

WASWC HOT NEWS 2008 (06) JUNE 13, 2008

Compiled and sent out monthly by Samran Sombatpanit, Editor

Pls send your contributions/ information for next issue/s of HOT NEWS and WASWC Newsletter to sombatpanit@yahoo.com and samran_sombatpanit@yahoo.com

This document is NOT properly edited, to enable a quick release, to meet many deadlines.

Previous information is available on the website <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn>, subpage WASWC HOT NEWS

New items are highlighted in light blue for easy identification

FULL VERSION (FV) (posted on the website <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn>)

REDUCE



REUSE



RECYCLE

These are what every one of us can do to help mitigate global climate change - our imminent threat.



PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE YOU PRINT THIS HOT NEWS

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Editor's Note on Institutional Collaboration



For those who have been WASWC members for some years, you may have seen its development in a progressive way. From being a group of international members mainly from developed countries, to being a relatively large group of people, including paying members, guest members and non-members totaling approximately 10,000. This is largely thanks to the availability of the internet that has made the costly printing obsolete with time.

Since our secretariat left the office of the Soil and Water Conservation Society in April 2003, the work of WASWC has increased with time. With the new office of the WASWC Secretariat in Beijing, China, activities have spread to other locations inside and outside China. During these years I have been helping to coordinate the work of members. I do NOT intend to do this task indefinitely, but as the association has to work in a practical way to help all members and their professional work, the system should continue from generation to generation without disruption in case of the ending of someone's life. As all of us know, it takes some time to establish such a system, especially when the core pillars of the *modus operandi* of WASWC are **Volunteerism, Use of the Internet, Quality, Innovation, Flexibility, Affordability to all, and Institutional Support**.

After five years of operating the association through the new secretariat, we have succeeded in most of them but much has not yet been achieved. We will continue to strive to achieve them. The point I would like to mention this time is **Institutional Support**, which is very crucial for us, as we see this as the *only* way to help people all over the world who are involved in natural resource management and care and who belong to *all* socioeconomic groups.

The institutions that have joined in operating the WASWC at this time are listed below:

1. **WASWC Secretariat/HQ.** This is located at the Monitoring Center of Soil and Water Conservation, Ministry of Water Resources, Beijing, China. The task is led by Prof **Henry Lu Shunguang** as the Executive Secretary (sglu@mwr.gov.cn).
2. **WASWC Secretariat Annex I.** This is located at the Guangdong Institute of Eco-environmental and Soil Sciences (<http://www.soil.gd.cn/>), Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China. The main task is to operate a

main website of WASWC, <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn>. Director of the Institute, Dr **Li Dingqiang**, is responsible for it and is holding the position of Deputy Executive Secretary, dqli@soil.gd.cn.

3. **WASWC Secretariat Annex II.** This is located at the Institute of Environment Rehabilitation and Conservation (ERECON, <http://www.erecon.jp/>), Tokyo, Japan, with the responsibility to operate another website for WASWC Publications, www.waswc.org. The person responsible is Prof **Machito Mihara**, Director General of ERECON (m-mihara@nodai.ac.jp).
4. **WASWC Secretariat Annex III.** This is placed at the office of the Soil Conservation Society of India (SCSI, <http://www.soilcsi.org/>) in New Delhi, with the responsibility in keeping record of members of all categories. Dr **Suraj Bhan**, the President of the Society, is the Registrar bhan_suraj2001@yahoo.com.
5. **WASWC Secretariat Annex IV.** This is located at the Department of Soils, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU, <http://www.pau.edu/>), Ludhiana, India. The responsibility is to produce the WASWC Newsletter under the direction of Dr **Surinder Singh Kukal**, Prof of Soil Conservation, who takes the responsibility as its Editor-in-Chief sskukal@rediffmail.com.
6. **WASWC Secretariat Annex V.** This derives from a recent agreement that the Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute (CSWCRTI, <http://www.cswcrtiweb.org/>), and the Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservationists (IASWC), www.iaswc.com, will offer their service as the base for producing the (online) Journal and Proceedings of WASWC – with Editorial Board comprising worldwide academics who volunteer to do the task. Dr **V.N. Sharda**, Director of the Institute and President of the Association, is responsible for it vnsharda1@rediffmail.com.
7. **WASWC Secretariat Annex VI.** This is located at the Philippine Society of Soil Science and Technology (PSSST, <http://www.p3st.org/>), Quezon City, The Philippines. The initial task of this office is to print and send certificates to WASWC members in all categories. Dr **Constancio (Tony) A. Asis, Jr.**, asis_tony@yahoo.com, Chairman of the International Network Affairs, is responsible for it. There is a possibility for this office to accept more assignments at a later date.

These offices will also involve other people who will do their work in various capacities. There are also those who work in their personal capacity, e.g. Tom Goddard (Alberta Agriculture and Food, Alberta, Canada) as the Editor of the Special Publications series and Ted Napier (Ohio State University, USA) as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal/Proceedings of WASWC. In addition, some who have already retired, including myself, will work from their homes. Of particular importance in the latter category are Dr Bill Moldenhauer and Dr John Laflen who are our Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer, respectively.

Dr Ted Napier the recipient of the 2008 High Hammond Bennett Award

(From SWCS Conservogram June 2008)

Dr Napier has devoted over four decades to understanding the socioeconomics and public policy aspects of soil and water conservation. During his career he has focused on conservation at local, state, national and international levels. Throughout his career he has authored or co-authored over 85 peer-reviewed journal articles ranging from the transfer and adoption of conservation practices to national and international conservation policy. He has frequently published in our journal.



Dr Napier has served on and chaired numerous professional and academic committees during his career, including the International Committee of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (1991-2004). He has received many awards and recognitions. Most noteworthy was his 1999 Fellow Award with SWCS. He has and continues to dedicate his personal and professional life to advance the art and science of soil and water conservation. His eloquent, influential and sometime controversial presentations are remembered by many and have shown his ability to foster the art of conservation. The SWCS awards the most prestigious award, the 2008 Hugh Hammond Bennett Award to Dr Ted Napier with highest regard and respect for his passion, integrity and professionalism.

Ed.: Dr Ted Napier is a WASWC councilor and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal and Proceedings of WASWC.

Feedback about ISCO from eminent scientists

As presented in pages 1-4 of HOT NEWS 2008 (04) May 2, 2008

1. Hi Samran,

I had a quick look at your comments on ISCO and what needs to be done to bring it into the 21st century. And I strongly support what you said!!

Specifically, I've found ISCO to be an "old boys club", consisting mostly of those soil conservationists who can attend meetings, usually university types. I have nothing against meeting, but if I have to pay my way to go to a

meeting, I want something to come out of it - some conclusions and recommendations, as you said. Also, I've found that the ISCO Board is self consumptive, as if no one else can contribute anything.

This is no way to create or run a strong organization. ISCO has an opportunity to become the international voice of soil conservation, in partnership with the WASWC and others. But it appears that it wants only to run meetings - often of marginal quality, as you mentioned. For these reasons, I will not attend the Budapest meeting, nor any other ISCO meetings until the organization decides that it wants to become a truly focused international organization representing the views of soil conservation internationally.

2. Dear Samran,

I liked your front piece on ISCO in the latest WASWC HOT NEWS. You were very moderate in your criticism. You mentioned dinosaurs - but possibly one reason for their extinction was in-breeding and nepotism.

3. Dear Samran,

I generally agree with the concept of your points. I feel that some aspects of ISCO as it currently stands are hard to justify in that the world goes to a high amount of expense to hold ISCO and given that it is the premier SC event on the global calendar, every effort should be made to use the collective intellectual energy of ISCO to further the cause of soils. It's great to meet old friends every few years etc, but we should get some more concrete outcomes from the event itself.

With regard to what sort of body should replace the ISCO Board concept – I would expect that the equivalent of the Board concept could be reconstituted with a more formal role.

4. Hello Samran,

I attended the ISCO Conference in Budapest during May 18-23, 2008. My impression of ISCO is the same as yours and I think if they do not change their attitude they will run into problems in the future.

5. Hi Samran,

I can see that ISCO has 2 major functions: a) to bring soil and water conservationists from all over the world together to discuss new developments and problems so that new ideas can be spread, and 2) to establish relationships between individuals and organizations.

I always learn a lot from the meeting and I think that many other people do the same. However, much of what you say about the running of ISCO is correct. It seems to have become an "old boys' club" and does need a shake up.

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

With the opinions from colleagues who have been involved in both ISCO and WASWC for a long time, may I ask again that the ISCO Board change its attitude and action according to the six principles mentioned in various occasions since early this year (see details in HOT NEWS of May 2). They are:

**INSTITUTIONALIZATION
GUIDELINES UPDATING
REORGANIZATION
LIBERALIZATION
DEMOCRATIZATION
MODERNIZATION**

If the ISCO Board does not want to listen and change in what are needed, I fear the usefulness of the ISCO conferences will enormously decrease with time. Various agencies and organizations would hesitate to send their staff members to attend, as it costs several thousand dollars for each person but with only a marginal return. I would like to ask our friends who went to attend the 15th ISCO in Budapest to please share your opinion in what you have seen and gained at the conference and your suggestion for its improvement, with hope that our creative ideas will reach the ears of younger generations who will run the future ISCO.

In the light of so many threats we are facing today, e.g. climate change, frequent earthquakes (see the next article, for example), landslides and floods, cyclones/typhoons/hurricanes, high oil price, high food price, that have caused the life of many people in both poor and rich countries miserable and many lives had to terminate untimely, I find it disgusting that some people in 'our profession' still enjoy pursuing finding a country every 2 years to organize a conference without intention and efforts to make it a good one though having a chance to make it a very good and useful one. In fact, ISCO can take a leading role in fighting against such mishaps effectively, if it wants to. We therefore request the 'originator' of ISCO to please release it before it becomes much weaker than now. The way to do is **sacrifice** your original immature thinking that the movement invented in 1983 would go around the world, from place to place, without any firm place 'to stay' (i.e. office to handle it and to keep records – secretariat) and without any 'rules' (constitution) to be written and enforced. And once ISCO became an organization with such things, it would, whoops!, disappear forever. To me, if ISCO is allowed to run in the present style any longer it will disappear even sooner than that, notably in terms of its value and personal adherence of SWC professionals. So, please kindly release it, the sooner the better! Do it when we still have time.

To ISCO Board members: You are welcome to write to us, either to contradict or support what has been said about ISCO in the HOT NEWS of May 2 and this issue. We are living in open society, so we should do everything transparent, not obscure like it has been during the last several years. Your message(s) will be published in full and without editing, with your name upheld if you want. If you think what ISCO has been doing all these years is right, you should write!

General readers are also welcome to contribute to this column.

We will present the names of all Board members of ISCO in this column in the next issue – FYI.

Samran Sombatpanit, ISCO Board Member (involved in the ISCO since 1988)

DISASTER FROM THE EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA

On May 12 when I was composing the last HOT NEWS and had included the disaster in Myanmar, due to cyclone Nargis (May 2-3), a 8.0 Richter earthquake struck Sichuan Province of China. The death toll started with a few hundred people but the number had climbed to almost 70,000 by the last day of May, with a sizable number still missing. You would have received this news regularly but we at least feel relieved to know that the administration of relief has been well taken care of by both the Prime Minister and the President. I take this opportunity to bring to you some pictures of the last 20 days, assembled on one page to remind us of the quake that has caused so much damage to human lives and property. Besides the deaths, there are millions who have been displaced from their homes to live in 'tent cities' and receive help from their government to sustain their lives.

Though China is a big economy, it has many mouths to feed. With a catastrophe of such magnitude happening, the government has set aside a large amount of its budget to answer the needs. Still, even with help from foreign countries in both cash, kind and rescue teams pledged or already received, the Chinese government has indicated that they would greatly appreciate donations of tents. Therefore, if our members would like to help in this matter, any amount is welcome. We will coordinate with our WASWC Secretariat in Beijing to make this donation through our association. You can send your donations to either Bill Moldenhauer in USA or to me in Bangkok as follows:

- Dr. William (Bill) C. Moldenhauer, Vice President (Assist. Treasurer), 2400 Sunrise Ridge Circle #107 Brookings SD 57006, USA. Phone: +1-605-6976470, Fax: +1-605-6279123 Attn: W.C. Moldenhauer, moldwc@itctel.com. He can receive money from US and Canadian members through Personal Check, Money Order, or Bank Draft (**payable to WASWC**), and can receive VISA and MasterCard credit cards and Bank Draft (**payable to WASWC**) from all over the world. *****For sending money through a bank, please give the following information to your bank:** United Bankers Bank, St. Paul, MN, USA; Routing Number (ABA Number) 091 001 322; **SWIFT Code: UBBKUS41**, For Benefit of First National Bank of Volga SD, Account No. 250-2334; Further Credit World Soil, Account No. 703-488.

- Dr. Samran Sombatpanit, WASWC Immediate Past President, 67/141 Amonphant 9, Soi Sena 1, Bangkok 10230, Thailand. Phone/Fax: +66-25703641, sombatpanit@yahoo.com. He accepts Bank Draft from every country. **Mark the draft "payable to Dr. Samran Sombatpanit"**. He receives SWIFT through the Bangkok Bank, Bangkok Branch, 2124 Phaholyothin Road, Jatujak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand. Phone: +66-25614091/ 25791146-8, Fax: +66-25791149. SWIFT CODE: **BKKBTHBK**, A/C No. 161-0-210864, which you should also indicate **"payable to Dr. Samran Sombatpanit"**.

A FEW WORDS FROM WASWC: We have been reporting news about these natural catastrophes since the tsunami struck several countries around the Indian Ocean in late 2004. Besides the loss of life, there is always much damage occurring to the landscape that affects the livelihood of many people for a long time. For these to recover, careful planning is needed and the implementing of specific techniques, the expertise of which has been developed and used for several decades and organizations in many countries are capable of doing it efficiently. Our sister association, the International Erosion Control Association (IECA – www.ieca.org), has a network of over 3,000 members working in more than 50 countries and they can assist in doing almost all kinds of rehabilitation needed. WASWC strives to work with organizations that share our attitude of helping both people and the landscape to sustain the earth and its inhabitants.

In reporting about these catastrophes, we also provide an opportunity for members to give some help to those who need it. As all of us know all humans are living in one world, which is called Earth. Parting with some funds from one person to others who are in crucial need will help relieve the pain both physical and emotional of our fellow human beings. After all, giving such donations will not make us poor but will give much pleasure!!!

The above photo shows paper cranes that were folded to wish those that perished due to the earthquake good bye. (The website <http://www.sadako.org/sadakostory.htm> describes the story of using paper cranes as a symbol of peace as related to the young Japanese girl who died of leukemia in 1955.)



PHOTOS FROM THE 8.0 RICHTER EARTHQUAKE IN SICHUAN, CHINA, MAY 12, 2008

See more in our Webshots album <http://good-times.webshots.com/album/563415340XFMpLN>

Following is a note from Prof Peng Cui of the Institute of Mountain Disaster and Environment of Sichuan who responded to my message shortly after the quake:

Dear Prof. Sombatpanit,

Thank you for your concern. All of us are fine. There is no harm in downtown Chengdu. But the tremendous disasters appeared in the regions of western and northern Chengdu, such as the towns of Yingxiu, Wenchuan, Dujiangyan, Beichuan and Hanwang. There is still a high risk of debris flows and landslides after the earthquake that may cause secondary disasters. We are ready to go to affected areas for disaster relief. Hope we can do something useful to local people.

Peng Cui, Institute of Mountain Disaster and Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences, P.O. Box 417, Chengdu, Sichuan 610041, People's Republic of China pengcui@imde.ac.cn

DONATION TO VICTIMS IN MYANMAR AND CHINA THROUGH AVAAZ

Dear friends,

In the days since a catastrophic cyclone struck Burma and killed over 100,000 people, Avaaz members have donated \$2 million (almost 1.3 million Euros) to the aid effort. Our community has given more than many governments, and our aid hasn't been stopped at the border like theirs -- we've supported Burmese monks and other aid groups who have worked without their brutal government's permission. You can read a brief report below, or click this link to read the report on our website, see pictures, and donate or comment:

http://www.avaaz.org/en/burma_aid_report/8.php

For Immediate Release June 1, 2008

Contact: Christina Iarossi Delfin, Marketing Communications
1.858.546.8327 ext. 148, cdelfin@sontek.com

SonTek/YSI Assists China in Emergency Dam and Flood Assessments; Donates \$65,000 (USD) in Acoustic Doppler Current Surveyors

(San Diego, CA; Sichuan, China)- Fears of flash flooding and massive mudslides continue to threaten thousands in China, who are still working to pick up the shattered pieces of their lives following the massive 8.0 magnitude earthquake, the epicenter of which was Wenchuan county's Sichuan province on May 12th.

As strong aftershocks continue to rattle an already weakened infrastructure, and a monsoon season just around the corner, SonTek/YSI, and parent company YSI Inc., have responded by donating acoustic Doppler profiler measurement systems, that will allow regional hydrologists to gauge the speed and strength of water flow.

A simple ceremony was held at the Sichuan Hydrology Bureau on May 22nd, attended by SHB Director, Zhang Ting, SonTek and YSI Applications Specialists, James Chen and Mark Tepper, as well as other government officials and local hydrologists.

On May 24th, after receiving special permission to enter the disaster zone, SonTek's Chen and Tepper, along with local hydrologists, assisted in the collection of data in the Luoshui River in the city of Shifang, which was earlier blocked by rocks and mud.

According to first-hand accounts by Tepper "the monitoring station was severely damaged and the cableway which is normally operated to make flow measurements was completely destroyed. Both sides of the river were pummeled with large rocks. Sadly, physical injuries to local residents, including children, were also apparent".

Tepper says officials are now worried about a more serious situation that has occurred in the remote city of Beichuan, where 34 lakes have formed due to landslides. Hydrology officials wish to measure the volume and depth of the water in these lakes as quickly as possible. However, Tepper says access is proving to be extremely difficult, with steep cliffs surrounding the lakes and no road access. Helicopters are currently the only method of transportation to the lakes and Tepper says he and Chen are on stand-by to assist.

The Doppler current surveyors allow for very fast assessment of the overall flood conditions. The advanced hydroacoustic measurement techniques can do in minutes what it normally takes field crew hours to do using conventional instruments.

According to officials from the Sichuan and Shaanxi Hydrology Bureaus and the Sichuan SEPA, over two dozen hydrology monitoring stations are inoperable or are completely destroyed and they are urgently in need of equipment to measure water flow and quality. Reports estimate 400 dams have been damaged and are possible threat to approximately 180,000 residents who live in the dams' paths.

SonTek/YSI, founded in 1992 and advancing environmental science in over 100 countries, manufactures affordable, reliable acoustic Doppler instrumentation for water velocity measurement in oceans, rivers, lakes, harbors, estuaries, and laboratories. SonTek/YSI is headquartered in San Diego, California, and is part of YSI Inc., an employee owned company that provides monitoring and data collection instrumentation to global water quality, water quantity, and aquaculture markets.

