



PEACE CHILD HABITAT.
- ISTANBUL -

building bridges to sustainable cities

Peace Child International
presents

PEACE CHILD ISTANBUL

A Celebration for Habitat II

Script

by David Woolcombe and members of the International Cast

Songs & Lyrics
by David Gordon

Adapted from
"The Peace Book"
by Bernard S. Benson

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INTRODUCTION

WELCOME TO PEACE CHILD ...

If you venture further into these pages, you enter a world where miracles happen. Around the world, in some 5,000 performances, *Peace Child* has transformed the people and places it has touched. It went to the USA and Russia: the Cold War ended. It went to Central America and the Middle East: Peace broke out. It went into the inner cities, ex-Yugoslavia, Ireland, Cyprus and its energy is still engaged in sowing seeds of peace in the hearts and minds of people consumed by conflict.

We bring you here a classic Peace Child script that deals with the problems of urban living. We bring you also the songs and lyrics which are its life-blood. We give you the process - how to produce a Peace Child show that is vital and relevant to your community and how to include an international component. And we include for you the programme for the Istanbul performance, with its logo, created by a young person from Cambridge, UK.

The Script was put together in a number of days during the Habitat II conference in Istanbul in June 1996. It was complicated by the fact that it had to be performed in two languages, Turkish and English, so that it was comprehensible to audiences throughout the city. Most producers won't face this complication but you should discuss with any international visitors you may have, or with minority groups in your city if they would like to do a number in their native language - or a dance specific to their culture. These additions are hugely enriching to the Peace Child process.

There are numerous ways to sort out the problems of communities. They all take courage. They all take energy and they all take leadership. Those qualities lie trapped in vast quantities in the minds of young people. *Peace Child* provides them with a platform to display them. That's why it has been called the "most inspiring community musical of our generation" - "an education that no parent, politician or prime minister can afford to miss!" If you love children and have a talent to produce shows, - if you know the business of blocking, teaching parts, setting dances, sewing costumes - you can change the world by doing Peace Child.

You will certainly change yourself.
I did.

David R. Woollcombe, June 13th 1996

SCENE ONE: Peace Day 2025

Scene Manager: Erdem, Yolande & Shira

Fade House Lights; pause; MUSIC - Spotlight on Solo 1:

Song One: PEACE DAY

Corinne: Come into my joy....
Aysan Come into my joy
Solo 3 As I go through my years
Solo 4 I've tried so many times
Chorus: Come into my joy x 2
Peace Day
Come into my joy x 3 to end;

The song ends with the dancers on stage in a tableau with the chorus ranged around them; pause 3 beats, then they fall into each other's arms wishing each other, "Happy Peace Day! Happy Peace Day!"

Corinne *[noticing the Story-teller entering backstage right]* Hey Look! It's the Story-teller!!

The chorus and dancers gather around him/her in an enthusiastic welcome!

Storyteller *[In English, repeated in Turkish]* Happy Peace Day, Happy Peace Day everyone!! Welcome to Peace Day 2025! *[Cheers]* Now as you know, every year on Peace Day, we take a look at how we are doing as a city. It's like if you imagine our City was a car: what would show up on the dashboard? In any city, there are thousands of indicators of what's going on, but you couldn't fit all them on a dashboard. So all over the city, the children have been asking: "What do you think are the Top Five Indicators on the State of Our City!?" And today, we have their answers!!

Five children come forward, each carrying a clean white envelope. These contain the results of five key indicators chosen by the cast to reflect the ways that they feel their city/community will have improved or deteriorated over the years since Habitat II. The results will be based on their own best guesses and UN statistics and projections.

Storyteller In descending order, they are - NUMBER FIVE!

Shira *[Reading from the front of the envelope]* CRIME! *[Duygu or Turkish child translates. She opens the envelope and reads]*
"The numbers of violent crimes and thefts has DROPPED by 18 per cent!!" *Cheers & Hugs!!*

On the "Graph Board", a fat red line is drawn going down on the graph;

Storyteller NUMBER FOUR!

Koketsu *[Reading from the front of the envelope]* AIR POLLUTION *[Turkish child translates. She opens the envelope and reads]*
"The excellent quality of air achieved last year has been maintained with the amount of toxic particulates dropping slightly!!" *Cheers & Hugs!!*

On the "Graph Board", a fat blue line along the bottom of the graph is extended, dropping slightly.

Storyteller NUMBER THREE!

Corinne *[Reading from the front of the envelope]* UNEMPLOYMENT *[Turkish child translates. She opens the envelope and reads]*
"The numbers of jobs created in our city in the last year has INCREASED for the first time in forty years - and unemployment is DOWN!!" *Everyone goes crazy in ecstasy!!!*

Turning the sheet on the "Graph Board", a fat black line is drawn going down on the graph marked unemployment;

Storyteller NUMBER TWO!
Sasha *[Reading from the front of the envelope]* POPULATION! *[Turkish child translates. She opens the envelope and reads]*
"With so many wonderful new opportunities for life in the countryside, as many people are leaving our city as are coming to it. Result - the population is THE SAME as last year!" Cheers & Hugs!!

Turning the sheet on the "Graph Board" to one marked population, a fat green line is drawn level across centre;

Storyteller NUMBER ONE!
Roshanie The issue that the people of this city feel is the most important indicator of our progress towards sustainable development is - DRUG USE! *[Turkish child translates. She opens the envelope]*
"Statistics drawn from police, medical, school and other records reveal that drug use in our city has GONE UP by 7 per cent since last year!" All fall silent. .

