucasus and the Carpathian highlands are under consideration. The environmental impacts of the cyanide spill at Baia Mare, Romania, into the Danube river system were assessed.

All regions had success in promoting environmental conventions, for example the 2000 Report on the status of Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) implementation in Europe. Considerable focus was also given to cleaner production, for example in LAC and West Asia. In the Asia Pacific region, ten workshops took place on the Clean Development Mechanism and a South Asian network on ozone depleting substances was established. A LAC meeting on Climate Change provided the occasion for Governments, working through the Regional Network under the Montreal Protocol, to share their respective positions on the issues involved.

EXCHANGING INFORMATION

The increased communication possibilities available today are reflected in the growth of new means and outlets for information exchange such as the Geneva Environmental Network with its cybercafé, library, and regular film and video presentations. The home pages were established or upgraded in all offices. Also in Europe, publications on consumption patterns, transport and the environment and European soils were issued.

RAISING PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Raising awareness of the environment and of UNEP through liaison and representation continue to be major challenges that can increase resources for action. The Regional Office for Europe has had notable success in resource mobilization during the year and the new Regional Office for North America will add to UNEP strength in this area.



Lim Eng Geen/UNEP

A major event was the establishment of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, sponsored by the United Arab Emirates and worth \$ 1 million, the largest and most valuable environmental prize in the world. The jury will announce the first winner in time for the Environment 2001 Conference in Dubai.

Latin America remains the trial area for the UNEP Environmental Citizenship programme. In October, it was announced that a new agreement has been signed with the Metropolitan Technological University of Chile for the development of environmental citizenship activities.

Other awareness raising activities of particular note included published materials on public participation in river basin management in Europe, on the Baia Mare cyanide spill and on sustainable transport in Central and Eastern Europe; publications in Arabic, such as a study on desertification and environmental guidelines for Arab children; as well as texts in Spanish, including weekly bulletins of the *Tierramerica* newspaper supplement that is distributed to twelve newspapers in the region.

Activities to raise the awareness of parliamentarians to environmental issues received added attention in the regions, for example, assistance to the Assembly of Asia-Pacific Parliamentarian's conference that resulted in the Hyderabad Declaration on Environmental Ethics and Public Education and UNEP's coordination of the Environmental Commission of PARLATINO (an association of Parliaments in the LAC region (Brazil, September 2000).

Outreach activities during the year yielded notable results, for example the Regional Youth Caucus for Asia and the Pacific organized on the margins of the MCED meeting, and the expanded environmental education and training activities in the Asia and the Pacific LAC region run through the Environmental Training Network. The Regional Office for Europe was instrumental in establishing eight new national committees for UNEP, including in Kazakhstan and Israel.



Chris Heller/UNEP

Laying the foundation for sustainable African development in the 21st century

The choice of “Support to Africa” as an area of concentration by UNEP is built on an appreciation of the natural potential of the continent, the challenges and opportunities which its development process presents and the foundation of partnerships. UNEP has focussed on the overall environmental policy context and empowered the African governments, the business sector and grassroots communities to participate in global multilateral negotiations to ensure that the African perspective is taken into account. Regional and sub-regional dialogue on current and emerging environmental issues has been encouraged. This has led to a substantive increase of UNEP projects in Africa and an ongoing reorganization of the Regional Office for Africa. A new senior liaison post has been established in Addis Ababa to liaise with the Organization of African Unity and the Economic Commission for Africa.

AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (AMCEN)

At its eighth session in Abuja, Nigeria, in April 2000, AMCEN took clear steps to strengthen itself - guiding and leading Africa’s participation in global negotiations, mobilizing support for sound environmental policy and providing a framework for marshalling cooperation for the environment among African countries and United Nations organizations. These changes were contained in the recommendations for policy and institutional change and a medium-term programme for the next four years. The “Abuja Declaration” envisages the establishment of intersessional and inter-agency technical committees charged with the task of implementing the medium-term plan.

Meetings of AMCEN facilitated by UNEP also led to the formulation of common African positions for meetings of the conventions on Climate Change, Desertification and the Montreal Protocol. African countries also focussed on emerging environmental issues such as the biosafety protocol and forest and

woodland issues. In support to the Convention to Combat Desertification, UNEP promoted discussion on resource mobilization, concentrating on opportunities for financial synergies with other conventions and the potential for private sector involvement. UNEP facilitated the implementation of the Montreal Protocol through meetings for anglophone and francophone countries and promoted regional cooperation for the phasing—out of ozone—depleting substances.

A Cleaner Production roundtable and Workshop on Sustainable Consumption was hosted in Africa for the first time, (Nairobi), aimed at addressing polluting production methods in a continent that has relatively little consumption. A seminar of the Solar Energy Society, a pilot sustainable energy advisory facility and a programme for small private sector energy companies addressed energy issues.

At the local level, there has been much interest in activities for the rehabilitation of the Nairobi River that will eventually spread to cover the whole of the river basin.

TECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRY AND ECONOMICS

The Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) continued its efforts to work as a catalyst and encourage decision-makers in government, industry and business to develop and adopt environmentally sound policies, strategies, practices and technologies. This involved raising awareness, building international consensus, codes of practice and economic instruments, strengthening capabilities, exchanging information and initiating demonstration projects.

