

**World Association of Soil and Water Conservation**

## **WASWC HOT NEWS 2006 Q4**

**October - December**

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HOT NEWS and WASWC Newsletter to  
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**This document is NOT properly edited, to enable a quick release, to meet many  
deadlines.**

**Please read also volume 2006 Q1+2 (Jan-Jun) and volume 2006 Q3 (July-Sept)  
for previously available information posted on the website  
<http://waswc.ait.ac.th>, subpage HOT NEWS**

**NEW items in this issue are highlighted with blue shading to assist in quick  
identification.**



*We have borrowed this photo from SUITMA4 organizers (p. 43), Institute of Soil Science, Nanjing, P. R. China.  
Wondering if such a scene of abundant snow and ice will remain after a few decades – because of global warming!*



**We wish all WASWC members and colleagues great happiness during Holiday Seasons and beyond. We also wish that the world's population will live happily among all races and faiths and safe from natural calamities.**

*President and all members of the WASWC Council*

Miodrag Zlatic, Machito Mihara, John Laflen, Jiao Juran, Samran Sombatpanit, Mohamed Sabir, Eduardo Rienzi, Ted Napier, Ian Hannam

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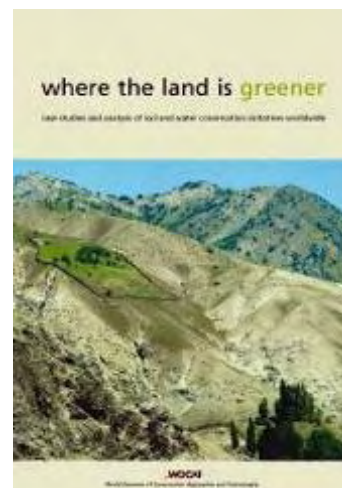
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## HOT BOOK!

### Where the Land is Greener:

Case studies and analysis of soil and water conservation initiatives worldwide (Published: 2006, paperback, ISBN: 978-92-9081-339-2, US\$45)

‘Where the Land is Greener’ looks at soil and water conservation from a global perspective. In total, 42 soil and water conservation technologies and 28 approaches are described – each on four pages with photographs, graphs and line drawings – from more than 20 countries around the world. This unique presentation of case studies is drawn from WOCAT’s extensive database. These and many other experiences deserve to be documented, analysed and used for decision support. The book is, furthermore, a prototype for national and regional compilations of sustainable land management practices. Various land use categories are covered here – cropland, as well as forest and grazing land. The technologies range from terraces to agroforestry systems; from rehabilitation of common pastures to conservation agriculture; from vermiculture to water harvesting. Several are well established successes – others are innovative, relatively unknown and full of promise. The technologies are matched by studies of the ‘approaches’ that have underpinned their development and spread. Some of these approaches are descriptions of projects, but there are also fascinating explanations of how spontaneous development and spread has taken place. The book does not stop with case studies: there are two analytical sections, taking the technologies and approaches in turn. These uncover common elements of success, and offer hope for productive conservation at local level with simultaneous global environmental benefits. Finally there are policy pointers for decision makers and donors, who are challenged to invest further – to make the land greener.



Single copies can be ordered on <http://www.earthprint.com/go.htm?to=wocat001>

Bulk orders should be sent to the WOCAT secretariat: [wocat@giub.unibe.ch](mailto:wocat@giub.unibe.ch)

NOTE: For nationals of ACP (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific) countries working in agriculture and rural development, to receive the publication for free please see [www.cta.int](http://www.cta.int) or write to CTA, BP 173, 6700 AD Wageningen, The Netherlands.

#### *From the producers team:*

We are happy to announce that the WOCAT book ‘where the land is greener: case studies and analysis of soil and water conservation initiatives worldwide’ is at last in print! We think ‘where the land is greener’ is a prototype that sets new standards for systematic documentation, evaluation and dissemination of knowledge: it is a must for institutions working in the field of sustainable land management!

Please help us promote this new book. You can make use of the material provided on our website (“book promotion flyer” at [www.wocat.org/overviewbook.asp](http://www.wocat.org/overviewbook.asp)). You will not be disappointed!

Hanspeter Liniger and Will Critchley (co-editors), Gudrun Schwilch, Rima Mekdaschi Studer, Mats Gurtner (associate editors) and Franziska Jöhr (secretariat), Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, Steigerhubelstrasse 3, CH-3008 Bern, Switzerland. Tel.: +41 (0)31 631 88 22, direct: +41 (0)31 631 88 45, Fax: +41 (0)31 631 85 44  
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WASWC sincerely congratulates the success of the WOCAT team in bringing out the book “*Where the Land is Greener*” after having spent 14 years since the launch of the program. We hope the book can be used as a standard compendium-cum-tool for managing soil and water resources worldwide, as well as for inspiring future generations of soil and water scientists/ conservationists in doing the task of caring for our natural resources in a cooperative, firm and long-lasting way.



## **AWARDS/PRIZES/FUNDS**

### **Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy**

The Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy are seeking entries from inspirational and innovative local sustainable energy projects from Asia, Africa and Latin America to compete for a share of £200,000 of prize money.

The 2007 International Awards will be offering five first prizes of £30,000 each and second prizes of £10,000 each for projects that are using renewable energy to address one or more of the following areas: Food Security; Health and Welfare; Light; Education and Enterprise.

The closing date for entries is **14 November 2006**.

One of the prizes will be a Special Africa Award in recognition of the combined challenges of climate change and poverty facing the region and the vital contribution which local renewable energy can make in tackling both.

Existing achievements will be rewarded and funding will be provided for future expansion. Award-winning schemes must have been operational for at least one year and must still be active. Successful schemes will be highly replicable to ensure maximum impact in the battle against climate change. Award winners are promoted to the media, practitioners and experts in the field as leading examples of sustainable energy in action at the local level. The Awards will be presented at a VIP ceremony in London in June 2007.

For more information, visit the GVEP Website at <http://www.gvep.org/>. For technical information on all past winners (2001 -2005), see: <http://www.ashdenawards.org/winners>

### ***GVEP Team***

### **World Bank's Development Marketplace**

**Initiatives that improve health, nutrition and population outcomes for poor people in developing countries, [www.developmentmarketplace.org](http://www.developmentmarketplace.org)**

**Proposal Deadline: November 17, 2006; Finalists Announced: February 9, 2007**  
**Marketplace and Knowledge Exchange in Washington, D.C.: May 22-23, 2007**

The Development Marketplace (DM) team in collaboration with the World Bank's Health, Nutrition and Population unit, announces the Call for Proposals for the 2007 Global Development Marketplace (DM2007). This year, the World Bank seeks to recognize and support initiatives that improve health, nutrition and population outcomes for poor people in developing countries.

APPLY NOW! Proposals are welcome from a range of development innovators: civil society groups, social entrepreneurs, private foundations, government agencies, academia, the private sector, as well as staff from the World Bank Group and other donor organizations. A total of US\$4 million in awards is available, with a maximum award size of US\$200,000.

Proposals should address at least one of the following sub-themes:

- Innovative mechanisms to reach vulnerable groups;
- Public-private partnerships to improve delivery of health goods and services;

- Innovative inter-sectoral linkages, such as improving water supply, sanitation services, indoor air pollution, roads, etc., for illness/disease/injury prevention;
- Cost-effective approaches/methods/technologies to improve local capacity to gather, analyze and apply health, nutrition and population data.

Proposals will only be accepted in English and through the Development Marketplace website: [www.developmentmarketplace.org](http://www.developmentmarketplace.org). Please visit the website for detailed competition guidelines and step-by-step instructions in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

All proposals should be submitted by 2300 GMT on **November 17, 2006**. [Click here](#) to access the DM2007 brochure (PDF file).

### **BP's Future Conservationist Awards**

The BP Conservation Programme, a partnership initiative of BirdLife International, Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and BP, is offering Future Conservationist Awards of up to \$12,500 to high potential teams who aim to develop their skills through practical conservation projects. These awards are highly competitive and winners are selected from amongst the highest quality applications. There will be \$250,000 worth of funding available for the Future Conservationist Award winning projects in 2006.

Additional funding is also available to previous BPCP award winners through Conservation Follow-up and Conservation Leadership Awards (Conservation Follow-up and Conservation Leadership Awards ).

A representative from each winning team will be invited to an international training event organised by the BPCP to share ideas and develop their skills, knowledge and contacts. Training for the whole team will also be offered locally in relevant and specific technical skills. Additionally, winning teams are able to access expertise from within each of the five partner organisations and past winners. Programme staff are also available to help with the implementation of projects, including guidance required during the planning and team training stages.

The Deadline for 2007 Future Conservationist Awards is **24th November 2006**. Decisions will be made in February 2007.

#### **Criteria**

Successful applicants will 1.) Develop the knowledge, skills and abilities of team members; 2.) Implement a focused, high-priority conservation project combining research and action; 3.) Contribute to the long-term success of local conservation efforts; and 4.) Contribute to the education and awareness of local stakeholders.

Applications will be accepted from teams initiating projects that meet the eligibility criteria outlined below. These criteria are designed to ensure that projects build the skills of all team members involved, contribute to long-term sustainable conservation achievements, have clear focused research objectives and build vital links between local communities, conservationists, NGO and academic institutions and local governments. Applications are evaluated by BPCP staff and partners, and experts from other external organizations.



## Are you Eligible?

To be eligible for a Future Conservationist Award, the proposed project must meet each of the criteria outlined below:

- The project must be at least three months, but no more than one year in length.
- The project must take place in one of the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Russia, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey or Venezuela.
- The project must address a recognized global biodiversity conservation priority at the species or site level.\*
- The project must offer educational benefits to local stakeholders.
- The project must have a minimum of three people on the team.
- The project must be led by a student national of the country where the project takes place. (Co-leadership is acceptable where appropriate; contact the Programme to discuss.)
- 50% or more of the team members must be students.
- 50% or more of the team members must be from the project area.
- The award must cover 50% or more of the project's total budget.
- The project DOES NOT specifically fulfil the requirements for a PhD thesis or master's dissertation.
- The award DOES NOT cover salaries, conference attendance, tuition fees or scholarships for team members.
- The project DOES NOT involve laboratory analyses, gene storage or captive breeding.
- The project is NOT a high school level expedition.
- The project is NOT a pre-organised, pre-existing project organised by an established organisation.

NONE of the team members are employed by the BirdLife International Secretariat, Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, the Wildlife Conservation Society or BP.

Award applicants are strongly encouraged to contact a member of the programme staff well before the application deadline for advice or input on your proposal. Staff members can help teams determine if their project fits within the specified criteria, offer advice on methods and project activities, and put teams in touch with local partner offices or other experts who can offer advice.

Examples of winning teams and details of the 2006 winners are available on the 'Latest award winners' page.

Visit the program Web site at <http://conservation.bp.com/applications/fcawards.asp>  
Please submit applications and enquiries by email to: [bp-conservation-programme@birdlife.org](mailto:bp-conservation-programme@birdlife.org)

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Programme Manager, BP Conservation Programme, c/o BirdLife International,  
*Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge, CB3 0NA, UK*

*Tel: +44 1223 279822, Fax: +22 1223 27720*

## Equator Prize 2006

(This announcement is in ENGLISH, SPANISH, FRENCH and PORTUGUESE)

Dear friends and colleagues,

I am delighted to announce the Call for Nominations for the **Equator Prize 2006!**

This marks the third round of our extremely successful Equator Prize.

Awarded biennially, the Equator Prize recognizes five community-based projects that demonstrate extraordinary achievement in reducing poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the equatorial belt. Prize winners receive international recognition for their work and an opportunity to help shape international policy and practice in the field, as well as a monetary award of US\$30,000 each. Adding to the excitement of this year's Equator Prize, one 2006 finalist will be selected to receive a renowned Rare Pride Campaign, supported by the new Equator Initiative partner Rare.

Details on the criteria for the Equator Prize, information on the award process, and the online nomination system can be accessed through the Equator Initiative website:

[www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

The nomination process will be open through October 31, 2006; the Equator Prize will be awarded in early 2007.

We invite you to disseminate this announcement widely to groups and individuals active in biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction around the world to nominate (or self-nominate) qualified community initiatives.

The Equator Initiative partners look forward to learning about - and sharing with the world - the innovative solutions of local communities around the globe. We thank you for your contributions to this exciting process.

Warmest regards,

Sean Southey  
Manager, UNDP Equator Initiative  
405 Lexington Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10174  
T: 212-457-1709  
[www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

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Estimados Amigos y Colegas,

¡Estoy sumamente entusiasmado de anunciar el inicio del **Premio Ecuatorial 2006!**

Esta marca nuestra tercera serie de extremadamente exitosas iniciativas del Premio Ecuatorial. Otorgado cada dos años, el Premio Ecuatorial reconoce cinco proyectos comunitarios que demuestran realizaciones fenomenales en reducir pobreza a través de la conservación y uso sostenible de biodiversidad en la franja ecuatorial. Los ganadores del

premio reciben reconocimiento internacional por su trabajo y la oportunidad de ayudar a formar política internacional y adquieren práctica, como también un premio monetario de US\$30,000 cada uno. Agregando a la emoción del Premio Ecuatorial este año, uno de los finalistas del 2006 será seleccionado para recibir una renombrada Rare Campaña de Orgullo, apoyada por el nuevo socio de la Iniciativa Ecuatorial, Rare.

Detalles de los requisitos para el Premio Ecuatorial, información sobre el proceso de nominación, y el sistema de nominación en línea son accesibles en la página web de la Iniciativa Ecuatorial: [www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

El proceso de nominación estará abierto hasta el 31 de Octubre, 2006; el Premio Ecuatorial será otorgado a principios del 2007.

Lo invitamos a distribuir este anuncio lo mas posible a grupos e individuos activos en la conservación de la biodiversidad y en la reducción de la pobreza alrededor del mundo para que nominen (o se nominen a si mismos) a iniciativas de base comunitaria calificadas.

Los socios de la Iniciativa Ecuatorial esperan aprender sobre - y compartir con el mundo - las soluciones innovadoras de comunidades locales alrededor del mundo. Agradecemos sus contribuciones a este proceso emocionante.

Saludos Cordiales de,

Sean Southey  
Gerente, Iniciativa Ecuatorial - PNUD  
405 Lexington Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10174  
T: 212-457-1709  
[www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

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Chers amis et collègues,

C'est avec le plus grand plaisir que je vous annonce le lancement du **Prix Equateur 2006!**

Cet événement marque le troisième avènement de notre célèbre prix Equateur. Délivré bi-annuellement, le Prix Equateur récompense cinq initiatives communautaires qui illustrent des réussites extraordinaires dans le domaine de réduction de la pauvreté au travers de la conservation et l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité le long de la ceinture équatoriale. Les gagnants du prix reçoivent non seulement la reconnaissance internationale de leur travail et une opportunité de transformer les politiques internationales et les pratiques sur le terrain, mais aussi une somme de 30,000 dollars chacun. S'ajoute à l'excitation de cette année le fait que l'un des finalistes de 2006 sera sélectionné pour recevoir un prix de la Campagne Rare, soutenu par Rare, partenaire de l'Initiative Equateur.

Tous les détails sur les critères pour le prix Equateur, information sur le procédé de nomination et le prix en général, et le formulaire de nomination en ligne se trouvent sur le site de l'Initiative Equateur: [www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

Le procédé de nomination sera ouvert à partir 31 Octobre 2006; le Prix Equateur sera remis début 2007.

Nous vous invitons à diffuser cette annonce à tous les groupes et individus actifs dans le domaine de la conservation de la biodiversité et la réduction de la pauvreté autour du monde afin qu'ils nominent les initiatives communautaires appropriées.

L'Initiative Equateur et ses partenaires seront ravis de connaître - et de partager avec le reste du monde- les solutions communautaires aux défis du développement durable. Nous vous remercions par avance pour votre contribution à cette initiative.

Chaleureusement,

Sean Southey  
Directeur, L'Initiative Equateur - PNUD  
405 Lexington Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10174  
T: 212-457-1709  
[www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

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Prezados amigos e colegas,

Tenho a honra de anunciar o lançamento do **Prêmio Equatorial 2006!**

Este lançamento marca a terceira rodada de nosso extremamente bem-sucedido Prêmio Equatorial. Concedido a cada dois anos, o Prêmio Equatorial reconhece cinco iniciativas ou atividades locais que ilustrem extraordinárias realizações na redução da pobreza por meio da conservação e uso sustentável da biodiversidade no cinturão equatorial. Os ganhadores do prêmio recebem reconhecimento internacional pelo seu trabalho e a oportunidade de ajudar na formulação da política internacional e na prática na área, bem como um prêmio no valor de US\$ 30,000 (trinta mil dólares americanos) cada. Engrandecendo o prêmio deste ano, um finalista do Prêmio Equatorial 2006 receberá um prêmio da prestigiosa campanha Rare Pride, apoiada pelo novo parceiro da Iniciativa Equatorial, Rare.

Detalhes sobre os critérios do Prêmio Equatorial, informações sobre os procedimentos de inscrição, bem como do sistema de inscrição de candidaturas, podem ser acessados por meio do website da Iniciativa Equatorial: [www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

O processo de inscrição estará aberto até 31 de outubro de 2006. O Prêmio Equatorial será concedido no princípio de 2007.

Convidamos você à disseminar amplamente este anúncio para os grupos e pessoas que atuam ativamente na conservação da biodiversidade e redução de pobreza no mundo, inscrevendo uma iniciativa qualificada da comunidade (ou se auto-inscrevendo).

Os parceiros da Iniciativa Equatorial desejam aprender - e compartilhar globalmente - as soluções inovadoras das comunidades locais ao redor do mundo. Nós agradecemos por sua contribuição neste estimulante processo.

Com meus calorosos cumprimentos,

Sean Southey  
Gerente, Iniciativa Equatorial - PNUD  
405 Lexington Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10174  
T: 212-457-1709  
[www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

### **MyCOE Constellation Grants**

The My Community, Our Earth Partnership will award Six (6) stipends of \$1,500 each to support student participation in community-based projects using geographic methods or technologies for sustainable development. Successful projects will comprise a constellation of undergraduate or graduate students, faculty, and extension personnel in land grant and/or sea grant universities to jointly conduct a set of research/outreach activities during the period between November 2006 and April 2007. Awardees will be invited to present a paper in a featured illustrated paper session at the AAG Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, April 17-21, 2007 (See [http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/SF2007/ill\\_paper.cfm](http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/SF2007/ill_paper.cfm)).  
Deadline: **October 20, 2006**

Contact: Dr. Patricia Solis, Director of Research and Outreach, Association of American Geographers, 202-234-1450 x 32, [www.aag.org](http://www.aag.org)

### **Applicants Sought for \$19 million in Watershed Grants**

Washington, D.C. - August 16, 2006. EPA plans to award up to \$19 million in grants to help clean up and restore the nation's waterways. Proposals must reach EPA by October 16, 2006, for capacity-building grants and **November 15, 2006**, for project-implementation grants. Capacity-building grants provide for education and training, whereas implementation grants involve actions such as protection and preservation.

"President Bush understands that citizen-centered programs foster innovation while accelerating restoration of watersheds through cooperative conservation and grass-roots partnerships," said Assistant Administrator for Water Benjamin H. Grumbles.

State governors and tribal leaders nominate potential recipients for implementation grants. EPA will evaluate and rank submissions based on criteria outlined in each notice. Watershed organizations receive the awards based on how likely they are to achieve environmental results in a relatively short time. Selection of the grantees will be announced in the fall.

Under the Targeted Watersheds Grant Program, EPA has awarded nearly \$40 million to 46 watershed organizations since 2003. In excess of \$2 million has gone to five watershed capacity-building organizations to further the activities of more than 3,000 local watershed groups. For this grant cycle, the focus will be on supporting community-based approaches and strengthening local capacity to protect and clean up water resources. Watersheds currently in the program cover more than 142,000 square miles of the nation's landscape draining into lakes, rivers, and streams.

Yesterday, EPA released its 2005 Targeted Watersheds Grant Annual Report. It provides examples of how grant funding helps watershed partnerships advance the goals of the Clean

Water Act through sound watershed plans. Comprised of informative fact sheets and colorful maps, the report highlights 34 community efforts to reach measurable clean-water goals. The report also includes summaries of grantees focused on capacity-building efforts.

More information: Targeted Watershed Grants: <http://www.epa.gov/twg>

Grant process: <http://www.grants.gov>

2005 Annual Report: <http://www.epa.gov/twg/2005annualreport>

Contacts: Carol Peterson (202) 566-1304, [peterson.carol@epa.gov](mailto:peterson.carol@epa.gov)

### **UK aid agency doubles funding for scientific research**

The UK government's overseas aid agency has pledged to double its funding for science and technology research by 2010, with a focus on achieving progress towards the UN Millennium Development Goals. In particular, the Department for International Development will commit more funding for research into better drugs for diseases common in poor countries and new technologies for water treatment, agriculture and adapting to climate change.

<http://www.scidev.net/News/index.cfm?fuseaction=readNews&itemid=2983&language=1>

### **ACP-EC Energy Facility**

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/energy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/energy/index_en.htm)

On 24th June 2005, the ACP-EU Council approved the creation of an Energy Facility with a total fund amount of EUR 220,000,000. With the unanimous support of the European Development Fund (EDF) Committee, expressed in its meeting of 28 April 2006, the European Commission approved on the 2nd of June the 220 M€ ACP-EC Energy Facility.

The lion's share of the funds (EUR 198 million) has been allocated to a Call for Proposals which will launch on: 19th June 2006. To download the application forms (The Guidelines) and to obtain current information concerning the call, please visit the page on this website: Call for Proposals.

Outside the call, an amount of EUR 10 million has been allocated in support of the forthcoming EU-AFRICA PARTNERSHIP ON INFRASTRUCTURE.

For general news about the Facility and to download the newsletters available on this website, please visit the page News.

The Facility will be available to all eligible ACP countries but access to the funds will be competitive and demand driven. Grants will be offered to co-fund energy-related projects located in ACP countries which would help alleviate poverty in those countries.

All financial commitments must be completed before 31 December 2007, the date of expiry of the current European Development Fund (EDF9).

### **Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS for CLEAN ENERGY INVESTMENT FUNDS**

The European Commission has committed EUR 80 million to the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund ("GEEREF" or "the Fund"). Triodos Investment Management in conjunction with E Co, are appointed to structure and financially close the fund and build an investment pipeline.



