

WASWC HOT NEWS 2007 (07) JULY 22, 2007 (LV)

Compiled and sent out monthly by Samran Sombatpanit, Editor and Tom Goddard, Co-editor
Pls send your contributions/ information for next issue/s of WASWC HOT NEWS and WASWC
Newsletter to sombatpanit@yahoo.com and tom.goddard@gov.ab.ca

This document is NOT properly edited, to enable a quick release, to meet many deadlines.
Previous information is available on the website <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn>, subpage WASWC HOT NEWS

This HOT NEWS July 2007 is the Light Version.

Click <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn/hotnews.html> and [July 2007](#) to view the FULL VERSION.

Congratulations, David

David W. Sanders is the Recipient of the prestigious **Hugh Hammond Bennett Award** for 2007 from the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) at its Annual Conference in Tampa, Florida, U.S.A. on July 24, 2007.



David Sanders has left his imprint on the landscape in many parts of the world. His career has ranged from implementing soil conservation practices in local watersheds in Australia to leading the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s soil conservation activities in Rome, Italy. He has been a life-long advocate of conservation and has devoted his entire professional career to the management and wise use of soil, water and related natural resources. All of his efforts, including those as FAO administrator, were undertaken with the objective of achieving sustainability. Most noteworthy among his accomplishments are his work in introducing modern agricultural techniques into the low rainfall areas of Jordan, addressing severe gully erosion in Lesotho and his presentations and visits to some 40 countries advising governments on soil conservation policies and programs. Mr. Sanders has edited and/ or been a major contributor to ten books, delivered several keynote presentations to ISCO Conferences, and has contributed significantly to many journals and other conservation publications. In addition, he was a principal organizer of the World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWC) and served as president of WASWC from mid-1997 to the end of 2001. During his tenure, he initiated to draft the constitution of WASWC along with many other activities that have brought our association forward to this day.

The WASWC Council wishes David and Mandy great happiness in their lives.

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File photo from a rendezvous in Chiang Mai, Thailand, June 10, 1995, showing (from left) Michael Zoebisch, Maurice Cook, Samran Sombatpanit and David Sanders at the end of the International Workshop on Soil Conservation Extension

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Dear members, friends and colleagues,

I have completed a short **China Diary** from the experience gained from the 4-week sojourn in that great country. I had added some pictures and it is now posted. You are welcome to access it at: www.soil.gd.cn/waswc/Travelogues/My%20China%20Diary,%20May-June%202007%20070718%20v1.pdf. This is to conform with the present trend that people do not like to receive large files. You may enjoy seeing some sights or some people whom you might know too, and we welcome your feedback.

On the day before I left China for home, I had a chance to visit a tree at the South China Botanic Garden that my good friend, Dr Xia Hanping, is working. It is the tree (above picture) that our Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn had planted when she went to open the Third International Conference on Vetiver (ICV-3) in October 2003 in Guangzhou. The tree's common name is **Champi Sirindhorn** (*Magnolia sirindhorniae*); it was a new species and was found recently on the edge of a freshwater swamp in Lopburi Province, Thailand. Dr Narong Chomchalow has described its occurrence and taxonomy in the *Vetiverim* No. 40 (April 2007). The Garden has inscribed the details of the tree and the planting event on a stone, so it will be long-lasting for certain.

As you know, WASWC is still at the juvenile stage of organization development. More and more information is being poured in and we have so much of it at this time. To comply with the netiquette, we will put a good number of columns from the WASWC Newsletter on the website directly. For HOT NEWS, we will have two versions: one is FULL VERSION (FV) telling the account of what activities are going to be held and the Light Version (LV) will inform just the events that have come to our notice during the past month. We will send the LV to all members by e-mail but will post the FV on the web for you to consult the previously published events.

I will write a short note about a book that is of global interest right after this page. G'day.

Samran Sombatpanit

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

- Dr. William (Bill) C. Moldenhauer, Vice President (Assist. Treasurer), 2400 Sunrise Ridge Circle #107 Brookings SD 57006, USA. Phone: +1-605-6976470, Fax: +1-605-6279123 Attn: W.C. Moldenhauer, moldwcm@yahoo.com. He can receive money from US and Canadian members through Personal Check, Money Order, or Bank Draft (**payable to WASWC**), and can receive VISA and MasterCard credit cards and Bank Draft (**payable to WASWC**) from all over the world. **SWIFT CODE: USBKUS44IMT, ABA No. 091402552, the First National Bank of Volga, SD, USA.**
- Dr. Samran Sombatpanit, WASWC Immediate Past President, 67/141 Amonphant 9, Soi Sena 1, Bangkok 10230, Thailand. Phone/Fax: +66-25703641, sombatpanit@yahoo.com. He accepts Bank Draft from every country. Mark the draft "**payable to Dr. Samran Sombatpanit**". He receives SWIFT through the Bangkok Bank, Bangkok Branch, 2124 Phaholyothin Road, Jatujak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand. Phone: +66-25614091/ 25791146-8, Fax: +66-25791149. **SWIFT CODE: BKKBTHBK, A/C No. 161-0-210864.**

Individual membership: US\$5/yr for developing countries; US\$10 for developed countries and people working in international organizations worldwide. Payment of the fee for 4 years at the same time will enable the membership to be valid for 5 years.

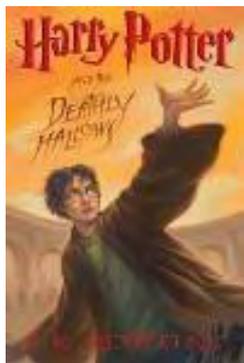
Life membership: US\$80 for developing countries; US\$160 for developed countries and people working in international organizations worldwide

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

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

HOT BOOK

Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows



When there is something extraordinary, or we can say, unique, happen I like to scribble about it in our publication, though the matter is not exactly in the field of soil and water conservation. This is mainly to share the information and ideas with friends and colleagues.



It was yesterday, July 21, that the seventh book in the Harry Potter series was released at one minute past midnight and people all over the world, mainly the young ones, got so excited about it. Readers had been so enthusiastic to know the fate of the boy wizard if he would die, considering he loses his godfather Sirius Black in the fifth book and his beloved headmaster Dumbledore in the sixth. In many cities, Bangkok included, some people went to wait for one or more days in front of the bookshop, just wishing to be the first to get the book.

In all, the first six Harry Potter books could sell as many as 325 million copies in 64 languages. You can imagine how this has created a wealth to the author of the series, J.K. Rowling (above photo) – that when writing the first volume she was a struggling single mother, writing in cafés to save on the heating bill at home, but now she is worth \$1 billion, being the richest woman in Britain and having a house in London, one in Edinburgh and one also in the Scottish countryside. For the present volume, in the United States alone, the first print run was 12 million copies – just think the first print run of the first volume was not even 1,000! It was amazing that the security was done at its best during past several days so not to have the essential facts, most importantly the final fate of Harry, revealed before the official release.

Did Harry die? No, he didn't. My wife came in to report to me just now after having read the book continually from first to last page from yesterday afternoon until almost midnight today. I was right for having predicted in that line before. The postman came yesterday morning, admirably, to deliver the copy that I ordered from a bookshop since several months ago – to a great delight of the one who would read it.

But am I interested in the story of Harry Potter? No, I am not; it is kiddie. What I am interested, or better say, amazed, is his creator, J.K. Rowling. From being a 'struggling single mother' to become a billionaire in only 10 years as a 41er, she used only her imagination and writing skill as the capital to earn that money. When I hear or read about her I have a feeling that I cannot rightly describe whether it is 'admire' or 'envy' but absolutely NOT 'jealous.'

The essential thing is that the success of the series is a 'once in a lifetime phenomenon' and to work for it is a 'lifetime experience', as she admits. But all in all, many times success of someone has stemmed from a triggering mechanism. I used to describe such thing when lecturing about soil and water conservation, that when such mechanism just 'hits the right cord', everything will go on its way by itself. For J.K., she got her imagination of a neglected, bespectacled orphan who learns on his 11th birthday that he is a wizard while she was traveling by train across England in 1990. That imagination came into the story that Harry became an orphan when one-year old as his parents got killed, and on and on.... When readers started to accept it, she could go on until finishing it off when the time fits well.

When someone asked her what she would do next, she said, "I can never write anything as popular again, lightning does not strike in the same place twice. But I'll do exactly what I did with Harry — I'll write what I really want to write, and if it's something similar, that's OK, and if it's something very different, that's OK. I just really want to fall in love with an idea again, and go with that."

I wish every member of WASWC to catch a striking idea and can take off like what J.K. Rowling has done. (Materials to compose this article were taken from the New York Times article 'Rowling Bids Her Boy Wizard Good Bye' of July 20, 2007.)

AWARDS/PRIZES/FUNDS

▲ The [Global Development Network \(GDN\)](#), in cooperation with the Government of Japan, is now accepting submissions for the Eighth Annual Global Development Awards and Medals Competition 2007.

Submissions will be accepted in three categories:

- Japanese Award for **Most Innovative Development Project** (deadline: **August 20, 2007**)
- Japanese Award for **Outstanding Research on Development** (deadline: **September 17, 2007**)
- **Medals for Research on Development** (deadline: **September 17, 2007**)

The awards program offers prizes in cash and travel worth nearly US \$240,000. An award of US \$30,000 will be given to the institution whose project embodies a fresh approach to an important development need and benefits the poor in developing and transition countries. US \$30,000 will be awarded to the organization or individual whose proposed research in one of five selected topics holds the greatest promise for improving the understanding of development. The prize winner of the category 'Medals for Research on Development' will receive US \$10,000. Finalists of all three categories will be invited to present their proposals at GDN's Ninth Annual Global Development Conference in Brisbane, Australia in January 2008.

