

Our Challenge

We live in a consumer society where over-consumption is driving environmental degradation. If everyone in the world lived as we do in the UK we would need three planets to support us.

The BioRegional challenge is to find ways of living and working where we can reduce our consumption by two thirds to the one planet level.

BioRegional Solutions

BioRegional is an independent environmental organisation implementing real-life, commercially viable solutions for sustainable living - bringing local sustainability into the mainstream

New One Planet Living Programme



BioRegional and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) are working together on a

new programme of work called One Planet Living (OPL). The programme aims to show how people everywhere can enjoy a high quality of life, within the carrying capacity of one planet.

The goals of this programme are to:

1. Establish a world-wide network of OPL Communities to demonstrate OPL in action, building on lessons learned from the BedZED eco-village. Priority locations include Portugal, Thames Gateway, USA, China, South Africa and Australia. Each community will be home to around 2,000 people and include schools, health and leisure facilities, transport and food links.
2. Promote OPL through OPL products and services which reduce our ecological footprint, such as local paper cycles.
3. Raise awareness of the imperative for OPL and its guiding principles to catalyse change with governments, business and individuals.

Mata de Sesimbra – the first One Planet Living eco-tourism community is launched in Portugal

Graphic of how the development will look



By travelling to the launch event in a chip fat –powered sports car, Pooran Desai helped to generate plenty of publicity.



May 28th 2004 saw the first OPL community

launched to the world's media in Lisbon, Portugal. Portuguese developers Pelicano have agreed to follow our OPL principles to develop and manage the Mata de Sesimbra eco-tourism project, 30 miles south of Lisbon. The project will develop the world's first-ever integrated sustainable building, tourism, nature conservation and reforestation programme and the total investment is calculated at 1 billion Euros (around £670 million pounds).

This 5,200 hectare site will combine a 4,800ha nature reserve and Cork forest restoration project with a 500 hectare tourism development comprising 6,000 units. BioRegional and WWF will work with the Portuguese project team over a ten-year period as advisors.

For more info visit:

http://www.bioregional.com/programme_projects/opl_project/portugal/portugal_hmpge.htm

Z-squared – One Planet Living community planned for the Thames Gateway

The UK flagship for One Planet Living will be Z-squared, a 2,000 home mixed use community for up to 5,000 people in the Thames Gateway area east of London.



The Thames Gateway will be home to the largest and most ambitious regeneration initiative in Europe with up to 120,000 new homes planned. The Z-squared community will provide homes and employment with health, education, retail and leisure facilities nearby, thus reducing dependence on cars. We have been working on the concept design with Foster and Partners architects, Cyril Sweett cost engineers, Fulcrum Consulting and KBR infrastructure engineers.

The Z-squared project brings together strategies for waste management and renewable energy to create a vision for a zero waste and zero carbon community. The team has been working with a number of Thames Gateway London Partnership local authorities to identify a site for the Z-squared proposal. We aim to put together a development partnership comprising industry, local government and NGO partners to realise the development.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact jd@bioregional.com or visit http://www.bioregional.com/programme_projects/opl_project/zsquared/bz_zsquared.htm

One Planet Living team go to 10 Downing Street

On July 28th members of the One Planet Living team visited 10 Downing Street to discuss Z-squared and One Planet Living plans with Senior Policy Advisors to Number 10 and DEFRA.

BioRegional Director receives an OBE

BioRegional Director and co-founder, Pooran Desai, has been awarded an OBE for his services to sustainable development.



Pooran commented "I am very pleased to have received an OBE for services to sustainable development. In particular I am happy because it will help to bring recognition to the type of work that BioRegional and other environmental organisations have been dedicated to for many years."

BioRegional celebrates its 10th birthday

This year BioRegional has reached double figures. This called for a celebration. Over 100 people came along to our birthday event. Many thanks to all who attended. We



BioRegional Director, and co-founder Sue Riddlestone

hope to see you all again at our 20th!

BioRegional have come a long way since 1994. The Group has grown from 4 to 22 employees. And we now work in almost every continent. So a big thank you to

all our partners, funders and friends who have helped us get to where we are today.

Like what we're doing?

BioRegional offers a range of reports, books and BedZED tours. Including 'BioRegional Solutions' now available in Japanese! You can visit our on-line shop www.bioregional.com, call 020 8404 4880 or email info@bioregional.com for further information.

We'll be back with more news in the Autumn!