



HOURS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

# POVERTY AND ENVIRONMENT



11:04:40  
universal time  
near kigali

...UNEP staff member David Smith visits a field project in Rwanda that is looking at an economic assessment of natural resources...

The world's poor depend on fertile soil, clean water and healthy ecosystems for their livelihoods. Their well-being is directly linked to the sustainable use of natural resources. In most countries, integrating the environmental concerns of poor and vulnerable groups into development planning and investment remains a major challenge.





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11:18:04  
universal time  
near KIGALI

...Rwanda's 'Vision 2020' is the country's overarching national planning and policy framework. It recognizes that the environment cannot be tackled in isolation...

UNDP and UNEP have joined their poverty and environment activities to form a global partnership, the UNDP-UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative. The aim is to support the integration of environmental sustainability into national development processes to reduce poverty and achieve the MDGs. The Initiative supports pilot projects in seven African countries: Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda.



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...The Poverty and Environment Initiative engages with civil society organizations, including youth groups, to address ecosystem degradation and raise awareness of the links between poverty and environment...

The aim of the country pilot projects is to include environmental sustainability as a central objective in national development strategies, such as poverty reduction strategy papers or MDG implementation plans. UNEP and UNDP work closely with the national governments, especially with ministries of planning and finance, ministries of environment and environmental management agencies. The projects are country-driven, with governments identifying activities appropriate to the national priorities.

