

Environment and Urbanization

HABITAT TOO?

24 HOUR

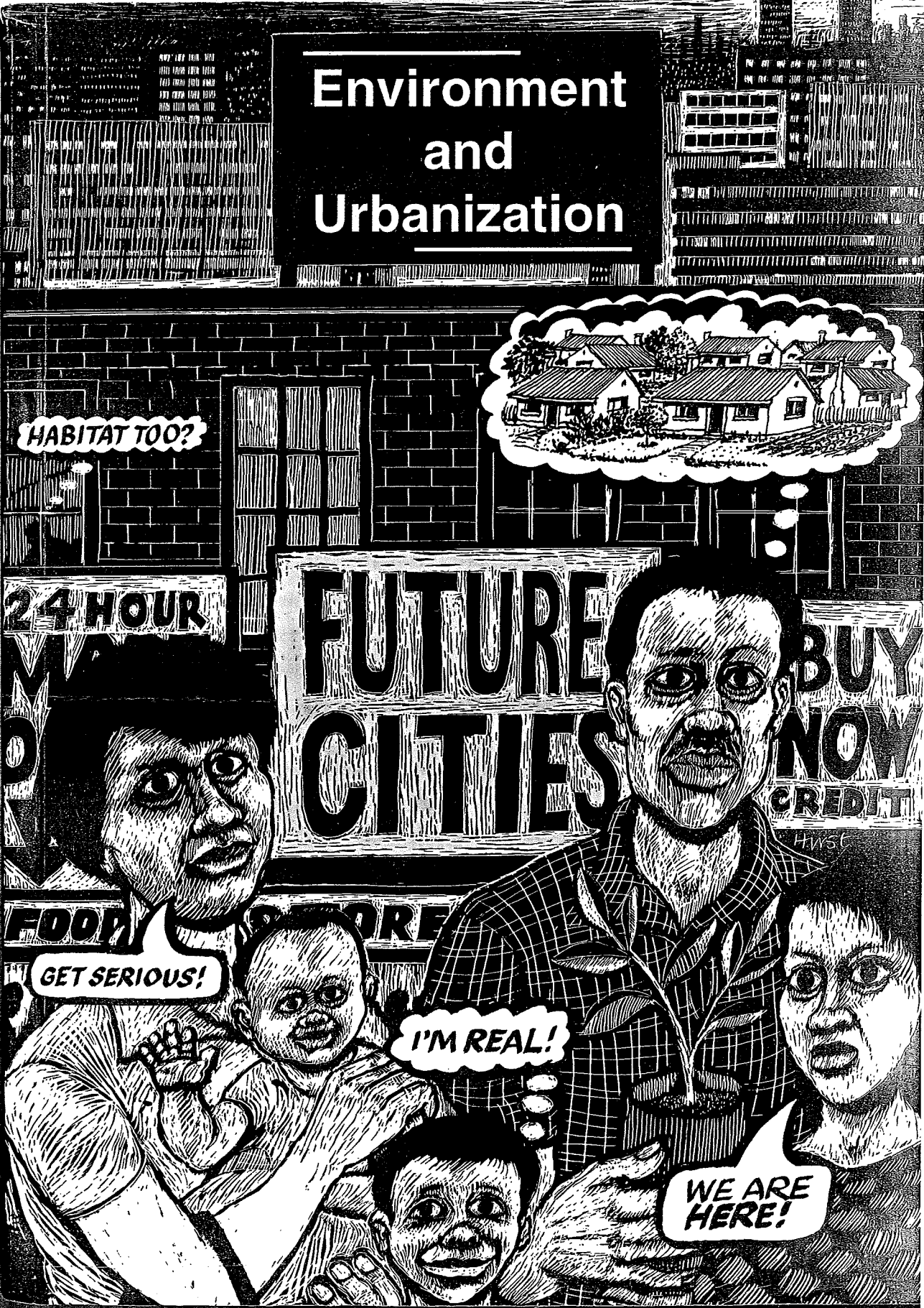
FUTURE
CITIES

BUY
NOW
CREDIT

GET SERIOUS!

I'M REAL!

