



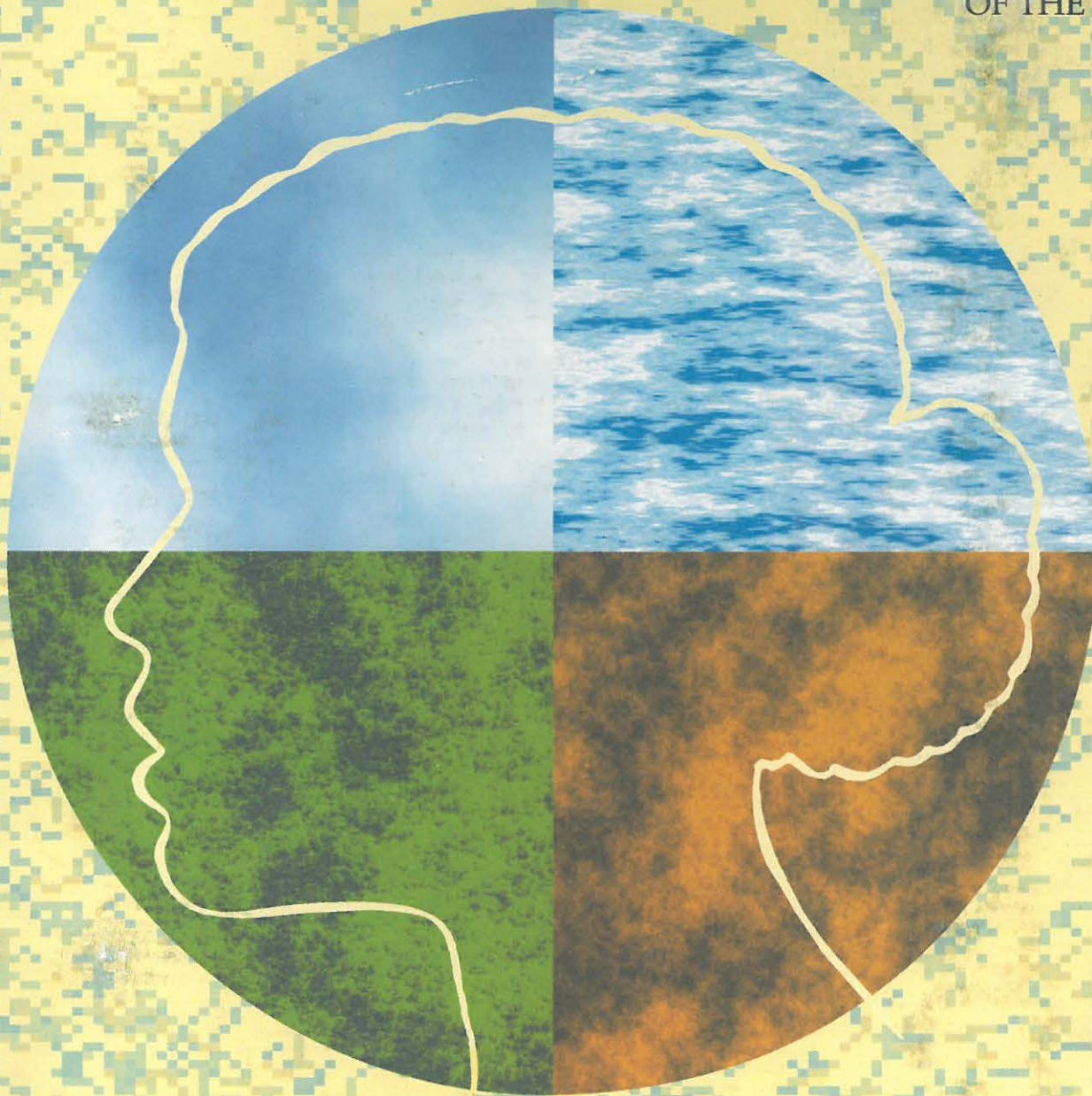
UN INSTRAW



UNITED NATIONS



INTERNATIONAL  
TRAINING CENTRE  
OF THE ILO



TRAINING PACKAGE

# WOMEN

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1995 T  
ENV-6LO  
4/5

Prepared by Borjana Schieber • Martha Dueñas - Loza  
Adelina Guastavi

INTRODUCTORY MODULE:  
IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21  
INSTRAW AND UNITED NATIONS SYSTEMS  
ACTIVITIES





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*TRANSPARENCIES*

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND  
MANDATES OF THE UN SYSTEM ON  
WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
(WED) - 1 -**

- ➡ 1975 Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies
  
- ➡ 1981 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
  
- ➡ 1985 GA Resolution 46/167 "Women, Environment, Population, Sustainable Development"
  
- ➡ 1987 Resolution 36/6 "Women and the Environment" (Commission on the Status of Women)

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND  
MANDATES OF THE UN SYSTEM ON  
WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
(WED) - 2 -**

-  **1990**    **World Declaration on the Survival Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action (UNICEF)**
  
-  **1991**    **The Global Assembly of Women and the Environment "Partners for Life"**
  
-  **1992**    **AGENDA 21**
  
-  **1995**    **Platform for Action - Fourth World Conference on Women**

## CHAPTER 24: GLOBAL ACTION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 1 -

- i) Access to all levels of education and increased participation of women in all levels of decision making, particularly at the highest levels are basic requirements for this goal...
- ii) Awareness of the needs and experiences of women are also highlighted. Thus the dissemination of gender related knowledge in educational policies and curricula must be pursued. The value of women's roles must be promoted...
- iii) Research and data collection should also focus on women's knowledge and experience in managing natural resources and on the impact of structural adjustment programs and environmental degradation on women...