On the sheet marked DRUG USE, a fat red line is drawn going up;

Erdem TR That's terrible news
Danielle What are we going to do about it?
Storyteller That's our job today - to review these results and decide what we're going to do!
Gürdal TR How did Peace Day begin?
Erdem TR You mean the key indicators?
Duygu TR Yes. Has Peace Day always happened in all the cities around the world?
Shenol You mean - you don't know the story of how Peace Day began?
Sasha Habitat - the Global Plan of Action - Local Agenda 21s?
Gürdal I don't know about any of those things!
Elif TR Me neither!
Tasha We just got told to come here!
Yolandi Well - let's tell you the story!
Erdem It started here in Istanbul - in June 1996

SCENE TWO: "Welcome to İstanbul ... " 1996

Scene Manager: Seda

Music. The cast move to the sides of the stage as dancers come on in colorful Turkish costume;

Song Two: Barış Çiçekleri

A young person in Turkish costume comes forward during the song and greets the international guests:

Seda To the 20,000 people from 200 countries coming to Habitat, I say: "Welcome to İstanbul - !"
Gunes - the City of Water!
Caroline - The Queen of Cities!
Joe - The Bridge between East and West!
Jamie - between Left and Right!
Betül - North and South!
Beril & Gizem - Young and Old!
Yesim İstanbul! Home to Habitat II - the Bridge to Sustainable Cities -

MUSIC strikes up again, and the song builds to a rousing climax. The cast applaud and cheer and go off with the dancers and singers. Lights fade leaving a pool of light the Story-teller's group downstage right.

SCENE THREE: Problems Revue

Scene Manager: Gunes & Eleni

From improvisations, the Storyteller will answer simple questions about Habitat, eg.

- Child 8 What does Habitat mean?
- Storyteller Habitat means "Home" - this was a world conference about people's homes!
- Child 9 Was there a Habitat One?
- Storyteller Yes - it was in Vancouver, a big city in Canada. But it didn't solve all the problems ...
- Child 10 - so they had to have a Habitat II.
- Child 11 What were the main problems back then ?
- Storyteller *[Music]* Many problems. People, including many young people, thought very hard about what exactly was the root problem. And they came to Istanbul - and they talked about them!

Song Three: "My Country" (Cyprus Song)

The cast present their problems, illustrating them with slides as follows ...

- Gunes Selaam
- Eleni Yiasou! Nice to meet you!
- Gunes It's a pity we have to leave Cyprus where we live a few miles apart and come all the way to Istanbul to meet each other!
- Eleni How can we solve the problems of our city if we cannot even meet there! But here we learn about other people's problems too -
- Ali Banjul, The Gambia: Problem - Mosquitoes - disease
- Shenol Goterborg, Sweden: Problem - half the population live alone, many in ghettos of loneliness;
- Joe Manchester, England: Problem - people don't care about schools any more;
- Caroline Ladysmith, South Africa: Problem - squatters; people moving in from villages to cities;
- Bryan Seattle, USA: Problem - general feeling of insecurity;
- Ramit Delhi, India: Problem - pollution. Smoke so bad you cannot see the sky; sounds so loud you cannot hear yourself think; water so dirty it offends the eye, mountains of trash so high you wonder where it all came from
- Yolandi - and from Istanbul itself,
- Erdem TR The list of problems was very long
- Turkish Cast: *(one by one)* Over-population, no place for kids to play, spitting, water pollution, homeless people, appalling traffic situation, smoking lorries, empty buildings/high rents etc. etc.

Each one comes forward with their problem, ending up with a line of people standing across the stage. Music rumbles throughout - sinister, mysterious, generating a sense of unease.

A pool of light comes up around the Storyteller and his group of small kids

SCENE FOUR: Solutions Celebration

Scene Manager: Bryan, Sasha & Betun

Shira All those problems ...
Roshani Habitat must have been a very depressing conference!
Storyteller Not at all!! For each of the problems, the people came armed with hundreds of solutions!

MUSIC - the first chords of Look at Life!! Lights come up bright across the stage, and a host of new presenters bound on the the stage wearing Habitat Red jackets and NGO Forum T-shirts. Music continues under

Hab. Kid 1 Welcome to the Solutions Celebration!!
Hab. Kid 2 You've seen the brochure!
Hab. Kid 3 - you've got the badge!
Hab. Kid 4 Climb aboard the Shuttle Bus and ride the roller coaster of the Conference Valley -

Song Four: LOOK AT LIFE

Chorus launches into the song. The Habitat Kids wheel into the dance, holding up sign boards as each new thing is introduced. The kids from the storytellers group get up and watch curious - questioning. The whole presentation is like a media hype:

Chorus: Look at Life! Take a look around you
Look at Life! Doesn't it astound you! (PAUSE song - music continues)

Hab. Kid 5 Come to the Exhibition of Best Practices! You will learn to

Hab. Kid 1 "Ask don't tell!"

Hab. Kid 4 "Involve all sections in finding solutions!"

Hab. Kid 1 " - especially the private sector!"

Hab. Kid 2 "Build partnerships,

Hab. Kid 4 " - especially with women!"

Hab. Kid 3 " - and youth!"

Hab. Kid 5 " - and indigenous people!"

Child 1 [from Storyteller's group] Who?

