

norway

norwegian action plan for environment in development cooperation



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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foreword

The Government's aim is for Norway to play a leading role in making environmental concerns an integral part of all development cooperation. We realise that we must deal with environmental problems if we are to reduce poverty and solve the development problems the world is facing. What is more, we see frequent examples of how environmental cooperation contributes to peace, reconciliation, security and regional development.

Norway's environmental development cooperation must be based on developing countries' own priorities. Norway will support measures targeted specifically at environmental and natural resource management, and ensure that environmental concerns are an integral part of Norway's general development cooperation. In line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, Norway will promote more effective forms of cooperation between donors and recipients. This action plan sets the direction for Norway's efforts for the next ten years. Along the way we will engage in dialogue with a variety of actors both in Norway and in our partner countries with a view to making adjustments and improvements.

In the action plan, four thematic priority areas are presented. Most of the Norwegian development funds will be targeted at conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and natural resources and at water resources management, water and sanitation. As regards climate change, dialogue at political level with a view to persuading all countries to pay more serious attention to this problem will be just as important as funding for specific measures related to this thematic area. Funding for efforts to deal with hazardous substances will not be on the same scale as for the other priority areas, but the action plan foresees a gradual stepping up of efforts targeted at hazardous substances as the international focus on this issue increases.

Besides development cooperation, there are many actors and processes that affect developing countries' ability to safeguard the environment to at least the same degree. International trade policy is one example, and the Government will seek to ensure that the global trading system promotes sustainable development, and that environmental concerns are taken into account in all relevant areas by the WTO. Norway will also strive to ensure that trade rules and multilateral environmental agreements are mutually reinforcing and promote sustainable development. These efforts are in addition to the measures set out in this action plan, which focus on the use of Norwegian funds through

multilateral and bilateral channels and dialogue with our cooperation partners.



Drawing up an action plan is only the first step towards making Norway a leader in the environmental area. Implementing the plan will require resources, both financial and human. The budget for environmental development cooperation will be increased substantially at the first opportunity and subsequently throughout the duration of the plan.

We will also strengthen the Norwegian knowledge base on the environment, poverty and development. It is essential to increase the level of expertise in Norway in order to maintain an active dialogue on a variety of environmental issues with UN agencies and the international financial institutions.

The ultimate goal of Norway's efforts is for developing countries to acquire the capacity and competence necessary to safeguard their right to a clean environment and the ability to manage their natural resources in a sustainable manner. All parts of society have an important role to play in achieving this goal — the authorities, the private sector, research institutions and NGOs.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erik Solheim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Erik Solheim

Minister of International Development



Photo: © Trygve Bølstad / Still Pictures

1. guiding principles

The purpose of Norway's environmental development cooperation is to contribute towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), making it possible for poor people to improve their living conditions and health, and reducing their vulnerability. A central element of this cooperation will be to support partner countries' efforts to achieve MDG 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability, and particularly the target of integrating the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes.

This action plan has been drawn up as a follow-up to a white paper entitled *Fighting Poverty Together: A coherent policy for development* (Report No. 35 (2003-2004) to the Storting). In a recommendation concerning the white paper, the Storting (Norwegian parliament) requested the Government to develop an action plan for Norway's overall environmental development cooperation. In its policy platform, the current Government reinforced this line by stating its intention for Norway to play a leading role in integrating environmental issues into development cooperation.

Together with these political goals, the multilateral environmental agreements, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Declaration provide the basis for Norway's efforts to address global challenges related to the environment and natural resources as part of a common international effort. The Norwegian priorities build on an awareness of the close links between the environment and poor people's living conditions. If we are to succeed in fighting poverty and creating development opportunities, we must ensure sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystem services, involve local communities in the management of the environment and natural resources, and strengthen the rights of local populations, including indigenous peoples, to natural resources. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, which was completed in 2005, demonstrated that there is a close relationship between changes made to the world's ecosystems and benefits for human well-being and national development.