The competition is open for development organizations and researchers in Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, Pacific Islands, and the transition economies of Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

For further information on the application process and guidelines please visit www.gdnet.org/2007awards.
(From Gaby Tobler of Equator Net, gabriela.tobler@undp.org, www.equatorinitiative.org)

▲ Water Conservation Field Services Program

The objective of this Request for Proposals is to seek partners with whom Reclamation can partner in implementing improved water management/water conservation activities. All applicants seeking funds through the Water Conservation Field Services Program will be rated using the selection criteria in the full announcement. Funds will be directed first to irrigation districts that have contracts to use Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Project water or use Reclamation Project facilities. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Applicants may request any amount in Federal funding, however agreements are generally limited to a maximum of \$100,000. Reclamation retains the right to make awards on a case-by-case basis. **Deadline 31 July.** www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=14249

▲ A Call for "Cycle Two" Pre-Proposals

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) invites all interested parties to develop pre-proposals on any of the following ideas for Challenge Programs:

- (a) climate change, agriculture and food security;
- (b) high-value crops (fruits and vegetables); and
- (c) combating desertification (dryland degradation).

The CGIAR invites all interested parties to submit pre-proposals (with a maximum length of 15 pages) on any of these topics.

Who can participate: Pre-proposals on any of the three topics listed above may be developed and submitted by any organization capable of managing a major international agricultural research program.

Submission of pre-proposals: These must be submitted via email no later than September 10, 2007 to the following address: cpreproposals@cgiar.org .

More information at: http://www.cgiar.org/impact/challenge/cp_cycle2.html

FELLOWSHIPS

Travel Awards for 2008 Kirkham Conference

The topic for the 2008 Kirkham Conference is Soil Physics – Research on the Frontiers of Earth's Life Support Systems, being held on **February 24-26, 2008** at the University of California, Davis USA. We seek applications from graduate and postdoctoral students to participate and present a poster of their research at the 2008 Kirkham Conference. In addition to contact details and degree sought or post-doctoral position presently held, applications must include (1) a brief synopsis of professional and personal achievements and career goals; (2) title, objectives, methods and results and interpretation of proposed poster presentation, and (3) letters of recommendation from applicant's major professor or advisor and from another person selected by the applicant. The deadline for receiving all application materials including letters of recommendation and support is September 1, 2007. Applications and letters should be emailed as a single complete document to jwhopmans@ucdavis.edu Further details are here: <http://ag.arizona.edu/kirkham/davis.htm>

COURSES

August - , 2007

ANNOUNCEMENT ON IWRM e-Learning PROGRAM

The Regional UN-Water Virtual Learning Centre (WVLC) at Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand, established in collaboration with UNU-INWEH, Canada and with support from UN-DESA, is now inviting applications from prospective water professionals. The IWRM curriculum is Internet-based as well as CD-ROM supported. A complete training program consists of 10 courses given over a period of about 18 months. Each course is equivalent to 25h of lectures and will be given over a period of about 8 weeks.

Course#1 and Course#10 are delivered face-to-face at AIT while the remaining courses are given online or are CD-ROM supported. The core contents of individual courses have been developed in consultation with a large number of individuals from universities, private industry and government, working in various disciplines, with a common interest and experience in water resources management. Improvements in the courses will be done to further emphasize on environmental aspects of water resources management by adopting “water resources goods and services approach”, where the development assets of the aquatic ecosystems are the focus and approach directly links environmental sustainability aspects to national economic and social development aspects.

The program curriculum covers hydrology, water quality, terrestrial ecosystem, land use changes, aquatic ecosystem, water uses and wastewater, governance and community-based approaches and organizational infrastructure and management aspects.

The tuition fee for the whole diploma program is US\$5,000 per participant. Additionally, the cost associated with international travel, accommodation, living and other expenses for attending the Course 1 and Course 10 at AIT is estimated at US\$2,000 per participant for these two courses. This however will vary depending on the country of origin of the candidate.

The next batch of program is scheduled for August 2007. For more information on admission requirements and procedure, program structure, course contents, cost, etc., please visit <http://www.set.ait.ac.th/courses/wvlc/> or call us at +66 25245793 (Mon-Fri). Further inquiries can also be made to wvlc@ait.ac.th.

Extended Deadline for Application is **31 July 2007**.

We Accept Scanned Copies of Filled in Application Form.

Devesh Sharma
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Water Engineering and Management
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Fax: +66-2-524-6425
Homepage: <http://www.set.ait.ac.th/courses/wvlc/>

August 13- 31, 2007

Training on Participatory 3-Dimensional Modelling and Mapping, Eldoret, Kenya

INTRODUCTION:

ERMIS Africa in collaboration with **Moi University** has organised a training course on **Participatory 3-Dimensional Modelling and Mapping (P3DM)** in Kenya . The training exercise will be hosted by ERMIS College^[1] at Eldoret Town and **Sengwer Indigenous People Development Program (SIDP)** in Cherangany area in Trans-nzoia district.

Training Mapping Context:

The training is part of our collaborative research, training and development programme which is designed to capacity build indigenous people in Africa by equipping them with modern skills in spatial technologies and approaches towards safeguarding their territories, cultures, and natural resources as well as engagement in endogenous development. These initiatives have received donor support and for the 2nd time^[2], ERMIS Africa will be facilitating a community mapping exercise for an Indigenous Community “The Sengwer Indigenous People” who have received a funding from **Rainforest Foundation (UK)** to map their rights and entitlement over their ancestral territories in Cherangany Hills, as well as deliver the 5th Regional PGIS Training for development practitioners from Eastern, Central and Southern Africa.

Field Mapping Context:

Currently, the Sengwer Indigenous People have expressed concern over historical injustices by the colonial and post governments. Their plights have been climaxed by the decision by World Bank to fund the Kenyan Government for the establishment of “ **Western Kenya Community Driven Development and Flood Mitigation Project (WKCDD/FM) and the Natural Resources Management Project (NRM)**” without consulting and against their wish. The community has claimed that the project will adversely amplify the Government scheme to dispose them off their ancestral territory; enhance their omission from the country’s social-political and economic agenda; and accelerate the assimilative schemes into major ethnic groups. In a bid to safeguard their rights and entitlements, the 15 tribes making up the Sengwer Indigenous People, have planned to map their territorial claims. Community mapping teams composed of elders, youths, and children will, in an inter-generational knowledge sharing mechanism, map and document their ancestral entitlements (territories, landscape, culture, natural resources etc). The information generated will be used by the community towards advocacy for their territorial rights and entitlements over Cherangany hills and for engagement in endogenous development initiative.

Training Objectives

ERMIS Africa and Moi University will collaboratively facilitate the community mapping exercise and PGIS training sessions to build capacities of these indigenous people and development practitioners from the Eastern and Central Africa Region. This Collaborative PGIS Capacity Building Programme is designed to meet the following objectives:

1. Build the capacities of development practitioners and indigenous communities on good PGIS practice in terms of
 - a. Applying good PGIS technologies, approaches and Ethics within indigenous People’s context
 - b. Promote local and regional collaborative research, training and development among NGO’s^[3], Universities, CSO’s^[4], Middle Level Learning Institutions, and Indigenous People.
2. Facilitate indigenous people to generate spatial data and information on tenure, cultural, natural resources to:
 - a. Promote co-existence, sustainable use and partnership among local communities in the development and implementation of conservation strategies that affect their lands, territories, waters, and cultures.

- b. Enhance drawing of agreements that respect the rights and recognise the responsibility of indigenous people to conserve biodiversity, ecological integrity, and natural resources harboured in those protected areas.
- c. Boost decentralisation, participation, transparency, and capacity building in all matters pertaining to the mutual interest of protected areas and of indigenous and other traditional people.
- d. Advance full and equitable sharing of benefit associated with protected territorial areas with due recognition to the rights of other legitimate stakeholders

Upon delivery of the training course, we expect the participating development practitioners to replicate the efforts within their local context towards utilising good PGIS practice in supporting communities to design, plan, implement and manage projects that safeguards their territories, cultures and natural resources as well as undertake endogenous development initiatives.

Training Programme

The training programme exercise is designed to include 3 sessions:

1. Contextualising PGIS: (6 days)
 - a. Ecological (Flora, Fauna and Watershed), Landscape, Tenure, Culture, Gender, Policy, etc;
 - b. Elementary P-GIS Practical Sessions
2. Field-based Participatory 3-Dimension Modelling and Mapping Sessions as well as GPS Field surveys (6 days)
3. Advanced Data Extraction, Map Composition and Information Sharing Technologies (5 days)

The venue of the training will comprise a mix of Classroom, GIS Laboratory, and Field work scheduled as follows:

1. **Session 1 and 3:** will be conducted at ERMIS College and Moi University , Department of Geography, Main Campus, Eldoret.
2. **Session 2:** will be conducted in SIDP Cultural Center in Kapolet Village , Cherangany Hills, Trans-nzoia district

An elaborate [programme](http://www.ermisafrica.org) is available in our website www.ermisafrica.org

While the Lecture theatres and GIS Laboratory sessions will utilise a mix of scientific expertise and participatory experience in grassroot projects accumulated over the years by ERMIS Africa and Moi University , the field-based sessions will utilise indigenous knowledge systems accumulated over generations by Elders, youth and children from Sengwer Indigenous People.