For more information, contact us at:
inquiry@sontek.com, cdelfin@sontek.com

AWARDS/ PRIZES/ FUNDS

▲ Scientific and Technical awards of WASWC Asia 2008

We would like to inform you that WASWC Asia is now looking for the candidate for Scientific and Technical awards of WASWC Asia 2008. The awards of WASWC Asia are conferred to WASWC member in Asia who contributed the development and progress of soil and water conservation.

Please see a content of "Awards" on the WASWC website: <http://www.waswc.org/>

If you have further questions, please contact Institute of Environment Rehabilitation and Conservation (ERECN), a host institution of WASWC, hq-erecon@nifty.com or waswc@nifty.com.

Hiromu OKAZAWA, Dr., Website operator of WASWC Tokyo

Hiromu OKAZAWA Dr.
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h1okazaw@nodai.ac.jp; <http://www.nodai.ac.jp/english/college/reg/engineering/index.html>

▲ Alcan Prize for Sustainability News www.alcanprizeforsustainability.com.

2008 Alcan Prize for Sustainability: Call for Entries

The 2008 Prize will be open for entries from Sunday 1st June 2008.

Entry forms and criteria will be available online at www.alcanprizeforsustainability.com

To confirm your organization is eligible to enter, view: www.alcanprizeforsustainability.com/eligibility_en

The closing date is **12th September 2008** at midnight GMT.

Contact Us manager@alcanprizeforsustainability.com.

▲ African Fellows Programme: 8th call for Pre-Proposals

The aim of the African Fellows Programme is to support sustainable agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa by catalysing innovative solutions needed to achieve food security. Projects should aim to develop lasting partnerships and strategic alliances that will help in developing local scientific capacity relevant to sustainable agricultural production. African scientists will carry out research projects in a partner European research institute, or university, for periods normally of 6 to 8 months.

Closing date: 6 August 2008. Contact: t: +44 (0) 1582 763133 ext. 2475 | 2441, f: +44 (0) 1582 467490, e: rothamsted.international@bbsrc.ac.uk | [More...](#)

▲ IFAD Funds

Français: Le texte en français suit le texte en anglais.

Español: Por favor mire abajo para la versión español.

The [International Fund for Agricultural Development](#) is inviting indigenous peoples' organizations and communities, and organizations that work with them, to apply for grants that fund micro projects and partnerships to promote the development of indigenous peoples and their unique cultural identity.

Grants ranging from US\$10,000 to US\$30,000 will be awarded to applicants from IFAD's developing Member States through the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility.

You can find more information on application requirements and an application form at <http://www.ifad.org/english/indigenous/grants/index.htm>

You can e-mail or mail your application to IFAD. The closing date for applications is **30 June 2008**. IFAD will not accept applications after that date.

E-mail your application to indigenouspeoples@ifad.org.

Or mail your application to:

Antonella Cordone

Coordinator for Indigenous and Tribal Issues

Policy Division

International Fund for Agricultural Development

Via del Serafico, 107

00142 Rome

Italy

A board made up primarily of indigenous members will work with IFAD staff to consider the proposals and make recommendations.

Good luck and warm regards, Gaby

Français

[Le Fonds international de développement agricole](#) invite les organisations et communautés autochtones, ainsi que les organisations qui collaborent avec elles, à solliciter un don pour financer un microprojet ou un partenariat visant à promouvoir le développement des populations autochtones et leur identité culturelle spécifique.

Des dons compris entre 10 000 USD et 30 000 USD seront attribués, par l'intermédiaire du Mécanisme d'assistance pour les peuples autochtones, à des ressortissants d'un des pays en développement membres du FIDA qui en auront fait la demande.

Vous trouverez de plus amples informations sur les critères de sélection, ainsi qu'un formulaire de demande, en cliquant sur le lien: <http://www.ifad.org/english/indigenous/grants/f/index.htm>

Vous pouvez faire parvenir votre candidature au FIDA par courrier électronique ou voie postale. La date limite de candidature est fixée au **30 juin 2008**. Le FIDA rejettera tout dossier reçu après cette date.

Pour faire parvenir votre dossier par voie électronique, envoyez-le à indigenouspeoples@ifad.org.

Pour faire parvenir votre dossier de candidature par voie postale, adressez-le à:

Antonella Cordone

Coordonnatrice des questions autochtones et tribales
Division des politiques
Fonds international de développement agricole
Via del Serafico, 107
00142 Rome
Italie
Bien cordialement, Gaby

Español

El Fondo Internacional de Desarrollo Agrícola invita a las organizaciones y comunidades de pueblos indígenas, y a las organizaciones que colaboran con ellas, a solicitar donaciones para financiar microproyectos y asociaciones que promuevan el desarrollo de los pueblos indígenas y su excepcional identidad cultural.

Se concederán donaciones, por una cuantía de entre 10 000 y 30 000 dólares de los Estados Unidos, a solicitantes de países en desarrollo Miembros del FIDA con cargo al Fondo de Apoyo a los Pueblos Indígenas.

Puede obtenerse más información sobre los requisitos exigidos para la presentación de solicitudes, así como un formulario de solicitud, en <http://www.ifad.org/english/indigenous/grants/s/index.htm>

Puede enviar su solicitud al FIDA por correo electrónico o correo postal. El plazo para la presentación de solicitudes termina el **30 de junio de 2008**. El FIDA no aceptará las solicitudes que lleguen después de esa fecha. Correo electrónico: indigenouspeoples@ifad.org.

Dirección postal:
Antonella Cordone
Coordinadora de Cuestiones Indígenas y Tribales
División de Políticas
Fondo Internacional de Desarrollo Agrícola
Via del Serafico, 107
00142 Roma
Italia

Una junta integrada principalmente por miembros indígenas examinará, en colaboración con el personal del FIDA, las propuestas presentadas y formulará recomendaciones.
Saludos cordiales, Gaby

▲ The [United Nations Foundation](#) is now accepting proposals for small grants to support **UNESCO World Heritage site conservation and sustainable tourism projects**.

Please refer to the attached documents for applicant eligibility, application procedures and requirements, and the timeline for grant review and award.

Qualified community-based initiatives around the Sian Ka'an World Heritage site or the Belize Barrier Reef World Heritage site are encouraged to apply.

If you have further questions, please contact Lulu Zhou at LZhou@unfoundation.org

▲ Call for Applicants: Fulbright Scholar Awards in Agriculture

Applications continue to be accepted for Fulbright Scholar awards for lecturing, research or combined lecturing/research awards in agriculture during the 2008-2009 academic year. Faculty in agriculture may apply not only for awards specifically in their field, but also for one of the many "All Discipline" awards open to any field.

Visit www.cies.org for descriptions of available awards and new eligibility requirements. Awards are closing daily, so please consult the relevant program officer before applying.

▲ **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>.

▲ **Fund from the Global Environment Facility (GEF, www.thegef.org)** is open for you to send proposal for small grants of US\$15,000 each (at least, but can be more). See some more information in the WASWC Newsletter 22(4) on our website. You may contact 'Al' (Alfred Duda) at aduda@thegef.org. Refer to him where you have seen this news. **There is NO deadline.**

▲ **Echoing Green** (a funding resource), 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.

▲ USAID (until **December 5, 2008**)

US Agency for International Development

Public-Private Alliances

Modification 2

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40156>

▲▲▲ **OTHER GRANTS-AWARDS from F. X. Browne, Inc. website**

http://www.fxbrowne.com/html/newsletters/May_2008/news_may08.htm

[PennVEST Infrastructure Loans/Grants](#)

[Conservation Security Program Sign-up](#)

[PADEP Growing Greener Grants](#)

[PA Invasive Species Volunteer Monitoring Training](#)

[Southcentral PA Riparian and Ag BMP Initiative](#)

[Kodak American Greenways Awards Program](#)

[Wissahickon Water Quality Improvement Grants](#)

[Northeastern Pennsylvania's Environmental Partnership Awards](#)

[Rachel Carson Sense of Wonder Poetry, Essay and Photography Contest](#)

[PA Recycling Development and Implemental Grants](#)

[2008 Central Catskill Smart Growth Program](#)

[NY Hudson River Estuary Grant Program](#)

[EPA Region 3 Environmental Achievement Awards](#)

[PA Boating Facilities Grant Program](#)

FELLOWSHIPS

▲ Scholarships for Young Researchers

The ISTRO Board unanimously agreed to once again help young researchers attend the 18th Triennial **ISTRO conference** by sponsoring four (4) scholarships. Note that young scientists are defined as being under the age of 40, and having demonstrated superior research accomplishments. The Cees van Ouwerkerk scholarship is open to young scientists from all countries. The other three scholarships are open to researchers from all countries except those classified as being "high-income." Eligible "low-income" countries can be found at:

http://www.worldbank.org/data/countryclass/classgroups.htm#Low_income

The scholarships will cover the costs of airfare (lowest cost possible) and the package deal of the ISTRO2009 conference (www.istro2009.ege.edu.tr). This package deal of € 650 includes registration, lodging (shared

double room), all meals, banquet dinner, field day tour and CD. Scholarship candidates must be current members of ISTRO themselves and be nominated by current members of ISTRO.

Nominations including supporting material documenting their research activities (e.g., two recent journal or conference publications), a curriculum vitae listing education and all publications, presentations and teaching activities, and the Abstract for a paper to be presented at the 2009 ISTRO Conference must be submitted to the Assistant Secretary- General (Doug Karlen, doug.karlen@ars.usda.gov) by **December 31, 2008**. The selection committee will consist of the three new Board Members (Totka Mitova-Trifonova, John Fielke, and Mekhlis Suleimenov). After the selection, all applicants will be informed by the Assistant Secretary-General who will also notify the Conference Organizers to help make the final arrangements.

Becky J. Roland
Secretary (OA)
Soil and Water Quality Unit, National Soil Tilth Laboratory, 515-294-5014
Becky.Roland@ars.usda.gov

▲ **Opportunity to apply for fellowships to study in Australia towards a doctorate; write to:**

Professor Paul Martin, Director
paul.martin@une.edu.au
Direct phone: 0416015161
or
Dr Ian Hannam
ian.hannam@ozemail.com.au

Both of the Australian Centre for Agriculture and Law
Faculty of Economics, Business and Law
University of New England Armidale, 2351 NSW Australia
www.une.edu.au/aglaw

COURSES

▲ **IWES courses** are supported by the Australian Water Association.

- * New Integrated Water Resources Management Course
- * IWES Gold Coast 2008
- * WaterAid
- * What is IWES? Who Attends IWES? "IWES"; send@m2news.com.au, www.iwes.com.au

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

A new Integrated Water Resources Management course is being offered by IWES at its Gold Coast 2008 event. Taught by Bruce Hooper and Ian Whan, you will learn to analyse, formulate, and implement water policies, plans and programs using an IWRM approach. The aim of the course is to enhance your ability to undertake IWRM, with special reference to catchment (watershed, river basin) management. The course focuses on the tools to implement IWRM – in the enabling environment, institutional roles and the use of management instruments. Case studies and international experiences are used to illustrate IWRM implementation failures and successes. IWES is the largest supplier of short courses to the water industry in Australia, and we had over 600 participants in 2007.

For further details on this course, click [here](#).

IWES GOLD COAST 2008

The IWES Gold Coast 2008 program has just been released. Twenty one courses are being offered (including 5 new courses) in water and wastewater treatment and environmental management. The event will be held July 14-18 on the

Gold Coast. Visit our website at www.iwes.com.au for further information about the program. Alternatively, click on a link below to be taken directly to your course of interest.

Integrated Water Resources Management - **NEW** (3 day course)
Potable Reuse Master Class - **NEW** (5 day course)
Principles of Wastewater Treatment (5 day course)
Trade Waste and Industrial Wastewater Treatment (5 day course)
Design of Biological & Advanced WWTP (5 day course)
Pond Treatment Technology (2 day course)
Introduction to Potable Water Treatment (3 day course)
Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2 day course)
Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling (1 day course)
Membrane Processes for the Australian Water Industry - **NEW** (3 day course)
Water Reuse for Urban & Industrial Applications (2 day course)
Environmental Toxicology & Risk Assessment for Water Reuse (2 day course)
Integrated Urban Water Management (2 day course)
Water Planning - **NEW** (2 day course)
Principles of Biosolids Management (2 day course)
Carbon Accounting in the Water Industry (2 day course)
Corrosion & Odour Management in Sewers (3 day course)
Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Management (2 day course)
Odour Assessment & Management (2 day course)
Principles of Wastewater Microbiology (2 day course)
Chemical Engineering for non-Chemical Engineers - **NEW** (3 day course)

WATERAID

IWES is a corporate member of WaterAid and we are promoting the work of WaterAid to our clients. WaterAid is an international NGO dedicated to the provision of safe domestic water, sanitation and hygiene education to the world's poorest people.

To find out more about WaterAid and the work they do, visit the WaterAid Australia website.

WHAT IS IWES? WHO ATTENDS IWES?

Now in its 29th year, IWES is the largest and most successful continuing education program in Australia for professionals responsible for industry environmental performance. IWES courses are designed to keep busy professionals abreast of the latest environmental management trends. IWES will be running events in Sydney, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Kuala Lumpur in 2008.

More than 2000 organisations have been represented at IWES courses over the last 28 years.

▲ July 22-24, 2008

Estimado colega, Dear colleague,

El próximo mes de julio tendrá lugar el curso sobre “**Erosión y Degradación de los Suelos Forestales en España**”, que está dirigido a estudiantes universitarios, Licenciados, Ingenieros, Arquitectos, Gestores y Técnicos de la administración. El curso tiene una duración de tres días por lo que hemos buscado fondos para conseguir que la inscripción, manutención, documentación y alojamiento tenga un coste asequible (70 €) para aquellos estudiantes que deban desplazarse de otras provincias.

El curso está concebido para que el alumno asista a clases teóricas y prácticas como puedes ver en el tríptico. Si algún estudiante requiere más información puede ponerse en contacto conmigo (artemio.cerda@uv.es) o bien con

la secretaria del CEMACAM Font Roja (fontroja@obs.cam.es). Adjunto le remito un cartel y un tríptico para si lo cree conveniente instalarlo en su tablón de anuncios.

Ruego den la máxima divulgación del curso

In July 22-24, 2008 will take place the course "Erosion and degradation of forest soils in Spain", which is aimed at college students, graduates, engineers, architects, managers and technicians (end-user and stake-holders). The course lasts three days and we have sought funds to make the registration, maintenance, documentation and accommodation have an affordable cost (70 €) for students.

The course is designed to allow students to attend lectures and practices as you can see in the attached information. If a student requires more information please contact me (artemio.cerda@uv.es) or with the secretary of CEMACAM Font Roja (fontroja@obs.cam.es). Please, find enclosed some information that I wish you will distribute within your students and colleagues.

Artemi Cerdà PhD

Departament de Geografia. Universitat de València

Blasco Ibáñez, 28, 46010-Valencia. Tel. +34 (9) 6 3864882. Fax. + 34 (9) 63983054

artemio.cerda@uv.es / <http://www.uv.es/~acerda/>

Curso Erosión y Degradación de los Suelos Forestales Mediterráneos.

Alcoi, 22-24 de julio de 2008

▲ 2008

Rodale Institute offers online course on transition to organic agriculture for free

The Rodale Institute's Organic Transition Course is a 15-hour online program designed to help US farm managers understand the national organic standards and use them as a framework for making the transition to organic production. The course is hosted by the Rodale Institute's farm manager, Jeff Moyer, and covers the fundamental principles of organic agriculture, practical details about organic crop and livestock production, marketing opportunities available to organic producers and recordkeeping. The course can be taken anywhere participants have access to a computer connected to the Internet. There are no set course hours, registration fees or tests to take.

The Rodale Institute works with farmers to provide the know-how, tools and techniques they need to succeed in sustainable agriculture; policy-makers the information they need to best support farmers; and consumers with the resources they need to make informed decisions about the food they buy and eat. FREE

For more information on the course see: <http://www.tritrainingcenter.org/course/>.

For more information on the Rodale Institute see: <http://www.rodaleinstitute.org/>.

2008

Several training courses in India by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

<http://www.icar.org.in/miscel/inttrg07.pdf>

May-November 2008

▲ PARTICIPATORY PLANNING MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Uganda: 5-16 MAY 2008

South Sudan: 9-14 JUNE 2008

Kenya: 17-28 NOVEMBER 2008

▲ FACILITATING COMMUNITY MANAGED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Ethiopia: 9-20 JUNE 2008

South Sudan: 18-29 AUGUST 2008

Uganda: 20-31 OCTOBER 2008

To enroll ... Please contact us for the course brochures which provide further details. To register, simply fill in the application form and email it back to us.

In Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya: The two-week course is \$1,500 for international delegates and \$1,300 for residents of the host country.

This amount covers tuition fees, training handouts, field/agency visits, full board accommodation, and airport transfers. Participants are expected to cater for travel, medical and insurance covers as well as out of pocket allowances.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Nicola Kiara
Training Assistant

Capacity Development for Poverty Reduction

International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Africa Regional Centre
P.O. Box 66873-00800, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: 254-20-4442610, 4440991; Fax: 254-20-4448148; training@iirr-africa.org
Physical address: Westlands, Brookside Grove off Waiyaki Way, Brookside Close

June 1-5, 2008

▲ [Training course on Sustainable Management for Renewable Resources in Arid Lands](#)

Date: June 1-5, 2008, Location: Syria

28 July-28 September 2008

▲ Master Program: Biodiversity, Conservation and Environmental Policies, Nicaragua, Cost: USD\$ 6,700.00. **Contact:** Ms Ana María Hernández, e: anamaria.hernandez@uam.edu.ni | Dr. Antonio Mijail Pérez, e: mijail64@gmail.com | [More....](#)

JOBS

▲ PROFESSORSHIP AT KUWAIT UNIVERSITY

Kuwait University, Faculty of Science, Dept of Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) invites application for appointment at ranks of Associate or Full Professor in the next academic year of 2008/2009 in the following areas:

- Mineralogy/ Petrology
- Stratigraphy/ Palynology
- Petroleum Geosciences/ Petroleum Reservoir
- Environmental Geology/ GIS
- Environmental Geology/ Land Degradation
- Environmental Geochemistry/ Clay Mineralogy
- Geophysics: I. Seismic Exploration and Seismology
- II. Well logging and Potential Field Methods

Contact: Dean at jawadhi@kuc01.kuniv.edu.kw; Phone No. 965-4985602

▲ Science Director and Impact Director of CPWF (Challenge Program on Water and Food of CGIAR)

Dear Water and Food subscriber,

A new phase and a strengthened team – Opportunities to make a difference

It's an exciting time at the CPWF, with the onset of the successful program's second phase beginning in 2009. New leadership roles of CPWF Science Director and CPWF Impact Director are now being advertised on the [CPWF website](#) with links from the homepage.