The implementation of the cleaner and safer production programme in all regions remained a high priority. A highlight was the Sixth High-level Seminar on Cleaner Production, held in October in Montreal. Another key event was the first Africa Roundtable on Cleaner Production and Sustainable Consumption, held in Nairobi in August. The Second High-level Seminar on Cleaner Production in the Mediterranean Region was held in Rome. Under the joint umbrella of UNEP and UNIDO, new National Cleaner Production Centres became operative in Guatemala and Morocco. Publications in the field included sector specific guides on cleaner production assessments of dairy, fish and meat processing. A special issue of the *Industry and Environment Review* focussed on the sustainability of the agri-food industry.

DTIE expanded its Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level (APELL) programme to include India, Jordan, Qatar and Thailand. Technical support was provided to the UNEP team in Romania following the cyanide spill from the Baia Mare mine in February.

The Sustainable Consumption Programme worked with the Advertising Industry in determining the driving forces behind consumption patterns. This involved identifying global influences (advertising, media, Information Technologies) and developing the best ways to communicate the environmental message to consumers. DTIE contributed to the sustainable consumption debate through a series of events at EXPO 2000 in Hanover, Germany. The Africa Roundtable on Cleaner Production and Sustainable Consumption also presented an opportunity to obtain a regional perspective and identify training needs. Two global surveys were conducted, the Global Consumer Class research project and the Youth and Sustainable Consumption research project, the latter undertaken with UNESCO and Consumers International. Enhancing business involvement in sustainable consumption included focussing on strategies and tools such as life-cycle assessment. An expert meeting on the subject was held in Paris in June. Sustainable consumption patterns were promoted through partnerships with non-governmental bodies and UNEP's Youth Advisory Council.

DTIE activities included the development and operation of voluntary initiatives with various industries. The Financial



Yinchun Dong/UNEP

Institutions Initiative now includes 171 companies from over 45 countries that have signed its statement on the environment and sustainable development. A highlight was the Fifth Annual International Roundtable Conference on Finance and the Environment, hosted by Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt in November to discuss "Globalization and Sustainable Development - Opportunities and Challenges for the Financial Services Sector". Under the Insurance Industry Initiative, some 90 companies from 27 countries continued to be engaged in discussion of items such as global climate change.

The Tour Operators Initiative for Sustainable Tourism Development, launched in Berlin in March, was developed in co-operation with over twenty tour operators, the World Tourism Organisation and UNESCO. Major operators and suppliers of the global telecommunications market joined the development of a Global Telecom Initiative under the auspices of UNEP and the ITU. Major automotive manufacturers have been hosted by DTIE in Paris in May to initiate the creation of a forum for their sector. Other initiatives operated by DTIE with fellow UN agencies and non-governmental partners were the Advertising and Communication Initiative, the Sustainable Agri-food Production and Consumption Forum, the Offshore Oil and Gas Environment Forum, and the Mineral Resources Forum.

To develop the dialogue with business and industry, whilst involving NGOs, DTIE held its annual consultation in September with almost 50 industry associations. To catalyze environmental and sustainability reporting by companies, UNEP co-produced two reports, *The Life and Science Report* and *International Benchmark Survey* of corporate



Ruediger Fessel/UNEP

sustainability reporting. DTIE was an active participant in the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), aimed at establishing a permanent and standardized reporting process. The revised *Sustainability Reporting Guidelines on Economic, Environmental and Social Performance* was released in June. The second GRI International Symposium was held in Washington in November.

DTIE also assisted with the development of the Global Compact (see box). The Division cooperated with the International Chamber of Commerce to promote national environmental awards to reward improvements in environmental performance, especially of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). An international award ceremony was held in Budapest in May. A calendar and guidebook that demonstrate how environmental achievements can be translated into economic achievements have been launched subsequently.

The chemicals programme provided the interim secretariat for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure, jointly with the FAO. It has also provided the secretariat for the negotiations of a global legally binding instrument on persistent organic pollutants (POPs). The programme has been active in awareness raising about POPs, national implementation of the Rotterdam Convention, identification of sources of dioxins and furans, and methodologies to reduce and eliminate their release to the environment.

The chemicals programme expanded its activities in the areas of assessment and environmental information. This included implementing a project co-financed by the GEF for regionally based assessment of persistent toxic substances. It initiated the establishment of a global POPs monitoring network. It continued its role as partner with the WHO and the ILO in the International Programme on Chemical Safety. It operated a clearinghouse of information on POPs and maintained a global network of 431 government designated focal points. It participated in the Coordinating Group on pollutant release and transfer registers of the

Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC), and supported the development of national registers.

DTIE enhanced implementation of the Montreal Protocol through its eight regional networks of ozone officers from over 100 developing countries to monitor and promote compliance. Its OzoneAction programme assisted countries with economies in transition with policy and technical advice including organising, with Sweden and Finland, Ozone and Climate Change Network Meetings for the Baltic states in June and October. The Energy programme also contributed to addressing the climate change issue by promoting the use of renewable energy resources, increased end-use efficiency and improvement of the overall management of energy systems. Its activities included starting a Sustainable Energy Advisory Facility to provide policy advice to governments, and continuing a GEF-supported Investment Advisory Facility that helps direct sustainable energy investments.

In the field of Economics, Trade and Finance, the Division launched a second round of country projects on “Trade Liberalization and Environment” and on the “Selection, Design and Implementation of Economic Instruments for Environmental Protection”. These included fisheries projects in Argentina and Senegal, agricultural sector projects in China, Ecuador and Nigeria, a forestry sector project in Tanzania and the Philippines, a mining sector project in Chile, and a waste management project in Kenya. Another highlight was the launch of the UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development. The Economics and Trade Unit also organized expert workshops in preparation of the *UNEP Reference Manual on Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Policies*. It initiated a process of policy dialogue between



Yachua Feng/UNEP

the trade and environment communities to enhance the mutual supportiveness of environmental conventions and the WTO, through an ongoing series of structured meetings. Publications include the *Environmental and Natural Resource Accounting (ERA) Manual*, developed with the UN Statistical Department.