## CHAPTER 24: GLOBAL ACTION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 2 -

- iv) Health facilities including safe and effective women centered and managed reproductive health care and family planning services must be strengthened and made more accessible. Comprehensive health care should include prenatal care and information on maternal and child health.
  
- v) Programmes should be implemented to increase equal employment opportunities and equal pay for women. Such initiatives should be strengthened by providing day care facilities and parental leave...
  
- vi) To integrate women into sustainable development activities, the following steps interalia are proposed. All countries should implement the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies which emphasize the need for women to participate in ecosystem management and control of environmental degradation.

## CHAPTER 24: GLOBAL ACTION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 3 -

- vii) Environmentally safe technologies should be developed in consultation with women and should promote access to clean water, adequate sanitation facilities and efficient fuel supplies. Women's crucial role in changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production must be promoted.
  
- viii) Rural and urban training and resource centers are needed to disseminate environmentally sound technologies to all women. Programmes are needed to develop consumer awareness and encourage investment in environmentally sound productive activities.
  
- ix) In addition to fully involving women in decision making, another area that requires urgent action is that of averting the ongoing rapid environmental and economic degradation that affect the lives of women and children in rural areas that are hampered by drought, desertification, and deforestation or armed hostilities and natural disasters.

## **CHAPTER 24: GLOBAL ACTION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**- 4 -**

- x) **All governments are urged to ratify all relevant conventions relating to the status of women and to transform these women's rights into legal measures to ensure the full and equal participation of women in development decisions...**
  
- xi) **To insure that women are full participants in and beneficiaries of these processes, by 1995 there should be national, regional and international mechanisms to assess the implementation of and impact of development and environmental programmes on women. Gender impact analysis should be an essential component in programmes.**



## CHAPTER 24: REQUIREMENTS - 1 -

### ⇒ CHAPTER 24(9) REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO:

- review the adequacy of all United Nations institutions including those with a special focus on the role of women, in meeting development and environment objectives
- make recommendations for strengthening their capacities

### ⇒ INSTITUTIONS THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL ATTENTION IN THIS AREA INCLUDE:

- the Division for the Advancement of Women (Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Office at Vienna),
- the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM),
- the women's programmes of Regional Commissions

## CHAPTER 24: REQUIREMENTS - 2 -

- ⇒ The review should consider how the environment programmes of each body of the United Nations system could be strengthened to implement Agenda 21 and how to incorporate the role of women in programmes and decisions related to sustainable development
- ⇒ Chapter 24(10) requests that "*each body of the UN system review the number of women in senior policy-level and decision making posts and, where appropriate, adopt programmes to increase that number, in accordance with Economic and Social resolution 1991/17 (of the 31 May 1991) on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat*"
- ⇒ Chapter 24(11) requests that "*...Bodies of the United Nations system, governments and non-governmental organizations involved in the follow-up to the conference and the implementation of Agenda 21 should ensure that gender considerations are fully integrated into all the policies, programmes and activities*"

## **WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - 1 -**

- ⇒ 1950    WOMEN WERE SEEN AS PASSIVE  
BENEFICIARIES OF DEVELOPMENT**
- ⇒ 1970    WOMEN AS AGENTS OF  
DEVELOPMENT CHANGE**
- ⇒ 1972    UN CONFERENCE ON HUMAN  
ENVIRONMENT (STOCKHOLM)  
UNEP - UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**
- ⇒ 1975    UN CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND  
DEVELOPMENT (MEXICO CITY,  
MEXICO)**
- ⇒ 1976    UN WOMEN'S DECADE**

## WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - 2 -

- ⇒ 1985 UN Conference on Women and Development (Nairobi, Kenya)
  
- ⇒ 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio De Janeiro, Brazil) - Agenda 21
  
- ⇒ 1994 UN International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, Egypt)
  
- ⇒ 1995 UN World Summit on Social Development (Copenhagen, Denmark)
  
- ⇒ 1995 UN Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, People's Republic of China)

## ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - 1 -

1. RECONCEPTUALIZATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BASED ON EQUITABLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMAN BEINGS AND NATURE
2. CURRENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MODEL AS SUCH IS AT THE VERY ROOT OF THE ECOLOGICAL CRISIS
3. NEW CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENT "SUSTAINABILITY" AND PROPOSALS FOR MAKING IT OPERATIONAL:
  - BRUNDTLAND REPORT: "Sustainable development is development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs ..."
  - ECOLOGICAL MOVEMENTS: "Sustainable development is linked to participatory democracy that would reduce the scale of different forms of social organization and transfer State powers to local communities"

## ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - 2 -

- **ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMISTS:** "Attempting to put monetary values on the environment and to include these measures in cost/benefit analysis of development proposals"
- **SOCIAL ECOLOGY:** "Sees the integration and cooperation with nature as the fundamental social model, with a heavy emphasis on equality at the local level, i.e. participatory democracy"
- **ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMISTS:** "Attempting to put monetary values on the environment and to include these measures in cost/benefit analysis of development proposals"
- **DEEP ECOLOGY:** "Based on the concept of the mutual interdependence of human society and the environment and derives from some Eastern traditions"
- **ECOFEMINISM:** "Seeks environmental sustainability through the decentralization of power and a reordering of the relationship between nature and the community. The main emphasis here, however, is on countering male domination over both women and nature"

