



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCE PACK

*Classroom*  
VIDEO  
Education with Vision

## Sustainable Settlement Issues

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### ***For Teachers***

#### **Brief Summary of Programme**

Sustainability in urban areas is coming into sharp focus as urban residents struggle to cope with social, economic and environmental problems. This programme examines the concept of urban sustainability and how planners can make changes which can improve the quality of life for residents. Examples from around the world are used to show how urban authorities at a range of scales are introducing strategies including public transport initiatives and recycling centres to create sustainable settlements which will meet the needs of present and future inhabitants with a reduced ecological footprint.

#### **DVD Timeline**

00:00 – 01:05	Introduction
01:05 – 06:13	What is meant by urban sustainability?
06:13 – 11:00	What makes cities unsustainable?
11:00 – 16:09	Sustainable Urban Planning
16:09 – 18:58	Sustainable Transport Solutions
18:58 – 22:24	New Eco settlements
22:24 – 23:00	Conclusion

#### **Other Background Information for Teachers**

Settlements, especially cities, have a massive impact on the local and global environment. Each city “sucks in” resources including food from a large hinterland, and each city produces an enormous amount of waste products which are dumped in the surrounding environment e.g. rivers, seas etc. The resources consumed by a city and the impact of its waste can be referred to as the city’s “**ecological footprint**”. For example, a typical city in a More Economically Developed Country will consume resources from almost every continent, while its pollution can be traced around the world.

At present, cities are organised with little regard for *sustainability*. For example, most urban buildings are insufficiently insulated and public transport systems can struggle from under investment. This increases pollution levels and depletes natural resources more rapidly. Cities are devouring natural resources and polluting the environment at an increasing rate and this cannot continue without causing long-term damage to planet earth.

The solution to these issues does not lie in the abandonment of cities but rather a change in the way people live in cities. Curitiba in Brazil is a leading example of how cities can grow based on the principles of sustainable development.

As a result of the **Earth Summit** held in Rio de Janeiro (1992), national governments are obliged to formulate national plans or strategies for sustainable development. These are called **Agenda 21** statements - a framework to tackle social and environmental problems. Over time it has been recognised that local authorities are best placed to implement the Agenda 21 statements so we have witnessed the emergence of Local Agenda 21. In seeking to promote sustainable development, local authorities acknowledge that decisions at local level work best if all members of community are involved.

### Curriculum Links

GCE GEOGRAPHY (AQA)  
Unit 3 – World Cities

GCE GEOGRAPHY (CCEA)  
Unit A2 1: Human Geography – Option B Planning for Sustainable Settlements

AS GCE Geography (EDEXCEL)  
Unit 2 – Managing Urban Inequalities

AS GCE GEOGRAPHY (EDEXCEL)  
Unit 1: Topic 2 Going Global – World Cities

GCSE GEOGRAPHY A (AQA)  
Unit SC1: Physical and Human Geography

GCSE GEOGRAPHY B (AQA)  
Unit 1: Managing Places in the twenty-first century – Section B (The Urban Environment)

GCSE GEOGRAPHY (CCEA)  
Unit 2: Our Living World

GCSE GEOGRAPHY A (EDEXCEL)  
Unit 2: Section B – Environmental Issues  
Unit 3: Topic 3 – Settlement Change

GCSE GEOGRAPHY B (EDEXCEL)  
Unit 2: Topic 3 Living Spaces  
Unit 2: Topic 5 Changing Cities

GCSE GEOGRAPHY A (OCR)  
Unit 3.4 Issues in our Fast changing world (The Challenge of Planning)

GCSE GEOGRAPHY B (OCR)  
Unit 3.1 Sustainable Decision making (Theme 2 Settlement, Development and Planning)

GCSE GEOGRAPHY B (WJEC)  
Theme 1: Challenges of Living in a Built Environment

### Related DVDs available from Classroom Video Ltd.

*India's Energy Crisis* (2009)  
*Addicted to Plastic* (2008)  
*Clean Energy: Clean Nature* (2008)  
*Build Green* (2007)  
*Going Carbon Neutral* (2007)  
*Cities of Tomorrow* (2005)

Please visit our website [www.ClassroomVideo.co.uk](http://www.ClassroomVideo.co.uk) for 100s more Geography titles.

### Other Useful Resources

#### Journals

Geofactsheet No. 218 *Ecopolis – Model for Sustainable Cities for the Future*  
([www.curriculumpress.co.uk](http://www.curriculumpress.co.uk))

Geofactsheet No. 151 – *Sustainable City Management: Case Study of Curitiba, Brazil's Ecological Capital*  
([www.curriculumpress.co.uk](http://www.curriculumpress.co.uk))

*Geography Review Vol. 17 No.1 (Sept 2003) Is Bath a Sustainable City?* ([www.philipallan.co.uk](http://www.philipallan.co.uk))

*Issues Vol. 119 (2006) Transport Trends* ([www.independence.co.uk](http://www.independence.co.uk))

*Issues Vol. 111 (2006) The Waste Problem* ([www.independence.co.uk](http://www.independence.co.uk))

*Issues Vol. 85 (2004) The Housing Crisis* ([www.independence.co.uk](http://www.independence.co.uk))

*Issues Vol. 146 (2008) Sustainability and the Environment* ([www.independence.co.uk](http://www.independence.co.uk))

*Issues Vol. 161 (2008) Waste Issues* ([www.independence.co.uk](http://www.independence.co.uk))