Chorus: See the colours of the Rainbow
Smell the fragrance of a flower
Aren't we lucky you and I - you and I
Look at life! take a look around you
Look at life! Doesn't it astound you! (PAUSE song - music continues)

Hab. Kid 2 Solutions must be both Top-down and Bottom-up!

Hab. Kid 3 Governments don't have all the answers!

Child 2 [from Storyteller's group] Why not?

Hab. Kid 3 Promote sustainable development!

Hab. Kid 4 Build Capacity!

Hab. Kid 5 Make more schools and Training Establishments!

Hab. Kid 1 Have lots of Institutional Development!

Hab. Kid 2 - but wait for incremental progress!

Child 3 [from Storyteller's group] What!?

Chorus: Young boy picks a flower for the one he loves!
He sees the colors of the sky -
And in the touch of the earth - In the rays of the sun!
In the blueness of the sea so green the land - living world!

Life! - take a look around you!

Hab. Kid 3 More International Cooperation!!

Chorus: Life! - doesn't it astound you!

Hab. Kid 1 More International Coordination!

Chorus: Life!

Hab. Kid 5 More meetings!

Chorus: Life!

Hab. Kid 4 More proclamations!

Chorus: More LIFE !!

The dancers gather up the children of the Storyteller's group and wheel them round, finishing in a lovely tableau. The lights fade and the chorus and Habitat kids leave; the Storyteller exits with them.

SCENE FIVE: The Airport Scene Scene Manager: Borga

The Solutions Dancers leap into the audience, showering them with leaflets, badges, invitations to receptions etc. The children watch, then come together in a black out, chanting:

ALL HABITAT TWO! YOUTH CAN DO! - HABITAT TWO! YOUTH CAN DO!

Sounds of airport announcements. A group of older youth politicians come in carrying their suitcases. The children, held back behind an airport barrier, watch and shout to them.

Tasha What's happening?

Borga The Conference is over.

Danielle Now what - ?

Caroline Now what indeed! The \$64,000 dollar question

Borga It depends on us! The politicians!

Roshani - but you came here, you signed the declarations!

Danielle All you have to do now is to go home and do it!

Gunes That depends.

Borga Politics is the art of the possible.

Tolga So look what we need for Istanbul *[develop from improvisations]* -

Duygu - a metro under the Bosphorus!
 Gurdal - an end to illegal squatter camps
 Elif - better schools
 Betul - more green space!

Suat Yes - these are possible! - but ...

Duygu So get on and do them then!

Yesim - sometimes our political partners do not want them as much as we do.

Borga We have to make uncomfortable alliances in order to stay in power.

Danielle There's such a thing as leadership!

Tasha Yeah! - take some risks!

Borga Sometimes taking risks costs you your job!

Yolandi If you have no power, you can do nothing!

Jeta Sometimes it can cost you your life.

Borga For most of the delegates at this meeting, the ideas of the final document will remain only fantasies, dreams to aspire to sometime in the future.

Roshani But if we hang about and do nothing, there will be no future!

Caroline You just have to get used to coming face to face with the brick wall of the impossible sometimes

Danielle Nothing is impossible! It just takes people with guts!

Kersten Prosperity for East Berlin - impossible!

ALL No!

Erdem Un-polluted Istanbul - impossible! It's just not possible to unpollute the Bosphorus!

ALL NO!!

Kersten Maybe in time. You must celebrate incremental progress!

Yesim I don't know about incremental progress. I just want to be able to dive into the deep blue water of the Marmara without committing suicide to do it!

Tasha I want my Dad to get home in the evenings and play with me and not be stuck in a traffic jam!

Danielle I want Istanbul to stop growing and growing

Yolandi How? If all the jobs are here, if better schools and theatres and cinemas are here, people from small villages are going to want to come. How do you stop them? Build a wall around Istanbul and have soldiers shoot any one who tries to sneak in.

Jeta` Face it! There are no easy answers!

Danielle There are! You talked about them all here - but that was the problem, it was all just talk!

Gunes It may work - one small step at a time.

Erdem Incremental progress!

ALL WRONG *[They break through the barrier]*

Roshani - I want to see the wall torn down in Nicosia NOW!

Koketsu - I want you to be at peace in Pristina - NOW!

Toiga - I want safe schools in Seattle - NOW

Danielle - I want safe streets

Gurdal - Clean Air

Eren - Shelter for all

ALL SHELTER FOR ALL - SHELTER FOR ALL - SHELTER FOR ALL

Borga "I'm sorry ... I'm sorry

Song Five: IMPOSSIBLE DREAM

As the song ends, the older youth move away slowly, leaving the younger children sitting morose, angry.

SCENE SIX: Gridlock on the Bridge

Scene Manager: Joe & Nazla

Sound FX of a car skidding - a woman screams - cars honk their horns loudly - then stop. A child runs in:

Child 1 TR What happened?

Child 6 TR A little boy was trying to cross the road to get to his friends but he was hit by a car that was going too fast and the woman stopped, and she was screaming, but her car was blocking the road so everyone started honking, and she was scared so she left the child on the pavement and drove on.

Child 3 How is he?

Child 6 I don't know: he looked kind of crumpled. It was horrible! People just didn't care ...

Yolandi Right! - We'll see what's impossible! *(she gets up purposefully)*

Child 3 What you gonna do?

Yolandi See that bridge up there? - we're gonna give them something to really honk their horns about!

Tasha You mean - !

