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Exposing Urban Solutions

A photo contest sponsored by Canada's International Development Research Centre has shed light on the creative ways in which people are making their cities better places to live. Professional and amateur photographers were asked to submit digital photos representative of how people are tackling the challenges of urban living. The images were grouped in four theme areas; from each category, *Canada World View* selected one photo showing how people are coping with big-city living.

Find out more about the International Development Research Centre at www.idrc.ca.



Cities Feeding People
(growing food in urban areas)

My Vegetable Plants by McLloyd Jumpay, Mandaluyong City, Philippines.
A tenant waters eggplants early in the morning in Manila, the Philippines. Due to a shortage of land and the high cost of food, Filipinos plant vegetables in discarded plastic containers.



Liquid Gold
(the productive uses of water)

Reflections of Adaptation and Conservation by Meaghen Simms, Ottawa, Canada.
Once used for brewing yak-butter tea, a traditional kettle collects water in the courtyard of the Jokhang Temple in central Lhasa, Tibet.



Waste Not, Want Not
(recycling)

Garbagemen by Arie Basuki, Bogor, Indonesia.
People pick through a dump in Jakarta, Indonesia, for material useful for industrial purposes.



Avoiding Disaster
(risk-proofing the urban environment)

Local Riverbank Erosion Protection by Iftekhar Ahmed, Pathumthani, Thailand.
Riverbank erosion is a serious and regular hazard in Sunamganj, Bangladesh. Concrete retention walls and dikes are unaffordable; low-cost bamboo prevents the banks from washing away and can be locally renewed.