The CPWF team

▲ 2 job openings with the Alliance for Climate Protection jobs@climateprotect.org

Deputy Director for Community Partnerships

Alliance Background:

The Alliance for Climate Protection, founded by Al Gore in 2006, is a single-purpose organization committed to igniting public action that will help solve the climate crisis. While public awareness of climate problem is now high, a sense of urgency and solvability remain alarmingly low. The Alliance's recently launched We Campaign will bring cultural and political shifts that dramatically alter US and international environmental policy by 2010. Paid advertising, grassroots partnerships, online and offline organizing, and media outreach will combine to create a movement of 10 million citizens and a tipping point that changes the world.

Grassroots & Community Partnerships Team Summary:

The Alliance Community Partnerships & Grassroots program works with our branded media campaign to mobilize the public and is linked closely with a dynamic and interactive online team. We develop partnerships with established membership organizations that people already trust and we reach out directly to citizens where they work, live, pray, and play.

Position Summary / Deputy Director for Community Partnerships:

The Deputy Director for Community Partnerships will work primarily on building formal working relationships with organizations that can expand the Alliance's reach and grow its membership. The goal is to find organizations that reach into as well as beyond traditional environmental groups and that span the cultural, political, and ideological spectrum. The position reports to the Director of Alliances & Grassroots, a senior staff member of the Alliance.

Position Summary:

Deputy Director, Partnerships and Grassroots leads a portfolio of key partnerships and grassroots programs while working closely with the Director to provide strategic leadership to the Partnerships and Grassroots team.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- * Work closely with Director of Partnerships and Grassroots to develop and execute partnerships and grassroots strategies on national scale
- * Manage portfolio of Alliance partnerships from start to finish, including sourcing, building relationships, crafting agreements, and managing detailed execution and reporting
- * Work closely with online, media, solutions, and other internal teams to ensure robust and consistent campaign integration

Helpful Skills & Experience

- * 6+ years professional experience in business management, marketing, and partnership-building; some grassroots organizing and advocacy experience
- * Experience marketing and communicating to mass audiences
- * College degree preferred; MBA valued

- * Varied experiences in different regions of the country or with diverse consumer/voter groups
- * Demonstrated ability to work with those who do not always share your cultural, political, or ideological views
- * Strong understanding of online mobilization
- * Strong strategic thinker with flawless execution skills and attention to detail
- * Ability to produce under tight deadlines and work well in a nimble, quick-paced environment
- * Excellent written, oral, and project management skills
- * Maintain professionalism and uphold high standards of respect for colleagues, partners of all backgrounds

Application Process: Email Resume and cover letter to: jobs@climateprotect.org

Deputy Director for Grassroots

Alliance Background (same as above)

Grassroots & Community Partnerships Team Summary:

The Alliance Community Partnerships & Grassroots program works with our branded media campaign to mobilize the public and is linked closely with a dynamic and interactive online team. We develop partnerships with established membership organizations that people already trust and we reach out directly to citizens where they work, live, pray, and play.

Position Summary / Deputy Director for Grassroots:

The Deputy Director for Grassroots will work primarily on individual citizen recruitment, activation, and message delivery. All the tools of traditional grassroots organizing and corporate retail consumer sales will be on the table to serve the twin goals of moving public opinion and recruiting 10 million citizens to the movement. The position reports to the Director of Alliances & Grassroots, a senior staff member of the Alliance.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- * Work closely with Director of Partnerships and Grassroots to develop and execute retail/grassroots strategies on a national scale
- * Provide detailed planning, execution, and reporting of grassroots programs
- * Work closely with online, media, solutions, and other internal teams to ensure robust and consistent campaign integration; work with staff, interns, and outside consultants or vendors

Helpful Skills & Experience

- * 6+ years professional experience in corporate retail sales, political campaign field work, or interest group grassroots organizing
- * An understanding of targeting and list management; an understanding of how to use voter or consumer databases (no technical certification required)
- * College degree preferred but not required
- * Varied experiences in different regions of the country or with diverse consumer/voter groups
- * Demonstrated ability to work with those who do not always share your cultural, political, or ideological views
- * Strong understanding of online mobilization
- * Strong strategic thinker with flawless execution skills and attention to detail
- * Ability to produce under tight deadlines and work well in a nimble, quick-paced environment
- * Excellent written, oral, and project management skills
- * Maintain professionalism and uphold high standards of respect for colleagues, partners of all backgrounds

Application Process: Email Resume and cover letter to: jobs@climateprotect.org

PHOTO COMPETITION

Oikocredit has organised a photo competition entitled “How fair is your world?”. Are you interested in participating? Take a photograph of yourself or someone else to show us what fair financing and being a fair trade consumer means to you or them.

The winner will visit one of Oikocredit's project partners in Asia, Africa or Latin America and will be able to see with his or her own eyes how Oikocredit's fair financing can support people to empower themselves.

Instructions:

- The competition is open to amateur photographers only.
- Entries must be received by **31 October 2008**.
- Pictures must be submitted to photocompetition@oikocredit.org accompanied by:
- name of the photographer, address and contact phone number.
- a short description of what or who is depicted in the photograph (name, age, country, job) + you or their words on fair financing
- Ensure that the photograph is high-quality, so it can be used in publications or in other ways at a later date.
- Upon sending the photograph, you should receive a confirmation mail with as sender photocompetition@oikocredit.org. If you do not receive this mail, it may have been rejected by your provider. Resend the message in a lower resolution.
- By entering the competition, the entrant verifies that he/she has read and agrees to the [Rules of Entry](#).

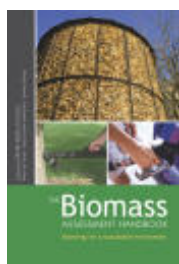
NEW INFORMATION SOURCES

(This is a new column; every item is new every time)

BOOKS

New Books from Earthscan

▲ The Biomass Assessment Handbook



Edited by Frank Rosillo-Calle, Sarah Hemstock, Peter de Groot and Jeremy Woods

The increasing importance of biomass as a renewable energy source has led to an acute need for reliable and detailed information on its assessment, consumption and supply. This handbook provides the reader with the skills to understand the biomass resource base, the tools to assess the resource, and explores the pros and cons of exploitation. RRP £39.95

To review or promote the book please email dan.harding@earthscan.co.uk

▲ Gender and Natural Resource Management: Livelihoods, Mobility and Interventions



Edited by Bernadette P. Resurreccion and Rebecca Elmhirst

This book is about the gender dimensions of natural resource exploitation and management, with a focus on South and Southeast Asia. It provides an exploration of the uneasy negotiations between theory, policy and practice that are often evident within the realm of gender, environment and natural resource management, especially where gender is understood as a political, negotiated and contested element of social relationships. RRP £60.00

To review or promote the book please email tahira.thapar@earthscan.co.uk



▲ Lifting the Lid – An Ecological Approach to Toilet Systems,

by Peter Harper and Louise Halestrap, published in August 1999 by Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, Powys, SY20 9AZ UK. 154 pp. ISBN 1 898049 79 3. UK£12, \$15.95, Can \$19.95. Contact help@catinfo.demon.co.uk and more info in www.cat.org.uk.

From the Foreword: The conventional flush toilet is an environmental disaster. It could

scarcely be better designed to waste one of the world's most overstretched resources: fresh water. Every time we pull the chain, the future of the world is sucked a little further down the drain.

Part of the problem is that the flush toilet has been introduced, like many labour-saving devices, as a universal solution to a multiplicity of problems. It is deployed all over the world, whether or not water supplies or sewage treatment facilities are adequate. The water closet has become the symbol of civilization.

Lifting the lid flushes away our preconceptions about the toilet. It shows that the massive task of disposing of or treating human waste in different circumstances can be tackled by a host of different means, which don't compromise the survival of future generations. It ventures further into the mechanics of the lavatory than most of us have ever cared to go before, and the solutions it discovers are innovative and extraordinary. This is, I can confidently assert, the best toilet paper you're ever likely to read. –

George Monbiot

▲ **Sustainable Agriculture with Organic Fertilizer**, Edited by **Machito Mihara** (m-mihara@nodai.ac.jp) and **Akimi Fujimoto**; published by ERECON and University of Tokyo, Japan. 2007. 125 pp. ISBN 4-916174-06-2. In English, Thai, Khmer (Cambodian) and Japanese. 2,000 yen.



From the Preface: Sustainable agriculture is recognized as a farming system producing foods and fiber materials on a sustainable basis harmonizing agricultural production with the natural environment. Recently, organic fertilizer is more apt to be a focus, as it may contribute to the reduction of the use of chemical fertilizer, which has been causing environmental problems such as eutrophication in water system or land degradation. Additionally, chemical fertilizer and chemical pesticide applied in agricultural fields affect food safety and human health.

The compost made from crop residues or the fallen leaves of trees utilizing the decomposition ability of soil microbes or animals can maintain land productivity continuously. That is the way of substance circulation through agricultural production.

However, there is a tendency for more chemical fertilizer and chemical pesticide to be applied in farmland for increasing agricultural productivity in the short run. This tendency is obvious not only in developed countries but also in the developing countries in SE Asia and has been causing environmental problems.

This guidebook has been prepared for the purposes of advancing compost use and decreasing the amounts of chemical fertilizer and other chemicals in farmland. – *Machito Mihara and Akimi Fujimoto*

▲ **FARMING WITH NATURE – The Science and Practice of Ecoagriculture**, edited by **Sara J. Scherr** (sscherr@ecoagriculturepartners.org) and **Jeffrey A. McNeely**; Island Press, www.islandpress.org, Washington, Covelo, London. 2007. 443 pp. ISBN-10: 1-59726-128-9.



Hardcover: US\$70; softcover: US\$35.

The book represents the result of several years of collaborative work with over 50 colleagues to assess the state of the art of agricultural production, conservation management and institutional development in 'ecoagriculture' landscapes. While the book's authors identify many important gaps in science and practice, they nonetheless conclude that much is already known about how to develop and sustain ecoagriculture landscapes. Based on this solid body of knowledge, Ecoagriculture Partners is shaping its programs to provide strategic input to innovators in different parts of the world who are working in such landscapes, and to help fill the gaps.



▲ **Shadows In Plato's Cave**, authored and published by Prof **Michael A. Fullen**, University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, UK; 2007. 70 pp. ISBN 978-1-84753-550-4. Contact the author for more info at m.fullen@wlv.ac.uk.

From the Introduction: Plato (circa 427-347 BC) tells the story of his cave. Outside

the cave there are fires which cause the shadows in the cave. Prisoners in the cave believe the shadows are real and refuse to leave the cave. In effect, they are prisoners of something which is not real. As John O'donahue (1997) describes it, they experience "all the brutal terrains of bleak and tormented lives." Part I of this book deals with these issues which come from our own caves, the secret dark places of our fear. In these, we examine issues surrounding dealing with mistakes, forgiveness and adversity. When we overcome these problems, we escape from the cave. Then we can deal with issues outside the cave, in the light. These include meditation, wisdom, determination, calm, work, humility, patience, detachment, attitude to life, attitude to people and God. We all have our views of the existence or non-existence of God. In these quotes God is perceived as a higher force, or nature. It is neither an advantage nor disadvantage to view God in any specific religious denominational sense.

The quotes presented are from authorities and writers whose works I have found to be inspirational, illuminating and a general help in everyday life. As such, the book is very eclectic, collating quotes from individuals spanning centuries. I cannot put it better than William Shakespear (1564-1616):

"Small have continual plodders ever won,
Save base authority from others' books."
(Love's Labours Lost Act I, Scene I).

The book is divided into 14 Chapter headings and specific quotes are assigned to specific issues. However, often this choice is arbitrary and the same quotes could be used under different headings. My sincere thanks go to these teachers who have offered their guidance and allowed access to their deepest thoughts. With their help we can emerge from our caves into a new light. – *Mike Fullen*

▲ **Soil Science Dictionary, English→Thai**, edited by **Soil Science Dictionary Improvement Committee**, Department of Soils, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand; published by Kasetsart University Press <http://kup.ku.ac.th>, kup@kup.ac.th. First edition, January 2008. 207 pp. ISBN 978-974-9934-51-7. 140 Thai Baht. The dictionary shows English terms with equivalent Thai terms and further explanation in Thai. It is indispensable for academics and professionals in soil science and related professions working in Thailand. Contact Dr Anchalee Suthiprakan at anchalee@ku.ac.th for technical inquiry.



BULLETIN-NEWSLETTER

▲ ESSC Newsletter



This is a very well edited quarterly newsletter of the European Society for Soil Conservation (Mike Fullen, Editor) showing all activities of the society. Membership in the society costs Euro 25/yr or Euro 70 for 3 years. Members in transition countries pay less. Contact Wim Cornelis at wim.cornelis@UGhent.be for more details. On the other hand, the newsletter can be read online at the society's website www.essc.sk.

▲ You may write to the International Erosion Control Association at ieca@ieca.org to receive **IECA UPDATE** regularly by e-mail. IECA has been our Organization member since 2006.

▲ Outreach Newsletter

The latest issue of Outreach Issues can be found at <http://www.sdin-ngo.net/> today's issue covers
Page 1 19th Century London Meets Nairobi Today

Page 3	A New UNEP?
Page 7	The Most Open and Participatory UN Process
Page 8	Monitoring — An Essential Tool
Page 10	Waiting for the Chair's Summary
Page 11	Damming and Condemning: The Real Cost of Large Dams
Page 12	Bridge over Troubled Water
Page 13	Waterless SIDS
Page 14	Food for Thought: Annual Ministerial Review

▲ **The Alternatives to Slash-and-Burn (ASB) Partnership** launches e-newsletter

The Alternatives to Slash and Burn Partnership (ASB) launched a new newsletter in March 2008, which will now come out once every month. The e-bulletin profiles recent news, publications, and events related to partnerships for the tropical forest margins. Recent members of the list-serve may be particularly interested in the debates about REDD – Reduced Emissions from Deforestation in Developing Countries within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

To see the newsletter online and to subscribe visit: http://www.asb.cgiar.org/newsletter/asb_newsletter_0308.html

▲ **PACA Innaugural Newsletter**

The Professional Alliance for Conservation Agriculture (PACA) platform has emerged from concerns surrounding agriculture, given its increasing importance and diminishing interest.

Recent deliberations surrounding food security, diversion of croplands for other applications, and visible ecological impact are all adding to heightening worry for farmers and policy makers alike.

PACA has found support from very many agriculture professionals from within the country as well as internationally, and has been promoted by Centre for Advancement in Sustainable Agriculture (CASA) and Society for Strategy Technology & Delivery for Development (Society STADD), both organisations committed to sustainable agriculture. Being aware of your interest in the subject of agriculture with specific reference to its sustainability and viability, we have taken the liberty to attach the first copy of our newsletter titled "Conservation Agriculture Newsletter". We hope you find the newsletter informative as it takes improved shape in days to come and look forward to hear your response to the content of this newsletter.

Dr. I.P. Abrol and Sanjeev Vasudev www.conserveagri.org

Write to info@conserveagri.org to have your e-mail included in the mailing list.

JOURNAL

▲ **Water Alternatives (free) e-Journal**

The first issue of the new, free, open access, peer-reviewed, e-journal *Water Alternatives* has been posted today. The table of contents is given below. **You have free access to this journal at no cost.** The site address is www.water-alternatives.org, where you can register for alerts and find more information on the journal. *Water Alternatives* appears three times a year. The next issue is due 1 October. With apologies for cross-posting of this announcement. Please feel free to forward this message to colleagues and friends interested in interdisciplinary thinking on water, politics and development (and to those you think should be).

Volume 1 | Issue 1

June 2008

Editorial

Water, politics and development: Introducing Water Alternatives

François Molle, Peter P. Mollinga, Ruth Meinzen-Dick

Water Alternatives 1(1): 1-6

[Full Text - PDF](#)

Articles

Water, politics and development: Framing a political sociology of water resources management

Peter P. Mollinga

Water Alternatives 1(1): 7-23

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

A political economy of water in southern Africa

Larry A. Swatuk

Water Alternatives 1(1): 24-47

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

Water rights arenas in the Andes: Upscaling the defence networks to localise water control

Rutgerd Boelens

Water Alternatives 1(1): 48-65

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

River-basin politics and the rise of ecological democracy in Southeast Asia and Southern Africa

Christopher Sneddon and Coleen Fox

Water Alternatives 1(1): 66-88

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

Lost in translation: The participatory imperative and local water governance in north Thailand and southwest Germany

Andreas Neef

Water Alternatives 1(1): 89-110

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

Men, masculinities and water powers in irrigation

Margreet Zwarteveen

Water Alternatives 1(1): 111-130

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

Nirvana concepts, storylines and policy models: Insights from the water sector

François Molle

Water Alternatives 1(1): 131-156

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

Distilling or diluting? Negotiating the water research-policy interface

Frances Cleaver and Tom Franks

Water Alternatives 1(1): 157-177

[Abstract](#) | [Full Text - PDF](#)

Book Reviews

Modern myths of the Mekong: A critical review of water and development concepts, principles and policies. (Kummu, M.; Keskinen, M. and Varis, O. (Eds). 2008).

By: Rajesh Daniel

Water Alternatives 1(1): 178-180

[Full Text - PDF](#)

▲ *Agronomy for Sustainable Development*

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. É. Lichtfouse

ISSN (Print Edition): 1774-0746

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Frequency: 4 issues per year

Published by: [EDP Sciences](#)



<http://www.agronomy-journal.org/content/view/98/102/lang.en/>

This is an international journal for scientific research on the interactions between cropping systems and other activities in the context of sustainable development. The Editors welcome monodisciplinary contributions in agronomy that will constitute the grounds of sustainability from environmental, economical or social viewpoints. The Editors also welcome multidisciplinary articles that bridge agronomy with ecology, environmental and social sciences. Manuscripts should focus on novel findings underlining those relationships.

The journal publishes original research articles that demonstrate a clear scientific breakthrough versus current knowledge. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere. Review articles on a particularly hot subject may be suggested to the Editor-in-Chief. Contributions may be on either

methodological approaches, or approaches addressing major issues in the scope of the journal. Selected examples of topics covered by the journal are given below.

- Sustainable agriculture, ecological production
- Innovation in farming systems
- Agriculture and preservation of natural resources
- Sustainable land use
- Agriculture and global changes
- Agroclimatology and modelling
- Biogeochemistry of agrosystems
- Pollutants in agrosystems
- Ecological pest control and biopesticides
- Ecological, economical and social impacts of genetic engineering applications
- Environmental impact on soil, water, air and biodiversity
- Risk assessment for food, ecotoxicology
- Food quality, food safety, supply chain management, and geographical indication
- Environmental management in agriculture
- Decision support systems and companion modelling
- Organic farming
- Ecological cropping and farming systems
- Agricultural production of renewable energies
- Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in cropping systems
- Social and economical issues of agricultural changes

WASWC members are invited to send their papers to publish by contacting **Dr. É. Lichtfouse** or **Caroline Alberola** at agronomy@avignon.inra.fr. More info in the website <http://www.agronomy-journal.org/content/view/98/102/lang,en/>

▲ Green Farming - An International Journal of Agricultural Sciences

Dear Reader,

I would like to introduce Green Farming - A Monthly National Agro Journal that publishes scientific articles concerned with all aspects of agriculture, horticulture, forestry, dairying, animal husbandry & rural development etc. The Journal provides a unique forum for all those involved to present, share, and explore new ideas, latest thinking and best practices particularly for the application of biological/organic farming and environmentally safe agriculture.