The DTIE's International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) in Japan assisted developing countries and countries with economies in transition to use environmentally sound technologies to address urban and freshwater basin environmental problems. It continued its support to the Sustainable Cities Programme, i.e., Wuhan, China, on freshwater management. Its information platform for databases on environmentally sound technologies, MaESTro, has been expanded. Furthermore, DTIE in a strategic partnership with the GEF initiated *The Sustainable Technologies Alternatives Network* to enhance improved knowledge management and information sharing for environmentally sound decision-making and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements.

Activities in the African region included highlights such as the new African Rural Energy Enterprise Development (AREED) Initiative. This initiative was designed to help set up private sector energy companies in Africa that are based on renewable energy technologies and bring together financial institutions and NGOs. Workshops were held in Botswana, Ghana, Mali, Senegal and Zambia. A renewable energy technology company start-up tool-kit was prepared. The Division also worked closely with four African countries to assess the environmental impacts of their trade activities and develop policy response packages. To support the use of the Internet to improve chemical safety in Africa, a project was undertaken to provide national focal points with computer equipment and training.



Boudjija Dahhou/UNEP



Kariti Shinde/UNEP

The Global Compact Shared values for the global market

At the World Economic Forum in January 1999, UN Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan challenged world business leaders to “embrace and enact” the Global Compact, both in their individual corporate practices and by supporting appropriate public policies. This Compact aims to engage the business community in an effort to advance basic values in the fields of human rights, labour and environment.

The Global Compact was officially launched on 26 July 2000 in New York at a high-level meeting attended by top executives of nearly 50 multinational corporations, members of labour and civil society organizations as well as UNEP's Executive Director and the DTIE Director.

The Global Compact challenges individual corporations and representative business associations to support and enact a set of nine core values within their sphere of influence. The three environment-related principles are taken from the Rio Declaration of 1992. They require Business to:

- support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

UNEP is one of four key UN agencies involved in the Global Compact, along with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

UNEP has a tradition of working closely with non-governmental organizations and partners from the private sector. At the sectoral level, companies have the opportunity to advance the Compact principles through the Voluntary Initiatives that UNEP has undertaken.

See the Global Compact website at
www.unglobalcompact.org

COMMUNICATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL MESSAGE



Han Chen Tang/UNEP

Communication lies at the very heart of UNEP's mandate. The Nairobi Declaration defining the role of UNEP proclaimed as one of its core functions the promotion of "greater awareness (to) facilitate effective cooperation among all sectors of society and actors involved in the implementation of the international environmental agenda". The United Nations Secretary-General's Task Force on the reorientation of the United Nations public information activities urges that the "communications functions be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the Organization". The Communications and Public Information (CPI) branch implements a comprehensive information and public relations strategy in support of UNEP's programmes and regional priorities.

The Executive Director's commitment to strengthen Nairobi as a United Nations centre on a par with other United Nations offices in Geneva and Vienna had a significant impact on the work of CPI this year. One of the implications of this commitment was the improvement of conference facilities so that Gigiri could stage major UN conferences. This led to a complete overhaul of the library facilities and the conversion of media offices in Nairobi to cater for the needs of the large media presence at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) meetings in April and May respectively.

CPI was responsible for formulating the media strategy for these meetings and organizing press conferences and book launches. Two major UNEP publications, *Global Biodiversity - Earth's Living Resources in the 21st Century* and the *Cultural and Spiritual Values of Biodiversity* (see page 31), were launched during the CBD.

UNEP's First Global Environment Ministerial Forum in late May began with a "curtain raiser" video produced by CPI on the environmental challenges of the 21st century. The video was distributed to all African and West Asian environment ministries. This event, which was a precursor to the Millennium Summit and part of the Earth Summit 2002 preparations, attracted extensive media coverage.

On 5 June, under the theme "2000 - The Environment Millennium - Time to Act", UNEP led the world in celebrating World Environment Day (WED), involving more than 100 countries. The main event took place in Adelaide, Australia. More than 120 events were organized throughout the country. UNEP's collaboration with Australia, and the participation of the country's Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. John Howard, the Environment Minister, Senator Robert Hill, and the Premier of the State of South Australia, Mr. John Olsen, resulted in extensive media coverage. UNEP devoted considerable time and effort to the production of the WED home page. This is the first WED on-line site in English and French with links to more than 100 partners worldwide.

This year's Clean Up the World Campaign mobilized a record number of volunteers to remove garbage from waterways, forests, streets and parks. This Campaign, held every year in September, involves millions of individuals in a global effort to fight environmental degradation.

In October, UNEP appointed Ms. Tokiko Kato as its Special Envoy. Ms. Kato, one of Japan's best known folk singers, will help raise awareness about the environment throughout Asia and the Pacific.

While UNEP brings "hot" environmental stories to the world's attention, as was the case with the depleted uranium found in Kosovo in September, its public information campaigns are more educational. In 2000, UNEP's media services have held a number of press conferences; issued more than 130 news releases; 60 information notes; speeches on behalf of the Executive Director, and fed a constant stream of news onto the Internet through UNEP's "Media Room" site.

UNEP AND YOUTH

The International Children's Conference on the Environment in May in Britain demonstrated that the environment is of pressing concern to people of all age groups. More than 700 children from 111 countries participated in the conference and their "challenges" to the world provided an important input to the Malmö Ministerial Forum. Media coverage in at least 50 countries ensured wide coverage. A children's Global Environment Network, primarily linking schools and community groups, was launched.

