

# **WASWC HOT NEWS 2006 Q1+2 (June 30, 2006)**

**Compiled by Samran Sombatpanit, Editor of WASWC Newsletter**

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of the document.**

**The news will accumulate for one half year and starts the next volume in the next half year**

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## AWARD/PRIZE/FUND

### World Challenge Prizes for 2006

The World Challenge ([www.theworldchallenge.co.uk](http://www.theworldchallenge.co.uk)) is looking for nominations for projects that make a real difference to local communities. World Challenge 2006, brought to you by BBC World and Newsweek, in association with Shell, aims to find individuals or groups from around the world who have shown enterprise and innovation at a grass roots level. It could be you or someone you know. Nomination deadline: 5 pm (GMT) 4 June 2006.



World Challenge 2006 is all about global involvement, casting a net for ideas from individuals or groups deserving recognition. The winner will receive from Shell a US\$20,000 grant to benefit their project. A further prize of US\$10,000 will be given to each of the two runners up. One representative from each of the three final projects will be flown to The Hague, The Netherlands to attend the award ceremony. For a free DVD and booklet showcasing all of last year's 12 finalists please fill the form in [http://www.theworldchallenge.co.uk/dvd\\_form.php](http://www.theworldchallenge.co.uk/dvd_form.php) and submit online. There is no time limit for the request.

Ed – I have received my copy of the booklet with DVD recently. The winner of the World Challenger prize last year was the project “COCONETS – Coconuts for Erosion Control, Philippines”, by agricultural engineer Justino Arboleda, whose farm-based enterprise Juboken produces 30,000 sq m of coconets from coconut fibers every month for markets around the world. If you have good ideas or you know someone who has, why don't we make it known by entering this competition?

### The Vetiver Network (TVN) Awards

TVN will award a total of \$10,000 in prize money, sponsored by the Amberstone Trust at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-4) in Caracas, Venezuela during October 22-26, 2006. TVN hopes to receive many nominations for each category. The competition for the past Vetiver Awards has brought out information that significantly increased our knowledge of Vetiver's uses, applications and benefits. The deadline for nominations will be July 1, 2006. Award winners will be announced September 1, 2006. Certificates will be presented at ICV-4. Members of the TVN Board of Directors are not eligible for awards.

Eligibility: Individuals or groups, who have shown initiative in research, utilization or promotion of the Vetiver System are eligible. These may include farmers, technicians, NGOs, students, scientists, researchers, private companies, innovators, etc. who have produced and documented concrete, repeatable results.

Award Categories: Innovation (\$2,250), Disaster Mitigation (\$2,250), Country Vetiver Award (\$2,250), and Vetiver Champion (3,250). Certificates will also be issued to recognize significant achievements of applicants who did not obtain one of the monetary awards.

Documentation: Nominations may either be from individuals or groups regarding their own work or be made by another person. Documentation can consist of many types of information (personal accounts, reports, articles, photographs, scientific papers, testimonials etc.). We require the inclusion of relevant photographs especially showing before and after situations. Please be as brief and clear as possible, but a simple summary is not sufficient. All submissions must be in English.

Information Required:

- Name and address of the nominee, postal, e-mail and phone number
- Name and address of the nominator, postal, e-mail and phone number
- Project information:
- Location of the project
- Description of the project
- Accomplishments of the project
- Importance of the project
- Supporting documentation (optional but useful in determining awards)
- Name and address of a reference who is familiar with the project

This documentation should be mailed to:

Dale Rachmeler, The Vetiver Network, 106 Denver Road, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, USA, or by e-mail at [Rachmeler@vetiver.org](mailto:Rachmeler@vetiver.org). See more details about the specifications for various categories of Awards in [http://www.vetiver.org/TVN\\_Awards\\_2006.pdf](http://www.vetiver.org/TVN_Awards_2006.pdf).

### **The King of Thailand Vetiver Awards: Fourth Series**

On the occasion of the Fourth International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-4) which will be held in Caracas, Venezuela between October 22-26, 2006, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, the Chairperson of His Majesty the King of Thailand's Chaipattana Foundation, has graciously granted US\$10,000 from the Chaipattana Foundation for "The King of Thailand Vetiver Awards" for the most outstanding works on vetiver. The award will be split into the following categories:

#### *Outstanding Research*

- 1.1 Agricultural Application (US\$ 2,500)
- 1.2 Non - agricultural Application (US\$ 2,500)

#### *Outstanding Dissemination Work in the Vetiver System*

- 1.1 Government Agency (US\$ 2,500)
- 1.2 Non-Government Agency (US\$ 2,500)

The winners will receive the awards from Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, the Patron of The Vetiver Network, on His Majesty the King of Thailand's behalf, during the Opening Ceremony of the Fourth International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-4) in Caracas, Venezuela on 23 October 2006. The recipients of the awards will be invited to present their papers at the Conference, with full financial support. Moreover, **Certificates of Excellence** will be granted to the two runner-up papers of each sub-category.

Pls contact: The King of Thailand Vetiver Awards Committee, Planning and Foreign Affairs Division, Office of the Royal Development Projects Board, Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Dusit, Bangkok 10300, Thailand. Phone: +66-22806193-200 ext. 261, 262, 263; Fax: +66-22806234, [vetiver@rdpb.go.th](mailto:vetiver@rdpb.go.th), [spasiri\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:spasiri_2000@yahoo.com). See more information in The Pacific Rim Vetiver Network website, <http://prvn.rdpb.go.th/>.

### **Global Call for Nominations of Innovators Using Technology to Benefit Humanity**

The Tech Museum Awards ( <http://www.techawards.org/> ) program honors and awards innovators from around the world who use technology to benefit humanity in the categories of education, equality, economic development, environment, and health. The awards are a program of the Tech Museum of Innovation ( <http://www.thetech.org/> ) in San Jose, California. Individuals, nonprofit organizations, and companies are eligible to enter the competition, and self-nominations are accepted and encouraged.

Each year, twenty-five laureates are honored at a gala dinner, invited to participate in press and media cover-age, and introduced to a network of influential advisors. The awards celebration will be held at the Tech Museum of Innovation on November 15, 2006. One laureate in each category will be granted a \$50,000 cash prize.

Deadline: April 3, 2006

Program details, including judging criteria, can be found at the Tech Museum Awards Web site.

RFP Link: <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/10001076/techawards>

### **The 2006 Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program Overview**

The Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program is pleased to announce its 2006 competition. The program is a collaboration among Canon U.S.A., Inc., the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the US National Park Service. Thanks to a generous commitment by Canon U.S.A., Inc., the program will be awarding eight US\$80,000 scholarships to Ph.D. students throughout the Americas to conduct research critical to conserving the national parks of the region.

Research projects in the biological, physical, social and cultural sciences are eligible, as well as projects in a new category — technology innovation in support of conservation science.

Applications must be received by May 3, 2006. Application form is in

<http://www.nature.nps.gov/canonscholarships/>.

### **Alcan Prize for Sustainability**

Aluminum and packaging company Alcan, Inc. and the International Business Leaders Forum have announced the Call for Entries for the 2006 \$1 million Alcan Prize for Sustainability.

The Alcan Prize is open to all not-for-profit, non-governmental, and civil-society organizations based anywhere in the world that are working to advance the goals of economic, environmental, and social sustainability. The Alcan Prize was created to recognize the not-for-profit sector for its contributions to global sustainability, and to underline the belief that all sectors of society must work together to achieve sustainable development.

Last year's Alcan Prize winner was the Aga Khan Planning and Building Services Pakistan. In addition, the program's Adjudication Panel named five other NGOs as recipients of grants worth \$15,000 each; those grants allow a suitably qualified senior member of staff to participate in the one-year, part-time Postgraduate Certificate in Cross Sector Partnership accredited by the University of Cambridge.

Information on eligibility criteria and entry procedures for the 2006 Alcan Prize is available at the program's Web site <http://www.alcanprizeforsustainability.com/2006/index.html>.

### **Open Society Institute Invites Proposals for Middle East/ North Africa Initiatives Program**

The Open Society Institute's ( <http://www.soros.org/>) Middle East/ North Africa Initiatives program invites grant proposals from organizations around the world in accordance with its project aims.

Those aims are to support organizations and their projects that work to foster freedom of expression, access to information, women's rights, the rule of law, local governance, and educational reform in the Middle East. Preference is given to local organizations on the ground in the region or initiatives that partner local and foreign organizations' expertise.

All applications must be made on behalf of organizations or groups, which may include, but are not limited to, informal coalitions, nongovernmental organizations, humanitarian aid or other charitable organizations, and educational institutes. U.S. applicants must be tax-exempt within the meaning of

section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. MENA usually does not accept applications for individual grants such as fellowships, scholarships, research, or travel grants.

Grants applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year, with remaining consideration dates as follows: 1) Applications Due: May 26, 2006; Consideration Date: July 28, 2006; and 2) Applications Due: September 11, 2006; Consideration Date: November 13, 2006. Visit the OSI Web site for complete program information and application procedures. RFP Link: <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/10001075/soros>

### **National Institute for Climate Change Research, USA**

formerly the National Institutes for Global Environmental Change, has released its first request for proposals with Preproposals. More information at [www.niccr.nau.edu](http://www.niccr.nau.edu).

### **Call for Proposal on GIS and Local Water Management in Francophone Africa**

#### **(Gestion locale des ressources en eau, SIG et prise de décisions dans un contexte participatif)**

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is pleased to announce its first grant competition for francophone African countries on the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to improve in local-level water management in francophone African countries.

Managed/ Coordinated by the University of Montreal in Quebec (UQAM), this initiative project will support three sub-research projects and will help aimed at assisting communities local actors to apply GIS in community-based water management using a participatory decision-making process. The ultimate goal of the Projects is to use a participatory approach in building local capacity to use GIS to improve water resource management at a local level.

Research themes:

Local water management and GIS

Local-level water management, GIS, and participatory decision-making

Project duration: 2 years; Deadline for submissions: July 31, 2006

Value of Grants: Three grants of Cdn\$100,000

Eligibility: Applicants must be researchers at universities or research institutes in francophone West, Central or North Africa. Partnership with a local NGO or community organization is highly recommended.

Deadline for submissions: Letter of intent: May 8, 2006; Detailed Submission: July 31, 2006

Note: Research and written documents must be submitted in French.

For information please visit our web site at: <http://www.geo.uqam.ca/eausig/eausig.htm>

Contact: Genevive Lefebvre, Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ITC4D), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), 250, Albert St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Phone: +1-613-236-6163 # 2550; Fax: +1-613-567-7749, [www.idrc.ca](http://www.idrc.ca)

### **\$25,000 award for achievement in both African and Latin American conservation**

[http://www.nationalgeographic.com/conservation/grant\\_application.html](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/conservation/grant_application.html) and

[http://google.nationalgeographic.com/search?q=award+2006&btnG=Search&output=xml\\_no\\_dtd&sort=date%3AD%3AL%3Ad1&site=default\\_collection&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&client=default\\_frontend&proxystylesheet=default\\_frontend](http://google.nationalgeographic.com/search?q=award+2006&btnG=Search&output=xml_no_dtd&sort=date%3AD%3AL%3Ad1&site=default_collection&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&client=default_frontend&proxystylesheet=default_frontend)

### **Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program**

This year's theme for Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program, is “**Environmental Technology and Human Resource Development Contributing to Environment Revitalization and Conservation.**”

This program has two categories. You could apply to general grants, which has no restriction regarding project implementation site and the limit of the grant amount per project. The average grant amount per project was US\$130,000 last year. Though the grant amount is not so large, it seems to be more than that of any other Japanese grant foundations.

The deadline of application is July 7, 2006. As for details, please refer to:  
<http://www.toyota.co.jp/en/environment/ecogrant/index.html>

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **PhD Fellowships**

(For non-UK applicants)

The Catchment Science Centre is a collaborative research initiative created by the Environment Agency and the University of Sheffield with a mission to provide the scientific underpinning for the management of catchments to deliver good ecological quality in freshwater ecosystems. We have Marie Curie funding from the European Commission for six PhD fellowships for a project called CatSci.

We are seeking up to six intellectually able, skilled and ambitious individuals to receive multi-disciplinary research training and conduct research within a large team on specific topics in the general field of catchment science.

Broad topic areas include:

Understanding the controls on aquatic and riparian ecosystem structure and functioning, for example the roles of flow, hydro-morphology and chemical quality, and disentangling the relative importance of abiotic to biotic interactions.

Understanding the pathways and transformations which control the delivery of water and associated solutes to freshwater ecosystems.

Analysis and modelling of the combined physicochemical, ecological, and socioeconomic interactions in catchments, for example using systems analysis, numerical modelling and AI methods.

We are willing to consider alternative research topics for particularly able candidates. These Fellowships are available to start before December 31, 2006, and are 3-year fixed term appointments. For more information, please see: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/esc/catsci.html> or contact: John Wainwright, Department of Geography, The University of Sheffield, Winter Street, Sheffield S10 2TN UK. Tel: +44 (0)114 222 7951, Fax: +44 (0)114 279 7912

### **PhD studentship: pluralistic approaches to co-management of protected areas: the Ashaninka Communal Reserve in Peru.**

Rainforest Foundation UK and the University of Kent at Canterbury are seeking applicants for a fully funded PhD studentship on pluralistic approaches to co-management of protected areas in Peru, to start in October 2006. The studentship is funded by an ESRC CASE award, and will be managed jointly by the Department of Anthropology at the University of Kent and Rainforest Foundation UK. Applicants must be UK citizens or EU citizens with three years' residency in the UK, and must be competent in Spanish.

The student would be based at the University of Kent, under the academic supervision of Dr Helen Newing, but would spend some time in the office of Rainforest Foundation UK in London during the first year of the research. They would be expected to spend a substantial amount of time in the field in the Selva Central region of Peru, living with Ashaninka communities in the area. Contact Helen Newing, DICE, Dept of Anthropology, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, UK. Phone: +44-(0)1227 827034, [H.S.Newing@kent.ac.uk](mailto:H.S.Newing@kent.ac.uk) and Cath Long, [cathl@rainforestuk.com](mailto:cathl@rainforestuk.com). Further details are available at [http://www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/files/CASE\\_details.pdf](http://www.kent.ac.uk/anthropology/files/CASE_details.pdf).