Published articles are expected to transfer the latest technology at faster rate to readers of various categories i.e. scientists, research scholars, administrators, policy makers, private organization, extension workers & progressive farmers etc. Thus making it an indispensable guide to keep abreast of current findings in the global agriculture. The Journal is guided by its eminent editorial board of leading agriculture & animal husbandry professionals.

Submit an Article

The journal welcomes original papers, review & research articles, technical reports and short communications containing new innovations. The primary criteria for publication are scientific quality & ecological significance. Authors are requested to submit their papers to editorial office in CD or electronically to editor@greenfarming.in. Read Instructions for Authors before submitting the article.

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- Recent advance in applied agricultural & horticultural crops production & protection technology
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- Varieties, New molecules of bio-pesticides, agro-chemicals and bio-fertilizers etc
- Medicinal plants, spices, organic products, animal feed & farm equipments etc.

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This Journal is currently circulated throughout the country among various scientific national agricultural/research institutes & experts working in universities, govt. dept., extension dept., non-government firm's & progressive farmers. To advertise about your products, please contact us.

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Thanking you and with warm regards,

Dr. A. Noor (Hony. Advisor)

(Ex-Assoc.Prof. & Head & Zonal Master Trainer (ARS), RAU, Bikaner),

Fellow of E.S.I., P.P.A. of India & ISAIS; Life member of many National Journals

Editorial Office:

Green Farming, 132, Kamla Nehru Nagar, Near Cheerghar Masjid, Chopasni Road,
Jodhpur 342008 Rajasthan India

info@greenfarming.in

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The International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability Current Issue Volume 6 No. 1

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[View contents of current issue](#)

WEBSITES

▲ **WOCAT** in "Best of Google Earth Community" As already mentioned in the WOCATEER # 15, all case studies in the WOCAT database can now be viewed in Google Earth (GE). So far this was possible by clicking on the link to the appropriate "kmz" file (see <http://www.wocat.net/GoogleEarth.asp>) to download the WOCAT Google Earth file on your computer.

Since recently WOCAT is now also fully on-line in Google Earth, so it is an intrinsic part of Google Earth Community when starting up. In the GE Layers window, the Gallery --> Google Earth Community --> Google Earth Community Forums --> Environment and Conservation check box need to be checked to make it visible, but at the moment WOCAT is even included in the Geographic Web --> Best of Google Earth Community"! We consider this a major compliment! Earlier it was also listed among the top 20 ranked posts (see WOCATEER # 15)!

Some of the nice layout has been lost in the process however, and the and icons have disappeared and have been replaced by standard Google Earth icons, making it more difficult to find them among other GE placemarks (some surely also interesting) or to distinguish between Technologies and Approaches. We'll try to improve this. If you prefer the downloadable version with dedicated WOCAT icons and better lay-out, you may download the version as described on the WOCAT website. Meanwhile, if you notice any errors (even typo's), omissions or misplaced locations, please let us know, so we can improve!

Godert van Lynden, WOCAT-L moderator

▲ NGOs Unite for Action against Climate Change Climate Action Network

The Climate Action Network (CAN) is a worldwide network of over 430 NGOs working to promote government and individual action to limit human-induced climate change to ecologically sustainable levels. CAN uses a three-track approach to mitigating climate change: the Kyoto track, which spurs the rapid development of sustainable technologies

by industrialized countries; the “Greening” (de-carbonization) track, which supports the rapid introduction of clean, sustainable technologies to developing countries; and the Adaptation track, which assists the most vulnerable countries in anticipating and limiting the unavoidable effects of climate change. CAN has regional offices which coordinate efforts in Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Europe, Latin America, North America, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. CAN's website also offers information on policy, as well as access to several newsletters.

▲ Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research launches website

The new website of the Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research (PAR) will officially go live on Tuesday 27 May 2008. PAR seeks to improve the maintenance and use of agrobiodiversity by synthesizing and sharing existing knowledge, identifying areas where research is needed and stimulating the development of new and innovative research partnerships to address knowledge gaps. The launch will take place during PAR's informal Stakeholder Consultation at COP9 in Bonn. The meeting will be open to all interested and will start at 9.00 am - Salon Planck Room, Maritim Hotel, Bonn.

PAR would also like to invite all to a COP9 Side Event on Monday May 26 2008 (Haydn Room, Maritim Hotel, Bonn – open to all). The topic will be: "Food security in an era of climate change: What can agricultural biodiversity contribute and how can it do it?" Other sponsors of this side event include Alliance of the CGIAR, UNEP GEF, Ecoagriculture Partners, Tebtebba Foundation and The Christensen Fund.

For more information on PAR visit www.agrobiodiversityplatform.org.

Contact Toby Hodgkin at [t.hodgkin\(at\)cgiar.org](mailto:t.hodgkin(at)cgiar.org) with specific questions.

▲ Partnership to Enhance Cassava Production in Thailand

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) will partner with the Thai Tapioca Development Institute (TTDI) to develop cassava varieties that will enable smallholder farmers in Thailand to produce more income. Cassava is the third most important food crop, after rice and maize, in Southeast Asia. Yet, it receives little attention from the scientific community at large. CIAT and TTDI aim to fill this research gap by developing high-yielding and high-starch containing cassava varieties suited to growing conditions in the country. They will also work to facilitate the adoption of new cassava varieties as well as agronomic techniques for the benefit of farming communities. CIAT has recently worked with partners in Thailand, where average cassava yields increased by 53 percent (14 tons to 21 tons per ha) from 1994 to 2006. Currently, 98 percent of the varieties planted in the country consists of cassava developed from the CIAT germplasm. To improve capacity to identify other useful traits in cassava, CIAT will also offer training to Thai scientists, including faculty and students of Kasetsart University in Bangkok. Read the full article at http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/newsroom/release_29.htm

▲ Democracy at work in Bangkok!

Click www.manager.co.th and then click the yellow horizontal line in the middle of the page and click the logo ASTV (~1 o'clock), and you may see the live TV showing the rally in Bangkok that demands the termination of the present government under Mr Samak Sundaravej. The rally started on May 25, 2008 and would stop only when the PM steps down. Large number of protesters gathered on May 30 and May 31. Surprisingly, the authority assured there would not be any dispersal of the crowd. The protests are mixed in-between with concert, showing both classical and modern Thai music. You will likely succeed in accessing it in the evening and at night, Thailand time. If there is any problem, you may alternatively click www.uthaisak.com, where you can view several previous concert programs.



▲ Global Biotech Research Center in Beijing

Agribusiness company Syngenta will build a new biotech research and technology center at the Zhongguancun Life Science Park in Beijing, China. The facilities will enable research on early stage evaluation of GM and native

traits for key crops such as corn and soybean. Crop traits to be studied include yield improvement, drought resistance, disease control and biomass conversion for biofuels. Initial operations start this summer although the facilities will be completed in 2010. Syngenta had earlier completed the share transaction with the Chinese corn seeds company Sanbei Seed Co. Ltd in Hebei province. It also entered into a five-year research collaboration with the Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology (IGDB) in Beijing on the development of novel agronomic traits for key crops such as corn, soybean, wheat, sugar beet and sugarcane.

See Syngenta's press release at <http://www.syngenta.com/en/media/press/2008/04-17.htm>

FILM-VIDEO

▲ You may click the url to see the film *Lessons of the Loess Plateau* www.earthshope.org

▲ *Erosion by Rain*, a half-hour video with sound made by Eelko Bergsma of the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), Enschede, The Netherlands, soon to be posted at <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn/SoilErosionNSWC.html>

CALL FOR PAPERS

Call for Papers for a Special Series on Africa, Agriculture, Desertification, Drought, Land and Rural Development

The *Natural Resources Forum*, a quarterly journal issued by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and published by Blackwell, announces a call for papers for a special series over the 2007-2009 period on themes to be considered by the United Nations Commission of Sustainable Development in its 16 and 17th sessions:

Africa
Agriculture
Desertification
Drought
Land
Rural Development

The *Natural Resources Forum* focuses on inter-linked, multidisciplinary issues related to sustainable development, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition.

Researchers and practitioners interested in sending articles for this series are invited to first submit an abstract. Articles should be original in nature and between 6,000 and 8,000 words in length. Attached please find our author submission guidelines for your reference.

All papers are peer reviewed by experts in the fields concerned. Revisions may be requested before final acceptance.

Please forward your abstracts as soon as possible. Abstracts on the above issues will be accepted through 2009. However, articles for publishing in the November 2008 issue should be received **no later than 30 June 2008**. Questions, comments, and abstracts can be addressed to:

At this time, *Natural Resources Forum* is also inviting your views on the following question for the *Viewpoints* section of the November 2008 issue:

“Are women more severely affected by desertification ... and if so, how?”

The *Viewpoints* section of the journal is a series of policy debates to help stimulate and advance the dialogue on critical issues related to sustainable development. The aim of *Viewpoints* is to offer a platform for academics, practitioners and experts to share their individual perspectives and to feature these perspectives alongside other thoughtful responses in the journal.

Each entry should be **200 words or less** addressing the above question. When submitting a contribution, please also provide your name, title, affiliation and contact details.

Our Editorial team will work closely together with *NRF*'s Editorial Board Members and Advisors to select those contributions that address an important dimension of the debate. We encourage responses from different regional perspectives and from a broad range of disciplines, ensuring the right balance of perspectives.

The deadline for submission to the *Viewpoints* for the November 2008 issue is: **31 July 2008**. The Editorial team looks forward to receiving many contributions.

Hiroko Morita-Lou
Editor-in-Chief
National Resources Forum
e-mail: NRFORUM@un.org

IMPORTANT DAY/ DATE

▲ Biodiversity Day – May 22

This year's theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD), “Biodiversity and Agriculture,” seeks to highlight the importance of sustainable agriculture not only to preserve biodiversity, but also to ensure that we will be able to feed the world, maintain agricultural livelihoods, and enhance human well being into the 21st century and beyond.

From IFOAM Press Release of May 22, 2008 <http://www.ifoam.org>

▲ World Non-smoking Day – May 31



▲ World Environment Day – June 5

Host cities/ countries of international World Environment Day celebrations:

[2008 - Wellington, New Zealand](#)
[2007 - Tromsø, Norway](#)
[2006 - Algiers, Algeria](#)
[2005 - San Francisco, USA](#)
[2004 - Barcelona, Spain](#)
[2003 - Beirut, Lebanon](#)
[2002 - Shenzhen, People's Republic of China](#)

[2001 - Torino, Italy and Havana, Cuba](#)
[2000 - Adelaide, Australia](#)
1999 - Tokyo, Japan
1998 - Moscow, Russian Federation
1997 - Seoul, Republic of Korea
1996 - Istanbul, Turkey
1995 - Pretoria, South Africa

1994 - London, United Kingdom
1993 - Beijing, People's Republic of China
1992 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1991 - Stockholm, Sweden

1990 - Mexico City, Mexico
1989 - Brussels, Belgium
1988 - Bangkok, Thailand
1987 - Nairobi, Kenya

EXHIBITION



Egerton University, PO Box 536-20115, Egerton, Kenya

Dear Members,

INVITATION: KISUMU EAWA EXHIBITION, 13-14 JUNE 2008

The Eastern Africa Water Association (EAWA) has organized an Exhibition with the theme *"Taking EAWA to Stakeholders: knowledge and technological transfer through interaction"* to be held in Kisumu City, Kenya, from 13 - 14th June, 2008. The main objectives of the Exhibition will be to disseminate information related to water through pro-poor innovations and technologies for safe water supply, and creating an opportunity for potential interaction and cooperation between water actors for sustainable management of water resources in the region for development. The objectives of the exhibition will be geared towards strengthening the capacity of eastern Africa stakeholders on issues related to water and adaptation of pro-poor innovations and technologies, enhancing the impact of research and technology towards sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems resources, supporting knowledge-based economy through water provision and environmental health, public awareness on water issues and advances in adaptable technology and innovations. To achieve these objectives, the participants and stakeholders will interact freely and exchange ideas and information on pro-poor water related innovations and technologies through posters, keynote talks, and discussions.

The purpose of this communication is therefore to invite you to the Exhibition and to the **EAWA members Ball** which will take place on the last day of the Exhibition, **Saturday, 14 June 2008**. Please confirm your willingness to participate by **20th May, 2008** to enable the organizers to finalize the Exhibition arrangements.

Sincerely yours,

Professor JM Mathooko

Chair, EAWA Regional Council c/o James O. Owino joowin@yahoo.com

ORGANIZATIONS

▲ International Erosion Control Association (IECA)

Pls visit the website www.ieca.org and you are welcome to join the International Erosion Control Association in one of the membership categories that suits you.

Membership Categories

Individual Memberships

- Professional
- Student
- Emeritus

Business Memberships

- Corporate
- Emerald
- Cornerstone

International Membership

▲ Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)

The Soil and Water Conservation Society (previously called the Soil Conservation Society of America) was founded in 1943 to advance the science and art of natural resource management for sustainability. SWCS members practice an ethic that recognizes an interdependence of people and the environment. The society has over 5,000 active members, publishes the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, and hosts an annual conference. More information is available at www.swcs.org. SWCS also hosts Conservation Blogger, which contains the latest conservation news, at www.swcs.org/conservationblogger.



Mark Anderson-Wilk, Publications Director, Soil and Water Conservation Society
& Editor, Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, 945 SW Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50023 USA
515-289-2331 ext. 126, mark.anderson-wilk@swcs.org

Ed.: I was privileged to have a chance to visit the SWCS HQ in 1983 and learn about how to run such a society.

▲ International Society of Ethnobiology

In 2006, the International Society of Ethnobiology ratified a Code of Ethics addressing the principles and practices of ethical and equitable relationships between researchers and communities. This Code is quite comprehensive, and took ten years to complete (!).

The text of the Code, available in English, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, and Bahasa Indonesia, can be downloaded here:

http://ise.arts.ubc.ca/global_coalition/ethics.php

As the person in charge of developing an implementation toolkit for the Code, I welcome all relevant case studies - you can send them to my Earthwatch address, or to my ECO-SEA address (director@ecosea.org).

You are also welcome to attend the participatory sessions envisioning the toolkit at the upcoming International Congress of Ethnobiology (ICE) to be held in Cuzco June 25-30: <http://www.icecusco.net/> (Note that this website is in English, Spanish, French, and Quechua).

Jeanine Pfeiffer, PhD, Program Director, Social Sciences, Earthwatch Institute

A CALL FOR YOUR ATTENTION (sometime for help)

▲ About No-Tillage and GIS

Dear Samran Sombatpanit,

I am in receipt of the book on No Tillage farming. Thanks a lot for the same. It shall be an valuable resource for me. Wanted to explore a possibility, as written earlier we are aiming to have integrated GIS portal which aims to provide integration of spatial and non spatial data on varied topics in a systematic format. We are identifying some pilot institutions to help us develop the portal, would you like to help us with the spatial and non spatial data on no tillage farming on the same? We would capture all efforts on no tillage farming across the globe with local data, maps, best practices etc. and make it available for preview in an integrated form.

Dr. Megha Phansalkar, Pakistan drmegha@hotmail.com

▲ A short survey of UNESCO & UNF

Dear Equator Net members,

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Fauna & Flora International, and the United Nations Foundation are conducting a brief survey on 'Perceptions of Conservation Emergency'. The information collected through this survey will feed into the future direction of the **Rapid Response Facility (RRF)**, a small grants programme that aims to provide rapid funding to tackle emergency threats to biodiversity.

Input from the wider conservation community will be invaluable in shaping the RRF's future. Given your experience in conservation you are invited to provide your input.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete, and is available in:

- 1) English: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=GX_2bi98_2f37ORaLX6_2bV75F8A_3d_3d
- 2) Espanol: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Rpq1ksxH2RqcW3P4IDxyHQ_3d_3d
- 3) Francais: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=6MK42Em3BZirUr_2bK3g_2bhcQ_3d_3d

You are also encouraged to forward this survey to others within the conservation community who may wish to contribute. Gaby

▲ Dear Samran Sombatpanit

We are doing a research project titled "Investigation of impact of using managed water harvesting system in increasing crop yield" In semi-arid area in Zanjan, the northwest of IRAN with 350 mm rain fall. If WASWC members have information or experiment about this subject, please help us.

F.B. Movahhed (bayat_nrrcz@yahoo.com)

▲ The **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)** in Mexico and the **World Conservation Union (IUCN)** are undertaking a research project on Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change from a Gender Approach. Part of the process is an open consultation which aims to gather information about the initiatives, studies, projects and works related to these subjects. The questionnaire, herewith attached, seeks to identify the scope of work of the organizations consulted, as well as to know if they can provide information about experts in any of the issues pertaining to the research project. Interested organizations are kindly asked to fill out the questionnaire and send it to Paula Zúñiga Díaz (paula.zuniga@iucn.org).

▲ **Call for researchers - please help in Katavi National Park, Tanzania** - Tanzania's Katavi National Park, with a size of 4,471 sq km, is the third largest park in the country. Located on the western side towards Lake Tanganyika, the park is endowed with high densities and diversity of herbivores, carnivores, birdlife as well as insects. Unexplored and wild, Katavi has a mosaic of habitats which enable it to accommodate one of the highest mammalian biomasses among East African protected areas. Unfortunately, the absence of research studies on park resources and ecological processes hinders science-based management decisions. The current park management is therefore calling for interested researchers to work in Katavi and help inform the long-term management of this jewel in the Tanzanian protected areas system. A number of research priorities have been identified. For more information and documentation, please contact Dr. Titus Mlengeya, wildvet_tanzania@yahoo.com, www.tanzaniaparks.com.

▲ I wanted to introduce you to the **Group on Science and Innovation Policy (GOSIP)**. This is a moderated forum for sharing information on important developments on science and innovation policy worldwide. The information shared includes news items, books, reports, research papers, websites and updates on the activities members. To subscribe send an e-mail to: InnovationPolicy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

GOSIP website: <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/InnovationPolicy/>

Please feel free to share this message with others.

CALESTOUS JUMA, Professor of the Practice of International Development

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

79 John F. Kennedy Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 USA. Tele: 1(617) 496-8127 Fax 1(617) 495-8963

<http://ksgexecprogram.harvard.edu/program/sti/overview.aspx>

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/InnovationPolicy/>

<http://bcsia.ksq.harvard.edu/global/>

▲ Springer publishers will publish a series of books on each of the science themes of the **International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)**, www.yearofplanetearth.org. The themes include soils, climate change, Earth and life,

resource issues, hazards, megacities and oceans. The aim of the books is to present contemporary and innovative research authored by the world's top scientists.