Participants will also experience a tremendously rich rural setting presented by the ecology, landscape, and sociology of Cherangany Hills.

Participants:

The training is designed for:

1. Community development practitioners
2. Researchers, Scholars and Trainers
3. Professional Aspirants
4. Government officers
5. National and International Observers

The training will accommodate **“ONLY 20 Participants”** to allow full interactive learning based on the first to register and make payment. No reservation will be done by mere submission of registration form.

Trainers: Joint facilitation will be done by High Profiled Researchers, Lecturers and Technologist from Africa and Italy :

1. Lecturers and Researchers from Moi University ,
2. Geospatial, Web and Decision Support Systems & Technologies Specialist from ERMIS Africa ,
3. Geospatial Technologists Volunteers to ERMIS from Italy

Course Certification:

Participants will receive a **“Joint Certificate”** by **Moi University** and **ERMIS College**

Reporting Dates

The training is scheduled for **13th to 31st August, 2007**. All trainees are required to ensure that they get to Eldoret in time for registration at 8.00 am and be in the lecture room by 9.30 am on **Monday, 13th August 2007**.

Tuition Fee:

The tuition fees for the course is **Kshs 30,000** for the entire duration of 3 weeks, for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa participants, while participants outside this geographic region will pay **Kshs 40,000**. Participants should send their bank slip sent so as to reach us on or before **5th August 2007**. Conversion rate to be applied | USD = Kshs 75 and | € = KShs 96 due to bank transactions.

Request for Payment details from

Mr. Julius Muchemi
Executive Director

ERMIS Africa

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E-mail: padmin@ermisafrica.org copy julius@ermisafrica.org

Website: www.ermisafrica.org

**Please make all Cheques payable to ERMIS Africa*

Field Trips:

A field trip is organised on **Sunday, 19th August 2007 from 9.45am to 4.00pm** to the magnificent Kerio Valley part the Great African Rift Valley. This scenic topographic gradation from a estimated elevation of 3000 m a.s.l to 1000 m a.s.l with a horizontal distance of 10 Kilometres give a whole learning, leisure and tourist experience on the ecology, geology, landscape, culture, socio-economic settings of the Great Rift. You will experience the ever snake-like meandering road network with a tremendous civil engendering workmanship, rapid transition from high agriculturally potential area (Mosop) through an elaborate escarpment (Lagam) and an extensive semi-arid valley floor (Keu) divided by sharp scarps; scenic satellite lakes formed from Kerio River that meanders all the way to lake Turkana, as well as other interesting social, cultural, political, economic settings. The Trip will cost USD 75. Registration for the field trip **MUST** be done by **Tuesday, 14th August 2006** and confirmed by **Wednesday, 15th August 2007 to allow good arrangements and field coordination.**

Transport, Accommodation and Meals

- Course participants will be required to organize for their own transport, accommodation and meals. Please access a [list of hotels rates in Eldoret](#) to help you in planning for your accommodation.
- Refreshment during the sessions (Tea and snacks) will be provided at USD 2.5
- Accommodation at Cherangany Hills has been Organised in Sengwer Cultural Centre Hostels USD 15, meals at USD 4, and teas and snacks USD 2.5
- ERMIS Africa may, upon the request of participants, organize for their accommodation (bed and breakfast). In this case, participants will be required to make arrangements dinner, lunch and local transport.
- Please contact us before 1st August 2007 should you want us to organize for your accommodation.*

Attached to this letter please find an application form, fill in your details and return it to us either by email or by post. Should you require further clarification, do not hesitate to contact us as well as visit our website. In addition, we invite you to join the “Community Mapping Network for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa ” through our site www.ermisafrica.org.

Contacts

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JOBS

We are seeking a Visiting Professor to teach both introductory and advanced level GIS classes at the University of New Orleans, School of Urban Studies and Regional Planning (SURS) for the 2007-08 Academic Year.

In addition to teaching two classes per semester, the Visiting Assistant Professor will be expected to work one-on-one with graduate students completing theses and final projects utilizing GIS. The strong demand for the MURP degree in the post-Katrina period has increased the need for having faculty resources available to students outside the classroom for advising and individualized instruction.

Individuals applying for this position must hold a Ph.D. (or be ABD) in Urban Planning or a closely related field. Candidates for the position should have a working knowledge of ArcGIS 9.1 and/or other ESRI/GIS products. Preference will be given to candidates with a demonstrated interest in planning practice and active involvement with the American Planning Association.

Current GIS courses

MURP 4081/4081G – Information Technology for the Planning Profession

In this course, students are provided an overview of computer-based technology widely used by planning professionals in demographic and land use analysis, environmental planning and development impact analysis.

Students are introduced to the appropriate application of information technology tools in the planning profession and gain applied planning experience using current spatial software.

MURP 4085/4085G – Visual Technology and Digital City Planning

In this course, students learn how local governments and cities use information technologies to address critical issue such as improving service delivery, management, policy making and planning activities. Local governments in cities and counties utilize more information technologies and visualization techniques to be more efficient in their management of resources and in their planning processes. The class is designed to build working knowledge and skills in terms of understanding, applying, and managing geographic information systems as well as other visual technologies within the planning environment.

Applications accepted until position is filled. Interested parties should send letter of interest, vita, and list of three references to:

Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee Prof. Jane S. Brooks, Chair Department of Planning & Urban Studies, University of New Orleans 2000 Lakeshore Drive (Math 308), New Orleans, LA 70148, Tel: (504) 280-6514 or 6519, Email: psimon@uno.edu

BUSINESS

The **Methane to Markets Partnership** is pleased to announce the deadline for submitting projects for the Partnership Expo has been extended to 17 August. Selected projects will be showcased at our upcoming Partnership Expo in Beijing, China, to be held 30 October-1 November 2007. In particular, we are looking for methane recovery or use projects in four sectors: Agriculture (e.g. dairy or swine waste management), Coal Mines, Landfills, and Oil and Gas Systems. We have updated the Expo Website with the poster and flyer formats we will be using to present these projects at the expo. Pictures and other information that would make your project more attractive in a flyer or poster are welcome and can be submitted to the ASG along with the templates.

Deadline Extended to 17 August! Please note that some projects submitted beyond the 17 August may be accepted but that we cannot guarantee that projects submitted past this date will be displayed.

For complete details or to download sector-specific project templates, please visit our project submission Web page at www.methanetomarkets.org/expo and select "Submit a Project". Completed templates should be emailed to asg@methanetomarkets.org. The ASG will contact you regarding the final product to be showcased at the event.

NEW INFORMATION SOURCES

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

Many or most of these sources can be had for free. WASWC members are encouraged to read through the following list and make your requests or purchases, whatever the case would be; this will help accelerate more exchanges of information among all players in natural resources management.

BOOKS

▲ Special Publication No. 3, “No-Till Farming Systems”

At this time the book, 280-300 pages of A5 size, will have 19 articles as follows:

CONTENTS OF THE NO-TILL FARMING SYSTEMS BOOK, **070719**

1. **Introductory paper**
2. **No-Tillage and Conservation Agriculture: A Progress Report**, by Rolf Derpsch (Paraguay)
3. **Carbon Sequestration and Environmental Benefits from No-Till Systems**, by Donald C. Reicosky (USA)
4. **Effect of No-Till on Conservation of the Soil and Soil Fertility**, by Jose R. Benites (Argentina/FAO)
5. **Environmental Impacts and Social Dimensions of Zero-Tillage Conservation Agriculture in Tropical Brazil**, by John N. Landers (Brazil)
6. **Roles of Annual Legumes in No-Till Farming Systems**, by Yantai Gan (AgriFood, Canada)
7. **Soil Fertility Enhancement in No-Tillage: An Example from Chile**, by Carlos C. Crovetto (Chile)
8. **Critical Steps to No-Till Adoption**, by Rolf Derpsch (Paraguay)
9. **Research on no-till farming systems in Laos and Madagascar**, by L. Seguy of CIRAD, and co-published by AFD, Paris, France
10. **Current Status of Conservation Tillage in China**, by Li Hongwen et al., Beijing, China

11. **Unique Conservation Tillage Tactics and Practices in the Semi-arid Northwest China**, by Yantai Gan (Canada), Gao, Huang and Liu (China)
12. **Status of No-Till Farming in India**, Soil Conservation Society of India
13. **No-Tillage in Europe - State of the Art**, by G. Basch et al., on behalf of the European Conservation Agriculture Federation (ECAAF)
14. **No-Till Research Findings in Mexico, Southern Africa and South Asia**, by authors of CIMMYT (Mexico)
15. **Status of No-Till Farming in Zimbabwe**, Isaiah Nyagumbo, Zimbabwe
16. **Facilitating the Adoption of Conservation Tillage in California**, by Jeff Mitchell (USA)
17. **No-Till Adoption Studies in USA and Canada**, by Ted Napier (USA)
18. **No-Till Practice and Increase in Organic Matter: a WOCAT Study**, by Hanspeter Liniger et al., Switzerland
19. **NEW BOOK: No-Tillage Seeding in Conservation Agriculture**, by John Baker (New Zealand)



In order to prepare ourselves to get familiar with this type of tillage we would like to make this publication available widely. We therefore would like to invite members of WASWC - both Individual and Organization members - to co-publish the book with us, which can be arranged in the way that co-publishers will pay only for the printing cost plus postage and their organizations' names and logos will appear in the book. The condition is only, that each co-publisher will order a minimum amount of 100 copies which can be

distributed among members of institutes/ societies/ research and implementing agencies or simply to give as a present during special occasions like New Year. The cost for printing the book plus postage to send to countries in various continents will be as follows:

Asia \$7/ copy; Africa, Australia, Europe & the Pacific, \$8/ copy; Western Hemisphere, \$9/ copy

Up to now, there are a dozen organizations that have pledged to co-publish with us and have ordered 1,700 copies. Other members are most welcome to join too. Then we are sure the technology will spread to many people and there will be a better chance that this no-till practice will be implemented wider soon – thus becoming a great boon to the conservation of soil and water resources.