Triodos and E CO are now looking to receive proposals from fund management companies, financial institutions, project developers or individuals that intend to develop a clean energy investment fund or intend to expand an existing fund into the clean energy sector. Developers of clean energy projects in one or more countries are also invited to propose their plans as a basis for a clean energy investment fund. Proposals are expected to meet the following indicative criteria:

- Financially sustainable business plan generating a fair return for investors
- Specified environmental and socio-economic impacts
- Focus on small and medium sized clean energy projects (< 30MW) and companies
- Requiring long term patient investment capital
- Locally grounded, professional fund management team, preferable with a track record in the clean energy sector, or at least the capacity to become qualified or to liaise with other parties for that purpose
- Realistic pipeline that gives evidence of the viability of the business plan.

GEEREF expects to make its first commitment by July 2007. Prior to the financial closing, the Fund may provide technical and financial support to potential fund managers to develop regional funds.

Please contact: Triodos Investment Management, Bas Rekveld, [bas.rekveld@triodos.nl](mailto:bas.rekveld@triodos.nl), [www.triodos.nl](http://www.triodos.nl) or E Co (Europe), Paul van Aalst, [paul.van-aalst@EandCo.net](mailto:paul.van-aalst@EandCo.net), [www.EandCo.net](http://www.EandCo.net)

**US Agency for International Development (USAID) (Kenya USAID-Nairobi)**  
Teacher Education and Professional Development Program Modification 1  
<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=11663>

### **5<sup>th</sup> International Congress of ESSC**

Grants for 5 young scientists working in Europe to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> International Congress of ESSC in Palermo, Italy, June 25-30, 2007 ([www.esscpalermocongress.it](http://www.esscpalermocongress.it))

The ESSC provides 5 grants of Euro 1,000 each to 5 young researchers (less than 35 years old) that work in a European country. The grants will support their participation to the congress.

To apply for a grant, it is necessary to fill in the following [grant application form](#) and send it by e-mail to the President of the Organizing Committee ([dazzi@unipa.it](mailto:dazzi@unipa.it)) no later than **January 31, 2007** together with:

1. An extended abstract of the paper that the applicant wishes to present to the congress (four pages with Introduction; Material and Methods; Results; Conclusions; Keywords);
2. A short curriculum vitae of the applicant;
3. A letter of presentation from the Institution/Department of the applicant.

An ad hoc ESSC Commission will evaluate the grants requests. Applicants for grants will be notified of the Commission's decision by February 20, 2007.

## 2007 National Wetlands Awards

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nomination forms for the 2007 National Wetlands Awards Program are now available. The National Wetlands Awards Program honors individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the conservation and restoration of our nation's wetlands. The deadline for submitting nominations for the 2007 Awards program is **December 15, 2006**.

The 2007 National Wetlands Awards Program will honor individual achievement in six categories: Education and Outreach, Science Research, Conservation and Restoration, Landowner Stewardship, State, Tribal and Local Program Development, and Wetland Community Leader. Organizations and federal employees are not eligible. Awardees will be recognized at a Capitol Hill ceremony in May 2007.

The Washington, DC-based Environmental Law Institute has presented the National Wetlands Awards since 1989. The Awards program recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional effort, innovation, and excellence in wetlands conservation at the regional, state, or local level. Past Award recipients share a dedication to protecting the nation's remaining wetlands; educating citizens, students, and agencies about the value of wetlands; and working with a diverse array of organizations and interests to advance wetland protection. To learn more about previous Award winners please visit [www.nationalwetlandsawards.org](http://www.nationalwetlandsawards.org).

The National Wetlands Awards Program is directed and managed by the Environmental Law Institute, and enjoys the sponsorship of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Federal Highway Administration. A committee of wetland experts representing federal and state agencies, academia, conservation groups, and private sector organizations selects the Award winners.

For a copy of the 2007 National Wetlands Awards nomination form, visit the National Wetlands Awards website at [www.nationalwetlandsawards.org](http://www.nationalwetlandsawards.org). For more information on the program, contact Jared Thompson at (202) 939-3247 or e-mail [wetlandsawards@eli.org](mailto:wetlandsawards@eli.org). You may also write to the National Wetlands Awards Program, Environmental Law Institute, 2000 L Street, NW, Suite 620, Washington, DC 20036.

*ELI is an independent, non profit research and educational organization based in Washington, D.C. The Institute serves the environmental profession in business, government, the private bar, public interest organizations, academia, and the press.*

Contact Info: Jared Thompson, [wetlandsawards@eli.org](mailto:wetlandsawards@eli.org), Tel: +1-202-939-3247

Website: [Environmental Law Institute - National Wetlands Awards](http://EnvironmentalLawInstitute-NationalWetlandsAwards)

## **The Lemelson-MIT Awards for Invention and Innovation**

<http://web.mit.edu/invent/a-main.html>

The Lemelson-MIT Awards honor both established and rising inventors for their ingenuity, creativity and contribution to invention and innovation. The awards recognize the profound impact that inventors can have on economic and social well-being. The awards include the following:

**The \$500,000 Lemelson-MIT Prize** honors outstanding mid-career inventors dedicated to improving our world through technological invention and innovation.

**The \$100,000 Lemelson-MIT Award for Sustainability** recognizes and supports inventors working to safeguard the well-being of our communities and planet. The Lemelson-MIT Award for Sustainability has replaced the \$100,000 Lemelson-MIT Lifetime Achievement Award, which was presented by the Lemelson-MIT Program from 1995-2006. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognized outstanding individuals whose pioneering spirit and inventiveness throughout their careers have improved our society and inspired others.

**The \$30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize** honors promising young inventors studying at MIT. The Lemelson-MIT Program additionally funds the [\\$30,000 Lemelson-Rensselaer Student Prize](#) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the [\\$30,000 Lemelson-Illinois Student Prize](#) at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Modeling the Lemelson-MIT Program's Student Prize competition, each prize is administered by its respective school and recognizes outstanding students who demonstrate remarkable inventiveness.

**Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams** are grants that support a non-competitive, team-based approach to foster inventiveness among high school students. This initiative evolved from the Program's High School Invention Apprenticeship, granted annually from 1998 through 2002. Bestowed annually, the Lemelson-MIT Awards were first presented in 1995. They are part of a comprehensive program administered by the Lemelson-MIT Program and established by The Lemelson Foundation to raise the stature of inventors and to inspire invention among young people. Find out about previous recipients at our [Winners Circle](#).

### **Apply for a Rolex Award**

Do you have a project that advances human knowledge and well-being?

Rolex could help you make it happen.

For 30 years, the Rolex Awards for Enterprise have provided financial support and global recognition to visionary, dedicated individuals whose ongoing working projects

- expand our knowledge of the world
- improve the quality of life on the planet
- enhance the human condition

Anyone - of any age, nationality or educational background - can apply. Winners have come from every corner of the globe and have ranged from an engineer in Senegal to a taxi driver in Paris and a palaeontologist in Canada.



What's crucial is that your project is innovative, feasible and - above all - demonstrates a spirit of enterprise. Since the biennial Rolex Awards were founded in 1976, 60 Laureates have been selected and dozens of other individuals have been honoured.

**Please note that if you live in Asia, the Pacific or North, Central and South America, the deadline is May 31, 2007.**

**If you live in Europe, the Middle East or Africa, the deadline is September 30, 2007.**

[Click here](#) for further details and/or an application form.

#### DISCOVER THE 2004 LAUREATES



Get a clearer understanding of the ground-breaking projects Rolex supports: [read about the winners of the last series.](#)

PS - If you know someone who might be interested in applying for a Rolex Award, please forward this message to him or her.

And learn about Laureates for 2006 Rolex Awards announce on October 2006 by clicking <http://www.rolexawards.com/laureates/laureates-2006/index.html>

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More information: Targeted Watershed Grants: <http://www.epa.gov/twg>  
Grant process: <http://www.grants.gov>  
2005 Annual Report: <http://www.epa.gov/twg/2005annualreport>  
Contacts: Carol Peterson (202) 566-1304, [peterson.carol@epa.gov](mailto:peterson.carol@epa.gov)

### **Google Grants Program Provides In-Kind Advertising Services to Nonprofits**

Deadline: **Open**

The Google Grants program supports organizations that share the company's philosophy of community service worldwide in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy, and the arts.

Designed for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, Google Grants is a unique in-kind advertising program that harnesses the power of Google's flagship advertising product, Google AdWords, to non-profits seeking to inform and engage their constituents online.

Google Grants has awarded AdWords advertising to hundreds of nonprofit groups whose missions range from animal welfare to literacy, from supporting homeless children to promoting HIV education.

Google Grant recipients use their award of free AdWords advertising on Google.com to raise awareness and increase traffic. Each organization awarded a Google Grant receives at least three months of in-kind advertising.

In the United States, applicant organizations must have current 501(c)(3) status as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service to be considered for a Google Grant. Outside the United States, Google is currently accepting applications from eligible charitable organizations based in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Google Grants recipients are selected every quarter. Visit the program's Web site for complete program information, application procedures, and an FAQ.

RFP Link: <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10003588/google>

### **Forestry Funding News Alert #10, June 2006**

Welcome to the June issue of our forestry funding news alert. This electronic newsletter is compiled by the FAO Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) team. It is a compilation of news related to forestry funding for fund seekers worldwide. All back issues of the newsletter can be found on the CPF Sourcebook's discussion platform at

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/community/main/listthreads?forum=1>.

### **USAID (US Agency for International Development)**

Promoting Transformation: Linking Natural Resources, Economic Growth, and Governance Grant, <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=10083>

### **Echoing Green**

A Funding Resource, <http://www.echoinggreen.org/>

Launched in 1987, Echoing Green's mission is to spark social change by identifying, investing and supporting the world's most exceptional emerging leaders and the organizations they launch. Through a two-year fellowship program, we help our network of visionaries develop new solutions to society's most difficult problems. These social entrepreneurs and their organizations work to close deeply-rooted social, economic and political inequities to ensure equal access and to help all individuals reach his/her potential. To date, Echoing Green has invested nearly \$25 million in seed and start up grants to over 400 social entrepreneurs and their innovative organizations.

### **Watson International Scholars of the Environment Program**

The Watson Scholars program brings environmental leaders from university faculties, governments, and nongovernmental organizations throughout the developing world to Brown University for advanced training in land-change sciences and policies, providing them with tools to enhance the sustainable development capacity in their countries.

The program offers an intensive program in sustainable land-use science to provide mastery of critical concepts, relevant tools, and transferable processes necessary for successfully managing land and ecosystems. Supported by a \$550,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation <<http://hluce.org/>>, the program offers Scholars time away from their daily responsibilities to learn new skills with a community of scholars applying both theoretical and practice approaches to real world environmental issues. Full time for three and a half months, participants are involved in courses, workshops, field trips, symposia, mentorship, professional networking, and research projects.



The Watson International Scholars of the Environment are active participants, not passive students. Instruction focuses upon relevant case studies of land-use patterns, and successful and unsuccessful approaches to maintaining delivery of ecosystem goods and services from throughout the world.

The opportunity for participants entails increased levels of effectiveness, informing sound decision-making by enhancing abilities to rapidly integrate data from across disciplines. Investment in these leaders is strategic: participants are men and women capable of creating lasting and immediately favorable impacts on the sustainable development of their home institutions, eco-regions, and nations. Accordingly, participants are expected to be at a mid-point within their careers in environmental science, policy, and technology fields.

The program seeks individuals who want to forge new linkages among ideas and issues, to develop networks among leaders facing similar land-use issues, and to explore alliances with relevant colleagues and institutions for improved personal and institutional effectiveness in meeting the needs of humanity.

Please view the website to learn more: [http://www.watsoninstitute.org/ge/watson\\_scholars/](http://www.watsoninstitute.org/ge/watson_scholars/)

The application deadline is **15 October 2006**. (This info is just FYI since the deadline has already passed. But you can still try!)

#### **2007-2008 Kathryn Fuller Fellowship competition of the World Wildlife Fund**

Two post-doctoral fellowships will be awarded for a two year period to individuals with outstanding research proposals that are of fundamental and immediate importance to global biodiversity conservation. Fuller Fellows can be based at any institution, including at World Wildlife Fund, and will be co-advised by one academic and one WWF mentor.

Fellows are provided a stipend of \$50,000 per year, as well as a \$15,000 annual research allowance.

Applicants should have received a doctorate degree between January 2002 and January 2007. The deadline for applications is **November 15, 2006**.

Offers will be made in the spring of 2007, with fellowships to begin in the fall of 2007.

For more information, application guidelines, and on-line application forms, please visit [www.worldwildlife.org/sfn](http://www.worldwildlife.org/sfn), or contact: Tel: 1-202-778-9742, [fuller.fellowship@wwfus.org](mailto:fuller.fellowship@wwfus.org)

Fellowship available for 2007-2008 Academic Year  
Master's/Professional Fellowship \$18,000  
Doctorate Fellowship \$20,000  
Postdoctoral Fellowship \$30,000

Applications available\* Aug. 1-Dec. 1, 2006  
Application deadline\* December 1, 2006  
Fellowship year July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008

\* All supporting documents must also be postmarked by this date. If an application postmark deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, supporting documents may be postmarked the next business day.

**International Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research to women who are not United States citizens or permanent residents.**

Both graduate and postgraduate study at accredited institutions are supported. (For support at the undergraduate level, visit [www.isep.org](http://www.isep.org).)

Six of the awards are available to members of International Federation of University Women affiliate organizations. These fellowship recipients may study in any country other than their own.

The Foundation also awards several annual Home Country Project Grants (\$5,000 to \$7,000 each) to women who received AAUW Educational Foundation International Fellowships between 2001 and 2006. These grants support community-based projects designed to improve the lives of women and girls in the fellow's home country. <http://www.aauw.org>

Five (5) PhD positions in any topics related to Agriculture, Food and Environment are available at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa. Three (3) positions are for EU citizens and two (2) for non-EU citizens. Applications must be submitted online before **31 October 2006**. Further information can be accessed at:

[http://www.sssup.it/sssup/jsp/section.jsp?sec\\_id1=503&sec\\_id2=79588&lang=it#](http://www.sssup.it/sssup/jsp/section.jsp?sec_id1=503&sec_id2=79588&lang=it#)

Paolo Barberi, [barberi@sssup.it](mailto:barberi@sssup.it), <http://mail.sssup.it/~barberi/index.htm>, [www.ewrs.org](http://www.ewrs.org)

**Nobel Peace Prize given to Muhammad Yunus**



**Congratulations!!**

The Schwab Foundation salutes Muhammad Yunus, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize 2006 Geneva, 13 October 2006 “The Schwab Foundation sends its congratulations to its longstanding Board Member Muhammad Yunus (born June 28, 1940) and to the Grameen Bank for winning the Nobel Peace Prize 2006. Professor Yunus has been instrumental in developing and spreading the message that the poor are credit-worthy. Microfinance has become a powerful tool, lifting millions above the poverty line. Muhammad Yunus is a stellar example of a social entrepreneur, combining innovation and a relentless spirit to fight for the poor and make a difference.

Professor Klaus Schwab, Founder of the World Economic Forum and the Schwab Foundation said, “We are thrilled and proud that Muhammad Yunus and his pioneering colleagues at the Grameen Bank have been recognized by the Norwegian Nobel Committee as recipients of this year's Nobel Peace Prize. We have been privileged to have Professor Yunus on the Schwab Foundation's Board since its inception, and his contributions to advancing the concept and practice of social entrepreneurship have been instrumental to its development.



The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship was started by Klaus Schwab, Founder of the World Economic Forum, and his wife, Hilde in 2000, the Foundation has been

searching for the world's leading social entrepreneurs, who implement innovative and pragmatic solutions to social problems by tackling the root causes and creating a social transformation. The current network of the Foundation spans 105 social entrepreneurs and their organizations from more than 40 countries.

Further information on the social entrepreneurs can be found at <http://www.schwabfound.org>.

## FELLOWSHIPS

### **Short Course on Research Methods in Ethnoecology**

The Global Diversity Foundation (GDF), with funding from the Christensen Fund (TCF), will sponsor the participation of 3 developing country colleagues in the National Science Foundation supported Short Course on Research Methods in Ethnoecology from **30 July-3 August 2007**. Information on the course is available on [www.qualquant.net/training/scrm.htm#ethno](http://www.qualquant.net/training/scrm.htm#ethno).

The travel grants will cover roundtrip travel to Beaufort, North Carolina, accommodation, meals, local transportation, course fees and a book and software allowance.

Colleagues who hold a Ph.D. in social or natural sciences and can demonstrate fluency in English may apply. Preference will be given to faculty members at colleges and universities who are engaged in teaching and research on biocultural diversity. Members of indigenous groups are especially encouraged to apply. Candidates from TCF and GDF focal regions (see below) will be given priority.

Interested candidates are requested to follow the instructions on [www.qualquant.net/training/scrm.htm#app](http://www.qualquant.net/training/scrm.htm#app). The deadline for application is **15 February 2007**.

More information on the Global Diversity Foundation and its focal regions (Mesoamerica, North Africa, Southeast Asia and Southern Africa) is available on [www.globaldiversity.org.uk](http://www.globaldiversity.org.uk). Consult [www.christensenfund.org](http://www.christensenfund.org) for an overview of the Christensen Fund, including its priority areas: Turkey, Iran and Central Asia; Northern Australia and Melanesia; Greater American Southwest and the African Rift Valley.

Enquiries may be directed to Gary J. Martin ([gary@globaldiversity.org.uk](mailto:gary@globaldiversity.org.uk)) or Rick Stepp ([stepp@ufl.edu](mailto:stepp@ufl.edu)).

### **Young soil scientists wanted**

ICSU is celebrating its 75 years and organizes a conference: "Global Scientific Challenges: Perspectives from Young Scientists", that will be held in April 2007 in Germany. This conference will bring together approximately two hundred young scientists from across the world, and from different disciplines, to discuss and debate some of the key challenges for science in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Participants should ideally be under 35 years old (with an absolute age limit of 40 years). Participants should have a PhD or MSc or have completed at least 2 years of post-graduate research studies. For more information click [here](#).

Please contact the Secretary General, Stephen Nortcliff, for further information. [s.nortcliff@reading.ac.uk](mailto:s.nortcliff@reading.ac.uk)

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## **COURSES**

**MSc Course in Mountain Conservation and Watershed Management, Lahore, Pakistan**  
University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan

We are going to launch a very first MSc program in the field of "MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION & WATERSHED MANAGEMENT" in the coming academic session 2006-2008. This course is a valuable contribution towards the development of mountains in the world. I hope that you will circulate this news to all the members immediately so that they can also give some suggestions to achieve the Course Objectives.

This two-year MSc degree is composed of two semesters of core course components, third semester including an optional component and fourth semester a 15,000-word dissertation. The mode of teaching will be a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, computer laboratory classes and field-based exercises. The cores and optional components are as follows, emphasis is placed throughout the teaching on cross-disciplinary aspects between components.

### **Scheme of Studies:**

The program is divided into four Semesters and a number of modules. The MSc requires about 67 Credits Hours (CH) in duration of two years.

## First Year

SEMESTER 1	Credits
MCWM 1101 Mountain Climate	(C) 2+0
MCWM 1102 Geomorphology of Pakistan	(C) 2+0
MCWM 1103 Soil and Water Conservation	(AC) 2+1
MCWM 1104 Ecology and Biodiversity	(C) 2+1
MCWM 1105 Mountain Environments	(C) 3+0
MCWM 1106 Hydrology of Uplands	(C) 2+1
Sub. Total	16

SEMESTER 2	Credits
MCWM 1201 Mountain Hazards & Disaster Management	(C) 2+1
MCWM 1202 Database Management Information System & Applications of Remote Sensing and GIS	(AC) 2+2
MCWM 1203 Water Resources of Pakistan	(C) 2+0
MCWM 1204 Forestry	(C) 2+1
MCWM 1205 Integrated Watershed Management	(C) 3+1
Sub. Total	16

## Second Year

SEMESTER 3	Credits
MCWM 2301 Environmental Impact Assessment	(C) 3+0
MCWM 2302 Research Methods and Techniques	(C) 2+1
MCWM 2303 Eco Tourism	(AC) 2+2
MCWM 2304 Optional 1	(O) 2+1
MCWM 2305 Research Project 1	(C) 5
Sub. Total	18

SEMESTER 4	Credits
MCWM 2401 Optional 2	(O) 2+1
MCWM 2402 Research Project 2	(C) 13
MCWM 2403 Research Seminar	(C) 1
Sub. Total	17

Total credit hours (16+ 16+ 18+ 17) 67

### Optional Courses

Following optional courses will be offered, subject to availability of expert and selection by a group of minimum 5 students. It can be selected from the following list that is frequently updated according to the needs of the faculty, students and industry:

1. Sustainable Development
2. Water logging & Salinity
3. Mountain Tourism
4. Glaciology Snow & Ice
5. Health, Safety and Environmental Management
6. Natural Resources Management

7. Advanced Research Techniques
8. Advanced Remote Sensing and GIS for Project Planning & Development
9. Mountaineering
10. Quality Assurance for Environmental Management in Mountains

Contact: Khalida Khan, Director, Center for Integrated Mountain Research, University of the Punjab, New Campus, Lahore, Pakistan. Phone: 0092-42-9230587; Fax: 0092-42-9230587; [cimrpu@yahoo.com](mailto:cimrpu@yahoo.com)

### **2-24 April 2007, Regional training Course**

Low Cost Soil and Water Conservation Techniques and Watershed Management Activities

#### **Rationale:**

Mountain watersheds serve many ecological and hydrological functions vital to existence. They provide critical habitat for many plant and animal species, transport paths for sediment, nutrients, minerals, and water to human communities for drinking, cleaning, recreation, hydroelectric power, and industry.

Experience in the Himalayan region demonstrates how the application of simple, low cost soil and water conservation measures and techniques can address the problem of biophysical vulnerability in the resource constrained environment of mountain watersheds and arrest land degradation. Building the capacity of field-level technicians in participatory implementation of low cost, simple soil and water conservation techniques and watershed management activities has thus become essential in better managing soil and water resources in mountain watersheds.

This training package is based on experiences from this mountain region and elsewhere and includes tried and tested measures and techniques specifically attuned to middle mountain conditions.

#### **Course Objectives**

The training course aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of participants on low cost soil and water conservation techniques and watershed management activities. Specifically, the course aims to familiarise the participants with different low cost soil and water conservation techniques and watershed management activities, both theory and practice. In addition, the course aims to enable the participants to identify conditions of land degradation and appropriate soil and water conservation techniques and watershed management activities applicable to the participants' contexts; and to analyse and design conservation measures within their work or area contexts.

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- understand different low cost soil and water conservation techniques and options and their importance
- carry out basic land degradation assessment and identify, design, and implement appropriate soil and water conservation measures to address them
- identify ways to improve the participants' current soil conservation practices



## **Content Areas**

- Introduction to Integrated Watershed Management and Low Cost Soil Conservation
- Low Cost Soil Conservation Techniques
- Watershed Management Activities
- Strategies to Promote and Up-scale Low Cost Soil Conservation Techniques

## **Training Methodologies**

The participatory training approach will be applied throughout the course. Classroom lectures will be complemented by field and practical exercises, a field visit and demonstration, and action planning based on the participant's areas or field of work.