In the course of the year, UNEP and its Youth Advisory Council implemented a Youth and Sustainable Consumption campaign in 17 countries. Activities undertaken included national forums, workshops and seminars and the development of a youth handbook and video on sustainable consumption.

In August, the first ever “green” Olympic Games were held in Sydney, Australia. The Games made extensive use of the environmental guidelines developed by the International Olympic Committee with UNEP’s support. The Sydney Olympics became an important milestone in efforts to make the Olympics and other major sports events environmentally sensitive. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between UNEP and the Global Sports Alliance to promote environmental considerations into the development of sports facilities and events.

WORDS AND IMAGES

Every year, about 20,000 people visit the UNEP Library and Documentation Centre in Nairobi. The library also coordinates the United Nations site visits and these average about 40 a year. For the first half of 2000, the library was closed following a decision to use the premises as a Press and Business Centre to service several large conferences. The library staff continued to provide limited reference services (largely electronically). Recently, there have been moves to make the UNEP library a common United Nations library for all UN agencies at the Nairobi duty station by 2001.

CPI has been tasked with presenting UNEP to the world in an eye-catching and interesting way through a complete re-design and update of existing electronic information. Efforts have also been made to ensure there is a common corporate look to all sites. The success of this undertaking has been a vast increase in “hits” to UNEP’s home page www.unep.org.

As the “publisher” for UNEP, CPI has continued to showcase UNEP’s publications throughout the world, most notably at major book fairs and exhibitions (Frankfurt, Harare, London, Geneva, Paris). Sales from publications have risen and new projects undertaken with the proceeds. UNEP’s state-of-the-environment report the *Global Environment Outlook 2000* and its youth version *Pachamama - Our Earth, Our Future* have proved very popular. They have been reprinted and have been translated into diverse languages (in addition to the six official UN languages). The use of the Internet has not only boosted sales but has greatly improved the dissemination of free material. The ongoing centralization of the publications stores at headquarters and partnership with UNEP distributor SMI in the United Kingdom has meant quicker despatch of publications (free and priced),



and has resulted in more sales. The UNEP catalogue is, for the first time, available in print, on-line and in CD-ROM formats. The on-line bookshop at www.earthprint.com complements the existing UNEP home page and allows global access to UNEP’s work.

UNEP’s publication, *Our Planet*, in print and on the World Wide Web at www.ourplanet.com, continues to reach a world audience. The issues this year have been strategically pegged to conferences, i.e. the CITES/CBD meetings, World Environment Day and the Millennium Summit. The exponential growth in interest on the Internet means that global readership potential is unlimited and “hits” to the *Our Planet* site - 250,000 to 270,000 per issue - confirm the ease of electronic delivery. Indeed, readership of the magazine on the World Wide Web has increased 40% a year since inception.

UNEP, through its partnership with the Television Trust for the Environment, continues to be a major supporter of the production of “Earth Report”, the weekly television programme devoted to sustainable development issues. Broadcast nine times a week by BBC World to over 110 countries, the series is re-broadcast nationally in China (110 stations), Europe, Australia, Asia and Latin America to its current cumulative audience of around 300 million. In 2001, through strategic partnerships with Zee TV of India, a network of 15 broadcasters in Latin America and National Geographic Television, this figure is expected to grow significantly.

In 2000, UNEP secured the cooperation of the Toyota Motor Corporation to support UNEP in sustaining the series until June 2001. UNEP views “Earth Report” as its primary global public information vehicle in the run-up to the Earth Summit in 2002.

To encourage individual and community action in defence of the environment, UNEP established two global environmental awards: the UNEP Sasakawa Environment Prize and the Global 500 Roll of Honour for Environmental Achievement. These awards, granted every year for outstanding achievements in the protection, improvement and management of the environment, are a tribute to success at the front line of environmental action.

The UNEP Sasakawa Environment Prize

The UNEP Sasakawa Environment Prize, worth US\$200,000, is considered one of the most prestigious environmental awards in the world.

The 2000 Prize was awarded to a noted French scientist and environmentalist, Dr. Michel Batisse, for his outstanding contributions to the conservation of the earth's natural resources, the protection of the terrestrial and marine environment and the promotion of sustainable development.

Dr. Batisse is the architect and promoter of some of the most innovative environmental research and training programmes conducted at the global and regional level.

One of his greatest contributions was the organization of the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Conference in Paris in 1968 - a pioneering event, which paved the way for the 1972 Stockholm Conference and which advocated what would become known as sustainable development. The MAB Conference resulted in the establishment of biosphere reserves where the conservation of biological diversity is combined with research, monitoring and education. The global network of biosphere reserves now comprises some 368 sites in 91 countries.

His experience was widely used in the preparation of the UNEP Conference on Desertification in 1977, and his involvement in establishing a number of national centres, including the Jodhpur Desert Research Institute in India, the Negev Desert Institute in Israel and the Egyptian Desert Institute, has greatly contributed to global research on arid lands.

Dr. Batisse is also the driving force behind the Mediterranean Blue Plan where all bordering countries and the European Union cooperate towards sustainable development in this crucial region.

This year, UNEP launched its third International Photographic Competition on the Environment entitled "Focus on Your World, 1999-2000" in celebration of the millennium change. The competition, sponsored by Canon, TIME, National Geographic, Japan Airlines and the entire UN family, attracted entries from over 160 countries. The winning photographs, capturing the diversity of the planet and its peoples, will be on show around the world in a series of travelling exhibitions. To date the exhibit has been shown at the Louvre in Paris, at United Nations headquarters in New York, in Dusseldorf in Germany, Ho Chi Min city in Viet Nam and in Yokohama and Tokyo in Japan.