Environmental development cooperation must take account of the guiding principles of Norway's environmental policy and development policy. Our development policy is set out in *Fighting Poverty Together*, and is in line with the concepts of harmonisation and alignment with recipient countries' strategies and management systems set out in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Key principles are that developing countries must own their development agenda, and that our contributions must be rights-based and emphasise women's rights and their importance for development.

Multilateral environmental agreements set common goals for donors and recipients. Norway has an obligation to support developing countries in developing the capacity to achieve the goals set in these agreements.

2. strategic profile

The basis for this plan is Norway's contribution to poverty reduction and an understanding of the most important challenges related to the environment and natural resources and of where Norway can be a useful cooperation partner. A range of political, economic and competence-building measures at the local, national, regional and global level will be employed, and measures that lead to structural and permanent change will be given priority.

2.1 Norway as a political actor

Norway intends to work actively to put environmental issues on the agenda in bilateral and multilateral contexts with a view to intensifying common efforts to address the environmental problems facing developing countries and to protect global natural resources for future generations.

Norway intends to:

- propose new environment-related political initiatives in multilateral organisations
- call for routines and procedures to ensure that environmental concerns are taken into account by multilateral organisations
- promote the integration of environment and sustainable development into recipient countries' strategies, plans and budgets. National poverty reduction strategies will be of central importance
- actively follow up donor coordination on environmental issues
- promote cooperation between public and civil society actors, including NGOs
- increase awareness in the private sector in Norway and globally of its responsibility for operating in accordance with the principles of sustainable development

2.2 Norway as a development actor

Norway intends to give priority to selected areas in order to focus its environmental efforts and promote donor coordination, both multilaterally and bilaterally. This will make it easier to implement our development policy in a systematic way, and will improve the quality and effectiveness of our development cooperation.

Norway will concentrate its efforts on four thematic priority areas:

- sustainable management of biological diversity and natural resources
- water resources management, water and sanitation
- climate change and access to clean energy
- hazardous substances

Our main efforts will be directed towards conservation of biological diversity and sustainable management of natural resources.

If specifically requested by a partner country, Norway may in some cases provide assistance in environmental areas that are not defined as priority areas. This also applies in multilateral contexts if there are particular reasons for doing so.

2.3 Competence- and capacity-building

In order to increase partner countries' capacity to view environmental concerns in a long-term perspective and fulfil their international obligations, Norway will focus on competence-building and improved environmental management. Local and regional resources should be involved in projects and programmes to the extent possible.

More specifically, Norway intends to:

- support national and regional competence- and capacity-building as regards the further development and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements
- support institutional cooperation as an important element in competence-building
- assist in developing legislation and environmental standards
- promote environmental technical cooperation and capacity building by supporting research and education
- strengthen national and local environmental and natural resources management as part of general cooperation on good governance
- promote cooperation between developing countries, also known as South-South networks

2.4 Sector-integrated environmental assistance and specific environmental programmes

The environment can be addressed as a separate sector or integrated into efforts in other sectors. As a separate sector, the environment covers development cooperation that has sustainable management of natural resources and environmental protection as its main goals. Specific programmes on environmental and natural resource management may be considered in partner countries that are facing major environmental problems, and where the countries' own priorities and the division of labour between donor countries make this appropriate. Norway will support specific programmes that are clearly in line with this action plan. We will avoid supporting an array of unrelated projects. Specific projects can be used to test new approaches, pave the way for broader sector programmes or to establish good relations with local partners.

Environmental concerns must be taken into account in all development cooperation. Potential impacts on the environment must be assessed, and proposals aimed at reducing adverse effects must be integrated into all measures. Furthermore, it should be considered whether it is possible to integrate components that are beneficial to the environment into the measures or add them as supplements to sector programmes.

Norway intends to:

- increase the ability of developing countries to carry out strategic environmental assessments and environmental impact assessments
- promote environmental integration by means of these tools, particularly in the fields of infrastructure, agriculture, and oil and energy
- assist partner countries in defining specific environmental targets
- contribute to the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements in connection with programmes that receive Norwegian support.