## **Who should attend the training**

Field-level technicians and extension workers working with the government, or with international and local non-government organisations (INGOs and NGOs), in the areas of natural resource management, especially soil conservation and watershed management

## **Course Pre-requisites**

- Participants must preferably come from a technical background (Agriculture, Forestry, Civil Engineering, others) related to soil conservation and watershed management (Minimum education attained: two years of College or an Intermediate or Certificate level course or its equivalent)
- Can understand and speak English, which is the medium of instruction of the course
- Minimum of 2-3 years working experience preferred. Experience in conducting engineering surveys is an advantage. Women participants are highly encouraged.

**To be more effective, we target to have 15-20 participants only. Please apply as soon as possible!**

**Where:** Training will be conducted in Godavari, Kathmandu, Nepal

**When:** 2-24 April 2007

## **Cost**

The training fee is US\$1,800 per person. This cost includes tuition fee, food, lodging (shared double occupancy), and course materials. Single room accommodation may be provided for an additional fee of US\$10 per day. The cost excludes travel costs from place of origin, DSA (daily subsistence allowance), laundry and other personal expenses (we suggest a minimum pocket allowance of \$20 per day for incidental and personal expenses). Applicants are encouraged to secure financial support from their organisations or from donor agencies.

## **Trainers/ Institute Profile**

Experienced professionals from ICIMOD and partners engaged in soil and water conservation, and watershed and disaster management

Training is coordinated by the Natural Resource Management Programme of ICIMOD ([www.icimod.org](http://www.icimod.org)), which is an international, independent mountain learning and knowledge centre committed to improving the sustainable livelihoods of mountain peoples in the extended Himalayan region.

## Remarks

This training course involves intensive field and practical exercises and participants may have to devote time apart from the mentioned sessions. For more information and to request for an application form please contact: Keshar Man Sthapit - Training Coordinator. Please email: [wsmtraining@icimod.org](mailto:wsmtraining@icimod.org), Deadline for application: **1 March 2007**



**INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN  
DEVELOPMENT**

## Application Form for ICIMOD Training Courses

Training title/date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact Details

Mr/Ms/Dr First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: M / F Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Project/Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax no: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating Official: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Funding source: \_\_\_\_\_

Kindly answer the following questions in not more than 5 sentences. Thank you.

1. What are your current work activities and responsibilities?
2. What are your expectations from the training course?
3. How is the training course relevant to your work?
4. How will you apply the results after you return to work?
5. Educational Background (Degree/Institution/Year):
6. Other related trainings you have participated in:
7. How did you hear about the training course?

Please return the completed form to: [wsmtraining@icimod.org](mailto:wsmtraining@icimod.org)

## **Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program**

University of California, Berkeley

2007 Summer Certificate Course: Sustainable Environmental Management **June 22-July 14, 2007**

We are seeking applicants for the 2007 summer certificate course in Sustainable Environmental Management at the University of California, Berkeley. The 2007 summer course brochure and application in MS Word and as a pdf may be downloaded from the web site Welcome Page, see Quick Links: <http://nature.berkeley.edu/BeahrsELP>. Applications must be received no later than **February 1, 2007**

The Beahrs ELP (ELP) links the complex local and global environmental challenges of practitioners and decision-makers around the world with state-of-the-art knowledge and interdisciplinary perspectives in environmental and natural resource science, policy and leadership at U.C. Berkeley. The core component of the ELP is an annual three-week summer course in Sustainable Environmental Management held on the Berkeley campus. Course graduates become members of the Berkeley ELP Alumni Network that supports on-going learning, peer exchange and collaborative research and policy projects through the Small Grants Initiative.

Each summer 35-40 mid-career environment and sustainable development professionals participate from academia, government, NGOs and the private sector. A limited number of partial scholarships are available. There are no full scholarships. Application review begins January 1 and applications must be received no later than February 1, 2007 . Please contact Program Representative, Leslie Correll, or Program Co-directors, Robin Marsh and David Zilberman, for more information: [BeahrsELP@nature.berkeley.edu](mailto:BeahrsELP@nature.berkeley.edu). Please forward this email to share this information with others who may be interested.

Robin Marsh & David Zilberman

Co-Directors, Beahrs ELP

Leslie Correll

Program Representative, Beahrs ELP

Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program <http://cnr.berkeley.edu/beahrselp>

CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

College of Natural Resources, 4 Giannini Hall #3100

University of California Berkeley, CA USA 94720-3100

Tel. 510-643-4200 Fax 510-643-4483

## **JOBS**

### **Director, Program on Markets for Ecoagriculture Products and Services ECOAGRICULTURE PARTNERS**

Ecoagriculture Partners ([www.ecoagriculturepartners.org](http://www.ecoagriculturepartners.org)) is a small, rapidly-growing international non-profit organization working to facilitate landscape management approaches that simultaneously enhance agricultural production, support rural livelihoods and conserve ecosystem services. EP seeks a ¾ to full-time Director for our new program on Markets for Ecoagriculture Products and Services, to join our committed team by **July 1, 2007 or earliest available**. The Director of the Markets Program will:

- Build and lead EP's program on Markets (both products and ecosystem services),
- Support market analysis and development in selected ecoagriculture landscapes, initially in Mesoamerica and East Africa;
- Promote exchange of market models and innovations among ecoagriculture innovators;
- Engage in international dialogues on ecoagriculture-related market issues;
- Support adaptation of product and ecosystem service market assessment methods to achieve joint income and conservation goals in ecoagriculture landscapes;
- Develop and maintain excellent collaborative relationships with key partners in private, public and community sectors.

**Required:**

- At least five years of relevant experience supporting market development and analysis, particularly in developing countries;
- Experience working with the private sector and with farmer or community conservation organizations;
- Demonstrated commitment to, and achievements in, promoting market initiatives that achieve both conservation and agricultural livelihood benefits;
- Masters' degree in relevant field;
- Strong skills in team-building and participatory processes;
- Excellent English writing and communication skills.

**Desirable:**

- Market-related experience in Latin America or Africa;
- Fluency in reading and speaking Spanish;
- Experience and competence in working in diverse, cross-cultural teams;
- expertise in analysis of markets.

**Salary and benefits:**

- Competitive salary, depending upon experience;
- Health and retirement benefits, life and disability insurance, 20 days vacation, holidays, re-location support
- Initial 3-year position, renewable
- Location of posting negotiable.

Please send your C.V., a cover letter indicating your background and experience, and names and contact information for three references in an email with subject line 'Director, Markets Program' by **January 31, 2007** to Seth Shames, 1050 Potomac Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007, USA. Tel: 202-298-3004; Fax: 202-298-3014, [sshames@ecoagriculturepartners.org](mailto:sshames@ecoagriculturepartners.org), [www.ecoagriculturepartners.org](http://www.ecoagriculturepartners.org)

## Vacancies

ITC in the Netherlands currently has 2 Professor positions available in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Geoinformation Management. Details are attached for you information and circulation to potentially qualified and interested candidates.

[http://www.itc.nl/about\\_itc/organisation/science\\_departments/pgm.asp](http://www.itc.nl/about_itc/organisation/science_departments/pgm.asp)

Contact: Dr. Richard Sliuzas ([sliuzas@itc.nl](mailto:sliuzas@itc.nl))

Urban and Regional Planning and Geo-Information Management  
International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC)  
Hengelosestraat 99, PO Box 6, 7500 AA Enschede, The Netherlands  
Tel: +31-53-4874236/ 4874532; Fax: +31-53-4874575

## EXPOSITIONS

### Eco Expo Asia

<http://www.ecoexpoasia.com/>  
**27-30 October, 2006**



### Virtual Knowledge Fair on Water



[United Nations Development Programme](http://www.un.org/development/dp/)

[WELCOME to the Virtual Knowledge Fair on Water](http://www.waterfair.org)

The Fair is now open! Please proceed to [www.waterfair.org](http://www.waterfair.org), where you will find access to the various exhibits (videos, experience write-ups, pictures and materials), background information on countries and water-related topics, a Who's-Who about water-practitioners in the regions, photo gallery, a quiz and much more!

### Royal Flora Ratchaphruek 2006



International Horticultural Exposition for His Majesty the King. On a total area of 75 ha at the Royal Agricultural Research Center, Chiang Mai, Thailand, **1 November 2006 – 31 January 2007**

Information in <http://www.royalfloraexpo.com/> (Almost 2 million people have visited)

## PHOTO CONTEST



### IECA's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Photo Contest

IECA's Annual Photo Contest is an opportunity to gain visibility and share your accomplishments with the erosion and sediment control community. Entries will be displayed on our website and also laminated and enlarged to 11"x17" to be showcased at the annual conference in Reno, Nevada. Voting will take place at EC07. Ribbons will be awarded at the conference. This year's contest is FREE—so send in those pictures!

#### Rules and Guidelines

1. Entries are due on or before **December 31, 2006**.
2. Photos must be submitted electronically on CD or disk.
3. Photo resolution must be 300 or higher. The higher the resolution, the better your image will appear.
4. Photos will be accepted only in .tif, .gif or bitmap formats.
5. You must include a brief description for each submittal. See the entry form for details.
6. Entries will be screened for eligibility. IECA has the right of refusal.

We are looking for high quality photos. This means your photo(s) should be sharp, well-focused with proper lighting. Photos that are out of focus, too dark, too light, grainy or otherwise unclear will not be competitive. We are also looking for photos that tell an obvious story. If we cannot tell what's going on in your photo, it will not be a contender!

#### Categories and Judging Criteria

Before and After (*submit two photos for each entry in this category one before and one after*)

Photo alignment - are the photos taken from exactly the same place?

How much change is shown - how dramatic is the After photo compared to the Before photo?

#### Impacts of Erosion and Sediment

Degree of environmental impact - what is the effect on water or air quality?

Degree of social impact - what is the effect on property, human life, infrastructure?

#### Technology in Action

Identification of Technology - is it obvious what technology is being used?

Degree of Action - does the photo show a process or merely a completed installation?

#### Erosion Control Bloopers

#### Recognition

All accepted submitted photos will be recognized at EC07 – IECA's Annual Conference and Expo in Reno, Nevada. These photos will be posted on the IECA website and may be featured in *EROSION CONTROL* magazine, *News to Use*, Association promotional material and educational events.





### **Photo Contest Entry Form**

Please provide the following information for each submission. Please copy this form for additional entries.

**Category** (Please choose one. Use a separate form for additional submissions):

- Before and After (2 photos per submission)
- Impacts of Erosion
- Technology in Action
- Erosion Control Bloopers

**Name of Photographer:**

**Location of Photo(s):**

**Date and Year Photo(s) was Taken:**

**Brief Description (25 words or less—non product specific please):**

**Submitted By:**

**Name:**

**Company:**

**Mailing Address:**

**City: State/Province: Zip/Postal Code:**

**Phone: Email:**

**Photo Release Agreement:**

I understand that each photo submission becomes the property of IECA. IECA may use photo submissions in promotional materials, association publications, and on the IECA website.

I understand that the submitted photo and the enlarged, laminated photo(s) are the property of IECA and will not be given to the submitter. These photos may be displayed by IECA, its Chapters and/or partnering organizations at educational and trade events.

I confirm that I have the authority to release this photo on behalf of the photographer.

**Submitter's Signature:**

**Date:**

Send Photo Submittals to: IECA, 3001 S. Lincoln Ave, Ste A, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487, USA. If you have questions, please contact Kate at [kate@ieca.org](mailto:kate@ieca.org) or call 970-879-3010 x 15.

### **AN URGENT REQUEST FROM ALTERRA, WAGENINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS**

Dear colleagues,

Early 2006, the Coordination Action ASEM<sup>1</sup> WaterNet started to promote science and technology co-operation between Europe and Asia on water resources management. ASEM WaterNet focuses on five main issues: river basin management, water use efficiency in agriculture, erosion and floods, pollution, and governance. (For more info, visit [http://www.asemwaternet.re.kr/asem/asem\\_01.asp](http://www.asemwaternet.re.kr/asem/asem_01.asp)).

Within ASEM WaterNet, one work package is devoted to erosion and (flash) flooding. The goals of this work package are to create a database of past and ongoing research projects related to erosion and (flash) flooding in Asia, publish this database in a review paper, create an overview of best practices and determine possible knowledge gaps.

We would like to ask your help in filling the database with relevant projects. Please, fill in the survey below and return it before 10 November. If possible, also enclose a project summary. All returned projects will be used and acknowledged in a review paper in an international peer-reviewed journal.

The completed survey can be returned preferably by email ([jannes.stolte@wur.nl](mailto:jannes.stolte@wur.nl)), but also by fax (J. Stolte, +31 317 419 000) or regular mail (Alterra, Wageningen UR, J. Stolte, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands). Deadline: **10 November 2006**.

For questions or more information, contact Jannes Stolte ([jannes.stolte@wur.nl](mailto:jannes.stolte@wur.nl), before 10 November) or Cathelijne Stoof ([cathelijne.stoof@wur.nl](mailto:cathelijne.stoof@wur.nl), after 10 November).

We would be delighted if you could forward this document to partners or institutes with relevant projects.

Cathelijne Stoof, Jannes Stolte, Christy van Beek and Coen Ritsema (Alterra, Wageningen UR, The Netherlands)

Catherine Freissinet (SOGREAH, France), Huang Jinchi (CDR, China)

1 ASEM = ASia Europe Meeting. Participating countries: Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Thailand, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Vietnam, and the European Commission.

## **THE DATES**

**World Habitat Day – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of October of each year**

**World Food Day – October 16 of each year**

Advertisement

**Continuous Flow Monitoring**  
Adapting high resolution current profiling into a practical flow monitoring device

- Irrigation
- Pipes and Culverts
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- Water Level and Velocity
- Depths from 0.3 to 5.0 meters
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Argonaut-SW  
25 cm (9.7") long

**SonTek** Acoustic Doppler Instruments  
for Water Velocity and Level Measurement

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Sontek/YSI will celebrate 15 years in San Diego and move to “Center of Excellence” (left, at 9940 Summers Ridge Rd., San Diego, CA 92121, USA, phone +1-858-5468327, [www.sontek.com](http://www.sontek.com)) January 3, 2007. Ribbon cutting ceremony at 10.45 AM, with CEO Rick Omlor giving speech and to be joined by Ramon Cabrera and David Shumway. Also will be present are friends and customers from The Scripps

Institute of Oceanography, US Geological Survey and Marine Technology Society. Contact Christina Delfin at [cdelfin@sontek.com](mailto:cdelfin@sontek.com) or phone +1-858-5468327 ext. 148 for more details.

Conference organizers may ask for a ‘Conference Package’ from WASWC, where among several benefits all the participants may obtain free Guest membership in WASWC for one year. This is our service to society.

## MEETINGS 2006

**October 1-5, 2006, Symposium on Soil Erosion and Dry-Land Farming, Shaanxi, China**  
2nd International Symposium on Soil Erosion and Dry-land Farming (SEDF'06), Yangling, Shaanxi, China

Organized by: CAS-MWR-Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, USDA-National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory, USDA-National Sedimentation Laboratory, World Association of Soil and Water Conservation and Northwest Science & Technology University of Agriculture and Forestry

### Themes:

- Soil erosion processes, assessment, and control
- Mechanism and techniques of ecological rehabilitation
- Sustainable soil and water resource management in semi-arid areas.
- Improved water use efficiency in dry-land farming systems.
- Impacts of global climate change on soil erosion and dry-land farming
- New technologies in soil conservation and dry-land agriculture.

### Important Dates:

January 01, 2006: Interest reply and Abstract due  
February 01, 2006: Preliminary program  
May 20, 2006: Conference registration due  
August 30, 2006: Final program and proceedings paper due

The registration fee is US\$240 (student: US\$140). This will cover the cost of scientific activities, abstract volume, transportation between Xi'an Xianyang Airport and Yangling, and social events (reception and banquet). The cost of post-conference tours is not included in the registration fee.

Contact: SEDF'06 Secretariat, No.26 Xinong Road, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, People's Republic of China. Phone: +86-29-87012872/ 87012871, Fax: +86-29-87012872/ 87012210, [keyanban@ms.iswc.ac.cn](mailto:keyanban@ms.iswc.ac.cn), <http://www.iswc.ac.cn>

**October 5-7, 2006, National Association of Geographers, India (NAG)**

1<sup>st</sup> INTERNATIONAL INDIAN GEOGRAPHY CONGRESS

**Second Circular**

DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND GEOINFORMATICS

Hosted by

Department of Geography

(UGC-ASIST & DST-FIST Sponsored Department)

Osmania University, Hyderabad, India

[www.osmania.ac.in](http://www.osmania.ac.in), [www.homeofgeography.org/](http://www.homeofgeography.org/), [www.conferencealerts.com/india.htm](http://www.conferencealerts.com/india.htm),  
[www.igu-net.org/uk/news\\_and\\_events/events.html](http://www.igu-net.org/uk/news_and_events/events.html)

Conveners: Prof. Kalpana Markandey & Prof. S. Simhadri

## **Congress Theme: Development, Environment and Geoinformatics**

Development has been portrayed through the lens of various paradigms. The shift from the Classical 'Environmental Determinism' paradigm to the Neo Classical paradigm and then the Marxist paradigm of development has been quite conspicuous. The shifting emphasis has been on the utilization of land and labour so as to optimize the spatial returns in terms of development. Development has been varyingly depicted as 'economic growth', 'modernization', and 'distributive justice' and also as 'socio- economic transformation'. The glaring contrast between the areas of paucity and areas of plenty at times defy the efforts of the planners. Polarization with regard to development at times finds manifestation in the north – south divide, at times in socio – spatial inequality besides a plenitude of similar contrasting core - periphery scenarios in varying environmental setups.

Environment encompasses under its ambit the physical landscape, social landscape and the built environment. All these are inextricably linked up and the degree of linkage between each one of these is related to the level of development in a particular region. Man - environment relations have for long been the central focus of debates and discussions. In fact they have been discussed from a variety of perspectives like the economic, technological, administrative, social and ecological besides others. The vulnerability of environment to various hazards and disasters and the impending danger of a holocaust have led to detailed probing of the environmental scenario. Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit have been carried out to help maintain an ecological balance.

While earlier areal or Spatial Data had a very restricted use, dissemination and exchange, the digital technologies are making the world more 'Spatially Enabled' and also well integrated. These technologies are bringing spatial solutions to the doorsteps of people and their role as Decision Support tools cannot be discounted. Geoinformatics along with its accessories like GIS and Remote Sensing helps in assessing the results of various government policies that have a bearing on the spatial locations. Viewed at differently, the traditional tools of the Geographers - Maps - have found an added advantage with the revolution in cyber-informatics, where they are now part of a more dynamic and interactive environment.

### **Technical Sessions**

The Congress will have about thirty sessions, spanning the nine main themes. A panel discussion on the main theme of the Congress is planned involving luminaries from Universities, Govt. departments, industry & professionals.

The technical session of the Congress will be organized around the following themes:

- Human Resources and Development Strategies.
- Socio-Cultural and Power Spaces and Governance
- Population Explosion and Urbanization
- Spatial Infrastructure and Alternative Planning Perspectives.
- Geopolitical Economy of Development and Globalization
- Environmental Pollution and Quality of Life
- Natural Disasters and Environmental Challenges
- Geoinformatics: Technology - Society Interface

### **Exhibition**

An Exhibition of all the Geography and Geoinformatics software and data products as well as related equipment will be organized during the Congress to encourage interested companies

to show-case their products & services. The Congress offers an ideal mix of clientele for these products and will be of immense benefit to the exhibitors and academic fraternity.

Final Schedule for Submission of Papers

Extended date to submit abstracts and full papers: **September 10, 2006**

Intimation about participation in Excursion: September 15, 2006

Addresses for Correspondence

**Prof. Kalpana Markandey**

Chairperson, Board of Studies,

Department of Geography,

Osmania University, Hyderabad, India

Ph: (O)91- 040-27097192 (O) 91-040-27682203 Ext.31, (O) 91-040-27070663 (R)91-

040-27173541, (Mobile) 919849054856

E-Mail: hyd1\_kalpanam@sancharnet.in

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**Prof. S. Simhadri**

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(O) 91-040-27070663 , (Mobile) 09440051409

Email: [profsimhadri\\_s@yahoo.co.in](mailto:profsimhadri_s@yahoo.co.in)

**October 9-13, 2006, 26th IRRC at International Rice Congress (IRC 2006)**

IRC 2006 will take place in New Delhi, India. More details on the Congress can be obtained from <http://www.icar.org.in/irc2006/>.

**The Congress Events:**

- 26<sup>th</sup> International Rice Research Conference: Innovations for efficiency enhancement, October 9-13, 2006
- 2<sup>nd</sup> International Rice Commerce Conference: Product diversification, value-addition and business promotion, October 10-11, 2006
- 2<sup>nd</sup> International Rice Technology and Cultural Exhibition: Rice culture in agriculture, October 10-12
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian Ministers' Round-Table Meeting: Fostering partnerships in rice research, development and trade, October 9-10, 2006



**October 11-13, 2006, Managing Agricultural Landscapes for Environmental Quality**



MANAGING AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES  
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
STRENGTHENING THE SCIENCE BASE

Organized by the Soil and Water Conservation Society

A multidisciplinary workshop for scientists and the people who use science to quantify the environmental benefits of applying conservation on agricultural land at landscape or watershed scales.

Please join us in Kansas City for this workshop that will strive to...

- Bring together the scientific and technical communities working to quantify the environmental benefits of applying conservation practices on agricultural land at landscape or watershed scales.
- Expose the research community to the needs and expectations of policymakers and conservation practitioners struggling to account for the environmental benefits of projects intended to enhance soil quality, water quality, water conservation, air quality, and fish and wildlife populations and habitat.
- Characterize the implications for conservation policy and practice from what research results have shown to be the environmental outcomes from the use of conservation on landscape or watershed scales.

**Where**

Westin Crown Center Hotel, 1 Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108

Program and proceedings:

<http://www.swcs.org/index.cfm?nodeID=8409&audienceID=1>

Contact: Dewayne Johnson, Professional Development Dir., Soil and Water Conservation Society [events@swcs.org](mailto:events@swcs.org)

**October 16-18, 2006, 3<sup>rd</sup> APHW Conference, Bangkok, Thailand**

3<sup>rd</sup> APHW Conference on Wise Water Resources Management Towards Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction, Grand Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. Contact Choosri Keedumrongkool at [choosri@thirdaphw.org](mailto:choosri@thirdaphw.org) and more info in [www.thirdaphw.org](http://www.thirdaphw.org). Registration fee until August 15, 2006: US\$150. After that it is US\$200.