If you are interested to author the soils book for the IYPE series (a single authored as well as multiple-authored edited book is possible) please contact Dr Doe at Springer: Dr. Robert K. Doe, Editor, Geosciences Springer, robert.doe@springer.com The series (8 to 9 books of all themes) will be widely marketed etc - more details can be obtained from Springer.

▲ **Tebtebba Foundation** - a well known indigenous peoples-run research and policy organization based in the Philippines (for more information see: www.tebtebba.org) - is launching an initiative that intends to use positive developments within the global system and other opportunities available to operationalise the human rights based approach in order to strengthen the protection and enhancement of biological and cultural diversity of indigenous peoples.

Amongst the various activities to be carried out under this initiative, it is envisaged to commission review papers on indigenous ecological management practices, including the adaptive ones in the face of globalisation and similar global trends, such as climate change, economic integration, instantaneous communication, urbanisation and others.

In this regard, Tebtebba Foundation is looking for a couple of young people, preferably doc and post doc students, preferably but not necessarily indigenous, who have worked on the topic, both in the South and the North, and are very knowledgeable about the existing literature, willing to prepare review papers on the topic. Could you suggest a few names as well as their contacts?

If you have any suggestions, please send them to Vanda Altarelli - v_altarelli@yahoo.co.uk - who is assisting Tebtebba in her personal capacity.

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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.

IMPORTANT

We can publicize your stuff sent to us in **Word**. If you send your stuff to us in **pdf**, we will be able to put only a few words in our WASWC Newsletter or HOT NEWS.

MEETINGS 2008

Note: For the following events, please kindly refer to the WASWC HOT NEWS for January 2008 at <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn/hotnews.html>.

- Historical and Temporary Perspectives on Rural Water Governance, July 6-11
- 3rd Global workshop, September 30-October 3, 2008
- Rainforests and Agroforestry, October 5-9, 2008

June 7-8, 2008

Bangladesh International Conference on Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering

The First International Conference of the Bangladesh Association for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering (BABGE) will be held June 7-8, 2008 at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Dhaka. Guest scientists from such countries as Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Philippines, USA, Australia, Japan, and Italy are expected to attend. Deadline for abstract submission and registration is 31 May 2008. Visit <http://www.bdbic.org> for details on BABGE and for online registration information.

June 8-10, 2008

LAND USE AND LAND DEGRADATION: Land Degradation Processes, Dynamics of Land Degradation: Taiwan / Japan. Conference web site: <http://www.taolin.com.tw/comland/comland.html>

Field Trip I: 5th-7th June 2008; **Seminar:** 8th-10th June 2008; **Field Trip II:** 11th-13th June 2008

Overview of Symposium

The main theme of the symposium is land degradation and land use change in a dynamic environment. Land degradation in response to land cover and land use change are critical issues through out the world. Regional differences give rise to a diverse array of impacts and scenarios, requiring different approaches for effective management. This symposium will provide a platform for dissemination of research findings and will promote discussion of these topics.

The symposium will be held in Taiwan and Japan, a particularly appropriate venue since these countries lie in a region that is regularly subject to the threat of earthquakes and typhoons and characterised by high population density, so that the problems of landuse and land degradation are especially prevalent and dynamic.

Please submit abstracts or questions to Gudrun Gissladottir (ggisla@hi.is) or Paul Hudson (pfhudson@mail.utexas.edu).

Paul F. Hudson, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas at Austin (2007-2008 Fulbright Fellow and Visiting Researcher, Department of Physical Geography, Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

June 8-11, 2008

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE CONFERENCE 2008

Abstracts: Close April 30th 2008

Title: Te Tatau Pounamu - The Greenstone Door: Traditional knowledge and gateways to balanced relationships

Dates: 8 - 11 June 2008

Venue: The University of Auckland, New Zealand

Theme: The Conference focuses on traditional indigenous concepts, values, ideals, models and strategies for sustaining balanced and healthy relationships within and across families, communities, nations, nation-states, local, regional and global borders, territories and environments. The Conference will provide opportunities to discuss indigenous strategies for sustaining relationships between collectives Andover generations, for resolving conflict, for peace-making, reconciliation and restorative justice. There will also be opportunities to share what has been learned from diverse contexts around the world about how indigenous models, values, concepts and processes have been incorporated into state or government initiatives and with what impact for indigenous peoples. The international conference with associated community workshops and satellite meetings enables us to bring together in dialogue a wide range of participants, perspectives, voices, frameworks and models for understanding indigenous frameworks.

The Conference email address is: indigenous-conference@auckland.ac.nz and website address is: www.indigenous-peace-conference-2008.ac.nz

June 9-10, 2008

2008 Global Katoomba Meeting

Developing an InfrastructureFund for the Planet

The Smithsonian's Natural History Museum, Washington, DC

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PARTNERS

The Smithsonian

World Resources Institute

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation

MEETING TOPICS:

- Report on the current state of U.S. and global ecosystem markets
- What is next for the already \$30 Billion carbon markets
- How water quality trading markets are helping address the world's growing water crisis
- The emergence of biodiversity markets and how they can be optimized for superior results
- How to bridge the gap between current challenges and future economic and environmental solutions
- Create an infrastructure fund for the planet that will invest in our vital natural services

Contact: "Michael Jenkins" mjenkins@forest-trends.org

June 9-13, 2008

International Conference: **Mining and Sustainable Development in Africa**, Conakry, Guinea.
siffee@siffee.org t: 1 (514) 288-2663, f: 1 (514) 288-7701. [More...](#)

June 10-14, 2008

14th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM)

The 14th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) will take place on **10th -14th June 2008**, at the University of Vermont, **Burlington, USA**. The theme of the 2008 ISSRM Symposium is “People and Place: Linking Culture and Nature”. ISSRM offers many types of opportunities to participate, including traditional paper (oral) presentations, poster presentations, and a variety of sessions that can be organized by participants. Abstracts for all of these forms of participation are due by February 8, 2008.

<http://www.ISSRM2008.org>

June 16-17, 2008

The 11th Chatham House conference on Climate Change 2008, London, UK, A New Global Climate Deal?

Achieving real collaboration for a low carbon future <http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/events/conferences/view/-/id/118/>

June 16-19, 2008

I would like to invite you to Warsaw in POLAND for the **International Symposium and the Workshop** organized in the frame of CASCADOSS Project which main subject is evaluation of FOSS4G (Free and Open Source for Geomatics) solutions in environmental applications.

Evaluating Free and Open Source Software for Geoinformation for Environmental Applications
International Symposium **June 16th 2008** and International Information Workshop **June 17th-19th 2008** Warsaw, POLAND*

A 1-day International Symposium and a 3-day International Information Workshop will be held in Warsaw. The Symposium will take place on 16 June, immediately followed by the Workshop from 17 to 19 June 2008.

The main purpose of the International Symposium is to present results accomplished so far by the CASCADOSS Project such as outcomes of an evaluation of available GIS&RS OSS solutions, and to demonstrate the most promising and useful applications.

The following subject will be also discussed:

- How can open-source software foster use of GI technologies (particularly with respect to the GMES Programme) in the public sector?

- How do existing GI standards contribute to the development of open-source applications?

What are the current trends in this area?

- How can GIS&RS services benefit from open source solutions and stimulate development of business-related GIS&RS applications?

The rationale and leading element of the International Information Workshop will be to discuss “ with a group of experts“ the issues and topics raised at the preceding International Symposium.

The discussions will be followed by training sessions in working groups, devoted to a further analysis of topics defined during the expert debates.

At the Workshop, working group sessions in computer labs will also take place, with the purpose to discuss the outcomes of the evaluation of available GIS&RS OSS solutions collected on the LIVE CD, and familiarizing with environmental applications that are based on, and/or utilize, GIS&RS OSS.

Both events are being offered to the international GIS community “in particular:

- members of organizations dealing with geo-information (GI);
- scientists;
- small- and medium entrepreneurs;
- representatives of regional self-government authorities;
- staff of institutions involved in implementation of the GMES Programme, including representatives of national GMES offices;
- staff of National Mapping Authorities (NMAs);
- members of the Open Source community

Participation in both events is free of charge. Both events will be held in English.

VENUE: The Conference and Congressional Center in the Public School of Business Administration (PWSBIA), 9 Bobrowiecka Street, 00-728 Warsaw, POLAND

REGISTRATION: To register for both events, please fill the electronic form at the CASCADOSS Project website.

Deadline for registration is 10 May 2008.

MORE DETAILS can be found on the CASCADOSS website: www.cascadoss.eu in the EVENTS section.

Monika Ruzztecka
 Programme Manager
 UNEP/GRID-Warsaw
 Str. Sobieszynska 8, 00-764 Warsaw,
 tel.: +48 22 840 6664 ext. 115
<http://www.gridw.pl>; <http://www.cascadoss.eu>

June 16-20, 2008

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AOGS 5th Annual General Meeting

Busan Exhibition & Convention Center (BEXCO)
 from 16 to 20 June 2008 in Busan , Korea

Meeting Registration Opens

[Register to Attend & Pay by 22 April](#)

AOGS2008 Field Trips

[Read/Download Field Trip Flyer](#)

Special Deals for Hotels

Book by 22 April

[Hotel Information Here](#)

Updates & More at www.asiaoceania.org

[Read/Download
 Updated AOGS2008 Brochure](#)

contains

AOGS Membership Distribution
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 AOGS2008 Fees & Participation
 AOGS2008 Exhibition Layout
 AOGS2008 Exhibitor Booking Form

Trade Visitors Attend AOGS2008 Exhibition Free of Charge Remember to inform your customers & contacts of this value addition 16 to 19 June 2008 at the AOGS 5th Annual General Meeting in Busan, Korea

June 17, 2008

Mapping For Sustainable Communities - 17th June 2008 - University College London

An interactive day of reports and discussion for community practitioners, academics and community groups

There is a growing interest in the use of collaborative and participatory mapping to draw together local information and to develop action plans that can address local environmental and social issues.

The seminar will consider recent work and ways forward. It is being organised by University College London and the London 21 network as part of their 'Mapping Change for Sustainable Communities' project funded under the UrbanBuzz programme and their Environmental Justice programme. These projects use internet-based and paper mapping along with other tools to work with communities on collecting and collating local information.

The seminar will bring together academics, practitioners and community groups to discuss the use of mapping as a means of engagement and tool for collaborative action, and to consider the benefits and limitations. The seminar includes sessions for academics and practitioners and a celebration of community work.

Outline Agenda

10.30 am - Theory and research

- * The use of different methodologies in participatory mapping
- * Mapping, impacts and inequalities
- * Panel discussion: the balance between participation and the use of technology

2pm - Practice

- * The use of mapping with local communities
- * Mapping, empowerment and Community Development
- * Local Government, Regeneration and the use of community mapping
- * Practical workshop: starting a participatory mapping project

4.30pm Community Showcase

- * A brief introduction to the development of the two projects, followed by presentations about the five case studies.

6pm Reception

The conference is **free** but numbers are limited. Register on-line at http://www.communitymaps.london21.org/includes/mcsc_conference.php

Dr. Muki Haklay: Senior Lecturer in GIS
Department of Civil, Environmental & Geomatic Engineering
University College London (UCL)
Gower St. London WC1E 6BT
T: +44 20 7679 2745
E: m.haklay@ucl.ac.uk
W: <http://www.ge.ucl.ac.uk/~mhaklay/>

June 17-18, 2008

Technical and vocational education in Palestine ... Reality, Challenges and ambitions Location: Gaza, Palestine

June 17-19, 2008

International conference: Using Evaluation to Enhance the Rural Development Value of Agri-environmental Measures, Pärnu, Estonia, 17-19 June 2008

The aim of this conference is to bring together a range of stakeholders with an active interest in the evaluation of agri-environment measures, including governmental officials and independent evaluators and experts. The conference will be jointly organized by Estonia (Agricultural Research Centre, the Ministry of Agriculture) and Finland (the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Environment, University of Helsinki).

The objectives of the conference will be to improve understanding of the linkages between rural policies, farm practices and environmental outcomes; review and analyze the tools and methods available for the evaluation of agri-environment measures; and to identify those evaluation tools most useful for improving the integration of biodiversity conservation into agri-environment measures, particularly for the support of High Nature Value

farming systems in the context of the 2007-2013 programming period.

Participants are invited to pre-register and to submit a presentation or workshop proposal addressing any of the themes of the conference at the conference website: pmk.agri.ee/conference or by e-mail at conference@pmk.agri.ee. The call for pre-registrations, presentation, and workshop proposals closes 1 February 2008. The detailed program will be available soon after and call for registrations opens in March 2008.

June 18-20, 2008

16th Organic World Congress in the theme, The Principles of Fairness and Health, Modena, Italy. Organized by IFOAM, Tel: +49-228-92650-10, Fax: +49-228-92650-99, headoffice@ifoam.org, <http://www.ifoam.org>

June 23-25, 2008

Universidad Internacional de Andalucia ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOPS 2008
“INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL TURBULENCE”
Baeza, Spain Contact: Dr. Lourdes Soria (baeza@unia.es)

June 24-25, 2008

International Conference on "Management of resources in Muslim countries and communitieschallenges and prospects" Location: Malaysia

June 25-28, 2008

EAERE 2008 - European Association for Environmental Resource Economists, Gothenburg, Sweden, <http://www.eaere2008.org/>

June 25-28, 2008

International conference on Groundwater and Climate in Africa
Location: Kampala, Uganda

June 29-July 4, 2008

REGISTER FOR THE IUSS MID-TERM MEETING 2008

As a part of its cycle of business meetings, the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) will be holding an **Inter-Congress Council Meeting** in Brisbane from Sunday 29th June to Friday 4th July 2008.

The meeting is targeted primarily at all **IUSS Council Members** (members of the Executive Committee and National Representatives). **IUSS Division Vice-Chairs and Commission Officers are also invited.**

Much of the time will be taken up with Meetings of the IUSS Council and Executive and discussing the Scientific program and other arrangements for the 19WCSS. Also included in the Meeting is a one-day symposium and a full day field trip. [Please click here for the full Meeting program.](#)

Non-IUSS members are welcome to attend the one-day symposium (Tuesday 1 July) and field trip (Wednesday 2 July).

Registrations for the symposium and field trip will be available in late May 2008. Please complete the on-line registration option below or, [download the registration form here](#) and fax to (61) 07 3369 3731.

For further information, please contact Kristie Watling, kristie.watling@nrw.qld.gov.au or phone 07 4688 1092.

June 29-July 5, 2008

International Grassland and Rangeland Congress

The International Grassland and Rangeland Congress will be take place in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, June 29-July 5, 2008. Information on the Trade Show/Exhibits, Tours (Pre-congress, Post-congress and Mid-congress), Workshops and Delegate Sponsorship can be found at www.IGC-IRC2008.org.

June 30-July 2, 2008

Universidad Internacional de Andalucia ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOPS 2008
“HABITAT FRAGMENTATION AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES: THE ROLE OF ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY AND BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS” **Baeza, Spain** Contact: Dr. Lourdes Soria (baeza@unia.es)

July 2-3, 2008

'First International Conference on Flood Recovery, Innovation and Response', London, England. Contact Carly Rose (Flood Repair Network Administrator) at C.Rose@wlv.ac.uk, **Phone: +44-(0)-1902 518530**

Call for papers will be issued shortly. Please visit the Flood Repair Net website for further details:

www.floodrepair.net

July 2-3, 2008

The 'Flood Repair Network' is pleased to draw your attention to the 'First International Conference on Flood Recovery, Innovation and Response' (FRIAR)

Venue: Institute of Civil Engineers (ICE) Headquarters, Great George Street, London, UK Dates: 2 and 3 July 2008 (please note the revised dates).

This two day Conference will provide a unique opportunity for Practitioners and Researchers to meet in order to exchange experience and ideas.

Scientific and technical sessions will provide an opportunity for the international flood repair community to share experiences and best practice. Themes will include flood repair, research, recovery, response, insurance and innovation in this field. A schedule of social events will also be offered.

The first call for Abstracts is currently being put into circulation, along with details of various advertising and promotional packages.

There is already significant interest in this event, so please register on our website. To obtain further details about this exciting project and to reserve your place, please visit our web site:

www.floodrepair.net

July 2-4, 2008

International Conference on Research for Development (ICRD 2008) 2-4 July 2008, Bern, Switzerland

The ICRD was first announced on 15 January 2008. We are pleased to inform you that the second announcement is now available at <http://icrd.unibe.ch>.

There was a great response to our call for contributions, so that we were able to compile a most ambitious and challenging programme:

Keynote speakers on each day, addressing five principal research themes, and researchers from the international North-South community, presenting their experiences and the results of their work in three parallel sessions devoted to each conference theme. An extended poster session will allow optimal interaction with the contributors present.

All participants, whether confirmed as contributors or interested persons, are invited to register formally by 15 May 2008. You will find the details and the registration form on our website. We apologize for any cross-mailing.

Hans Hurni, Director NCCR North-South

International Conference on Research for Development (ICRD 2008)

National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South

Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)

University of Bern, Hallerstrasse 10

CH-3012 Bern, Switzerland

icrd@cde.unibe.ch

Tel. ++ 41 31 631 52 72 (secretariat); Fax: ++ 41 31 631 85 44

<http://icrd.unibe.ch>; <http://www.north-south.unibe.ch>

July 2-6, 2008

International Conference on Plant-Microbial Interactions 2008 (Krakow, Poland, July 2-6, 2008)

July 3, 2008



CCF /

RELU SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

Future farming in the UK: global implications for society and biodiversity

New Hall, Cambridge 09.20 – 17.10 Thursday 3rd July 2008

The symposium aims to identify likely trends in agriculture in the UK over the next 10-20 years, their biodiversity and socio-economic impacts in the UK and elsewhere, and possible mitigation measures.

Speakers

●●● *International and national drivers of agricultural trends* ●●●

Professor Ian Hodge (University of Cambridge)

Professor Andrew Watkinson (Tyndall Centre)

David Baldock (Institute for European Environmental Policy)

●●● *Biodiversity and ecosystem service impacts and challenges* ●●●

Dr Diana Mortimer (JNCC)

Professor Paul Armsworth (University of Sheffield)

Dr Peter Brotherton (Natural England)

●●● *Mitigation opportunities* ●●●

Professor Joe Morris (Cranfield University)

Dr Juliet Vickery (BTO)

Paul Wilkinson (The Wildlife Trusts – East of England)

●●● *10-point action plans* ●●●

Nicholas Watts (Vine House Farm)

Dr Mark Avery (RSPB)

Professor Gareth Edwards-Jones (University of Bangor)

Professor Chris Garforth (University of Reading)

For a full programme, venue details and booking form see www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk

Or send a £30 cheque payable to Cambridge Conservation Forum and your name, affiliation, email, telephone number and any special dietary or other requirements to Chris Smith, Natural England, Zone H, Eastbrook, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8DR. Email

Christopher.Smith@naturalengland.org.uk

BOOKING AND ADVANCE PAYMENT REQUIRED

July 4, 2008

1st International Pasture Conference (Luxembourg, July 4, 2008)

July 7-9, 2008

EU Emissions Trading 2008, Brussels, Belgium

July 7-11, 2008

Media Scholarships Offered To Attend the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium

Open to reporters, editors, science writers and freelance journalists in print, broadcast and online media

WASHINGTON, DC — SeaWeb, a global, non-profit organization, is offering travel scholarships for media to attend the world's preeminent summit on coral reef science and management. At this year's International Coral Reef Symposium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from July 7 to 11, the media will have access to leading ocean experts from around the world and to press briefings on the latest scientific findings, as well as a field trip to see firsthand the threats to coral reefs.

