

Local Action for Biodiversity

**... enhancing urban nature through a
global network of local governments**

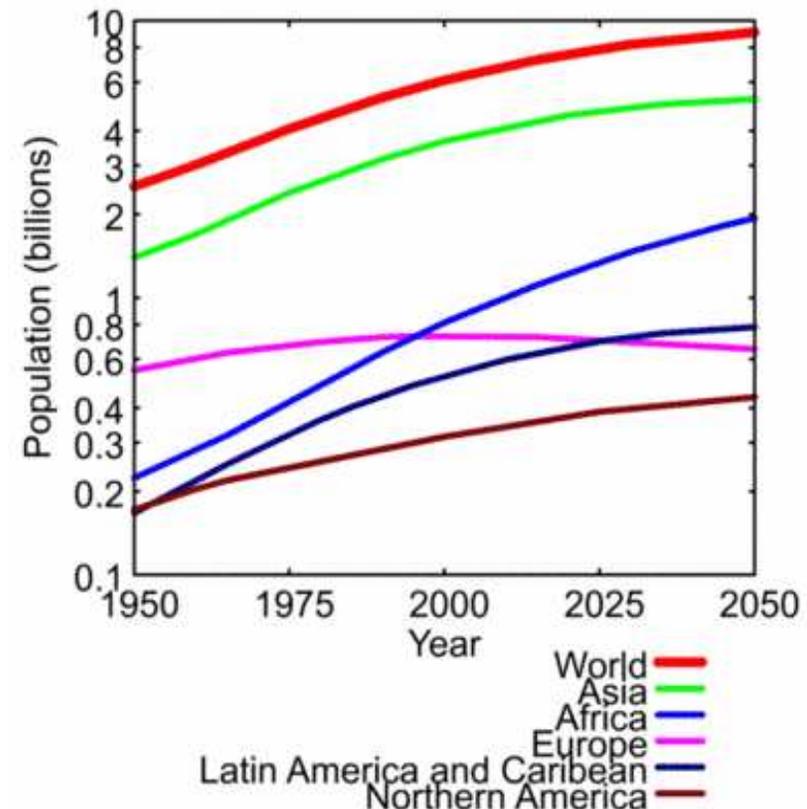
***Cities and Biodiversity:
Achieving the 2010 Target
Curitiba: March 2007***

***Stephen Granger
City of Cape Town
Chair LAB Steering
Committee***



Did you know?

- ⌘ For the first time in human history, more than one-half of the world's population lives in cities.
- ⌘ Average 2% global urban population annual growth rate
- ⌘ The UN predicts that over 80% of population growth in the next ten years will occur in urban areas of developing countries.



Did you know?

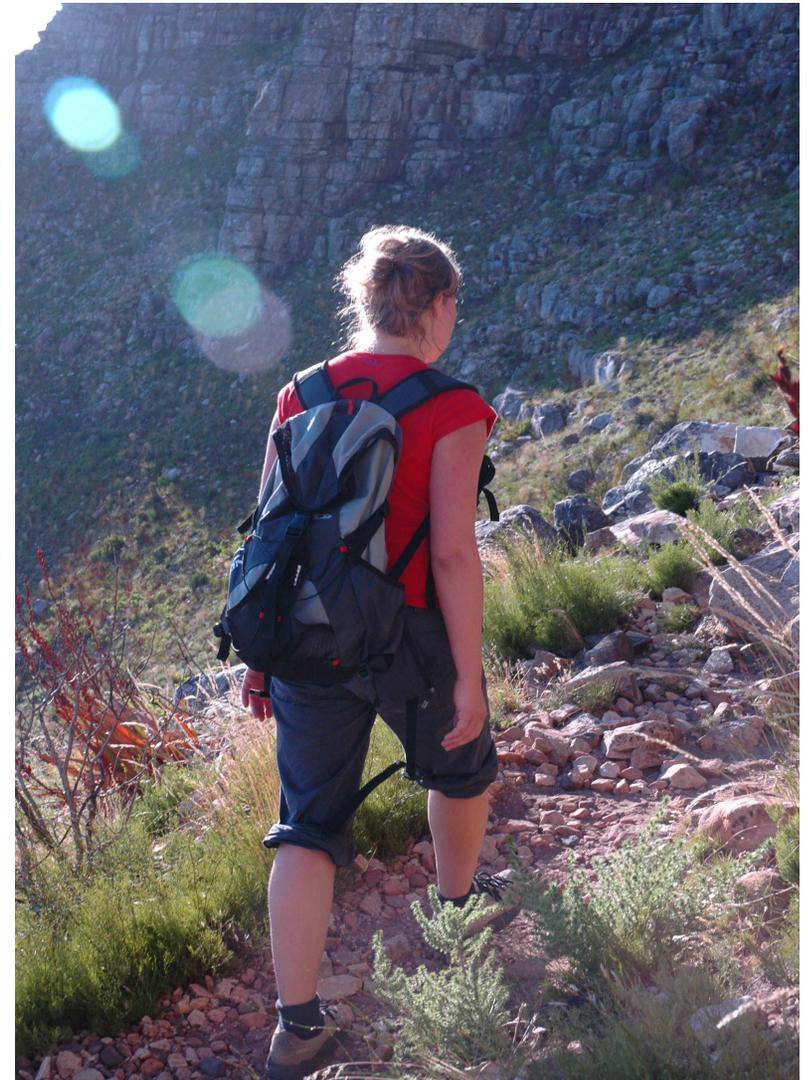
- ⌘ 12% of bird sp, 23% of mammals, 32% of amphibians, 25% of conifers and 52% of cycads threatened with extinction
- ⌘ Climate Change could add 15 – 37% of sp to extinction by 2050
- ⌘ Two thirds of evaluated benefits to society from ecosystems are in state of degradation (MEA)