**October 16-20, 2006, Tropical Marine Ecosystems, Cozumel, Mexico**

3<sup>rd</sup> International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium will take place in Cozumel, Mexico. Please register online at [www.itmems.org](http://www.itmems.org)

Convened previously in Australia 1998 and the Philippines in 2003, ITMEMS strengthens the capacities of coastal and marine managers and their partners to conserve and promote the sustainable use of coral reefs and related ecosystems.

ITMEMS is the core activity of the **International Coral Reef Initiative**, which is a partnership among governments, international organizations and NGOs. It strives to preserve coral reefs and related ecosystems by implementing [Chapter 17 of Agenda 21](#) and other relevant international conventions and agreements.

If you are interested in participating in ITMEMS3, please register now at [www.itmems.org](http://www.itmems.org). **Registration costs US \$400 before 1 August.**

If you are able to support the participation of a manager or stakeholder in a project or initiative that should be showcased at ITMEMS 3, or require further information, please contact: Penny Stock, Coordinator ITMEMS3, International Coral Reef Action Network [pstock@icran.org](mailto:pstock@icran.org), [www.icran.org](http://www.icran.org)

**October 22-26, 2006, IV International Conference on Vetiver, Caracas, Venezuela**  
IV International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-4), "Vetiver and People": A Green Investment for Sustainable Development - Weaving a Better World, Caracas, Venezuela

Social problems and poverty are closely related with environmental quality and the possibilities to improve people's income. Vetiver (*Vetiveria zizanioides*) is an affordable alternative to eradicate the poverty, mitigate and solve environmental problems shared by many Latin American countries and the rest of the world. At the same time, vetiver technology can mobilize and empower communities through their participation in social projects that combine economic and basic services improvements with ecological benefits.

Vetiver grass has multiple uses due to its anatomical and eco-physiological characteristics that make vetiver a unique plant in its diverse uses and applications. This extraordinary grass is adaptable to multiple environmental conditions and it is globally recognized as an easy and economical alternative to control soil erosion and to solve a variety of environmental problems. It has been used for restoration, conservation and protection of land disrupted by man's activities, like agriculture, mining, construction sites, oil exploration and extraction and infrastructure corridors. It is also used for water conservation in watershed management, disaster mitigation and treatment of contaminated water and soil.

During the last International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-3) in China in October 2003 it was proposed that the ICV-4 would be held in Venezuela, for the special interest derived from its application and socioeconomic impact in deprived communities.

Organized by: Fundación Polar, Faculty of Agronomy-Central University of Venezuela, Venezuelan Soil Science Society, The Vetiver Network TVN, Latinamerica Vetiver Network LAVN, Venezuelan Vetiver Network VEVN, and Aragua Conservation Society

#### **Program in brief:**

##### **I. Sessions:**

- Contributions of vetiver to sustainable agricultural development and poverty eradication.
- Protection and stabilization of infrastructure in rural and urban areas.
- Handicraft and Vetiver: an innovative approach for community participation.

- Social development through vetiver multiple purpose projects.
- Vetiver role in watershed conservation and management.
- Disaster prevention and poverty mitigation.
- Prevention and control of soil and water contamination and treatment and disposal of wastewaters.

## II. Plenary sessions:

- Vetiver grass technology and its impacts on economic and ecological sustainability.
- Vetiver and People. Social sustainability impacts.
- The challenge for technological innovation, entrepreneur and scientific research in relation to vetiver grass.

## III. Exhibition and poster session during the conference

## IV. Technical tours:

- Pre conference tour: Visit to land restoration and stabilization projects in the SE region of Venezuela.
- Mid conference tour: Within the north central region of the country with visits to nurseries, bioengineering companies, social projects and watershed restoration and protection sites.
- Post conference tour: To be announced.

Place and date: Fundación Polar, Caracas, Venezuela. October 22-26, 2006.

Official language: Spanish and English with simultaneous translation.

Registration Fee: US\$300, incl. materials, conference attendance and related events, mid-conference tour & some meals.

Note: To receive the second announcement please contact [oluquel@cantv.net](mailto:oluquel@cantv.net), [narongchc@au.edu](mailto:narongchc@au.edu), [www.fpolar.org.ve](http://www.fpolar.org.ve)

**October 23-25, 2006, BCPC International Conference & Exhibition**

'Global Aspects of Crop Production, Crop Protection and Food Supply', Glasgow, Scotland.  
Contact Becky Dyer at [becky.dyer@bcpc.org](mailto:becky.dyer@bcpc.org). More info in <http://www.bcpc.org/>

**October 23-28, 2006, WOCAT Workshop/Steering Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa**

Contact Rinda van der Merwe [rinda@arc.agric.za](mailto:rinda@arc.agric.za), and Godert van Lynden,  
[godert.vanlynden@wur.nl](mailto:godert.vanlynden@wur.nl).

**October 24-November 8, 2006, Soil Conservation Remembrance Evenings**

Organized by Australian Society of Soil Science, Inc., Queensland Branch

All functions will begin at 7 pm with a BBQ provided by local Landcare groups and the Queensland branch of the Australian Society of Soil Science Inc.

While the term 'landcare' came into vogue in the 1980s, farmers had begun to care for their land long before this. Soil erosion was recognised as a major problem on the Darling Downs by the 1950s. Farmers were so concerned that up to 700 people attended soil conservation field days.

In 1956, the then Department of Agriculture and Stock in conjunction with the Toowoomba Rotary Club made a film to promote the soil conservation cause. To recognise the 50th anniversary of the film, the Australian Society of Soil Science Inc, in conjunction with local Landcare groups, is organising a number of functions. People can view the film along with photos highlighting some history and very significant gains made in the adoption of soil science.

Tuesday 24 October, Millmerran  
Anzac Room, Cultural Centre, Millmerran  
Libby Gardiner, Ph. 4695 1455

Wednesday 25 October, Pittsworth  
Senior Citizens Rooms, Pittsworth  
Pam Postle, Ph. 4693 1530

Monday 30 October, Jandowae  
Accommodation Park (Caravan Park)  
Nevin Olm, Ph. 4665 2206

Tuesday 31 October, Jondaryan  
Jondaryan Woolshed  
Nikki Pilcher, Ph. 4691 1499

Wednesday 1 November, Toowoomba  
Highfields Tavern  
Rachel Topp, Ph. 4637 6285

Wednesday 8 November, Freestone  
Freestone Hall  
Helen Lewis, Ph. 4661 7393

Further information is also available from the Australian Society of Soil Science Inc., QLD Branch President Kristie Watling, Ph. 4688 1092 or QLD Branch Secretary Bruce Carey, Ph. 3896 9390

**November 4-9, 2006, Sedimentation & Erosion in Arid & Semi-Arid Regions, Iran**  
Expert Meeting (Chalous, north of the country). Contact Farhad Behboodi at [farhadbeh@yahoo.com](mailto:farhadbeh@yahoo.com) and Seyed Hamidreza Sadeghi at [shrsadeghi@yahoo.com](mailto:shrsadeghi@yahoo.com), [sadeghi@modares.ac.ir](mailto:sadeghi@modares.ac.ir)

**November 6-10, 2006, X National & II International Soil Science Congress, Lima, Peru**  
**Soil: food security and poverty**, Lima, Peru  
Place: Central Auditorium Agrarian University La Molina



Info: [www.lamolina.edu.pe/suelos/default2.htm#inversion](http://www.lamolina.edu.pe/suelos/default2.htm#inversion)

**November 6-17, 2006, United Nations Climate Change Conference, Gigiri, Nairobi**



United Nations Office

Kenya will host the second meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 2), in conjunction with the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP 12), in Nairobi from 6 to 17 November 2006.

The conference will also include, from 6 to 14 November, the twenty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 25), the twenty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 25), and the second session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG 2). More info in [http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop\\_12/items/3754.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_12/items/3754.php)

**November 8, 2006, Governing Climate Change: Can Regional, State and Voluntary Approaches Do the Job?**

WASHINGTON, DC. — On November 8, the Environmental Law Institute will host a panel discussion on governing global warming moderated by David Sandalow, Director, Environment & Energy Project, The Brookings Institution. With climate change arguably being today's most pressing environmental issue, states acting alone or through regional compacts are creating mandatory carbon reduction programs, while the federal government says it is relying on voluntary measures to reduce carbon emissions. How successful will these efforts be? Can we reduce global warming without mandatory limits on carbon emissions? Are there aspects of climate change governance that only the federal government can do?

Panelists will include:

- John Cahill, Secretary to the Governor of New York, former Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Ken Cohen, Corporate Vice President for Public Affairs, ExxonMobil Corporation
- Linda Fisher, Vice President & Chief Sustainability Officer, DuPont Company
- David Hawkins, Director, Climate Center, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Mary Nichols, Professor-in-Residence and Director of UCLA Institute of the Environment, UCLA School of Law
- William Wehrum, Acting Assistant Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Air and Radiation

WHEN: November 8, 2006, 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM  
(Speaking will begin promptly at 4:00 PM)

WHERE: Omni Shoreham Hotel  
Ambassador Ballroom  
2500 Calvert Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

RSVP: To reserve e-mail [mcmurrin@eli.org](mailto:mcmurrin@eli.org).

NOTE: There is no charge to attend, but you must RSVP.

Contact Info:

Environmental Law Institute, Tel: 202-939-3800; Fax: 202-939-3868; [law@eli.org](mailto:law@eli.org),  
[Environmental Law Institute](http://www.eli.org)

### **November 8-10, 2006, NALMS Annual Symposium**

The 26th International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society "NALMS 2006: Making Connections – People, Lakes, Watersheds" will be held on in Indianapolis, IN. This Symposium will emphasize connections between the past and the present; between natural lakes and reservoirs; between watersheds and lakes; and, of course, between people and lakes. Registration deadline: September 8, 2006.

<http://www.nalms.org/symposia/indianapolis/home.htm>

### **November 9-10, 2006, Natural Resources Conservation for Sustainable Hill Agriculture**

Workshop at S.K. University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu, India. The Workshop is organized by Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, S.K. University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu in collaboration with Jammu Chapter of Soil Conservation Society of India, New Delhi. Contact Sanjay Arora, [aroraspau@yahoo.co.in](mailto:aroraspau@yahoo.co.in) and Surinder Singh Kukal, [sskukal@rediffmail.com](mailto:sskukal@rediffmail.com).

### **November 12-15, 2006, International Sediment Initiative Conference, Khartoum, Sudan**

The continuing landform development occurring on the earth's surface necessarily implies the production and subsequent distribution of sediments. Sediment is the end product of erosion or wearing away of the land surface by the action of water, wind, ice, and gravity.

Sedimentation process causes great problems worldwide by raising the cost of operation and maintenance and complicating the design of water structures. The problems linked to sediment create difficulties in managing water systems. Consequently, there is a need for clear understanding on how to improve the watershed management, soil loss tolerances and hence formulation of appropriate soil conservation strategies.



Natural geologic erosion takes place slowly over centuries or millennia. Whereas erosion that occurs as a result of human activities may take place much faster. Therefore, it is important to understand the role of each when studying sediment transport.

In response to the importance of sedimentation, the International Sediment Initiative (ISI) has been launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as a major activity of the current Sixth Phase (2002–2007) of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP). It is expected to add a new dimension to ongoing efforts aiming at sustainable sediment management, in the context of sustainable water resources development at global scale. This conference is the first attempt of ISI to invite worldwide relevant institutes, agencies and individuals to come up with an initiative to deal with sediment. Such a sediment initiative is expected to help international communities achieve practical outputs through partnership, pooling resources, focusing science, coordinating efforts, sharing information and experiences, and generating a broad basis of support.

A very encouraging world wide response has been received so far, more than 70 contributions beside the keynote lectures covering all conference themes from well known scientists have been accepted for presentation in the conference. Therefore, we are looking forward for a very important and useful event in all aspects.

The conference scientific program will last for 3 days (Nov 12-14), and will have about 70 papers. Field study trip to the Gezira Irrigation Scheme (the largest scheme in the world under a single management body) will be organized on Nov 15.

Contact: Conference Secretariat, UCWR, Khartoum, Sudan, Fax: +249 (183) 797758, [isic\\_2006@yahoo.com](mailto:isic_2006@yahoo.com), [unesco\\_cwr@yahoo.com](mailto:unesco_cwr@yahoo.com). More info in <http://www.isic.ucwr-sd.org/>.

**November 12-16, 2006, Symposium on Sediment Pollution from River Bank Erosion: Characterization and Budget, Indianapolis, IN, USA**

Contact Satish Gupta, Phone: +1-612-625-1241, [sgupta@umn.edu](mailto:sgupta@umn.edu), [www.agronomy.org](http://www.agronomy.org)

**November 12-17, 2006, International Forum on Water and Food, Vientiane, Lao PDR**

The Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) announces the International Forum on Water and Food, to be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, hosted by the Mekong River Commission (MRC), and invites the submission of abstracts. Potential participants should note that this event is a Forum and is designed as a medium for discussion and debate, rather than the presentation of papers. Discussions will be based on a series of short policy briefs drawn from paper submissions. In addition, the best papers from the Forum will be published in special editions of formal, peer reviewed journals, and there will be an opportunity to present posters. Abstracts are sought in particular for Session 1 of the Forum on the Future of Irrigation, which is convened by Mr T. Facon, Senior Water Management Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. For further information, registration and submission of abstracts, please visit the forum website: [www.waterandfood.org](http://www.waterandfood.org) or by e-mail to [Forum.abstracts@waterandfood.org](mailto:Forum.abstracts@waterandfood.org). No registration fee.

**November 13-15, 2006 (postponed)**

The meeting: "I World Soil Conference of Representatives of International Soil Organizations: New Soil Science Paradigms" (13-15 November 2006, Valencia, Spain), have to be postponed because of temporarily problems with the financial support from the Regional Government. It is delayed, not canceled and we are right now looking for new dates. I will

keep you informed of future developments.

Jose L. Rubio, President of the European Society for Soil Conservation  
Centro de Investigaciones sobre Desertificacion-CIDE  
(CSIC, Universitat de Valencia, Generalitat Valenciana)  
Cami de la Marjal, s/n  
Apartado Oficial  
46470 Albal (Valencia, Spain)  
Tel.: 34-96-122 05 40  
Fax: 34-96-126 39 08  
CIDE Web: <http://www.uv.es/cide>  
ESSC Web: <http://www.essc.sk>

### **November 17, 2006, 14<sup>th</sup> Program in Series on Practically Available Renewable Energy**



The Rachel Carson Forum on the Future of the Environment is a once a month speakers series that seeks to encourage discussion about strategically important, cutting- edge environmental and sustainable development issues. On November 17<sup>th</sup>, the fourteenth Rachel Carson Forum was held on the topic of: *What Renewable Energy Options Are Practically Available for Homeowners and Small Businesses?*

The Rachel Carson Forum has been attracting between 40 and 100 participants every month and is held in the auditorium of the Rachel Carson Building in Harrisburg. PCIEP, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Policy, and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Office of Conservation Science, and the Pennsylvania Consortium organize the Forum. On January 17<sup>th</sup> there will be a program on *Water Quality Trading: Can It Reduce Costs and Improve Environmental Quality?* The Forum starts at noon. Information about the Rachel Carson Forum can be obtained from PCIEP director, Don Brown at [brownd@state.pa.us](mailto:brownd@state.pa.us). The Forum is open to the public.

### **November 20-22, 2006, WSEAS International Conference, Venice, Italy**

A Special Session on "Carbon and Rural Development" is to be organized at the WSEAS International Conference on Environment, Ecosystems and Development, to be held in Venice, Italy. More information about the Conference and our Special Session can be found at <http://www.worldses.org/conferences/2006/venice/eed/index.html>. Our colleague Dr María Cristina Amézquita ([m.amezquita@cgiar.org](mailto:m.amezquita@cgiar.org), Carbon Sequestration project CSEQ, CIAT Science Park, Colombia) was invited to organize. We would like to draw broad attention to it, and to encourage researchers to attend the Conference, in particular this Special Session.

## November 20-22, 2006, Map Africa 2006



Map Africa 2006 is the 1st annual international conference and exhibition in the field of Geospatial Sciences, Technology and Applications like GIS, GPS, Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing. The conference is scheduled to be held from 20th to 22nd November 2006 at Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg. With principal sponsors - CSIR South Africa and Department of Land Affairs South Africa, Map Africa 2006 is being organised by GIS Development and will strive to provide a platform for collaboration in the field of geo-spatial sciences between the Sub Saharan African Continent and rest of the world.

### Theme

#### *Building Geospatial Capacity and Infrastructure in Africa*

Map Africa 2006 has the theme centered on “Building Geospatial Capacity and Infrastructure in Africa”. Geospatial information has gained importance because of its capabilities to manage societies at large. The increasing demands to manage and solve current global problems can be met with geospatial technologies. This brings us to the basic issue of Geospatial capacity of a region or a country.

As countries transform themselves they have to develop different capacities, capacity development needs to be addressed at individual, institutional, societal levels. Geospatial capacity-building is closely linked to expansion in economic activities and therefore part and parcel of the overall system of economic transformation.

#### *Sub Themes*

- Cadastral Surveying
- Natural Resource Management
- Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Infrastructure Development
- Cadastral Surveying

Cadastral Surveying provides information on land holding and hence facilitates land management and administration. This strengthens the economies, enabling governments to initiate and sustain land and agrarian reforms.

### **Natural Resources Conservation and Management**

Management of natural resources is one of the issues in Africa that needs to be addressed. The problem areas such as insufficient local control over natural resource management and lack of influence over policy, administration and legislation pertaining to managing natural resources has been a debate. Such issues on Natural Resource Management and ideas and plans for Conservation using space related technologies will be highlighted under this theme. Spatial Data Infrastructure.

There have been many SDI's implemented till today at local, national and international levels that help us to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing importance. The issues of producing, organizing, storing, and distributing data cooperatively using SDI concepts will be discussed.

## **Infrastructure Development**

Rapid change in the needs of the people is changing the dynamism of infrastructure. As the economical factors involved in provision of these facilities are gigantic this growth in infrastructure needs to be planned considering the future. The current trends and the future in implementation spatial technologies in construction domain will be under debate.

### *Plenary Sessions*

- Building Geo-Spatial Capacity and Infrastructure in Africa
- Geo-spatial Infrastructure Development
- Cadastral Surveying
- Natural Resource Management
- Spatial Data Infrastructure

### *Workshops*

- Project Management- ENVIS a Case Study
- Business Intelligence

### *Technical Sessions*

- Environmental Planning & management
- Agriculture & Forestry
- Census
- GIS for Mineral Exploration
- Water resources
- Navigation & GPS Mapping
- Biodiversity Mapping
- Oil and Gas
- Transportation
- Medical GIS
- Training and Education

### *Call for Papers*

Abstracts of intended full papers for technical sessions of Map Africa 2006 are invited. The abstract submitted should not exceed 200 words. The Abstract should summarise and indicate the key research/points to be further presented and discussed in the session. Submitted Abstract should be original which has not been published before. After evaluation of Abstracts, selected authors would be asked to send full papers.

### **Deadlines**

Abstract Submission: 15 October, 2006  
Paper Acceptance: 20 October, 2006  
Full Paper Submission: 31 October, 2006

Submit your papers at [papers.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net](mailto:papers.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net)

### **Exhibition**

Map Africa 2006 Exhibition would be held at the conference venue and shall span over an area of more than 400 sq mtr. The exhibition hall will have the latest state-of-the-art facilities conducive to the requirements and standards of the national and international organizations participating in the Exhibition.

### *Registration fee*

<i>Category</i>	<i>US\$</i>
Regular Delegates	250
Author Delegates	250
Spot Registration	350
Student/Student Author Registration	100

### *Important Contacts*

General Enquiry/Information:	Prashant Joshi	<a href="mailto:info.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net">info.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net</a>
Abstract/ Paper Submission:	Harsha Vardhan	<a href="mailto:papers.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net">papers.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net</a>
Registration:	Sumit Kumar	<a href="mailto:reg.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net">reg.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net</a>
Exhibition / Sponsorships:	Prashant Joshi	<a href="mailto:exhibit.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net">exhibit.mapafrica@gisdevelopment.net</a>

### **Call for Submissions**

Ecological and Environmental Anthropology (EEA), an online, peer-reviewed publication, has announced a call for submissions from diverse disciplines including anthropology, conservation biology, ecology, environmental studies, geography, political science, and sociology, as well as practitioners who specialize in conservation, health, resource management and other issues in human ecology. The mission of EEA is to engage in the exploration of the complex, dynamic, and multifaceted relationships between humans and their social and physical environments. EEA hopes to provide fertile ground for the integration of the various subfields of anthropology and foster interdisciplinary dialog among academics within anthropology, scholars in other social and natural science fields, and non-academic professionals in all fields engaged in the study of human-environment relationships. Through the online format of the journal, EEA strives to be on the cutting edge of technological innovations that aid in the dissemination of research in ecological and environmental anthropology. In addition to traditional written articles, EEA encourages submissions that take full advantage of the medium and push the boundaries of conventional scholarly communication, from audio/visual presentations to online symposia. Peer-reviewed submissions will present original research, critical reviews of published works, and new eco-cultural models and paradigms.

Interested contributors should refer to our web site <http://www.uga.edu/eea> for submission guidelines. Electronic submissions are preferred and should be sent to [eea@uga.edu](mailto:eea@uga.edu).

### **November 22-25, 2006 (Postponed to a future date)**

People's Convention on Natural Resources, organized by the Asia Pacific Research Network at Loei Rajabhat University, Loei Province, Thailand

The People's Convention on Natural Resources conference will be an open and public gathering of grassroots movements, academe, and civil society organizations involved in natural resources issues. This means that aside from APRN members, we expect peasant and fisherfolk organizations, indigenous peoples, women, workers, and other sectors to participate.

The Convention will combine the elements of a conference which are morning sessions and workshops, a broad gathering which will be reflected in various seminars, festivals, and other events conducted simultaneously, independently or in partnership with other organizations in the afternoons.

The APRN Secretariat and the local organizing committee from the Thai NGO-COD, Sustainable Development Foundation, and APWLD are working to bring in around 600 participants from the Asia-Pacific and other global regions. We would appreciate if you could attend the Convention.

Contact Maria Theresa N. Lauron, Secretary General, the APRN Secretariat by e-mail ([secretariat@aprnet.org](mailto:secretariat@aprnet.org)) or fax (+632-4251387). Further information will be provided after receiving your confirmation. More info in [www.aprnet.org](http://www.aprnet.org).