UNEP's huge photo bank of more than 100,000 images from two previous photo competitions are stored in a photo library in the UK. Some 2,700 images are available on the Internet at www.topfoto.co.uk.

GLOBAL 500 LAUREATES



Since the inception of this award scheme in 1987, 701 individuals and organizations, in both the adult and youth categories, have been honoured.

In 2000, 14 individuals and organizations from 12 countries received the Global 500 award. The award winners are: the *Andyamathanha Nepabunna Community* for being the first indigenous community in Australia to have voluntarily declared more than 55,000 hectares of their traditional land as a protected area; *Ashbjorn Bjorgvinsson* of Iceland for countering the commercial lobby to reestablish whaling and for having Iceland rejoin the International Whaling Commission; *Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage* of Zambia for rescuing wild chimpanzees threatened by poaching, deforestation and the bushmeat trade; *Chumbe Island Coral Park* in Tanzania for preserving a pristine coral island ecosystem in an otherwise over-fished

and over-exploited area; *Chief Larry Philip Fontaine* for helping the aboriginal peoples of Canada address the issue of environmental degradation in their communities; *Fuji Xerox Australia* for developing a recycled paper which reduces pressure on forest and waste; *Robert Hager*, a correspondent for NBC News Network in the United States for alerting the American people to the environmental challenges facing the planet, particularly global warming; the *City of Las Pinas* in the Philippines for resolving environmental problems through legislation and action; *Dr. Reuben Americo Marti* of Argentina for devising the City of Cordoba's first environmental regulation, which established compulsory environment impact assessment; *Mei Ng* of Hong Kong, People's Republic of China, for leading the fight against the illegal encroachment of country parks, the over-expansion of power plants, the use of pesticides, air pollution and government maladministration; and *Carlos de Prada*, a journalist from Spain, for bravely exposing environmental crimes.

The list of winners also included three laureates in the youth category, namely the *Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers* for managing a force of young volunteers in practical conservation projects; *BUNDjugend* of Germany for achieving the Government's climate protection target in their schools within seven months instead of the seven-year period set up by the Government; and the *Globetree Foundation* for using theatre and drama to mobilize young people around the world to care for the environment.



Narrit Tolertmongkol/UNEP

CONVENTIONS

Environmental conventions are not simply environmental plans or proposals, most are binding international commitments with definite objectives concerning the integration of environmental protection and natural resource management with socio-economic development. There is a growing recognition that while each instrument does stand on its own, with its own defined objectives and commitments, there is an inherent relationship and mutual dependency between them all. Operationally, there is a great deal of overlap among the instruments and they need common, shared or coordinated institutions to turn their general requirements into action on the ground. These include coordination mechanisms to ensure that the implementation of one convention enhances — or does not conflict with — implementation of the others. All would benefit from sharing training methods and materials, and increasing the capacity of grassroots groups to support the conventions at the local level. All require an information system, which could be developed more cost-effectively if shared by the other instruments and other users.

Promoting collaboration among environmental conventions and related international agreements has been a priority for the Division of Environmental Conventions (DEC) in 2000. Many of its activities focused on strengthening interlinkages in the work of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

Some far-reaching decisions on closer ties were taken at the second Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans held at The Hague in July 1999. The meeting laid the blueprint for the revitalization of regional seas conventions and proposed a closer collaboration between the regional seas conventions, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and CITES. It also led to the twinning arrangement between the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission and UNEP as the Secretariat of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region, which was signed in Malmö, Sweden on 30 May 2000.

The Division has been working on the development of a pilot project on the streamlining of national reporting of biodiversity-related conventions. In a meeting at Cambridge, United Kingdom, in October 2000, guidelines and the format for the streamlining were agreed upon. These will help countries establish efficient and effective national mechanisms for meeting their reporting requirements under conventions.

DEC has initiated a pioneering activity to develop a harmonized customs code system for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) which will bring together disparate conventions that are linked by shared



Lars Olesen/UNEP

operational concerns. UNEP has commenced preparations in collaboration with the World Customs Organization for a meeting to be held shortly after UNEP's Governing Council in 2001 on the need to develop a harmonized customs code system.

The Division's work on the preparation of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (see page 6), which is designed to improve the management of the world's ecosystems will also cater to the specific requirements of three ecosystem-related conventions: CBD, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification.

The Third Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, which was held in Monaco in November 2000, expanded the focus to include the chemicals-related conventions as well.

The Divisions of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) and Environmental Conventions (DEC) have worked closely to organize a series of meetings addressing trade issues under MEAs. Meetings with selected environmental conventions were held in Geneva on 19 June and 4 July 2000 to discuss potential synergies and mutual support of trade and environment rules and institutions. These meetings contributed to the solidification of the positions of MEAs in their presentations to the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 5 July. A UNEP/WTO meeting was held in Geneva on 23 October on enhancing synergies and mutual support of Environmental Conventions and World Trade Organization Secretariats. DEC and DTIE are working with the United Nations University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the organization of the Expert Meeting on Global Accords: Focusing on Linkages between the Ozone and Climate Change Conventions, which was held at MIT from 2 to 3 November 2000.