**INSTRAW  
UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL  
RESEARCH AND TRAINING  
INSTITUTE FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN - 2 -**

- ➔ **INSTRAW IS APPLYING A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO TRANSFORM WOMEN AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FROM A GENERAL CONCEPT INTO PRAGMATIC ACTIONS**
- ➔ **INSTRAW PREPARED A STUDY WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: TOWARDS A THEORETICAL SYNTHESIS IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF UTRECHT AND THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES IN THE NETHERLANDS**
- ➔ **INSTRAW NEWS 19 - WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**INSTRAW  
UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL  
RESEARCH AND TRAINING  
INSTITUTE FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN - 3 -**

- ➡ **INSTRAW/DDSMS/STATE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION/ALL CHINA FEDERATION OF WOMEN - INTERREGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, BEIJING, 1992. OUTCOME OF THE WORKSHOP WAS THE DEVELOPMENT OF 86 PROJECT PROPOSALS BASED ON AGENDA 21**
  
- ➡ **INSTRAW TRAINING PACKAGE- WOMEN, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 1995**



## UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

- 1 -

- ➡ DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS
- ➡ DEPARTMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES
- ➡ DEPARTMENT FOR POLICY COORDINATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
- ➡ FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
- ➡ GENERAL AGREEMENT OF TARIFFS AND TRADE
- ➡ GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
- ➡ UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
- ➡ INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

## UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

- 2 -

- ➔ INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
- ➔ INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
- ➔ INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
- ➔ INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
- ➔ UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
- ➔ UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
- ➔ UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
- ➔ UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

## UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

- 3 -

- ➡ UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
- ➡ UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
- ➡ UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL  
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
- ➡ UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR WOMEN
- ➡ UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
- ➡ WORLD BANK
- ➡ WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
- ➡ WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
- ➡ WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TRANSPARENCIES  
MODULE ONE

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*WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH*

TRANSPARENCIES  
MODULE ONE

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*WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH*

## HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- ➡ BETWEEN 1990 AND 2030 - WORLD'S POPULATION GROWS BY 3.7 BILLION
- ➡ FOOD PRODUCTION WILL NEED TO DOUBLE
- ➡ INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT AND ENERGY USE TRIPLE WORLDWIDE AND INCREASE FIVEFOLD IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

THE MOST IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS IN THE  
WORLD ARE ALL HEALTH AND  
PREMATURE DEATH BY BIOLOGICAL  
AGENTS IN HUMAN ENVIRONMENT:  
WATER, FOOD, AIR, SOIL  
(World Development Report 1992, page 2)

## WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



### PRIMARY VICTIMS OF POOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:

- PREPARATION OF FOOD (INDOOR AIR POLLUTION, FOOD PATHOGENS)
- CARING OF CHILDREN (WATER RESOURCES POLLUTION, POOR HEALTH FROM POVERTY AND MALNUTRITION)
- TILLING OF LAND (SOIL AND LAND CONTAMINATION)
- MAINTENANCE OF HOME (ENERGY POLLUTION, WASTE CONTAMINATION)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED IF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS FAIL TO BE ADDRESSED SPECIFICALLY AS THEY RELATE TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN  
(WHO/EHE/92.1, page 1)

## INTEGRATING DEVELOPMENT, THE ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH



### TWO CONCERNS ARE VITAL:

- DEVELOPMENT ADDRESSING PEOPLE'S NEEDS, ESPECIALLY FOR HEALTH; AND
- ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY SO THAT NATURAL RESOURCES ARE NOT DEPLETED AND NATURAL SYSTEMS NOT DAMAGED OR DEGRADED



### LOCAL PARTICIPATION NEEDS:

- NATIONAL AND GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS TO ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE, AND
- LOCAL ACTIONS DO NOT RESULT IN AN UNSUSTAINABLE BURDEN ON NATURAL CYCLES AND SYSTEMS



