



Many to Many

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Peace Through Unity

Accredited NGO in association
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Public Information

Anthony & Gita Brooke,
co-founders

“Many to Many” is a quarterly publication under the aegis of Peace Through Unity as a communicating link between “we, the peoples” of all nations, races, creeds and ideologies offering in the spirit of the preamble of the United Nations Charter an instrument for the furthering of better relationships based on deepening mutual understanding and the aspiration to promote unity and cooperation beyond all differences.

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Sustaining the SDGs

On June 26, 1945, the time after the WWII, the Charter of the United Nations was signed, and in the preamble, it calls for *“we the peoples of the United Nations determined to...”* work together to achieve the common vision of world peace. As the world’s largest international organisation, it carries a lot of weight to help steer the direction for the world development, to address the global challenges and bring all countries to focus on sustainability and cooperative global communities.

The UN in itself is however such a complex establishment with multiple stakeholders, it often endures tremendous challenges in coordinating and moving the “ship” forward as it is constantly sailing into headwinds, facing political self-interests from different governments, to divert “we the people” from unifying to move forward in achieving the common good for all.

When the Covid-19 pandemic started wreaking havoc around the globe at the beginning of 2020, there is no doubt that all of us have been put into a position that we have never experienced before; overnight, we are all fighting an invisible and yet, highly transmissible deadly disease. Our focus was all directed into how we could survive this ongoing turmoil, knowing that the vaccine was still far from developed. A challenge for humanity that has not been seen for many years, and certainly the scale and impacts are possibly far exceeding the atrocities of WWII. It is a time of change that abruptly jolts us from our “normal” habits and how we “operate” our daily lives. At the same time, the evolution of time and awakening of our inner selves, lead us to dwell on the core values in all of us, that are truly important and worthwhile for our being.

Back in 2015, the United Nations Member States adopted the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, it provides a blueprint for peace and prosperity for the global village that we are living in. The essence of this agenda is the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which pinpoint and identify the areas that we must urgently work on with collective efforts. The UN recognizes that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests. In the preamble of this 2030 Agenda, it says: *“All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan.”*

It has taken years of effort and time for the UN to conclude and pass this resolution with guidelines and detail, with the goal of achieving sustainable development and

strengthening universal peace in larger freedom for all. But let us not get lost in the words and ideals on paper, nor should we blame our governments only for the lack of achievement in some or all of the 17 goals toward sustainable development. On the contrary, we should be asking ourselves about how can we, on a personal level take up the responsibility in achieving the SDGs.

One of the things that we have witnessed from this current covid-19 pandemic is the crucial support that we treasure from our local communities, and the organic grassroots cooperative groups complementing or filling in the gaps for governments' efforts in dealing with lockdowns. It gives us a clear picture that the way we could sustain our future development is to connect each other, with action and good will, to influence and bring about support from our local communities, to interactions with our MPs and the government. If we want to make a giant leap forward in progress for SDGs in 2030, the only way to do this is to bring our hearts and minds attuned, through unity for the common good. Never underestimate the power that we have to change the world.

Editorial

By Eric H.Y. Wong, co-worker PTU, ericwong729@gmail.com

On the Anniversary of Gita Brooke's Passing - a *Peace Through Unity* Reflection In Gita's Memory – Keeping the Dream Alive

~ Passage of a UN "Infrastructures for Peace" (I4P) Resolution ~

** I4P are dynamic architectural networks of interdependent structures, mechanisms, resources (including governmental departments & ministries) which through dialogue and consultation, contribute to conflict prevention and peacebuilding in a society.*

~ Sustainable Development Goal # 16 ~

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

February 23rd marked the one-year anniversary of *Peace Through Unity* co-founder Gita Brooke's death. In its observance I pulled out my May 2020 Many to Many issue done in her honor, to read what I had written a year ago at the onset of the pandemic and fearful of a democracy-suppressing Trump re-election.

Unimaginable then was the prospect of a US Capital insurrection, although predictable per 'science of nonviolence' research. *This desecration of our sacred beacon of democracy is symptomatic of just how dangerous our US culture of violence has become.*

It was the culmination of escalating domestic terrorism, despair and darkness.