#### Text Books

*GCSE Geography for WJEB B*, A. Owen et al., Hodder Education (2009)

*Geography for CCEA Geography*, A. Henderson et al., Hodder Education (2009)

*Tomorrow's Geography for Edexcel GCSE Specification A*, M. Harcourt, Hodder Education (2009)

*A New Introduction to Geography for OCR GCSE Specification A*, J. Belfield et al., Hodder Education (2009)

*AS Geography for Edexcel*, B. Digby et al. (2008) Oxford Education

*The Urban Challenge*, G. Drake and C. Lee Hodder Education (2001)

#### Web Sites

Eco towns website – <http://ecotownsyouresay.direct.gov.uk/>

<http://www.bettertransport.org.uk/>

### **Suggested Activities for Before Viewing the Programme**

1. What factors attract people to live in urban areas?
2. What problems are you aware of in your nearest town or city e.g. air pollution? You may wish to do a web search of your local newspapers for relevant articles.
3. Create a diary of your day so far. Highlight any occasions when you have consumed resources e.g. electricity and food.
4. Does your household or school do anything at present to conserve resources e.g. recycling. If so, describe what has been done.
5. Why do you think it is important to get involved with efforts to conserve resources such as recycling?

***Student Worksheet***

**Viewing Questions**

1. What proportion of the world's population now lives in towns and cities?

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2. What resources are needed to sustain a population?

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3. What is meant by the term Ecological Footprint?

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4. Complete the following statement:

Urban residency is expected to rise to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

5. How does the UN define a Sustainable Settlement?

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6. Describe two problems which currently make many cities unsustainable?

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

7. List two of the sustainable urban schemes Bath and North Somerset Council are promoting.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

8. Why do you think encouraging people to make small changes (e.g. using the bus once a week) is the best way to promote a sustainable lifestyle?

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9. Why is the London 2012 Olympics site an example of sustainable planning?

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## **Sustainable Settlement Issues**

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10. Describe three ways in which individuals can reduce the reliance on the car.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) \_\_\_\_\_

11. What changes did the urban planner Jamie Lerner introduce in the Brazilian city of Curitiba to promote sustainable development?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Suggested Student Responses

1. What proportion of the world's population now lives in towns and cities?

**More than half of the world's population of 6.5 Billion.**

2. What resources are needed to sustain a population?

- **Food**
- **Energy e.g. Fossil fuels**
- **Raw materials e.g. timber**

3. What is meant by the term Ecological Footprint?

**This refers to the resources consumed by a city and the impact of its waste.**

4. Complete the following statement:

Urban residency is expected to rise to **60%** by **2030**.

5. How does the UN define a Sustainable Settlement?

**One that meets the needs of the present and future inhabitants and has a minimal ecological footprint.**

6. Describe two problems which currently make many cities unsustainable? **Two from:**

- (i) Over reliance on Fossil fuels**
- (ii) Air pollution causing respiratory problems and chemical weathering.**
- (iii) Water pollution and resulting diseases e.g. Cholera and Typhoid**
- (iv) One third of urban residents live in slums (World Bank estimate)**
- (v) Urban sprawl due to rural push and urban pull factors.**

7. List two of the sustainable urban schemes Bath and North Somerset Council are promoting.

**Any two from:**

- (i) Alternative fuel for buses**
- (ii) Cycling schemes**
- (iii) Introducing more Park and Ride schemes.**

8. Why do you think encouraging people to make small changes (e.g. using the bus once a week) is the best way to promote a sustainable lifestyle?

**People can be reluctant to change their habitats but they may be willing to try something once. If they can see the benefits of a small change they may be more likely to embrace a sustainable lifestyle in other ways.**

## Sustainable Settlement Issues

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9. Why is the London 2012 Olympics site an example of sustainable planning?

**The site is an old industrial area (Brownfield site) so no rural land has been built on to create the facilities for the 2012 Olympics. This reduces urban sprawl and any potential negative effects on the local ecology.**

10. Describe three ways in which individuals can reduce the reliance on the car.

**Any three from:**

- (i) Walk**
- (ii) Car share**
- (iii) Use the Park and ride facilities**
- (iv) Work from home**

11. What changes did the urban planner Jamie Lerner introduce in the Brazilian city of Curitiba to promote sustainable development?

**From the 1960's Lerner introduced:**

- Strict controls to control urban sprawl**
- Restrictions on traffic in downtown areas**
- Preservation of the historic sectors of the city**
- An affordable and accessible public transport system.**

### Suggested Activities for After Viewing the Programme

1. Go to the following website to calculate your Ecological Footprint.

<http://www.ecologicalfootprint.com/>

2. Contact your local authority to see what they are doing to promote sustainable development under the banner of Local Agenda 21.

3. Use the four photographs in the PowerPoint (which you will find on your DVD disc, or email [orders@ClassroomVideo.co.uk](mailto:orders@ClassroomVideo.co.uk) for the file) to answer these questions.

- (i) List the benefits of using a bicycle in a large city like Paris (Photo 1). Are there any disadvantages?
- (ii) Describe the two sustainable planning approaches evident in Photo 2 of Newcastle city centre.
- (iii) Why do you think cars are banned from this area of Cambridge (Photo 3)
- (iv) The LUAS tram system in Dublin is very popular with commuters. If you were planning a similar scheme what would you do to ensure it had maximum appeal?

4. In groups discuss how you could promote sustainable living:

- In your home
- In your school.