## **TRAINING**

### **Short Course on “Program Evaluation Institute for Agriculture, Environmental and Natural Resources Professionals”**

The course will be held during July 10-28, 2006 at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA. This 3-week intensive summer institute addresses unique aspects and challenges of program evaluation facing agriculture and natural resource professionals. Participants will review various program evaluation theories and develop an evaluation plan within the context of their individual projects that will include instrument development, data analysis, and report writing. The institute will help you develop an enhanced evaluation capacity to present the outcomes and impact of your educational programs or projects. The registration fee for the course is US\$1,995.

#### ***July 10-14, 2006***

Welcome, Overview and Introductions  
Program Evaluation: What, Why, When, How  
Applied Evaluation Exercise  
Evaluation Designs and Models: Program Logic Model  
Additional Models of Program Evaluation (Hierarchy & Economic Impact Assessment)  
Data Collection Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches  
Indicators in Program Evaluation

#### ***July 17-21, 2006***

Evaluation Case Studies  
Developing Evaluation Instruments  
Individual Evaluation Project Development

#### ***July 24-28, 2006***

Data Entry and Analysis Using SPSS  
Applied Evaluation Exercise  
Communication of Evaluation Results  
Class Presentation on Individual Project

For more information contact: Prof. Murari Suvedi, Dept. of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resources Studies, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA. Phone: +1(517) 432-0265, Fax: (517) 432-3597, [suvedi@msu.edu](mailto:suvedi@msu.edu)

**RNIP Agroforestry Training Course in the Philippines July 17-22, 2006,**  
organized by Leiden University Van Steenisgebouw of The Netherlands.

The Regional Network for Indigenous Peoples in Southeast Asia (RNIP) has planned a training opportunity on agroforestry for indigenous peoples leaders and NGOs involved in the work with indigenous communities. Limited funding is available from the organizers. The training will be

held at the Isabela State University in Cabagan, The Philippines. Contact: Drs. Myrna Eindhoven, [eindhoven@cml.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:eindhoven@cml.leidenuniv.nl)

### **XXIV International Graduate Course on Edaphology (XXIV Curso-Diplomado Internacional de Edafología “Nicolás Aguilera”)**

This Course is offered annually by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), consists of four parts: 1) The soil system (soil formation and classification), 2) The soil components and their functions, 3) Soil evaluation, and 4) Soil conservation and amendment. The programme consists of 150 hours lectures and 50 hours field work. Lectures will be given by professors and researchers from leading Mexican and foreign institutions (Spain, Argentina, Austria, Cuba, Germany, United States and Russia) and are addressed to students and professionals of various study areas (Biology, Agricultural engineering, Agronomy, Ecology, Earth sciences, Chemistry, Geography, Geology, Environmental engineering, Geochemistry and compatible areas), whose activity is related with soil science. The course will be held from October 23-November 24, 2006 at the Universidad Juárez Autónoma de Tabasco (UJAT), Villahermosa, Tabasco, México.

Contact: Prof. Norma E. García Calderón, Departamento de Ecología y Recursos Naturales. Laboratorio de Edafología. Facultad de Ciencias. UNAM. México, D.F. 04510. Telephone (55) 56 22 49 22. Fax: (55) 56 22 48 28, [andosol@yahoo.com](mailto:andosol@yahoo.com), [elfuro@hotmail.com](mailto:elfuro@hotmail.com), [aih@hp.fciencias.unam.mx](mailto:aih@hp.fciencias.unam.mx), [jorge.molina@dacbiol.uajt.mx](mailto:jorge.molina@dacbiol.uajt.mx), <http://biologia.fciencias.unam.mx/edafo>

### **APPOINTMENTS**



**Achim Steiner elected new UNEP Director** ([www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org), [www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org))

The UN General Assembly on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March elected the new Executive Director of UNEP, the present Director-General of IUCN, Achim Steiner of Germany.

### **JOBS**

#### **Team Leader, Land and Water Resources in GEF**

HR Contact: Marianne Cabraal ([mtoure@thegef.org](mailto:mtoure@thegef.org)) <http://www.thegef.org>

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A 3 YEAR TERM APPOINTMENT WITH POSSIBILITY OF 1 YEAR RENEWAL OR CONVERSION TO OPEN-ENDED. WORLD BANK QUALIFIED STAFF WITH OPEN-ENDED OR REGULAR CONTRACTS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO APPLY, AND IF APPOINTED WILL RETAIN THEIR CONTRACTUAL STATUS. \*\*\*

#### **Description of GEF**

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a multilateral financial mechanism created in 1991 to forge international cooperation and to provide grant and concessional funds to recipient countries for projects and activities that address biodiversity loss, climate change, degradation of international waters, land degradation, ozone depletion and persistent organic pollutants within the framework of sustainable development. GEF is open to universal membership, and currently 176 countries are members.

The GEF is governed by a Council comprising 32 Members appointed by constituencies of GEF member countries. The GEF currently has 176 member countries. An Assembly of all member countries meets every four years at the ministerial level. The GEF Trust Fund is replenished every four years.

GEF is the designated financial mechanism for three international conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). GEF financing also supports countries to meet the objectives of the Convention to Combat Desertification.

Since its inception as a pilot facility in 1991, GEF has committed \$4 billion in grants to over 1,400 projects in more than 160 developing countries and transitional economies. In the period 2002 to 2006, GEF expects to commit a further \$3 billion (third replenishment period).

The GEF is administratively supported by, but is functionally independent of, the World Bank.

GEF operations are implemented through a partnership of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the World Bank.

Ten agencies are principally accountable for the execution of GEF projects: the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank (IBRD/IFC), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the U.N. Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

The GEF Secretariat itself, construed for administrative purposes as a VPU within the World Bank, has an annual administrative budget of about \$8.3 million and a staff complement of professional and ACS staff of approximately 50.

#### **Search for Program Officers (Millennium Challenge Corporation - USA)**

MCC is scaling up and we are looking for program officers in our ag shop here - both for ag programs and land. If you know of qualified candidates (masters in dvlp/ag/econ, field experience, language) please pass along. There are also other positions open for Directors, etc. All of the postings are here: <http://www.futurestep.com/Library/Process.asp?P=MCCOffices#4>

Program Officer for Agriculture and Rural Economy

<http://www.futurestep.com/Library/Process.asp?P=Opportunity&S=mcc20829>

Program Officer, Property Rights and Land Policy

<http://www.futurestep.com/Library/Process.asp?P=Opportunity&S=mcc19794>

Contact: Brian D. Levy, Operations – Agriculture, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Phone: +1-202-521-3914, +1-202-459-3886. [levyb@mcc.gov](mailto:levyb@mcc.gov)

#### **Executive Officer Global Water System Project**



The Earth System Science Partnership (ESSP), comprising DIVERSITAS ([www.diversitas-international.org/](http://www.diversitas-international.org/)), IGBP ([www.igbp.kva.se](http://www.igbp.kva.se)), IHDP ([www.ihdp.org](http://www.ihdp.org)) and WCRP ([www.wmo.ch/web/wcrp/wcrp-home.html](http://www.wmo.ch/web/wcrp/wcrp-home.html)), seeks an Executive Officer (EO) to coordinate the research and outreach activities of the Global Water System Project (GWSP). The GWSP is one of four joint projects of the ESSP concerned with global environmental change; it addresses the

questions of how humans are changing the global water cycle, its associated biogeochemical cycles and biological components of the global water system, and what are the social feedbacks arising from these changes.

The EO will be a senior scientist with an established track record in water related research, and research management. He/she will: facilitate the development and implementation of the project under the guidance of the GWSP Scientific Steering Committee; manage its International Project Office (IPO), located in Bonn, Germany; interact with donor, policy and water resource communities, including relevant UN organizations; undertake extensive international travel as a formal representative of the project. The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. degree in the natural or the social sciences, with relevant international and interdisciplinary experience, and excellent oral and written communication skills in English. The ESSP encourages applications from women and from scientists from developing countries. The position is available in late 2006.

More information about the project and the position can be obtained from the project website ([www.gwsp.org](http://www.gwsp.org)) or by contacting the incumbent Executive Officer at [eric.craswell@uni-bonn.de](mailto:eric.craswell@uni-bonn.de). The host institution for the IPO is the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), an international and interdisciplinary research institute of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-University, Bonn ([www.zef.de](http://www.zef.de)). Applications should be submitted before June 19, 2006 to Martin Rice, ESSP Coordinator, with a CV (resume) and contact information of three referees. Send Applications to:

Martin Rice, ESSP Coordinator, c/o DIVERSITAS, 51 Bd de Montmorency, 75016 Paris, France  
Tel: +33 1 45 25 67 04 (Direct) Fax: +33 1 42 88 94 31  
Tel: +33 1 45 25 95 25 (Secretariat) Email: [mrice@essp.org](mailto:mrice@essp.org)

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Earth Day - April 22nd.**

Take action and visit [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org).

### **World Environment Day 2006 - June 5 - Global**

The Day is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action. The World Environment Day theme selected for 2006 is "Deserts and Desertification" and the slogan is "Don't Desert Drylands!". The slogan emphasizes the importance of protecting drylands, which cover more than 40% of the planet's land surface. This ecosystem is home to one-third of the world's people who are more vulnerable members of society. <http://www.unep.org/wed/2006/english/>

### **World Ocean Day - June 8**

(from Wikipedia). It began on June 8, 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It is not an officially recognized day by the UN yet. It is an opportunity every year to honor the oceans and products they provide, such as seafood, as well as marine lives themselves for aquariums and pets. The oceans provide sea-lanes for international trade. Global pollution and over-consumption of fish have resulted in drastically dwindling population of the majority of species. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\\_Ocean\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Ocean_Day)

### **World Day to Combat Desertification - June 17.**

This year, there is double reason to celebrate the World Day to Combat Desertification, with 2006 being the International Year of Deserts and Desertification (IYDD). Accordingly, the IYDD is the

focus of the 2006 World Day celebrations, and its message is reflected in this year's theme: "The Beauty of Deserts - The Challenge of Desertification". The World Day to Combat Desertification is celebrated every year on 17 June all over the world in order to highlight the fact that desertification is of global concern and to strengthen the visibility and importance of the drylands issue on the international environmental agenda. <http://www.unccd.int/publicinfo/june17/2006/menu.php>

## MEETINGS - 2006

**January 22-27, 2006**

### **14th Fertilizer Congress, Fertilizers and Fertilization**

Stewardship for Food Security, Food Quality, Environment and Nature Conservation  
Lotus Hotel Pang Suan Kaew, Chiang Mai, THAILAND

Organized by: Land Development Department (LDD), Department of Agriculture (DOA), Department of Agriculture Extension (DOAE), Kasetsart University (KU), Soil and Water Conservation Society of Thailand (SWCST), Soil and Fertilizer Society of Thailand (SFST) and The International Scientific Centre for Fertilizers (CIEC)

Contact: Pitayakon Limtong, Phone: 66 2941 2724, Fax: 66 2579 7687, [pitaya@ldd.go.th](mailto:pitaya@ldd.go.th), [www.ldd.go.th/wfc14th](http://www.ldd.go.th/wfc14th)

**March 7-9, 2006**



## The Uplands Program

Research for Sustainable Land Use and Rural Development  
in Mountainous Regions of Southeast Asia



### **International Symposium Towards Sustainable Livelihoods and Ecosystems in Mountainous Regions**

Chiang Mai, Thailand, March 7-9, 2006, Organized by "The Uplands Program" University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart (Germany), Chiang Mai University (Thailand) and World Agroforestry Centre (Thailand) and supported by DFG - Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation)

The objective of the symposium is to bring together scholars and practitioners to exchange both innovative multidisciplinary and integrated research results and successful extension and development approaches, as well as to present and discuss the research results of "The Uplands Program" and compare these with experience and scientific analyses from other regions.

#### **Themes:**

- Mountainous Regions: A challenging ecosystem
  - Sustainability concepts, research priorities & development strategies for mountainous areas
  - Comparative perspectives from mountainous areas in Asia, Africa and Latin America
- Securing mountain livelihoods in a globalizing economy: Options and strategies
  - Viable conservation-oriented cropping strategies
  - Integrated livestock and aquaculture systems
  - Processing and marketing of high-value products
  - Policies, institutions and social networks

- Payment for environmental services
- Alternative livelihood strategies
- Assessing and modeling complexity and diversity in mountainous areas
  - Innovative methodological approaches
  - Assessment of mountain agroecosystems
  - Modeling land use changes and landscape dynamics
  - Bridging local and scientific knowledge
  - Multi-scale and multi-criteria analysis

**Registration fee:** US\$150. Early-bird-registration fee of US\$120 is valid until 31 December 2005. A fee of US\$75 is for participants from developing countries. The fee includes conference material, refreshments, lunches, a reception dinner and a half-day mid-symposium excursion. The organizers cannot provide funding for travel costs and accommodation of participants.

**Important dates:** Submission of oral presentation/poster abstracts (1-2 pages): 15 October 2005  
Notification of acceptance of oral presentation/poster abstracts: 15 November 2005

End of early-bird-registration (reduced fee): 31 December 2005; End of registration: 31 January 2006  
Deadline for submission of final papers/posters: 15 February 2006

**Organizers:** Andreas Neef ([a\\_neef@usa.net](mailto:a_neef@usa.net)) and Pittaya Sruamsiri, Uplands Program, Thailand; David Thomas, World Agroforestry Centre, Thailand; Karl Stahr, Franz Heidhues and Jens Pape, University of Hohenheim, Germany.

**Secretariat:** The Uplands Program, Hohenheim Office, Faculty of Agriculture, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand. Phone: +66-53-944647, Fax: +66-53-893099, [uplands@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:uplands@loxinfo.co.th), [www.TheUplandsProgram.net.ms](http://www.TheUplandsProgram.net.ms)

### **March 28-31, 2006**

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Congress of Soil Science of the Soil Science Society of Pakistan - Soil management for sustainable agriculture and the environment**

National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad, Pakistan, [www.sss-pakistan.org](http://www.sss-pakistan.org)

Organized by Pakistan Science Foundation and Pakistan Agricultural Research Council  
Congress President: Dr. Abdul Rashid, NARC, Islamabad, [abdul.rashid@comsats.net.pk](mailto:abdul.rashid@comsats.net.pk)  
Congress Secretary: Dr. Zahir Shah, NWFP Agricultural University, Peshawar, Phone: +92-91-9216548; Fax: +92-91-9216520, [zahirsh@brain.net.pk](mailto:zahirsh@brain.net.pk)

Organizing biennial congresses of soil science is a major activity of the Soil Science Society of Pakistan. Soil scientists, agronomists and scientists from allied disciplines from national and international organizations gather at this occasion and share their experimental results and research experiences with each other for the benefit of agriculture in general and of soil science in particular. So far, the society has successfully organized ten congresses at various places, including Peshawar, Islamabad, Lahore, Faisalabad and Tandojam.