# GLOBAL CHALLENGES TO HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

⇒ POPULATION

⇒ POVERTY

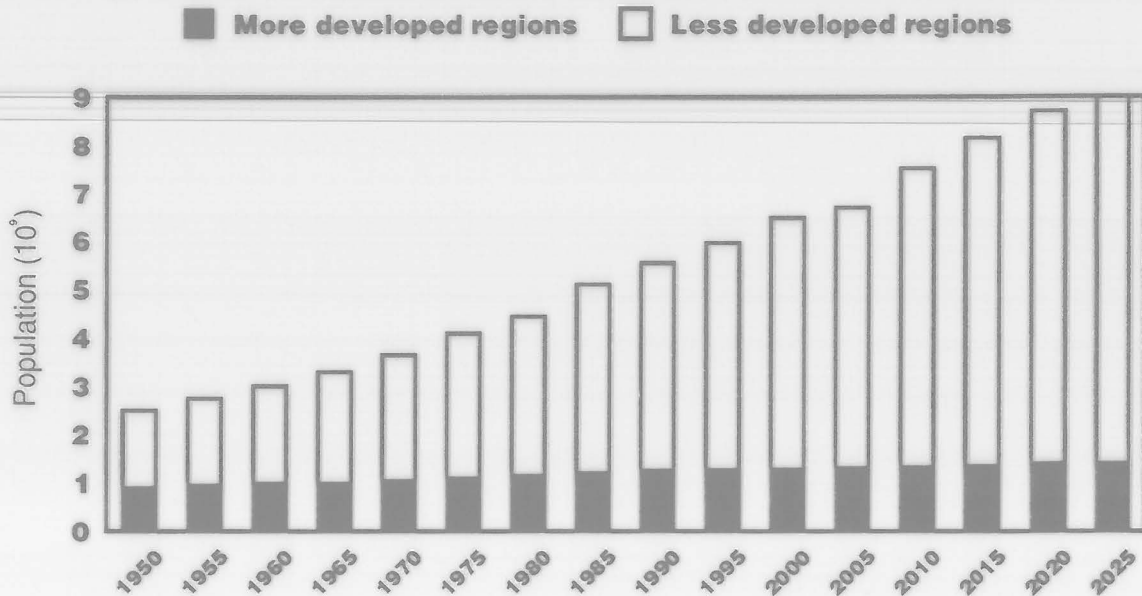
⇒ RESOURCE USE

⇒ MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORKS

⇒ POVERTY; ENVIRONMENTAL  
DEGRADATION; MALNUTRITION

⇒ WOMEN

# GLOBAL POPULATION GROWTH (1950-2025)



*Population growth in developing and developed countries,  
1950-2025*

Source: Based on UNDESIPA, Environmental Data Report 1993-94 p. 203 1993a

## MAIN CAUSES

- ⇒ **WIDESPREAD BREAKDOWN OF TRADITIONAL SYSTEMS OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**
- ⇒ **COMMERCIALIZATION**
- ⇒ **INEQUALITY OF ACCESS TO LAND AND OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES**

## POVERTY

- ➡ **AT LEAST 1115 MILLION PEOPLE WERE CLASSIFIED AS POOR IN THE 1985 AND 630 MILLION OF THESE ARE LIVING IN EXTREME POVERTY**
- ➡ **IF POVERTY IS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE LACKING A STANDARD OF LIVING:**
  - **ADEQUATE FOOD,**
  - **SAFE AND SUFFICIENT WATER AND SANITATION,**
  - **SECURE SHELTER,**
  - **ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE**
- ➡ **OVER 2000 MILLION PEOPLE LIVE IN POVERTY- SOME 40% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION**
- ➡ **A HIGH PROPORTION ARE WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS**
- ➡ **WOMEN ALSO FACE DISCRIMINATION (WHO/EHE/92.1, page 4)**

## MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORKS

- ⇒ **MACROECONOMIC POLICIES ARE MAJOR INFLUENCES ON THE STATE OF HEALTH AND OF THE ENVIRONMENT WITHIN ALL COUNTRIES**
- ⇒ **THEY ARE USUALLY ESTABLISHED WITH LITTLE OR NO CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO THEIR HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES, OR WOMEN'S NEEDS OR CONCERNS**
- ⇒ **MACROECONOMIC POLICIES INFLUENCE THE EXTENT TO WHICH HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH RELATED SERVICES ARE FUNDED**
- ⇒ **MACROECONOMIC POLICIES SHOULD MINIMIZE CONFLICTS BETWEEN ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH GOALS**

## WOMEN, HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT - 1 -

- ⇒ **WOMEN IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PLAY THE PIVOTAL ROLE IN MAINTAINING THE BALANCE BETWEEN HUMAN HEALTH AND SUSTAINING THE ENVIRONMENT**
- ⇒ **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS THAT IMPAIR HEALTH INCLUDE:**
  - **PATHOGENIC AGENTS AND THEIR VECTORS**
  - **PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL AGENTS PRESENT IN THEIR ENVIRONMENT**
  - **PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL AGENTS ADDED TO THE ENVIRONMENT BY HUMAN ACTIVITIES**
- ⇒ **WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE OFTEN MORE VULNERABLE TO THE HEALTH RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH POVERTY AND INADEQUATE STANDARDS OF LIVING**
- ⇒ **WOMEN'S VULNERABILITY DURING PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH IS ALSO EVIDENT FROM THE VERY HIGH LEVELS OF MATERNAL MORTALITY IN MOST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

## WOMEN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT - 2 -

- ➡ ABOUT HALF A MILLION WOMEN DIE IN CHILDBIRTH EACH YEAR. 99% OF THEM IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
- ➡ WOMEN SUFFER MORE FROM THE DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH INADEQUATE WATER AND SANITATION AND FROM THE RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH SMOKY LIVING ENVIRONMENTS
- ➡ MOST PREGNANT WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE ANAEMIC AND MANY TEENAGE MOTHERS ARE NOT FULLY GROWN
- ➡ IMPROVING WOMEN'S INCOME, EDUCATION, HEALTH, NUTRITION COULD GREATLY REDUCE MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY

## HEALTH AND AGENDA 21

### ⇒ HUMAN HEALTH IS THE FIRST PRINCIPLE OF THE RIO DECLARATION:

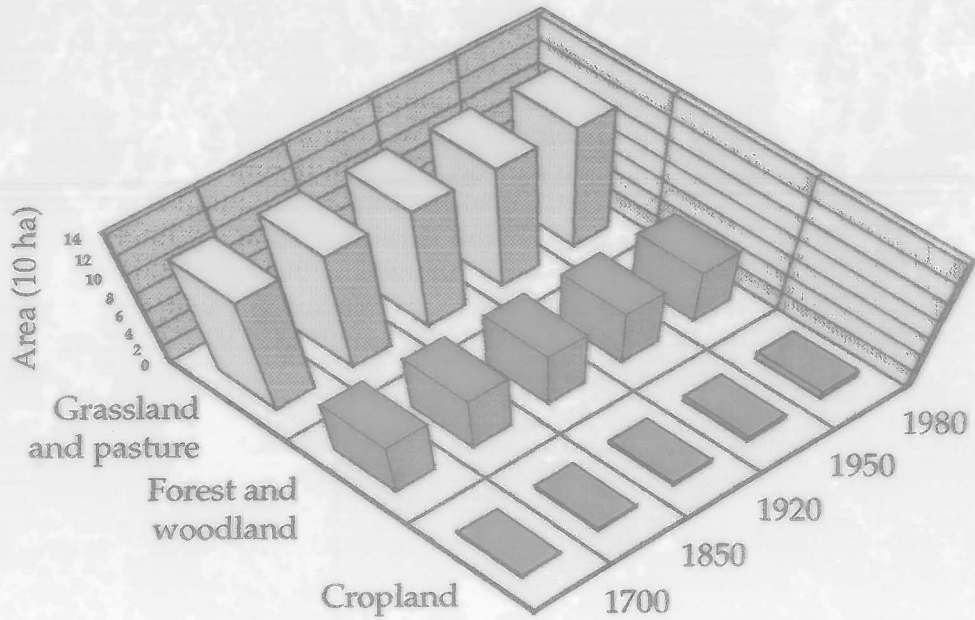
"HUMAN BEINGS ARE AT THE CENTRE OF CONCERN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. THEY ARE ENTITLED TO A HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE LIFE IN HARMONY WITH NATURE"

### ⇒ THE CONCEPT OF IMPROVED HEALTH IS ADDRESSED THROUGHOUT AGENDA 21

### ⇒ IMPROVED HEALTH IS AT THE CENTRE OF THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENTAL STRATEGIES

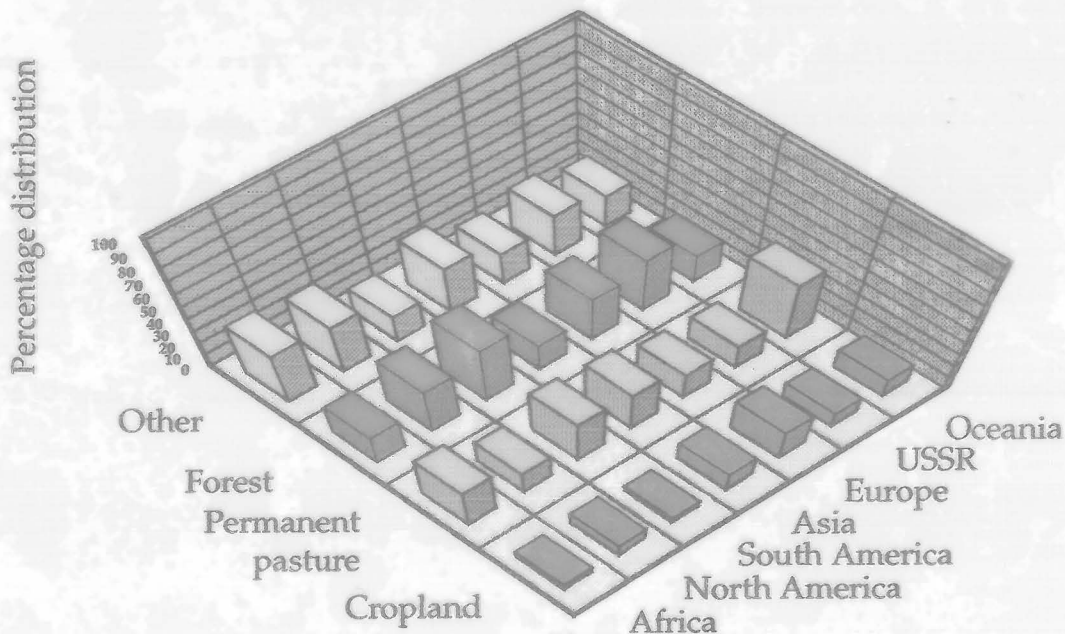
### ⇒ IMPROVED HEALTH IS EQUALLY A CENTRAL CONCERN OF OTHER MAJOR PROGRAMMES OF AGENDA 21: WATER, ATMOSPHERE, HOUSING, AGRICULTURE, TOXIC CHEMICALS, HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES

# CHANGES IN GLOBAL LAND USE



*Long-term changes in global land use, 1700-1980*

Source: After Richards, 1990 - Environmental Data Report 1993-94 p. 132



*Percentage distribution of land use in major world regions' 1988-1990 (mean annual values)*

Source: Data from Table 3.1 - Environmental Data Report 1993-94 p. 132



## DEGRADATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND IMPACTS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH - 1