3. cooperation partners

3.1 Authorities in partner countries

Norway will maintain a broad dialogue with relevant authorities at various levels, including financial, planning, environmental and natural resource authorities.

More specifically Norway intends to:

- ensure that the environment is a topic of discussion in the dialogue between donor community representatives and the authorities in partner countries
- ensure compliance with national environmental legislation and standards in the design and implementation of measures that are supported by Norway
- ensure that Norway's efforts are aligned with partner countries' plans and coordinated with other donors
- provide support for the participation of delegates from developing countries in international processes and negotiations concerning the environment and natural resources

3.2 The UN and the international financial institutions

UN agencies are important cooperation partners. Norway will continue its environmental development cooperation with the World Bank and the regional development banks, and promote the normative role of the secretariats of the international environmental conventions.

Norway will actively advocate the integration of environmental concerns into the work carried out by UN agencies and the international financial institutions. Norway will give preference to multilateral organisations that develop a clear environmental profile. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is an important source of funding for efforts to deal with global environmental problems.

More specifically, Norway intends to:

- promote environmental priorities in multilateral organisations by participating actively on their boards, assisting in developing their strategies, conducting dialogues with their secretariats and launching environmental initiatives together with like-minded countries
- promote better coordination between bilateral and multilateral actors, including the international financial institutions, on policy dialogues and development efforts at country level, while allowing recipient countries to set the agenda
- follow up and evaluate the environmental efforts made by UN agencies and the international financial institutions
- emphasise the importance of good governance for sustainable development, an area where the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will play a key role
- strengthen the normative role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and assist in the process of transforming it into the United Nations Environmental Organisation (UNEO)

In relation to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Norway intends to:

- continue financing global environmental measures through GEF
- support the planning and development of national and regional GEF projects and assist in co-financing their implementation
- promote closer cooperation between the secretariats of the international environmental conventions and GEF

3.3 Non-governmental organisations

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have an important role as a watchdog and provider of information vis-à-vis the population and the authorities in both donor and recipient countries. Corruption and poor governance make it important to develop broader networks in partner countries. The Norwegian authorities will engage in close dialogue and cooperation with NGOs at home and abroad, with a view to achieving synergies between the parties involved.

NGOs have competence that public administrations can draw on. These organisations can be given responsibility for carrying out specific projects designed to build competence in civil society on environmental and rights issues, and to test new approaches to environmental and natural resource management. In some cases, the NGOs' efforts can supplement those of the public sector, while in other cases they can serve as a model for future work, particularly at local level.

Norway intends to support both Norwegian and international NGOs, focusing particularly on:

- assisting and strengthening NGOs that have competence on the environment, natural resources and rights to property, land and natural resources, with a view to persuading authorities at all levels in partner countries to put environmental issues higher on the agenda and pursue a more credible and effective environmental policy
- empowering local communities, including indigenous peoples, to claim their rights to property, land and natural resources on which they depend for their survival
- promoting popular participation, particularly of women, in the management of natural resources
- helping to ensure that NGOs base their activities on sound environmental principles and on the principles of sustainable development

3.4. Research institutions and centres of expertise

A high level of technical expertise and sufficient capacity are necessary to ensure that our environmental cooperation maintains high standards. Environmental knowledge and expertise will be used actively to enable partner countries to analyse, monitor and deal with their problems related to poverty and the environment.

Norway intends to:

- help to ensure that education and research institutions in partner countries are more closely integrated into the global knowledge network on the environment, natural resource management and poverty
- place more emphasis on involving Norwegian research institutions and centres of expertise as partners in the efforts to promote capacity-building and sharing of knowledge and expertise

3.5 The private sector

A more dynamic private sector is essential for poverty reduction and development. It will be difficult to achieve the MDGs without increased economic activity and value creation in countries that are lagging behind in the global economy. However, sustainable economic development requires awareness of the environmental impacts of economic activity.