### **March 29-30, 2006**

#### **Workshop on “Facilitating Adoption of No-tillage and Conservation Farming Practices”**

Tamworth, Australia

Supported by: Australian Centre for International Research (ACIAR), Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), NSW Department of Primary Industries, and University of New England

A series of farmer focus group meetings, sponsored by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), was conducted in north-western NSW in early 2005. These meetings have confirmed the importance of economic and social as well as technical and managerial constraints that are preventing more farmers adopting conservation farming and no-tillage practices. Reasons given by farmers for non-adoption are largely consistent with the twelve categories:

- Too complex;
- Not easily divisible into manageable parts;
- Not compatible with farm and personal objectives;
- Not flexible enough;
- Not profitable;
- Capital outlay is too high;
- Too much additional learning is involved;
- Risk and uncertainty is too great;
- There is conflicting information;
- Lack of appreciation of the problem;
- Lack of physical infrastructure;
- Lack of social infrastructure.

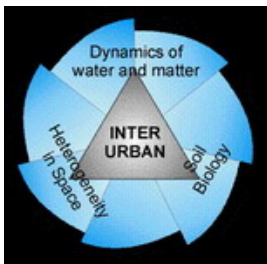
The information obtained from the focus groups together with farmer case studies will set the scene for discussion and workshopping of potential solutions to these problems. It is expected that the recommendations and strategies arising from the conference-workshop will be of special interest to Rural R&D Corporations, Catchment Management Authorities, Government Agencies, Agribusiness and farmers. Papers that address the following issues in relation to adoption of no-tillage and conservation farming practices will be considered: – Understanding social diversity and social drivers in farming communities, – Social, economic and legal interactions affecting farm management, – Effects of farm family lifecycle, family composition, succession issues, – Structural issues – size of farm, income, – Motivators for environmental management or stewardship, – Participatory involvement of farmers in the R, D&E process, – Regional or individual case studies of successful adoption? Documentation of the natural resource benefits of conservation farming, – Role of agribusiness and other ‘key influence’ agents, – Overcoming specific agronomic or mechanical constraints

Registration fee: A\$200. Contact Bob Martin at [bob.martin@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bob.martin@dpi.nsw.gov.au) and [tamworth.office@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tamworth.office@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

**March 29-31, 2006**

**Interurban II: Water and Organic Matter in Anthropogenic Soils: Dynamics and Processes**  
Berlin, Germany

The meeting will be a forum for soil scientists, geophysicists, soil biologists, microbiologists, and environmental chemists. Main topics of the meeting are the interrelation between soil moisture dynamics, topsoil characteristics, and soil biology. We focus on the integration of new techniques into soil science with special emphasis on the interaction between different disciplines. Two workshops provide time for intensive discussions of special themes. Keynote speakers will introduce the topics.



*Workshop 1:* Temporal dynamics and spatial heterogeneity of unsaturated water flow: geophysical/soil physical approaches and numerical simulations,

*Workshop 2:* Linking moisture distribution, organic matter properties and biological activity in heterogeneous soils.

Contact: Forschungsschwerpunkt "Wasser in Ballungsräumen", Technische Universität Berlin, Sekr KF 4 Strasse des 17. Juni 135 10623 Berlin, Germany. Phone: +49 (0)30 314-25493, Fax: +49 (0)30 314-23313, [water-centre@tu-berlin.de](mailto:water-centre@tu-berlin.de), [www.interurban.de](http://www.interurban.de)

### **April 2-7, 2006**

#### **Wildfire effects on soil organic carbon dynamics, soil degradation and soil redistribution: Special session (SSS22) of the European Geoscience Union, General Assembly 2006**

Vienna, Austria

Several hundred million hectares of forest and other vegetation types are estimated to burn annually throughout the world. A further increase in the area burnt, and in some cases also in fire severity, is expected as a consequence of climate and land use changes. Some of the impacts of wildfires and associated post-fire processes on the soil system, including increased soil erodibility or nutrient losses have been key research topics for some time, while others, such as changes to the nature and amount of soil carbon, and soil mineral and organic matter redistribution patterns have seen comparatively little attention. These impacts are, however, frequently interlinked and progress in the understanding of one often translates into advances in another.

Recent catastrophic fires in Europe, Australia, North America and elsewhere have once again highlighted the need to improve and adapt our capability in predicting and addressing their on-site and off-site effects. This will only be achieved through progress in understanding the short- and long-term effects of fires in environments increasingly affected by changes in climate, vegetation cover and land management, in turn presenting us with unprecedented fire behavior and post-fire conditions.

This session aims to facilitate exchange and accelerate progress in these fields by providing a major opportunity for cross-disciplinary exchange between researchers with a wide range of backgrounds but a common interest in fire effects on the soil system. Presentations are welcome on all fire-related studies that focus on soil organic carbon dynamics, soil degradation and soil redistribution.

Conveners: Stefan Doerr, Artemi Cerdà and Pete Robichaud. Deadline abstract submission (January 13th 2006)

Contact: Artemi Cerdà at [acerda@uv.es](mailto:acerda@uv.es) and more information at [http://www.cosis.net/members/meetings/sessions/information.php?p\\_id=180&s\\_id=3160](http://www.cosis.net/members/meetings/sessions/information.php?p_id=180&s_id=3160)

### **April 4-8, 2006**

#### **International Symposium on Water & Land Management for Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture** Adana, Turkey

The Int'l Symposium on Water and Land Management for Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture will take place from April 4-8, 2006 in Adana, Turkey. The Symposium is organized by Cukurova University and co-sponsored by CIHEAM/Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari and Kahramanmaraş University, along with CIGR, The Turkish Scientific Research Council, Turkish Society of Agricultural Engineers and RIHN (Research Institute for Humanity and Nature), Kyoto, Japan.

You are herewith invited to participate in the Symposium and submit abstracts. For further details, please consult the Symposium web site: <http://symp2006.cu.edu.tr>

Information can also be obtained from the Symposium Secretariat: [yazarat@cu.edu.tr](mailto:yazarat@cu.edu.tr), [symp2006@cu.edu.tr](mailto:symp2006@cu.edu.tr) or contact Prof. Dr Attila Yazar, Cukurova University, Irrigation and

Agricultural Structures Department, 01330 Adana, Turkey. Tel: +90 322 3386516, Fax: +90 322 3386386, [yazarat@cu.edu.tr](mailto:yazarat@cu.edu.tr)

**April 8-12, 2006**

**Hydrology, Managed Forest Lands International Conference**  
New Bern, NC, USA

Sponsored by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers and Weyerhaeuser, the International Conference on Hydrology and Managed Forest Lands will be held in New Bern, NC. [www.asabe.org/meetings/Forest2006/index.htm](http://www.asabe.org/meetings/Forest2006/index.htm)

**April 19-21, 2006**

**17th Global Warming International Conference and Expo (GW17)**  
Miami, Florida, USA

**Themes:**

Global warming and the oceans  
Agricultural and forestry resources management  
Education: global change & sustainable development  
Remote sensing and global surveillance  
GIS  
Clean energy technology  
Low ghg transportation  
Sustainable environment and health for the 21st century  
Water resources management  
Carbon & ghg management  
Extreme events and impacts assessment  
NAO and El Niño  
Greenhouse gas & ecosystems  
Ecology and biodiversity  
Human health in a changing climate

Registration fee: \$325.00 (students \$190.00)

Contact: GWXVII Secretariat, P.O. Box 50303, Palo Alto CA 94303, USA. Fax: 1-630-910-1561, [gw17@globalwarming.net](mailto:gw17@globalwarming.net), <http://globalwarming.net/>

**May 8-10, 2006**

**International Conference on Water Resources, Hydraulics & Hydrology 2006**  
Evia Island, Greece

Organized by: World Scientific and Engineering Academy and Society, [www.wseas.org](http://www.wseas.org)  
Contact: P. Stavrou, WSEAS, Agiou Ioannou Theologou 17-23, 15773, Zografou, Athens, GREECE. [www.wseas.org](http://www.wseas.org), [www.wseas.org/conferences/2006/evia-island/whh](http://www.wseas.org/conferences/2006/evia-island/whh)

**May 8-12, 2006**

**Training Workshop Study Tour on Drought Resistant Soils**  
Teramo, Bologna, Florence and Perugia (Italy)

The program covers cover crop management, no tillage and crop rotation for soil moisture conservation and sustainable crop production.

Contact: Michele Pisante, Università degli Studi di Teramo, Dipartimento di Scienze degli Alimenti, Via C.R.Lerici, 1, 64023 Mosciano S. Angelo (TE), Italy. Tel: +39 0861 266940, Fax: +39 085 8071509, [mpisante@unite.it](mailto:mpisante@unite.it), more information in [http://www.unite.it/News/news\\_2006/documenti/news\\_19.pdf](http://www.unite.it/News/news_2006/documenti/news_19.pdf)

**May 14-19, 2006**

**14th Conference of the Int'l Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO) "Water management & soil conservation in semi-arid areas"**

Marrakech, Morocco

**Management of Water Resources**

New technologies for improving water use efficiency  
Traditional approaches for water management  
Recent trends and innovations in water management for agriculture  
Harvest, storage and management of runoff water

**Desertification Assessment and Control**

Factors and processes leading to desertification  
Desertification impacts  
Desertification control  
Progress in implementing the UNCCD convention on combating desertification

**Dynamics of Agro-Silvi-Pastoral Systems and Land Degradation**

Soil cover changes and their hydrological effects  
Role of agroforestry systems  
Impacts of fire

**Quantifying Erosion Extent and Impacts**

Measurement techniques of soil erosion  
Modeling of soil and soil nutrient losses  
On site and off-site indicators for erosion impacts

**Erosion Processes and Control**

Surface erosion and innovative biological control methods  
Gully erosion and restoration  
Mass movement and stabilization  
Wind erosion control and sand dune fixation

**Enhancing Soil Quality**

Rehabilitation of degraded lands  
Innovative methods for soil nutrients management  
Conservation management practices and soil productivity  
Biological methods for restoring the soil

**Soil Degradation and the Global Environment**

Landscape and biodiversity preservation  
Water quality impairment and reservoir siltation  
Carbon sequestration and global climate change  
Desertification, poverty and human migration

**Economic, Social, Institutional and Policy Stimulants of Soil and Water Conservation**

Economic and social impacts of land degradation  
Cost efficiency evaluation of alternative soil and water conservation practices  
Institutional mechanisms for promoting soil and water conservation  
Upland & lowland interactions & community initiatives for holistic watershed mgmt  
Training and awareness needs for improved land husbandry  
Integrating soil and water conservation into profitable farming enterprises  
Incentives and subsidy issues

Registration Fees: North countries: €545; South countries: €270; North country students: €200; South country students: €100. Participants are asked to register and pay relevant fees to the Organizing Committee soon.

Excursions: Pre- and post-conference excursions, payable by the participants will be organized during May 10-13 and May 20-23, 2006. The pre-conference excursion (Marrakech-Taroudant-Agadir-Essaouira through Tizi N'Test) will tackle the soil conservation in the High Atlas and Souss regions. The post-conference excursion (Marrakech-Ouarzazate-Merzouga through Tizi N'Tichka) will concentrate on water management and desertification in arid environments (valleys of southern flanks of the High Atlas).

Contact: Prof Mohamed Sabir ([sabireni@wanadoo.net.ma](mailto:sabireni@wanadoo.net.ma)), President of 14<sup>th</sup> ISCO; The Organizing Committee, [isco2006@wanadoo.net.ma](mailto:isco2006@wanadoo.net.ma), Phone & Fax: +212-37861149. Information about Marrakech: [cherifi@ucam.ac.ma](mailto:cherifi@ucam.ac.ma); Conference website: [www.maneskovtravel.com/isco2006](http://www.maneskovtravel.com/isco2006) and [www.isco.org](http://www.isco.org). *Note: WASWC provides one-year Guest membership to all participants to the 14<sup>th</sup> ISCO Conference who are not yet member.*

### **May 22-24, 2006**

#### **A Symposium: Long-Term Studies in Ecology, A Celebration of 150 Years of the Park Grass Experiment**

Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, UK

Rothamsted is the largest agricultural research centre in the United Kingdom and almost certainly the oldest agricultural research station in the world. 2006 sees the 150th anniversary of the world-famous Park Grass Experiment based at Rothamsted Research. It is the longest standing ecological experiment of its kind. The Experiment continues to exemplify the value of long-term studies to investigate effects of biotic and abiotic factors on population dynamics, above- and below-ground community composition and micro-evolutionary change. To commemorate this milestone, Rothamsted will host an international symposium exploring the role and applications of long-term ecological research, and the exploitation of resulting datasets. The Symposium will highlight experiments already underway but will also review opportunities for establishing new experiments as an investment for future generations of ecologists and society as a whole.

The Symposium, which commences after registration and lunch on Monday 22 May 2006 and concludes in the afternoon of Wednesday 24 May, will include three sessions of invited oral presentations, covering a range of perspectives and scales.

Session 1 will review results from the Park Grass Experiment itself, with particular emphasis on recent studies of soils and plants and include contributions from Mick Crawley (Imperial College), Jonathan Silvertown (Open University), Keith Goulding, David Powlson, Paul Poulton, Ian Woivod and Richard Harrington (all from Rothamsted Research).

Session 2 will widen the picture geographically with presentations from five of the world's foremost plant ecologists: Dave Tilman (University of Minnesota), Steve Hubbell (Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute), Bernhard Schmid (University of Zurich), David Wardle (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) and Phil Grime (University of Sheffield) are all scheduled to contribute.

Session 3 will examine classic long-term studies of other trophic levels, including Darwin's finches and red deer on Rhum, and include contributions from Peter Grant (Princeton University), Ilkka Hanski (University of Helsinki), Jane Lubchenco (Oregon State University), Charles Godfray (Imperial College, London) and Tim Coulson (Imperial College, London).