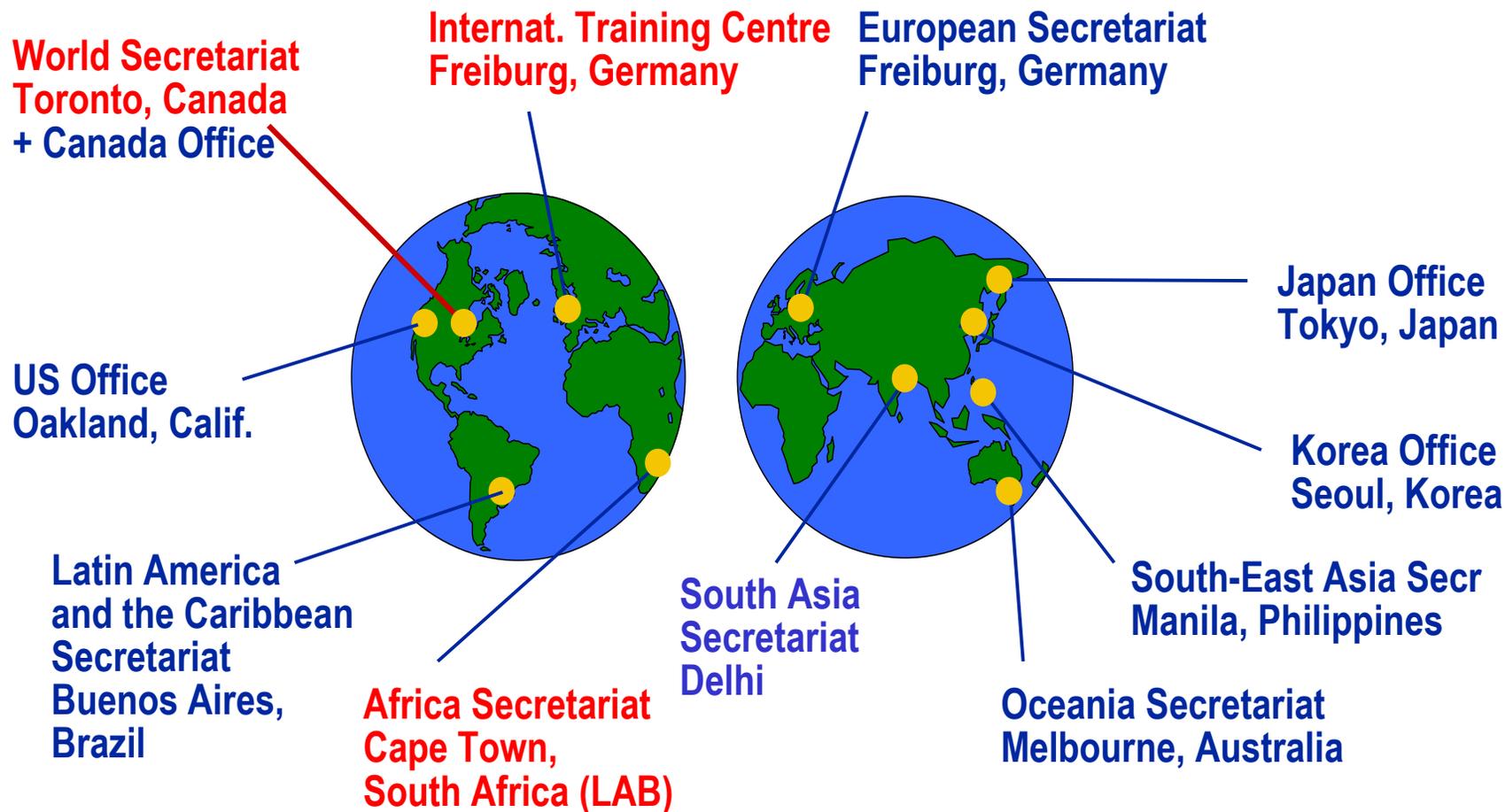
Introduction to ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability



- ⌘ International association of local governments and government associations committed to sustainable development
- ⌘ More than 500 members
- ⌘ Key campaigns and programs: CCP, Water, Eco-Budget, LA 21, Resilient Communities



Spread of Offices



Introduction to City of Cape Town



Introduction to: City of Cape Town

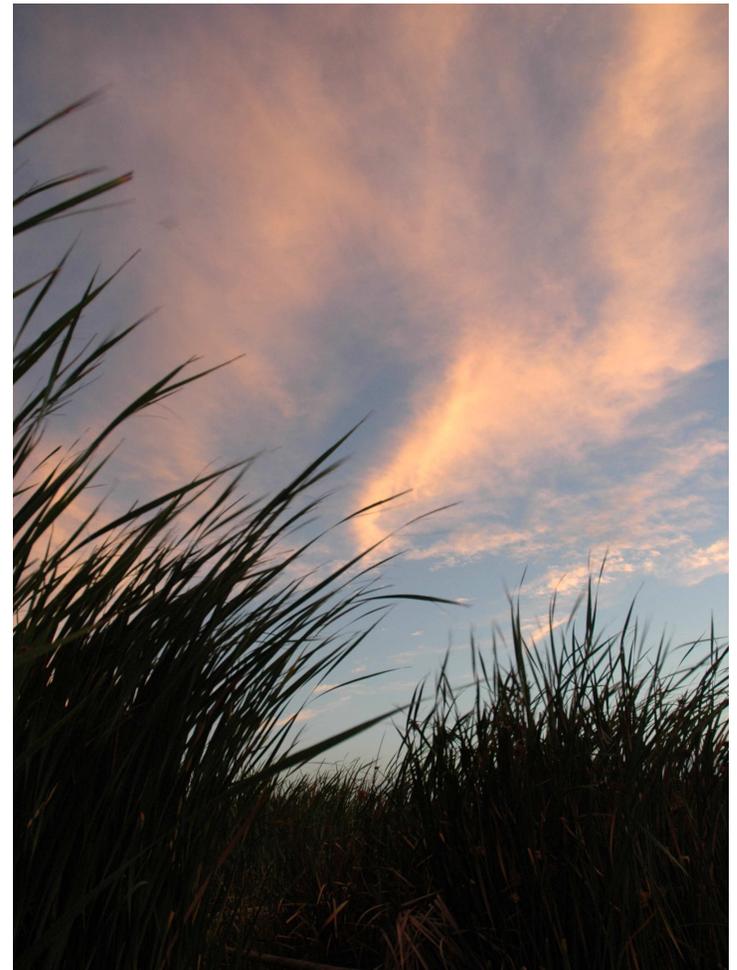
- ⌘ 3.2 million
- ⌘ 2500 sq km
- ⌘ multi-cultural
- ⌘ “mother” city
- ⌘ global biod hotspot
- ⌘ species extinction crisis