Yolandi Yes! - you go tell the press. The rest of you come with me!

Tasha You're mad!

Yolandi Not mad - just a little pushy. Come on everyone!

Elif TR She's going to stop the traffic on the Bosphorus Bridge!

Yolandi Evet! Hai di! *(they cower)* Come on!! *Repeat in Turkish* **EXIT rt.**

Downstage left, three press persons sit looking over a paper; they wear baseball caps, and look like reporters:

Joe Slow day, isn't it?!

Nazler TR Yeah - things seem real quiet since that Habitat thing ended.

Corinne I get to sleep in in the mornings again ...

Tasha *(rushing in)* 'Scuse me, sir! I have a headline for you!

Joe Headline, eh?!

Tasha Kids are stopping the traffic on the Bosphorus Bridge!

Nazler A traffic jam - how unusual!

Joe Damn kids!

Tasha No - it's really important!

Nazler 'Course it's important!

Corinne Question is, does it sell newspapers?

Ali *(rushing in Stage Rt.)* Sir, sir! Kids are protesting on the Bridge!

Ozlem Radio & TV are covering it LIVE!

Nazler TR Live?!

Betul TR *(rushing in Stage Lt.)* Hundreds of kids are streaming on to the Bridge from both directions -
 Katie *(rushing in Stage Rt.)* Thousands!
 Joe Thousands, eh? *[Music]* - It could be a story! - perhaps we gotta story
 Headline story! - maybe even front page news!
 Corinne Nah! They'll all go home in a moment.
 Nazler TR Story will be dead by the morning!
 Jamie *(rushing in Stage Lt.)* Sir! Sir! - traffic's gridlocked throughout the city!
 Shira *(rushing in Stage Rt.)* No one can get home!!
 Nazler TR No one can get home!
 Joe What about my dinner?!!!
 Corinne How am I going to get home
 All It's a story! - we gotta real story
 Headline story! - definitely front page news!
 Tasha Come on - let's go!
 Joe Get the camera!

Song Six: I GOTTA STORY!

Press It's a story, we really gotta story!
 Front page story, and definitely Headline News!

The Press leave stage singing; behind them, the whole chorus come marching on stage shaking their fists, carrying banners which scream:

"CARS STINK!!" "METRO NOW" "SHELTER FOR ALL!!" etc.

Sound FX of cars honking mournfully. The Press Corps run on waving cameras and notebooks, singing:

All The Photograph, the Photograph
 We've got to have the Photograph!
 The photo! The Photo! We gotta have the photo!

Press 1 - Who are you?
 Press 2 - Where you from?
 Press 3 - Who's your boss?
 Press 4 - Were you paid?
 Press 5 - Is she rich?
 Press 6 - What's her name?
 Press 7 - Are you friends ?
 Press 8 - What's the game?

Nazler TR What do you hope to achieve?!
 Roshanie Action!!
 Gürdal TR No more words!
 Yolandi A Partnership!!
 Nazler - and if you don't get it!
 Yolandi We'll throw ourselves off the Bridge at Midnight!
 ALL Don't do it!! Yap Ma!!

Joe Don't bother! It's OK - we got the story!
Press A-tic-a-tac-a-shoo-ee! A-tic-a-tac-a-shoo-ee!
A-tic-a-tac-a-shoo-ee! A-tic-a-tac-a-shoo-ee!
A-tic-a-tac-a-tic-a-tac-a-tic-a-tac-a-shoo-ee! x 3
Extra, extra, read all about it!
Headlines, Headlines - no doubt about it!
Extra, extra - read all about it!
Headlines, Headlines - don't go home without it! x 2

Tasha *(over song)* You are crazy!

Yolandi It got their attention!

Roshanie His too. Look -

Ramit in a suit and a gold chain comes forward to the children. They fall silent - the Press too:

Ramit This is a most effective protest! Congratulations. What's it for?

Yolandi Cars Stink!

Tasha Metro NOW!!

Roshanie We want to have a partnership with city government - a say in what's happening in our city!!

Ramit Excellent! I have just come from the office of the Mayor. In the aftermath of Habitat, she is very open to forging partnerships with every sector of society, especially young people. Therefore, she has agreed to meet a delegation of six of you in her office tomorrow morning on the condition that you call off this demonstration now and let people get home to their families?

Yolandi Only six?

Tasha You think she'll work with us - ?

Child TR - a real partnership?

Ramit I am sure of it! Write down exactly what it is that you want and present your demands to her.

Roshanie - and you'll persuade her to agree to work with us?!

Ramit That's a promise!

Children It's a Deal!!

The Children cheer! The press bound back on stage:

Press: *(singing)* They're our heroes! - We really got some heroes!
Headline heroes, and definitely Front Page news!

Newsnight, satellite, print it right,
Broad side, nationwide, any side!
Bold type, centre fold, get it sold!

Extra, extra, read all about it!
Headlines, Headlines - no doubt about it!
Extra, extra - read all about it!

Front Page! Build it high!
Print it bold! Reach the sky!
Make 'em shout! Make 'em cry!

"CHILDREN MEET THE MAYOR OF ISTANBUL!"