During this time, Gita's memory was alive in the countering lightwork being done by the **Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace (GAMIP)** in its

continuing quest for passage of a *Departments, Ministries and "Infrastructures for Peace" (I4P) UN resolution to BUILD the Culture of Peace.*

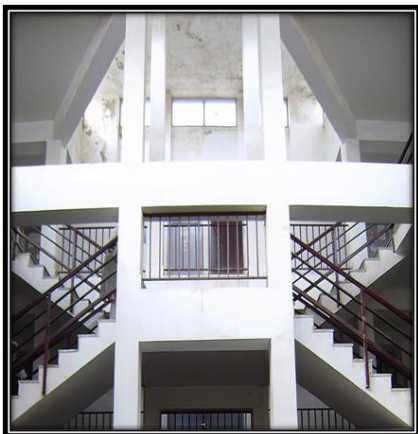
The last paragraph of my 2020 *Many to Many* write-up bears repeating at this tender time:

*With the onset of Covid-19 the world is at a great turning. Mass social, economic and political upheaval is the recipe for violent disaster to desperate people. Will humanity choose crisis or opportunity at this perilous time? As we enter a new life-changing post-pandemic period, to survive we must develop the attitudes and responses that this uncharted territory will demand. Now, more than ever, we must make nonviolence a foundation upon which our "new normal" will be built. As the pandemic breaks down dysfunctional old-paradigm structures, viable alternative peacebuilding structures exist on "stand-by" ready to be fully utilized. Building a global architecture to institutionalize peacebuilding can accelerate breakthrough to a new world of Peace Through Unity. When the pandemic is over and its many important existential lessons learned, the world no doubt will be searching for transformative solutions. **Will we be ready to seize the moment to proclaim I4P as a life-saving remedy? What must we do now to prepare -- to turn the darkness into light? Gita and Anthony Brooke were convinced that "the future lies in the hands of the people of the world."***

Gita helped co-found GAMIP -- composed of "the people of the world" -- with around 51 to 85 countries represented. GAMIP UN Committee hands have toiled this past year trying to turn the darkness into light by intentionally amplifying preparatory UN "I4P" resolution efforts. **Because it is painfully clear now that our institutions are failing us miserably in reducing violence!** Thus, this critical time provides a unique opportunity for the world to be open to learning new and better ways of responding to conflict. By creating "I4P", which have been proven to reduce violence - *because nonviolence is a science* -, a governmental Department of Peace would make nonviolence become a national priority focus at all levels. Having such a system in place that is conducive to nonviolence (comprehensively addressing violence at its many root causes) would transform humanity's epic-long trajectory of war and destruction by promoting effective conflict resolution skills. It is said that war will never cease until an alternate system solidly exists to address conflict in a mature, rational, civil, ethical, evolutionary manner - NONVIOLENTLY. GAMIP has resurged in the last 2 years, reactivating its UN Committee with new energy, notably from Canada (along with Nigeria, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, United Kingdom and the US). We collaborate with the organization "ForPeace" who now leads the UN resolution project, having worked closely with the Costa Rican UN Ambassador championing an updated draft UN resolution to present in the General Assembly. The Canadian Peace Initiative is working with ForPeace seeking Canada high level UN co-support for the "I4P" resolution, which hopefully will be a model for getting other GAMIP country UN Ambassadors to follow suit.

The Ageless Wisdom tells us that *“now the whole world is sharply divided into light and darkness, creation and destruction. We the people of the world have the task of building the future. We must aspire to create, as creativeness is a natural opposition to destruction. It is now more precious to build; to prepare for the construction of the new epoch.”* The Ageless Wisdom asks: *“What is the saving grace on planet earth in this moment?”* My answer (I feel Gita would agree) is **CREATING / BUILDING governmental departments, ministries and other “I4P” that wisely apply the science of nonviolence to our politics (i.e., how we govern ourselves) in order to reduce violence.**

With the vaccines and a new Biden administration now underway, more light is perceivable. It is a new dawn of a new day. Out of the fragments new structure is built; the necessary skeleton or connective tissue for manifestation of the Beloved Community / the Culture of Peace. The below graphics symbolize **creating and building the Culture of Peace**. The left one is how the Berghoff Foundation depicts the concept of “I4P” structurally as the architecture that **creates** a building. The right one (developed by US Peace Alliance member David Hazen) shows rippling layers of systems and US institutions that need connection to **build** the Culture of Peace.