▲ **Soil and Water Conservation Handbook**

Policies, Practices, Conditions, and Terms

A "ready reference" to hundreds of terms and topics related to soil and water conservation

Paul W. Unger, PhD

Retired Soil Scientist, Amarillo, Texas

■ **rave reviews** from your colleagues



"A VALUABLE AND UNIQUE BOOK. . . A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION to the literature that I am going to place on the top of my desk right beside my Webster's dictionary. . . I RECOMMEND THIS BOOK TO EVERYONE INVOLVED IN AGRICULTURE-policy makers, teachers, researchers, engineers."

—M.B. Kirkham, PhD, MS, BA, Professor, Department of Agronomy,
Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

"A STATE-OF-THE KNOWLEDGE COMPENDIUM OF BASIC PRINCIPLES AND TERMINOLOGY pertinent to prominent environmental issues of soil erosion by water and wind, surface runoff, dissolved and suspended loads, non-point source pollution."

—Rattan Lal, President-Elect Soil Science Society of America, Professor, Director,
Carbon Management and Sequestration Center, The Ohio State University

"The alphabetical arrangement of the topics in the handbook makes it EASY TO USE, especially for the non-agriculturist. . . A LIFE-LONG EFFORT BY ONE OF THE "GREATS" IN THE DISCIPLINE OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION. There is no other work like it to the best of my knowledge, and it is a legacy we will all appreciate into the long-term future."

—Dr. Gary A. Peterson, PhD, Professor and Head, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences,
Colorado State University

■ about **the book**

Save time and effort with this practical guide to all aspects of water and soil conservation

Soil and Water Conservation Handbook is a concise, compact encyclopedia of the policies, practices, conditions, and terms related to soil and/or water conservation. This handy A-to-Z guide contains descriptions of more than 700 entries, presented in a practical, non-technical format that's suitable for beginners as well as experts. It's a ready reference source of information for researchers, extension agents, policymakers, academics, and anyone else concerned about soil and water conservation.

Internationally acclaimed soil scientist Dr. Paul Unger has called on his 35 years experience researching the effects of tillage, crop residues, and soil management as well as his observations in more than 40 countries to assemble a resource on soil and water conservation that's concise but comprehensive. Sources for the book's main and secondary entries—many of which are cross-referenced—include technical journals, bulletins, reports, farm magazines, commercial leaflets, books, and Internet resources. **Soil and Water Conservation Handbook** also includes a detailed table of contents and an index, allowing quick and easy access to any entry.

Soil and Water Conservation Handbook includes entries that cover:

- climate characteristics
- cropping systems and sequences
- erosion types
- human factors
- management issues
- planting and seeding methods
- crop residue types and management practices
- soil and land conditions
- tillage methods
- water control practices

- and much more

Soil and Water Conservation Handbook is an invaluable reference for researchers, agricultural extension agents, Natural Resource Conservation Service personnel, educators and students, land managers, and farmers.

Publication Date: November 15, 2006.

Available: Available Fall 2006.

\$29.95 soft. ISBN-13: 978-1-56022-330-6 / ISBN-10: 1-56022-330-8.

\$39.95 hard. ISBN-13: 978-1-56022-329-0 / ISBN-10: 1-56022-329-4.

Pages: Approx. 254 pp. with Index.

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Categories: Agriculture and Horticulture; Conservation

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- Foreword (B. A. Stewart)
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- Traffic Ruts
- Underflow
- Water Control Practices
- Watershed
- Water Shortage
- Water Table Fluctuation
- Woodland
- Appendix: Common and Scientific Names of Plants and Animals
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▲ **Agricultural Sustainability: Principles, Processes, and Prospects**

Agricultural Sustainability: Principles, Processes, and Prospects by Saroja Raman, PhD, provides a comprehensive examination of all facets of agricultural sustainability, beginning with the history of the evolution of the concept to the present.

Challenges to sustainability are clearly presented along with practical strategies to counter prospective problems. This vital resource considers options for the future, as well as reviewing past approaches for their value in today's world. The book is extensively referenced and includes figures and charts to clearly explain data. Publication Date: 2006

Publisher: The Haworth Press, Inc.

US Dollars \$69.95 soft cover. ISBN-13: 978-1-56022-311-5.

US Dollars \$89.95 hard cover. ISBN-13: 978-1-56022-310-8.

474 pp. with index. Includes an Instructor's Manual (available for faculty only).

▲ Soil Solarization and Integrated Management of Soilborne Pests

Akhilbooks Id: 3834; ISBN: 8170353912

Publisher: Daya Publishing House, New Delhi, India

Publication Year: 2005

Format: Hardbound

Physical Description: x+657pp; tables; figures; 23cms.

List Price: \$75.00; Our Price: \$67.50

[Read Reviews](#)

Contact: "Akhilbooks" akhilbooks@rediffmail.com

Synopsis: Soil solarization is gradually becoming a recognized control strategy for soilborne pathogens and weeds. Studies, particularly in hot climates, have demonstrated the effectiveness of this method for protection of many vegetables, field crops, fruit-trees, ornamental plants and nursery transplants. Soil solarization causes chemical, physical and biological changes in the soil and thus provides effective management of soilborne pests, improves plant growth and development and often results in substantial yield increases. Successful field-scale application of pre-planting soil solarization, both in protected agriculture and in open fields, is under way in many parts of the world, substituting for chemical control or contributing to integrated pest management (IPM) programmes. In addition, post-planting solarization has been employed in established fruit-tree orchards and perennial crops.

'The Agricultural Groundwater Revolution: Opportunities and Threats to Development'

Editors: M Giordano and KG Vilholth, January 2007. Series Editor: David Molden, Volume 3, CABI Publication, Wallingford UK and Cambridge MA USA. ISBN: 9781845931728 [Order from CABI Publishing](#).

▲ New Monthly Landowner Guide to Buffer Success

The new Landowner Guide to Buffer Success is now available. The guide describes how to plant, maintain, and enhance the effectiveness of forested stream buffers to improve water quality. Made available through Pennsylvania's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), the new Guide provides month by month activities to ensure the success of a buffer, tips to save time and improve outcomes, instructions for invasive species removal, blank areas for making notes for the future, example photos, a summary of how forested buffers help streams, and a list of additional resources. www.crcwatersheds.org/var/resources/51-landownerguide_buffer.pdf (large PDF file)

▲ Better Site Design Handbook Available

The Center for Watershed Protection is making its Better Site Design Handbook available for free download. The Handbook outlines 22 guidelines for more environmentally-friendly development: changes to subdivision and land development and zoning regulations that will better manage stormwater, preserve and enhance existing natural areas, and reduce pollution in local streams. It provides detailed rationale for each principle, from basic engineering principles to actual vs. perceived barriers to implementing Better Site Design; examines practices in local communities; details the economic and environmental benefits of Better Site Design; and presents case studies from across the country. www.cwp.org/PublicationStore/bsd.htm

▲ Stormwater Management Pocket Guide Released

The Center for Neighborhood Technology recently released **Water: From Trouble to Treasure**, a pocket-sized field guide to help readers understand and advance green stormwater management. The guide gives community groups, homeowners, and others practical ways to capture raindrops where they fall that are simple, affordable, and can replace more costly conventional stormwater approaches. These green solutions include rain gardens, native vegetation, tree planting, rain barrels, and permeable pavement. It offers immediate steps for groups to get started without extensive funding, expertise, or fear of adverse consequences. <http://greenvalues.cnt.org/downloads/trouble-to-treasure.pdf>.

▲ Enhanced Water Quality Standards Information Online

EPA has upgraded their website that provides Agency guidance for administering state and tribal water quality standards. Containing EPA's 1994 Water Quality Standards Handbook, the website has been upgraded to provide over 100 new links to EPA documents and web pages with supporting information. It provides comprehensive guidance for implementing EPA's water quality standards regulation.

www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/handbook/

REPORTS

Water for Food, Water for Life: A Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture

The Comprehensive Assessment Book, "Water for Food, Water for Life: A Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture" is now with the printer. Read the [Summary Report](#) (PDF 5MB).

CA Issue Briefs and Research Reports

The following Issue Briefs and Research Reports can also be read now:

- o Issue Brief 8 "Integrating livestock and water management to maximize benefits" ([PDF 824 KB](#))
- o Issue Brief 9 "Sustaining inland fisheries: Synergies and tradeoffs with water for agriculture" ([PDF 680 KB](#))
- o Issue Brief 10 "Managing water by managing land: Why addressing land degradation is necessary to improve water productivity and rural livelihoods" ([PDF 657 KB](#))

Research Report 16, 2006, [Planning and Managing Water Resources at the River-Basin Level: Emergence and Evolution of a Concept](#). Molle, F.