Hold Tableau for a moment! - fast black out stage; raise house lights as cast EXIT through auditorium

SCENE SEVEN: in the Office of the Mayor

Scene Manager: Ramit & Ayca

A table and chair is set up. Lights come up on Ayca and Ramit arguing. Both wear gold chains;

- Ayca I can't believe this! You said I would work in partnership with children. Kids!
- Ramit Of course. You love children.
- Ayca I don't! TR - I hate children!
- Ramit It defused a crisis!
- Ayca Yes - but you came here for Habitat, not to be my chief of Police!
- Ramit Ayca - I've known you a long time: you would have sent in Police with batons and a lot of children would have got hurt. This way, you have a peaceful solution.
- Ayca The Indian way! Call a meeting, establish a committee and be sure that nothing will happen for at least ten years!
- Ramit Exactly!
- Ayca But what can I say to these kids? If I tell them to get lost, they'll be back up on that bridge in a minute making more demands. I think we should have been firm with them
- Ramit Let me help you. *[He signals to an Aide to go and fetch the children]*
- Aide TR *[To the children waiting off stage]* The Mayor will see you now.

The children are led on with the Press following close behind.

- Mayor: TR Children! Thank you for coming to see me. What do you want?!
- Child 1 I want a life!

Song Seven: I WANT TO LIVE

- Child 3 Yesterday a child was killed by a car on our over-crowded streets. He wanted a life;
- Child 4 Every day, our lives are shortened by breathing bad air, drinking bad water;
- Child 5 Adults have nothing to do because there are not enough jobs;
- Child 2 Kids have nothing to do because there's nowhere to play!
- Child 3 Old people have nothing to do because there are no facilities for them;
- Child 4 - and yet there's so much to do to clean up the mess we're in!
- Child 1 We want to help!
- Ayca How can you help? You're kids! - you should be at school or doing your homework!
- Child 1 Not all the time!
- Child 3 There are thousands of us stuck at home watching junk TV who'd love to come help build a park.
- Child 2 We'll dig the flower beds, mow the lawns, build the Tree Houses and the swings!
- Ramit I think you should take their suggestion extremely seriously -
- Ayca Children building parks! Why should I throw my park-keepers out of work.
- Ramit Your parks are a mess. They could do with a little help!

Ayca Thanks - but maybe I can do without your's!

Ramit In India, we have a tremendous garbage problem - look you see! (points to a slide)
The children have come up with a wonderful scheme to deal with it. You see, 80% of garbage is biodegradable. By digging composting pits in every park, the children dispose of 80% of their household waste and improve the shrubs and flower beds of their parks at the same time.

Child 5 What a wonderful idea!

Child 2 We could do that, couldn't we!!

Children Yes - - yes, we'd love to! Please let us - please give us a chance to show you what we can do!

Ayca Where would this all end?

Child 3 We could help you build homes for the poor.

Child 4 Housing is a Human Right now!

Mayor Yes - but whose responsibility?

Child 5 Your's!! You promised - at Habitat!

Mayor I did not promise anything! If I had to raise the money through taxes to build everyone who comes here a home, your parents would scream in protest and throw me out at the next election!

Child 2 Yes - but if you worked with us, it would be cheaper!

Ramit If you made a deal on this issue with opposition politicians, the public would not have a choice at the next election.

Child 1 We met one of your opposition! He was great!

Child 2 He said he would love to work with you!!

Mayor Partnership with my enemies now! This is quite a morning!

Ramit Maybe we should take a moment to consider. Children - I promised you a partnership. You have brought us a list of suggestions. I shall look over them with the mayor and we'll get back to you with some answers in three days.

Mayor Three days! Thank you.

Child 2 Thank you! *The children* EXIT

The Mayo sits contemplatingas Music starts softly. She and Ramit share the song - -

Song Eight: THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD

At the end, they are joined by a child, singing the second part of the song, downstage Rt.:

Child 1 Will I be like they are now.... etc.

The song ends with them singing together:

Mayor & Child 1 Through the eyes of a child, this world is a heaven!

Lights fade slowly; they go their separate ways off the stage.

EXIT

SCENE EIGHT: Reconciliation

Scene Manager: Danielle Lemone & Roshani

Lights come up around the Youth 1 - the opposition politician. The children come out to meet him:

- Youth 1 So how did it go?
- Child 1 She was reluctant, but her friend from India is working on her!
- Child 2 He wants to work with children everywhere!
- Child 3 He's great!! He says you should work with her on the Housing issue -
- Youth 1 Me - work with her!! No Way!!
- Child 4 Why not! She's a powerful woman!
- Child 5 If you guys stopped constantly bitching at each other, you could get so much done!
- Youth 1 But she's a fascist, she's got blood on her hands, and dirty money in her pockets. I have nothing but contempt for her!! She's been bought by half the companies in the city!
- Child 1 I liked her. Look - she really doesn't want to work with kids, but she is trying to figure out a way; she'll figure out a way to work with you too if you just give her a chance.
- Youth 1 It's impossible!
- Child 2 You like that word, don't you, but you're wrong!! Nothing's impossible. We've got our whole lives ahead of us. We can do anything we like - so can you!

Song Nine: REACH OUT

During the song, the Mayor comes out, leaving his office. The children grab him gently, and two of the youngest children lead him towards his opposition partner. Gently, but firmly, they coax them together forcing them finally to shake hands in a 3-way partnership. The song ends; the children hold the tableau as the lights fade then run off stage. A pool of light comes up on Ali - downstage centre.

- Ali And so you see, children made a role for themselves in making the dream of Habitat come real. In Africa too: decisions made by children directly influence the future of our cities! Let me tell you a typical story from the Gambia: it happens every day. You can imagine the scene - a beautiful village up the river; the villagers are coming home from the fields, singing as they come!