About the Symposium:

Held only once every four years, the International Coral Reef Symposium will host more than 2,500 international scientists, policy makers, managers and conservationists. This year's symposium occurs during the 2008 International Year of the Reef. Key focuses of the symposium include the challenges that climate change, overfishing and pollution pose to coral reefs. Symposium sessions will be held in a question-driven format, with reports and breaking news on:

- The emerging link between ocean acidification and coral reef health
- Diseases killing coral reefs around the world
- Recovery of coral reef ecosystems following bleaching episodes
- Effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

For more information, please visit www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs/index.html. Contact Info: Corinne Knutson, Coral Program Coordinator, SeaWeb Tel: 619.269.1284; cknutson@seaweb.org; SeaWeb

July 8-9, 2008

» The 3rd international conference on Future Trends in Genetics and Biotechnology for safe Environment

Date: July 8-9, 2008, Location: Ismailia, Egypt

July 13-16, 2008

Plants and Soils Montreal 2008 (Montreal, Canada, July 13-16, 2008)

July 14, 2008

GRC Symposium "Water: Research trends in Sri Lanka", Palm Lounge, Galle Face Hotel, Colombo 03



Program

8.30 am: Registration of participants

8.50 am: Address by the president, GRC committee, SLAAS

9.00 am: Water resources development in Sri Lanka

Eng. A.D.S. Gunawardena, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Management

9.20 am: Management of inland waters of Sri Lanka

Prof. Swarna Piyasiri, Department of Zoology, University of Sri Jayewardenerupa

9.40 am: Water research in Ruhuna, related to Agriculture

Prof. K.D.N. Weerasinghe, Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Ruhuna

10.00 am: Refreshments

10.30 am: Water quality studies of Kala oya basin in Sri Lanka

Prof. Sujatha Hewage, Department of Chemistry, University of Colombo

10.50 am: Model calculation of aquatic chemical speciation

Prof. R. Weerasooriya, Institute of Fundamental Studies

11.10 am: Three decades of water quality studies in Sri Lanka, contribution to community development

Dr. Rohana Chandrajith, Department of Geology, University of Peradeniya

11.30 am: Discussion

12.00 noon: lunch

1.00 pm: Application of biomarkers in monitoring water pollution in Sri Lanka

Prof. Asoka Pathiratne, Department of Zoology, University of Kelaniya

1.20 pm: Microbial aspects of drinking water

Dr. Karven J Cooray, Department of Bacteriology, Medical Research Institute

1.40 pm: NARA research towards maintaining a healthy aquatic environment

Mr. N. Sureshkumar, National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency

2.00 pm: Refreshments

2.30 pm: Some highlights of IWMI's research in Sri Lanka

Dr. Sonali Senaratna Sellamuttu, International Water Management Institute

2.50 pm: Strategic planning for post-Tsunami rehabilitation and conservation of the Sri Lankan coast line

Prof. S.S.L. Hettiarachchi, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa

3.10 pm: Lessons learned from mismanagement practices of some coastal water resources in southern Sri Lanka

Dr. Thilak Priyadharshana, Department of Limnology, University of Ruhuna

3.30 pm: Discussion

4.00 pm: Vote of thanks

Cost for registration is 2000/=

Closing date for registration is June 10, 2008. Brochures with the registration form can be collected at SLAAS, 120/10, Vidya Mandiraya, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 7. Cheques should be drawn in favour of SLAAS. Telephone: 001-2688740, Fax: 001-2691681 email: slaas@slaas.org



Sponsored by National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka

Organized by the General Research Committee of SLAAS

July 14-18, 2008

2nd international conference on ground bio-and eco-engineering: 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. In an era where more natural hazards are occurring; soil erosion, landslides and other catastrophic events cause loss of lives and infrastructure and major environmental damage. The aim of these meetings, therefore, is to bring together scientific researchers, practitioners, geotechnical and civil engineers, biologists, ecologists and foresters to discuss current problems in slope stability research and how to address those problems using ground bio- and eco-engineering techniques.

Ground bioengineering methods integrate civil engineering techniques with natural materials to obtain fast, effective and economic methods of protecting, restoring and maintaining the environment. Eco-engineering has been defined as a long-term ecological strategy to manage a site with regards to natural or man-made hazards. Conference sessions will focus on an area where such engineering techniques are used increasingly 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 modelling of root reinforcement and the development of decision-support systems, areas where significant advances have been made in recent years. Proceedings will be published in a special edition of an international journal. We hope that you will be able to join us at this meeting, to be held in exciting Beijing, the 2008 Olympic City!

Organizing Committee:

T. Fourcaud, CIRAD, Montpellier, France / LIAMA-CASIA, Beijing, China.

L. Jouneau, INRA Jouy / LIAMA-CASIA, Beijing, China.

Henry Lu, WASWC, Beijing, China.

Y. Lu, Chinese Academy of Forestry, Beijing, China.

T. Luo, Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research CAS, Beijing, China.

J. Norris, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham, UK.

I. Spanos, Nagref, Thessaloniki, Greece.

*A. Stokes, Inra, Montpellier, France / Liama-Casia, Beijing, China.

X. Zhang, Liama-Casia Beijing, China.

***Conference Chair and for further information, please contact:**

Alexia Stokes, LIAMA-CASIA, PO Box 2728, Zhonguancun Dong Lu 95, Hadian, Beijing 100080

P.R. China. Tel: 00 86 10 82614528; Fax: 00 86 10 62647458, stokes@liama.ia.ac.cn,

<http://liama.ia.ac.cn>, <http://icgbe2.cirad.fr/>

Sponsors and Partners



July 14-18, 2008

The International Association for the Study of the Commons, 12th Biennial Global Conference, Gloucestershire, England, 14-18 July 2008

For more information see: www.iascp.org/iasc08/2008themes.html.

July 19-25, 2008

EU Emissions Trading 2008, Brussels, Belgium, <http://www.environmental-finance.com/conferences/2008/EUET08/intro.htm>

July 22-24, 2008

FAO Technical Workshop for the Alleviation of Poverty in the Tropics

A Technical Workshop towards the Alleviation of Poverty in the Tropics, sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome will be held on **22-24 July 2008**. About 80 public, private and civil society stakeholders across the four primary interest groups in policy, science and technology, field practice and financing and donor support, and those who have influence, commitment and capacity to make a difference will be invited. The forum will be held to: 1) describe the principles of conservation agriculture (CA) and to widen attention of potentially-supportive decision makers in policy-making, science & technology, practice, and financing; 2) discuss, suggest and agree on the chief forms of interlinking decisions and action which would provide positive encouragement of, and support to, farmers to make and sustain their transition to beneficial CA systems as most appropriate to their different agro-ecological and socio-economic situations; 3) pave the way for comparable fora to develop and function at continental, national and local levels; and 4) favor the development of an inter-connected community of practice around the subjects pertaining to and the benefits deriving from conservation agriculture.

For details of the training workshop, contact Theodor Friedrich (Theodor.Friedrich@fao.org), FAO, Rome; Amir Kassam (kassamamir@aol.com), TAA, UK; and Francis Shaxson (fshaxson@gotadsl.co.uk), TAA, UK.

July 26-30, 2008

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 2008 SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

The preliminary program with complete descriptions of conference plenary sessions, the list of oral and poster presentations and symposia, tours, workshops, and special events is online at

www.swcs.org/08ac

JW Marriott Starr Pass Saturday, July 26, 2008 8:00 AM -

3800 W. Starr Pass Boulevard Wednesday, July 30, 2008 4:00 PM

Tucson, AZ 85745, USA Mountain Time Zone

July 28, 2008

Changing Lands and Waters: Conservation Challenges in North America's Coastal Zones
SWCS International Activities Committee - Symposium

10:30 am, July 28

Describing

- potential effects of global climate and population pressures on coastal zones land and water resources
- how the conservation community is monitoring of the effects of real and predicted changes in coastal zones of North America

The Symposium is a result of leadership by Demetrio P. Zourarakis, Kentucky Division of Geographic Information, Frankfort, KY.

The **2008 Annual Conference** will be held from July 26-30 in Tucson, Arizona. The conference theme is "Getting the Water Right: Hydrology, Climate Change, and the Bio-economy"

Online registration is now available.

[Register. Read the Preliminary Program.](#)

The schedule for presentations at the 2008 SWCS Annual Conference is available at:

http://www.swcs.org/en/conferences/2008_annual_conference/education_sessions/

Register by June 14 Get early registration rates!

Take advantage of the opportunity to interact with the visiting scientists participating in the IAC sponsored symposium and the concurrent sessions – and -- help publicize as well as attend the excellent symposium arranged for Monday morning, July 28.

Sarah
IAC Chair

Sarah W. Workman

312 Hoke Smith Bldg., University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-4356, Tel: 706.542.9737, Fax: 706.542.7905

July 26-30, 2008 (same venue as above)

SWCS Annual Conference with the International Symposium on Global Land Cover and Land Use Change

Demetrio Zourarakis is organizing the International Symposium on Global Land Cover and Land Use Change for the 2008 SWCS annual conference. I would like to ask you for your considered opinion in response to this initial call. If you or colleagues have active interest in the topic and would consider taking part in the July 2008 symposium, I ask you to kindly reply to Dr. Zourarakis (Demetrio.Zourarakis@ky.gov).

It will be especially helpful if you can forward this request to colleagues or interested scientists/institutions working on Land Use Change who have the potential to participate and contribute to the symposium. Scientists from Mexico and continents other than North America would be especially beneficial to reach with this call.

Given the extent of research taking place on Land Use Change, one idea is to use this symposium as a spring board for a stand alone conference, focused on soil and water conservation, in the future.

Thanks with regards, Sarah Workman (sworkman@uga.edu)

2008 Annual Conference: July 26-30 in Tucson, AZ; Soil and Water Conservation Society

http://www.swcs.org/en/conferences/2008_annual_conference/

July 28-31, 2008

1st Conference on Hydropedology - USA

The conference will be held from 28-31 July at Penn State University, USA. The International Union of Soil Sciences' Working Group on Hydropedology (WG-HP) is organizing this inaugural conference to advance the emerging interdisciplinary field of hydropedology and to promote its synergistic collaborations across scientific disciplines, including soil science, hydrology, geomorphology, and other related bio- and geosciences. Hydropedology addresses interactive pedologic and hydrologic processes and landscape-soil-hydrology relationships across space and time, aiming to understand pedologic controls on hydrologic processes and properties, and hydrologic impacts on soil formation, variability, and functions. Such synergistic approach is needed to advance the integrated studies of the earth's Critical Zone, i.e., the critical interface between the solid earth and its fluid envelopes (generally viewed as that part of the earth from the top of vegetations to the bottom of aquifers). Abstract submission deadline is March 31, 2008. More information click [here](#)

August 7-11, 2008

Conference: Applying Ecological Economics for Social and Environmental Sustainability, Nairobi, Kenya, 7-11 August 2008

The International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) is co-hosting its 10th Biennial Conference, along with African Society for Ecological Economics and the United Nations Environment Program. The conference will highlight the vision, methods, and policy adjustments needed to enable ecological economics principles be applied to the design and management of environmentally and socially sustainable development processes in the face of increasing global change and interdependence. More information about the conference will follow on the conference's official website.

For more information, see: www.ecoeco.org/.

August 12-14, 2008



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EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST [click here](#)

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS [click here](#)

CONTACT: Sally Brown, sally.brown@uq.net.au

CTF08 Conference Secretariat, PO Box 108, Kenmore, QLD 4069, Australia

August 12-15, 2008

International Geographical Union's Congress in Tunis

COMLAND Session: "Land Degradation and Environmental Change"

The IGU Commission on Land Degradation solicits papers for "special sessions" to be held at the 2008 International Geographical Union's Congress in Tunisia. We encourage papers which concern the topic of "Land Degradation and Environmental Change". We are interested in research with a focus along one or several of the following interdisciplinary fronts: Historical Human Impacts, Land Degradation and Society, Management of Land Degradation, and Natural drivers of Land Degradation. We welcome papers from a range of methodological approaches, as well as historical and process based studies.

Please submit abstracts or questions to Guorun Gislason <ggisla@hi.is> or Paul Hudson (pfhudson@mail.utexas.edu).

Paul F. Hudson, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Geography and the Environment, University of Texas at Austin (2007-2008 Fulbright Fellow and Visiting Researcher, Department of Physical Geography, Utrecht University, The Netherlands)

August 17-23, 2008

World Water Week. 17-23 August, 2008. "Progress and Prospects on Water: For a Clean and Healthy World". Stockholm, Sweden. [Website](#)

August 25-28 2008

Ecoagriculture Conference: Challenges and opportunities for integrating agricultural production, biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction strategies in East Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

This conference, hosted by Ecoagriculture Partners in conjunction with the Kenya Ecoagriculture Working Group, the Uganda Ecoagriculture Working Group and TerraAfrica, will highlight the visions, innovations, policies and tools needed to respond to the integration of agricultural, environmental and poverty reduction objectives in national development programs. The conference seeks to enhance capacity in these areas at the regional, national and local community landscape levels, and enhance multi-sectoral partnerships, networks and platforms for ecoagriculture.

- Markets for ecosystem services in East Africa: opportunities and challenges
- Policy and institutional constraints to integration of agricultural production, environmental conservation and poverty reduction in East Africa
- Innovative community programs towards sustainable land management
- Public-private partnerships and agriculture, environment and rural development
- Science, innovation and technologies in the integration of agricultural production, environmental conservation and poverty reduction.
- Implementing ecoagriculture in East African landscapes: Lessons Learned

There will also be a special 'ecoagriculture, community knowledge village' dedicated to farmers, farmer organizations and community based organizations (CBOs) working in ecoagriculture landscapes in East Africa to showcase their work, share lessons and interact with other stakeholders.

For more information contact: cochieng@ecoagriculture.org.

August 25-29, 2008

EUROSOIL 2008 **Soil – Society – Environment**

25-29 August 2008, Vienna, Austria

<http://www.ecsss.net>



[Note: ESSC Council Meeting on August 27, 2008, 6-9 PM. Contact Jose rubio jose.l.rubio@uv.es]

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Congress is organised in co-operation between the national soil science societies of Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and Switzerland, supported by the International Union of Soil Science Societies (IUSS), the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, the Vienna Convention Bureau, the Vienna Medical Academy, Austrian Airlines, and the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research.

Venue: Technical University, Vienna
Organiser: Winfried E.H. Blum, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna
winfried.blum@boku.ac.at
Secretariat: Vienna Medical Academy,
Ms. Mirjam Uebelhoer
(Eurosoil2008@medacad.org)

The Congress offers approx. 30 symposia, 10 workshops, further meetings, 24 technical excursions and 2 social events.

Detailed information about the scientific and organising committees, registration and abstract deadlines, registration fees and other details is available on the website:

Registration: (registration fees in Euros)

Payment received	until 31 Jan. 2008	until 31 May 2008	after 31 May 2008 and onsite
regular participants	EUR 250.-	EUR 300.-	EUR 350.-
Students	EUR 100.-	EUR 150.-	EUR 200.-
Accompanying persons	EUR 55.-	EUR 55.-	EUR 55.-

PROGRAMME (preliminary):

Symposia:

- Soil Organic Matter
- Soils and Climate Change
- Soil Erosion
- Soil Compaction
- Soil Desertification and Salinisation
- Soil and Water – Theory
- Soil and Water – Practical Applications
- Soil Ecology – Soil as a Living Space
- Forest Management and Soils
- Advances in Soil Monitoring
- Management of Contaminated Soils - Practical Applications
- Management of Contaminated Soils - Concepts and Policy Development
- Buffering Function of Soils
- Organo-mineral Interactions
- Soil Information Systems, Regionalisation of Data, Including Soil Associations
- Soil Indicators
- Land Use and Soil Protection

- Urban and Anthropogenic Soils
- Soil Forming Processes and Soil Morphology
- Soil Classification
- Society's Demands for and Perceptions of Soil Conservation
- Soils and Societies in History
- Education in Soil Science and Raising Public Awareness
- Rhizosphere Processes
- Soils and GMOs
- Memory Function of Recent and Paleosoils
- Pedometrics and Digital Soil Mapping
- The Influence of Soil Quality on Human Health and Food Security
- Soil Fertility and Environment
- Time Scales of Pedogenic Processes for Predicting Soil Changes in Time
- Micromorphological and Mineralogical Features (Evidence) of Soil Environmental Change

Workshops:

- International and EU Politics
- Humus as an Ecological Indicator
- EU Forest Soil Monitoring – BIOSOIL
- European Soil Database
- Contaminant Dynamics in Periodically Flooded Soils
- Critical Zone – Weathering
- "RISK-BASE" – Towards a risk-based management of the soil-sediment-water-system at river-basin scale
- "ENVASSO"
- Greenhouse Gas Budget of Soils – Hotspots of Emissions /COST 639
- Frontiers in Soil Protection Research: New Perspectives and Challenges (ESSC)

Pre- and Post- Congress Excursions: are scheduled in Austria, Croatia and Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Switzerland.