The Good News

Natural resources

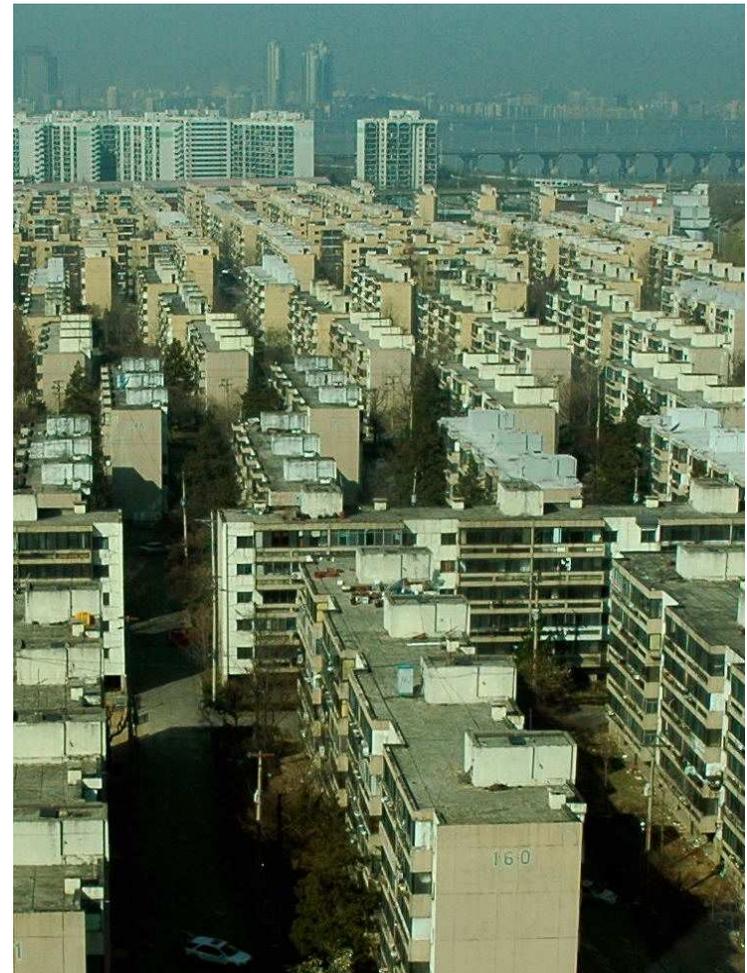
- pillars upon which we build communities and civilization
- the platform for life in cities, fundamental part of our natural, cultural and spiritual heritage



The Bad News

Failure of Local Gvt to respond positively to biodiversity obligations

- Urban sprawl into wetlands, losing ecological services
- Unsustainable devpmt shrinking basket of goods and services
- Vulnerable to natural and human-induced disasters



The Answer ?

An action-orientated project, linking world cities and partners, to work to ensuring biodiversity concerns become fully integrated into local planning and policy making processes and to ensure local gvts engage in effective biodiversity protection, utilisation and management.