Research Report 13, 2006, [Intensifying Agricultural Sustainability: An Analysis of Impacts and Drivers in the Development of 'Bright Spots'](#). Noble, A. D., D. A. Bossio, F. W. T. Penning de Vries, J. Pretty and T. M. Thiyagarajan

CA Partner Publications

[Effective gender mainstreaming in water management for sustainable livelihoods: From guidelines to practice](#), BothEnds Working paper series, December 2006

[Yield Gap Analysis of Major Rainfed Crops of Northern Vietnam Using Simulation Modeling](#). Chuc, NT, Piara Singh, K Srinivas, A Ramakrishna, NT Chinh, NV Thang, SP Wani and TD Long, Global Theme on Agroecosystems Report No.26

IPCC reports Climate Change 2007

The IPCC Fourth Assessment Report "Climate Change 2007" consists of three Working Group Volumes and a Synthesis report. The first volume is on the Physical Science Basis of Climate Change, and will be published in early June 2007 by Cambridge University Press. The second volume is on the Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, and the third on Mitigation of Climate Change. These two volumes are expected to be published by September 2007, also by Cambridge University Press. The summary for policymakers of the Working Group I report "The Physical Science Basis" is here: www.ipcc.ch/SPM2feb07.pdf

The summary for policymakers of the Working Group II report "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability" is available here: www.ipcc.ch/SPM6avr07.pdf

Information on the Working Group III report "Mitigation of Climate Change" is available here: www.ipcc.ch/meet/session26.htm

The summaries for policymakers will be translated into the official UN languages, i.e. Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. The translated versions are expected to be ready by October 2007, see the IPCC website: www.ipcc.ch

NEWSLETTERS

▲ THE RIVER BASIN BULLETIN July 2007



Welcome

News and views on integrated river basin management [IRBM] and water policy. A free information service from DHI Water Environment Health www.dhigroup.com.

▲ For Flora Culture International, write to „Claudia Stokreef" Info@FloraCultureinternational.com

WEBSITES (Mixed subjects – hope you will find some of them useful)

▲ Don Reicosky suggested us to access History Channel Plow video at

http://www.history.com/media.do?action=clip&id=mm_farmplow_broadband

▲ Stream Restoration Website

The Stream Restoration website, a community resource hosted by the National Center for Earth-surface Dynamics as part of its Stream Restoration Project, is now available online at http://www.nced.umn.edu/Stream_Restoration.html. The website includes stream restoration resources, a calendar of events and training, information on current research projects, and a Stream Restoration Toolbox that contains stream restoration models, code, and small applications that are useful for applied stream restoration projects.

▲ United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity is the sponsor of International Biodiversity Day. Read all about the history of the Convention and the rationale of this year's Biodiversity Day theme: Biodiversity and Climate Change:

<http://www.biodiv.org/programmes/outreach/awareness/biodiv-day-2007.shtml>.

▲ Countdown 2010 - Global partners working together to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss

Countdown 2010 is a network of active partners working together to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. The secretariat – hosted by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) – facilitates and encourages action, promotes the importance of the 2010 biodiversity target and assesses progress towards 2010. Their website has lots of information about the major steps that need to be taken to save biodiversity and about what countries around the globe are doing to slow the rate of biodiversity loss: <http://www.countdown2010.net/>.

▲ International Panel on Climate Change 2007 Report

Worried about biodiversity loss? The International Panel on Climate Change just gave us a lot more to worry about. In a seminal report on the impacts on climate change, the scientists outline how climate change affects ecosystems and species. In short, the report concludes that 30% of species face an increased risk of extinction if temperatures rise by 2°C. Half of all species are already altering their behavior or shifting their ranges in response to global warming, and a quarter of the world's coral reefs has died as a result of warming water. The impacts of climate change will not be evenly distributed: A rising sea level mainly threatens low islands and the crowded river deltas of southern Asia. Shifting rain patterns would halve crop yields in Africa and expose up to 250 million people to water shortages. All over, extreme weather events will become more frequent. The Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) summarizes the current knowledge on and the expected future impacts of climate change, and examines various methods of response to this phenomenon. Read the full report at: www.ipcc.ch.

▲ World Business Council for Sustainable Development – Biodiversity is good for business!

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is a CEO-led, global association of some 190 companies dealing exclusively with business and sustainable development. The Council provides a platform

for companies to explore sustainable development, share knowledge, experiences and best practices, and to advocate business positions on these issues in a variety of forums, working with governments, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. In 1997, IUCN and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development published *Business and Biodiversity - A Guide for the Private Sector*, and IUCN and WBCSD have joined forces with Earthwatch Institute (Europe) to develop a new Handbook for Corporate Action. The handbook provides information on the business case for biodiversity, as well as current biodiversity issues for business, corporate biodiversity strategies and key biodiversity resources. Read more about the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and download the Handbook for Corporate Action here: <http://www.wbcSD.ch/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectId=Mzc2>.

▲ UNDP Equator Initiative – Bringing communities together to innovate and share experiences

The Equator Initiative is a partnership that brings together the United Nations, civil society, business, governments and communities to help build the capacity and raise the profile of grassroots efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. A simple fact lies at the heart of the Equator Initiative's work: the world's greatest concentrations of biological wealth are found in the tropics, in countries that also have some of the highest levels of poverty. The good news is that communities are charting a path toward sustainability, creatively using biological resources for food, medicine, shelter and improved livelihoods in ways that raise incomes and protect the environment. The Equator Initiative champions and supports community efforts to link economic development and income generation with the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Read more about the Equator Initiative here: <http://www.undp.org/equatorinitiative/>.

▲ International Symposium on on Biodiversity and Climate Change: Links with Poverty and Sustainable Development – Hanoi, Vietnam, May 22 and 23

Sponsored by the German development Agencies GTZ and DED in cooperation with the Vietnamese Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), the International Symposium on Biodiversity and Climate Change fosters the understanding of climate change impacts on biodiversity and their links to poverty and sustainable development in the regional context. The symposium creates a forum for the exchange of expertise and experiences on biodiversity and climate change and provides participants with opportunities to discuss and assess emerging adaptation strategies and to construct a platform for networking and collaboration among relevant actors. For more information, see http://www.biodiversity-day.info/bday07_symposium.html.

▲ European Centre for Nature Conservation Produces Report on Climate Change and Biodiversity – The Role of European Regions

What are the impacts of climate change on biodiversity? How can biodiversity help in mitigating and adapting to climate change? What are the roles of the European regions to win the battle against climate change? These are some of the topics addressed in the newly published report 'Climate change and biodiversity - the role of the European regions', produced by ECNC -European Centre for Nature Conservation. The report gives an overview of the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on biodiversity, highlights key issues such as the major contribution biodiversity can make to adaptation and mitigation and identifies the role that the European regions could play in responding to a changing climate, including some of the key actions that they might undertake in relation to communication, policy and target setting and delivery. Read more and get the full report here: <http://www.ecnc.nl/jump/page/649/Climate%20change%20and%20biodiversity.html>.

▲ UK National Biodiversity Network Encourages Action on Biodiversity Day

From the United Kingdom's National Biodiversity Network: "Most of the images used to demonstrate the effects of climate change on an international scale involve non-UK species and habitats. We are only too aware however, of the changes taking place here, in the countryside and in our gardens. As more data is made available, the NBN Gateway will become an even more powerful tool for understanding changes to our nation's biodiversity and ultimately how we can act to try to counter these changes. 22nd May provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the impact climate change has had to date and to consider ways in which we can contribute to a brighter future." Read more about the National Biodiversity Network here: <http://www.nbn.org.uk/default.asp>.

▲ Earth Portal

The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) is pleased to announce the formal launch of the Earth Portal (www.EarthPortal.org).

Earth Portal is a comprehensive, free and dynamic resource for timely, objective, science-based information about the environment built by a global community of environmental experts: educators, physical, life, and social

scientists, scholars, and professionals who have joined together to communicate to the world.

In contrast to information from anonymous sources with no quality control, the Earth Portal is created and governed by individuals and organizations who put their names behind their words and where attribution and expert-review for accuracy are fundamental.

The Earth Portal includes:

§ [Encyclopedia of Earth \(www.eoearth.org\)](http://www.eoearth.org) has an initial 2,300 articles from over 700 experts from 46 countries, as well as such content partners as the World Wildlife Fund and the United Nations Environment Programme. The Encyclopedia is a means for the global scientific community to come together to produce the first free, comprehensive expert-driven information resource on the environment. The Encyclopedia includes articles, e-books and reports, interactive maps, and biographies, and will eventually be published in other major languages. Environmental scholars and experts are invited to become contributors to the Encyclopedia. [Click here.](#)

§ [Earth News \(www.earthportal.org/news\)](http://www.earthportal.org/news) includes breaking news updates from many sources, with links from key words to Encyclopedia articles, enabling readers to learn about the science behind the headlines.

§ [Earth Forum \(www.earthportal.org/forum\)](http://www.earthportal.org/forum) allows the public to engage in discussions with experts, ask questions and get answers, and to participate in community debates about issues that matter to them.

§ [Environment in Focus \(www.earthportal.org/?page_id=70\)](http://www.earthportal.org/?page_id=70) provides an exploration of a major issue each week – energy, climate change, environmental economics and other topics – led by a prominent expert in the subject and involving articles, news, places, discussions, Q&A, interesting facts, and more.