For detailed information on the programme and for the submission of papers, please see the congress website: <http://www.ecsss.net>

Prof.Dr.Dr.h.c.mult. Winfried E.H. Blum
 President, European Confederation of Soil Science Societies (ECSSS)
 University of Natural Resources and Applied
 Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna
 Peter-Jordan-Str. 82, 1190 Vienna, AUSTRIA
 Tel.: (+43-1)47654-3101; Fax: (+43-1)47654-3130
herma.exner@boku.ac.at

September 1-3, 2008

Climate Change and Systematics, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. e: climate@tcd.ie | [More...](#)

September 1-3, 2008

GeoCart'2008 CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE <http://www.cartography.org.nz/geocart2008/>

In conjunction with SIRC 2008: the 20th Annual Colloquium of the Spatial Information Research Centre
<http://www.business.otago.ac.nz/SIRC/index.html> At the University of Auckland, New Zealand
 Contact Antoni Moore, Department of Information Science, University of Otago, Room 11.03, Commerce Building
 PO Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand. Tel: 0064 3 4798180; Fax: 0064 3 4798311
amoore@infoscience.otago.ac.nz; <http://info-nts-12.otago.ac.nz/amoore/>

September 1-4, 2008

11th International River Symposium. 1-4 September, 2008. "A Future of Extremes". Brisbane, Australia.
[Website](#)

September 1-4, 2008

13TH IWRA World Water Congress: Global Changes and Water Resources: Confronting the expanding and diversifying pressures, Montpellier, France <http://www.irc.nl/page/31854>

September 4-5, 2008

11th International Specialised Conference on Watershed & River Basin Management. 4-5 September 2008.
Budapest, Hungary. [Website](#)

September 4-5, 2008

Journées francophones Mycorhizes (Dijon, France, September 4-5, 2008)

September 16-18, 2008

WaterTech Central Asia: Central Asian International Water Technology Exhibition & Conference Location: Almaty, Kazakhstan

September 17-19, 2008

Growdiesel International Summit, New Delhi, India

Growdiesel Climate Care Council is pleased to invite you to the inaugural International Summit on Algae Biofuels to be held on 17th, 18th & 19th September 2008 at New Delhi, India. The Summit is focused on next generation of Biofuels using Algae as main feedstock. You may also visit Summit website at www.astaxanthin.in

Ms. Tripti Sharma, Program Coordinator, Growdiesel Consortium, India growdiesel@gmail.com

September 17-23, 2008

5th International Conference on Land Degradation, Bari, Italy

We have updated the web page of the 5th International Conference on Land Degradation (www.iamb.it/5ICLD). You could find updated information at the List of Participants on the left side of the screen related to those who have registered as of 20 January 2008. I would like to thank all of them who have sent us their abstracts and in the same time to request this for those that intend to participate. The deadline is **30 April 2008**. Please distribute this information to other colleagues that may have interest in the topic but are not aware of such event. We'll keep you posted on further news and developments!

Dr. Pandi Zdruli, Senior Research Scientist, Land and Water Department, CIHEAM-Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Via Ceglie 9, 70010 Valenzano (BA), Italy. Tel: +39 080 4606 253; Fax: +39 080 4606 274

E-mail: pandi@iamb.it; www.iamb.it; www.iamb.it/5ICLD

September 23-26, 2008

International Scientific Conference Celebrating the 50th Jubilee of the Lithuanian Soil Science Society, Kaunas, Lithuania

On behalf of the Board of the Lithuanian Soil Science Society (LSSS), we hereby cordially invite you to attend the International Scientific Conference Celebrating the 50th Jubilee of the Lithuanian Soil Science Society to be organized at the Lithuanian University of Agriculture (in Kaunas). We are pleased to announce the possibility to publish original research papers in the journal 'Agricultural Sciences', which is the periodical publication (four issues per year) of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. The scientific standard of all papers is maintained by the Editorial Board, which comprise scientists of the highest qualification: professors, habilitated doctors and academicians. Currently, the journal 'Agricultural Sciences' is indexed in CABI Publishing: <http://www.cabi.org/>

In this connection, we ask those who might be interested in the above-mentioned publication to give us some simple initial information as soon as possible. This should include name(s) of the author(s) and title of the article (not exceeding 10 words). For the purpose of further planning, it would serve us as a useful indicator of your wish and willingness to prepare the paper for the journal.

Conference topics: The international conference dedicated to the commemoration of the 50th Jubilee of the LSSS allows us to be flexible, to enable participants to present their research results in thematic group discussions referring to divisions recognized by the IUSS:

Genesis, morphology, classification and cartography of soil
Soil processes and properties
Use and management of soils

Role of soil in the environment

Programme:

Tuesday 23 September 2008: Arrival of participants.

Wednesday 24 September 2008: Ceremonial opening of Conference and plenary session followed by discussions and posters session. Welcome party.

Thursday 25 September 2008-Friday 26 September 2008: Two-day field excursion and completion of official conference.

In case you got interested to participate, please contact the LSSS Secretary **Assoc Prof Dr R. Vaisvalavičius**, Secretary of the Lithuanian Soil Science Society rimantas.vaisvalavicius@lzuu.lt or **Prof Dr Habil. A. Motuzas** algirdas.motuzas@lzuu.lt, da@lzuu.lt, Secretary of the Editorial Board of 'Agricultural Sciences' and President of the Lithuanian Soil Science Society

Conference Secretariat: Department of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition, Lithuanian University of Agriculture Studentų g. 11, Akademija Kaunas, LT-53361 Lithuania.

Tel: 00 370 752 239; 752 279; 752 212; Fax.: 00 370 752 239 rimantas.vaisvalavicius@lzuu.lt

FYI: Conference Fee: €100; Cost of 2-day Field Excursion: €70 (transport, board, accommodation and excursion guidebook)

September 29-October 1, 2008

Universidad Internacional de Andalucía ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOPS 2008
“MID-HOLOCENE CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION” Baeza, Spain

Contact: Dr. Lourdes Soria (baeza@unia.es)

September 29-October 3, 2008

The international **Free and Open Source for GeoSpatial (FOSS4G) conference** is taking place in Cape Town, South Africa, from 29 Sept to 3 Oct, the theme being “Open Source, an option for developing nations”. This is a collaboration between OSGeo <http://www.osgeo.org/> and GISSA – the South African GIS society

There is huge scope for PPGIS in developing nations and I would encourage people to send their abstracts and come to the conference. The aim is to generate a debate about the role that open source software can play in the developing world. In order for that to happen, we need people from across the GIS spectrum to attend and give their input. This means that proprietary GIS software users will also be welcome to attend – we need both sides of the debate. For more information please visit <http://www.foss4g2008.org/> or you can contact me directly on carrin.avri@iceeafrica.co.za

Carrin Martin Carrinm@iceeafrica.co.za

National Chairperson: South African Geoinformation Society (GISSA)

October 5-9, 2008



www.banana2008.com

PURPOSE

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is organizing an Africa-based conference that will focus on banana and plantain research across Africa: lessons learnt and the way forward. Fostering international partnerships is a major objective of the conference, with particular emphasis to establish the role of research in promoting future commercial activities and trade in banana, plantain and ensete. There is an urgent need to target basic and applied research that connects to existing and emerging markets. This unique conference will be the first pan-African meeting to link research to markets in an African context. Key priorities:

Develop an African strategy for the next decade to exploit banana and plantain research

Strengthen research partnerships to overcome production bottlenecks

Harmonize research with production trends, emerging markets and trade networks

This conference is urgently needed as banana and plantain are key staple crops in rural households in Africa. They are also being increasingly targeted for income generation through improved linkages with the private sector. The conference also intends to foster research and trade experiences from other commodities. The result of this meeting will be to fully realize the potential of this crucial crop for poverty alleviation and wealth generation.

This conference is being organized in partnership with the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), Biodiversity International, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS). We invite you to join us towards a successful and fruitful conference.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The conference will attract an audience with varied but complementary experiences in order to optimize its impact in Africa. This conference will harness experiences from scientists and stakeholders from within and outside Africa. The Scientific Committee is composed of internationally recognized experts to ensure the highest quality of speakers, presentations and papers. Open forum discussions and plenary presentations will be led by prominent keynote speakers and supported by presentations covering both scientific and commercial issues. Further interaction will be stimulated by a comprehensive poster session, field visits and demonstrations.

The conference will be hosted by Leisure Lodge Resort on a beautiful stretch of the Kenyan coast near Mombasa. The Resort is of the highest standard with state-of-the-art conference and recreational facilities. A superb package of pre- and post-conference tours is available for delegates and their families.

REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION

The aim is to maintain an affordable rate of 340 USD for registration and 102 USD per night for full-board accommodation. Registration and more information is available on the conference website:

www.banana2008.com

For further information, please contact:

Dr. Thomas Dubois
Chair of the Banana 2008 Organizing Committee
IITA - Uganda
Tel: +256 752787808
Email: t.dubois@cgiar.org
URL: www.banana2008.com

Jeffrey T. Oliver
Corporate Communications Consultant, IITA - Headquarters, Nigeria
Tel: +234 2 241 2626 (ext 2773), Email: o.jeffrey@cgiar.org, URL: www.iita.org

October 5-9, 2008

International scientific conference: Tropical Rainforests and Agroforests under Global Change, Bali, Indonesia, 5-9 October 2008

Tropical rainforests are disappearing at an alarming rate, causing unprecedented losses in biodiversity and ecosystem services. Despite an increased recognition of the value of these goods at national and international levels, rainforests continue to be seriously threatened by human-induced global change such as agricultural intensification and climate change. Understanding these processes needs an integrated scientific approach linking ecological, economic and social approaches at different scales, from the household and village level to landscapes and regions.

Contact Wolfram Lorenz at lorenz@gwdg.de; info@globalchange-2008.org; www.globalchange-2008.org

October 5-14, 2008

We are happy to invite you to contribute to the **World Conservation Congress**, the premier environmental event of 2008 that will take place in Barcelona, Spain from 5-14 October 2008. The first half of the Congress will be the World Conservation Forum, from 6-9 October. This will be the place to debate pressing environmental issues and solutions for sustainable development. The Forum seeks to reach agreements, share solutions and create new partnerships for a diverse and sustainable world.

Building on IUCN's long history of bringing together diverse stakeholders and providing scientific leadership, the Forum will bring different sectors together from all over the world to share knowledge and experiences, develop innovative and inspiring solutions and make commitments to help us to move forward together on the path to sustainability.

If you would like to be part of this exciting event and organize one or more event(s) at the Forum, please visit www.iucn.org/congress to find out more. You will be able to submit proposals under this website as of June 1. If you have further questions, please send them to: congressforum@iucn.org

Enrique Lahmann, Congress Manager

October 6-7, 2008 (and October 8-9, 2008 for the field trip)



INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION
COMMISSION ON LAND USE & LAND COVER CHANGE
COMMISSION ON BIOGEOGRAPHY & BIODIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL
MONITORING SOCIETY

**International Conference on
LAND USE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

ORGANISED AND HOSTED BY Departments of Tourism – Botany – Physics

NESAMONY MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
(MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY, TIRUNELVELI)
MARTHANDAM, KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU – 629 165, INDIA
Ph: 0091-4651272059 Mobile: 0091-9443370257, 0091-9443170648
nesamonymcc@yahoo.co.in

About the Conference

To address the issue of land use change and climate change in Kanyakumari and its adjacent areas of Tamil Nadu, it is imperative to have a common platform where members of all disciplines come together and discuss its impact on earth. To provide a forum we propose to organize an International Conference on “Land Use Change, Biodiversity and Climate Change” from 6th to 7th October 2008 at Marthandam in Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu. This seminar will focus on global change due to land use change, biodiversity and climate change with special emphasis on South India. It will also study the human response to various ecological changes. It will further concentrate on all aspects of sustainability. Land use change builds bridges among all sciences. It is hoped that the conference will

break new ground and foster research among scientists in land use change, biodiversity and climate change.

Sub Topics

- **Land use Change: Physical, Chemical and Biological processes.**
- **Land use Change: Social, Economic and Political Processes.**
- **Land use Change Monitoring: Role of Remote sensing GIS and GPS.**
- **Impact of Land use change on Biodiversity.**
- **Impact of Land use change on Climate change.**
- **Tourism Development and Land use change.**
- **Climate change – Adaptation and Mitigation.**
- **Climate change and Coastal Environment.**
- **Land Resource Management for Sustainable, Biodiversity Development with Reference to Tamil Nadu, India and the world.**

Goals of the Conference:

- Disseminating information on land use change, biodiversity and climate change, methodology, practice and policies.
- Facilitating the exchange of information across disciplines and among individuals, groups and institutions.
- Reaching out to develop collaboration through strengthening the networks and research groups.
 - Highlighting the positive contribution of land use change, biodiversity and climate change, research policy and practice.

Location

Once called the Alexandria of the East, ‘Cape Camorin’, presently Kanyakumari, located on the Southern end of Indian Subcontinent, derived its name from the Virgin Goddess Kanniyakumari. It is a land of harmony where St. Thomas, one of the disciples of Christ, visited and where Swami Vivekananda meditated and enlightenment.

The host town: Marthandam, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu

Steeped in tradition, folklore and history, Marthandam tastes sweet thanks to honey that the beehives yield round the year, going round the world in bottled majesty. Ever-flowing and never-drying river, *Thampiraparani*, would have already injected goodness into the good old village called *Nalloor* that stands high among the rocks and the palm-fringed banks of the river. One kilometer away from the river, there stand the tall and lofty Church that harmoniously links the caste-ridden inglorious past with the enterprising, educational ENDEAVOURS of the present. Nesamony Memorial Christian College (NMCC), Marthandam, Kanyakumari District, is a testament of educational FAITH to the ceremoniously neglected, underprivileged sections of society. And already, it has sent from its womb hundreds of brilliant, talented, confident youth to conquer greater heights of social glory.

The Host College: Nesamony Memorial Christian College (NMCC), (Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli) Marthandam, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu

- **Established in 1964.**
- **Courses UG & PG (Aided & Self supporting).**
- **Co-educational**
- **Students’ strength – 2,750.**
- **Well qualified faculty and well equipped laboratories.**
- **A light to the people of remote and rural regions.**
- **Located near National Highways (NH47), between Nagercoil and Tiruvananthapuram.**
- **Nearest International airport - Tiruvananthapuram (45 km).**
- **Nearest Railway station – Kulithurai (1 km).**

Participants

- Academicians
- Research scholars
- Practitioners
- Technicians
- NGOs and
- National and international experts

Papers

- ◆ Papers are invited for presentation in the seminar.
- ◆ The abstract of paper should be typed with double space in Times Roman (12 Font Size), title of the paper, name of author(s), affiliation, text, and references not exceeding one page in MS Word format.
- ◆ The manuscript should be sent to the convener as e-mail attachment latest by **August 20, 2008**.
- ◆ Poster presentations should be indicated in the registration form, the size of the poster should not exceed A0.
- ◆ The programme includes talks and discussions followed by deliberations for recommendations.
- ◆ Poster sessions will be organized during the seminar.

Field Trip (**October 8-9, 2008**)

Registration fee for the field trip is US\$500 for foreign delegates including transportation, meals, accommodation and technical materials. Programme of field trip includes visit to Monumental Heritage sites & Kanyakumari District, Biodiversity, Hot spot, etc.

Seminar Registration Fee

The registration fee will cover the proceeding launches, refreshments, cocktails and seminar kits.

Category	Amount
Individual Foreign Delegate	US\$100
Indian Delegates	Rs. 500
Students Delegates / Research Scholars	Rs. 200

Field Trip Fee: Individual Foreign Delegates US\$500

Contact: Prof. H.G. Deva Kumar Samuel, HoD, Department Physics, Nesamony Memorial Christian College, Marthandam – 629 165, Tamil Nadu, India. Mobile : 09443417121, (R) 0091-4651-270346 E-mail: hgdkskk@gmail.com or Dr. R.B.Singh, NAGI Secretary General, rbsgeol@yahoo.com

October 7-10, 2008

The Urban and Regional Information Systems (URISA) annual conference has a PPGIS track and there is also a one-day workshop on PPGIS immediately preceding the conference.

Conference dates are: October 7-10, New Orleans <http://www.urisa.org/conferences/aboutannual>

October 9-11, 2008

Universidad Internacional de Andalucia ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOPS 2008

“PLANT BIOMASS FOR FOOD AND ENERGY: FUTURE AND REALITY”

Baeza, Spain Contact: Dr. Lourdes Soria (baeza@unia.es)

October 15-16, 17-19, 2008

2008 International Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) Workshops and Conference, Beijing, China ([2008 SWAT Conference English Web site](#))

Dates

October 15-16, 2008 SWAT workshops (beginners or advanced)

October 17-19, 2008 SWAT conference

Theme

Development and Application of SWAT Model

Conference Venue

Yingdong Academic Halls, Beijing Normal University

[2008 SWAT Conference English Web site](#)

- [Background](#)
- [Organizing Committee](#)
- [Scientific Committee](#)
- [Call for Papers](#)
- [Registration & Lodging](#)
- [Application](#)
- [Contacts](#)

The Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) is a public domain model jointly developed by USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at the Temple, Texas, USA. SWAT is a river basin scale model to simulate the quality and quantity of surface and ground water and predict the environmental impact of land management practices on different soil patterns and land use patterns. It is developed for assessing the impact of management and climate on water supplies, sediment, and agricultural chemical yields in watersheds and larger river basins.

SWAT is widely used in soil erosion prevention and control, non point pollution control and regional environmental management in watersheds. The major components of SWAT include hydrology, weather, erosion, plant growth, nutrients, pesticides, land management, and stream routing.

SWAT is applied in various fields worldwide. In order to promote the development and application of SWAT in China and international communications, Beijing Normal University (BNU) successfully held the First International SWAT Workshop in China on November 5-7, 2006. Authorized by USDA-ARS, the 5th SWAT International Conference will be organized by School of Environment, Beijing Normal University on October 15-19, 2008.

Contact: Dr. R. Srinivasan, Texas A&M University, USA. r-srinivasan@tamu.edu

Drs. Fanghua HAO or Yun ZHOU, School of Environment, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, P.R. China. Tel.: 8610-58807937(O) fanhua@bnu.edu.cn; zhouyun@craes.org.cn

October 15-18, 2008**IV International Symposium on Transboundary Waters Management**, Thessaloniki, Greece

Organised by UNESCO Chair INWEB in cooperation with UNESCO IHP, IGRAC, SAHRA and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Aims of the symposium: Assess the state of the art and recent progress made in the sustainable management of transboundary waters by different disciplines such as law, socio-economics and water science.

Review current major international programmes concerned with the assessment and management of transboundary water resources.

Promote interdisciplinary approaches for integrated transboundary water resources management.

Read more: http://www.inweb.gr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=241&Itemid=146

October 20-22, 2008**Farming with Grass - a special conference hosted by the Soil & Water Conservation Society**

Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center Monday, October 20, 2008 2:00 PM -

737 S Meridian Ave

Wednesday, October 22, 2008 2:00 PM

Oklahoma City, OK 73108-1601

Central Time Zone

USA

More info at www.swcs.org

October 20-23, 2008

The 10th Asian Regional Maize Workshop

Makassar, Indonesia, 20 - 23 October 2008

The Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD) and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) are pleased to announce the **10th Asian Regional Maize Workshop** to be held in Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia, 20-23 October 2008. Scientists and maize production specialists of all disciplines, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and seed industries are invited to participate and submit contributions under the thematic areas listed below.

Venue: Sahid Jaya Hotel, Jalan Dr. Sam Ratulangi 33, **Makassar 90132, South Sulawesi, Indonesia**

Theme: Maize for Asia: Emerging Trends and Technologies

Workshop secretariat:

ICERI-MAROS, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Telephone: +62-411-371-529

Address:

Indonesian Cereals Research Institute, (ICERI),

Jalan Dr. Ratulangi 274, Maros 90514,

South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Facsimile: +62-411-371 961

Attn: Dr. Muhammad Azrai

e-mail: armw_x@yahoo.co.id

October 20-25, 2008

During the last WWSM in November 2007 in the Philippines, two weeks in October (13-18 or 20-25) were pre-selected for the next **WWSM**. The **WOCAT** global management now decided that the second option is preferable.

