



# Sustainable Citizenship and Civic Imagination: Hei Puāwaitanga



## **Introducing CYCLES:**

### **Children & Youth Lifestyles Evaluation & Sustainability**

**A longitudinal global study of Children and Youth in Cities**

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Children and young people as competent actors in their own right- 'beings' not 'becomings' (Quortrup 2004)- with right to participate in decisions which affect their lives (UNCRC 1989)

### **CYCLES aims to:**

understand child and youth (12-24 years) conceptions of the “good life” in cities  
rethink agency and identify changes that makes a difference to self reported wellbeing  
share ideas rapidly that make a difference re sustainability in cities via publications & multi-media outreach

### **Research: 3 steps over 3 years:**

- Desk based assessment
- Focus groups and Photo elicitation/reflection: “a day in my life”
- Quantitative city wide surveys: “how we live now”

Building on the UN Global Sustainable Lifestyles Survey 2012, modular (to repeat over time)

# 7 CYCLES Cities



Lambeth



New Delhi



Yokohama



Dhaka



São Paulo



Grahamstown



Christchurch

# A day in my life: Energy & consumption across 5 domains

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Food, water & waste

Transport

Home energy

Education & employment

Leisure & communication



## CYCLES focus groups - Christchurch

	Ages	Decile
Group 1	12-13	6
Group 2	12-13	6
Group 3	13-14	10
Group 4	13-15	9
Group 5	15-16	3
Group 6	16-17	2
Group 7	18-24	Tertiary training
Group 8 & 9	18-24	University
Group 10	18-24	Youth group



# THEME : Food, water and waste - Christchurch

## WATER

- Water: “We get it from the tap”
- Every group volunteered chorine concerns: but 2+ families per group source springs or bores or bottled water or used filter. “Bad taste”.



Christchurch Hayward & S Nissen, Lusia Leo, Nuku Tau, Niwa Ututaonga: UC

## FOOD

- First impressions: higher decile= greener food: big gardens, gran’s veges, my food bag & family shop
- Uni students eating out lunch & socially, “nothing else to do here”
- High meat & dairy consumption, but all ages sensitized to eat less except rural teens studying in city.



## WASTE

- Waste - complex recycling conversations, plastic
- But no closed-loop or product longevity discussion
- Out of sight, out of mind?



# THEME : Food, water and waste – New Delhi

## WATER

- Water not safe for drinking.
- One tap for 50 families
- Limited times it is on
- An open drain, 40 years



## FOOD

- What we like to eat vs what we eat
- Ethical issues about aspirational food as a celebration of young lives, rather than deficit shaming



## WASTE

- Waste collection – “no one will come to collect it.”
- We can use things a lot  
“Isn’t it obvious? They need to clean up this s?\*t!”



# THEME 1: Food, water and waste - Grahamstown

## WATER

- Water not safe for drinking.
- The community opts for bottled and spring water
- Serious water shortages and when water reaches homes it will be dirty, brownish & limited



## FOOD

- Want to eat “healthy” food, yet poverty restricts choices
- School nutrition programmes provide two meals though sometimes is badly prepared.
- Food is prepared three times a week, but on pay-days families eat out or buy take-away.
- Simple meals weekdays and three course meals on Sundays.



## WASTE

- Waste collection is once per week and if the truck does not collect waste, dogs tear the plastic bags resulting in the environment being dirty.
- Sometimes families are forced to throw waste in dumping sites if the truck does not come to collect it.



## Transport: Getting Around, Christchurch

### So how do you normally get around? (12-13yrs)

[Tilly]: but um every second week I go to my mum's and I bus to school and bus home. And at my dad's I either bike, scoot, or walk.

Interviewer L: Right, varied. Yes?

[Luna]: When I go on holiday, or when I go skiing or something, I usually go in the car cos it's quite a wee way away and (... interrupted by Nashi, saying something quiet to her...) but then most of the other times we bike.

Interviewer L: Like, sort of day to day stuff biking, is that what you mean?

[Luna]: Well, if we can we'd usually take a mountain bike track. But if we couldn't we'd just go along the road.

Interviewer L: Yeah.

[Nashi]: I bike to school and back. But, unless it's like really close, then we go in the car sort of for other things.



**“ I think, like I know its not realistic or anything, but I think if they made buses free for kids it would be great!”**



## Lambeth, London ...Getting away

R: ... every year I go to a place in Africa, Tanzania. I go there every year

I: **Every year, right.**

R: Yeah.

I: **So, you fly there; what about you XXX?**

R: We don't go out that much... but ...like a few months ago, me and my brother went to Portugal, we had a good time... we went to Faro, we went to the beach, stayed and then went to visit our grandma and my auntie, and yeah, it was a good time there.

.....

R: So, normally we go to Ethiopia to visit our family.

I: **Yeah.**

R: Sometimes, once we went to Germany to visit our uncle, ...

R: We went to Paris and Spain.

R: oh, yeah, we've been to Paris and Spain as well

R: And Saudi Arabia.

I: **And Saudi Arabia?**

R: Yeah, our aunt lives there –





- **Christchurch, Bronwyn Hayward & Sylvia Nissen;** CUSP at University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **New Delhi, Vimlendu Jha;** Sweccha —We For Change Foundation, India
- **Dhaka, Mehedi Hasan;** Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh
- **Grahamstown, Ingrid Schudel;** Rhodes University, South Africa
- **Lambeth/London, Kate Burningham & Sue Venn;** CUSP at University of Surrey
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