Our GAMIP UN Committee work this past year since Gita died has paved the way for readiness to proclaim “I4P” as a necessary life-saving remedy. Which is why passage of a UN i4P resolution in the General Assembly urging all member states to create “I4P” is so essential. Your help is needed to assist us in doing this work. Contact me at below email if you are interested in getting involved. **For as Gita said -- the future is in OUR hands!**

By Anne Creter 3/1/21 Riverton, New Jersey (US) annecrets@aol.com

Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace (gamip.org)

U.S. Peace Alliance Campaign for a Department of Peacebuilding (peacealliance.org)

Global Movement for the Culture of Peace (gmcop.com) & Peace Through Unity UN NGO

(www.peacethroughunity.info)

COVID Consciousness and the Common Good: Are We Ready?

While humanity has been badly shaken by this latest pandemic, communications platforms such as National Public Radio in the US, and Future Crunch in Australia, have highlighted stories of compassionate care, acts of selfless service and innovative community responses demonstrating around the globe. It may be important to ask ourselves are we ready as one people to take the next steps into what is called for in these times.

Increasing soul consciousness, or 'heart consciousness', has arisen in the context of quarantine and lockdown. We observe this trend not only in the world of form but also in expanse of spiritual practices emerging that reflect a vertical shift toward humanity's Self-perception as global citizens. In the chalice of Good Will, groups increasingly are self-organizing and are aiming to synergize spiritual with practical social evolution. The trend toward universalization bridges the increasing numbers of meditators turning toward activism and the activists turning increasingly toward mindfulness. Meditators increasingly recognize meditation as service, while activists recognize the intersectionality of justice issues coalescing in the strategy of "ahimsa" - or do no harm.

A group of meditators, for example, gathered together based upon the shared recognition that the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda is a fractal of the Divine Plan. They also recognized that for this great global agreement, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to be implemented, the economy needed reconstitution, reconstruction and reformation. They constructed a Sunday meditation in service to the emergence of a new economy extracted from profit and competition into a circulating flow of sharing already inherent in people. In addition to their group meditation, they explored different models for such a new economy now emerging. Kate Raworth, former consultant at the UN, who recommended a doughnut economy is one such model. Her model emanated initially from a playful attempt to pictorially demonstrate the interface of the SDG's as one, evolved into a now working system in some areas of the world (Amsterdam, etc.). The doughnut economy blends social well-being and environmental reverence as basic to any successful economy. Another example, can be recognized in such groups as the NGO Committee on Finance for Development. This committee promotes and tracks the infusion of ethical principles of financial/social inclusion, cooperation, equality and nature-based solutions as keys to successful economic policy making. The urgency created by increasing financial disparity has prompted more creative ways of thinking about the economic systems that no longer work.

The Sunday group, as well, realized that the SDG's will never be realized on the level at which they were created. Rather, their success depends upon a soul

awakening that can no longer be merely individual but must be geared to the common good. We invite you to look at this paradigm and see whether you agree.

“With our mind’s eye we see and with our hearts we feel the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals:

1. No Poverty...Humanity awakens to soul consciousness.
2. Zero Hunger...Humanity hungers to unite with the soul as fundamental physical needs are met.
3. Good Health and Well-being...Humanity masters the art of healing through energy.
4. Quality Education...Humanity declares the fact of the soul.
5. Gender Equality...Humanity knows all identities unite in Oneness.
6. Clean Water and Sanitation ...Humanity purifies its intention while recognizing water’s sacred role.
7. Affordable and Clean Energy...Humanity expresses 'life more abundant' and finds right rhythm in the Law of Economy.
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth...Humanity labours to align with soul and works to evolve group relations.
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure...Humanity aligns all systems with the planetary laws of nature.
10. Reduced Inequalities...Humanity sees all persons are on the Path and supports the unique position of each.
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities...Humanity builds all communities upon universal Brotherhood for the Common Good.
12. Responsible Consumption & Production...Humanity honours each kingdom’s role and consumes in goodwill and right relationships.
13. Climate Action...Humanity recognizes Earth’s sacred destiny and acts accordingly.
14. Life Below Water...Humanity protects all habitats in all ecosystems alongside the

devas.