Following are few sites about water matters:

- In April, 2007, an international conference in Copenhagen on Managing Water Resources Towards 2012, convened by the Government of Denmark [DANIDA] and UN Water called for a “Roadmap for the Implementation of IWRM through 2015 and beyond”. Read the [Conference Summary](#) and the [Reference Document](#). It calls for 2008 reporting of IWRM actions and 2012 progress reporting on IWRM reform processes.
- One of the world’s most intractable basin problems, hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico from the Mississippi-Missouri basin, continues unabated. Recent news calls for on large scale restoration efforts in research, industry led programs, watershed restoration and public advisory meetings. For more information, see [website](#).
- Flooding in Bulgaria and Romania in the Danube basin [April 2007] prompted the World Wildlife Fund to call for urgent action to adopt a ‘work with floods not against it’ approach. The WWF [approach](#) calls for major floodplain restoration.
- DHI Water Policy, a new grouping within the DHI Group became a reality earlier this year. DHI Policy assists governments and institutions to address water resources problems through improved governance and Integrated Water Resources and Coastal Zone Management. It further acts as Advisory Centre for Global Water Partnership, Collaborating Centre for United Nations Environment Programme, Collaborating Centre for World Health Organisation and hosts the Danish Water Forum. For more information, see [website](#).
- Working with DANIDA and the Danish Water Forum in March 2007, DHI Water Policy developed a report on

transboundary water management, focusing on national commitment and stakeholder involvement, using the input from diverse basin stakeholders. The report is [here](#).

- Australia continues to be gripped by long-term drought with some encouraging signs it may be breaking in southeast Australia. Meanwhile the need for accurate water resources assessment and planning for water security remain. Australia's National Water Commission released July 2 the findings of the second stage of the baseline assessment of water resources for the National Water Initiative, Australian Water Resources 2005. Read the media statement [here](#).

▲ The 'Potsdam Initiative' and the G8: The meeting of the environment ministers of the eight leading industrialized countries, that took place in Potsdam, Germany, on 17 March 2007, focused on ways to preserve biological diversity and combat climate change. The environment ministers of the five major newly industrializing countries - China, India, Brazil, Mexico and South Africa - also took part in this ministerial meeting.

In conclusion to these two days of consultations the 13 ministers agreed on a 'Potsdam Initiative on Biological Diversity 2010'. The 'Potsdam Initiative' includes concrete activities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The measures in the areas of science, economics, trade and financing aim to significantly contribute to a reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. In addition, a global study was proposed, which should examine the economic importance of biodiversity along the lines of the Stern Review on climate change. This was supported by the recent G8 meeting earlier this month.

Camilla Toulmin, Director of IIED, notes that the proposed study could be "a major milestone that changes public and political opinion about the often-ignored links between natural resources and human well-being. Or it could sink like a stone, wasting a precious opportunity to focus attention on the degradation of our environment that lies at the core of so many of the world's problems.". The full text of Camilla's open letter to the G8 is available here: www.iied.org/mediaroom/releases/070608BiodivLetter.html

▲ The International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests (IAITPTF) is a worldwide network of organisations representing indigenous and tribal peoples living in tropical forest regions. The objectives of the Alliance include:

- 1) promoting full recognition of the rights and territories of indigenous and tribal peoples;
- 2) promoting the development of indigenous and tribal peoples and their participation in decision and policy making;
- 3) establishing effective networks between indigenous peoples at regional and international levels.

Recent activities:

The Alliance, in collaboration with the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON), recently launched the Indigenous Peoples' Network for Change Project. This global initiative is aimed at advancing the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by strengthening the capacity and knowledge of indigenous peoples to participate in processes surrounding the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant international instruments. For more information visit: www.international-alliance.org

▲ Department of Wildlife Management, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Tanzania: SUA is located in Morogoro town, 200 km to the west of Dar es Salaam. The Department of Wildlife Management (DWM) of SUA hosts both a bachelor and a master degree programme in Wildlife Management, while its staff is involved in a number of research activities. Noteworthy is the involvement in the initiative 'Advancing Conservation in a Social Context (ACSC)' and in the recently launched project 'Protected Areas and Poverty in Africa (PAPIA)'. For more information visit: www.suanet.ac.tz

Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society (GMTCS), Guyana: The goal of GMTCS is to ensure the future existence and population recovery of all of the four species of marine turtles known to nest in Guyana, while at the same time addressing the needs of the local communities. GMTCS is involved in several projects linking

poverty and conservation goals, like the 'Monitoring Programme', which aims to train the resident Amerindian peoples to be the stewards of the resources upon which they ultimately depend. For more information visit: www.gmtcs.org.gy

▲ Bees for Development, UK: Bees for Development aims to alleviate poverty through the promotion of apiculture. The main way in which Bees for Development achieves its aims is by serving as a global beekeeping network, compiling and distributing technical information, keeping beekeepers up to date with knowledge of events and training opportunities and putting people in touch with each other to share and learn. Furthermore, Bees for Development undertakes research, leads development projects and advocates for policy change. For more information visit: www.beesfordevelopment.org

▲ WWF Australia: WWF Australia is part of the WWF International Network, whose mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. WWF Australia is currently involved in an Integrated Land Management project in Northern Australia, which aims to establish sustainable livelihoods for local indigenous communities through cultural and natural resource management activities. For more information visit: www.wwf.org.au

▲ The Natural Capital Project: Launched on the 31st of October 2006 in Washington D.C., The Natural Capital Project is a joint initiative between Stanford University, The Nature Conservancy, and World Wildlife Fund. The development of this project was motivated by the recognition that traditional ways of calculating GDPs consistently omit the trillions of dollars of benefits that nature provides, and on which our lives depend. The Natural Capital Project aspires to provide maps of nature's services, assess their values in economic and other terms, and incorporates those values into resource decisions.

Among the outputs that the project is expected to deliver in due time are:

- * the development of new tools to incorporate the values of ecosystem services in decision-making. These will include maps of natural capital and innovative approaches, including private markets, to motivate and finance conservation;

- * the launch of an international network of projects that brings to life the promise of this way of reframing our vision of nature, applying understanding of natural assets and ecosystem services as a part of land-use and investment decisions;

- * increasing the impact of these on-the-ground projects by engaging decision-makers (from local leaders, to government officials, to financial professionals).

For more information visit: www.naturalcapitalproject.org

▲ The Role of Non-Timber Forest Products in Poverty Alleviation and Biodiversity Conservation: Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) play an important role in the livelihoods of the rural poor. While there is growing appreciation of the importance of NTFPs for rural households, especially of the very poor, there are concerns about the potential impact of NTFP collection on biodiversity. This conference, which took place in Hanoi, Vietnam on 11th -15th June 2007, aimed to explore these questions, identify successful initiatives and businesses that strive to be both pro-poor and pro-biodiversity, and determine what are the critical elements for success. For more information visit: www.cifor.cgiar.org/Events/hanoi_ntfp.htm

PHOTO CONTESTS

▲ [Experience Offers Students and Graduates Exclusive Experience for Life Environmental Expedition with Earthwatch](#) by: *Experience, Inc.*

Recent Experience survey results conclude, today's college students believe making a difference in the world is more important than achieving professional success, with nearly one in five students naming "environment" and "climate control" as the most pressing issues our world faces today. Experience has partnered with Earthwatch to offer students and alumni the chance to do both by applying to participate in an expedition with Earthwatch, the world's leading environmental volunteer organization. Entrants must submit an original photo and caption that best represents to them why it's crucial to save the environment. Entries must be received September 7, 2007 on Experience.com.

▲ In celebration of the 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Natural Resources and Protected Areas in October 2007, the [Snapshots of Island Life Image Competition](#) has been launched. The purpose of the competition is to capture scenes of how biodiversity supports livelihoods, culture, and Pacific economics.

The 3 different categories for the competition are general, youth and children. The prize for the general is USD\$300, youth USD\$200 and children. The entries should accompany a brief story of 200-500 words explaining the image through drawing, painting or digital images.

The competition is open to everyone and the **deadline is September 1, 2007**. All submissions should be sent to the SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. For further information please visit: http://www.sprep.org/article/news_detail.asp?id=363

For more information please contact **Kate Brown-Vitolio** at kateb@sprep.org.

▲ The [Consultative Group to Assist the Poor \(CGAP\)](#) recently opened its Microfinance Photography Contest. Photographers of all levels of expertise are asked to send photos that capture the diversity, dynamism, and impact of microfinance. Details on the contest and an online application form can be found via the following links:

<http://www.cgap.org/portal/site/PhotoContest/home/>

<http://www.cgap.org/portal/site/PhotoContest/entryform/>

Winners receive exciting prizes and will have their winning images displayed worldwide. The winning photos of last year can be viewed at www.cgap.org/photocontest.

For further information regarding the Photo Contest, download [this brochure \(pdf\)](#), or contact the CGAP Photo Contest team at photocontest@cgap.org.

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

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

IMPORTANT: We can publicize your stuffs in Word better than in pdf.

MEETINGS 2007

August 12-17, 2007

Sixth Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management. Guatemala City, Guatemala.
Organizer: Government of Guatemala and the Inter-American Water Resources Network. [Website](#).

August 19-23, 2007

[International Symposium on Forest Soils and Ecosystem Health](#), Queensland, Australia

August 26-28, 2007

10th Iranian Congress of Soil Science, Karaja, Iran. Contact: [Iranian Society of Soil Science, Teheran, Iran](#)

August 27-28, 2007

Greetings from South Africa!

I represent Kishima Productions, a business Intelligence firms specializing in providing business to business information and strategic solutions to governments, and various organizations in form of conferences and themed events, we are hosting our inaugural International conference on **Climate Change, Energy and Environmental Management 2007** held at **Ingwenya Country Escape**, on the 27th & 28th of August 2007.

I have attached a copy for your attention and look forwards to welcoming you at the conference.

