

After Earth Summit Johannesburg 2002

"The environment is a long-term issue which has always suffered from the short-term imperatives of the political cycle...the long-term survival of the human race is in no politicians' immediate interest" George Monbiot

Rich-poor divide maintained, with rich countries claiming that the world's water supplies, climate, health and biodiversity will be defended by "public-private partnerships"

Voluntary commitments instead of legal requirements.

Broad statements and aspirations but few definable statements and binding commitments.

Compared to amount spent on Gulf War (over \$6 billion), tiny amounts pledged by UK and US for sustainable agriculture (\$90 million), forests(\$53 million), health (\$2.3 billion), sustainable energy (\$43 million) and water/sanitation initiatives (\$970 million).

280 partnerships worldwide between governments, business and civil society with \$235 million of resources...how far will that go?

Relevant for UK LA21:

Institutional Framework for sustainable development

Adopt new measures to strengthen institutional arrangements for sustainable development at international, regional and national levels.

Enhance the role of the Commission for Sustainable Development including through reviewing and monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, and fostering coherence of implementation, initiatives and partnerships.

Facilitate and promote the integration of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development into the work and programs UN regional commissions.

Take immediate steps to make progress in the formulation and elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development and begin their implementation by 2005.

Energy

A partnership on Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles received broad support.

Aid

UK will double its assistance to Africa to £1 billion a year and raised its overall assistance to all countries by 50%