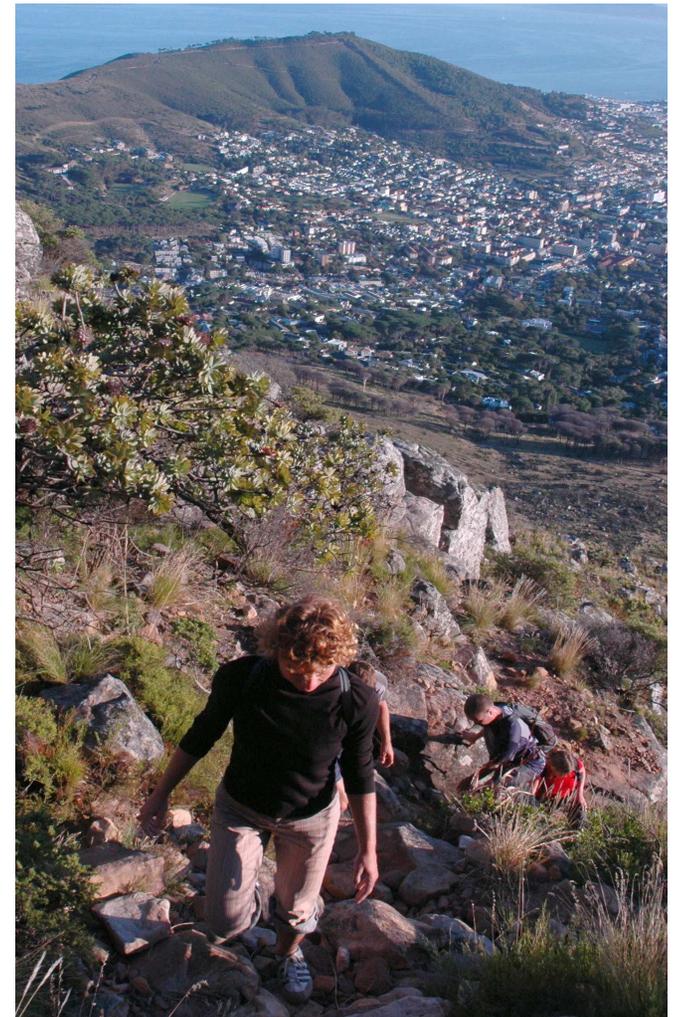
Local Action for Biodiversity



- ⌘ 3 year pilot project (July 2006-June 2009)
- ⌘ Project explores best ways for local governments to engage in sustainable urban biodiversity conservation, enhancement, utilization and management
- ⌘ Designed for 15 - 20 cities
- ⌘ Coordinated from team in Cape Town, located at the ICLEI Africa Secretariat

Genesis of LAB

- ⌘ 2005: European Members Convention in Tilburg
- ⌘ 2005: ICLEI Excom(Sendai) accept biodiversity for ICLEI 2006
- ⌘ 2006: ICLEI World Congress (Cape Town) endorses “Local Action for Biodiversity” (LAB)



Genesis of LAB

- ⌘ 2006: Inaugural Workshop in Rome
- ⌘ 2007: LAB Project Team employed
- ⌘ 2007: 19 Cities participate in Phase 1



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LAB Overarching Goals



- ⌘ Support of local biodiversity projects
- ⌘ Securing a declaration to conserve and protect biodiversity at the local level
- ⌘ Increasing global awareness at the local level of the importance of biodiversity
- ⌘ Build a global momentum at local level towards the Countdown 2010 objective
- ⌘ Develop biodiversity best practice at the local level

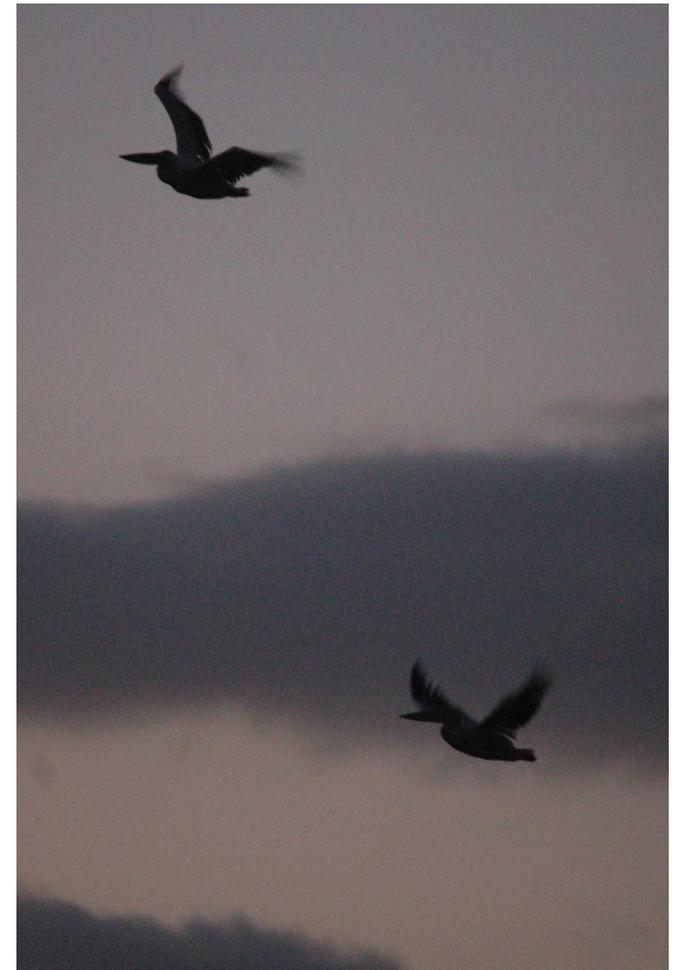
LAB Overarching Goals



- ⌘ Development of biodiversity management and implementation tools
- ⌘ Roll out of a broader global biodiversity programme at the local level
- ⌘ Enhancing global networks, communication and sharing between cities on biodiversity issues