WE ARE
HERE!



ces in computers and
nply for city develop-
n and the South.

responses of govern-
l agencies to the prob-
er chapters - and also
es of community org-
s. Different chapters
management, housing
nance for housing and
ironmental protection.
ot present a very posi-
of what most govern-
les are doing (or more
y highlight the very low
d agencies give to im-
ditions and basic serv-
income groups in both
as. However, they in-
dies of new approaches
with some success, in-
ertaken by NGOs and
s or by partnerships be-
NGOs and community
is also a section on par-
ent developments in the
nd methods to support
involvement.

port also highlights the
made in recent years to
t on the discrimination
for instance, being able
housing or obtain hous-
cess to basic services. It
increased stress placed on
housing" by NGOs and
perhaps because rational
w-income groups' need
g during the 1970s and
o influence most govern-
l agencies. Although
he right to housing does
ilfilment, at least it gives
uate housing a stronger
ig changes and helps to
forced evictions.

is on "New directions for
: addressing sustainable
. This stresses the poten-
to allow human needs to
uced and resources used
describes the many posi-
life, not least the social
ties whose importance is

ol. 8, No. 1, April 1996

so often forgotten by governments and inter-
national agencies. Throughout the text of this
and other chapters, there are boxes and fig-
ures with examples showing how conditions
can be greatly improved in cities, without
unsustainable levels of resource use and
without high capital costs. In all, there are
over 120 boxes as well as dozens of tables
and many figures and maps. But as the Re-
port states, it is the quality of governance that
so influences whether cities' potential advan-
tages are utilized and their potential disad-
vantages avoided. As the Report describes,
this means more transparency in the way
decisions are made within government. It
also means local governments working with
the citizens, community organizations, vol-
untary organizations and the private sector
in building and developing settlements.
Within low-income countries or cities, good
governance can greatly improve housing and
living conditions which in turn can produce
a 10 to 15 year increase in average life ex-
pectancies, without compromising good eco-
nomic performance through excessive public
expenditure. Within higher income countries,
good governance can reduce poverty and
deprivation and also the problems so often
associated with contemporary urban living
such as high levels of homelessness, crime
and violence, and the concentration of the
unemployed and unskilled in declining city
centres or other districts.

II. BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Public-Private Partnerships in Urban Infrastructure Services

Philip Gidman with Ian Blore, Jens Lorentzen
and Paul Shutzenbelt, 1995, 68 pages. UMP
Working Paper Series 4. Published by and
available from the Urban Management Pro-
gramme, UNCHS (Habitat), PO Box 30030,
Nairobi, Kenya.

THIS PAPER REVIEWS the options for the
development of public/private partnerships
in the management of urban infrastructure
services in the South. The authors examine
the different groups involved in partnerships
providing urban infrastructure, which they
break down into the public sector, the pri-

vate sector (both "formal" and "informal"),
NGOs and community based organizations,
and the different partnership options between
these actors for a variety of services includ-
ing water, sewerage, transport infrastructure
and electricity. Options examined range from
full privatization, through contracting out,
leasing and management contracts, to vol-
untary co-operatives. The analysis outlines
the actions needed to successfully undertake
these approaches and draws on case stud-
ies, presented in boxes, which illustrate ex-
amples of good practice from a wide range of
Third World countries.

Annexes include a checklist of actions to
be undertaken by urban administrators who
are considering the use of a partnership ar-
rangement with a private organization, a brief
report on a project which aimed to involve
the private sector in the provision of urban
services in Thailand and an extensive bibli-
ography plus a list of other Urban Manage-
ment Programme working papers.

Water Supply and Sanitation and its Urban Constraints: Beneficiary Assessment for Luanda

Development Workshop, 1995, 35 pages plus
many annexes. Produced by the Angolan of-
fice of Development Workshop, this is avail-
able from the Development Workshop's
Canadian Office, PO Box 1834, Guelph, On-
tario, Canada N1H 7A1, price US\$20.00 (in-
cluding postage and packing).

THIS REPORT LOOKS at a beneficiary as-
sessment of two water and sanitation pro-
grammes in Luanda which are being
implemented by the government of Angola
and the World Bank: the Emergency Pro-
gramme and the Urban Environment and
Sanitation Project. The study focuses on
water and sanitation practices in the "infor-
mal" or peri-urban areas of the city (home to
about 70 per cent of Luanda's population)
and contradicts the established assumptions
about these practices which are principally
the sale of water by vendors from tanks in
their yards. The project centres on the con-
sultation of "clients" in 60 discussion groups
on current water and sanitation practices,
opinions on feasible and desirable improve-
ments to the current situation, existing po-

Book Notes

tential for community organization and clients' willingness to pay for improved services.