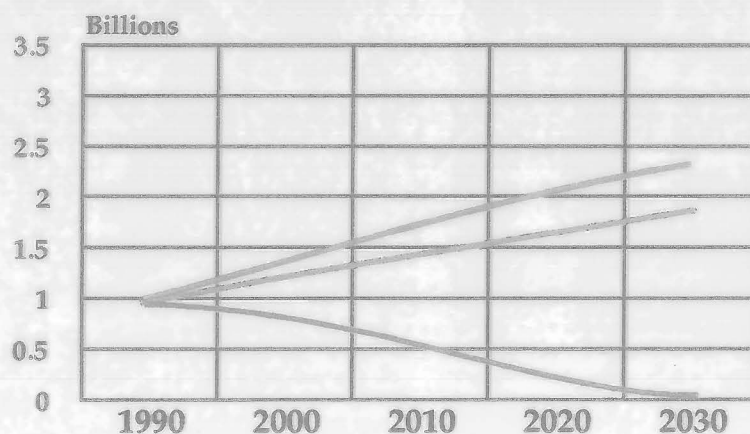
- ➡ THE DEGRADATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS CAUSED BY A NUMBER OF FACTORS, INCLUDING OVERGAZING BY LIVESTOCK (35 PER CENT) AGRICULTURAL PROCEDURES AND TECHNOLOGIES (28 PER CENT) DEFORESTATION (30 PER CENT) OVEREXPLOITATION FOR FUELWOOD (7 PER CENT) AND INDUSTRIALIZATION (1 PER CENT)

## DEGRADATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AND IMPACTS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH - 2

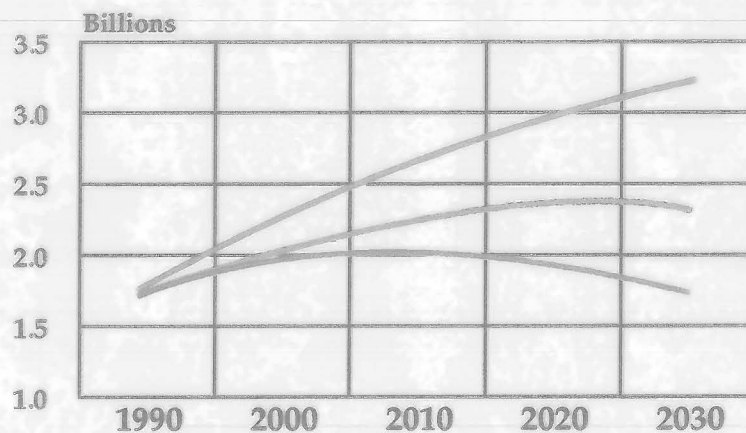
- ➔ DECREASE IN THE FOOD SUPPLY IS PARTICULARLY THREATENING TO THE HEALTH OF TWO-THIRDS OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO SUFFER FROM MALNUTRITION
- ➔ THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OF WOMEN IS ALSO THREATENED BY EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDES USED IN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES
- ➔ MALNUTRITION IS THE MOST PREVALENT SERIOUS PROBLEM CONTRIBUTING TO DISEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