The delegate fee for this landmark event, to include the workshop and the celebratory banquet but excluding accommodation, is £250. To book your place, go to:

<http://www.rothamsted.bbsrc.ac.uk/Research/ParkGrass.html> or contact [rothamsted.parkgrass@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:rothamsted.parkgrass@bbsrc.ac.uk).

### **May 23-26, 2006**

#### **BALWOIS 2006: An International Scientific Conference**

Ohrid, Fyr Macedonia

BALWOIS is a meeting that will further the progress of knowledge in the fields of Scientific Research, Education, Policy and Development Activities and on all the Water related issues related to climate changes, hazard mitigation and water resources assessment, management and protection. The main topics of BALWOIS 2006 are:

- Climate and Environment
- Hydrological regimes and water balances
- Droughts and Floods
- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Water bodies protection and Ecohydrology
- Lakes
- Hydrological modeling
- Information systems for decision support

Instructions and all information will be available on [www.balwois.net](http://www.balwois.net).

Note: No registration fees will be charged for participants coming from Balkan non-EU member countries and some financial support will be available to assist them. The BALWOIS 2004, with more than 300 participants, was a great success, with 249 papers available on [www.balwois.net](http://www.balwois.net). Contact: Marc Morell, BALWOIS Coordinator, [secretariat@balwois.net](mailto:secretariat@balwois.net)

### **May 29-31, 2006**

#### **NJF Seminar 378 "Tillage Systems for the Benefit of Agriculture and the Environment"**

Nordic Agricultural Academy, Odense, Denmark

Background: Soil tillage is one of the management decisions that has the strongest and most complex impact on agricultural production and the environment. Key functions of the agroecosystem are affected such as nutrient cycling, disease and weed control, water infiltration and runoff, and soil structure formation and stabilization. This has implications for the quality of soil for plant growth (seedbed quality, nutrient and water supply, pest and weed control) and for the impact of agriculture on the environment (nutrient, pesticide and soil loss, biodiversity). Farm economics are also strongly affected, as soil tillage is the most expensive element in crop

production. Therefore, there is an ongoing effort to reduce costs (i.e. tillage intensity) while maintaining crop production and reducing the impact on the environment. The multifaceted effects of soil tillage call for a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach in soil tillage studies. The objective of the seminar is to bring together scientists and practitioners from different fields to address soil tillage in an interdisciplinary perspective.

Topics: Crop protection and management; Economics and politics; Crop establishment and machinery; N and P loss; Soil structure and quality

Contact: Lars Munkholm, Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Agroecology, P.O. Box 50, DK-8830 Tjele, Denmark. Phone: +45 8999 1768; [Lars.Munkholm@agrsci.dk](mailto:Lars.Munkholm@agrsci.dk). More information: <http://www.njf.nu/>

### **May 30-June 2, 2006**

#### **Biodiversity Conservation in Agriculture Symposium**

Punta Cana Resort and Club, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

The symposium, organized by the SANREM CRSP will bring together international leaders in biodiversity conservation with agricultural researchers and development specialists to:

Promote biodiversity conservation in agricultural development activities;  
Demonstrate why biodiversity conservation is essential to sustainable development;  
Share how biodiversity conservation can be integrated into development projects; and  
Explain how agricultural development projects can be designed to meet USAID Biodiversity Conservation Earmark requirements.

Full information about the program and a registration form can be found at:

[http://www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp/other/biodsymposium .php](http://www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp/other/biodsymposium.php)

The cost of the meeting itself is US \$100 for those from developed countries and \$25 for those from developing countries. Hotel and travel costs must be covered by the participant or his/her organization. Registration is 'first-come, first-served.'

### **May 30-June 2, 2006**

#### **III International Symposium on Transboundary Water Management:**

Overcoming Water Management Boundaries

University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain

The Symposium will be co-hosted by UNESCO and SAHRA

The Symposium will be focus on the analysis of all Water Management Boundaries, which impose conditions for water managing. Beside the natural or physical boundaries, coming from the basin limits or the differences resources sources (surface, subsurface, or coastal), there are other human boundaries. These come from the fact that water resources are coupled with the larger reality of a region, including its environmental, social, legal, and economic characteristics. This implies that at various levels of responsibility may appear boundaries, which must be overcome for a successful water management strategy. These include boundaries from the international scale, to the national, regional, local, or even individual scale. The meeting is intended to provide an integrated forum for TWM, considering both natural and human boundaries.

This third Symposium will build on the review and analysis of transboundary basins and aquifer management issues that occurred at the previous symposiums in November 2002 in Monterrey

(Mexico), and November 2004 in Tucson (USA). Topics ranging from quantity and water quality management, impacts of climate fluctuations, building flexibility and robustness into compacts, non-conventional water resources, and improved sharing of data will be considered. Market-based allocation approaches, ecological conservation, legislation framework, and the need for greater hydrologic literacy among decision-makers also will be included, in view of their relevance in the international and interstate water resources arena.

Keynote speeches and panel discussions by recognized experts will address a range of topics critical to improved transboundary waters management. Additionally, we are working on organizing a course on Isotopes in Hydrology and their potential application to TWM, on May 29th.

Abstracts reception is open up to March 1st. Travel Grants and special registration rates are available. We would very much appreciate your participation in the symposium. It promises to be a lively and interesting event, attended by researchers, policy makers, academics, and representatives of NGOs from all over the world.

You may obtain more information, at <http://www.uclm.es/congresos/twm/>.

Contact Javier González Pérez, Symposium Chairman, Avda. Camilo José Cela, s/n 13071 Ciudad Real – Spain. Phone: +34 926295300 Ext.3282, Fax. +34 926295391, [Javier.Gonzalez@uclm.es](mailto:Javier.Gonzalez@uclm.es).

**June 7-9, 2006**



الجمعية العربية للمياه الصحية

Arab Healthy Water Association

### **First International Conference on Healthy Water in the Arab World Cairo, Egypt**

**“Healthy Water is the Right of All; Healthy Water for Healthy Citizens”.**

**Conference Sponsors:** The First International Conference on Healthy Water in the Arab World is conducted under the patronage of a group of ministers and eminent officials on water, health, and environment in the Arab world.

**Conference Objectives:** The main objective of the conference is to provide a forum for public administrators, owners, specialists, professionals, and researchers from different parts of the world in the field of healthy water in the Arab world. These professionals will have the opportunity to discuss practical ideas, share experience, knowledge, and vision in order to adopt and achieve a culture of healthy water in the Arab world among water producers, users of potable water, or water used in food and medicine production.

**Conference Themes:** Topics cover, but are not limited to:

1. Water resources and water management in the Arab world
2. Water standards of healthy water for different purposes
3. Environmental impacts on water quality in the Arab World
4. Water technology for changing natural water to healthy water
5. Economy of healthy water technology
6. Potable water networks, design, performance, usage, and maintenance
7. Media and spread of healthy water culture

A keynote speaker will be invited for each conference theme.

**Contact:** Prof. Mahgawry Diab, President of the Conference, or Dr. Hani Daas, AHWA coordinator. Contact Address: P.C.: 11371, Box: 8140, Naser City, Cairo, Egypt, Phone: +20-123252582, +20-121137607, +20-125032087, Fax: +20-27606792, +20-33748630, [ahwamagazine@mgwater.com](mailto:ahwamagazine@mgwater.com)

### **June 14-16, 2006**

#### **NJF seminar 385, Landscape change “Learning from the past - visions for the future”**

Scandic Hotel Tromsø, Tromsø, Norway

**Background:** All landscapes are changing, however the changes may occur on very different timescales. Landscapes where human influence is minimal may change at a slower pace, whilst agricultural landscapes are among those that change most rapidly. Some changes are intentional – some are not. Some changes are universally welcomed – others may cause conflict. Different stakeholders may hold very different opinions on whether changes are desirable or not. And a change that is positive in some respects may be negative for other landscape values. Can we learn lessons from past changes that can help us to plan and manage future changes?

We cannot expect modern agriculture automatically to deliver the landscapes rich in wildlife, scenic beauty and recreational opportunity that agriculture provided in the past. As stated by Green & Vos (2001), “we may be able to maintain some of these old landscapes, with new roles for a multifunctional agriculture, but for the most part we have to conceive, design, create and maintain new landscapes fit for the social, economic and environmental needs of the twenty-first century”. We know some things about what the future will bring. Some trends are already apparent and are likely to influence our future agricultural landscapes. But what visions do we have for the future? Thor Heyerdahl once said “How do we know it is progress when we do not know where we are going?” In this meeting we will consider the entire time-axis of agricultural landscapes; learning from the past – while focusing on the future.

**Topics:** Landscape change; Monitoring landscapes, Agricultural multifunctionality – present situation and future trends; Scenarios for the future

Contact: Wenche Dramstad, Norwegian Institute of Land Inventory P.O. Box 115, N-1431 Ås, Norway. Phone: +47-64 94 96 84, Fax: +47-64 94 97 86, [wenche.dramstad@nijos.no](mailto:wenche.dramstad@nijos.no), **More information:** <http://www.nijos.no>, <http://www.njf.nu/>

### **June 29-30, 2006**

#### **Regional Workshop on Rehabilitation of Agriculture in Tsunami Affected Area: One and a Half Years Later**

Bangkok, Thailand,

Following the devastating tsunami on 26 December 2004, numerous institutions and organizations were involved in assisting affected countries in the resumption of agricultural activities and the restoration of shattered livelihoods. Three months after the disaster, a Regional Workshop on salt-affected soils from sea water intrusion was organized by the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, which provided an excellent opportunity for participants to share information, collectively assess initial findings related to rehabilitation needs, share plans for future rehabilitation work, and develop mechanisms for collaboration. Proceedings from the Workshop can be requested from Yuji Niino, Land Management Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAORAP), Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Rd., Bangkok 10200, Thailand, [Yuji.Niino@fao.org](mailto:Yuji.Niino@fao.org).

One of the main challenges now is to identify suitable interventions for longer-term rehabilitation and reconstruction of the agriculture sector in a sustainable manner best suited to the local agro-ecological and socioeconomic conditions.

With these issues in focus, the FAORAP is convening this second regional workshop to bring together relevant national and international institutions and organizations to assess the present status of the rehabilitation activities, share experiences and knowledge for development of future plans and strategies for the longer-term rehabilitation and development of the agriculture sector in the tsunami affected area. The workshop will be held from 29 to 30 June 2006 in Bangkok. Please contact for participation and any questions to Christophe Charbon, [Christophe.Charbon@fao.org](mailto:Christophe.Charbon@fao.org) or Yuji Niino, [Yuji.Niino@fao.org](mailto:Yuji.Niino@fao.org).

### **June 29-July 1, 2006**

#### **2nd International Symposium “Preventing and Fighting Hydrological Disasters”**

Timișoara – Romania,

Organized by "Politehnica" University of Timișoara, Romanian Water Authority, Romanian National Committee, Hydrotechnical Faculty IHP-UNESCO, under the auspices of WASWC

Themes:

- Natural and Accidental Floods
- Hydrological Droughts
- Pollution of Water Resources
- Policies and Strategies

Important dates

- o 15 February, 2006 Pre-registration and abstracts
- o 15 March, 2006 Notification of acceptance
- o 30 April, 2006 Full text

Language: English; To date, around 90 papers have been received.

*The participation in the Symposium and the publication of your paper(s) is free of charge. To obtain the proceeding and other materials of the Symposium there is a fee of 50 Euros. In the third day of the Symposium, there will be organized a technical excursion on the Danube in the Iron Gates Area, with a fee of 50 Euros. The fees in Euros can be paid at HVB Bank Romania, Timisoara Branch: Crețu Gheorghe, for the International Symposium, “Preventing and Fighting Hydrological Disasters”, account no. RO64BACX000000034445320; Bank code: SWIFT: BACXROBU.*

We recommend the following hotels: Timisoara [www.hoteltimisoara.ro](http://www.hoteltimisoara.ro), Savoy [www.hotelsavoy-tm.com](http://www.hotelsavoy-tm.com), Continental <http://www.bestlodging.com/sites7/73662/index.shtml>, Central [www.hotel-central.ro](http://www.hotel-central.ro)

Symposium location: “Politehnica” University of Timișoara, Faculty of Hydrotechnics, Enescu St., no. 1A, 300022 Timișoara, Romania. Chairman: Prof. dr. ing. Gheorghe Cretu, Phone: +40 256 404096, Fax: +40 256 404106, [gcr@mail.dnttm.ro](mailto:gcr@mail.dnttm.ro). Contact person: As. Flaminia Mocanu, Phone: +40 256 404105, Fax: +40 256 404106, [flaminiamro@yahoo.com](mailto:flaminiamro@yahoo.com)

### **July 3-7, 2006**

#### **IGU Regional Congress on Land Degradation: Causes, Implications and Management**

Brisbane, Australia

The **Second Circular** for the International Geographical Union Regional Congress in Brisbane, Australia, 3-7 July 2006, is now available on [www.igu2006.org](http://www.igu2006.org).

**Themes:** Land Degradation, Geomorphology and Land Degradation, Scientific Guidelines in Environmental Decision-making

Would you therefore please send to Prof Arthur Conacher ([arthur.conacher@uwa.edu.au](mailto:arthur.conacher@uwa.edu.au)) your intention to present a paper as soon as possible. Please indicate in which of the above themes you wish to present your paper. [Formal abstracts must be submitted online through the above website.] Information about the COMLAND field trip in Brisbane (June 29-July 2, 2006) can be seen at the following weblink: <http://www.sages.unimelb.edu.au/news/comland/index.html>

**July 9-15, 2006**

**18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science**

**Philadelphia, PA, USA, [www.18wcss.org](http://www.18wcss.org)**

The scientific program for the World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS), at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, will focus on multi-disciplinary soil science advances under the theme, "Frontiers of Soil Science: Technology and the Information Age." The event is being hailed by organizers as being a "unique convergence of the world's leading professionals in soil science." This will be the first World Congress of Soil Science held in the U.S. since 1960.

Presentations organized into topical symposia will be given by thousands of soil scientists from around the world on such topics as GIS technologies, land-use analysis, environmental soil biology, plant/soil interaction, hazardous waste remediation, precision agriculture, and more.

