

CONTACT:  
 Amy Deneson  
 Umbrage Books  
 515 Canal Street #4  
 New York, NY 10013  
 (212) 965-0197 ext. 2#  
 amy@umbragebooks.com

## TALES OF WATER: A CHILD'S VIEW CUENTOS DEL AGUA: UNA VISIÓN DE UN NIÑO

Photographs by Taco Anema

Essay by Valli Moussa, President of The World Conservation Union



BOOK SPECS
· Hardcover
· 8.5 x 11 inches
· \$40.00 USD
· 200 pages
· 200 5-color photographs
· ISBN 1-884167-58-6
· September 2006

“**Tales of Water** makes an urgent appeal for a united effort to allow our children and their children to continue to enjoy water and the diversity of nature. I hope from the bottom of my heart that this book will inspire you to take action and help provide efficient conservation solutions at the local, national, and global level.”

—Valli Moosa, President,  
 The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

“They often say that the river is rich, but the river is not rich in water, it is rich in rubbish thrown by people”

—Georgiana, Romania

**New York, New York**—Water is both the most ordinary and extraordinary of resources—without it, nothing can survive. Yet, 1.1 billion people around the world do not have ready access to clean water and more than 2.6 billion people lack access to basic sanitation. If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water, which is about nothing less than our planet’s survival. During his travels to five continents and fifteen countries, working with scientists of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), Dutch photographer Taco Anema listened to the voices of children telling their stories of the importance of water, as seen through their fresh and spontaneous eyes. In this magical journey they focus on the wonder, power, and beauty of water, inspiring us to take action for a better and sustainable world.

The Tales of Water project includes a documentary film and short clips as well as an exhibition and website with photos made by children. It was the official publication of the United Nations 4th World Water Forum conference in Mexico City, bringing together 15,000 scientists and NGOs to discuss this critical resource.

**TACO ANEMA** was born in Holland in 1950 and started working as a photo-journalist in 1980 for major newspapers, traveling to the former Eastern Bloc to report on dissident movements. Later he worked both for corporate clients (such as Shell and Heineken), as well as contributing work to exhibitions at The Rijksmuseum, The Stedelijk Museum, the Deutsch Architecture Museum, and publications such as Holland Festival, Verbeelding van Leiden, and World of Energy. He has served on multiple award juries and commissions in the Netherlands.

**THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN)** Founded in 1948, the World Conservation Union brings together states, government agencies, and a diverse range of non-governmental organizations in a unique world partnership: over 1000 members in all, spread across some 150 countries. As a Union, IUCN seeks to influence, encourage, and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and sustainable.

**UMBRAGE EDITIONS** is a New York-based award-winning publisher and packager of provocative visual books, multimedia projects, and traveling exhibitions. Umbrage Editions creates content-rich products, bringing them from their initial conception to development and final production. Umbrage projects vary in subject matter from classic photojournalism to cutting-edge art, from pop culture to global human rights. For more information see our website [www.umbragebooks.com](http://www.umbragebooks.com)

## IMAGE AVAILABILITY AND CREDITS

The cover plus two images are available without charge for press promotion of *Tales of Water*. Mandatory credit line: Photograph ©2005 Taco Anema, from *Tales of Water* (Umbrage, 2006). If you are interested in running more than two images or to obtain high-resolution images for reproduction, please contact Umbrage Editions T: (212) 965-0197 x2# F: (212) 965-0276, amy@umbragebooks.com. Information about each photograph is available upon request.



“Sometimes the taps around us are dry. When this happens, we face a lot of problems because we have to leave classes to get water. Being in the river is very dangerous because normally we meet other people, especially street boys who start to convince us to stop school and join them. Some have already joined them. If the water was available here, all this could have been avoided.”

—Shamta Ramadhani, Tanzania

“I like to go with my boat on the river, it is beautiful and there is so much to see. I can enjoy the flowers and the trees with my friends.”

—Phon Samay, Laos

“Fishing is part of the culture of the people living along the Songkhram river. If we cannot fish in the river I do not know what we would eat.”

—Tsuong, Vietnam



*Clockwise from top right:* Children in Spain check water levels in a wheat field. A little girl from Burkou Faso takes a sip of water. Young girls from Mali hold up water jugs. A Jordanian family. Children from Burkina Faso play in the water.

“People from upstream do not own this river. Since there are two communities, both have a right to drink this water. The first thing to do is for upstream people to apologize to downstream people for having made a mistake in taking the water away from them because the downstream people could have died. Nobody can say, ‘This river is ours, we bought it, we gave money for it, we dug wells.’ We did not do anything to deserve it. The river was here.”

—Ester, Guatemala