**November 22-25, 2006, Balanced Fertilization, Ludhiana, India**

International Symposium on Balanced Fertilization for Sustaining Crop Productivity  
Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India

Sponsored by International Potash Institute (IPI)

*Themes*

- Potassium in soils: mineralogy, dynamics, mining and balances in soils
- Role of potassium in alleviation of biotic and abiotic stresses
- Balanced fertilization with reference to potassium nutrition
- Nutrient management in annual, perennial crops and pastures
- New approaches in biotechnology for efficient utilization of nutrients
- Potassium demand as consequence of changing cropping systems
- Extension activities for promoting balanced fertilization, policies and perspectives

**Deadlines:**

Submission of abstracts: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006  
Submission of full length papers: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2006

For registration and additional information, please visit the website:

[www.ipipotash.org/IPI India 2006](http://www.ipipotash.org/IPI_India_2006) or email Dr. M.S. Brar at [brarms@rediffmail.com](mailto:brarms@rediffmail.com)

**November 27-30, 2006, Post-Harvest Technology, Kanpur, India**

International conference on post-harvest technology and value addition in cereals, pulses and oilseeds (ICPHT-2006)

C.S. Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur, India,

Information: Dr. P.S. Kendurkar, Department of Agricultural Biochemistry, C.S. Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur-208 002, U.P., India. Phone: +91-512-2534156, +91-512-2534157 Ext. 132; Fax: +91-512-2533808; [pskendurkar@yahoo.co.in](mailto:pskendurkar@yahoo.co.in), [www.csauk.ac.in](http://www.csauk.ac.in) and [www.indianbiochemists.blogspot.com](http://www.indianbiochemists.blogspot.com).

**December 2, 2006, Landcare, Australia**

Landcare Australia - A meeting with Director of Australian Landcare Secretariat at Viengtai Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Landcare movement was initiated in Australia around two decades ago and has found good success in having various types of land cared and managed by owners, with some support from the government – thus a form of good success in land and soil conservation. Now the Landcare movement has been experimented and well accepted in various countries, e.g. Philippines, South Africa, Fiji, Uganda and more countries (e.g. Tonga, Solomon Islands, Kenya, Tanzania) are interested in following the trend.





As the Director of the Landcare Secretariat in Australia, Ms. Victoria Mack, will come to Bangkok at the end of this month, she will be pleased to meet and discuss with WASWC members who would like to learn about Landcare, as well as to see the possibility to start something similar in Thailand or elsewhere. WASWC will arrange a small meeting at Viengtai Hotel in Banglampoo, Bangkok on December 2, 2006 at 9.00 AM and if you are interested to meet her please call me (Samran) at +66-(0)-25703641 or +66-(0)-25703854 or send e-mail to [sombatpanit@yahoo.com](mailto:sombatpanit@yahoo.com), with deadline of November 20, 2006. To familiarize with her work, you are advised to read her article describing her and Sue Mariott's visit to various Landcare groups in other countries in the WASWC Newsletter 22(3), now posted on our website at <http://waswc.ait.ac.th/newsletter.html> (username and password: waswc & 291785).

### **December 3-5, 2006, 2nd International Conference on Problematic Soils, Malaysia**

Organised with the support of:

- Universiti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia
- Commission 18, Collapsible Soils, International Association of Engineering Geologists
- Loess Commission, INQUA

OVER 70 SUBMISSIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM 20 COUNTRIES, Viz: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Finland, France, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria., Pakistan, Portugal, Singapore, Thailand, The Netherlands, Tunisia., United Kingdom and USA

WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE WITH INTERESTING PAPERS

Technical Papers on the following themes would be included: Peat and organic soils, Volcanic soils, Expansive soils, Collapsible soils, Decomposed soils, Contaminated soils, Fills, Unsaturated soils, other soils, e.g. dispersive soils, problematic soils in the engineering geological aspects.

Contact Er John S.Y. Tan, CI-Premier Pte Ltd., 150 Orchard Rd., #07-14 Orchard Plaza, Singapore 238841. Phone: +65-67332922; Fax: +65-62353530, [cipremie@singnet.com.sg](mailto:cipremie@singnet.com.sg), [www.cipremier.com](http://www.cipremier.com)

### **December 3-7, 2006, ASSSI – ASPAC National Soils Conference, Adelaide, Australia** “Soil Science Solving Problems”

Jointly convened by the Australian Society of Soil Science Inc and the Australasian Soil & Plant Analysis Council Inc, the Conference will appeal to all those who work in any aspect of soils or soil science. A four-day program is planned in association with a trade exhibition and the opportunity for all delegates to enjoy pre- and post-Conference tours to some of South Australia's major attractions. The Conference will be held at The University of Adelaide and within easy walking distance of a wide range of accommodation and Adelaide's theatre and restaurant districts. Call for abstracts closes 30 June 2006. For more information, visit the official Conference website at [www.plevin.com.au/soils2006/index.htm](http://www.plevin.com.au/soils2006/index.htm).

**December 4-7, 2006, International Symposium on Drylands Ecology & Human Security**

Regional Perspectives, Policy Responses and Sustainable Development in the Arab Region - Challenges and Opportunities

A joint initiative in recognition of the United Nations

- "International Year of Deserts and Desertification" GCC Network for Drylands Research and Development (NDRD), [www.ndrd.org](http://www.ndrd.org)
- Gulf Research Center (GRC) Green Gulf Program

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Further information can be found and downloaded on our website [www.isdehs.com](http://www.isdehs.com)

Founder President of GCC Network for Drylands Research and Development (NDRD)  
[www.ndrd.org](http://www.ndrd.org)

Contact: phone: (UAE mob.) +971 50 7307274  
phone: (mob.) +49 172 5949747  
phone: (home) +49 4105 669232  
fax: +49 4105 669234  
email: [Spiess@aol.com](mailto:Spiess@aol.com)  
email (NDRD): [Spiess@ndrd.org](mailto:Spiess@ndrd.org)

NOTE: Within the framework of the International Symposium on Drylands Ecology and Human Security, to be held in Dubai, December 4-7, 2006, we are organizing a session "The New Approaches in the Management and Modeling of Water Resources and Water Ecosystems in Drylands". [www.isdehs.com/html/modeling\\_of\\_water\\_resources.html](http://www.isdehs.com/html/modeling_of_water_resources.html)

If you are interested to participate in the event, please send your abstract as soon as possible to [Vardanian@isdehs.com](mailto:Vardanian@isdehs.com). Deadline for submitting your abstract is September 15, 2006.

Contact Trahel Vardanian, Session Convenor, Department of Physical Geography,  
Yerevan State University,  
1, Alek Manoukian Street, Yerevan, 0025,  
Republic of Armenia  
[tvardanian@ysu.am](mailto:tvardanian@ysu.am)

**December 4-8, 2006, 5th Iberian Congress on Water Management, Faro, Portugal**  
"Shared River Basins: Basis for Sustainable Management of Water and Land", University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal

Revision of the agreement between Portugal and Spain about shared river basins. Not often that there is accordance between the largest river basins and the limits of conventional administrative units frequently induces a partial management of those basins, not corresponding to the recommendations expressed on the Water Framework Directive about the need to reassure an integrated management. Frequent articulation problems between different regional authorities arise. Those problems exist between the two countries: Portugal and Spain.

In a time where important effects caused by climatic changes are announced, with special incidence in the Iberian Peninsula and other sensible regions of the world, like a significant area of Latin America, it urges the need to develop embracing and integrating reflections about the response strategies and adaptation to proper management of the diverse socio-ecological units. In this point of view, the sustainable use of water and land is a key factor as a motto for the articulation of several physical, natural, ecological, economical, social, cultural and aesthetical aspects, expressing the basic message of the new culture of water.

The debate around all this in an interdisciplinary perspective applied to shared river basins management constitutes the main challenge of the 5th Iberian Congress on Water Management and Planning at Escola Superior de Tecnologia, Campus de Gambelas, University of Algarve, 8000 Faro, Portugal.

**Themes:**

- Water landscapes and water systems conservation
- Institutional aspects of water management
- Participation of citizens and media over water subjects
- Water and public health
- Innovation and technology

Contact: Prof. Dr. João Pedroso de Lima, Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Science and Technology, Polo 2 - University of Coimbra, 3030-290 Coimbra, Portugal.  
Phone: +351-239-797-183, Fax: +351-239-797-179, +351-239-797-123, [plima@dec.uc.pt](mailto:plima@dec.uc.pt),  
<http://www.ualg.pt/5cigpa/>

December 5-7, 2006, Post-Tsunami Economic Rehabilitation, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
We (FCCISL, in association with RADA, ILO, CHA) are organizing an international conference on Challenges and Way Forward to be held 5-7 December 2006, Transasia Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Therefore we have called for papers according to following format attached herewith. I kindly request you to pass this message to your colleges who will be interest to attend to this or present a paper. a template has been given for your information for preparation of proposals.

Your cooperation and support will be highly appreciated

W.M.B.S. Nissanka  
National Program Officer-Livelihood  
Reconstruction and Development Agency (RADA)  
President's Office of Sri Lanka  
7th floor, 41, Janadhipathi Mawatha,  
Colombo 01, Sri Lanka  
Tel: (94) 11 2496800-5 ext 708  
Mob (94) 77 3171782  
Email: [nissanka@rada.gov.lk](mailto:nissanka@rada.gov.lk)  
For online access of livelihood recovery plan visit, <http://dldp.rada.gov.lk/livelihood>

**December 7, 2006, Energy and Environmental European Projects, Brussels, Belgium**  
[Seminar on Energy and Environmental European Projects: Getting Ready for the 2007-2013 EU Financing Opportunities](#)

Location: Brussels, Belgium  
Start Date: 07 December, 2006  
End Date: 07 December, 2006  
URL: <http://www.interrecherche.com>  
Technology: Other  
Sectors: Energy,N/A Multi-sectoral,Financial/Banking  
Service Line: Finance Facilitation  
Region: global  
Country: Belgium  
Contact Name: Mihaela Vincze  
Telephone: +32 27 39 62 65  
Email: [mihaela.vincze@interrecherche.com](mailto:mihaela.vincze@interrecherche.com)

This seminar examines the new EU funding schemes for 2007-2013, particularly with a view to opportunities in the areas of energy and environment. Officials from the European Commission will give presentations on the FP7: Seventh Framework Programme on Research and Technological Development and LIFE+ programmes. There will also be presentations of success stories from companies and a workshop on "How to apply and win a tender".

**December 8, 2006, International Symposium on Community Activities for the Conservation of Water Environment, Bangkok**

<http://www.iges.or.jp/en/fw/0612callforpapers.html>

The Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) will hold an international symposium on "Community Activities for the Conservation of Water Environment" on 8 December 2006 in Bangkok, as a side event of "The 4th International Symposium on Southeast Asian Water Environment" organised by the University of Tokyo and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Dec 6-8, 2006.

To commemorate the holding of this symposium, the WEPA Secretariat is requesting papers on the theme "Community Activities for the Conservation of Water Environment". Selected papers will be published during the symposium proceedings and also on the publicly-accessible WEPA database, as examples of community activity. Submission deadline: 31 October 2006.

PS. The organisers will reimburse the cost of a round-trip economy-class normal ticket for one invited person.

**December 12-15, 2006, NAFRI, Luang, Prabang, Lao PDR**



Dear Colleagues,

Greetings once again!

Please find attached the draft programme for the second international conference on "Sustainable Sloping Lands and Watershed Management: Linking research to strengthen upland policies and practices". The conference will be held from December 12 - 15, 2006 in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR.

The Conference is being organized by NAFRI in collaboration with CIAT, IRD, IWMI and financial support from SDC & Sida

The draft programme has been developed after more than 90 abstracts were submitted. The organizers have tried to develop a programme that reflects the diversity of issues and challenges in sustainable sloping land and watershed management as well as balances technical issues with policy and social related issues. The main theme for the conference is to understand the linkages between research and its application by, and implications for, policy-makers and/or development practitioners.

Only about half of the submitted abstracts have been accepted for presentation as papers, while the remainder have been accepted as posters. While the deadline for submitting abstracts to present has passed, a key element of the conference will be the information market and poster presentation session and we are still accepting applications for abstracts to be presented as posters.

We believe the conference will be of interest to researchers, academics, development practitioners and policy makers alike.

If you are interested to learn more about the conference please visit the NAFRI website [http://www.nafri.org.la/05\\_news/workshops/sswm2006/sswm2006.htm](http://www.nafri.org.la/05_news/workshops/sswm2006/sswm2006.htm).

To register for the conference please register on-line at:

[http://www.nafri.org.la/05\\_news/workshops/sswm2006/register\\_1.html](http://www.nafri.org.la/05_news/workshops/sswm2006/register_1.html)

The conference registration fee is US\$ 200 for international participants and US\$50 for Lao national participants. The registration deadline is November 10, 2006.

We would be also grateful if you could also pass this along to others whom you feel will be interested in the conference. Thank you for your time and look forward to seeing you in Luang Prabang

NAFRI Organizing Committee

Email: [sswm06@nafri.org.la](mailto:sswm06@nafri.org.la)

For more information on the conference and NAFRI, go to our website at: [www.nafri.org.la](http://www.nafri.org.la)

**December 19-21, 2006, International Seminar on Global Environmental, Bangladesh**  
International Seminar on Global Environmental-cum-Ecological Challenges and Sustainability: Statistical Issues

Dept. of Statistics, Rajshahi University, Rajshahi, Bangladesh,

**Themes:**

- The Data Bank for Environmental Research
- Modeling of Environmental and Ecological Systems.
- The impact of Climatic Change on Ecology and Environment
- Challenges in Agriculture, Forestry and Food Technology.
- Water Resource Management: Challenges on Global and Regional Issues.
- Pollution and Public Health: Global Perspectives.
- Sustainable Development Issues from Ecological and Environmental Viewpoint.
- Genotype and Environmental Study on Leaf Area Dynamics.

The deadline for the submission of full-length papers/ posters: 30 June 2006.

**Registration Fee:**

Foreign Participants\*: USD 150.00 + USD 100.00 (for each accompanying guest)  
SAARC Participants\*: USD 25.00 + USD 20.00 (for each accompanying guest)  
Local Participants: Tk. 500.00, Tk. 300.00 (for students only)

The fees are inclusive of conference materials, lunches, refreshments and proceedings of the conference.

\*For participants from the SAARC countries and other foreign participants, the registration fees are inclusive of free roundtrip transport from Dhaka and Benapole to Rajshahi, 4-night accommodation in Porjatan Motel at Rajshahi, and meals. *Donors are welcome to contribute to meet the expenses for organizing this seminar, largely to sponsor a number of developing country speakers.* Contact: Prof. Basher Mian, Chairman, Dept. of Statistics, University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi 6205, Bangladesh. Phone: +0721-750041/4122, [ijss\\_ru@yahoo.com](mailto:ijss_ru@yahoo.com)

*Advertisement*



Note: New website = [www.semeato.com.br](http://www.semeato.com.br)



## MEETINGS 2007

### **January 7-13, 2007, African Soil Science Society's 4th International Conference**

(The contribution of Africa's Soil Science to NEPAD)

Impacts of climate change, global trade, urbanization and biotechnology on land use in Africa  
GIMPA, Accra, Ghana. Hosted by the Soil Science Society of Ghana in collaboration with  
IUSS, FAO, AfNet/CIAT, ICRISAT, IWMI, IFDC-Africa, UNU-INRA, organized by the  
African Soil Science Society (ASSS)

Background: The African Soil Science Society (ASSS) is a non-profit organization founded in 1986. ASSS has organized successfully three International Conferences respectively in Kampala (Uganda, 1988), Cairo (Egypt, 1990) and Ibadan (Nigeria, 1994). These three Conferences were focused on land management in irrigated and upland zones with the participation of soil scientists from all over the world working on African lands.

This 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference aims to gather specialists interested in land use and sustainable land management in Africa, in the context of serious emerging issues such as climate change, global trade and biotechnologies including GMO uses.

With a potential of 2,844 million ha of lands, Africa is characterized by a high variability of soils, climate, vegetation, fauna and land uses. It is of great importance that scientists, planners, economists, policy makers and land users are aware of the status and trend of land use in the context of high demographic pressure, severe degradation of natural resources and high competitiveness of agricultural goods at international level. Furthermore, land users and the soil science community should bear in mind that:

1. The achievement of food security and Millennium Development Goals (MDG), particularly Goal 1 (poverty/hunger alleviation) and Goal 7 (environment protection), which remains a major challenge for Africa;
2. The requirements of the international trade with its binding conditions, the impact of climate change with potential increase of natural disasters (drought and floods), the prospect in the increasing use of biotechnologies (conventionally improved varieties, genetically modified organisms – GMOs) to face new constraints have undoubtedly consequences on land use systems and land management technologies and their changes;
3. At regional, sub-regional and national levels, there is lack of stocktaking and overview of the status and trend of land use changes, due to the impact of these great challenges;
4. The Soil Science community in Africa needs to be more vocal and participate actively in national, regional and international fora (e.g. UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC, AU, NEPAD/CAADP, TerrAfrica), policy formulation, norms and standard setting, and good agricultural practices with respect to Soil Science and related issues.
5. There is also a need for the African Soil Science Society to position itself as a regional broker for land issues within the Civil Society in Africa and to develop: (i) active collaboration, particularly with international institutions and thematic networks dealing with soil and land issues; and (ii) strong lobbying for public and donors' support for more investment in sustainable land management.

It is with this background that the African Soil Science Society in collaboration with various partners is organizing this Conference.

**Themes:**

- Assessing the dynamics of land use in Africa
- Impact of regional and global trade on land use changes
- Impact of land use evolution on climate change
- Impact of biotechnologies on farm biodiversity and land use
- Impact of urbanization on land use in the urban-rural continuum

Deadline for extended abstract submission	31 <sup>th</sup> July 2006
Extended abstract acceptance notification	<del>30<sup>th</sup> June 2006</del>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Announcement with tentative program	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2006
Submission of full papers	<del>30<sup>th</sup> August 2006</del>

Conference fees: Conference fee per participant: US\$250 and US\$100 for students (evidence should be provided). After 30th September 2006 the fees will be respectively US\$300 and US\$150. Registration fees will cover conference documents, conference dinner, lunch and snacks, mid-conference tour, transport to and from conference site to hotels.

Mid-conference tours: Participants will also have chance to participate in a mid-conference tour which will take them to the following places in the Central Region of Ghana: i. Okyereko Irrigation scheme, ii. Elmina Castle, which was the slave trading center during the slave trade era, and iii. Kakum Forest Reserve.

Contact: Dr R.D. ASIAMA, Soil Research Institute (SRI), Kwadaso-Kumasi, Ghana.  
Phone: +233-51-50353/4; Fax: 233-51-50308, [soils\\_intconf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:soils_intconf@yahoo.co.uk) and [Marco.Nocita@fao.org](mailto:Marco.Nocita@fao.org)

**January 17-18, 2007, Workshop/Conference with Point Carbon, Washington DC, USA**  
"North America and The Carbon Markets"

This unique event is designed to help facilitate learning about the developing international and domestic carbon market. See <http://ealert.pewclimate.org/ctt.asp?u=4315018&l=134031>

**January 19-23, 2007, No-Tillage Conference, Des Moines, Iowa**

15<sup>th</sup> Annual National No-Tillage Conference, Des Moines Marriot Des Moines, Iowa,  
Contact: The National No-Tillage Conference, P.O. Box 624, Brookfield, WI 53008-0624, USA. Phone: +1-866-839-8455 or +1-262-432-0388; Fax: +1-262-786-5564, [info@lesspub.com](mailto:info@lesspub.com), [www.no-tillfarmer.com](http://www.no-tillfarmer.com).

**January 20-25, 2007, World Social Forum 2007, Nairobi, Kenya**

The 7th World Social Forum - to be held from January 20 to 25, in Nairobi (Kenya) – faces now the challenge of being even more linked to concrete actions to build “another possible world”.

This concern has been constantly expressed on various meetings of the WSF International Council and evaluations made about WSF process. What we have been looking for is to accomplish one of WSF aims, stated on its Charter of Principles: The World Social Forum is an open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action.

This is the why this preparatory consultation is being launched. It gives continuity to the methodological options, which started to be adopted in 2004, during

WSF 2005 preparation, in order to improve process and event “architecture”. On that Forum, it resulted on the definition of 11 thematic terrains around which 2,000 activities were carried out– all of them were self-organized, corresponding to another advance compared to the events organized before.

But the 2004 consultation had a thematic character. In this one, we want to move a step forward.

Now what we request to you is to indicate the actions, campaigns and struggles in which your organization/network/entity is engaged.

The proposal is to organize the 7th Forum around those actions, campaigns and struggles, aggregating, on the different Forum spaces, the activities linked to them, as well as the activities that have no direct link with them – to be indicated during the moment of activities registration – but related to the same by their themes. This will make more visible the concrete actions born on the Forum process! or those who gave sequence or more density to others that had been developed before or outside WSF, as well as its effective political results. This will also stimulate the interconnection among organizations in which we are engaged on the struggles for constructing a fair, egalitarian, democratic, participative and sustainable society.

This proposal – and the execution of this preparatory consultation – was approved by the WSF International Council, based on a proposal made by its Methodology Commission, in its meeting held in March 2006, in Nairobi.

We tried to simplify the questions on the consultation form at maximum, in order to make easier to answer to it. As soon as you do it, better conditions we will have to prepare the WSF 2007 adequately. The deadline to send your answers is July 30, 2006. In order to fill in the consultation questionnaire, please access the website: <http://consultation.wsf2007.org/>. Organizations who have registered on the Polycentric WSF 2006 website ([www.wsf2006.org](http://www.wsf2006.org)) are not required to fill in all the forms again. They can access the site <http://consultation.wsf2007.org/> using the same username and password from the polycentric 2006 site above mentioned and then, click on the top menu “Consultation on actions, campaigns and struggles” > “Add new”. Up to now, the site is only in English. But soon it will be available also in French and Castellano/Spanish.

For further information on the event in Nairobi, please visit the site: [www.socialforum.or.ke](http://www.socialforum.or.ke).

WSF 2007 Organizing Committee executive office – Kenya.

Physical Contacts: Masandukuni Lane, Off Gitanga Road

Postal Address: P.O. Box 63125, 00619 Nairobi Kenya

Telephone: 254-020-3860745 ou 254-020-3860746

Fax: 254-020-2713262

E-mail: [socialforum@sodnet.or.ke](mailto:socialforum@sodnet.or.ke) World Social Forum Office in São Paulo Address: rua

General Jardim, 660 - 7th floor - São Paulo - SP - Brazil

Postal code: 01223-010 Website: [www.worldsocialforum.org](http://www.worldsocialforum.org)

**January 22-26, 2007, NACP, Colorado Springs, USA**

U.S. North American Carbon Program (NACP), Investigators Meeting & Joint Canada-Mexico-USA Carbon Program Planning Meeting, Cheyenne Mountain Conference Center, Colorado Springs, CO, USA (First Announcement)

**U.S. North American Carbon Program (NACP) Investigators Meeting**

Monday, January 22 through Wednesday, January 24

U.S. North American Carbon Program participants will meet to report research results to date, plan and coordinate work to occur during the next year, and plan future activities. Early opportunities for synthesis will also be discussed. Each NACP project and activity is encouraged to provide a poster and/or a presentation at the meeting. Any principal investigator who cannot attend should designate a co-investigator to represent their project.