Please indicate how many delegates you would like to send by filling out the **Registration Form** and faxing it back to **0866272067**.

Book before the 29th of July and qualify for up to 20% discount!

Best Regards

Lewis Kabamba

Regional Sales Manager

Kishima Productions

Tel: +27 21 712 9067

www.kishima.co.za

September 3-6, 2007

[The Third International Conference on Climate and Water](#) Helsinki Finland

September 03-07, 2007

[IPW5 5th International Phosphorus Workshop-"Diffuse Phosphorus Loss Risk Assessment, Mitigation Options and Ecological Effects in River Basins"](#), Silkeborg, Denmark

September 05-07, 2007

[ECOSUD 2007: Sixth International Conference on Ecosystems and Sustainable Development](#) Coimbra, Portugal

September 15-17, 2007 and September 20-22, 2007

You could submit your papers until July 31 for the WSEAS Conferences in Beijing and Lanzhou, China,

1st WSEAS Int. Conf. on ENVIRONMENT and DEVELOPMENT (ED'07)

1st WSEAS Int. Conf. on ENGINEERING MECHANICS, STRUCTURES, ENGINEERING GEOLOGY (EMEG '07)

1st WSEAS Int. Conf. on URBAN PLANNING and TRANSPORTATION (UPT '07)

1st WSEAS Int. Symposium on Railway Engineering and Management

See: www.wseas.org

Publications of accepted papers:

(A) Book with ISBN and ISSN indexed by the major Citation Indices (including ISI):
www.worldses.org/indexes

(B) CD-ROM Proceedings with pages' numbers with ISBN and ISSN indexed by the major Citation Indices:
www.worldses.org/indexes

September 25-28, 2007



The poster features a header with four landscape photographs: a riverbank, a forest stream, a rocky gorge, and a river winding through a valley. Below the images, the text reads: "First Announcement and Call for papers INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE „EROSION AND TORRENT CONTROL AS A FACTOR IN SUSTAINABLE RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT“ 25-28 September 2007 Belgrade – Serbia". It lists the initiator as the Faculty of Forestry at Belgrade University, marking 100 years of experience. Organizers include WASWC and WASER. The conference aligns with UNESCO's International Sediment Initiative. Sponsors include the Public Water Management Company SRBIJAVODE, the Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management.

Contact: Prof. Stanimir Kostadinov, kost@eunet.yu, kost@yubc.net

October 22-26, 2007

Third Southeast Asia Water Forum. Kuala Lumpur. [Website](#).

October 23-26, 2007

Joint UNECE, UNDP and OSCE workshops on river basin organizations, water governance and regional networking. Almaty, Kazakhstan. [Announcement](#).

October 28-November 02, 2007

[Second International Symposium On Soil Water Measurement Using Capacitance, Impedance and Time Domain Transmission](#), Beltsville, MD, USA

2007國際坡地防災研討會

2007 International Conference on Slopeland Disaster Mitigation



29-30 October, 2007, Taipei, TAIWAN

Post-Conference **Field Trip** on **31 October-1 November, 2007**

Invitation

I am pleased to inform WASWC members that the "International Conference on Slopeland Disaster Mitigation," will be held from October 29 to 30, 2007 in Taiwan. The conference topics include systems administrations frameworks, mitigation engineering, education system and early warning systems for slopeland disaster mitigation. The experience and issue on soil and water conservation among different countries will also be discussed during the conference.

We look forward to welcoming you in Taiwan.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Su-Chin Chen'.

Su-Chin Chen, Ph.D.

Professor and Chairman

Department of Soil and Water Conservation

National Chung-Hsing University, Taichung 402, TAIWAN

Secretary, Organizing Committee of the Conference

scchen@nchu.edu.tw

November 4-9, 2007

UNESCO IHP-HELP Symposium: "HELP in Action". Local Solutions to Global Water Problems. Lessons from the South. South Africa, Gauteng. [Website](#).

November 12-15, 2007

International Conference on Adaptive & Integrated Water Management. Basel, Switzerland [Conference Announcement](#).

November 12-17, 2007

WOCAT Workshop and Steering Meeting, Bohol, The Philippines

More details in the next issue. Contact: Romeo Labios, romylabios@yahoo.com

December 3-7, 2007



**International Symposium on Tropical soils submitted to direct sowing under
vegetal cover, Antananarivo, Madagascar, 3-7 December 2007**
Organized by IRD Madagascar, CIRAD, GSDM, FOFIFA

The objective of this symposium is to exchange between different countries various experiences about direct sowing under vegetal cover considered as durable management technology for tropical soils.

The deadline for abstract is: **15 May 2007**, but it is still open for poster papers. There is no registration fee for participants. For more information, please contact Prof Lilia Rabearisoa (lrabehar@refer.mg) or Dr Christian FELLER, IRD Madagascar (christian.feller@ird.fr)

December 12-14, 2007

Tenth Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) on Sustainable Solutions: A Spotlight on South Asian Research, Islamabad, Pakistan. The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (www.sdpi.org) is organizing a panel on "Poverty-environment nexus". The Abstracts should be submitted (400 words) until 25th of July. Travel grants may be available for South Asian participants.

Both developing and transition countries are facing problems of non-sustainable development caused by global disparities and the processes of global change/globalization. To counteract the problems global disparities, extreme poverty and ensuring sustainable development, the international community developed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000. Although these MDGs have provided measurable indicators, yet the issue of conflicting interests remains unresolved. For instance, the interface between poverty reduction strategies (MDG-1) and the goal of preserving the natural resource base i.e. environmental sustainability (MDG-7) is still open to discussion and being constantly re-discovered and re-invented. Accordingly, efforts are being made by various international organizations to bridge the gap between livelihoods security (poverty reduction) and environmental sustainability in a pragmatic way through development policies and interventions in the Southern countries. In this context, this panel aims at understanding the gap (or link) between development policies/interventions as formulated and implemented by donors, state agencies and NGOs on the one hand, and environmental sustainability and livelihood realities of the poor/marginal households on the other. We also intend to explore the role of the civil society and other stakeholders in these development policies. Contacts: Dr. Babar Shahbaz: babar.shahbaz@gmail.com, Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri suleri@sdpi.org

MEETINGS 2008 ++

April 7-10, 2008

International conference on "Banana and plantain in Africa: Harnessing international partnerships to increase research impact", Mombasa, Kenya, organized by IITA, in collaboration with Bioversity, FARA, ISHS and KARI www.banana2008.com

Fostering international partnerships is a major objective of the conference, with particular emphasis on establishing the role of research in promoting future commercial activities and trade in banana, plantain and enset. There is an urgent need to target basic and applied research that connects to existing and emerging markets. This unique conference will be the first pan-African meeting to link research to markets in an African context. We encourage you to visit our website www.banana2008.com for more information and updates, and hope you can forward this message to interested parties.

Mark your calendars, and hope to see you in Mombasa.

Dr. Thomas Dubois, Bio-control Specialist
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture www.banana2008.com
International mailing address (preferred): IITA c/o Lambourn Ltd, Carolyn House, 26 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR9 3EE, UK

Local mailing address and address for DHL purposes: IITA, P.O. Box 7878, Plot 15, East Naguru Road, Upper Naguru, Kampala, Uganda (mention +256 75 2 787801 on sending form)
Email: t.dubois@cgiar.org, Fax: +256 (0)41 285079, Phone: +256 (0)75 2787808, www.iita.org



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Purpose of the conference

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), in partnership with the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), Bioversity International, the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), is organizing an Africa-based conference that will focus on banana and plantain research across Africa: lessons learnt and the way forward. Fostering international partnerships is a major objective of the conference, with particular emphasis on establishing the role of research in promoting future commercial activities and trade in banana, plantain and enset. There is an urgent need to target basic and applied research that connects to existing and emerging markets. This unique conference will be the first pan-African meeting to link research to markets in an African context. Key priorities of the conference are:

- Develop an African strategy for the next decade to exploit banana and plantain research
- Strengthen research partnerships to overcome production bottlenecks
- Harmonize research with production trends, emerging markets and trade networks

Importance of the conference

An Africa-based conference focusing on banana and plantain production improvement is long overdue. Banana and plantain are key staple crops in rural households in Africa. In addition, these crops are increasingly being targeted for income generation, through improved linkages with the private sector. Research aimed at improving banana and plantain production urgently needs to be streamlined in order to fully exploit the potential of this important crop for poverty alleviation and income generation. The conference also intends to foster research and trade experiences from other commodities.

Likelihood of success and impact

The conference is being organized by a committed group of key players in Africa and beyond: IITA, KARI, Bioversity International, FARA and ISHS. As such, we have a formidable team of experienced researchers in banana and plantain and other commodities with relevant and transferable knowledge, spanning the full research spectrum. By emphasizing novel partnerships and stronger networks, constraints can be overcome and opportunities for the commercialisation of banana and plantain realised.

This conference aims to guide future directions for banana and plantain research on the continent. Conference contributions will be published as follows:

- A book of abstracts, which will feature all contributions during the conference.
- A special issue of an internationally reputable journal, which will contain all peer-reviewed contributed papers.
- A strategy document, harnessing outputs from plenary discussions and specific sessions, to provide a foundation for directing banana and plantain research in the future.

Conference outline

The conference will focus on three major themes: **markets and trade**, **production**, and **innovation systems**. Each theme will consist of a plenary session featuring keynote and invited speakers, breakout sessions to cover a broader range of key topics within the theme, in addition to special discussion forums to promote dialogue and an interactive environment. Internationally recognized experts will provide keynote and invited talks, ensuring the highest quality of speakers, presentations and papers covering both scientific

and commercial issues. Further interaction will be stimulated by comprehensive poster sessions and field visits.