The Tropical Forest Canopy Programme (TFCP), established in 1990 by UNEP and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, continues to be an area of priority. The Institute promotes research to address uncertainties in scientific knowledge of relevance to the CBD, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Montreal Protocol on the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Since 1999, the Programme has published more than 50 scientific papers on canopy ecology, climate change, biodiversity and canopy-atmosphere gas exchange.

PROVIDING PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTIONS

In 2000, the Division of Environment Conventions continued to actively support the negotiations of new legally binding instruments. It is facilitating the on-going negotiations of a convention for the protection and sustainable development of the marine and coastal area of the Northeast Pacific and the negotiation of a framework convention for the protection of the marine environment of the Caspian Sea. DEC is also assisting in the revision of the Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention). DEC provided substantial programmatic and logistical support to intergovernmental meetings of UNEP-administered MEAs.

Through its Information Unit on Conventions (IUC), and in collaboration with the Communications and Public Information Branch, DEC provides support in the area of public awareness and information, including the provision of media services, to environmental conventions. Its special outputs include the launch of the Basel

Convention Website (www.Basel.int) in October 1999 and the regional seas website (www.unep.ch/seas/) in April 2000. The environmental conventions website (www.unep.ch/conventions/) was launched in July 2000. This year, UNEP published three issues of Synergies, which disseminates information on collaboration among conventions. Published in English, French and Spanish, Synergies can be accessed through the new UNEP website on environmental conventions.

DEC published the beginners guide *Sustaining life on Earth: How the Convention on Biological Diversity promotes nature and human well-being* in April 2000. The guide was prepared jointly with the CBD Secretariat. The Division also updated and reprinted in additional languages the *Beginners Guide to the Climate Change Convention and its Kyoto Protocol*, plus the *Climate Change Information Kit*.

Through the UNEP/GEF Pilot Biosafety Enabling Activity Project, DEC has been supporting developing countries and countries with economies in transition to prepare effective national biosafety frameworks in the context of the Biosafety Protocol, consistent with article 8 (g) of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Project's National Level Component encompassed preparation of National Biosafety Frameworks using the *UNEP International Technical Guidelines for Safety in Biotechnology* as a guide. Under the Global Level Component, eight Regional Workshops on Biosafety were organized in Africa (Nairobi, Kenya), Asia/Pacific (New Delhi, India), Central/Eastern Europe (Bled, Slovenia), and Latin America and the Caribbean (Havana, Cuba). The workshops covered capacity-building requirements to enhance safety in biotechnology in respect of issues related to risk assessment and risk management of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs), including their environmental impact assessment, for

The Regional Seas Programme

One of the greatest UNEP achievements over the past decades has been its Regional Seas Programme, first launched in 1974. In its first major regional activity, UNEP brought together a task force of scientists and officials to shape a plan of action for the Mediterranean, adopted in its final form at Barcelona in February, 1975.

Since then, 12 regional Action Plans have been established under UNEP auspices: the Black Sea, Caribbean, East Africa, East Asia, the ROPME Sea Area (Kuwait region), Mediterranean, North-West Pacific, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, South Asia, South-East Pacific, South Pacific, and West and Central Africa. Plans for the North-East Pacific and the South-West Atlantic are in development and three similar independent agreements amongst developed countries are in place in the Baltic, Arctic, and North-East Atlantic. Altogether, more than 140 countries participate in at least one regional Action Plan.

Environmental protection has proven to be a profoundly unifying issue. In region after region, from the Mediterranean to Kuwait to the North-West Pacific, the pattern is repeated: countries that agree on little else can meet at the same table to discuss how to protect their marine and coastal environment.

Perhaps just as remarkable have been the broad-based partnerships forged between dozens of international agencies, often with additional support from the private sector and non-governmental organizations. Of the seventeen Regional Seas and partner programmes, eleven are underpinned by conventions with their respective protocols.

These regional agreements have been extraordinarily effective in engaging governments in protecting the environment. These regional conventions and action plans are comprehensive, covering issues ranging from chemical wastes and coastal development to the conservation of marine animals and ecosystems. Their limited geographic focus enables them to channel the energies of a wide range of interest groups into solving what are, after all, a series of interlinked problems.

Cultural and Spiritual Values of Biodiversity



Jozsef L. Szempeleni/UNEP

Respect for biological diversity implies respect for human diversity. Indeed, both elements are fundamental to stability and durable peace on earth. The key to creating development that is sustainable and in harmony with the needs and aspirations of each culture implies changing patterns that render invisible the lives and perspectives of those cultures. It is the concern of many people that biodiversity must be appreciated in terms of human diversity, because different cultures perceive and apprehend biodiversity in different ways as a consequence of their distinct heritages and experiences.

The *Cultural and Spiritual Values of Biodiversity* publication, launched by UNEP in May 2000, is a review of the diversity of human, social, cultural and spiritual values that have been accorded to biological diversity. Contributions from around the world have submitted papers, stories, poems, case studies, photographs, drawings and lyrics which contribute to the larger vision of the volume: that of highlighting the central importance of cultural and spiritual values in an appreciation and preservation of all life. Some of the articles are philosophical or historical, others are scientific or legal, and some are accounts of personal experiences and beliefs. Taken together, the articles bring out the multidimensional challenges that biodiversity conservation poses, not only to policy-makers and scientists, but to all of us.

enhancement of biosafety. They also addressed issues related to the transboundary transfer of LMOs, including appropriate mechanisms and modalities for the supply and exchange of information.

UNEP and the World Intellectual Property Organization entered into an agreement to undertake a study of the role of intellectual property rights in benefit sharing in respect of biological resources and associated traditional knowledge. The case study section of the work was submitted at the Fifth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity held in Nairobi in May 2000. The experiences included in the case studies may provide lessons as to how the effective protection of intellectual property rights can support the implementation of the Convention

with respect to the sharing of benefits arising from the use of biological diversity and associated traditional knowledge.