SCENE NINE: Inspiration from Africa

Scene Manager: Ali & Caroline

Bright Lights come up around Ali as he starts to sing the traditional song. The rest of cast, with headscarves and African kikoyas come on as villagers welcoming, singing with him -

Song Ten: AFRICAN SONG

Ali gets them singing, moving in rhythm, then disappears off stage and slips on a silver jacket and dark glasses. he comes back on - walking across the stage with a boom box on his shoulder - rap music blaring drowning out the local song. The villagers stop singing and gather round Ali:

- Koketsu It's Ali! - back from the city!
- Ali Yes! I'm a rich man now!

The whole crowd fuss about him bringing him food, admiring his boom box, stroking his fine clothes.

- Koketsu Tell us how it is in the city, Ali!

Ali It's fantastic! Everybody has these big cars and they drive everywhere listening to their radios, watching TV -

Koketsu In the car?!

Ali Yes! - telephones too - people are calling New York from their carphones all the time! And eating in fine restaurants and hotels - doing great jobs for so much money you would not believe - and all the time you have running water, hot showers. It's Brilliant!

Ali relaxes in the warm glow of admiration of his friends and family in the village. Caroline comes to grandparents, Bryan and Danielle:

Caroline Mummy, Granny - I want to go to the City! I want to go now! There's no future for a girl in the village.

Danielle No way my child. The city is not a place for a young girl like you.

Caroline But I can become a secretary - earn money to send you home. You know how you are always needing money....

Bryan It's true, my dear: you will find a better future for yourself in the city. You must not hold her back.

Caroline Let me go, mummy!

Danielle But make sure you come back to see us very soon!

Bryan *(As she gets up to go)* - and here's a little money to help you get started.

Caroline runs off to get changed as Erdem/Story teller comes forward and explains what is going on in Turkish:

Erdem TR Habitat was about cities everywhere. And it went beyond cities because the root of city problems lies in the feelings that people who live in villages have about them. They seem to think that the streets of the cities are paved with gold but, as this young girl will find out for herself, most city-dwellers know that they are not.

Caroline wearing smart city clothes comes on stage. The cast, now dressed in their normal clothes, move up and down in jostling crowds, bumping into each other but not greeting each other or answering Caroline's questions.:

Caroline Hallo! Hallo! Can you tell me where the job agency is?? - I want a job!! - Hallo! That's a fine dress you're wearing! All right don't speak to me! 'Scuse me, can you tell me where this ... *[getting tired]* I'm trying to find the house of ... *[exhausted]* Hallo! I think you come from my village - can I stay here please?

Koketsu Not unless you can sleep standing up! There are 18 people sleeping in here already ...

Caroline But Ali said people have big houses in the city ...

Koketsu Ali - he's a policeman! He's got money! If you don't have money, you live like an animal - worse than an animal! Go talk to Ali! He's got money -

Caroline I got money ...

Bryan *[attacking her]* Not for much longer -

Koketsu Oh don't do that - poor thing - well, why not? *[joining in the attack]*

Caroline Help! Help! Police!!

Ali *[Rushing in]* What's happening?

Caroline Save me! Save me!

Ali How much money you have??

Caroline They've taken my money -

Ali They've taken your money?? - So I'd better arrest them! *[Holds out his hand for money]*

Bryan It's not worth it -

Ali Half!! *[Bryan gives in and pays up; then he carries on beating up Caroline!]*

Bryan Now you come work for me

Caroline NO!! *[Getting up and coming out of character]* No - no - no - no!! Ali - this scene gives a real bad impression of Africa.

Ali But that's how it is!

Caroline Not in South Africa! I have not been harrassed one time in my city -

They get into an improvised - and very heated - argument about different conditions in African cities; Koketsu and Yolandi join in. Bryan and the others stand back and watch until Bryan feels he has had enough.

Bryan 'Scuse me - I'm sure this is important, - *[they totally ignore him]*

Erdem TR - what they are arguing about is *[explains the argument in Turkish]*

Bryan Ah-hm! Could we finish the scene please ... Please!!

Caroline Oh - sorry. Yes! *[back in character]* I have had enough of the big city. I am going to make my life in the Village where people are kind to each other!

Lights change and the Chorus become villagers again. Caroline starts to sing a South African song - the chorus joins in as she moves back to the village to be welcomed by her community. Danielle folds her in her arms. Tableau. Finish. Black out.

SCENE TEN: Animal Input

Scene Manager: Kersten and Jamie

A glimmer of blue light. Whine of dogs, miaouuw of cats; howl of a lone dog. In the darkness, we hear a voice!

Sasha You hear that! People in Africa think they live worse than animals!! *[Hysterical miaouwing, caterwauling, laughing, barking, howling as the animals come on stage.]*

Jamie Nobody told them they murdered 50,000 of us to make their city pretty for Habitat!

Sasha Watch out - it's that woman again!

MUSIC - Kersten leaps on stage in her Animal Catcher costume as the song starts:

Song Eleven: ANIMAL CANNIBAL COMPLEX

The song ends with the animals threatening Kersten.

Kersten No - please - No!!

Jamie How shall we do this? Tear her limb from limb and or give her the old rabies bite ... ?

Kersten *[Shaking herself loose]* No you must understand! I was only doing my job. I need the money!

Jeta *[An old rabid dog with a limp]* Well we're only doing our job. Keeping down vermin in the city!!