15. Life on Land...Humanity participates in and assists in redeeming all substance.

16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions... Humanity embraces the Culture of Peace.

17. Partnerships for the Goals...Humanity lives in right relationship with all life.

On April 12th, the United Nations will hold the Finance for Development Forum (FfD). You may wish to listen to the proceedings which will be webcast on un.tv/webcast. Below is the announcement for the event:



“As decided by Member States in the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2020 FfD Forum, the sixth FfD Forum will be convened by the President of ECOSOC from **12 to 15 April 2021** in a hybrid (virtual and in-person) format at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The 2021 ECOSOC FfD Forum will provide an inclusive platform to advance an action-oriented dialogue on the solutions on financing the COVID-19 recovery and sustainable development on the path to 2030. It will be geared to build momentum for urgent global action to tackle challenges to the achievement of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda across all its seven action areas in the context of COVID-19 and beyond.

The event will bring together heads of State and Government, ministers and high-level government officials as well as senior officials of international organizations. Civil society organizations, the business sector and local authorities will also be represented.

Additional information on preparations for the Forum, including the programme, outcome, substantive background will be made available on this website.

For any questions, please contact the Financing for Sustainable Development Office at ffdforum@un.org."

Are we ready to step into the space of spiritual transformation driven by the urgency of our times?

Footnotes:

1. For more information on the Sunday meditation, contact marthagallahue@gmail.com
2. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/financing/events/2021-ecosoc-forum-financing-development>
- 3.

Martha Gallahue, ECOSOC Representative at the UN for United Religions Initiative (uri.org) has focused on universal ethics in her work at the UN for over 20 years. She is indebted to the Arcane School at Lucis Trust, the Seven Rays Institute, and the 2025 Initiative (World Servers Network) to find her company of world servers.



~ CULTIVATE THE CULTURE OF PEACE BY VIOLENCE PREVENTION ~HOW?

ESTABLISH GOVERNMENTAL "INFRASTRUCTURES FOR PEACE" (I4P)
(U.S. Bill H.R. 1111 "Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2021" {DoP 21} is a good I4P model)

I4P address UN Sustainable Development Goal #16

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

U.S. President Joe Biden introduced the big word "infrastructure" to the national discourse recently with his bold new bill to build concrete "infrastructures" to lift our country up from its arrested "development." Because the U.S. suffers now from an appalling, escalating epidemic of (gun) violence and domestic terrorism, such proposed structures are urgently needed here. Sustainable development is necessary for our nation to be more safe, secure, healthy and peaceful. Because "sustainable peace" is a necessary condition for development, it is ALSO time now for the U.S. to build bold new governmental "infrastructures" for PEACE!

Infrastructures for Peace (I4P) are dynamic, architectural networks of interdependent structures, mechanisms, resources (including governmental departments, ministries and other forms such as commissions, academies etc.) which through dialogue and consultation, promote nonviolence, conflict prevention and peacebuilding in a society. They are the missing link 'connective tissue' between the desire for the Culture of Peace and actually making it real.

With Covid-19 still rampant our planet is at "The Great Turning" existential moment of choice. As we enter a new life-changing POST-PANDEMIC world, to survive society must develop the attitudes and responses this uncharted territory will demand. **Therefore, now more than ever we MUST make "nonviolence" a solid foundation upon which our "new normal" will be built!** As the pandemic breaks down dysfunctional old-paradigm structures, viable new alternative "nonviolent" ones exist at all levels that have been proven to promote peacebuilding to cultivate the Culture of Peace. To offset the destruction, we must intentionally construct the new epoch by building a global peace architecture to institutionalize peace; applying the science of nonviolence at all levels as the main organizing principle and priority of government. Peace is a basic human right and government currently is sorely inadequate in guaranteeing it for us.