**Joint Canada-Mexico-USA Carbon Program Planning Meeting**

Thursday, January 25 and Friday, January 26

The United States is pleased to host a joint meeting of Canadian, Mexican, and U.S. investigators involved in research on carbon cycling within North America and adjacent ocean basins and coastal areas. With the goal of developing a scientific framework for a joint program to provide better estimates of the North American carbon budget and a better understanding of the processes and mechanisms involved, meeting participants will identify activities that are well suited to collaboration and topics for synthesis of results developed by each country's program. The meeting agenda will include posters and presentations on current projects; however, the focus will be on discussions to shape a Joint Canada-Mexico-USA Carbon Program and understand its relationship to other regional carbon studies.

Mexican, Canadian, and U.S. scientists involved in carbon cycle research relevant to North America are welcome and encouraged to attend both meetings.

Additional information will follow in a second announcement and be posted at:

<http://www.nacarbon.org/>

U.S. North American Carbon Program Office (contact address)

[nacp\\_support@www.nacarbon.org](mailto:nacp_support@www.nacarbon.org)

**January 31-February 3, 2007, Fire Effects on Soil Properties, Barcelona, Spain**



*Background and invitation*

The aims of the meeting are to explore issues concerning effects of fire on soil properties. It is well known that fire and temperature produce changes on soil physical, chemical, organic and biological characteristics.

The intensity and severity of forests fires has increased in the last years, and this is a widespread worldwide phenomenon. It is important to know the effect of high intensity fires and prescribed fire as a management tool on soils. It is hoped that the exchange of information will not only contribute to a better understanding of the effects of fires on soils but also will suggest solutions for soil amendment and management in terms of soil quality and forest regeneration.

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together scientists who study the fire effects on soil properties and soil recovery after fires. New research methodologies, topics and conclusions about fire impacts on soils are very welcome.

The meeting will include an excursion to a study site where prescribed fire is used as a management tool (Les Gavarres Mountains, Girona).

#### *Topics*

- Fire effects on hydrology and soil physical properties
- Fire effects on organic matter content, soil chemical properties and soil recovery after fires
- New methodologies to study fire effects on soil
- Fire intensity and fire severity measurements

Contact: Prof. Xavier Úbeda., University of Barcelona, [xubeda@ub.edu](mailto:xubeda@ub.edu), [www.ub.edu/gram](http://www.ub.edu/gram)

#### **February 7-10, 2007, Groundwater Conference, Coimbatore, India**

3<sup>rd</sup> International Groundwater Conference (IGC-2007) on Water, Environment and Agriculture: Present Problems and Future Challenges, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, India

Contact: K.Palanisami at [palanisamik@vsnl.net](mailto:palanisamik@vsnl.net), [directorcards@tnau.ac.in](mailto:directorcards@tnau.ac.in), [ceemayil@gmail.com](mailto:ceemayil@gmail.com). Deadline for abstract submission: July 31, 2006, but you can try, and there won't be any problem if you want only to attend.

#### **February 12-16, 2007, EC07 IECA's Environmental Connection, Reno, USA**



#### *Conference Event*

The conference and expo will be at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. Our host hotel is the Atlantis Hotel. Show dates will be Tuesday 2/14, 5:00-7:30 PM, Wednesday, 2/14 and Thursday, 2/15.

Most conference activities will take place in the Reno-Sparks Convention Center:  
4590 S. Virginia St.  
Reno, NV 89504, USA  
775-827-7620

IECA Host Hotel:  
Atlantis Casino Resort  
3800 S. Virginia St.  
Reno, NV 89502, USA

IECA Room Rate: \$112.00

Preliminary Schedule:

Feb. 12, Monday - Full day training course, 8:30-5:00

Feb. 13, Tuesday - Full day training course, 8:30-5:00, Expo open, 5:00-7:30

Feb. 14, Wednesday - General Session, Technical Sessions, Expo Open

Feb. 15, Thursday - Technical Sessions, Expo Open

For additional information, contact:

Kate Nowak, Director of Events and Sales

Phone: 970-879-3010. ext. 15

Fax: 970-879-8563 Email: [kate@ieca.org](mailto:kate@ieca.org), [www.ieca.org](http://www.ieca.org)

**March 2-3, 2007, Financing of Forest Conservation**

Payments for Environmental Services in the Tropics, International Society of Tropical Foresters, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

What mechanisms are currently available for forest conservation in the tropics? Conservation has always been approached by a number of sectors including biology, political science, economics, and social science. But these perspectives and their associated agencies have historically worked in separate spheres, with little collaboration. Today it is essential that a holistic approach be taken and that the different fields are incorporated together into conservation schemes, and economists comprise an important part of this holistic view.

It is imperative to include economics in conservation planning in order to demonstrate the potential benefits of sustainable forest management. Payment for environmental services is one of the tools environmental economists use to support forest conservation and has great potential for the conservation of tropical forests. This term encompasses a wide scope of activities including carbon credits, bio-prospecting, watershed protection, soil conservation, tax credits and ecotourism.

The Yale Chapter of the International Society for Tropical Foresters expect that this conference will serve as a forum to discuss the various types of payment for environmental services, the issues associated with each type, and the successes and failures to date. The discussion will be driven by questions such as: Can payment for environmental services mechanisms lead to conservation? Can such mechanisms be as economically viable as other uses? How can these methods be better integrated into conservation and management plans? What are the potential negative consequences from the standpoints of conservation, local livelihoods, and economic optimization? How can active trading markets for ecosystem services be developed? Are payments for avoided deforestation and reduced carbon emissions feasible? Will tax credit programs be viable in the long term? We encourage abstracts based on primary research, or personal or institutional experience. Selected participants will present full papers at the conference. Abstracts should be a maximum of 500 words, and all correspondence will be addressed to the principal author.

**Please send abstracts by December 15, 2006** electronically or by mail:

Yale ISTF Conference

c/o Tropical Resource Institute

Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

210 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511

Web site: <http://www.yale.edu/istf/> Email: [istf@yale.edu](mailto:istf@yale.edu)



**March 19-21, 2007, Soil Moisture Sensing Technology Conference, Hawaii, USA**

First International Soil Moisture Sensing Technology Conference; Current and future research directions in soil moisture sensing, Waikiki, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.

This conference will focus on current and future research directions in soil moisture in-situ sensing technology with special emphasis on sensor reliability and measurement scale dependency.

Details in <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/faresa/Conference/>. Abstracts deadline: January 15, 2007

Participants can come either early or stay late to enjoy the Paradise in MARCH with a cost of room as little as \$69. Space is limited; book your rooms now.

We would appreciate if you could spread the word around about this conference. Also please feel free to contact any of the organizing committee members if you have any question or suggestion or you want to help.

**Ali Fares, Associate Professor of Hydrology**

Natural Resources & Environmental Management Dept.

University of Hawai'i - Manoa

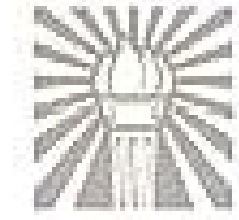
Ph: 808 956-6361(d) -7530(Sec) Fax:-6539, [afares@hawaii.edu](mailto:afares@hawaii.edu),

[WWW.CTAHR.HAWAII.EDU/Faresa/](http://WWW.CTAHR.HAWAII.EDU/Faresa/)

*"A Nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself", President F.D. Roosevelt (1933-1945)*

**March 21-23, 2007, Humic Science & Technology Conference, Boston, MA, USA**

Humic Science & Technology Conference X, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA, March 21-23, 2007. Contact Geoffrey Davies and Elham Ghabbour, [www.hagroup.neu.edu](http://www.hagroup.neu.edu).



**April 15-20, 2007, EGU Vienna 2007**

European Geosciences Union's General Assembly 2007, Vienna,

**SOIL EROSION ON AGRICULTURAL LAND**

<http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2007/>,

Conveners: Artemi Cerdà, Department of Geography, Univ. of Valencia. Spain,

[artemio.cerda@uv.es](mailto:artemio.cerda@uv.es), <http://www.uv.es/~acerda/>

John Boardman, Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford.

UK, [john.boardman@eci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:john.boardman@eci.ox.ac.uk), [www.eci.ox.ac.uk/staff/jb.htm](http://www.eci.ox.ac.uk/staff/jb.htm)

Yves le Bissonnais, Laboratoire d'étude des Interactions entre Sols, Agrosystèmes et Hydrosystèmes (LISAH). Montpellier, France, [yves.le-bissonnais@ensam.inra.fr](mailto:yves.le-bissonnais@ensam.inra.fr), and Dennis Flanagan, USDA-ARS. National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory West Lafayette, IN, USA, [flanagan@purdue.edu](mailto:flanagan@purdue.edu)

Agriculture lands are worldwide affected by non-sustainable soil and water losses. Intense ploughing, excessive use of herbicides, heavy machinery, climate change, soil organic matter exhaustion and salinization induce the degradation of agriculture land, and result in high

erosion rates. Agricultural soils are the most fundamental resource we have due to that (i) adequate food supply, (ii) water and soil resources, (iii) carbon sequestration, (iv) natural vegetation and fauna depend on productive land. Soil erosion by wind and water are threatening the agricultural soils.

The special session on Soil Erosion on Agriculture Land (SEAL) will discuss topics on soil degradation, past and present erosion processes, experimental and laboratory studies, processes and factors, field measurement and quantification, modelling and mapping erosion risk assessment, prediction and soil conservation policies of agricultural land. Papers on soil erosion research on agricultural land are welcome. Pls contact any convener.

### **ANTS IN THE SOIL SYSTEM: A HYDROLOGICAL, CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

Convener: Anita Risch, Head of the Research Group Animal Ecology, Unit Community Ecology, Swiss Federal Research Institute, Department Landscape, Vegetation Dynamics, Zürcherstrasse 111, CH-8903 Birmensdorf, Switzerland, [anita.risch@wsl.ch](mailto:anita.risch@wsl.ch)

Co-conveners: Leena Finér, Finnish Forest, Research Institute, Joensuu, Finland, [leena.finer@metla.fi](mailto:leena.finer@metla.fi)

Martin Jurgensen, School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science, Michigan Tech, USA, [mfjurg@mtu.edu](mailto:mfjurg@mtu.edu)

Artemi Cerdà, Department of Geography, University of Valencia. Spain, [artemio.cerda@uv.es](mailto:artemio.cerda@uv.es),

Ants are important components of most soil invertebrate communities. Besides their large contribution to biodiversity, they are considered ecosystem engineers that alter the flow of water, energy and nutrients through terrestrial ecosystems. However, despite the importance of these insects for terrestrial ecosystems, relatively little is known on how they influence soil hydrological, chemical and biological processes. In this session, we will review the status of soil/ant relationships and present case-studies on the impact of both mineral and organic mound-building ants on soil processes. We invite contributions on any of these soil-ant topics. If enough interest is shown, we would like to have selected papers published as a special issue in a soil, ecology, or an entomological journal. Pls contact any convener.

### **April 15-20, 2007, Analysis and Characterization of Black Carbon in the Environment**

(Co-listed in Biogeosciences, Atmospheric Sciences, Hydrological Sciences, Ocean Science & Soil Science Systems), EGU General Assembly in Vienna. Call for papers will be open October 2006 until January 15, 2007, deadline for support applications: December 8, 2006.

<http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2007/>

Conveners: Michael W. I. Schmidt, [mschmidt@geo.unizh.ch](mailto:mschmidt@geo.unizh.ch) and Orjan Gustafsson, [orjan.gustafsson@itm.su.se](mailto:orjan.gustafsson@itm.su.se). (Co-sponsored by Biogeosciences, Atmospheric, Hydrological and Ocean Science, and Soil Science Systems)' which can be found under the Biogeosciences Programme

Black carbon (BC) has received increasing attention due to its importance in a wide range of biogeochemical processes. For example, BC storage in ocean sediments represents a long-term sink in the global carbon cycle, and BC aerosols in the atmosphere affect Earth's radiative heat balance. BC can be a useful tracer for Earth's fire history; it is a significant fraction of the carbon buried in soils and sediments; and it is an important carrier of organic pollutants. EGU meetings are very cross-disciplinary and thus attractive for scientists from

diverse backgrounds, including those studying BC. One focus of the BC-meeting is to bring together the broad scientific community studying black carbon in the environment to discuss the latest research. This is the third meeting of this kind after Goldschmidt 1999 and EGU 2005.

A second focus of the meeting is to discuss methodological aspects. Variations in BC chemistry, along a combustion continuum, create serious methodological problems, as every BC measurement method detects a unique window of the BC spectrum. For example, methods which rely on optical microscopes to detect charcoal particles fail to detect sub-micron soot particles, while chemical or thermal methods which rely on the refractory nature of BC fail to detect the partially charred material which can be easily degraded. Effective atmospheric methods, which measure the absorptivity of a sample, cannot be used when BC occurs within an absorptive matrix, like soils or sediments. To address these methodological problems a ring trial was held (2004-6) on 12 BC-containing samples and materials potentially creating artifacts analyzed by 17 labs worldwide from soil, atmospheric, marine and water sciences (<http://www.geo.unizh.ch/phys/bc>). Results, implications and potential spin-off projects stemming from this ring trial will be presented and discussed during the meeting.

**May 2007, COMLAND Meeting in Tanzania**

Tanzania, ~~May 2007~~ (Postponed). Organized by Fidelis Kaihura; contact Paul F. Hudson, [pfhudson@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:pfhudson@mail.utexas.edu).

**May 3-4, 5-8, 2007, Biogeography and Biodiversity, Uttaranchal, India**

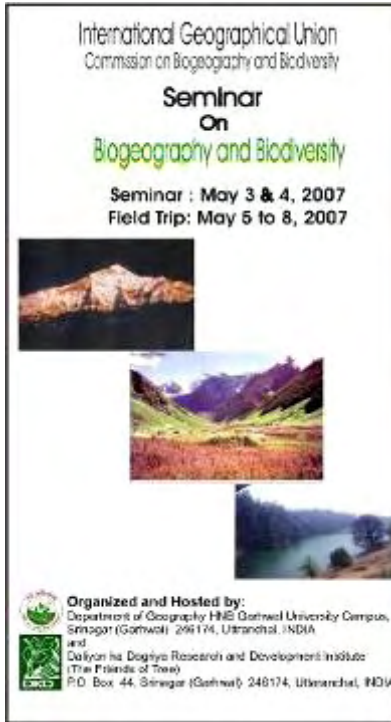
International Geographical Union Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity Seminar on Biogeography and Biodiversity, Srinagar, Uttaranchal, India



**About the Seminar:**

The IGU Commission on Biogeography and Biodiversity organizes fora for presentation and discussion (i) within the IGU structures (Regional Meetings, General Assemblies), (ii) by group meetings with national geographical bodies, and (iii) to promote biogeographical research and scholarship by geographers within other ICSU organizations, the International Association for Vegetation Science and the International Biogeography Association. Joint

meetings with national biogeography groups take place regularly with help of commission's full members. One of the prime objectives of the commission's work is to promote biogeographical teaching, research and scholarship and to contribute to the development of biogeography as an important sub-discipline. Commission meetings address various aspects of spatial, ecological and historical biogeography, and emphasize the societal relevance of biogeography.



In India, biogeography is a thriving sub-discipline. Recently, numerous studies on patterns of biodiversity, implications of global climate change, Yantra' was established on a slab here and Goddess killed the demon at a nearby place Kaliyasaur. Long ago hundreds of tantric adepts especially those belonging to the tradition of Sri Vidya did their practices here. Tantrik practices including human sacrifice prevailed until 8th Century when Adi Shankaracharya displaced this slab and hurled it into the Alaknanda river. This slab remains the most significant shrine in this area lying in the riverbed on the town outskirts. It is regarded as a living Sri Yantra, the most complex of all yantras. Here tantrics propitiated the Divine Mother in the form of Sri Vidya.

The old Srinagar city was destroyed later in the Gohna Lake dam-burst which destroyed all the old relics of the town. Today this town is an important cultural and educational centre in Uttranchal. Baba Gorakhnath Cave, Shankar Math, Jain Mandir, Gurudwara, Kamleshwar Temple,

Devalgarh, Khirsu Hill Station and Chauras, Dhari Devi are worth visiting in and around Srinagar (Garhwal). The seminar themes are:

- Status of biogeography and biodiversity in developing and developed countries
- Biodiversity hot-spots in the Himalaya
- Medicinal plants and their potential for livelihood enhancement in the Himalaya
- Land use and land cover change impacts on biogeography and biodiversity
- Impacts of climate change and natural hazards on biodiversity
- Biodiversity conservation, indigenous knowledge and community participation in the Himalaya
- Political ecology of resource use conflicts in the Himalaya
- Culture and civilization for environmental conservation and human development

**Location:**

Srinagar (Garhwal) is situated in Garhwal Himalaya, approximately 110 km NE of Rishikesh, at the bank of Alaknanda River. During the summer months, temperatures range between 16° and 38° C. In May (pre-monsoon season), weather is usually pleasant. Srinagar was once the capital of Garhwal Kings. Home to H N Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar was the capital of Garhwal before the arrival of British rule. Srinagar received its name from Sri Yantra.

### Invitation:

Community people, practitioners, technicians, academicians, NGOs, research and other institutions are invited to attend this seminar. The seminar will be a forum for national and international experts on the above subjects. The programme includes talks and discussions followed by deliberations for recommendations. Moreover, poster sessions will be organized during the seminar.

Registration fee for foreigners: Seminar only: US\$150; Field trip (w. accommodation & all meals: US\$500.

Contact: Dr R.B. Singh, Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, Delhi 110007, India. +91-9412079068, +91-9412922575; Fax: +91-1346252970; [rbsgeo@yahoo.com](mailto:rbsgeo@yahoo.com), [rbsgeo@hotmail.com](mailto:rbsgeo@hotmail.com). Other contacts: [sunesh\\_geography@yahoo.com](mailto:sunesh_geography@yahoo.com), [mkparmar04@rediffmail.com](mailto:mkparmar04@rediffmail.com), [negivs@yahoo.co.in](mailto:negivs@yahoo.co.in), [iguseminar07@yahoo.com](mailto:iguseminar07@yahoo.com), [mbspgeog@gmail.com](mailto:mbspgeog@gmail.com), [daliyon2002@yahoo.com](mailto:daliyon2002@yahoo.com)

### May 22-25, 2007, Biodiversity Congress, Bangkok, Thailand

1<sup>st</sup> International Biodiversity Congress: Working Together for Livelihood Security, Food Security and Ecological Security for Life on Earth, Bangkok, Thailand. Contact: Ram Bhandari, [hirinepal@mail.com.np](mailto:hirinepal@mail.com.np), [ibc2007@yahoo.com](mailto:ibc2007@yahoo.com)

### May 22-27, 2007, Eco Summit 2007, Beijing, PR China



The world is experiencing rapid urbanization, industrialization and globalization. The pace, depth, and magnitude of these changes, have exerted severe ecological stresses on humankind living conditions and life support ecosystems across all scales - from local to regional, and global scales. Water shortages, desertification, soil degradation, greenhouse gas emissions, elevated sediment and nutrient fluxes to the coastal seas and other environmental problems are increasingly becoming the common side effects of those human activities. Sustainability can only be assured with an ecological understanding of the complex interactions between environmental, economic, political, and social/cultural factors and with careful planning and management grounded in ecological principles. Ecological complexity and sustainability are becoming a core concept and instrument for improving our common future.



This Eco Summit will focus on integrative aspects of all ecological science and its application under the general theme of "Ecological Complexity and Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities for 21st-Century's Ecology". The aim of this Eco Summit is to encourage a greater integration of both the natural and social sciences with the policy and decision-making community to develop a better understanding of the complex nature of ecological systems. This

understanding will provide the basis for sustainable solutions to environmental problems. We expect this meeting to attract the broadest representations of ecological organizations, ecologists and practitioners on ecological sustainability issues from all over the world.



We intend to show the unification and determination of our ecological community as a whole to maximize our commitment to use ecological knowledge and understanding to meet the challenges raised from the Earth Summit (1992), the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002), and the United Nations 2005 Millennium Review Summit.

Our scientific program will feature: plenary sessions, symposia, contributed oral and poster sessions, and special evening sessions.

A variety of scientific field trips will also be planned. We will have 14 world known plenary speakers and more than 10 Elsevier ecology journals plan to publish special issues from this conference. The language of the conference is English.



Visit the Eco Summit website at [www.ecosummit2007.elsevier.com](http://www.ecosummit2007.elsevier.com) to learn more about the conference, find out about the key deadlines on submitting symposium and session proposals as well as abstracts for oral and poster presentations and sign up for Eco Summit Alerts. Abstract deadline: January 15, 2007.

**May 24-26, 2007, Zinc Crops 2007, Istanbul, Turkey**

International Conference on Zinc Crops 2007: Improving Crop Production and Human Health, Istanbul, Turkey.

Co-organized by the International Zinc Association (IZA) and International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA), in cooperation with the Sabanci University and HarvestPlus (the Challenge Program on Food Fortification of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research). Contact: Prof. Ismail Cakmak, Sabanci University (Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences), 349 56 Tuzla, Turkey. Phone: 90-216-4839524, Fax: 90-216-4839550, [cakmak@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:cakmak@sabanciuniv.edu). Regular updates on Zinc Crops 2007 will be posted on: [www.zncrops2007.info](http://www.zncrops2007.info).

**June 11-15, 2007, Sharing Indigenous Wisdom, Green Bay, WI, USA**

Second Conference: Sharing Indigenous Wisdom: An International Dialogue on Sustainable Development. [www.sharingindigenouswisdom.org](http://www.sharingindigenouswisdom.org)

Abstract/Proposal Deadline: 12/1/2006

Venue: Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, Green Bay, WI, U.S.A.

The second conference is being hosted by College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute to foster dialogue on traditional indigenous knowledge being utilized and incorporated as models and methods of sustainable practices. Traditional or Indigenous Knowledge refers to the wisdom, embodied in indigenous communities or groups, being utilized to preserve and protect resources vital to the continuity of indigenous communities or groups. This year the conference will focus on Natural Environment foundational element of the Menominee model of sustainable development.