Norway intends to:

- encourage a stronger focus on the environmental dimension in private sector development, including the agricultural sector
- put developing countries in a better position to establish and enforce environmental standards in connection with investments, private sector development and trade
- ensure that Norway's support schemes for private sector development in the South take international environmental commitments, national priorities and the principles of sustainable development into account
- promote environment-based private sector development as a means of creating growth, providing employment and achieving environmental goals (e.g. through the development of environmental technology, renewable energy resources, and water and sanitation technology).

4. thematic priorities

4.1 Sustainable management of biological diversity and natural resources

Sustainable management, use and conservation of natural resources and biological diversity, which covers everything from marine environments and wildlife to forests and genetic resources, will be given highest priority within Norway's environmental development cooperation. Biological diversity is vital for the future of life on earth. It is also essential to prevent more people sinking into poverty due to a lack of rights and access to natural resources. Norway will therefore considerably intensify its efforts in this field, both multilaterally and bilaterally, and will involve all actors, ranging from local communities and civil society to international institutions.

In Norway's multilateral cooperation, UNEP and the secretariats of the key global conventions in this field (particularly the Convention on Biological Diversity and the associated Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety) are important partners, particularly for cooperation on normative work and documenting the current status in this field. UNDP will play an important role in helping partner countries to integrate environmental concerns into their national development plans and in carrying out concrete development measures. FAO is an important partner in connection with the management of fisheries and forest resources and genetic resources for food and agriculture. The development banks, international non-governmental organisations (for example the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)) and various groups of experts can also be valuable partners.

Our bilateral cooperation will be targeted mainly at partner countries in Africa, and to some extent in Asia. In Central America the focus will be on regional programmes. Countries that are not currently partner countries, but that have areas that are of particular importance to global biological diversity, will be given special attention. Cooperation activities will be identified on the basis of the recipient countries' national strategies and action plans on biological diversity.

Norway intends to:

- support conservation and sustainable use of areas and ecosystems of global importance
- promote the ecosystem approach to natural resource management
- help to secure access and rights to resources for local communities, including indigenous peoples. This includes land, forests and wildlife, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources
- support the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, including agreements on the marine environment and marine resources
- promote the integration of biological diversity concerns in all sectors
- support the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification
- facilitate cooperation and seek to identify synergies between the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Framework Convention on Climate Change, both in policy development and in implementation
- help to prevent the loss of biological diversity in connection with efforts to reduce the impact of pollution, climate change and natural disasters

4.2 Water resources management, water and sanitation

Effective and sustainable management of water resources is essential for economic growth and for the efforts to achieve the MDGs, particularly those related to health, education, equality, food production and the environment. Improved water supplies, sanitary conditions and hygiene are crucial in the fight against poverty.

At the multilateral level, the Government will give priority to cooperation with UNDP, UNICEF, UN-HABITAT and the international financial institutions, including GEF, on transboundary waters, but will also cooperate with other international organisations such as the Global Water Partnership (GWP) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). Norway will continue to support these organisations' key programmes on water and sanitation. At the bilateral level, NGOs will be an important channel for carrying out water- and sanitation-related measures in selected countries. State-to-state cooperation will also be considered.

Norway intends to:

- support the development and implementation of plans for integrated water resources management, including for transboundary watercourses. Particular emphasis will be placed on promoting the ecosystem approach and supporting institutions that are mandated to ensure sustainable management and use of water resources
- promote efficient water use, particularly in agriculture
- focus attention on the importance of sanitation and hygiene, and of reducing contamination of water resources
- support the improvement of water supply and sanitary conditions in other sectors, for example by supporting the installation of satisfactory water supplies and sanitary and hygiene facilities in schools and health institutions
- assist priority countries in achieving water and sanitation targets, focusing particularly on sanitation
- promote community-based management of catchment areas, including support for rainwater harvesting and other small-scale water projects
- increase awareness of and promote research on how water resources are affected by climate change
- work to secure all people the right to water and promote acceptance of the principle that water resources are a common good

4.3 Climate change and access to clean energy

The achievement of the MDGs is being threatened by climate change. It is therefore necessary both to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to implement climate change adaptation measures. Measures that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases often lead to considerable local health benefits. Poor people are the most vulnerable because they lack the necessary resources to adapt to climate change and because their value creation is largely based on natural resources.