# SAFE WATER AND ADEQUATE SANITATION: THREE SCENARIOS, 1990-2030

*Population without safe water*



*Population without adequate sanitation*

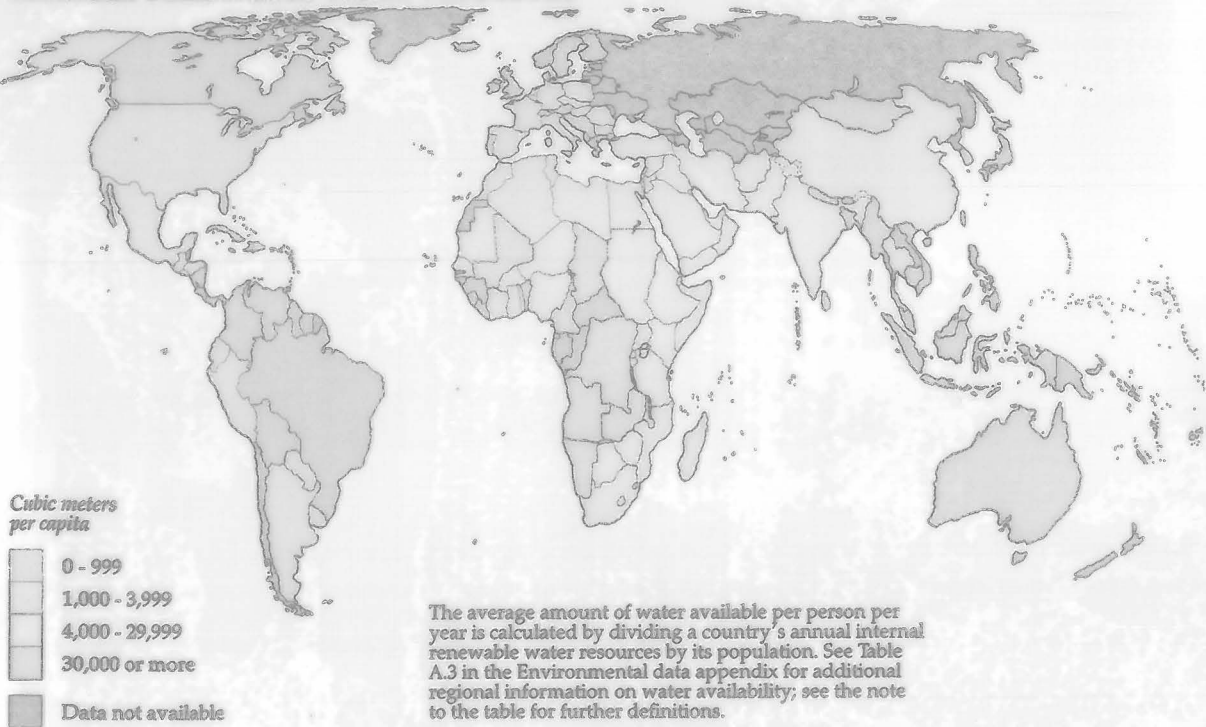


- "Business as usual" scenario
- Scenario with accelerated investment in water supply and sanitation services (a)
- Scenario with accelerated investment and efficiency reforms (b)

Source: World Bank estimates, based on Anderson and Cavendish, background paper  
World Development Report 1992 p. 112

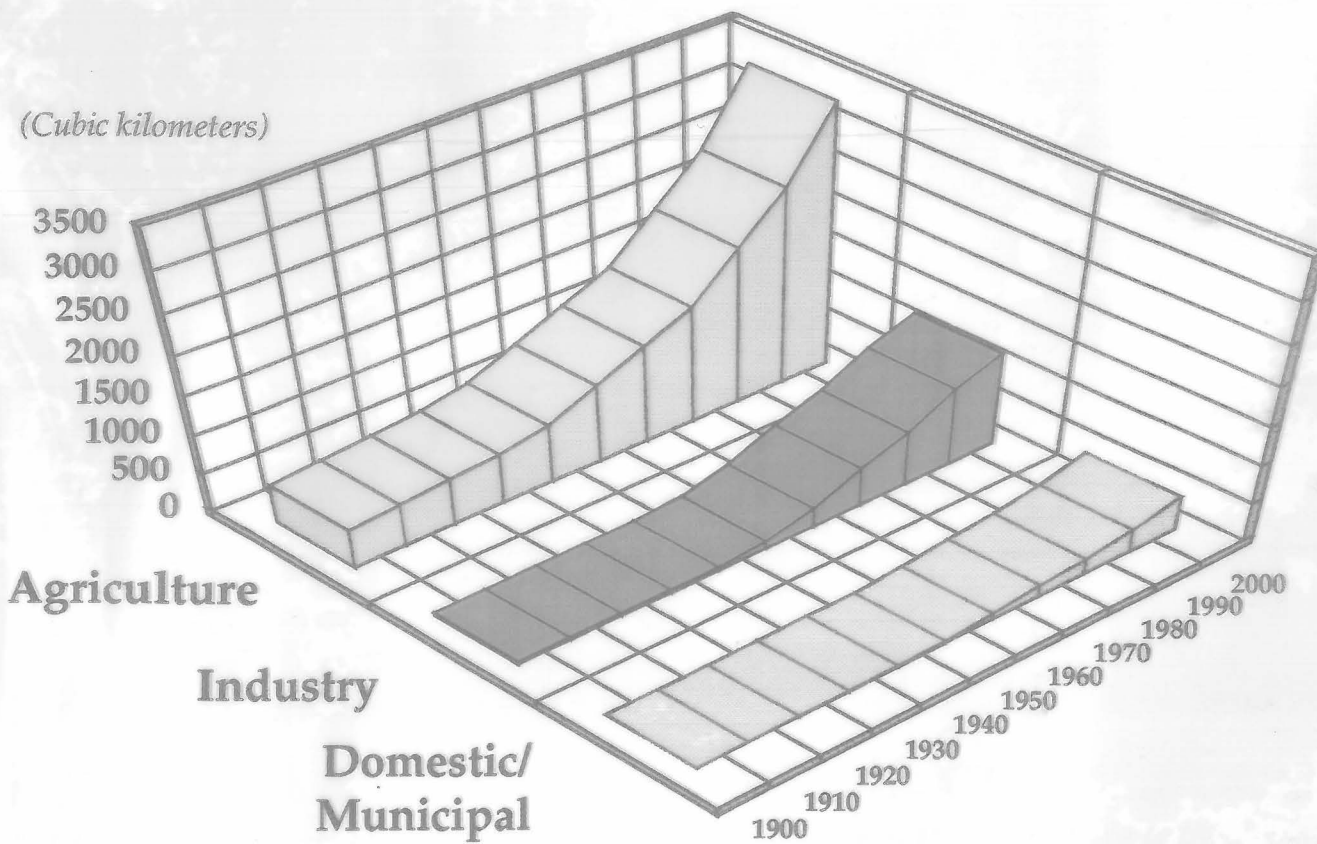
# RENEWABLE FRESH WATER RESOURCES

## Annual renewable water resources



Source: Data supplied by WRI, Washington DC - World Development Report 1992 p. 217

# GLOBAL WATER WITHDRAWAL BY SECTOR, 1900-2000



Source: Igor A. Shiklomanov, "World Fresh Water Resources", in *Water in Crisis*, Peter H. Gleick, ed. (Oxford University Press, New York, 1993), p. 20