Pending U.S. bill H.R 1111 just re-introduced in Congress on February 18, 2021 by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13) is an excellent example of a governmental I4P. This historic, comprehensive, transformative bill calls for a **cabinet-level Department of Peacebuilding** to make peace an ongoing national focus. It addresses the interconnection of all life and the intersectionality of peace, justice, equality, planetary survival and other aspects of life. We know there are root causes of violence and root conditions of peace. And that violence prevention saves lives and money, raising the quality of life for all. This legislation is about addressing the root causes of violence at all levels to create the nonviolent Beloved Community.

Some 2021 provisions and updated language in the bill include:

- Confronting systemic racism in America to **eliminate persistent racial inequities**, including through a **Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation**.
- **Peace education** not only anti-bullying / anti-harassment, nonviolent conflict education, mindfulness and restorative practices, but also study of U.S. civil rights and human rights movements and contributions of its diverse ethnicities, races and religious communities.
- **Developing violence prevention and de-escalation training for the general public** both domestically and internationally, to provide peacebuilding tools and educational skills plus promote "sustainable peace" buy-in and awareness.
- Expanding upon language in prior DoP bills relating to **arms control and nuclear weapons**; includes **health and medical concerns**; calls for **prevention of**

hate and a culture of violence and domination -- including development of non-threatening community policing strategies, mindfulness and conflict de-escalation training skills among police and other public safety officers.

- **Eradication of dehumanization, genocide** and mistreatment of individuals, including by human trafficking, infectious and other diseases.
- Provides for *wide-ranging studies relating to mass shootings; police violence; the impact of war and violence on soldiers, veterans and civilians; the impact of violence, racism and inequality on many conditions of peace and rule of law; and the impact of teaching nonviolent conflict resolution skills and social emotional learning.*
- Includes **Tribal Governments among entities to be consulted** and collaboration to prioritize those who are most impacted by the related programs.
- *Encouraging all countries to form infrastructures for peace within and among nations!*

For more information:

Text of bill: <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1111/BILLS-117hr1111ih.pdf>

U.S. campaign: <https://peacealliance.org/issues-advocacy/departments-of-peace/>

Global Alliance for Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace: WWW.GAMIP.ORG

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SDG's in Action

Though much attention is focused almost exclusively on the COVID-19 pandemic, today's challenges exceed just those caused by COVID-19 and include huge issues such as heightened insecurity, hunger, and the climate crisis. Along with the introduction of new problems unique to the pandemic, COVID-19 has deeply exacerbated long-held global crises, making it more vital and urgent than ever to tackle these long held issues and achieve the SDG goals set out by the UN by 2030. While often these challenges may seem vast and insurmountable, many have begun advanced innovative programs and initiatives such as the ones here that take important steps and progress to solve these problems.

SDG #2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Before COVID-19 hit, food insecurity was already on the rise. In 2018, 26.4% of the global population was affected by moderate or severe food insecurity, a 3.2% rise from 2014. Conflict, climate shocks, COVID-19 and the ongoing locus crises have continued to exacerbate food security. The Cocoa Project, introduced in 2016 in the Philippines by Louise Mabulo, is a model for ensuring food security and transforming agriculture practices to increase sustainability, protect biodiversity and ensure labor practices.

In 2016, the Philippines was hit by the Typhoon Nock-ten, which levelled almost 1,000 homes and damaged an additional 4,000. For many, particularly for farmers of this region, this tragedy inflicted significant financial hardships that would shape their lives for years to come as the damage presented huge obstacles to rebuilding their livelihoods and income. Often, they had little other choice but to sell their land or cut down their trees for lumber. This tragedy inspired Mabulo, a chef prodigy who was just 18 at the time, to start the Cacao Project. This program provided cacao seedlings, which is a long-term and resilient crop that yields a higher income and has the potential to be productive for up to 20-25 years, and short term crops like pumpkins, okra and bok choy to participating farmers. As well, resources and training that help them improve harvests and save money were provided to them. The yields would then be sold to the project for a fair wage and the project would sell them on to a larger market. This initiative sought to tackle these challenges and reshape agriculture practices to become more sustainable, ensure food security and even as a means to empower women. The program achieved significant success and Mabulo was recognized as the Young Champions of the Earth, an award granted by the United Nations Environment Program in 2019.

