WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

4th WORLD WATER FORUM, MEXICO CITY
10.00 A.M. SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2006

By

ANNA K. TIBAIJUKA
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UN-HABITAT
... a place where all can access safe water and basic sanitation – the vital life sustaining services that could protect their health and improve their productivity

...a place where 2 million children would not die, needlessly every year, or some 80 children would not die in the 20 minutes I speak here today, for the lack of safe water or for its poor quality
...a place where millions of girl children would not be forced to trade education for collecting water, or drop out from school for the lack of even minimal sanitation facilities;

...a place where one billion people would not live in slums, denied of privacy, safety and dignity in their daily struggle to access safe water and basic sanitation.
WWF3: Attention to commitments and partnerships:

UN-HABITAT and the Asian Development Bank has worked together over the past three years to bring $300 million in new investments in water and sanitation for the poor in Asian countries, fulfilling in good measure the commitment made at the 3rd Water Forum to bring at least 500 million over five years.
Urbanization: A core public issue in gross neglect
Women today constitute 70 per cent of the world’s absolute poor and pay a heavy price in procuring this life-sustaining commodity for their families through daily drudgery and lost opportunities.
Current water supply and sanitation crisis has to be viewed as a crisis of governance
We need national and international mentors for change
Investments: We need more, we need better

Enhancing Pro-poor Investments
At WWF4 the African Development Bank and UN-HABITAT announce the signing of an MOU for joint work on water and sanitation in African settlements to the value of about $227 million in grants and $362 million in follow-up loans.
Need for Quick Impact Initiatives

Lake Victoria WatSan Initiative

Mekong WatSan Initiative
The challenge here is to develop a monitoring mechanism that reflects the voices of the people, particularly of the poor communities, who are the real targets of MDGs. We can not measure progress successfully unless we use the lens of the target groups – the poorest.
Broaden their smiles...brighten their futures

Thank you for your time and attention