

BENVES02: Urban Environmental Planning and Management Development (2005/2006)

Duration: Three hours

Answer TWO questions only, one from each section. All questions carry equal marks. You are advised to spend an equal amount of time on each question.

Section A

1. The Brundtland Commission's Report "Our Common Future" argues that poverty is the main obstacle to environmental protection and thus needs to be addressed to move towards a more sustainable future. Discuss in relation to cities in the South.
2. What justification can be given for an increased priority from international agencies for improving provision for water and sanitation in urban areas?
3. What are the strengths and the limitations of community-led environmental action in low-income areas? Illustrate your answer with reference to specific case studies.
4. What insights might a gendered perspective bring to identifying environmental health hazards in cities in low-income nations?

Section B

5. Examine the key features of a Local Agenda 21 process and the main barriers for its implementation under real circumstances. How can they be overcome? Illustrate your answer with reference to specific case studies.
6. Focusing on an EPM tool of your choice, examine its potentials and limitations to steer planned interventions towards sustainable urban development.
7. Focusing on two different Environmental Paradigms of your choice, discuss who should take the main responsibility for EPM in the urban context and why?
8. Focusing on a specific EPM intervention (e.g. solid waste management or urban/peri-urban agriculture etc.) in a city of your choice, discuss the benefits of an approach that tackles the causes of the problem addressed, and not just its effects.

END OF PAPER