SDG #4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

In the past year, COVID-19 has drastically disrupted and transformed education. For children, these disruptions in schooling have damaging costs even in the richest countries who have more resources to address these additional challenges. This year has seen 124 million more children fail basic readings skills than the previous year. According to a recent study released by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), this rise of more than 20% has single-handedly wiped out the gains achieved in nearly two decades of education. As a potential means to address this gap caused by uncertain times, guidance and answers might be found in Learning Coin's innovative program.

The Learning Coin, a UN-supported initiative, is an innovative education program currently being implemented in Mae Hong Son, a region in northern Thailand. Students in this region are often faced with extreme challenges to accessing education. Gravel roads make it difficult to traverse during the flood season as do unreliable electricity and internet access at home. Another substantial obstacle is that many students and their families are stateless. Through tablets provided by the initiative, students download multilingual educational content appropriate for their level, which they can then later access offline while at home. Through data logged by the tablets, the Learning Coin app can then calculate the time each student spent on their lessons, how consistently they worked and check their results. Students are then awarded between 800-1,200 Thai baht (roughly USD\$25-38) each month according to their progress, which is roughly 10% of their average family income.

The first pilot initiative was launched in 2018 to success and in July 2020, was expanded to support almost 500 children. The project has significant potential and is scalable to expand across not only Thailand but also across the wider region. While these Mae Hong Son students still face significant challenges to accessing education, the Learning Coin program reduces these barriers, making education and their further dreams more achievable.

SDG #6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

The right to water is a universally recognized right as its access and the sanitation it provides is a vital necessity for everyone. However, the lack of access remains an issue for many. As reported in the Food and Agriculture Organization's flagship report "The State of Food and Agriculture 2020", available freshwater resources have declined globally by more than 20% per person over the past two decades.

According to the WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, 70% of the world's populations living in extreme poverty, already do not have access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. This inaccessibility is also seen in healthcare facilities globally. Currently, 25% of healthcare facilities have no water services, 33% have no access to hand hygiene where care is provided, 10% have no sanitation services and 33% do not segregate waste safely. In the midst of a global pandemic, this presents an exceptional challenge to healthcare workers as in many places "water is PPE" and undermines their ability to provide quality healthcare as it creates an unsterile environment that is a "breeding ground for disease".

This shortage of water is expected to become more severe. Munir Akram, the current President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), estimates that by 2050, more than half the global population will be at risk due to stress on the world's water resources. Both the pandemic and this predicted water deficit make it all the more important to prioritize global access to water now. This growing threat was recognized by the UN General Assembly back in 2016 when they declared 2018-2028 the Water Action Decade.

Addressing these problems can seem like a daunting issue, and no doubt it is, but it might not be as intractable as first imagined. According to the preliminary estimates published in "Fundamentals first: Universal water, sanitation and hygiene services in health care facilities for safe, quality care", a joint report by the WHO and UNICEF, it indicated that it would cost roughly USD 1 per capita to enable all 47 LDC's to establish basic water service in health facilities. On average, USD 0.20 per capita is needed each year to operate and maintain services. According to Jennifer Sara, the Global Director for Water at the World Bank Group, it is one of the "most cost-effective investments that governments can make " as the estimated return of every dollar invested is USD 1.5. Increasing access to WASH facilities is both a necessary and cost-effective method that has the potential to drastically improve the

material quality of people's lives globally and brings us one step closer to achieving the UN's SDG's.

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THE GREAT INVOCATION

**From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into human minds.
Let Light descend on Earth.**

**From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into human hearts.
May the Coming One return to Earth.**

**From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide all little human wills -
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.**

**From the centre which we call the human race
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.**

Let Light and Love and Power restore the plan on Earth.