Two key symposia include, "*Global Priorities of Soil Science Research*," features leading soil scientists from North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and New Zealand who will discuss soil science research needs; "*Innovation, Speculation, and 'Disneyfication' in Soil Science Education*," keynote speakers will discuss soil science education with examples from the U.S. and Australia. For more on the symposia being presented, click [here](#) Several distinguished scientists will be participating in the opening ceremony on Monday, July 9, including Dr. Michael Clegg, the Foreign Secretary of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences; Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, who will recognize the 2006 World Food Prize Laureate; and Dr. Ed De Mulder, Past President of the International Union of Geological Sciences, who will discuss the Year of Planet Earth initiative, which the United Nations recently approved for 2008. The plenary address will be given by Dr. Jeffrey D. Sachs, the noted economist at Columbia University and author of "The End of Poverty." Dr. Sachs is the Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia and serves as Special Advisor to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals. In addition, several noted soil scientists will be recognized at the Gala Banquet on Thursday, July 13, where the Dokuchaev Basic Soil Science Award, the Liebig Applied Soil Science Award, Kubienna Medals, and new Honorary Members of the International Union of Soil Sciences will be presented. Registration before May 1 is \$550, after this date it increases to \$650 for conference participants. Special rates are available for students and companions. WCSS activities include cultural tours, educational workshops, and scientific exhibits. Additional information and registration can be found at: [www.18wcss.org](http://www.18wcss.org).

Many years of planning have gone into preparations for the 18th World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS). Please take this opportunity to participate: share your research, teaching and service experiences with other World Congress participants. If you have any questions, contact Larry Wilding, [wilding@tamu.edu](mailto:wilding@tamu.edu) and Lee Sommers, [lee.sommers@colostate.edu](mailto:lee.sommers@colostate.edu). - Don Sparks, President IUSS, [dlsparks@udel.edu](mailto:dlsparks@udel.edu)

**July 22-26, 2006**

**Soil and Water Conservation Society's 61th Annual Conference**

Keystone Resort, Keystone, Colorado, USA,

You Are Invited to the Soil And Water Conservation Society's 2006 Annual Conference!!!!

This conference is a combination of plenary, symposium, concurrent sessions, workshops, and outdoor classrooms. The conference will focus on a variety of topics with emphasis in: 1) *Water Use and Management-Learning to Live with Limits*. 2) *Science of Targeting: Getting the right practices implemented, in the right places, and at the right time*. 3) *Conservation and the 2007 Farm Bill*. Visit our website at

[http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs\\_international\\_conferences/2006\\_international\\_conference/](http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/2006_international_conference/) to find the preliminary program, list of concurrent and poster presenters, and loads of other information or contact [deb@swcs.org](mailto:deb@swcs.org).

**July 23-26, 2006**

**8th International Conference on Precision Agriculture**

Marriot City Center Hotel, Minneapolis, MN, USA,

Information in [www.precision.agri.umn.edu/Conference](http://www.precision.agri.umn.edu/Conference)

**July 24-26, 2006**

**World Congress on Computers on Agriculture**

Orlando, Florida, USA. Contact Fedro Zazueta at [fsz@ufl.edu](mailto:fsz@ufl.edu), [www.wcca2006.org](http://www.wcca2006.org) and J.

Boaventura Cunha at [jboavent@utad.pt](mailto:jboavent@utad.pt)

**July 30-August 4, 2006**

**13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Humic Substances Society, "Humic Substances – Linking Structure to Functions,"**

Universitaet Karlsruhe (TH), Karlsruhe, Germany,

The Meeting will be held in Karlsruhe, Germany following the conferences in Sao Pedro, Brazil (2004), Boston, USA (2002) and Toulouse, France (2000). Scientists, engineers and ecologists are invited to use this forum for intensive discussions of the recent findings in the fields of humics and natural organic matter. The meeting will be held on the campus of the Universitaet Karlsruhe (TH).

Contribution to the following main topics of humic and natural organic matter research are most welcome: New analytical aspects, Biological aspects and transformation, Ecological aspects and genesis, Physico-chemical aspects, and Applications

Important Deadlines: Until 15 Jul. 2006, Deadline for registration payment \*

For more information, please contact

Prof. Dr. Fritz H. Frimmel, Dr. Gudrun Abbt-Braun

Engler-Bunte-Institut, Universitaet Karlsruhe, 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany,

Phone: +49 (0) 721 608 2580 Fax: +49 (0) 721 69 91 54,

[IHSS2006@ebi-wasser.uni-karlsruhe.de](mailto:IHSS2006@ebi-wasser.uni-karlsruhe.de), [www.wasserchemie.uni-karlsruhe.de/ihss2006/](http://www.wasserchemie.uni-karlsruhe.de/ihss2006/),

<http://www.ihss.gatech.edu>

**August 2-3, 2006**

**Parks and Protected Areas Management Congress**

Dear Colleague

I am writing to draw your attention to the Parks and Protected Areas Management Congress (PPAMcon) program and key note speakers. A copy of the program and registration brochure can

be downloaded from [http://www.ppamcon.com.au/ppamcon\\_rego\\_email.pdf](http://www.ppamcon.com.au/ppamcon_rego_email.pdf) or by [clicking here](#). The congress is being conducted in Queanbeyan, Australia, August 2-3, 2006.

Key note speakers include:

**Senator Andrew Bartlett** , Chair, Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee responsible for the Inquiry into Australia's national parks, conservation reserves and marine protected areas.

**Prof Ken Wiltshire** , JD Story Professor of Public Administration, University of Queensland

**Warren Nicholls** , Environment Consultant

**Andrew Skeats** , Executive Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

**Duncan McKenzie** , Chairman, Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve, Director, Ecotourism Australia

**Bruce Leaver** , 1st Assistant Secretary, Parks Australia Division, Department of Environment and Heritage

**Lois Peeler** , Chairperson, Aboriginal Tourism Australia

**Tim Nevard** , President, Wildlife Conservancy of Tropical Queensland

**Dr Bill Carter** , Natural and Rural System Management, University of Queensland

For further information please visit [www.ppamcon.com.au](http://www.ppamcon.com.au). If you have any questions or require further information please contact [info@ppamcon.com.au](mailto:info@ppamcon.com.au) or phone David Rayfield (07) 3210 0021.

Regards,

**Luke Holland, PPAMcon**, Management Solutions (Qld), 2nd Floor, 40 George St, GPO Box 2301, Brisbane QLD 4001, Queensland, Australia, Tel: +61 7 3210 0021, Fax: +61 7 3210 0044  
[info@ppamcon.com.au](mailto:info@ppamcon.com.au), [www.ppamcon.com.au](http://www.ppamcon.com.au)

### **August 9-11, 2006**

#### **III Iberoamerican Congress on Erosion and Sediment Control**

“Towards a Sustainable Environmental Management”

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Organized in cooperation with the International Erosion Control Association (IECA), Contact [info@fundacion-inmac.org](mailto:info@fundacion-inmac.org), or Eduardo Rienzi, our NR for Argentina at [rienzi@agro.uba.ar](mailto:rienzi@agro.uba.ar)

### **August, 21-26, 2006**

#### **XVIII National Soil Science Conference of the Romanian National Society of Soil Science**

**100 Years of Soil Science in Romania: Management and Soil Resources Use, Agri-**

**Environment Protection and Rural Development from Central and North-Western Romania**

Cluj-Napoca, Romania,

In Romania soil science has a long-tradition, G. M. Murgoci the founder of the modern Romanian soil science has been also one of the founders of the International Soil Science Society. However, at the time being the soil resources of the country are affected by various degradation processes, mainly water erosion, soil compaction, humus and nutrients depletion. The global climate change, expressed by strong droughts alternating with heavy rainfall and floods, enlarges and accelerates these processes. The efforts of the Romanian soil scientists are directed to reverse the process of soil degradation and to restore deteriorated landscape, so contributing to the European policy of preventing global environment degradation at continental level. Although focused on the problems of the central and north-north western part of Romania the Conference should also provide a review of progress made in soil science in Romania in the last 100 years and highlight the future developments at national level according to the European policy of soil resource use and management. Some key papers are dedicated to general problems of the today soil science, the strategy for soil protection use, and monitoring.

Topics

- Soil genesis classification, Cartography & soil geography
- Soil physics, soil chemistry & mineralogy
- Soil biology & ecology
- Soil tillage & soil, water conservation (ISTRO session)
- Soil fertility & plant nutrition
- Soil and extreme climatic events (floods, severe droughts)
- Forestry related to soil and forest sites
- Soil evaluation and land use planning
- Soil degradation control, remediation & reclamation
- Soil and land improvement works
- Soil and environment, soil quality monitoring
- Soil & human health
- Soil education and public awareness
- Application of mathematical modelling & IT in soil science

Program: Aug 21-22, 2006 - in the meeting room. Aug 23-26, 2006 - field excursion.

Registration fee: Attending only the first part, €100; Attending the whole program, €250.

Organizers: Romanian National Society of Soil Science etc. (SOCIETATEA NAȚIONALĂ ROMÂNĂ PENTRU ȘTIINȚA SOLULUI), Bd. Mărăști 61, 011464 București 32, ROMÂNIA, Research & Development National Institute for Soil Science, Agrochemistry & Agri-environment Protection, Bd. Mărăști 61, 011464 București 32, ROMÂNIA. Contact: Executive President SNRSS: Professor Dr Guș Petru: [petru.gus@email.ro](mailto:petru.gus@email.ro), Phone: +40 264 596384/206, 204, Fax: 00 40 264 443467 and Dr Rusu Teodor [rusuteodor@yahoo.com](mailto:rusuteodor@yahoo.com) Phone: +40 264 596384/204. Conference Secretary: Dr Valentina Coteș [snrss2000@yahoo.com](mailto:snrss2000@yahoo.com), Fax +40 21 2225979.

### **August 23-25, 2006.**

#### **The First IFOAM International Conference on Animals in Organic Production,**

University of Minnesota Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul, MN, USA.

Register for the conference online at: <https://shop.ifoam.org/animals/index.php>

A conference registration brochure is also available on the IFOAM website:

[http://www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam\\_conferences/pdfs/Animal\\_Production\\_Web.pdf](http://www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/pdfs/Animal_Production_Web.pdf)

### **August 26-28, 2006**

#### **International Seminar on Sustainable Watershed Management**

Haikou, Hainan, P.R. China,

Organizers: Hainan Environmental Education Association (HEEA), and Hainan Provincial Academy for Environmental Sciences (HAES), P.R. China

#### **Themes:**

Water Conservation, Watershed Zoning Plan and Fair Distribution, Water Supply and Wastewater Recycling, Policies for Sustainable Water Management, Women's Role in Sustainable Watershed Management

A limited number of subsidies for participants' international and/or domestic travel costs will be offered on the judgment of valued contribution of paper and presentation to the seminar.

Contact: Dr. Cheng Chunman, Phone: +86 898 6530 6421 Fax: +86 898 6532 7680, [chcmhn@yahoo.com](mailto:chcmhn@yahoo.com). Post address: Department of Land, Environment & Resources of Hainan Province, 59 Haifu Rd., Haikou, Hainan, 570203 P.R. China.  
Further Details: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/surednetworkindia/>

### **August 28-31, 2006**

#### **XXIII Conference of the Danubian Countries**

Hydrological Forecasting and Hydrological Bases of Water Management  
Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro,

Contact: Tioslav Petkovic, Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia, Kneza Visislava 66, P.O. Box 37, 11030 BEOGRAD, Serbia and Montenegro. Phone: +381 11 3537 961/ 3537 834, Fax: +381 11 3537 821, [danubeconference@hidmet.sr.gov.yu](mailto:danubeconference@hidmet.sr.gov.yu)

### **August 28-September 3, 2006**

#### **17<sup>th</sup> Istro Conference**

Christian-Albrechts University, Kiel, Germany,

Themes for the conference are (1) Soil dynamics and traction, (2) Traffic, tillage and soil deformation, (3) Conservation farming and forestry land-use systems and environmental quality, (4) Soil biological quality and health, (5) Soil amendments, (6) Precision agriculture, (7) Soil erosion and its control, (8) Economical aspects of tillage, crop establishment, energy balance, subsidy strategies, and weed control, (9) Soil management induced global change effects, (10) Sustainable landscape management, and (11) Soil reclamation.

- **Pre-conference Tour** (August 21-26) starts at the Frankfurt Airport and will visit sites evaluating long-term tillage research, soil deformation in agriculture, forestry, and in winegrowing areas, water erosion, soil amelioration, open cast brown coal mining, water studies in sandy regions, deep ploughing of peat soils and consequences of land use.

- **Post-conference tour** (September 3-9) ends at the Frankfurt Airport after stops at sites evaluating soil management and sustainability issues in agriculture and forestry, brown coal mining, soil deformation, subsoiling, amelioration and lysimeter experiments. For budgeting, a maximum fee of 550€ for hotel accommodations, meals, entrance fees etc. can be anticipated. Be sure to look for final details in the registration brochure.

Contact: Becky J. Roland, National Soil Tilth Laboratory, Phone: +1-515-294-5014; Fax: +1-515-294-8125, [roland@nstl.gov](mailto:roland@nstl.gov). You may also register as a member of ISTRO (International Soil Tillage Research Organization) and receive newsletter at no cost. More information about ISTRO can be found in [www.istro.org](http://www.istro.org).

### **September 3-6, 2006**

#### **Third Pacific Regional Meeting Traditional and Indigenous Land uses and Economies**

Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand,

Organized by The International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP) in association with the Australian Property Institute

The Regional Meeting will focus on the transformation of traditional and indigenous sustainable uses and economies into untenable positions in the face of unsustainable "modern" uses and economies. In some parts of the IASCP Pacific region this untenable position has produced racial tensions and changes of national Government (Fiji), while in other parts the traditional and indigenous cultures associated with these land uses and economies have been transformed by

European colonization into a mere chimera of their former selves (New Caledonia, Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti). Abstracts must be received by June 30, 2006.