Increased investment in low-carbon technology, improved energy efficiency and increased use of renewable energy are of key importance in addressing these challenges. Energy is essential for both social and economic development. Providing better access to reliable energy services at prices that are affordable to poor people is crucial to achieving the MDGs. Simple, decentralised solutions will play an important role.

Important channels for climate-related support will be the Climate Change Secretariat and the funds established under the convention and the Kyoto Protocol. Support will also be given to developing countries to enable them to make use of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Increased technical cooperation with countries that are major polluters and have rapidly expanding economies, particularly China, India and Brazil, will be a key element of these efforts.

Norway's most important contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions will be our political efforts at the international level, particularly those aimed at persuading major polluting countries to reduce their emissions. In Asia our focus will be on technical cooperation, while in Africa and small island developing states priority will be given to energy efficiency and the development of climate change adaptation strategies.

Adaptation strategies and mitigation measures to address climate change are particularly important in relation to efforts to combat desertification and promote sustainable land and water management, particularly in the agricultural sector.

Important multilateral channels in the field of energy are UNDP and co-financing with GEF and the World Bank. Bilateral support may be given for measures in areas such as environmentally friendly energy production and distribution and use of renewable energy, either in the form of separate measures or in the form of supplementary components in energy sector programmes.

As part of its efforts in the field of climate change, Norway intends to:

- support national and regional research programmes and studies on the regional impacts of and vulnerability to climate change, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and small island developing states
- support capacity-building, focusing particularly on technical cooperation in the field of climate change and air pollution. Priority will be given to cooperation with countries that are major polluters
- support the development of climate change adaptation strategies and adaptation measures, particularly in the poorest and most vulnerable countries
- focus on cooperation and the synergies between climate change measures, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity with a view to developing adaptation strategies

In order to improve poor people's access to clean energy, Norway intends to:

- provide assistance for energy resource mapping, analyses of energy use, development of regulatory frameworks and system design with respect to the most promising renewable sources of energy
- support the development and use of renewable energy, including biomass, wind and solar energy
- support the development of small power plants in conjunction with solutions that address water supplies, flood mitigation and agricultural irrigation
- support measures designed to improve energy efficiency
- support measures to reduce the negative health effects resulting from the use of biomass for household energy purposes
- promote multilateral initiatives in the field of renewable energy

4.4 Hazardous substances

Increasing quantities of hazardous substances are being used, and emissions are rising. This threatens people's health and livelihoods and hampers development. Poor people are least able to protect themselves against these substances and are therefore the most severely affected. There is growing international awareness of the need for protection against hazardous substances, as recognised for example in the recently adopted Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

Norway's efforts related to hazardous substances will mainly be channelled through UNEP, WHO, UNDP, ILO and FAO. It is important to make use of each agency's strengths and ensure close cooperation between them. At country level, coordination through UNDP is essential.

Norway intends to:

- support competence- and capacity-building in the field of hazardous chemicals in order to put partner countries in a better position to fulfil their international obligations and follow up the SAICM
- assist partner countries in developing and effectively enforcing national legislation
- cooperate on and support measures for reducing the use and emissions of environmentally hazardous substances that have serious adverse impacts, including clean-up measures targeted at activities that are harmful to human health and the environment



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5. environmental assessments, quality assurance and performance reporting

5.1 Environmental assessments and quality assurance

Environmental concerns must be taken into consideration in all Norwegian development cooperation. Norway has an obligation to ensure that assessments of environmental and social impacts are carried out in connection with the use of Norwegian development cooperation funds. The responsibility for conducting such assessments lies with the recipient.

Norad's Development Cooperation Manual stipulates that an environmental assessment must be carried out as part of the assessment of a given programme's sustainability, as described in the supporting document on cross-cutting concerns and sustainability assessments. If assessments made in the preparation phase reveal that a programme may have a negative impact on the environment, an environmental impact assessment must be carried out. Norway must ensure that such assessments are followed up in the design and implementation of the programme. It is also important that environmental concerns are incorporated into cooperation agreements and are followed up through meetings and reviews.