We are therefore happy to announce that the next annual WOCAT Workshop and Steering Meeting (WWSM) will take place from **October 20 – 25, 2008 in Switzerland**. Please reserve these dates. The place will be announced in due time.

Hanspeter Liniger, Godert van Lynden, Rima Mekdaschi Studer, Christine Hauert and Gudrun Schwilch

Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)

Institute of Geography, University of Berne, Hallerstrasse 10, CH - 3012 Berne, Switzerland

Phone +41 31 631 54 59 / 88 22; Fax +41 31 631 85 44; www.cde.unibe.ch; www.wocat.net

October 28-30, 2008

FAO/CTIC Conservation Agriculture Carbon Offset Consultation, 28-30 October 2008, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Conservation Technology Information Center are hosting an international discussion about the potential of conservation agriculture systems and sequestering carbon in contributing significantly to the mitigation of climate change. Experts from around the world will meet in the United States in August 2008 to present data about the potential for carbon sequestration through good agricultural practices, such as no-tillage cropping systems, the methods and models for assessment of agriculture-based carbon credit trading, and techniques and practices for verification. Included will be the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat on carbon finance and how it can assist in enabling GHG agricultural mitigation and carbon sink actions and measures, with particular reference to the Clean Development Mechanism (financial mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol).

The outcome of this meeting will be a clear direction about the steps necessary to assess the potential in existing global carbon offset market and how these can enable agriculture in using no-till and/or conservation agriculture through carbon finance.

To that end, participants will outline what carbon markets already exist, their environmental integrity and what information or capacity building is still required for further participation in these markets by potential participants.

Experts in conservation agriculture, carbon sequestration and carbon offset markets are invited to submit an abstract for consideration. More information at:

http://www.conservationinformation.org/?action=events_events_carbonoffsetmtg or write to Theodor Friedrich at Theodor.Friedrich@fao.org

November 1-6, 2008

6th International Hani-Akha Culture Conference, Luchun County, 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

November 9-17, 2008

Soil Classification - Chile

This conference will be held in Santiago, Chile, from 9 to 17 November 2008. The aim of the meeting is to bring together scientists and researchers in the field of soil classification to discuss recent progress in the World Reference Base for Soil Resources and other classification schemes. The conference is jointly organized by the IUSS, the Chilean Society of Soil Science, the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture, the Universities of Chile, Concepcion and La Serena, and the Centre of Advanced Studies in Arid Zones. Please check the website www.scc2008.uchile.cl

November 16-19, 2008

» **The 3rd International Conference on Water Resources and Arid Environments and the 1st Arab Water Forum**
Location: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Date: 16-19 November 2008

November 17-20, 2008

The 2nd announcement of the FORTROP II International Conference, 17-20 November 2008, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, for your information.

Contact: *Shingo Shibata*

Chief Technical Adviser

GCP/RAS/218/JPN (RAFFTA)

FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

39 Phra Atit Road

Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel: +66-2-697-4108; Fax: +66-2-697-4445

Shingo.Shibata@fao.org, Apirada.Sirigaya@fao.org

December 1-5, 2008

International EcoHealth Forum 2008: 2nd Biennial Conference of the International Association for Ecology & Health, Merida, Mexico

Hosted by the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) of México, this conference will focus on renewing and establishing networks to further the capacity of participants to promote healthy ecosystems and, in turn, healthy people. Conference participants – researchers, policy-makers and practitioners – will learn how project outcomes have been used by other policy-makers, stakeholders and community representatives to effect improvements in ecosystem management, disease prevention and environmental protection. Experiences with research and practice, including methodological gaps as well as opportunities for intervention and policy development will be presented. Conference delegates are invited to plan now to contribute with paper, video, other media, and oral presentations to the development of new approaches and ideas in EcoHealth by being active participants in IEF 2008.

For more information see <http://www.insp.mx/ecohealth2008/index.php>.

December 2-4, 2008

International symposium on regulatory and safety issues in the commercialization of biotechnology research in the developing world

Date: 2-4 December, 2008

Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

December 4-6, 2008

The New Water Culture Foundation (FNCA) will have its general conference in Vitoria-Gasteiz (Spain): CONGRESSO IBÉRICO SOBRE GESTÃO E PLANEAMENTO DA ÁGUA - LOS NUEVOS PLANES DE GESTIÓN DE CUENCA. UNA OPORTUNIDAD PARA LA RECUPERACIÓN DE LOS CICLOS DEL AGUA

Location: Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain

Languages: Spanish and Portuguese

Please check: <http://www.unizar.es/fnca/agenda/081204vitoria.pdf>

João Pedroso de Lima plima@dec.uc.pt

December 9-12, 2008

World Biodiversity Congress, Chiang Mai, Thailand. [More...](#)

December 10-12, 2008

GEO-CHIANGMAI Thailand, focusing on **New Developments** in

- ☐ **Soil & Rock Engineering**
- ☐ **Engineering Geology &**
- ☐ **Environmental Geotechnique**

Secretariat Address: CI-Premier Ptd Ltd, 150 Orchard Road #07-14, Orchard Plaza, Singapore 238841.
Republic of Singapore (Tel: 065-6733-2922, Fax: 065- 6235-3530, email: cipremie@singnet.com.sg)

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E-mail: cipremie@singnet.com.sg

Website: www.cipremier.com

Other events in 2008 from F. X. Browne, Inc. website

http://www.fxbrowne.com/html/newsletters/May_2008/news_may08.htm

[EPA Watershed Webcasts](#)

[EPA Stormwater Webcasts](#)

[PA Dirt and Gravel Road ESM Workshops](#)

[Pennsylvania River Sojourns](#)

[2008 Brownfields Conference](#)

[EPA Climate Change Webcast](#)

[ME River Management Symposium](#)

[World Environmental & Water Resources Congress 2008](#)

[PA GIS Conference](#)

[National WQ Monitoring Conference](#)

[NEIWPCC Annual Conference](#)

[Sustainable Infrastructure Forum for Water and Wastewater](#)
[PA Water, Sewer & Stormwater Management Conference](#)
[Society of Wetland Scientists International Conference](#)
[PA Outdoor Lighting Workshops for Municipal Planners](#)
[PA Agriculture and Environment Conference](#)
[PA Source Water Protection Workshop](#)
[WV GIS Tools for Strategic Conservation Planning Course](#)
[MD Sustainability Conference](#)
[AWRA Summer Specialty Conference](#)
[West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium](#)
[EPA Water Quality Standards Academy Course](#)

MEETINGS 2009++

January-November 2009

Darwin 200 Symposia

The International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) and The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) announce the 'Darwin 200' programme to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth in 2009. Darwin 200 will comprise a series of scientific symposia and satellite meetings on five continents. [More...](#)

January 5-7, 2009

Thailand 2009 - Call for Papers Deadline Approaching

Thailand 2009: An International Perspective on Environmental and Water Resources

Conference Co-Organizers

AIT & EWRI

REMINDER: Thailand 2009 - Call for Abstracts

Abstract Submission Deadline: **April 4, 2008**

Download Call for Papers Brochure

[SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT NOW!](#)

CONFERENCE TOPICS:

CLIMATE AND NATURAL HAZARDS

WATER RESOURCES AND WATER SUPPLY

ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

...AND OTHER RELEVANT TOPICS

Thailand 2009: An International Perspective on Environmental and Water Resources Conference is scheduled to be held January 5-7, 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand at the AIT Conference Centre. The conference will consist of a three-day technical program, inclusive of opening keynote session, a closing panel discussion session, and three concurrent technical session tracks in between the opening and closing sessions. The conference will also include social and networking events as well as tours of Bangkok.

This conference will cover a wide variety of topics related to environmental and water resources. While technical sessions will include topics on both developed and developing countries, much of the focus of this conference will be on water resources and the environment in developing countries, especially in Asia and Africa. The emphasis will be focused on global effect of regional issues and solutions. Participants, including paper presenters and attendees, will include engineers, scientists, planners, economists, and legal professionals from all over the globe. The deadline for abstract submission is fast approaching. Abstracts should describe the theme and content of the proposed paper and should address one or more of the conference topics. A list of conference topics can be found by visiting the conference website at: <http://content.asce.org/conferences/thailand09>. In addition, your abstract must be 500 words or less, written in English; include the full paper title; list the affiliation; mailing address, phone and fax numbers and e-mail address of the author(s) and indicate the primary contact. Abstracts should be submitted electronically via the conference website and are due by April 4, 2008.

Thailand 2009 is being organized by the Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT). Thailand 2009 is the second EWRI-led international conference which follows EWRI's first successful international conference held in New Delhi, India in 2006 jointly with IIT (Kanpur). EWRI is planning a third international conference which is scheduled to be held in 2010 in Chennai, India where EWRI will work jointly with IIT a second time.

For more information about the Thailand 2009 Conference, visit the conference website at:

<http://content.asce.org/conferences/thailand09>.

January 5-8, 2009



The **International Soil and Water Assessment Tool Workshop and Conference in Southeast Asia (SWAT-SEA)** will be held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, during January 5-8, 2009. **SWAT-SEA** is expected to bring together 300+ people from SEA region and around the world representing academia, government, non-governmental organizations, and private industry, including a large contingent of undergraduate and graduate students. Contact Dr Attachai Jintrawet at attachai@chiangmai.ac.th and attachaij@gmail.com.

First Announcement is in the website: <http://www2.mcc.cmu.ac.th/swat/index.php>

See also the 2008 International SWAT conference in October 2008 in Beijing, China: [2008 SWAT Conference English Web site](#)

February 4-7, 2009

4th World Congress on Conservation Agriculture (IV WCCA) will be held on 4-7 February 2009 in New Delhi. The First Announcement is placed at the website www.icar.org.in/wccagri/index.html; www.wccagri.ernet.in for information to all those who are interested in agriculture and natural resources.

A.K. Singh

Deputy Director General (NRM), ICAR, KAB-II, Pusa, New Delhi – 110 012

Ph. +91-11-25848364; Fax: +91-11-25848366

Email: aks_wtc@yahoo.com; aksingh@icar.org.in

February 9-12, 2009

Conference of the International Erosion Control Association: Environmental Connection 09, Reno-Sparks Convention Center in Reno, Nevada, USA.

Abstract deadline: June 6, 2008

Acceptance for poster presentation: June 30, 2008

Contact: Kate at kate@ieca.org, For more hotel and travel information visit our web site www.ieca.org.

February 9-12, 2009

International Congress: Global Warming, Biodiversity of Insects: Management and Conservation, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, India. **Contact:** Dr K. Murugan, **t:** 91 422 2422 222 Ext: 483, **f:** 91 422 2422 387, **e:** kmvkvk@yahoo.com | [More...](#)

February 23, 2009

International Conference on Implementing Environmental Water Allocations Port Elizabeth South Africa

March 16-22, 2009

5th World Water Forum. 15-22 March, 2009. Istanbul, Turkey. [Website](#)

June 15-19, 2009

18th Triennial ISTRO Conference

Hopefully you have already received your copy of the first call for submissions to the 18th Triennial ISTRO Conference that will be held **June 15-19, 2009** in Izmir, Turkey. The conference will last five days and include various technical sessions, Working Group meetings, tours and displays. Two different tours will be offered. They are for a Field Day & City Tour on June 17th and Historical Site: Ephesus – House of Virgin Mary on June 18th. Critical times to remember include:

Date	Critical Action
October 15, 2008	Deadline for abstract submission
December 1, 2008	Notification of authors
December 15, 2008	Deadline for early registration
January 31, 2009	Deadline for submission of full papers
March 15, 2009	Notification of Oral and Poster venues

Conference Themes under which oral and poster presentations are to be submitted are:

1. Conservation tillage, direct seeding, & no-till applications
2. Sustainable forest management
3. Rehabilitation of degraded areas
4. Soil compaction: Causes, effects, & control
5. Soil dynamics & traction
6. Soil Management as a tool to reduce erosion, nutrient leaching and greenhouse gas emission
7. Production of bio-fuel
8. Soil biological quality & health

Abstracts of 250 words or less should be submitted by **October 15, 2008**, as a Microsoft Word file on the Congress website (www.istddro2009.ege.edu.tr) or in an email to istro2009@mail.ege.edu.tr. Please name the file attachment with your last and first name.

The Conference will be held at Surmeli Efes Hotel & Resort in Selcuk, Izmir. This site is located about 60 km from the Adnan Menderes International Airport and is very close to the city centre. For more information about the venue, please view their website at:

<http://www.surmelihotels.com/eng/SurmeliEfes/default.asp>. Registration and lodging as a package that also includes meals, banquet dinner, field day tour, and CD is:

Registration for:	Conference Only		Lodging & Conference	
	Early *	Late	Early*	Late
Members	€350	€450	€650	€750
Non-members	€400	€500	€700	€800
Students	€250	€350	€550	€650
Partners			€500	€600
Children (age 6-12)			€400	€500

*Early registration ends 12/15/2008. Also, hotel room prices are for one bed shared in double bed rooms. For single room, please add €25 per day to the room price.

Registration fees should be paid through the website (www.istro2009.ege.edu.tr) or directly to the following banking account: **AKBANK** (Euro Account) (Office of Ege University, **Office Code: 940**), Account Number: **940-07772**; IBAN Number: **TR40 0004 6009 4003 6000 0077 72**.

August 1-6, 2010

AN INVITATION TO THE 19TH WORLD CONGRESS OF SOIL SCIENCE <http://www.ccm.com.au/soil/>

On behalf of Officers of the International Union of Soil Science, we are delighted to extend our personal invitation to you to join us in Brisbane, Australia for the 19th World Congress of Soil Science to be held 1-6 August 2010 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The conference theme "Soil Solutions for a Changing World" provides a tremendous opportunity for a broad range of presentations – we urge you to share your research, experiences and knowledge with members in Brisbane. We are very proud to be associated with an outstanding group of professionals who have gathered to form the steering committee for the 19th World Congress, led jointly by Professor Steve Raine and Mr Mike Grundy.

Won't you join us and colleagues from throughout the world in what promises to be an outstanding gathering of the Soil Science community.



Roger Swift
President
International Union of Soil Sciences



Neal Menzies
Vice-President
International Union of Soil Sciences



It is our privilege and pleasure, on behalf of the Australian Society of Soil Science Inc., to introduce the 19th World Congress of Soil Science to be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 to 6 August 2010.

The Congress, held every four years, presents a global forum at which all those involved in Soil Science can meet with scientists, researchers, academics and professionals to discuss and find *Soil Solutions for a Changing World*. While you are here we would encourage you and your family to take the time to experience the best of what Queensland has to offer. Brisbane, the capital of Queensland, is a modern, sophisticated city of more than 1.6 million people. Queenslanders enjoy a safe and friendly lifestyle and you will appreciate the reasons why our state is a great place to live, a great place to do business and a great place to visit.

Details of the 19th World Congress of Soil Science will be regularly updated on this website; please check back often or register your interest to participate and we will keep you informed.

Our Conference Committee is a totally committed group of professionals who are hard at work to present an outstanding conference.

We look forward to welcoming you in 2010 to what we are confident will be the best ever World Congress of Soil Science.



Steve Raine
Co-Chair
19th World Congress of Soil Science



Mike Grundy
Co-Chair
19th World Congress of Soil Science

You may ask sombatpanit@yahoo.com about your membership status, i.e. up to which year you have paid. Then you may send your membership fee to either Bill or me in the following list:

a. Dr. William (Bill) C. Moldenhauer, Vice President (Assist. Treasurer), 2400 Sunrise Ridge Circle #107 Brookings SD 57006, USA. Phone: +1-605-6976470, Fax: +1-605-6279123 Attn: W.C. Moldenhauer, moldwc@itctel.com. He can receive money from US and Canadian members through Personal Check, Money Order, or Bank Draft (**payable to WASWC**), and can receive VISA and MasterCard credit cards and Bank Draft (**payable to WASWC**) from all over the world. *****For sending money through a bank, please give the following information to your bank:** United Bankers Bank, St. Paul, MN, USA; Routing Number (ABA Number) 091 001 322; **SWIFT Code: UBBKUS41**, For Benefit of First National Bank of Volga SD, Account No. 250-2334; Further Credit World Soil, Account No. 703-488.

Note: 1. Do not deduct the bank fee from your side from the amount of money to send.

2. For sending money by bank transfer, please add US\$X per transaction to compensate for the charge(s) at the receiving bank in South Dakota. Ask moldwc@itctel.com how much 'X' means in your case. This additional charge is NOT applicable for the payment of membership fee(s) of US\$50 or more.

3. Sending money by credit card does not require any additional charge.

b. Dr. Samran Sombatpanit, WASWC Immediate Past President, 67/141 Amonphant 9, Soi Sena 1, Bangkok 10230, Thailand. Phone/Fax: +66-25703641, sombatpanit@yahoo.com. He accepts Bank Draft from every country. **Mark the draft "payable to Dr. Samran Sombatpanit"**. He receives SWIFT through the Bangkok Bank, Bangkok Branch, 2124 Phaholyothin Road, Jatujak, Bangkok

10900, Thailand. Phone: +66-25614091/ 25791146-8, Fax: +66-25791149. SWIFT CODE: BKKBTHBK, A/C No. 161-0-210864, which you should also indicate “payable to Dr. Samran Sombatpanit”.

Note: 1. Do not deduct the bank fee from your side from the amount of money to send.

2. For sending money by bank transfer please add US\$8 per transaction to compensate for the charge(s) at the receiving bank in Bangkok. This additional charge is NOT applicable for the payment of membership fee(s) of US\$50 or more.

Ask sombatpanit@yahoo.com for addresses in other countries that you may pay in local currency.

Note: For the convenience of all parties you are advised to sign up as a Life member or to pay for several years (e.g 4 years and get 5 years) in one time. Contact sombatpanit@yahoo.com if you have any problem.

1. Individual membership: US\$5/yr for developing countries; US\$10/yr for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide. Payment for 4 years will enable the membership to be valid for 5 years.

2. Life membership: US\$80 for developing countries; US\$160 for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide

3-1. Organization membership (OM): For universities, research and implemental institutions, government agencies, NGOs, societies, associations and international organizations, etc. Persons belonging to an Organization member will receive the same online products and services as the other two above categories: \$100/yr for an organization with up to 150 persons; \$150/yr for an organization with up to 300 persons; \$200/yr for an organization with up to 500 persons; and \$10/yr for an additional 100 persons or part thereof. Local organizations in developing countries can request to pay at a lower rate.

3-2. Organization subscription (OS): is the same as the **Organization membership** but the organization wants to limit its involvement only as a **subscriber**.

3-3. Organization cooperation (OC): is the same as the **Organization membership** but the organization wants to limit its involvement only as a **cooperator**, without paying a fee. Any organization can be a cooperator for 1-2 years before deciding to join as OM or OS if desired.

4. Gift membership: US\$5/yr worldwide, to be purchased by anyone to give to colleagues, friends, students, etc.



PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE YOU PRINT THIS HOT NEWS