

IUCN led online discussion forum on 'Environmental Sustainability in our Cities'

2 December 2005

'Environmental Sustainability in our Cities' is the theme of a Habitat JAM online discussion forum which Achim Steiner, Director General of the World Conservation Union is moderating until 4 December 2005, 15:00 GMT.

The Habitat JAM is a live, online, text-based, worldwide collaborative event that is running for a period of 72 hours, from 15:00 GMT December 1 to 15:00 GMT December 4, 2005.

Habitat JAM is featuring seven individual discussion Forums running simultaneously. These Forums focus on key issues pertaining to the rapid urbanization of the planet.

The session led on Environmental Sustainability is focusing on the fundamental changes in the relationship between people and the natural environment derived from the fact that now about half of the world's population is living in cities.

The objectives of the Habitat JAM are to:

- Bring together tens of thousands of people to share and brainstorm ideas concerning urban sustainability.
- Help to further develop the themes that will be explored at the World Urban Forum (WUF 3) Conference in Vancouver, Canada in June of 2006.
- Engage large numbers of people around the world, reaching far beyond the usual community of delegates that attend such events.
- Help to create new networks and linkages among individuals and groups of people who would not formerly have been able to connect, or know whom to connect with.
- Create an interest in participation at the WUF 3 Conference and raise awareness.

For more information and how to participate in the discussion forum, please visit <http://www.habitatjam.com>.