DEC is a key participant in the work of the CBD/UNESCO Consultative Group of Experts on Biological Education and Public Awareness.

As a follow-up to the Second Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (The Hague, 5-8 July 1999), strategic programmatic support was provided to the workplans of several regional seas conventions and action plans, particularly in areas such as the Global Plan of Action (GPA), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and integrated coastal area management (ICAM), among others, that interface with the priorities of UNEP's programme of work.



David Fleetham/UNEP

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

The year has been an important milestone for UNEP's activities in the Global Environment Facility (GEF)¹, in a role that calls for UNEP to carry out environmental assessments and analyses and provide advice in shaping GEF priorities and programmes. It is also a role that requires UNEP to help ensure the scientific underpinning of GEF activities, acting as a catalyst and advocate for new directions in identifying large-scale environmental threats and proposing remedial measures.

UNEP's work in the GEF over the past year encompassed project development and implementation, supporting the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the GEF, implementation of the activities under the Strategic Partnerships with the GEF Secretariat and outreach activities. In addition, UNEP's work has entailed contributing to GEF corporate activities such as the GEF's policy and overall strategy development, programme planning in the GEF focal areas, monitoring and evaluation, and contributions to budgetary and financial matters.

The year's activities brought the size of the overall UNEP GEF funded project portfolio to a total of \$ 286 million in GEF funding of which \$ 119 million was approved by the GEF in this last biennium, a 42% increase in approved project funding.

A number of strategic projects were approved by the GEF, which will assist countries in identifying those environmental issues that require priority interventions: the Regionally based Assessment of Persistent Toxic Substances, the Global Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; a facility for developing solar and wind resource assessments in pilot sites across the world; and a preparatory phase for a global drylands land degradation assessment.

Strategic projects with the private sector were also undertaken to promote private sector involvement in global



TU FU XU/UNEP

environmental problem solving. UNEP facilitated the development of a technology transfer clearing house mechanism that would assist in redirecting investments to cleaner technologies. It also developed a project to establish Monitoring and Targeted Energy Service Companies (ESCOs), companies that will be able to generate their own profits from providing targeted advice on energy efficiency.

Following the signature of the Biosafety Protocol, UNEP launched a second phase project to assist 100 countries develop their National Biosafety Frameworks.

Another major achievement of UNEP included its work on climate change vulnerability and assessment. UNEP, with the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), approved a project to assist requesting countries to assess their vulnerability to climate change with the goal of identifying measures for adaptation.

During the period, UNEP consolidated a portfolio of seven activities relating to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) ranging from activities such as regional and national assessments of management needs, to more focused activities dealing with DDT phase out and reduction of pesticide use in intensive agriculture.

The period saw project development on flyway approaches to ecosystem conservation of habitats required by migratory species. This support to the implementation of country priorities under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) will lead to projects that identify flyways required by migratory species and demonstration activities on conservation of required habitats.

The year 2000 saw the inauguration of the Global International Waters Assessment and the development of the prototype of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. It saw the implementation of the activities under the UNEP GEF Strategic Partnership, a \$ 2 million grant where activities relating to environmental analyses, outreach to the scientific community and global environmental knowledge and data management were completed. There was also an increased emphasis on actions in Africa in support of the Special Initiative for Africa on Land and Water, including increased intervention on land degradation as this is a major concern for African countries.

Finally, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), for which UNEP provides secretariat support, offered strategic support for "new" areas of intervention, providing scientific and technical advice on issues ranging from biosafety and sustainable use to power sector reform.

¹ The GEF is a joint partnership between UNEP, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank to forge international co-operation and finance actions to address biodiversity loss, climate change, international waters, and ozone depletion within the framework of sustainable development.

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Figure 1
Sources of funds in \$
1973 - 2000

