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## New Web Resource Celebrating Green Maps in 50 Countries

(New York City) – On Wednesday, May 30 from 5-8 PM Green Map System will launch a new online showcase for its global network of community-led Green Map projects. The launch celebration and behind-the-scenes tour will take place at Green Map System’s global headquarters at 220A East 4th St. in the East Village.

With the theme “Think Global, Map Local!” Green Map System is a network of geographically and thematically diverse, community-led sustainability mapping projects. Begun in New York in 1995, this network has grown into a community media movement active in 400 cities, villages and neighborhoods in over 50 countries. In addition to publishing over 300 print and interactive Green Maps to date, local project leaders have raised public awareness and sparked meaningful action with workshops, exhibits, tours, courses, websites, books, videos and more. Each project promotes greener, healthier choices, addresses injustices and encourages people to get involved with the sustainable living, natural, social and cultural resources in their home community.

Responding to the need for greater public and press access to the goals, methods, and outcomes behind each map, Green Map System has created the “Greenhouse”, a dynamic resource center\* for and about Green Mapmaking. Located at [GreenMap.org](http://GreenMap.org), this resource includes Green Maps, project images, tools and stories documenting the collaborative process and accomplishments of local projects and the global movement. Along with resources for the general public, the Greenhouse includes project development and exchange resources for mapmakers of all ages.

“Users will appreciate the authentic voice of each locally-led Green Map project, presenting the story behind its mapping effort and the often thrilling efforts to bring a fresh perspective to sustainability”, says founding director, Wendy Brawer. Whether promoting renewable energy and economic development in Dublin, bicycling in Beijing, watershed protection in Baltimore, the cultural landscape around an Indonesian World Heritage site, or children’s interpretations of Colombia’s coffee growing region, the website’s Map Profiles provide insights into the progress of the global sustainability movement at the local level. The maps show how participating communities are reducing climate change, making tangible improvements in the quality of life, and developing green choices for everyday commuting, dining, shopping, working and recreation.





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In addition to launching the Greenhouse, all of  GreenMap.org has been completely redesigned and improved for the benefit of global audiences. “With this new website, Green Map System has the capability to serve thousands of communities at once, right at the moment when they realize that ‘going local’ is the key to a more liveable future”, says programmer Thomas Turnbull. Building capacity is a key goal, as is providing journalists, researchers, travelers, and others with more insight into the Green Map network’s diverse methods and outcomes. Whether one is interested in the green building boom in world capitals, ecotourism in Latin America, green business in Asia or sustainability education in the US, Green Maps are treasure troves of inspiration and hope.

New web resources include Welcome Pages in multiple languages, a calendar of Green Map events around the world, and a Tool Center where Green Mapmakers can find and share adaptable resources, refined through years of hands-on experience around the world. A diverse audience of students, designers, city and tourism agencies, established and grassroots groups will benefit from the new resources at  GreenMap.org, helping their communities thrive.

Reach Green Map System directly through  GreenMap.org or contact us at [info@greenmap.org](mailto:info@greenmap.org) or +1 212 674 1631. In addition to the online Press Kit’s images and resources, staff can provide specific local contacts, details and visuals to help spread compelling stories of local leadership in the service of more sustainable communities.

\* Made possible with Drupal’s open source system and Pair Networks’ service. Thanks to generous supporters at Foundation for Sustainability and Innovation, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts and The Body Shop Foundation, paired with the dedication and contributions of Green Mapmakers everywhere.

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