Kersten But it was for Habitat - now they will solve all the problems of the city! Lots of new parks and playgrounds for dogs and cats to play in!

Jeta Habitat! Habitat! HAH! Let me show you the habitat of this city from a dog's point of view.

Jamie Then we eat her, yes?! You don't want to waste her, I mean there's a lot of meat here!

Jeta Sure, sure. *[Özel or Betül walks across the stage, in extremely chic costume, carrying a bag]*
Look at her! Come see how one half of the city lives!

They put Kersten on a dog leash and follow the Turkish girl off the stage. Lights change and come up on a fancy apartment with a table + computer, stereo, chair - maybe a long couch

SCENE ELEVEN: In Search of Commitment *Scene Managers: Kerstin & Shenoll*

Betül comes in followed by a bouncy, attentive poodle, [Yesim]. She carries on a constant conversation with her dog about all that she has done that day, the people she's seen, the shops she's been to, the dress she bought.

Meanwhile, Yesim has noticed Jeta and the other dogs waiting at the door: she growls at them but they sneak in anyway and hide behind the couch. Betül carries on her monologue. She pulls the new dress out of the bag and holds it up against herself as though looking in a mirror. She decides she doesn't like it - in fact she decides it is completely horrible and throws it in the garbage!! The dogs behind the couch are shocked. Yesim suggests politely that maybe she should take it back to the shop - but she flounces on: she has a new computer game - Sim City 2000! She switches on the computer and puts in the disc explaining to her dog how this game will allow her to plan a completely new and absolutely perfect city that gets richer and richer and bigger and bigger all the time.

As she focusses on the computer screen, Jeta and the dogs come out from their hiding place and slowly encircle her. Choosing her moment carefully, Jeta pops her head up from behind the computer.

Jeta You are a spoiled little brat, aren't you? *[Betül screams; Yesim comforts her.]*

Yesim TR Don't worry - they are friends of mine!!

Jeta I think it's time we put some real life software in your computer;

Yesim TR Be calm. I've learned all I know about the real life from these people

Betül TR But they are dogs - curs! Look how ugly they are!

Jeta Come with us - we'll show you ugly! It's beautiful.

Sasha *[picking the dress from the garbage]* I know just the person for this dress you threw away!

Music.... They walk off stage; Lights dim to suggest a poor part of the city. The computer is removed; the table and chairs are laid on their side; the couch is covered with a rug and large sheets of cardboard. Undemeath it all, - invisible - Corinne lies sleeping. About six other kids dressed in rags are spread across the stage, some standing, some crouching. Shenoll comes forward moving amongst them to greet the group as they arrive.

Kersten What is this? - where are you taking me?

Jeta This is my home. Isn't it charming?!

Betül Can't we go home now - I get the point! Poverty sucks but I knew that already!

Betül Sshh!

Shenoll Hi guys! Who's your friends?

Betül She's my mistress!!

Jamie *[pointing at Kersten]* - and she's the dog-catcher!

Shenoll Ah! The Terminator. You haven't killed her yet -

Jeta We are showing her a little of our habitat first.

Corinne *[emerging from under piles of cardboard]* Did anybody hear from the hospital yet?

Shenoll I just came from there; your brother's going to be fine.

Betul TR Who's she ?

Yesim TR Her brother was nearly killed on the street the other day; they had a demonstration about it!

Shenoll The press are waiting outside his room: he's going to be a hero!

Corinne He'll like that.

Sasha We brought you a new dress!

Yesim goes gives her the dress; Jeta comes to her and nuzzles up against her; she strokes the two of them.

Shenoll It's a nice dress but you haven't eaten in days!

Corinne *[moving under the cardboard]* I can't afford it!

Shenoll I got money - look, I brought you some food ...

Corinne Thank you! *[She takes the food and quietly shares it with her dog as Shenoll talks about her]*

Kersten Who is she? - she is only a child. Where are her parents?

Shenoll They left her on the streets as a 3-year old; couldn't afford to keep her. She's lived more lifetimes in the last ten years than most of us will have in one! crime, drugs, prostitution, physical abuse, abortion - you name it, she's had it. It's a miracle she's still alive - but she won't be much longer.

Kersten Why not?

Shenoll She's lost hope!

Betul TR *[Standing at a distance, trying to get away]* What do they say?

Yesim TR *[going to her]* This girl is dying. She's lost hope - she was left on the streets at the age of three;

Corinne *[getting up]* I've lost hope for me! - I haven't lost hope for the world. How was your Habitat that you killed all those dogs for? - did it solve the problems of the cities.

Kersten It made a good start, yes!

Corinne I'm glad. I wouldn't have wanted those dogs to die for nothing.

Jeta They did! We live for nothing, we die for nothing. It doesn't matter!

Kersten But Habitat was a big success!! We have plans now to make Istanbul and all the cities rich and clean and free and wonderful!

Sasha I used to live in a city like that.

Shenoll Me too.

Sasha A home that's rich and clean and free and wonderful means nothing if you do not have love. Look at them - a girl and her dog. That's a home!

Suat TR We should all learn from our dogs - look at this rich girl's dog: when she's here, she's one of us! But look at her mistress - standing apart, holding her nose!

Corinne You're right. You should all learn from these dogs - *[going to Betul]* - come meet my friend, Suat - alcoholic, drug addict, total loser but a real friend! *[To Kersten]* Meet Shenoll - one of the finest

vets in Istanbul, gave it all up to help street dogs - the dogs you are paid to kill! You should work with him! If you can be friends, I know we can have cities worth living in!