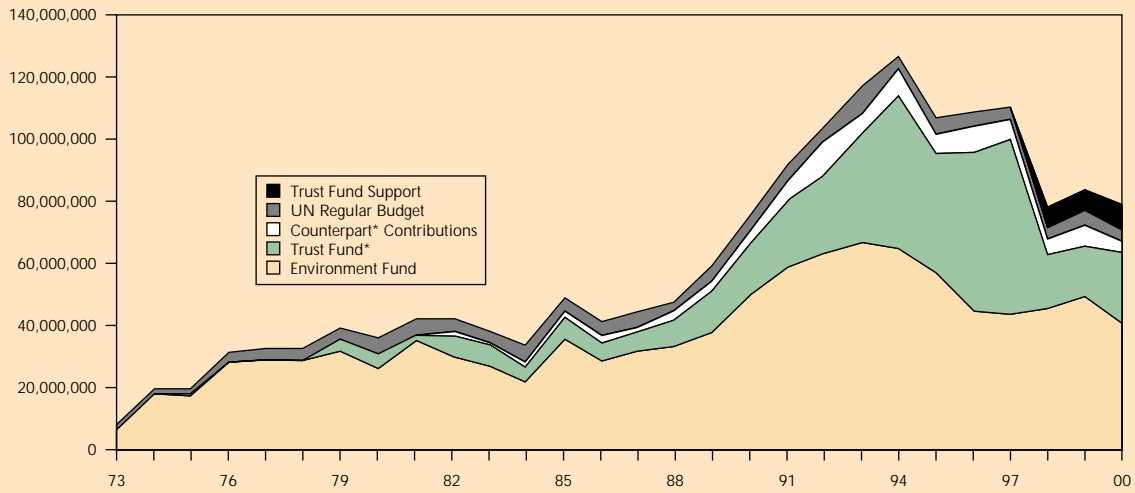


Figure 2
Sources of funds as a percentage
1973 - 2000

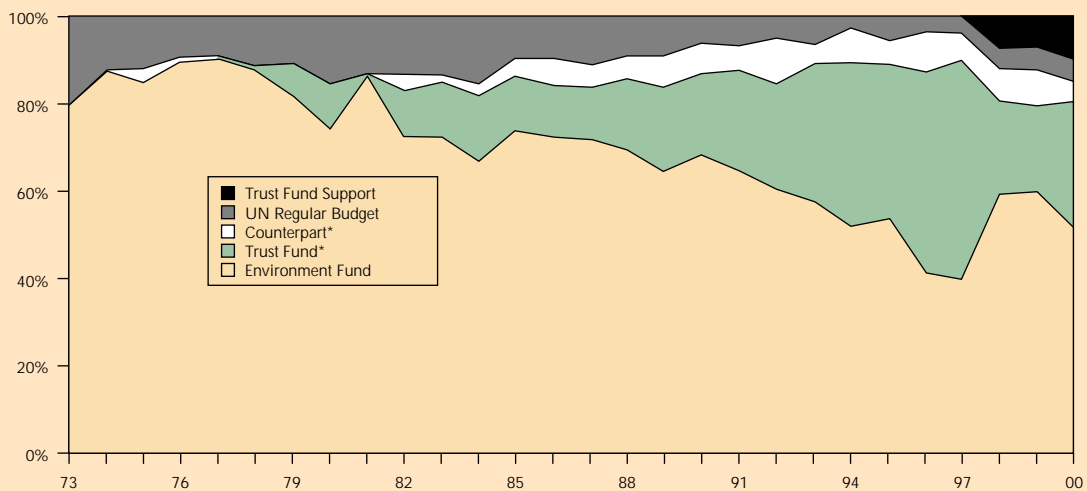


Figure 3
Pledges to the Environment Fund by 10 Top Donors
1999 - 2000

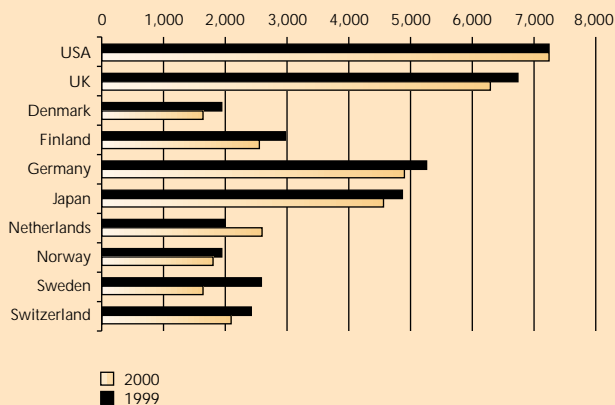
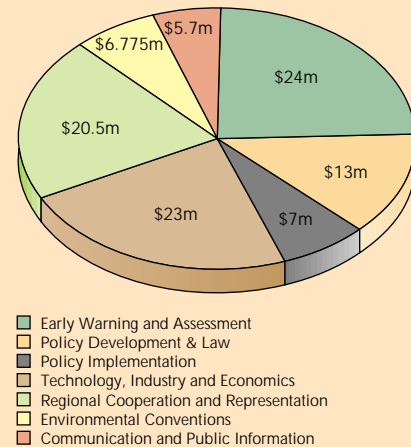


Figure 4
Environment Fund Activities - Programme of Work for
2001 - 2002



PROFESSIONAL POSTS IN UNEP BY SOURCE OF FUNDING

	Number of posts			
	(As at 31.12.99)*		(As at 30.09.00)	
	Approved	Occupied	Approved	Occupied
Environment Fund				
(a) MASC	34	30	15	13
(b) Projects	110	95	170	128
Sub-total - Environment Fund	144	125	185	141
Regular Budget	22	19	22	22
Trust Fund Projects				
- Conventions	83	71	94	66
- GEF Trust Fund	21	21	22	18
- Others	22	20	30	28
Sub-total - Trust Fund Projects	126	112	146	112
JPO Agreements (Trust Funds)	23	23	32	27
Professional Officers financed by Governments	8	8	9	9
Special Account For Support to Trust Funds (SASTF)	13	9	14	12
Activities financed from counterpart contributions	1	1	3	3
GRAND TOTAL	337	297	411	326

GENERAL SERVICE POSTS IN UNEP BY SOURCE OF FUNDING

	Number of posts			
	(As at 31.12.99)*		(As at 30.09.00)	
	Approved	Occupied	Approved	Occupied
Environment Fund				
(a) MASC	51	49	23	22
(b) Projects	129	128	188	174
Sub-total - Environment Fund	180	177	211	196
Regular Budget	17	17	17	17
Trust Fund Projects				
- Conventions	81	68	86	68
- GEF Trust Fund	13	13	17	12
- Others	23	23	23	18
Sub-total - Trust Fund Projects	117	104	126	98
Special Account For Support to Trust Funds (SASTF)	21	15	28	18
Activities financed from counterpart contributions	4	2	3	0
GRAND TOTAL	339	315	385	329

* The basic difference in MASC and OTL staffing figures between 1999 and 2000 is due to:

- a) further streamlining of the Management & Administrative Support Costs, and
- b) the implementation of UNEP's new programme structure.