The report outlines the methodology, the structure of the study and the results from the three phases of the project; mapping of the relevant areas of Luanda, a study of the conditions of water distribution, costs and profits in the communities, and community consultation on the issues outlined above. The data is presented as text, tables, diagrams and maps, and extensive annexes include sample questionnaires, detailed results of discussion groups by *barrio* and breakdowns of financial analyses. The report offers a model of beneficiary assessment and concludes with specific recommendations for the improvement of water provision and sanitation in Luanda.

Solid Waste Management: Modes, Assessments, Appraisals and Linkages in Bangalore

Isa Baud and Hans Schenk, 1994, 168 pages, ISBN: 81 7304 082 6. Published by and available from Manohar Publishers and Distributors, 2/6 Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi 110 002, India.

THIS BOOK DEALS with "formal" and "informal" handling of organic and inorganic solid waste in the Indian city of Bangalore, analyzing both municipal services and the conditions and activities of people who make a living from waste. The book consists of a series of articles by a group of Indian and Dutch contributors on the topic of solid waste management in Bangalore, resulting from a workshop in Bangalore in 1994. The articles deal with a variety of issues with a particular focus on recycling, waste management and waste related employment, and looks at the roles of local government, NGOs, rag-pickers and entrepreneurs, and how these groups could co-operate to deal more effectively with waste management.

The book combines case study material and more theoretical analysis, and the focus of analysis is both on the organizational and political aspects of waste management and on the technical aspects of waste management. More traditional proposals for improvement are compared to newer, alternative

approaches based on concepts such as "resource recognition" and approaches which stress social and ecological goals rather than technical considerations. Thus, the book proposes a more integrated structure of waste management with stronger involvement by a diversity of actors and the recognition of links between the formal and informal waste disposal and collection systems.

III. ENVIRONMENT

a. General

The Environment for Children

David Satterthwaite, Roger Hart, Caren Levy, Diana Mitlin, David Ross, Jac Smit and Carolyn Stephens, 1996, ISBN: 1 85383 326 6 (paperback), 1 85383 321 5 (hardback). Published by Earthscan Publications, London, price £12.95 (paperback), £29.95 (hardback) and available by mail from Earthscan, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JN, UK (add 10 percent to the price for postage and packing).

THIS BOOK'S SUBTITLE summarizes its main focus - understanding and acting on the environmental hazards that threaten children and their parents. Each year, millions of children die from environmental hazards in the air, soil, water or food that can be removed or much reduced at low cost. Tens of millions of children have their physical or mental development impaired for similar reasons. The book describes the environmental hazards that cause or contribute to most illness, injury and premature death among children below the age of 15 and how these can be addressed.

Chapter 1 sets the context by considering the environmental components of "development", especially those that concern children, and the great variety of environmental and non-environmental factors that influence child health. It also locates this discussion of the environmental problems that children face in their homes and neighbourhoods within the social, economic and political context in which they occur - especially why it is almost always the children (and adults) in the households with the lowest incomes and least assets that suffer most ill-health. in-

Articles:

**Solidarity and citizenship
Ilo (Peru)
Civic engagement
Tunis (Tunisia)
Reducing automobile dependence
Urban safety and justice
An urban future
Beyond the rural urban divide
European innovation**

Feedback:

**Community organizations in Argentina
Urban poverty in South Africa
Beyond the stereotype of slums in Alexandria
Sustainable cities: the case of Ismailia**

Participatory tools and methods:

**Belo Horizonte
Ahmedabad
Thailand**

NGO profile on:

Comparative Research Programme on Poverty

Environment and Urbanization

A twice yearly journal to encourage Third World researchers, teachers, NGO staff and professionals to write about their work, present their ideas, debate on issues and exchange information on their activities and publications. To promote a wide distribution, free subscriptions are available for NGOs and teaching and training institutions in the Third World which have difficulty in finding foreign exchange.

Environment and Urbanization is published by the Human Settlements Programme of the Instituto Internacional de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo (IIED-América Latina) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), with financial support from the Swedish international development co-operation agency (SIDA) and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). It is the sister journal to *Medio Ambiente y Urbanización*, published quarterly in Spanish by IIED-América Latina. Although the two journals have similar editorial policies, they publish different articles, with *Medio Ambiente y Urbanización* concentrating on Latin America and *Environment and Urbanization* covering all Third World regions.

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