Shenoll Why do you leave it to others! You have a role to play in building these cities.

Corinne I'm a kid - and my body's in so much pain, I have to take drugs just to get through the days. I didn't make it this lifetime - but you will! I know you will. I can see it now - a city at peace!

Song Twelve: I HAVE A VISION

She sings the first part of the song; Kersten sings the second part; the Chorus joins in for the last refrain. Kersten comes forward, throwing off her Animal Catcher costume; other kids, apart from Jeta, take off their animal mask:

Kersten I know what I must do now! Work with you -

Shenoll Why on earth would you want to do that!

Kersten To get a life! A decent life that I can be proud of!

Shenoll Have you any idea of the extent of the problems?

Kersten No! - but I can get help: you for example!

Shenoll But I am just one! - you need thousands!

Corinne *[crawling back on to her couch]* Not me -

Betul TR What about those children who saw the Mayor -

Suat TR The ones who stopped the traffic on the Bosphorus Bridge: there were thousands of them.

Betul TR There are thousands like them in every city in the world!

Sasha What are they talking about?

Shenoll They are talking about working with kids!

Kersten Kids? *(disgusted)* Kids -

Sasha Why not? It's our future that is at stake!

Kersten Yes, but - children?!

Sasha We have time -

Betul TR Energy

Sasha Talent!

Betul TR Exuberance! -

Kersten - and you want to live, don't you? - that was your message to the Mayor!?

Betul/Sasha Yes!

Kersten Where are these children?

Shenoll You will find them everywhere - in every town and city in the world. Children who want to live!

Sasha All you have to do is ask !

Kersten Here? *[to the audience!]* Do you want to live
Betul TR - you want to live?!

Together with Kersten, she pushes the audience to roar "Yes!" - they start the music, but Shenoll stops them.

Shenoll Wait! - (to Corinne) - what about you?
Corinne Oh don't mind me - I've had a life!
Sasha You're Thirteen!!
Joe We'll get you to a hospital and have you back in excellent health in no time!
Corinne I tried that but I'm so far gone and - it hurts so much, I don't want to live ...
Sasha What about your brother?
Jeta What about me? (Corinne smiles)
Sasha If we're going to save our world, we have to do it one child, one dog, one cat - one city at a time!
Shenoll Otherwise we can all just commit suicide right now!
Betul TR Try on the dress! - please, just for me!!
Shenoll They love you! When people love you, you owe them a life!
Corinne I've had a life!
Kersten You've had a bad nightmare! Your real life begins today - like mine!
Joe Go put on the stupid dress! Please!

He gets the cast and audience saying/shouting/pleading - "Please" - Corinne finally says: OK !

Song Twelve: I WANT TO LIVE II

SCENE TWELVE: The Children Unite

Scene Manager: Sasha

The Cast and chorus process on stage from the audience, clapping, singing the song, building it to a big climax. The lights fade - the curtains close as Erdem and Sasha come forward explaining in Turkish:

Erdem TR And so they persuaded this one, sick abused child of the beauty of Life! She recovered completely and became a hero for them - a leader of a worldwide children's movement as more and more towns and cities recognised the value of working with children.

Sasha Children the world over responded eagerly to the call by Mayors and councils to get involved in the improvement of their cities. They started in their own homes, carefully watching the way they lived, conserving fuel and water, recycling waste and repairing old things. Then they moved out into their community -

Erdem TR The children monitored the way their schools worked - the way they related to each other, the way they learned, the way the school was organized; they got involved in every aspect of school life - and as a result, schools became much, much better.

Sasha Through their schools and the Internet, young people connected with each other around the world, comparing notes, copying and improving on each other's ideas - and competing to have the most productive partnerships with their city governments.

Storyteller And so it was that cities and communities improved: where before children and youth had been a problem to be "dealt with" they now became partners to assist and take ever-greater responsibility for community welfare. And each year on Peace Day, the children gathered to take stock - to see what progress had been made, what problems remained. And everyone took notice because if the future belongs to the children, children need to start taking care of it today.

Music begins - the Story-teller(Erdem) withdraws as Sasha begins to sing.

Song Fourteen: CHILD FOR A DAY

The song ends softly - Sasha singing solo. The lights fade on the chorus and she comes forward in a single spot.

Sasha And so that's our show! But we are not the Children of Yesterday and this story is not over. We are the children of today and our story is just beginning. We do not have a partnership with you - in fact we do not have any power at all to shape the future that is rushing towards us. And all the signs show that our future will not be as happy as the present you now enjoy.

Jeta During rehearsals, the cast chose five indicators to start the show - indicators that we feel most accurately reflect whether our communities are becoming more or less sustainable. Because this is *Peace Child*, David wrote lines to say that in 2025, everything would be beautiful! But the majority of us do not feel so optimistic. Your United Nations statistics show that population of cities will not stay stable but increase hugely! Jobs will not keep pace with population growth so unemployment will increase causing people to look for other means of stimulation. Drugs provide that so drug use will increase - and thus, inevitably, crime as well.
 We don't know the answers. Do you?

Sasha Will you work with us to find out?

SCENE THIRTEEN: Discussion

Scene Manager: Sasha

Director + Translator come forward and invite questions from the audience

Song Fifteen: PEACE IN THE HEART