Contact: John Sheehan, Pacific Regional Chair, International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP), C/o NSW Division, Australian Property Institute, 60 York Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia. Phone: +61 2 9918 0219; Fax: +61 2 9918 7553, [margaret@nsw.api.org.au](mailto:margaret@nsw.api.org.au), [sarasan@ihug.com.au](mailto:sarasan@ihug.com.au), [www.iascp.org](http://www.iascp.org)

**September 4-7, 2006**

## **AGRO ENVIRON 2006**



**Faculty of  
Bioscience Engineering**

### **Agro Environ 2006: Agricultural Constraints within the Soil-Plant-Atmosphere Continuum**

Fac. of Bioscience Engineering, Coupure Links 653, Ghent, Belgium, September 4-7, 2006

The first Agro Environ symposium was organized by the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (Pakistan) in 1998. Trakya University, Tekirdag (Turkey) hosted the second symposium in 2000 and the National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences (NARSS), Cairo (Egypt) organized the third in 2002. The fourth symposium was organized in 2004 by the University of Udine (Italy). This series of symposia proved to be a tool for involving scientists, engineers, planners, research centers and institutions in issues related to the agricultural environment.

Participants are invited to share their knowledge and experiences in discussions on the issues related to agricultural constraints within the soil-plant atmosphere continuum, within the framework of the following special topics.

- Role of Conservation Agriculture for sustainable farming
- Contamination of the soil-water-atmosphere continuum in agricultural areas
- Waste treatment for agricultural soil amendment
- Desertification and land degradation in agricultural ecosystems

The sessions are open for applications of RS/GIS techniques and Geo-information systems.

Symposium Chairman: Dr. Donald Gabriels, [donald.gabriels@Ugent.be](mailto:donald.gabriels@Ugent.be)

Contact: Agroenviron-2006 Symposium Secretariat, Ghent University, Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Department of Soil Management & Soil Care, Coupure Links 653, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium. Ph: +32092646038, Fax: +32092646247 [joke.vandesteene@Ugent.be](mailto:joke.vandesteene@Ugent.be), [donald.gabriels@ugent.be](mailto:donald.gabriels@ugent.be), <http://users.ugent.be/~jvdestee/agroenviron/index.html>  
or Dr. Sajid Mahmood (Azeemi), International Coordinator, Centre of Excellence in Water Resources Engineering, Lahore, Pakistan, [drsajid\\_pk@yahoo.com](mailto:drsajid_pk@yahoo.com)

### **September 12-15, 2006**

#### **International ESSC Conference on “Soil & Water Conservation under Changing Land Use” Lleida (Catalonia, Spain),**

Organizer: Department of Environmental and Soil Sciences, University of Lleida, Lleida, Spain as an ESSC conference, with cooperation from WASWC

#### Themes:

Land Use Changes Affecting Soil and Water Conservation  
Processes of Soil and Water Degradation under Changing Land Use and Management  
Soil and Water Conservation Practices under Changing Land Use and Management

#### Key dates:

December 31, 2005: 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement

(see on the website [www.udl.es/serveis/sedai/sigtel/ESSC2006.html](http://www.udl.es/serveis/sedai/sigtel/ESSC2006.html)).

Deadline for reception of abstracts and pre-registration forms

February 28, 2006: Notice of acceptance of abstracts

March 31, 2006: Deadline for registration with reduced fee

May 31, 2006: Deadline for reception of extended abstracts and registration fee for accepted participants

June 30, 2006: Publication of the preliminary program

#### Registration fees:

	Before March 31, 2006	After March 31, 2006
Participant	€300	€350
Members ESSC	€270	€320
Students (ID required)	€150	€200

(Registration fee includes: welcome cocktail, coffee breaks, conference book of abstracts, proceedings on CD, access to all sessions, conference dinner and field tour)

Extended abstracts Instruction on how to prepare extended abstract is on the website. The deadline for reception of extended abstracts of accepted presentations (oral and poster) and payment of registration fee (required for inclusion of the participations in the final program of the Conference) is May 31, 2006.

Contact: Idefonso Pla Sentis, WASWC Vice President at [ipla@macs.udl.es](mailto:ipla@macs.udl.es),  
[www.udl.es/serveis/sedai/sigtel/ESSC2006.html](http://www.udl.es/serveis/sedai/sigtel/ESSC2006.html)

### **September 18-22, 2006**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Agricultural Water Management in Eastern and Southern Africa: Water for the Millennium Development Goal on Poverty and Hunger**

VIP Hotel, Maputo, Mozambique. Jointly organized by asareca, SWMnet, ICRISAT, IFAD and UNOPS. Contact: [b.mati@cgiar.org](mailto:b.mati@cgiar.org), [swmnet@asareca.org](mailto:swmnet@asareca.org).

### **September 19-21, 2006**

#### **National Conference on Role of Soil and Water Conservation on Rural Employment**

Raipur, India. Organized by Indhira Gandhi Agricultural University (IGAU), Raipur-492006, India and sponsored by the Soil Conservation Society of India, New Delhi. Contact: R.K. Sahu, Organizing Secretary and Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, IGAU. Phone: +91-771-2442575 (O), +91-771-2411761 (R), Fax: +91-771-2442131-2, [rhsahu1@indiatimes.com](mailto:rhsahu1@indiatimes.com).

September 19-25, 2006



### First Announcement

Environmental change,  
geomorphic processes,  
land degradation and  
rehabilitation in tropical  
and subtropical highlands

### Highland 2006

Mekelle University, Mekelle, Ethiopia

Organizers: Prof. Jean Poesen, [jean.poesen@geo.kuleuven.ac.be](mailto:jean.poesen@geo.kuleuven.ac.be); Prof. Mitiku Haile, [mekelle.university@ethionet.et](mailto:mekelle.university@ethionet.et) and Prof. J. Deckers, [seppe.deckers@biw.kuleuven.be](mailto:seppe.deckers@biw.kuleuven.be)

#### Themes:

- Changing environments and geomorphic process intensities in tropical and subtropical mountains since late Pleistocene times; changes in vegetation cover, climate, hydrology, hillslope and fluvial processes, tufa dam development and landsliding.
- Land degradation in tropical and subtropical mountains: natural and anthropogenic controls; on-site and off-site consequences (soil erosion, landslides, degradation of vegetation cover, hydrological processes and reservoir siltation).
- Soil and water conservation in tropical and subtropical mountains; effectiveness and efficiency of traditional and recently introduced techniques and their implementation in rural societies.

#### Aims:

This **scientific congress** aims to show to the international science community the excellent research that has been conducted at Mekelle University and in the Tigray hinterland in the field of land degradation and rehabilitation. Much of this research has already alerted the international community through peer-reviewed publications and congress presentations. By hosting this international congress on the theme at Mekelle we aim to exchange views with international experts in the farmers' field and to provide international scientists an opportunity to discuss in the field with Ethiopian farmers themes which have been published in formal journal papers.

The stakeholders' forum brings under one roof all actors (scientists, stakeholders and beneficiaries) with the following aims:

To discuss project and conference findings with stakeholders.

To bring stakeholders in contact with international scientists for mutual benefit.

To formulate recommendations from stakeholders towards future research.

Invited participants are international scientists, leading farmers and experts from governmental and non-government organizations. Scientists, representatives of donor organizations and decision-makers are particularly invited to have an exchange of views with the farmers and experts.

Contact: Mrs. Sofie Bruneel, by e-mail [sofie.bruneel@biw.kuleuven.be](mailto:sofie.bruneel@biw.kuleuven.be) or fax: +32 16 329760, stating your intention to participate in the Symposium and the tentative title of your paper or poster

as soon as possible. Based on replies, the organizing committee will try to secure travel grants for African researchers. The total number of participants will be limited to 50; persons will be admitted on a first come first served basis. More in <http://www.kuleuven.ac.be/geografie/frg/>

### **September 24-27, 2006**

**7th International Symposium on Environmental Geochemistry (ISEG): SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM (SP-06) on “Natural Organic Matter and its Significance in the Environment”**  
Beijing, China

TOPICS OF INTEREST:

1. NOM - organic compound interactions
2. NOM - metal interactions
3. Analytical techniques and modeling
4. Physical and chemical processes
5. Eco-environmental impacts on contaminants and public health
6. Carbon sequestration and global cycling and more ?

Contacts: Dr. Fengchang Wu, State Key laboratory of Environmental Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China. [wufengchang@vip.skleg.cn](mailto:wufengchang@vip.skleg.cn)

Dr. Baoshan Xing, Environmental Soil Chemistry, Department of Plant, Soil and Insect Sciences, University of Massachusetts, USA. [bx@pssci.umass.edu](mailto:bx@pssci.umass.edu),  
[http://www.iseg2006.com/2009\\_Special%20Symposia.htm](http://www.iseg2006.com/2009_Special%20Symposia.htm)

### **September 25-29, 2006**

**INTERPRAEVENT International Symposium “Disaster Mitigation of Debris Flows, Slope Failures and Landslides”, Niigata, Japan**

**Sponsored by:** Japan Society of Erosion Control Engineering, Niigata University, Japan

**Co-Sponsored by:** International Research Society INTERPRAEVENT, Japan Landslide Society, and Japan Society of Engineering Geology; **Cooperated by:** International Consortium on Landslides

**Supervised by:** International Research Society INTERPRAEVENT, Postfach 117, A-9021 Klagenfurt, Austria. Contact: Dr. Naoki Watanabe, Research Institute for Hazards in Snowy Areas, Niigata University, Ikarashi-Ninocho 8050, Niigata, 950-2181 Japan, Fax: +81 25 262 7050, [ip2006@gs.niigata-u.ac.jp](mailto:ip2006@gs.niigata-u.ac.jp). Dr. Masanobu Kimura, [kimura@cc.gifu-u.ac.jp](mailto:kimura@cc.gifu-u.ac.jp).

### **September 27-29, 2006**

**4th Australian Controlled Traffic Farming Conference**  
Ballarat, Victoria, Australia

CTF06 will provide an opportunity to deliver both knowledge and practical assistance to growers who have adopted, or are planning to adopt Controlled Traffic Farming (CTF). CTF is the Australian-designed farming system in which wheels work more efficiently on permanent traffic lanes, and crops grow better in permanent beds. Previous CTF conferences have been held in Queensland, with the most recent being the highly successful CTF05 which boosted the CTF revolution across all farming industries. CTF06 will highlight the rapidly developing farming systems of Southern Australia, including Controlled Traffic/Raised Beds, Minimum tillage, Stubble retention and inter-row operations. Presentations will include experiences of Australia's most progressive and innovative growers from grain, cotton and sugarcane industries, plus technical

presentations updating the latest research and agronomy findings. The Conference will also include a Trade Show for technology, machinery, systems and science and a Field Day of practical demonstrations, research results and emerging technologies. [www.actfa.net](http://www.actfa.net)

**September 27-29, 2006**

**NJF Seminar 387 "Preserving and storing carbon in soils of cool temperate regions"**

Quality Hotel Resort Hafjell, Lillhammer, Norway

Background: Soils of the northern latitude are an important reservoir of organic carbon, especially those under natural ecosystems and wetlands. In contrast, most of the agricultural soils have been source of atmospheric enrichment of carbon dioxide through mineralization of soil organic matter, accelerated soil erosion, and drainage of wetlands. Recent changes in crop management, including incorporation of crop residues, may have reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from soils. With predicted global warming and the attendant increase in temperature and change in precipitation amount and distribution, however, most of these soils may become a major source of carbon dioxide.

Therefore, understanding soil carbon dynamics along with that of soil nitrogen and water and temperature regimes under different management systems is critical to identifying mitigation options. Because of the cool climate, dominance of perennial land use, relatively large proportion of peat and organically rich soils, the northern European regions have a large potential of soil carbon sequestration, but also a potential for large CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Yet the databases for soil carbon pools and dynamics are scanty and the existing information from long-term experiments has not been adequately and systematically collated and synthesized for use by policy makers and land use planners.

**Topics:**

1. Soil carbon stocks under present and future climate
2. Assessment methods for carbon stock and changes
3. Socioeconomic and political aspects of soil organic carbon
4. Carbon dynamics and stock management in organic soils
5. Carbon dynamics and stock management in mineral soils

**Call for papers and posters**

Deadline for voluntary papers for oral and poster sessions is May 1, 2006. Submission of title and abstract (200 words) for oral or poster presentations should be sent to the Organizing Committee ([Balram.singh@umb.no](mailto:Balram.singh@umb.no) or [arne.gronlund@jordforsk.no](mailto:arne.gronlund@jordforsk.no)) The Committee reserves the right to select oral presentations among the submitted titles. Extended abstracts (1-5 pp.) of all accepted papers (oral and poster) will be published in Proceedings of NJF seminar no. 387. The committee has negotiated with the international journal "Nutrient Cycling in Agroecosystems" and the selected papers will be published in this journal after a normal review process.

**Participation fee:**

- NJF members before July 1: 2,500 SEK
- NJF members after July 1: 3,130 SEK
- Non members before July 1: 3,750 SEK
- Non-members after July 1: 4,690 SEK

Contact: Bal Ram Singh, Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB), P.O.Box 5003, N-1432 Ås, Norway, Phone: +47 64 96 55 64, Fax: +47 64948211, [www.umb.no](http://www.umb.no) and Jørgen Eivind Olesen, [JorgenE.Olesen@agrsci.dk](mailto:JorgenE.Olesen@agrsci.dk). More information at <http://www.njf.nu/>

## **October 1-5, 2006**

### **2nd International Symposium on Soil Erosion and Dry Land Farming (SEDF'06)**

“Balance and Harmonization of Economic Development and Environment Protection” (Second Announcement), Yangling Int'l Convention and Exhibition Center, Yangling, Shaanxi, China,

Organized by: CAS-MWR-Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, USDA-National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory, USDA-National Sedimentation Laboratory, etc.

#### Objectives:

- To share and exchange the experiences, progresses made and achievements in soil erosion and dry-land farming
- To promote new knowledge about controlling soil and water losses and providing food security
- To show new technologies in soil conservation and dry-land farming
- To develop long-term strategies and partnership for scientific cooperation

#### Themes:

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

#### Calendar of events:

- July 20, 2006. Deadline for registration
- August 31, 2006. Deadline for full paper and advance payment for conference registration & tour fee
- October 1, 2006. Registration on site
- October 2-5, 2006. Conference
- October 6-8, 2006. Post conference tours (2 tours one day each and 1 tour 3 days)

The registration fee is US\$240, and US\$140 for students. For payment earlier than August 31, 2006 the rates are respectively US\$200 and US\$100. This will cover the cost of scientific activities, abstract volume, transportation between Xi'an Xianyang airport/ Xi'an railway station and Yangling, and social events (reception and banquet).

There will be three post conference tours: Tour A (1 day), \$30; Tour B (1 day), \$45; Tour C (3 days), \$120.