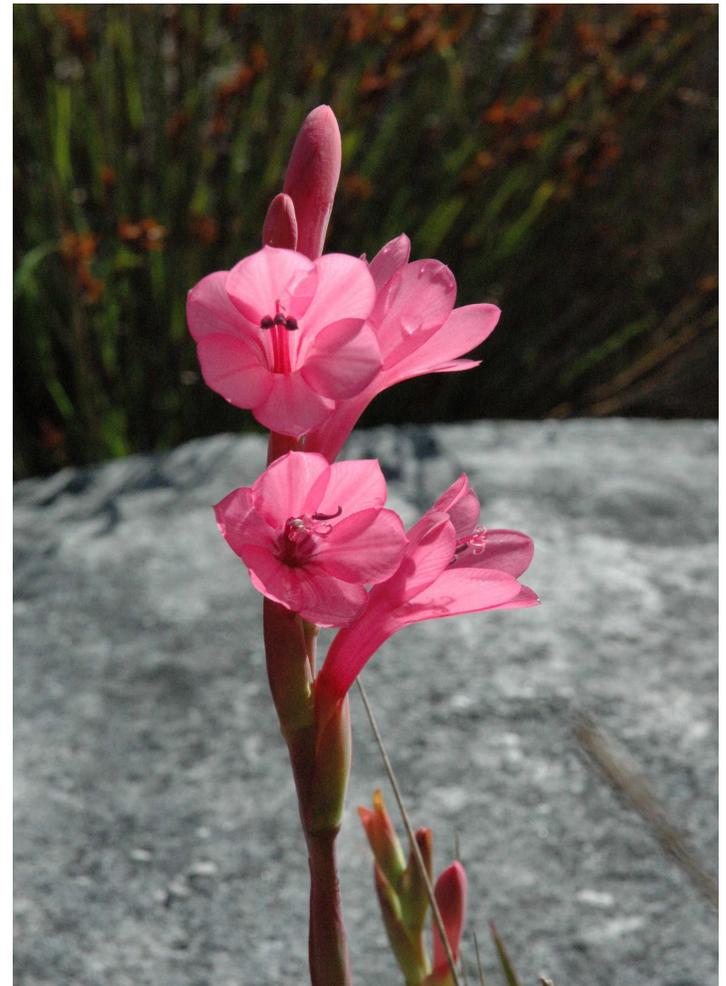
LAB Core Goals

- ⌘ Raise profile of biodiversity at local level
- ⌘ Raise global awareness of local action for biodiversity
- ⌘ Develop toolkit to integrate biod issues into planning processes
- ⌘ Achieve tangible results within LAB cities
- ⌘ Substantiate global initiative on biodiversity to ICLEI 2009



LAB Project Team Support to Cities

- ⌘ Ongoing support for cities in preparing outputs
- ⌘ Facilitation of global coms
- ⌘ Organise project workshops
- ⌘ Profiling participant cities
- ⌘ Develop LAB toolkit
- ⌘ Research and develop papers for publication



LAB working towards a global programme



- ⌘ Co-op and coordination with partners: IUCN, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNDP, SCBD, others?
- ⌘ Global survey on needs of cities in respect of biodiversity
- ⌘ Prepare opportunities to highlight LAB cities' projects
- ⌘ Preparation of global award process
- ⌘ Build a global initiative around LAB phase 2



Benefits for LAB participant cities



- ⌘ Participation in two international workshops
- ⌘ Publishing of 100 high quality biodiversity reports
- ⌘ Profiling of participant cities
- ⌘ Governance benefits
- ⌘ Ecological goods and services
- ⌘ Economic and social benefits
- ⌘ Access to resources and partnerships



LAB 5 Steps

- ⌘ Inventory and assessment
- ⌘ Declaration of Commitment
- ⌘ 10 year BAP
- ⌘ Formal endorsement of BAP
- ⌘ Local implementation (5 new projects)
- ⌘ Ongoing implementation of BAP

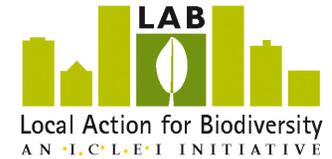


LAB Local Implementation

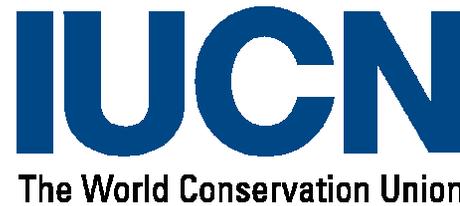


- ⌘ Five on-the-ground interventions
- ⌘ Work with stakeholders to ensure five new areas managed for biodiversity
- ⌘ Partnerships and stewardships encouraged
- ⌘ Examples include new authority nature areas, rehab of degraded site, clearing of invasive vegetation, support to pvt landowners