# WATER AND IMPACTS ON HEALTH

- 1

- ➔ A HIGH PROPORTION OF LIFE THREATENING AND HEALTH THREATENING INFECTIONS ARE TRANSMITTED THROUGH CONTAMINATED WATER OR FOOD
- ➔ 1 BILLION PEOPLE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER
- ➔ 1.7 BILLION PEOPLE LACK ACCESS TO SANITATION
- ➔ 2000 MILLION PEOPLE ARE AT RISK FROM WATERBORNE AND FOOD BORNE DISEASES

## **WATER AND IMPACTS ON HEALTH**

**- 2**

- ➡ 900 MILLION CASES OF DIARRHOEAL DISEASES EVERY YEAR**
- ➡ 5 MILLION CHILDREN DIE DUE TO DIARRHOEAL DISEASE**
- ➡ 200 MILLION INFECTED WITH SCHISTOSOMIASIS**
- ➡ 10 MILLION INFECTED WITH GUINEA WORM**
- ➡ 267 MILLION INFECTED WITH MALARIA**
- ➡ 90 MILLION INFECTED WITH FILARIASIS**
- ➡ 18 MILLION INFECTED WITH ONCHOCERCIASIS**

## INDUSTRY

- ⇒ INDUSTRIAL PRACTICES IN BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRODUCE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONSEQUENCES THROUGH THE RELEASE OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTANTS AND THE GENERATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTES
- ⇒ OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES INCLUDE LEAD AND MERCURY POISONING, HEARING LOSS AND SKIN DISEASE. SERIOUS HEALTH RISKS ARE ALSO FACED BY WORKERS IN SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES WHERE EXPOSURE TO TOXIC CHEMICALS AND ACCIDENT RATES ARE OFTEN HIGHER THAN IN LARGE INDUSTRIES
- ⇒ INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS HAVE POLLUTED MANY RIVERS, LAKES AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS ESPECIALLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
- ⇒ IN MOST COUNTRIES TOO LITTLE ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO CONTROLLING THE DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL WASTE SO AS TO PREVENT HUMAN EXPOSURE AND LEAKAGE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT



## HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

- ➔ ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IS NEEDED IN ALL SETTLEMENTS TO PROVIDE WATER, PROTECT PUBLIC SPACES, REMOVE WASTES AND PROTECT AIR AND WATER QUALITY
- ➔ RAPIDLY GROWING URBAN CENTRES ARE A PARTICULAR CHALLENGE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
- ➔ MORE THAN 2000 MILLION PEOPLE LIVE IN LIFE-THREATENING AND HEALTH-THREATENING HOUSING AND LIVING ENVIRONMENTS
- ➔ AN ESTIMATED 30-50% OF THE SOLID WASTES GENERATED IN URBAN AREAS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS LEFT UNCOLLECTED  
(WHO/EHE/92.1, page 15)

## TRANSBOUNDARY AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

- ⇒ ACID PRECIPITATION
- ⇒ THE OZONE LAYER
- ⇒ GREENHOUSE GASES
- ⇒ SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTES
- ⇒ OCEANS
- ⇒ BIODIVERSITY

## STRATEGY

- ⇒ **THREE MAIN GLOBAL OBJECTIVES:**
- **ACHIEVING A SUSTAINABLE BASIS FOR HEALTH FOR ALL**
  - **PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES HEALTH**
  - **MAKING ALL INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS AWARE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR HEALTH AND ITS ENVIRONMENTAL BASIS**
- ⇒ **TWO PRINCIPLES ARE CENTRAL TO A HEALTHIER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE PLANET:**
- **MORE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RESOURCES WITHIN AND BETWEEN COUNTRIES**
  - **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

## RECOMMENDATIONS - 1 -

- ⇒ **ALL GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES SHOULD HAVE HIGHER PRIORITY TO DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE BASIS FOR THE HEALTH OF THEIR PEOPLE AND COUNTRIES**
- ⇒ **HIGHER PRIORITY MUST BE GIVEN TO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING) AND EDUCATION FOR ALL GROUPS**
- ⇒ **RESPONSIBLE ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT ALL LEVELS FROM THE INDIVIDUAL CITIZEN TO THE GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE OVERCONSUMPTION AND THE GENERATION OF WASTES, ESPECIALLY WASTES WITH SERIOUS ADVERSE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

## RECOMMENDATIONS - 2 -

- ⇒ **GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES SHOULD BE CHANGED TO GIVE GREATER PRIORITY AND SUPPORT TO PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES**
  
- ⇒ **CHANGES SHOULD BE MADE IN PLANNING PROCESS FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE INSTITUTIONAL AND REGULATORY STRUCTURES OF GOVERNMENTS TO GIVE STRONGER EMPHASIS TO PREVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION, INTERSECTORAL DECISION-MAKING AND PARTICIPATION**
  
- ⇒ **GOVERNMENTS AND AID AGENCIES SHOULD GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO PROVIDING THE MEANS AND BUILDING UP THE CAPACITY NEEDED BY EACH LOCALITY TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF LOCAL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND RESOURCES TO PROMOTE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

## RECOMMENDATIONS - 3 -

- ⇒ **GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES SHOULD GIVE HIGHER PRIORITY TO CREATING THE BASIS OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH THE AIM OF ALLEVIATING POVERTY AND SUSTAINING THE QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT**
  
- ⇒ **GOVERNMENTS, INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS SHOULD DEVELOP THE NATIONAL CAPACITY FOR THE SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND MONITORING OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF HEALTH IN THE CONTEXT OF DEVELOPMENT**