Contact: SEDF'06 Secretariat, No.26 Xinong Road, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, People's Republic of China. Phone: +86-29-87012872/ 87012871, Fax: 86-29-87012872/ 87012210,

[keyanban@ms.iswc.ac.cn](mailto:keyanban@ms.iswc.ac.cn), [zhangwei@ms.iswc.ac.cn](mailto:zhangwei@ms.iswc.ac.cn), <http://www.iswc.ac.cn>

## **October 5-7, 2006**

### **National Association of Geographers India (Nagi)**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> International Indian Geography Congress: Development, Environment & Geoinformatics**

Dept of Geography, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India,

#### Sessions:

Human Resources and Development Strategies.

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

Convened by Prof. Kalpana Markandey ([hyd1\\_kalpanam@sancharnet.in](mailto:hyd1_kalpanam@sancharnet.in),  
[kalpanamarkandey@yahoo.com](mailto:kalpanamarkandey@yahoo.com)) and Prof. S. Simhadri ([profsimhadri\\_s@yahoo.co.in](mailto:profsimhadri_s@yahoo.co.in)).

Calendar: May 31, 2006 – Sending registration form, abstract and registration fee  
July 31, 2006 – Sending of full paper (quarto size, double spacing, as soft copy)

Registration fee: for Indian Participants: Rs 600; for Senior Indian Participants: Rs 100; for International Participants: US\$125.

Contact: Organizing Secretary, Dr. C. Venugopal Rao, Phone: +919440991988, +91-040-27426721, [cvgrao72@yahoo.co.in](mailto:cvgrao72@yahoo.co.in) or Dr. R.B. Singh, NAGI Secretary General, Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi, 110007, India. Phone: 91-011-27666783(o), 91-011- 27553850(h), [rbsgeo@hotmail.com](mailto:rbsgeo@hotmail.com)

### **October 11-13, 2006**

#### **Workshop on Managing Agricultural Landscapes for Environmental Quality: Strengthening the Science Base**

Westin Crown Center Hotel; Kansas City, MO, USA.

Organized by the Soil and Water Conservation Society

“Managing Agricultural Landscapes for Environmental Quality” is part of ongoing activities organized by the Society in support of the U.S.D.A.’s CEAP (Conservation Effects Assessment Project) initiatives. The workshop will be multidisciplinary, involving agronomists, soil scientists, biologists, ecologists, hydrologists, economists, sociologists, engineers, and others working to improve our ability to quantify the effects of conservation practices on soil, water, air, and habitats at landscape or watershed scales. Visit the workshop website at [http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs\\_international\\_conferences/index.cfm?nodeID=8409&audienceID=1](http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/index.cfm?nodeID=8409&audienceID=1). The deadline for abstract submission is June 1, 2006. Contact: Suzi Case at [suzi.case@swcs.org](mailto:suzi.case@swcs.org).

### **October 19-21, 2006**

## **PLACE MATTERS 06**

#### **Place Matters 06 – A Creative Planning Collaborative for Sustainable Communities**

Adams Mark Hotel, Denver, Colorado,

What is PLACEMATTERS? PLACEMATTERS is a living laboratory where a national network of practitioners come together to learn, share, inspire and seed innovation in place, collectively elevating the art and science of planning for vibrant and sustainable communities.

On October 19-21, 2006, **PLACEMATTERS06** will touch down in Denver, Colorado, heart of the Rocky Mountain region, bringing a variety of the best tools, processes and people to bear on some of the most critical land use challenges of our times.

Program highlights include:

Keynote presentations from inspiring national leaders and thinkers.

Connect Up" Tool/Method Expo for providers to interface with each other and with national and regional practitioners; Featuring GIS, scenario planning, decision-support, transportation and many other tools.

"What Works" sessions focused on sharing exemplary case studies from within and outside of the Rocky Mountain West.

Collaborative problem solving of "live" planning challenges in dynamic, participant-driven "open space" format.

Use of eParticipation technologies throughout to gather and assemble feedback, lessons learned and collective outputs of the convening.

Awarding of the inaugural **PLACEMATTERS** Award for Innovation in Place.

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

Contact: [conference@placematters.org](mailto:conference@placematters.org)

Sponsors SRI, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Orton Family Foundation, Surdna Foundation

#### *About the Orton Family Foundation*

The Orton Family Foundation seeks to transform the land use planning system as a pathway to vibrant and sustainable communities. In partnership with non-profit organizations, local and regional planning agencies and others, the Foundation helps engage and empower people to make land use decisions inspired by their community's heart and soul. The Foundation embraces the poet Gary Snyder's belief that "People who can agree they share a commitment to the landscape - even if they are otherwise locked in struggle with each other - have at least one deep thing to share." To learn more, visit [www.orton.org](http://www.orton.org)

#### **October 22-26, 2006**

#### **IV International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-4) "Vetiver and People" Green Investment for Sustainable Development - Weaving a Better World, Caracas, Venezuela,**

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

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

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

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

Program in brief:

Sessions:

Contributions of vetiver to sustainable agricultural development and poverty eradication.

Protection and stabilization of infrastructure in rural and urban areas.

Handicraft and Vetiver: an innovative approach for community participation.

Social development through vetiver multiple purpose projects.

Vetiver role in watershed conservation and management.

Disaster prevention and poverty mitigation.

Prevention and control of soil and water contamination and treatment and disposal of wastewaters.

Plenary sessions:

Vetiver grass technology and its impacts on economic and ecological sustainability.

Vetiver and People. Social sustainability impacts.

The challenge for technological innovation, entrepreneur and scientific research in relation to vetiver grass.

Exhibition and poster session during the conference

Technical tours:

Pre conference tour: Visit to land restoration and stabilization projects in the SE region of Venezuela.

Mid conference tour: Within the north central region of the country with visits to nurseries, bioengineering companies, social projects and watershed restoration and protection sites.

Post conference tour: To be announced.

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

*Official language:* Spanish and English with simultaneous translation.

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

Contact [oluquel@cantv.net](mailto:oluquel@cantv.net), [naronghc@au.edu](mailto:naronghc@au.edu), [www.fpolar.org.ve](http://www.fpolar.org.ve)

**October 29-November 2, 2006**

**URISA – Urban and Regional Information Systems Association**

An Atlantic Resort, The Bahamas,

URISA is now accepting abstract submissions for its Third Caribbean GIS Conference.

Abstracts will be accepted until April 28, 2006.

**Themes:**

Disaster Management, Law Enforcement, Public Health and Safety Standards, Policy and Management, Land, Environment, Planning and Natural Resources, Utilities, Business and Organizational GIS, Education & Training and other hot topics

For more information: <http://www.urisa.org/Caribbean/Program/caribbeanconf.htm>

Contact: Phone: +1-847/824-6300, [info@urisa.org](mailto:info@urisa.org), [www.urisa.org](http://www.urisa.org)

### **XXVIII Indian Geography Congress**

Dept. of Geography, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, November 10-12, 2006

Focal Theme: Tourism, Environment and Regional Development; Special Session on IGU Initiatives: Cultures and Civilisations for Human Development.

Contact: Dr. R.B.Singh, Secretary General-Nat. Asso. of Geographers, India (NAGI), Dept. of Geography, University of Delhi, Delhi-7, India, [rbsgeo@hotmail.com](mailto:rbsgeo@hotmail.com) or Dr. Rana Pratap, Convener, XXVIII IGC, Dept. of Geography, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya-824234, India, [gg\\_raja@yahoo.com](mailto:gg_raja@yahoo.com), [magadh87@hotmail.com](mailto:magadh87@hotmail.com)

### **November 2006**

#### **Regional Workshop on Soil Erosion and Sediment Yield**

Teheran, Iran, November, 2006. Contact Engr. Farhad Behboodi at [farhadbeh@yahoo.com](mailto:farhadbeh@yahoo.com)

### **November 2006**

#### **Conference on Planning for Extremes Climate Change**

organized by the Soil and Water Conservation Society. Exact date and place to be announced, [deb.happe@swcs.org](mailto:deb.happe@swcs.org), [www.swcs.org](http://www.swcs.org).

### **November 12-16, 2006**

#### **Symposium on Sediment Pollution from River Bank Erosion: Characterization and Budget**

Indianapolis, IN, USA.

This symposium, organized by Soil Science Society of America, will bring together experts conducting research in this area and summarize the current knowledge and potential opportunities for future research on sediment pollution from bank erosion. The invitees will include Soil Scientists, Geomorphologists, Geographers, Remote Sensing Experts, Water Quality Experts, Hydrologists, and Engineers. The deadline for submission of abstract is 9 May 2006. For more information, please contact Dr. Satish Gupta, Department of Soil, Water, and Climate, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108; Tel: 612-625-1241, e-mail: [sgupta@umn.edu](mailto:sgupta@umn.edu). For information about the SSSA meetings, please visit the web site [www.agronomy.org](http://www.agronomy.org) and then click on the Meetings.

### **November 22-25, 2006**

#### **International Symposium on Balanced Fertilization for Sustaining Crop Productivity**

Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India

**Sponsored by** International Potash Institute (IPI)

#### **Themes**

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

**Dead lines:**

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

For registration and additional information, please visit the website:

[www.ipipotash.org/IPI\\_India\\_2006](http://www.ipipotash.org/IPI_India_2006) or email Dr. M.S. Brar at [brarms@rediffmail.com](mailto:brarms@rediffmail.com)

**November 27-30, 2006****International conference on post-harvest technology and value addition in cereals, pulses and oilseeds (ICPHT-2006)**

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

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

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

Adelaide, South Australia, Australia,

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

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

University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal,

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

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

The debate around all this in an interdisciplinary perspective applied to shared river basins

management constitutes the main challenge of the 5th Iberian Congress on Water Management and Planning at Escola Superior de Tecnologia, Campus de Gambelas, University of Algarve, 8000 Faro, Portugal.

**Themes:**

1. Water landscapes and water systems conservation
2. Institutional aspects of water management
3. Participation of citizens and media over water subjects
4. Water and public health
5. Innovation and technology

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

**December 12-15, 2006**



**2nd Conference on Sustainable Sloping Lands and Watershed Management (SSLWM 2006)**  
Luang Phrabang, Laos PDR

**Organized/ sponsored by**

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR  
National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI)  
International Water Management Institute (IWMI)  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)  
Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)  
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)  
World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWC)

**Background:** Upland areas of Southeast Asia are, for the most part, inhabited by communities that are often poor, politically disempowered and economically marginalized and have few viable options available to address issues of food insecurity, poverty and unsustainable resource management. It is well recognized that increased exploitation of land and water resources in upper catchments with associated fragmentation of native vegetation results in sediment discharge and elevated nutrient loads that act to reduce water quality and availability to downstream users. This has had a direct negative impact on the economic and social fabric of communities that are dependant on natural resources for goods and services in order to sustain already tenuous livelihoods.

As degradation of land resources continues largely unabated, the negative impacts cascade throughout the system of multiple uses of water that supports livelihoods. Sedimentation reduces the useful life of water storage and delivery facilities (i.e. dams and reservoirs) and requires greater resources for the production of acceptable quality water for drinking leading to increased demands

for funds and labour to maintain infrastructures. Sedimentation and eutrophication of aquatic ecosystems leads to declining fish catches that in turn threaten the nutrition and health of downstream communities. All of these impacts originate from inappropriate land use management by communities in these upper catchments. Too frequently there is a tendency to simplistically level blame on the activities of upstream landholders. From a biophysical perspective a considerable amount of information and knowledge has been generated on the causes and processes associated with enhanced sediment discharge from highly incised upper catchments. To this end appropriate land and water conservation strategies have been developed and promoted that eliminate or reduce sediment discharge from these systems. However, the adoption of these resource conserving strategies has to date been inadequate to effect significant changes in sediment discharge to river systems in Southeast Asia. This may in part be due to communities not always having the knowledge to appreciate that what they are doing may be harmful. Factors affecting adoption of conservation management strategies are varied and include land tenure, inappropriate policies, increased labour requirements, the lack of quick and tangible benefits associated with conservation practices and the lack of technical expertise both at the farmer and extensionist levels. In addition, it is often assumed that natural capital has the same level of importance as financial, physical, and social capitals which may not be the case.

In September 2004, the First conference on Sustainable Sloping Lands and Watershed Management, “Innovative Practices for Sustainable Sloping Lands and Watershed Management” was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The conference supported the activities of ASIALAND and MSEC, two large networks that have focused on the development and adoption of sustainable land and water management practices in highly incised catchments of Southeast Asia that are dominated by minority communities. More than 240 academics, researchers, and practitioners participated in the conference. The conference itself was a very useful forum for exchanging knowledge on the management and implementation of sustainable land and water resources in these catchments and creating a bridge between researchers and decision makers. Therefore, a biennial conference series that focuses on natural resource management issues specific to upper catchments in tropical regions was proposed.

SSLWM 2006 will highlight emerging planning and management strategies for the sustainable management of upper catchments. A particular focus of the conference will be on strategies that both promote environmental sustainability and address the socio-economic circumstances of marginalized rural communities that inhabit these areas. SSLWM 2006 encourages debate on the current status of sloping land management in upper catchments of developing countries through the presentation of case studies, and will highlight existing strategies and incentives to promote and up-scale the adoption of sustainable management practices. The conference will identify management and governance strategies that could support more effective management action and direct future applied research. SSLWM 2006 will be of interest to a wide range of persons including land and water resource researchers, managers, and decision-makers involved in the implementation and development of sustainable management of upper catchments. Papers from the conference will be published as refereed proceedings. Selected papers will be submitted to international peer reviewed journals.

**Important Dates**

May 2006	Call for papers and first announcement posted on NAFRI web and in the WASWC News No. 2-2006
June 2006	2nd announcement, details of registration posted on web
July 2006	Deadlines for abstract submission by potential participants
September	Selected papers announced by organizing committee and

2006	guidelines for paper preparation sent to potential speakers Registration form posted on the web
October 15, 2006	Deadline of paper submission 3rd announcement - conference program posted on web
November 2006	Peer review of selected papers and revision by authors
December 12 - 15	Conference

**Call for Papers:** We welcome your contributions. These should be relevant to the objectives of the conferences and address issues described in the conference sessions as follows:

Land use changes and degradation processes in mountain environments

Impacts of inappropriate land and water resource management on up and down stream stakeholders.