Sessions within the themes will be organized by a Scientific Committee comprised of international leaders in the field as follows:

- *Markets and trade*
 - Competition and competitiveness on international banana markets
 - Consumer preferences: what do buyers want?
 - Banana markets and market segments: from global market dynamics to niche markets
 - Trade policies and market regulations
- *Production*
 - Responding to climate change
 - Genetic improvement for markets
 - Seed delivery systems
 - Plant health management
 - Intensification versus complexity
 - Post-harvest
- *Innovation systems*
 - How to get technology to the growers
 - Turning farmers into businessmen
 - Connecting farmers to markets
 - Boosting entrepreneurship
 - Privatizing the extension service
 - Lessons learnt from other commodities and continents

During the conference, each theme will be led by a Moderator and supported by Conveners, who will lead the breakout sessions. During the final day of the conference, summary reports will be presented and used to develop a future strategy for banana and plantain research in Africa. This strategy will be published in a special issue of *Acta Horticulturae*.

Conference schedule

	Early morning 8.30-10.30	Late morning 11.00-13.00	Early afternoon 14.00-16.00	Late afternoon 16.00-18.00	Evening 19.30-21.00
Sun 6 April					Opening
Mon 7 April	Theme 1: Markets and trade				
	Global banana trends affecting Africa: keynote (1)	Markets and trade: Keynote (2), invited (3)	Breakout sessions (4): contributed papers	Posters / stands (structured around breakouts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussion panels ▪ Special sessions
Tue 8 April	Theme 2: Production				
	Keynote (2), invited (3)	Breakout sessions (3): contributed papers	Breakout sessions (3): contributed papers	Posters / stands (structured around breakouts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussion panels ▪ Special sessions
Wed 9 April	Theme 3: Innovation systems				
	Keynote (2), invited (3)	Breakout sessions (3): contributed papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Free ▪ Scientific excursion ▪ Leisure excursion 	Posters / stands (structured around breakouts) will be combined	

with lunch)

Thu 10 April	Strategy Keynote (2), invited (3)	Reporting by Chairs and Conveners from the themes (incl. posters): summary and link to overarching conference goal	Breakout sessions (unknown number): moderated discussions	Plenary session: conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Banquet▪ Prizes and awards
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About the venue

The conference will be hosted by Leisure Lodge Beach & Golf Resort (www.leisurelodgeresort.com) on a spectacular stretch of the Kenyan coast south of Mombasa town, with access to some of the most stunning marine sites on the East African coast. The Resort is of the highest standard with state-of-the-art conference and recreational facilities, and guarantees total privacy and tranquillity. A superb package of pre- and post-conference tours is available for delegates and their families.

Conference facilities of the Resort are excellent. All of the six conference rooms are fully air-conditioned, and range from the intimate Oasis Villa, seating 15 people, to the grand Dr. Meister Hall, seating 700 people. During the conference, high-speed wireless internet will be made freely available to participants.

Leisure Lodge Beach & Golf Resort is the only world class hotel on Kenya's south coast with a championship golf course, a choice of first class accommodations, entertainment and recreational facilities to suit the most discerning guests. Other sport facilities include: four large pools, a diving school, deep-sea fishing, dolphin safaris, snorkelling, two flood-lit clay tennis courts, a windsurfing school, a health club, beach volleyball, water polo and table tennis.

From the Resort, excursions to experience the African wildlife are plentiful and can be easily arranged using the in-house tour office.

Costs and registration

Costs for attending this conference have been kept to an absolute minimum. Early registration costs 250 USD, while accommodation costs 70 USD per person sharing and 102 USD for a single, full-board, all-inclusive. Early registration will be open until September 30, 2007, after which the fee will rise. We therefore encourage you to register soonest via our website (www.banana2008.com). Our registration desk will be in contact with you and happy to answer any further inquiries or special requests.

Call for abstracts

We are looking forward to receiving your abstract for an oral or poster presentation, which can be strategic or scientific in nature. Abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. Accepted abstracts will be published and available during the conference. Based on the selection of the Scientific Committee, authors of outstanding abstracts will be invited to write full papers. These papers will be presented orally and published in a peer-reviewed issue of *Acta Horticulturae*. Abstracts should be no more than 300 words and include full addresses of authors. Abstracts will not be accepted after 30 September, 2007. Abstracts should be submitted using our website (www.banana2008.com).

We also welcome further participation from institutions, companies or individuals for special sessions, keynote speakers and sponsorships.

The Organizing Committee: Fen Beed, Daniel Coyne, Thomas Dubois, Dominique Dumet, Mark Hassenkamp, Stefan Hauser, Sarah Hearne, Margaret Karembu, Jim Lorenzen, Richard Markham, Frances Onyango, Abdou Tenkouano, Leena Tripathi, Wilberforce Tushemeweirwe, Piet Van Asten, Bi Vroh, Lusike Wasilwa

Details for further contact: please use the feedback form on our website (www.banana2008.com)

May 18-23, 2008

15th Conference of the
International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO)
Soil and Water Conservation, Climate Change and Environmental
Sensitivity

WASWC members who will attend ISCO 15 and wish to present papers in Topic 10 on any aspect of soil conservation legislation and policy please contact Dr Ian Hannam at ian.hannam@ozemail.com.au.

The Organizing Committee is pleased to invite you to participate in the 15th Conference of the International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO) to be held in Budapest, Hungary, May 18-23, 2008. Attendees will include scientists, university lecturers, policy makers, and stakeholders from public and private institutions and non-governmental organization throughout the world. Four days of oral and poster presentations and a mid conference excursion will make the conference an event to be remembered.

Conference topics include: Soil Conservation, Climate change, Land degradation, Land use change, Water management, Soil erosion, Salinization, Desertification, Soil rehabilitation and management, Socio-economic aspects of land degradation, and Legislative and Institutional aspects of soil and water conservation All interested persons are invited to give oral or poster presentations. Submission of papers require that one of the authors is registered at the Congress.

Venue: Budapest Congress & World Trade Center, H-1123 Budapest, Jagelló út 1-3.

Conference languages: English, French

Excursions: Mid-week technical excursion to Lake Balaton catchment (included in the registration fee)

Soil erosion problems of the Lake Balaton Catchment, the National Soil Monitoring System, and a visit to the terraced vineyards of Badacsony

- **The Great Hungarian Plain – Pre-conference excursion (2 days)**

- **The Vineyard Regions of Northern Hungary - Post-conference excursion (2 days)**

Preliminary programme

18th May – Sunday: Arrival & Registrations
Welcome Reception (in the evening)

19th May – Monday:
Official opening and participant
presentations

20th May – Tuesday:
Participant presentations

21st May – Wednesday:
Mid-conference excursion

22nd May – Thursday:
Participant presentations
Conference dinner (in the evening)

rd
23 May – Friday:
Participant presentations and closing ceremony

Registration fee

Through 30 Nov., '07 **390 €**

After 1 December '07 **490 €**

Registration includes:

- . • Conference program, Book of Abstracts & Conference Proceedings (on CD)
- . • Reception cocktail
- . • Coffee breaks
- . • Lunches
- . • Mid-conference excursion

Participation fees for pre- and post-conference tours to be announced.

For registration go to: www.isco2008.com/

Accommodations

A list of hotels of various price categories will be provided on the website. www.isco2008.com/
It is recommended to book accommodation in one of the suggested hotels because bus transfer to conference site will be ensured from these hotels.

Deadline for **(extended to) September 30, 2007**
receipt of abstracts

Mailing address: Geographical Research Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences H-1112 Budapest, Budaörsi út 45 Hungary. isco2008@imperialroads.hu

Contact the Organizing Committee: Ádám Kertész – kertesza@helka.iif.hu Tel & Fax: 36-1 309-2686; Alexandra Kovács, szandra@sparc.core.hu
www.isco2008.com OR www.isco.org

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Budapest in May 2008 at the 15th ISCO conference!

July 2-3, 2008

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

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

August 24-29, 2008

EUROSOIL Congress 2008, Vienna, Austria

EUROSOIL 2008 is organized by the European Confederation of Soil Science Societies (ECSSS) in cooperation with the IUSS and the national Societies of Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland. There will be 31 symposia, 12 workshops, several meetings and numerous pre- and post-congress excursions in Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland. All information is now available, including deadlines and registration form, under www.ecsss.net.

Call for papers: The call for papers for the EUROSIL Congress is open. Detailed information about abstract submission can be obtained from the EUROSIL 2008 Website: www.ecsss.net

You can submit abstracts for 31 symposia, which are listed on the Website, together with the exact instructions for submission. The deadline for abstract submission is 31 January 2008, which is also the deadline for early registration.

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

The WASWC Council highly appreciates the generous help from the following enterprises for sponsoring the publishing of the WASWC Special Publication III

“No-Till Farming Systems”

Syngenta AG, Basel, Switzerland www.syngenta.com/en/index.aspx

SEMEATO Farm Machinery Co., Passo Fundo, Brazil

www.semeato.com.br

Eijkelkamp Agrisearch Equipment, Giesbeek, The Netherlands

www.eijkelkamp.com

Donald Fryrear Custom Products and Consultants, Big Spring TX, USA

www.csrl.ars.usda.gov/wewc/bfryrear.htm

The publication will be available in 2007.