In collaboration with the USDA Forest Service and the International Union of Forest Research Organization's Task Force on traditional forest knowledge, papers or presentations are invited for the following topics, consistent with the focus on Natural Environment:

- History of the relationship of formal forest science and traditional knowledge in forest management
- Application of traditional knowledge in forest ecosystem assessments and management
- Indigenous community priorities for forest research and collaborative forest management



- Case studies on joint initiatives and utilization of traditional and formal scientific knowledge in forest management activities
- Development of good practices for including both traditional knowledge and formal science in forestry education, research and forest management activities

If you wish to present a paper, give a poster presentation, or organize a workshop session, send your proposal, abstract or description, maximum 500 words single spaced, no later than December 1, 2006 to:

Dale Kakkak, Sustainable Development Institute, College of Menominee Nation, P.O. Box 1179, Keshena, WI 54135, U.S.A. Or send by e-mail to [dkakkak@menominee.edu](mailto:dkakkak@menominee.edu)

Acceptance letters will be mailed no later than January 31, 2007. Priority will be given to papers or presentations done jointly between indigenous community members or practitioners and researchers. For more information about the call for papers visit our website:

[www.sharingindigenouswisdom.org](http://www.sharingindigenouswisdom.org)

\*\* Deadline for submissions of abstracts or proposals - December 1, 2006

\*\* Notification of acceptance - January 31, 2007

\*\* Final Papers/Presentations Due - April 30, 2007

Registration fee: US\$300; Student rate: US\$150; early registration through April 1, 2007. After that time, the registration fee will be US\$375. Conference registration includes scheduled meals/breaks and materials. Individuals are responsible for their own travel and lodging reservations and expenses.

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center Green Bay 2040, Airport Drive Green Bay, WI 54313, U.S.A. Phone: +1-(920) 494-7300; Fax: (920) 494-9599; [www.radisson.com/greenbaywi](http://www.radisson.com/greenbaywi)

For more information contact: Dale Kakkak, [dkakkak@menominee.edu](mailto:dkakkak@menominee.edu) and/ or Nathan Fregien, [nfregien@menominee.edu](mailto:nfregien@menominee.edu). [www.SustainableDevelopmentInstitute.org](http://www.SustainableDevelopmentInstitute.org)

### **June 11-15, 2007, Symposium on Soil and Plant Analysis, Budapest, Hungary**

The 10th International Symposium on Soil and Plant Analysis will be held in Budapest, Hungary,. For further information, please visit: <http://www.spcouncil.com/symposium.htm>. Contact Yash Kalra at [YKalra@NRCan.gc.ca](mailto:YKalra@NRCan.gc.ca)

### **June 13-17, 2007, Water History Association Conference, Finland**

5th International Water History Association Conference, "Past and Futures of Water", Tampere, Finland

The International Water History Association (IWHA) will hold its fifth biennial conference in Tampere, Finland, in June 2007. The conference program addresses diverse topics related to water history and futures, and will provide an excellent opportunity for scholars and practitioners from a variety of disciplines and different parts of the world to meet and discuss the many fascinating aspects of water history. Major themes are: Water and the city; Water, health and sanitation; Water, food and economy; Water history research methodologies; and Water history and its relevance. Other relevant session topics are welcome. The first Call for Sessions and papers by 15 Oct is now out.

For more information please visit: [5th IWHA Conference Web site](#), or download: [First Call for Sessions and Papers](#). You may also contact: [iwha2007@tavicon.fi](mailto:iwha2007@tavicon.fi).

**June 25-30, 2007, European Society for Soil Conservation, Palermo, Italy**

5<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the European Society for Soil Conservation, 'Changing Soils in a Changing World: the Soils of Tomorrow' Palermo, Italy

The objective is to promote exchange and discussion about the problems that affect the soils due to the pressure of Man on Soils and the Landscape, that year after year is becoming increasingly evident and to stimulate soil awareness in civil society. The Congress is open for soil scientists, educators and policymakers. It will consist of invited lectures, scientific sessions with oral and poster presentations and field excursions and will attempt to advocate interest in soil awareness at all societal levels.

The main topics of the Congress are indicated below. However, we welcome suggestions from prospective participants that may be of general interest: Soil erosion; Soil contamination; Soil sealing by construction activities; Soil compaction; Soil biodiversity; Soil salinization; Soil consumption; Soil policy; Anthropogenic soils.

The Congress will take place in Palermo, at the University Campus. Palermo, whose history dates back to the Phoenicians, is located on the north coast of Sicily and is one of the main cities of Italy. It has a beautiful beach area (Mondello) and can be reached by air, rail and bus from the major cities of Europe. The region has a Mediterranean climate with hot and dry summers and mild and rainy winters and shows many unique historical and tourist attractions with artistic and natural beauties. As a result of these, Sicily receives many tourists.

Contact: Professor Carmelo Dazzi, ESSC Vice-President, Dipartimento di Agronomia Ambientale e Territoriale, Facoltà di Agraria, Università di Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, 90128 Palermo, Italy. Phone: +39 091 6650247; Fax: +39 091 6650229, [dazzi@unipa.it](mailto:dazzi@unipa.it), <http://www.esscpalermocongress.it/>, [www.essc.sk](http://www.essc.sk)

**July 2-5, 2007, EFITA/WCCA 2007, Glasgow, Scotland**

- European Federation of IT in Agriculture 2007 Conference, EFITA/WCCA 2007, „Environmental and rural sustainability through ICT“, Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland, UK, [www.efitaglasgow.org](http://www.efitaglasgow.org)

CALL FOR PAPERS: Sustainability is a word that is used in many contexts, and increasingly so when rural and agricultural issues are under discussion. It is a concept that suggests that the continuity of economic, social, and institutional aspects of our society, as well as the non-human environment, is far from assured, and that careful thought and management is needed to sustain them.

The EFITA/WCCA 2007 conference will examine the role and use of information and communication technologies in three key areas of rural and agricultural sustainability:

**\* ICT SUPPORTING ON-FARM BUSINESS \***

What does rural industry want/need from an ICT system to help it maintain itself, meet targets, meet legislative requirements and secure competitive edge?

Theme co-ordinator: Prof Gerhard Schiefer, University of Bonn

Papers under this topic heading include, but are not limited to:

- Farm management systems
- Decision support tools
- Aquatic Resource Management
- Dairy and Animal Production Systems
- e-AgBusiness and Production Chain Management
- Field Data Acquisition and Recording
- Food Safety Control/Tracking-Tracing
- GIS and Precision Agriculture
- Grid Applications
- Information Systems and Databases
- Instrumentation and Control
- Portal / Internet Services
- Wireless and Sensor Networks
- e-collaboration/e-communities

**\* ICT SUPPORTING RURAL SUSTAINABILITY \***

Can ICT support rural sustainability? What is the evidence that it can help?

What have we learned from recent implementations and what new technologies are on the way that may take us further?

Theme co-ordinator: Dr Sarah Skerratt, Scottish Agricultural College

Papers under this topic heading include, but are not limited to:

- Broadband applications for rural communities
- SMEs and digital communication
- The emergence of the rural e-citizen
- Education/Training and Distance Learning/Professional Accreditation
- Rural youth and ICTs
- Internet supported communities
- Rural living labs
- ICTs role in capacity-building and social capital development in rural communities?
- Cultural evaluation of ICTs in rural development
- Transferability of <sup>3</sup>solutions<sup>2</sup> across territories and countries

**\* ICT SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY \***

Can ICT support the achievement and maintenance of environmental sustainability in the rural and agricultural sectors? How can ICT be used to support the development of environmental policies and how can it help farmers and agronomists and other end users to deliver them?

Theme co-ordinator: Andy Offer, ADAS

Papers under this topic heading include, but are not limited to:

- Predicting the effect of policy changes
- Answering policy maker's questions
- Spatial analysis, GIS and datasets
- Design and evaluation of mitigation measures
- Modelling ecological consequences of land management practice

- Mitigating and adapting to multiple stressors
- Environmental monitoring systems
- Using ICT to deliver the policy objectives
- Increasing uptake/understanding of legislation
- Tracking uptake of schemes and policies
- e-Government
- Environmental knowledge transfer using ICT
- DSS for farmers and consultants

You are invited to submit an extended abstract for one of these themes by Nov. 1, 2006. Instructions for authors, and other information about the conference, can be found on our website [www.efitaglasgow.org](http://www.efitaglasgow.org).

**July 2-6, 2007, Durban International Convention, Durban, South Africa**



Invitation from Chair  
 Committees & Congress Organiser  
 Event Format  
 Location & Venue  
 Programme  
 Theme & Sessions  
 Papers/Authors/Proceedings  
 Technical Tours  
 Exhibition & Floorplan  
 Social Functions  
 Registration  
 Accommodation  
 Social Tours  
 Day Tours  
 Airport Transfers  
 General Information  
 Partners & Sponsors



### **Invitation From Chair**

On behalf of the WEEC 2007 Committee and the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa, I invite you to join us in Durban, South Africa, for an exciting and innovative congress.

This is the first time that the World Environmental Education Congress comes to Africa, and it comes at a time when there are calls for revisiting our teaching and learning beyond the classroom. As researchers, practitioners and policy makers we need to ensure that we contribute to the values and goals of sustainability as found in the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, the UN Development Millennium Goals; Education for All and many other international directives.

In this world of dynamic social, economic and environmental influences, the challenge that faces all practitioners in all spheres of development and governance is not only what to teach but also how to effect learning. We trust that the Congress theme **LEARNING IN A CHANGING WORLD**, opens the opportunity for critical reflection on the role of education - practice and theory - in effecting these international goals for a better future for all! The World Environmental Education Congress Secretariat aims to launch the World Environmental Education Association during the Congress.

An exciting 2007 Congress programme includes not only the daily keynote papers, research-based papers, poster presentations, workshops and round tables, social marketing of programmes in a market place (exhibitions and soap boxes), but also a number of exciting cultural events and scientific tours. The Congress also opens opportunity for optional pre and post tours for delegates and accompanying persons to explore the rich natural and cultural heritage of Southern Africa.

We are determined to create rich opportunities for **LEARNING** from each other, and to enable **CULTURAL EXCHANGE** to strengthen education for sustainability, theory, practice and new ways of living together.

I invite you to Shosholozza all the way to Msawawa (Southern Africa) to experience it for yourself.

Ms Mumsie Gumede

Chairperson WEEC 2007

<http://www.weec2007.com/index.php>

Contact: [nina@confco.co.za](mailto:nina@confco.co.za) / [carol@confco.co.za](mailto:carol@confco.co.za)

### **July 2-13, 2007, OAJIS Workshop, Perugia, Italy**

The IAHS Workshop on Impact of Environmental Change on Sediment Sources and Sediment Delivery, Perugia, Italy

There is increasing concern for the potential impact of environmental change, including both climate change and land use change, on sediment fluxes in catchments and river basins. Increased sediment loads and concentrations can result in significant environmental problems associated with sedimentation in river channels, reservoirs, canals and related hydraulic structures, increased water treatment costs and degradation of water quality and aquatic habitats. Such impacts relate to both the physical presence of the sediment and its biogeochemical impact. Any attempt to develop an improved understanding of the potential impact of climate and land use change on sediment fluxes must consider their interaction with both sediment sources and sediment delivery mechanisms. Sediment source exerts a key

influence on the sensitivity of mobilization and delivery processes to environmental change and on the biogeochemical properties of sediment (e.g. nutrient and contaminant content). Similarly, small changes in catchment hydrology could generate important changes in sediment delivery dynamics, which increase slope-channel connectivity and greatly increase the proportion of the sediment mobilized from the catchment surface that reaches the channel network. The workshop will review the existing understanding of sediment sources and sediment delivery in catchments and river basins and their likely sensitivity to the impacts of environmental change.

Deadline for receiving abstracts is January 31, 2007. All abstracts should be submitted electronically through the General Assembly Website <http://www.iugg2007perugia.it/>.

Convenor: Des Walling, University of Exeter, School of Geography and Archaeology, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4RJ, UK. Tel: +44 1392 263345 ; Fax: +44 1392 263342, [d.e.walling@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:d.e.walling@exeter.ac.uk)

Contact: Dirk de Boer, ICCE Secretary, Centre for Hydrology, Department of Geography, University of Saskatchewan, 9 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 5A5 Canada. Phone: +1 306 966 5671; Fax: +1 306 966 5680; [dirk.deboer@usask.ca](mailto:dirk.deboer@usask.ca)

### **July 16-19, 2007, Symposium on Organic Matter Dynamics, Poitiers, France**

I invite you to participate in the international Symposium on Organic Matter Dynamics in Agro-Ecosystem which will be organized on July 16-19 2007 in Poitiers, France. Acquiring knowledge about soil organic matter is essential for sustainable use and conservation of resources, for which climate change and increasing demands for bio-energy become crucial global challenges. As you will see, the symposium programme will feature a variety of panel discussions and keynote addresses touching on a range of issues concerning soil organic matter research in this system.

Detailed information regarding the symposium (sessions, invited speakers preliminary schedules) and other practical information can be found on the symposium website: [http://www.inra.fr/Symposium\\_OMD\\_2007](http://www.inra.fr/Symposium_OMD_2007)

I kindly invite you to register and submit your extended abstract right now. See you in Poitiers in July 2007.

Abad Chabbi [abad.chabbi@lusignan.inra.fr](mailto:abad.chabbi@lusignan.inra.fr)

Dr. Abad Chabbi

Coordinateur Nationale du l'Observatoire de Recherche en Environnement- Prairies Cycle Biogéochimique et Biodiversité (PCBB)

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**July 21-25, 2007, International Conference of SWCS for 2007**

Don't miss next year's conference, already in the works, at the Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa, Florida. See details in [http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs\\_international\\_conferences/2006\\_annual\\_conference/](http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/2006_annual_conference/)

Contact: Suzi Case, Administrative Assistant, [suzi.case@swcs.org](mailto:suzi.case@swcs.org), phone: 515-289-2331, [www.swcs.org](http://www.swcs.org)

**July 22 to 26, 2007, Conference on Coastal Zone 2007, Portland, Oregon**

[www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/)

**August 28-31, 2007, Royal Geographical Society, London, UK**

Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) Annual International Conference 2007: 'Sustainability and Quality of Life', 28th to 31st August 2007, London, UK. Paper session sponsored by the Political Geography Research Group.

Convenors: Daniel Hammett (University of Edinburgh), Libby Porter (University of Sheffield)

**Abstract:**

The International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, seeking the protection and promotion of indigenous peoples' rights, ended in 2004. Yet, overt and covert abuses of these rights continue. Indigenous peoples often find themselves marginalised in the political and social structures of states, dispossessed of land and access to resources. Globalisation and the spread of transnational corporations bring capital and industry into conflict with Indigenous groups. In many states, such as Botswana, Namibia, Australia and Brazil, conflicts persist over access to land, mineral wealth, natural resource management, as well as broader rights questions. Yet Indigenous people continue to struggle for their rights, and those stories of struggle (and the gains won) are equally crucial to our understanding of contemporary expressions and conflicts concerning Indigenous rights. Identity, politics, space and place are vital to the assertion, and denial, of Indigenous rights.

We invite papers concerning such themes, from all continents, to engage in a dialogue about the contemporary Indigenous rights issues.

Papers are particularly welcome on the following themes:

- Indigenous peoples and land-rights,
- Resource access and conflict - mineral extraction, access to water, land management
- Political rights and social justice,
- The exploitation of knowledge and natural resources.
- Policy and governance in the Indigenous domain

Please send abstracts of no more than 200 words to [D.Hammett@ed.ac.uk](mailto:D.Hammett@ed.ac.uk) and [E.J.Porter@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:E.J.Porter@sheffield.ac.uk) by 31st January 2007.

**September 1-5, 2007, Forum on Soils, Society & Global Change, Selfoss, Iceland**  
*Celebrating the Centenary of Soil Conservation and Land Restoration in Iceland, Selfoss, Iceland*

The Icelandic Soil Conservation Service is organizing a Global Forum to highlight the crucial role of soil conservation and land restoration in addressing key environmental and socio-economic challenges for a sustainable future. Most particularly, it marks the celebration by Iceland of a century of organized soil conservation and land restoration operation in 2007 - one of the longest standing in the world. The Forum is organized in partnership with several universities and international agencies, including the United Nations University (UNU) and Ohio State University (OSU), and Icelandic bodies. It is to be hosted by the Icelandic Government under the patronage of the President of Iceland, His Excellency Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson.

Land degradation, manifesting in the form of soil erosion and desertification is a global problem of major proportions. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment ranks land degradation as among the world's greatest environmental challenges, affecting climate and biological diversity, reducing environmental security, destabilizing societies, worsening food security, and increasing poverty. The Forum highlights innovative thinking to collectively tackle the inter-related facets of these problems through sustainable land management.

The Forum will emphasize the synergistic role of sustainable soil management in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In this context, it will also explore interlinkages in successful implementation of the UN conventions focusing on climate change, combating desertification and biological diversity.

The Forum will bring together a group of key stakeholders from around the world, representing a broad spectrum of disciplines. The aim is to use the meeting as a venue for cross-fertilization of ideas in order to fashion a new global consensus on the above-mentioned crucial linkages and develop a common strategy as well as action plans to help achieve sustainable land management during the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The main emphasis of the Forum will be on discussions and dialogue; this will be supported through selected seminar presentations. Field excursions will demonstrate the century-long Icelandic expertise and experience, which potentially has a great value to other nations facing similar challenges. The Forum will conclude with a special centennial commemoration event hosted by the President of Iceland.

For more information please contact the forum organizers at [globalforum@land.is](mailto:globalforum@land.is).

**September 10-14, 2007, Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation, Sichuan, China**

The Fourth International Conference on Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation: Mechanics, Prediction, and Assessment, International Convention Center, Chengdu, Sichuan, China  
Organized by the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, CAS, China

The first three International Conferences on Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation were held in 1997 at San Francisco, in 2000 at Taipei, and in 2003 at Davos. Chengdu, China was selected as the venue of the Fourth International Conference on the same themes. China has suffered heavily from debris-flow hazards in about 1,000 counties and cities. Among the most serious recent debris-flow disasters is one that killed 57 people and was triggered by a torrential

storm in Yunnan Province in July 2004. In China, efforts have been increasingly made to describe and understand debris-flow processes, thus enabling development of methodologies for debris-flow hazards prediction and assessment. For example, the pre-conference field trip will examine engineering structures that have been installed to counter debris-flow hazards



behind one of the World Natural Heritage sites in Jiuzhaigou Valley. The post-conference field trip will visit the Dongchuan Debris Flow Observation and Research Station (DDFORS) in Jiangjiagou Valley (Yunnan Province), which was established by the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), to enhance the understanding of debris-flow mechanics and foster the development of cost-effective countermeasures. The DDFORS has observed, measured, and monitored debris flows for more than 40

years. On the post-conference field trip, visitors will gain an insight into every stage of the debris-flow process. The likelihood to witness a debris flow during the post-conference field trip is high, for more than 10 debris flows occur annually in Jiangjiagou Valley during the rainy season.

Pre- and Post-Conference excursions will be organized.

Full information, including online contact and registration, is available in <http://4thdfhm.imde.ac.cn>.

Or contact: Dr. Peng Cui, Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences, P.O. Box 417, Chengdu, Sichuan 610041, China. Phone: +86-28-85214421; Fax: +86-28-85222258, [dfhm@imde.ac.cn](mailto:dfhm@imde.ac.cn)

### **September 10-17, 2007, Environmental Changes, Inner Mongolia, China**

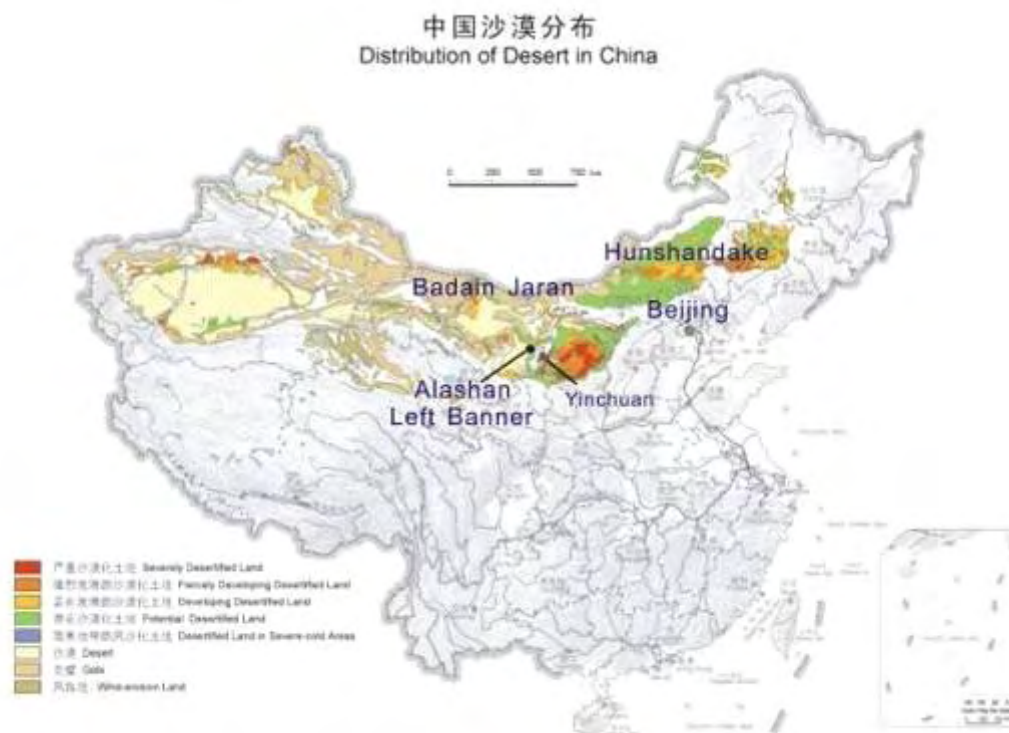
International Workshop on Environmental Changes and Sustainable Development in Arid and Semi-arid Regions, Alashan Left Banner - Long Xin Hotel - Inner Mongolia, China

Co-organizers and Co-sponsors:

- COMLAND (Commission on land degradation and desertification, International Geographical Union)
- IAG (International Association of Geomorphologists, Working group on interactions between aeolian, fluvial and lacustrine processes)
- IGCP 500
- INQUA (Project number: INQUA 0503)
- GSC (Geographical Society of China)
- National Natural Sciences Foundation of China
- PAGES

Local Organizer: Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing

Language of the workshop: English



**Introduction:**

The workshop will start on September 10 (registration and a reception in the evening). Paper sessions (normal oral presentation for 15 to 20 minutes, keynote 30 to 40 minutes and posters) are planned for the following three full days including a half day field trip to see rural places around the conference venue. Participants will see irrigation fields facing land degradation, the life of rural people, rehabilitated vegetation against desertification and a field with small sand dunes. The paper sessions will include oral and poster presentations, and there will be evening lectures.