Research innovations in the management of upland catchments

The role of policy and incentives in enhancing up-scaling of sustainable land and water management practices.

Under the various sessions the conference's broad aims are:

To encourage the sharing of recent research findings into sustainable management of upland farming systems that will enhance livelihoods and ensure environmental integrity to all stakeholders.

Policy interventions that will assist in the promotion and adopting of sustainable management practices in upper catchments.

Initial selection of papers will be based on (i) new scientific contributions and (ii) relevance and impact of the studies as they are presented in the submitted abstract. Final selection will be based on a peer review process.

**Conference Fee USD 200:** The conference registration fee will cover all symposium materials, a book of abstracts, the symposium field guide and proceedings, and the symposium dinner.

*Conference language:* English

*Venue:* Provincial Meeting Hall of Luang Phrabang

*Contact:* Dr. Bounthong Bouahom, National Agricultural & Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI),

P.O. Box 7170, Vientiane, Lao P.D.R. Phone: +856-21-770084; Fax: +856-21-770047,

[bounthong@nafri.org.la](mailto:bounthong@nafri.org.la), [contact@nafri.org.la](mailto:contact@nafri.org.la), <http://www.nafri.org.la/>

### **December 19-21, 2006**

#### **International Seminar on Global Environmental-cum-Ecological Challenges and Sustainability: Statistical Issues**

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

Themes:

The Data Bank for Environmental Research

Modeling of Environmental and Ecological Systems.

The impact of Climatic Change on Ecology and Environment

Challenges in Agriculture, Forestry and Food Technology.

Water Resource Management: Challenges on Global and Regional Issues.

Pollution and Public Health: Global Perspectives.

Sustainable Development Issues from Ecological and Environmental Viewpoint.

Genotype and Environmental Study on Leaf Area Dynamics.

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

Registration Fee:

Foreign Participants\*: USD 150.00 + USD 100.00 (for each accompanying guest)

SAARC Participants\*: USD 25.00 + USD 20.00 (for each accompanying guest)

Local Participants: Tk. 500.00, Tk. 300.00 (for students only)

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

\*For participants from the SAARC countries and other foreign participants, the registration fees are inclusive of free roundtrip transport from Dhaka and Benapole to Rajshahi, 4-night accommodation in Porjatan Motel at Rajshahi, and meals.

*Donors are welcome to contribute to meet the expenses for organizing this seminar, largely to sponsor a number of developing country speakers.* Contact: Prof. Basher Mian, Chairman, Dept. of Statistics, University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi 6205, Bangladesh. Phone: +0721-750041/4122, [ijss\\_ru@yahoo.com](mailto:ijss_ru@yahoo.com)

## MEETINGS 2007

**January 7-13, 2007**

**African Soil Science Society's 4th International Conference**

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

**Impacts of climate change, global trade, urbanization and biotechnology on land use in Africa**

GIMPA, Accra, Ghana,

Hosted by the Soil Science Society of Ghana in collaboration with IUSS, FAO, AfNet/CIAT, ICRISAT, IWMI, IFDC-Africa, UNU-INRA

Organized by the African Soil Science Society (ASSS)

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

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

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

1. The achievement of food security and Millennium Development Goals (MDG), particularly Goal 1 (poverty/hunger alleviation) and Goal 7 (environment protection), which remains a major challenge for Africa;

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

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

**Themes:**

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

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

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

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

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

**January 19-23, 2007**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Annual National No-Tillage Conference**  
 Des Moines Marriot Des Moines, Iowa,

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

**January 31-February 3, 2007**



## **International Meeting of Fire Effects on Soil Properties**

Barcelona, Spain,

### **Background and invitation**

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

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

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

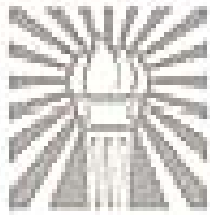
The meeting will include an excursion to a study site where prescribed fire is used as a management tool (Les Gavarres Mountains, Girona).

### **Topics**

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

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

**March 21-23, 2007**



**Humic Science & Technology Conference X**

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

**COMLAND Meeting in Tanzania**

Tanzania, ~~May 2007~~ (Postponed). Organized by Fidelis Kaihura; contact Arthur Conacher, [arthur.conacher@uwa.edu.au](mailto:arthur.conacher@uwa.edu.au).

**May 2007**

**EcoSummit 2007**

Beijing, China

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

We expect this meeting to attract the broadest representations of ecological organizations, ecologists and practitioners on ecological sustainability issues from all over the world. We intend to show the unification and determination of our ecological community as a whole to maximize our commitment to use ecological knowledge and understanding to meet the challenges raised from the Earth Summit (1992), the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002), and the United Nations 2005 Millennium Review Summit.

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

**June 25-30, 2007**

**5th International Congress of the European Society for Soil Conservation, 'Changing Soils in a Changing World: the Soils of Tomorrow'**

Palermo (Italy), June 25-30, 2007

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

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

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

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

**July 2-13, 2007**

### **The IAHS Workshop on Impact of Environmental Change on Sediment Sources and Sediment Delivery**

Perugia, Italy

There is increasing concern for the potential impact of environmental change, including both climate change and land use change, on sediment fluxes in catchments and river basins. Increased sediment loads and concentrations can result in significant environmental problems associated with sedimentation in river channels, reservoirs, canals and related hydraulic structures, increased water treatment costs and degradation of water quality and aquatic habitats. Such impacts relate to both the physical presence of the sediment and its biogeochemical impact. Any attempt to develop an improved understanding of the potential impact of climate and land use change on sediment fluxes must consider their interaction with both sediment sources and sediment delivery mechanisms. Sediment source exerts a key influence on the sensitivity of mobilization and delivery processes to environmental change and on the biogeochemical properties of sediment (e.g. nutrient and contaminant content). Similarly, small changes in catchment hydrology could generate important changes in sediment delivery dynamics, which increase slope-channel connectivity and greatly increase the proportion of the sediment mobilized from the catchment surface that reaches the channel network. The workshop will review the existing understanding of sediment sources and sediment delivery in catchments and river basins and their likely sensitivity to the impacts of environmental change.

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

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

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

**September 2007**

**COMLAND Meeting in China**

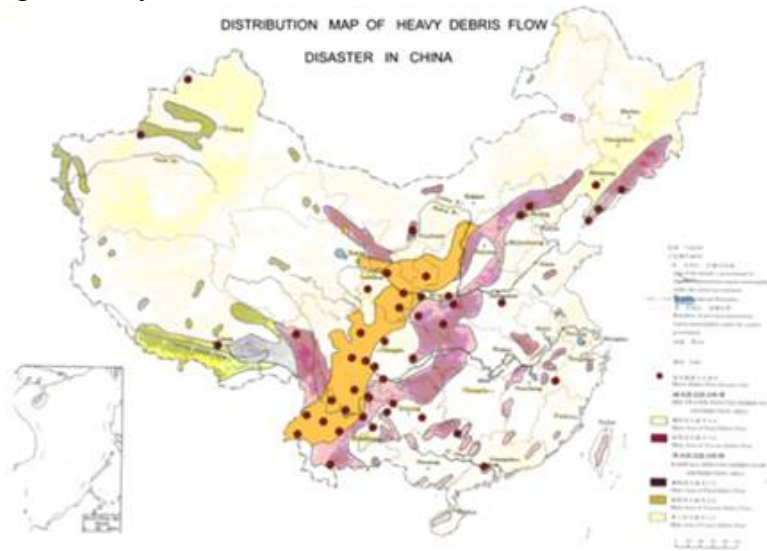
Inner Mongolia, China. Contact Xiaoping Yang or Arthur Conacher at [arthur.conacher@uwa.edu.au](mailto:arthur.conacher@uwa.edu.au). <http://www.ub.es/gram/COMLAND%20website/>

**September 10-13, 2007**

**The Fourth International Conference on Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation: Mechanics, Prediction, and Assessment**

International Convention Center, Chengdu, China

Organized by the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, CAS, China



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

torrential storm in Yunnan Province in July 2004. In China, efforts have been increasingly made to describe and understand debris-flow processes, thus enabling development of methodologies for debris-flow hazards prediction and assessment. For example, the pre-conference field trip will examine engineering structures that have been installed to counter debris-flow hazards behind one of the World Natural Heritage sites in Jiuzhaigou Valley. The post-conference field trip will visit the Dongchuan Debris Flow Observation and Research Station (DDFORS) in Jiangjiagou Valley (Yunnan Province), which was established by the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), to enhance the understanding of debris-flow mechanics and foster the development of cost-effective countermeasures. The DDFORS has observed, measured, and monitored debris flows for more than 40 years. On the post-conference field trip, visitors will gain an insight into every stage of the debris-flow process. The likelihood to witness a debris flow during the post-conference field trip is high, for more than 10 debris flows occur annually in Jiangjiagou Valley during the rainy season.

Pre- and Post-Conference excursions will be organized.

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

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

**November 6-10, 2007**

**International Conference on Integrated Watershed Management for “Bharat Nirman”**  
organized by the Soil Conservation Society of India (SCSI)

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

Increasing globalization, liberalization and privatization regimes have not benefited all sections of society in the developing countries. Poverty is still associated with agriculture and rural living. The concerns of the small and marginal farmers, the landless and weaker and disadvantaged sections of the society have to be addressed.

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

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

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

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

### **Objectives**

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

### **Major Themes**

1. Land Resource Management
2. Water Resource Management
3. Plant Resource Management
4. Animal Resource Management

5. Human Resource Management  
— Gender, Equity and Rural Institutions.
6. Integrated Watershed Management for Biomass Processing,  
— Agri-business, Rural Employment and Livelihoods.
7. Rural Investments through Public-Private Partnership.
8. Science and Technology  
— Research, Extension and Capacity Building.

**Venue:** NASC Complex New Delhi

**Duration:** (i) The Conference: November, 6-9, 2007  
(ii) Field Visits for Delegates: November 10-11, 2007

**Important Dates:** Notice of Intent: 30-06-2006

Submission of Abstract: 31-08-2006

Acceptance of Papers: 31-10-2006

Registration Fee remittance: 31-01-2007

Receipt of full-length paper: 28-02-2007  
with electronic copy

### **Registration Fee**

**Foreign Delegates:** US\$500.00 (With late fee: US\$600)

- Students/Research Scholars: US\$250 (With late fee: US\$300)
- Accompanying members: US\$100

**Indian Delegates:** Rs. 4000.00 (With late fee Rs. 5,000)

\* Students/Research Scholars: Rs. 2,000 (With late fee Rs. 2,500)

Accompanying member: Rs. 1,000 (Indian)

\* Students/Research Scholars have to provide a certificate from their Head of the Institution/Department for availing of this special rate.

**Call for Abstracts:** Abstracts of unpublished research related to one of the Symposium Themes are invited for presentation as the poster papers. Abstracts are to be submitted as an electronic copy in MS WORD, preferably accompanied by a set of hard copy (complete in all respects) on A4 size paper, typed single space and should not exceed one page (about 300 words) with 25 mm margins all around. The title should be followed by the names of author/authors (with the name of the person presenting underlined) and their affiliation. Please include the e-mail address of the corresponding author for expediting communication.

Steering Committee

Chairman: Prof. M.S. Swaminathan; Convenor: Dr. Suraj Bhan

**Organizing Committee**

Chairman: Shri Mohan Kanda; Convenor: Shri B. Rath

Contact: Dr Suraj Bhan, President, Soil Conservation Society of India, [soilcsi@yahoo.co.in](mailto:soilcsi@yahoo.co.in), [bhan\\_suraj2001@yahoo.com](mailto:bhan_suraj2001@yahoo.com), [www.soilcsi.org](http://www.soilcsi.org)

## MEETINGS 2008

### February 2008

#### IV World Congress on Conservation Agriculture

India. Contact: Raj Gupta at [rgupta@cgiar.org](mailto:rgupta@cgiar.org)

### May 18-23, 2008.

#### 15<sup>th</sup> International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO) Conference, Soil and Water Conservation, Climate Change and Environmental Sensitivity

Budapest, Hungary. May 18-23, 2008.

Contact: Professor Ádám Kertész, ISCO President, Head of Department, Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Geographical Research Institute, Budapest 1112, Budaorsi ut 45, Hungary. Phone: +36-1-309-2686; Fax: +36-1-309-2686, [kertesza@helka.iif.hu](mailto:kertesza@helka.iif.hu)

### July 14-18, 2008

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Ground bioengineering methods integrate civil engineering techniques with natural materials to obtain fast, effective and economic methods of protecting, restoring and maintaining the environment whereas eco-engineering has been defined as a long-term ecological strategy to manage a site with regard to natural or man-made hazards. Conference sessions will focus on an area where such engineering techniques are used more and more frequently, i.e. natural and man-made slopes. Papers will be presented on slope instability, erosion, soil hydrology, mountain ecology, land use and restoration and how to mitigate these problems using vegetation. The mechanics of root-soil interaction are of utmost importance, along with the modeling of root reinforcement and the development of decision support systems, areas where significant advances have been made in recent years.

#### Conference Sessions:

- Root-soil interaction
- Root reinforcement
- Slope degradation
- Soil erosion and conservation
- Riverbank and coastline protection measures
- Integrated catchment management with an emphasis on eco-engineering
- Slope stability modelling
- Vegetation and ecology
- Mountain biodiversity and slope stability
- Plant growth versus engineering
- Ground bio-engineering, earth stabilising and retaining techniques
- Eco-engineering and land restoration

- Risk management and decision support systems
- Benefits and liabilities in slope and erosion control

Contact: Dr. Alexia Stokes, INRA, LIAMA-CASIA, Zhonguancun Dong Lu 95, P.O. Box 2728, Hadian District, Beijing 100080, China. Tel: +86-10-82614528; Fax: +86-10-62647458, [stokes@liama.ia.ac.cn](mailto:stokes@liama.ia.ac.cn), <http://liama.ia.ac.cn>

**August 25-29, 2008**

**Eurosoil 2008: Soil - Society - Environment**

Vienna, Austria, Venue: Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, AUSTRIA

Organizers: The national soil science societies of Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and Switzerland, supported by the Vienna Medical Academy

Excursions: Pre- and post-congress excursions in Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Slovenia, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and in Switzerland (together with Austria)

Contact: Winfried Blum, [herma.exner@boku.ac.at](mailto:herma.exner@boku.ac.at)