Partners Involved

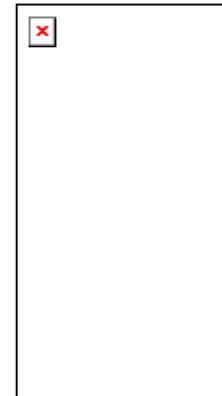


⌘ IUCN



⌘ Countdown 2010

⌘ Roma Natura

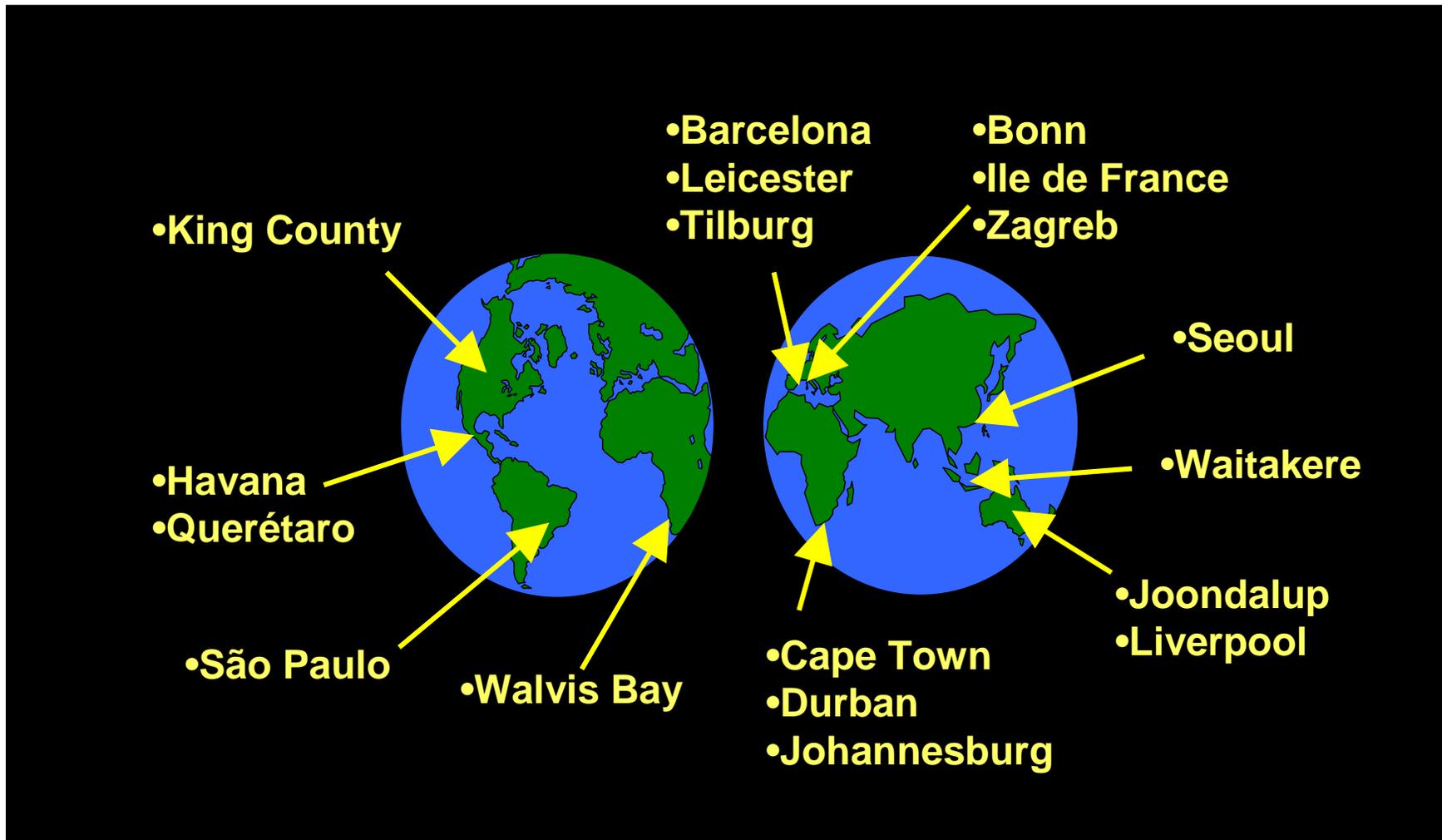


⌘ SANBI



⌘ ICLEI

LAB Cities

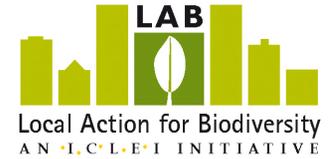


Key deliverables for 2007

- ⌘ City Biodiversity Report
- ⌘ International Workshop in June in Europe
- ⌘ Biodiversity Toolkit

