



## Making a Difference in a World of 7 Billion



Photo credit: Randy Olson, National Geographic

Did you know that the world population reached [7 billion](#) at the end of October 2011?

[UNITAR](#)'s work directly relates to "7 billion issues". Being the leading UN Institute in capacity development and research on knowledge systems, we help people cope with challenges caused by rapidly growing population, such as environmental degradation and urbanization.

### Dear Reader,

We are happy to send you the Autumn Newsletter of the [United Nations Institute for Training and Research](#) (UNITAR)! In this issue, you will read articles about "the World at 7 Billion" and much more.



Your opinion counts. We are curious to know what you think about our e-Newsletter and it would be great if you could simply answer the [survey](#) or send us your comments at [communications@unitar.org](mailto:communications@unitar.org)

Happy reading!



### Testimonial

***"UNOSAT is to be commended for the valuable contribution it makes in protecting and assisting those displaced by conflict, natural disasters, and climate change."***

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. António Guterres, in writing to the Executive Director of UNITAR

### With the world's increasing population, the goals of Rio+20 are ever more pressing



**RIO+20**  
United Nations  
Conference on  
Sustainable  
Development

Having reached a human population of seven billion, expected to grow further, our planet will depend more than ever on ecological responsibility and sustainability.

This is why the [UNITAR New York Office](#) is launching a series of workshops as part of its Rio Preparation Forum (RPF) for the [United Nations Conference on Sustainable](#)

### UNOSAT Anniversary: celebrating 10 years of delivering excellence

On 11 October 2011, [UNOSAT](#), the UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications Programme, celebrated its tenth anniversary of achievement in operations, applied research and knowledge transfer.



In addressing a small crowd of guests, Francesco Pisano, Manager of UNOSAT, said: "Ten years of continuity in a technology intensive sector like space

applications is a very long time; ten years at the forefront of operations and innovation in satellite analysis is even more remarkable; achieving this as a proud member of the UN family is almost outstanding".

[Read more](#)

### 7 Billion Users of Chemicals

Chemicals indeed are all around us. They are in the air we breathe, the water we drink and they are the basis for all of our food.



With the world's population now at 7 billion, the rise of chemical production and use in a number of fields has caused environmental degradation and health impacts at

many locations. UNITAR's [Chemical and Waste Programme](#) supports governments and stakeholders in strengthening their capacity for sound chemicals management.

[Read more](#)

[Development](#). The workshops will address the most salient issues of environment, development and social justice in a world home to seven billion people, or more.

[Read more](#)

## New Partnerships

UNITAR signed a new partnership with Algeria for the creation of an [International Training Center \(CIFAL Maghreb\)](#) in Algiers.



UNITAR joined the [7 Billion Actions](#) initiative, whose objectives are to build awareness around the opportunities and challenges associated with a world of seven billion people and to inspire governments and parties to take actions that will have a socially positive impact.



## Announcements



The [United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Africa](#) (UNDP-RBA) and UNITAR are organizing a Conference on "[Emerging Partners and Africa: Key Trade and Investment Issues](#)" from 13 to 14 December 2011, in Dakar, Senegal.

Follow UNITAR and UN [CC: Learn activities](#) at the UN Climate Change Conference, Durban, 28 November – 9 December 2011.

UNITAR has launched a [new podcast service featuring UNOSAT information and maps](#). It enables current and new users of UNOSAT products to keep up to date on ongoing emergency and human security mapping by literally "listening" to UNOSAT main reports.

UNITAR featured on the [Euronews Learning World Programme](#), a special edition on "Teaching Peace".

## UNITAR in Nigeria: creating innovative youth programmes in a world of 7 billion

With an annual population growth rate of 3.2 percent, it is estimated that Nigeria, whose 160 million inhabitants already make it Africa's most populous country, will be home to approximately 730 million people by the end of this century.

Thus, by that time, it might be more populous than the entire European continent. To address the challenges of human capital development, UNITAR in Nigeria is creating innovative programmes that address issues associated with a world of 7 billion people.

[Read more](#)

## "A world of 7 billion is both a challenge and an opportunity", says Babatunde Osotimehin

"Globally, people are living longer, healthier lives and choosing to have smaller families. But reducing inequities and finding ways to ensure the well-being of people alive today – as well as the generations that follow – will require new ways of thinking and unprecedented global cooperation," said Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, [United Nations Population Fund](#) (UNFPA) Executive Director.

[Watch the video](#)

## Online Catalogue and Virtual Learning Environment



UNITAR offers more than 360 events per year. Check out our [e-Learning courses](#) and other [UNITAR events](#) in our Online Catalogue.

Or consult the UNITAR [Virtual Learning Environment](#) and find e-Learning courses that best address your needs.



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