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09.10.08 WORLD'S GOVERNMENTS CHALLENGED TO DO MORE

Governments need to do a lot more to ensure that we have a sustainable future, according to a sustainability expert, Dr Ashok Khosla, who is speaking at the World Export Development Forum in Montreux, Switzerland today.

He said governments must educate the public about using resources more efficiently.

Dr Khosla founded Development Alternatives, a New Delhi-based non-governmental organization, devoted to promoting environmentally friendly technologies.

He said governments must double their efforts to introduce programmes that encouraged the conservation of resources with tax incentives and subsidies.

They must also invest in research and development to ensure environmentally beneficial technological breakthroughs happened sooner.

Dr Khosla believes individuals can drive real change from poor villages to wealthy captains of industry.

He said it's largely left to whistleblowers, watchdogs and those in civil society to drive change.

"You do not need to be a Mahatma Gandhi to change the world," Dr Khosla said.

"One ordinary individual can do so by changing the way their household is run."

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