Several tools are employed for the quality assurance of Norway's long-term bilateral development cooperation:

- the embassies' annual performance reports and plans, which are subject to approval by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry's subsequent allocation letters
- Norad's Development Cooperation Manual, including the supporting document on cross-cutting concerns and sustainability assessments, for the management of long-term development cooperation
- assessments of the effect of integrating environmental concerns into other sector programmes

Norway will also follow up the use of funds channelled through multilateral actors more closely, for example through its membership of various boards and with reference to framework agreements. This will be done on the basis of these organisations' own quality assurance and performance management systems.

Norad has particular responsibility for incorporating environmental concerns into the support provided to the private sector and NGOs.

5.2 Reporting

The main instrument for performance management, planning and reporting is the annual government budget proposal (Proposition No. 1 to the Storting).

Reporting on resource use and on the allocation of resources to the priority areas set out in the action plan is to be based on the international reporting system developed by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

Performance reporting on the priority areas set out in the action plan should primarily be based on reports from the recipients of Norwegian development cooperation funds. These should be supplemented by reviews, carried out either single-handedly or together with the recipient, and by dialogue with the recipient. Routines will be established to ensure adequate reporting on the integration of environmental targets and concerns into multilateral and bilateral development cooperation.

The embassies will report on these matters by including a separate section on their environmental efforts in their performance reports. This should focus particularly on measures designed to strengthen the recipient country's own environmental management capacity and on the effect they are having. The embassies will also report what environmental assessments have been carried out.

Norway will seek to focus more on performance in environmental cooperation by:

- strengthening partner countries' capacity and competence as regards the planning and implementation of environmental impact assessments, environmental monitoring and reporting
- participating actively in the international cooperation in OECD-DAC, the World Bank and the UN on strategic environmental assessments, quality assurance and improved performance management and reporting
- proposing changes in the OECD-DAC reporting system so that it gives a more accurate picture of environment-related efforts
- ensuring that the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) reports effectively on Millennium Development Goal 7 (environmental sustainability) and the outcome of the Johannesburg Summit and other relevant environmental goals

The results achieved through our environmental cooperation will be made accessible to the general public in Norway with a view to fostering understanding of and interest in this cooperation.

6. administrative measures and tools

The implementation of the action plan will require increased environmental competence and resources in all parts of the development cooperation administration. The Norwegian authorities responsible for environmental and natural resource management have considerable technical and management expertise and experience that recipient countries can benefit from.

The following measures will be implemented:

- the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will establish an advisory forum for Norwegian environmental development cooperation
- a new training programme on environment and development for employees responsible for administering development funds will be developed in close cooperation between the foreign service and the environmental authorities
- Norad's role as the centre of expertise for advisory services, evaluation, quality assurance and dissemination of the results of Norwegian development cooperation will be strengthened
- as an element of quality assurance, Norad's role in coordinating and involving Norwegian scientific and technical institutions, including centres of expertise in the field of the environment, will be strengthened
- systematic exchange of experience between the development cooperation administration and the environmental authorities will be facilitated by means of personnel exchanges

Evaluation

The Action Plan for Environment in Development Cooperation covers the period up to 2015, which is the deadline for achieving the MDGs. In addition to the annual reporting to the Storting, a mid-term review will be conducted to assess the need to make adjustments to the action plan. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will ensure that a final evaluation is carried out soon after 2015 to assess the results achieved in the four thematic priority areas and how successfully the environment has been integrated as a cross-cutting theme.

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|------------|--|
| CDM | Clean Development Mechanism |
| CSD | United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development |
| FAO | United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GWP | Global Water Partnership |
| IIED | International Institute for Environment and Development |
| ILO | International Labour Organization |
| IUCN | World Conservation Union (originally International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) |
| MDG | Millennium Development Goal |
| SAICM | Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UN-HABITAT | United Nations Human Settlements Programme |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |
| WSSCC | Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council |

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Cover photo: © William Campbell / Still Pictures
From tree planting, Green Belt Movement, Kenya



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