

A Fairer, Greener London: The London 21 Environmental Justice Project



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A city-level approach to environmental justice

- We know that poorest communities all too often suffer from the worst environments – **‘environmental injustice’**
- UK work inspired by work in the US
- More than five years work in the UK – plenty of research on the main issues
- The UK SD strategy identifies this as a key issue
- The LSx report sets out key issues for London
- Time to move forward....

The London 21

The programme has three main objectives:

- To empower London's socially deprived communities to use data effectively to monitor local sustainability and, more specifically, environmental inequalities.
- To engage young Londoners with sustainability and environmental inequality issues through environmental mapping.
- To improve the accessibility of environmental information to Londoners.

The London 21 project

- The first city-level project in England
- Working with universities,

BUT

- Moving from research to action
- Work in six neighbourhoods
- ***What does environmental justice mean to those who suffer the impacts?***

Objective 1: Empower London's communities to use environmental data

Outputs:

- Six events on environmental inequalities in areas of social deprivation in London.
- Six new pilot projects with community groups will build their capacity to use and link data,
- An Action Pack for community groups on accessing data, monitoring environmental inequalities, and taking action.

Objective 1: Empower London's communities to use environmental data

Outcomes:

- London's socially deprived communities will have the most effective tools to make the case for environmental inequalities and take action to improve their local quality of life.
- Londoners will gain an increased understanding of environmental inequalities issues.

Objective 2: Engage young Londoners with environmental inequality issues

- Work with two secondary schools from socially-deprived areas
- Local and London-wide launches of the students findings and action.
- A Pack for KS3 and 4 with lesson plans for citizenship,

Objective 3: Improve the accessibility of environmental information to Londoners.

- A first stop, attractive, accessible website that directs them to sources of environmental data
- A research report on the information needed by communities
- A regular e-newsletter with updates, case-studies and resources sent to community groups in London with an interest in environmental inequalities.
- Three seminars and an e-mail forum for organisations mapping sustainability in London

So that ...

- Londoners have access to new effective tools to improve the quality of life of their communities.
- Londoners gain an understanding of the data that could be available to allow them to monitor local sustainability.
- Organisations involved in mapping sustainability in Greater London, including LAs, other agencies, and voluntary organisations working on environmental inequalities issues, gain an improved understanding of environmental inequalities issues and the type of environmental data London's communities need

In summary:



- Work with six communities (and two schools)
- Action in deprived areas and with excluded communities – links to L21 BME programme
- Link with the relevant L.A.s

So what will we actually do?

Phase 1: Scoping January 2006 – June 2006

- Development of the steering group
- Background research and development of database
- Selection of six boroughs / pilot communities
- Six local events
- A follow-up seminar to launch a report arising from the first six events
- Selection of two pilot schools.

Phase 2: Local Action June 2006 - April 2007

- Community pilots explore issues
- Pilots work with the information and develop an action plan
- Pilots take action on environmental inequalities / local priorities
- Seminar for organisations mapping sustainability.
- Youth pilots run

Phase 3 - Reviewing, Celebrating and Disseminating April - July 2007

- Participatory evaluation of the pilot projects
- Overall evaluation of the pilot programme
- Compilation of the community pack and the school pack.
- Launch of the packs and seminar on the project's findings and recommendations.

Getting involved



We're looking for more collaborators:

- Communities and local authorities
- Other agencies and NGOs
- Spin-off linked projects (on delivering change)

This is new territory...

Your ideas welcome!