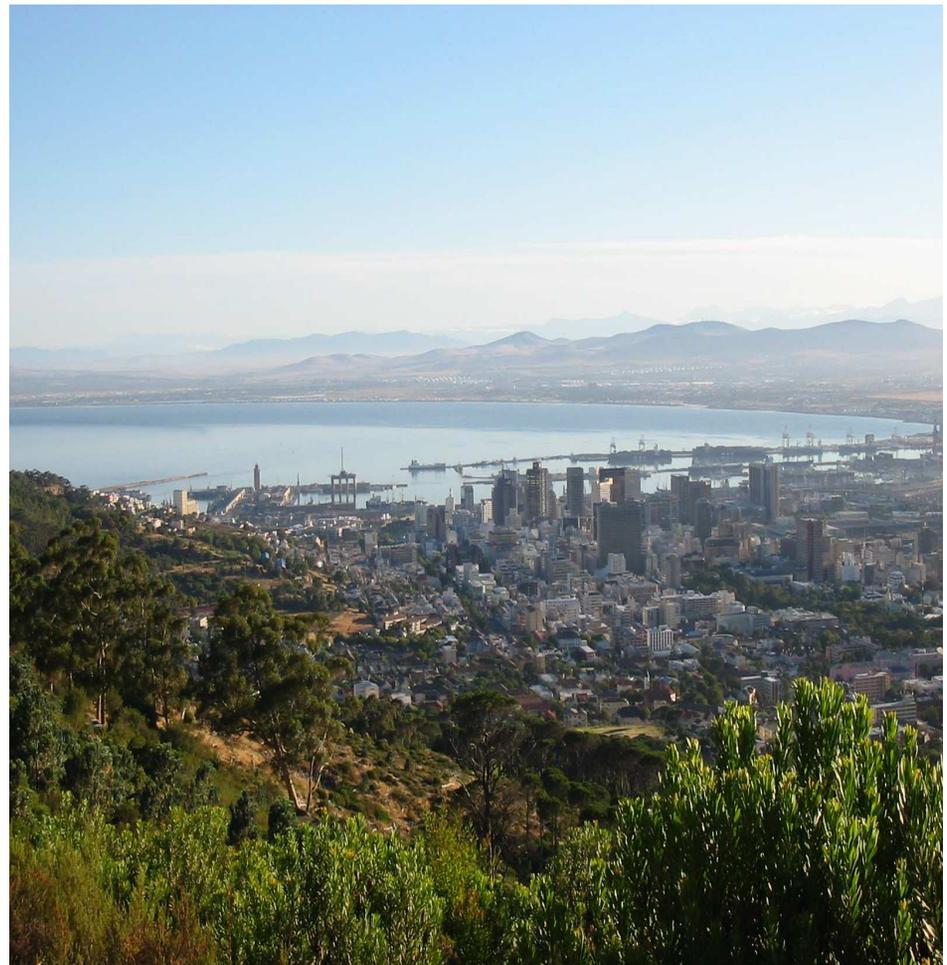


Key deliverables for 2008



⌘ Development of 10 year biodiversity action plan and framework

⌘ Second International LAB Workshop



Key deliverables for 2009

- ⌘ Five successful on-the-ground biodiversity interventions



LAB Evaluation and Review



- ⌘ External Review of success of LAB phase 1
- ⌘ Two outcomes critical for the review
- ⌘ 10 year BAP and 1 year implementation success
- ⌘ Extent to which partnerships have been built



LAB the future



- ⌘ ICLEI's World Mayors Council (CC and B) to play critical role in guiding direction of Cities and Biodiversity
- ⌘ A global alliance of national and local gvts, NGOs and private sector to provide resources
- ⌘ LAB Phase 2 to provide the substantive structure and opportunities for local governments to join global initiative
- ⌘ LAB to play role in Task Force shaping COP 9 and paving way for Phase 2 programme

For more information



⌘ Visit: www.iclei.org/biodiversity

⌘ Email: lab@iclei.org