An optional pre-conference field trip (maximum participants 35): Highlights of the trip will be the reactivation of the stable dunes and rehabilitation measurements (mainly by vegetation) north of Beijing. Meeting point in Beijing and we shall travel northwards to Hunshandake Sandy Land by bus for three days, starting in the morning of September 7 and returning via the hilly landscape around the Great Wall to Beijing in the afternoon of September 9. This is also the area where considerable effort has been made to reduce soil erosion and deflation as well as to reduce the threat of dust storms in northern China. Xiaoping Yang, having done a little research here, will look forward to leading this trip.

An optional post-conference field trip (maximum participants 30): Highlights of the trip will be the megadunes and lakes in the Badain Jaran Desert. The field trip will start on September 14 by bus from Left Banner and then by jeep in the sandy areas. Participants will see high sand dunes (often ca 300 m, maximum 460 m in this sand sea) and permanent lakes in the inter-dune basins. Palaeo-shorelines are distributed around the lakes, illustrating late Quaternary climatic changes. The forms of the dunes are quite diversified and were probably created due to a) different formations related to climatic changes and b) basement rocks. In the last two years the sand sea has been visited by an increased number of tourists. Therefore, the jeep drivers are well experienced to drive in the dune areas (it is really exciting and quite safe). We shall stay two nights in tents in the field and stay in a nice hotel in the Right Banner (Ekenhuduge) when returning from the dune fields. We shall travel back to the Left Banner on September 17 (ca 500 km, good road). Along the road between left and right banners we

shall visit places where a lot of effort has been practised to plant grasses and trees in the arid environment. Xiaoping Yang, having worked in this area since 1988, will look forward to leading this trip.

### **Alternative trips:**

It is possible to participate in normally comfortable (and sometimes less expensive) sightseeing tours offered by various domestic and overseas tourist agencies. Tourist agencies organize trips ranging one day to more than two weeks around China, also from Yinchuan. The conference city is relatively close to Xi'an, one of the most famous places for tourists, largely because of the terracotta soldiers buried ca 2000 years ago.

### **Themes:**

- Case studies and theories relating to land degradation and sustainable development in arid and semi-arid as well as sub-humid regions of various continents;
- Comparisons of regional-scale reconstruction of Late Quaternary changes in the deserts of various climate zones (monsoon regions, subtropics and westerlies);
- Natural and human impacts on the landscape in various climate zones;
- Interactions amongst aeolian, fluvial and lacustrine processes in desert margins.

### **Registration fee:**

US\$600; see more details in <http://www.iggcas.ac.cn/iw07/index.htm>

### **Deadlines:**

Early bird payment (US\$500) up to April 1, 2007

Final payment for regular registration: August 10, 2007

Receipt of abstracts: June 1, 2007

Receipt of full papers for consideration in the special issues of the international journals (see conference publications below): at the workshop.

### **Contact persons:**

- Xiaoping YANG, Steering Committee member, COMLAND and local organiser of the Workshop (E-mail: [xpyang@263.net.cn](mailto:xpyang@263.net.cn); [xpyang@mail.iggcas.ac.cn](mailto:xpyang@mail.iggcas.ac.cn)). Phone: +86 (0)10 62008389. Fax: +86 (0)10 62032495. Postal address: Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences. P.O. Box 9825, Beijing 100029, P.R. China)
- Guðrún Gísladóttir, Chair, COMLAND ([ggisla@hi.is](mailto:ggisla@hi.is)). Department of Geology and Geography, University of Iceland, Askja, Sturlugata 7, IS 101 Reykjavík, Iceland)
- Paul F. Hudson, Secretary, COMLAND ([pfhudson@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:pfhudson@mail.utexas.edu)). Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712-1098, USA)
- Arthur Conacher, Steering Committee member, COMLAND ([Arthur.Conacher@uwa.edu.au](mailto:Arthur.Conacher@uwa.edu.au)). School of Earth and Geographical Sciences, University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009, Australia)

### **Conference publications:**

A special theme issue on land degradation and desertification in *Geographical Research* (Journal of the Institute of Australian Geographers, [www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/ages](http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/ages)) and a special theme issue on geomorphology and palaeoclimatic changes in *Quaternary Research* (<http://ees.elsevier.com/yqres/>) will be the official venues to publish papers from the workshop. Both oral and poster presenters are welcome to submit their papers to these special issues and the deadline for submission will be September 10, 2007. The guidelines for writing the papers for each journal can be found in



the abovementioned websites. Of course, all papers will be subject to the normal reviewing process.

**September 17-19, 2007, International Symposium on Gully Erosion, Pamplona, Spain**

The Department of Projects and Rural Engineering of the Public University of Navarre (Spain) is pleased to invite you to participate in the IV International Symposium on Gully Erosion, to be held at Pamplona (Spain). This symposium aims to review current understanding and information, and to report progress in the following topics on gully erosion:

**Importance:** e.g. on/off-site gully impact on soil properties, landforms, and landscape at different times and space scales.

**Characterization:** e.g. experimental investigation on different kinds of gullies, monitoring techniques of gully erosion, historical reconstruction of processes.

**Controlling factors:** e.g. effect of anthropogenic activities on gully, interaction between gully erosion and other land degradation processes, role of vegetation.

**Control measures:** e.g. prevention of gully, gully restoration methods.

**Processes and modelling:** last but not least, we shall greatly appreciate receiving contributions on this important topic: e.g. gully headcut mechanics, channel network evolution, gully erosion thresholds, and so on.

For more details, please visit the webpage of the symposium:

<http://www.unavarra.es/erosion/index.htm>, which will be periodically updated. Kindly tell your colleagues about this symposium.

Dr. Javier Casalí

Dr. Rafael Giménez

Program Committee Chairs Members

Contact: Symposium Gully [erosion2007symposium.gullyerosion2007@unavarra.es](mailto:erosion2007symposium.gullyerosion2007@unavarra.es)

**September 23-26, 2007, 3<sup>rd</sup> Int. Conference on Mechanisms of Organic Matter Stabilisation and Destabilisation in Soils and Sediments, Adelaide, South Australia**  
Stamford Grand Hotel, Glenelg, Adelaide, South

As with the two previous conferences, the main goal is to bring together scientists from a range of backgrounds to share ideas and present recent research results. We welcome participation by researchers working in organic geochemistry, soil science, ecology and other disciplines related to the conference themes.

With this conference, the themes have been expanded to include natural organic matter (NOM) in aquatic systems and processes that link stabilisation and destabilisation mechanisms in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. The aims of the conference are to facilitate the exchange of ideas pertaining to NOM stability in soils and sediments, and encourage the development of integrative and multi-disciplinary collaborative projects.



**Themes include:**

- Formation, characterisation and fate of NOM including Black Carbon
- Movement of NOM within and between terrestrial/aquatic ecosystems
- Application of isotopic techniques in NOM studies
- Stabilisation/ destabilisation mechanisms for NOM
- Biological significance of NOM pools at various time scales
- Modelling NOM dynamics.

Contact information: Jan Skjemstad, [www.clw.csiro.au/conferences/organic/](http://www.clw.csiro.au/conferences/organic/)

**October 17-19, 2007, Bottlenecks, Solutions, Istanbul, Turkey**

Bottlenecks, Solutions and Priorities in the Context of Functions of Forest Resources, Faculty of Forestry, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Turkey

An international symposium will be held by Istanbul University, Faculty of Forestry in Istanbul between October 17-19, 2007 to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Forestry Education in Turkey with support of Rectorate of Istanbul University, Ministry of Environment and Forestry and International Union of Forest Research Organizations. The symposium aims to provide an international scientific atmosphere with participation of experts from universities, research institutes, public and private sectors and non-governmental organizations in areas relating to the functions of forest resources. Forest resources have a lot of functions such as protecting biological diversity, climate regulation, water production, soil and water conservation, providing natural food, supporting urban life, rural development, creating recreational opportunities, developing game and wildlife, protecting visual and cultural values, strengthening social stability, supporting society's health, producing wood and non-wood forest products, creating employment and income, providing possibilities for export etc., which have effects on the ecological environmental, social-cultural and economical-financial fields.

Subjects of the presentations for the symposium should be thought in the context of the above-mentioned functions of forest resources. It is recommended that authors explain causes of bottlenecks and failures taking place during providing of these functions of forest resources; deal with analyses and solutions toward overcoming them from point of view of one or multidimensional perspective, that is, biological, ecological, economical, organizational, political etc. sides rather than contenting with only inventorial aspects.

**Symposium Sessions:**

Bottlenecks in the context of functions of forest resources and analyses relating to them; biological, ecological, economical, organizational, political etc. solutions concerning these bottlenecks (<http://www.orman.istanbul.edu.tr/fored150>, <http://orman.istanbul.edu.tr/fored150>, <http://194.27.134.4/fored150>).

**Presentation:**

Oral and poster; Deadlines: Abstract (800-1,000 words): December 20, 2006  
Full Paper: June 1, 2007; Accommodation and Registration details: Will be announced later.  
Symposium Secretariat: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ferhat GÖKBULAK, Istanbul University, Faculty of Forestry, 34473 Bahçeköy, Istanbul TURKEY. Phone: +90 212 226 11 11, Fax: +90 212 226 11 13, [symposium150@istanbul.edu.tr](mailto:symposium150@istanbul.edu.tr).

**October 18-23, 2007, SUITMA4, Nanjing, China**

4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Soils of Urban, Industrial, Traffic, Mining and Military Areas  
Nanjing, China, [www.issas.ac.cn/suitma4.htm/](http://www.issas.ac.cn/suitma4.htm/)

Dear Colleagues,

The 4th International Conference on Soils in Urban, Industrial, Traffic, Mining and Military Areas (SUITMA) is scheduled to be held at October, 2007 in Nanjing. The conference will discuss soil changes, problems, remediation, utilization, planning, in relation to urban ecological, environmental and biological health issues. The previous events were in Essen (Germany), Nancy (France) and Cairo (Egypt), respectively. We appreciate your continuous interest in SUITMA and welcome scientists, planners, policymakers, to join the forthcoming event.

The world is becoming more and more urbanized, and by which serious problems related to land resource use and ecosystem protection are emerged. Like the rest many parts of the world, China is also experiencing rapid urbanization and industrialization. We are honored to organize such a meeting in Nanjing, a beautiful, friendly ancient city, and believe that SUITMA4 in Nanjing may generate new knowledge and enrich our future collaboration possibilities. Therefore, on behalf of the organizing committee, I sincerely invite you to take part in the important event. See all details on the website.

Modern human activities have ever-increasing impacts on soil resources while soils of urban, industrial, traffic, mining and military sites are the very cases showing these impacts. How these soils are formed and how they will affect our ecosystem are big concerns of soil scientists worldwide.

Globally, more and more attention is being paid to soils under urbanization and industrialization, with regard to their changes and interactions with urban ecosystem. SUITMA WG (Working Group), IUSS, has taken a leading role in coordinating international efforts to advancing our understanding about the special soil system, by providing a forum for international scientific community of the related fields, since its setup in 1998. The establishment of SUITMA also symbolizes the increasing importance of urban soil study within modern soil science in general.

With its previous highly successful academic events in Essen, Nancy and Cairo, SUITMA has clearly defined its scopes and is exploring its new horizons. The scientific committee of SUITMA4 sets the following major areas as its themes and opens to more topics and interests.

*Methodologies*

1. Soil survey, description, terminology standardization and sampling in urban areas
2. Laboratory methods for urban soils
3. Soil classification and mapping in urban areas

*Impacts of urbanization on soil resources*

4. Land use change under urbanization
5. Pedogenesis and quality changes of urban soils
6. Physical aspects of urban soil changes
7. Chemical aspects of urban soil changes
8. Biological aspects of urban soil changes

9. Historical aspects of urban soil formation and characterization

*Urban soils in relation to urban ecosystem*

10. Ecological impact of urbanization in regional and global scales
11. Urban soils and greenery plants
12. Urban soils in relation to water environment
13. Biogeochemical cycling of life-dependent materials in urban ecosystem
14. Pollution status and control of urban soils
15. Remediation of contaminated SUITMA
16. Ecological assessment of urban soil quality
17. Ecology-based urban land use planning

*Socio-economic aspects of soil management in urban areas*

18. Urban soil management and legislation

*Other related topics*

**Registration for Conference**

Regular participants: 250USD/200 EUR (before August 31st, 2007)

Students/Young participants (age below 30): 125 USD/100EUR (with valid certificate)

Accompany person: 100 USD/80EUR.

Registration fee covers conference abstract book, reception party, lunches during conference, tea/coffee, closing banquet. Registration payment after August 31st, 2007 will incur 100USD/80EUR surcharge.

Accommodation: Hanting Hotel (room charge for participants: \$25 and \$27), 10-min walk from the venue

*Scientific contact:*

Prof. Dr. Gan-Lin Zhang, Chair, SUITMA4

Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences

71 Beijing Donglu, Nanjing 210008, China

Tel.: +86-25-86881279; Fax: +86-25-86881000/ 86881279; [glzhang@issas.ac.cn](mailto:glzhang@issas.ac.cn)

*Administration contact:*

Dr. Yu-Guo Zhao (same address, will provide 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement upon request)

Tel.: +86-25-86881299; Fax: +86-25-86881000; [suitma4@issas.ac.cn](mailto:suitma4@issas.ac.cn)

**November 6-10, 2007, Integrated Watershed Management, New Delhi, India**

International Conference on Integrated Watershed Management for “Bharat Nirman”, New Delhi, India. Bharat Nirman (Building up India) has to be based upon a firm foundation. The most firm foundation for the purpose would be the scientific Care, Conservation, Development and Management of the Land — the Mother of the Natural Resources. The productive base of Land is the Soil. World Soil Charter, issued by the FAO in 1981 emphasized the importance of Soil in these words: “Recognizing the paramount importance of land resources for the survival and welfare of people, economic independence of the country and also rapidly increasing needs for more food production, it is imperative to give high priority to promoting optimum land use, maintaining and improving soil productivity and conserving soil resources”.

Increasing globalization, liberalization and privatization regimes have not benefited all sections of society in the developing countries. Poverty is still associated with agriculture and

rural living. The concerns of the small and marginal farmers, the landless and weaker and disadvantaged sections of the society have to be addressed.

Population is rising and per capita availability of land and other natural resources is shrinking. How to produce the diverse needs of humanity today, how to add value to the produce land to benefit the small and marginal farmers, and how to accomplish all these without adversely importing the environment and the productive base of the soil and other natural resources, is today's challenge.

This challenge can be met by converging all the programmes of conservation and ecology, sustainable production, processing of the bio-produce and marketing, infrastructure and a policy umbrella within the natural boundaries of a watershed.

Many countries of the world have gathered valuable knowledge and experience in watershed management. All will benefit from an exchange of this pool of knowledge, which should facilitate formulating sound policies and programmes for the new millennium.

To delegate and discuss the various aspects related to the issues mentioned, the Soil Conservation Society of India is holding the International Conference on Integrated Watershed Management for Bharat Nirman, from November 6 to 10, 2007 at New Delhi, India with the following objectives:

*Objective:*

- Conservation and Management of Land, Water and Forest Resources for the People; and sustainable production.
- Promotion of Horticulture to the separates Freedom from Hidden Hunger (of Nutrition).
- Care of the Livestock and the Common Property Resources - Mainstay of the Rural Landless and "Antodaya" - the Poorest of the Poor.
- Biomass Processing and Marketing for Rural Employment and Livelihoods.
- Achieving India's "Bharat Nirman" Programme.
- Achieving United Nations Millennium Development Goals.
- Evolving Integrated Watershed Management Systems for Ecology, Economics, Employment and Equity.

*Major Theme:*

- Land Resource Management
- Water Resource Management
- Plant Resource Management
- Animal Resource Management
- Human Resource Management
  - Gender, Equity and Rural Institutions
- Integrated Watershed Management for Biomass Processing
  - Agri-business, Rural Employment and Livelihoods.
- Rural Investments through Public-Private Partnership.
- Science and Technology
  - Research, Extension and Capacity Building.

*Venue:*

NASC Complex, New Delhi

*Duration:*

- (i) The Conference: November, 6-9, 2007
- (ii) Field Visits for Delegates: November 10-11, 2007

*Important Dates:*

Submission of Abstract: 31-11-2006  
Receipt of full-length paper: 31-05-2007 with electronic copy

*Registration Fee:*

**Foreign Delegates:** US\$500 (With late fee: US\$600)  
Students/Research Scholars: US\$250 (With late fee: US\$300)  
Accompanying members: US\$100  
**Indian Delegates:** Rs. 4,000.00 (With late fee Rs. 5,000)  
\* Students/Research Scholars: Rs. 2,000 (With late fee Rs. 2,500)  
Accompanying member: Rs. 1,000 (Indian)  
\* Students/Research Scholars have to provide a certificate from their Head of the Institution/Department for availing of this special rate.

*Call for Abstracts:*

Abstracts of unpublished research related to one of the Symposium Themes are invited for presentation as the poster papers. Abstracts are to be submitted as an electronic copy in MS WORD, preferably accompanied by a set of hard copy (complete in all respects) on A4 size paper, typed single space and should not exceed one page (about 300 words) with 25 mm margins all around. The title should be followed by the names of author/authors (with the name of the person presenting underlined) and their affiliation. Please include the e-mail address of the corresponding author for expediting communication.

*Steering Committee:*

Chairman: Prof. M.S. Swaminathan; Convenor: Dr. Suraj Bhan  
**Organizing Committee:** Chairman: Shri Mohan Kanda; Convenor: Shri B. Rath  
Contact: Dr Suraj Bhan, President, Soil Conservation Society of India,  
[soilcsi@yahoo.com.in](mailto:soilcsi@yahoo.com.in), [bhan\\_suraj@yahoo.com](mailto:bhan_suraj@yahoo.com), [www.soilcsi.org](http://www.soilcsi.org)

## MEETINGS 2008

### **February 2008, IV World Congress on Conservation Agriculture, India**

Contact: Raj Gupta, [r.gupta@cgiar.org](mailto:r.gupta@cgiar.org)

### **May 18-23, 2008, ISCO Conference, Budapest, Hungary**

15<sup>th</sup> International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO) Conference, Soil and Water Conservation, Climate Change and Environmental Sensitivity, Budapest, Hungary.

Contact: Professor Ádám Kertész, ISCO President, Head of Department, Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Geographical Research Institute, Budapest 1112, Budaorsi ut 45, Hungary. Phone: +36-1-309-2686; Fax: +36-1-309-2686, [kertesza@helka.iif.hu](mailto:kertesza@helka.iif.hu) More info about ISCO at [www.isco.org](http://www.isco.org).

**July 14-18, 2008, Ground Bio- and Eco-engineering, Beijing, China.**

2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Ground Bio- and Eco-engineering, Beijing, China.  
The Use of Vegetation to Improve Slope Stability, Beijing, China



This conference is the second in the series ‘The Use of Vegetation to Improve Slope Stability.’ The first congress was held at Thessaloniki, Greece, from 13-17 September 2004.

Ground bioengineering methods integrate civil engineering techniques with natural materials to obtain fast, effective and economic methods of protecting, restoring and maintaining the environment whereas eco-engineering has been defined as a long-term ecological strategy to manage a site with regard to natural or man-made hazards. Conference sessions will focus on an area where such engineering techniques are used more and more frequently, i.e. natural and man-made slopes. Papers will be presented on slope instability, erosion, soil hydrology, mountain ecology, land use and restoration and how to mitigate these problems using vegetation. The mechanics of root-soil interaction are of utmost importance, along with the modeling of root reinforcement and the development of decision support systems, areas where significant advances have been made in recent years.

**Conference Sessions:**

- Root-soil interaction
- Root reinforcement
- Slope degradation
- Soil erosion and conservation
- Riverbank and coastline protection measures
- Integrated catchment management with an emphasis on eco-engineering
- Slope stability modelling
- Vegetation and ecology
- Mountain biodiversity and slope stability
- Plant growth versus engineering
- Ground bio-engineering, earth stabilising and retaining techniques
- Eco-engineering and land restoration
- Risk management and decision support systems
- Benefits and liabilities in slope and erosion control

Contact: Dr. Alexia Stokes, INRA, LIAMA-CASIA, Zhonguancun Dong Lu 95, P.O. Box 2728, Hadian District, Beijing 100080, China. Tel: +86-10-82614528; Fax: +86-10-62647458, [stokes@liama.ia.ac.cn](mailto:stokes@liama.ia.ac.cn), <http://liama.ia.ac.cn>

**August 25-29, 2008, Eurosoil 2008, Vienna, Austria**

Soil - Society – Environment, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, AUSTRIA

**Organizers:**

The national soil science societies of Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and Switzerland, supported by the Vienna Medical Academy  
Excursions: Pre- and post-congress excursions in Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Slovenia, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and in Switzerland (together with Austria)



Further information can be obtained from the website of the European Confederation of Soil Science Societies (ECSSS) [www.ecsss.net](http://www.ecsss.net). The first complete set of information including the scientific programme, technical excursions and the registration form will be put into the website and/or sent to interested participants in December 2006. Contact: Winfried Blum, [herma.exner@boku.ac.at](mailto:herma.exner@boku.ac.at)

**September 18-22, 2008, 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Land Degradation, Bari, Italy**



Dr. Pandi Zdruli, Project Manager, MEDCOASTLAND Thematic Network sent to us info for the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Land Degradation to take place at Valenzano, Bari, Italy, at <http://www.iamb.it/5ICLD/>. Contact Dr Zdruli at CIHEAM-Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Via Ceglie 9, 70010 Valenzano (BA), ITALY. Tel: 39 080 4606 253, Fax: 39 080 4606 274, [pandi@iamb.it](mailto:pandi@iamb.it), <http://medcoastland.iamb.it>.

**Late 2008, 6th International Hani-Akha Culture Conference, Yunnan Province, China**

Near the border area with Northern Vietnam and Lao P.D.R. Mr Bai Bibo welcomes you to the conference organized in his hometown. Trust our members will be interested in presenting academic papers regarding Alkha-Hani Land and Water Conservation in the Mekong River Basin. Contact Bai Bibo, [baibibo@hotmail.com](mailto:baibibo@hotmail.com)

**August 1-6, 2010, 19<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science, Brisbane, Australia**

Contact Neil McKenzie at [neil.mckenzie@csiro.au](mailto:neil.mckenzie@csiro.au). The 20<sup>th</sup> Congress will be held in Seoul, Korea in 2014.

## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

The new address of Science Publishers Inc., our publishing partner, is at:  
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The publication will be available in 2007.