

# INTECOL e-Bulletin

## International Association for Ecology

### Activity of INTECOL Board

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The Board meets usually once a year, and this year the location was Utrecht University in The Netherlands on 6th and 7th April. The meeting was most kindly hosted by Professor Jos Verhoeven. Eight board members attended and two more were able to join our deliberations via Skype.

Our major forthcoming meetings were discussed in detail. The International Wetlands meeting in July in Brazil was in an advanced state of planning, and although there had been a number of small problems, these seemed to have been resolved satisfactorily, and the meeting appeared to be well resourced locally. Abstracts and symposia details were required by June 1st. The International Congress of Ecology in Brisbane in August 2009 was at an earlier state of planning, but excellent progress had been made already. Dr Craig James reported that some sponsorship had already been secured two Australian financial years ahead of the Congress. The plenary speakers had already been approached and the call for symposia had recently been made with an August 2008 deadline. The conference fee had not yet been set because a final decision on what it would include had not been made. It was expected that the overall attendance would be in the region of 2000.

There would be a programme of pre- and post-congress tours to regions of major ecological interest. Organising large meetings of these kinds is never easy and the Board members' role is to encourage the local organisers, to try to help them through their own experience, and to provide any other advice that they can. One decision taken over the Brisbane Congress following discussion was to increase the size of the International Planning Committee. Overall the Board members were very happy with progress in planning the Congress.

In early 2007 the Board produced a 'Vision Statement' for the future of INTECOL's activity. This outlined a number of possible ways ahead for our activities, but in August 2007 we received an unexpected offer from the Ecological Society of America (ESA) to provide some administrative support in return for a fee and over a period to be negotiated. INTECOL members will recall that we have not charged individuals a membership fee since we moved to our web-based system of operation.

There are of course costs in running any organisation of this kind, and in the recent past these have been met by modest profits from our major meetings and by financial and resource support from several national ecological societies. The Board spent a long time discussing the ESA's proposal, the advisability of charging an annual individual fee to members, and of INTECOL being seen to be linked closely to any one international society. In the end it was decided that there was an urgent need for a new strategic plan to be developed. A group was set up under Professor Rusong Wang and Professor Gene Turner to produce this plan if possible by the end of June. Members who have views about whether or not modest individual annual fees should be charged should write either to Professor Wang ([wangrs@mail.rcees.ac.cn](mailto:wangrs@mail.rcees.ac.cn)) or to Professor Turner ([eurne@lsu.edu](mailto:eurne@lsu.edu)) as soon as possible. Similarly your views about the desirability of INTECOL being closely dependent on a national society for some of its administrative functions are sought as well.

Other matters discussed included the financial position which at the end of our financial year (30th April) is in the region of Canadian \$ 80,000. It is expected that there will be some income from national societies in the current financial year, but this will probably not cover outgoings, and there is unlikely to be

any appreciable income from major meetings in the financial year 2008-2009.

The Board's composition was also discussed. It was noted that the President and Secretary General's term of office would expire at the end of the Brisbane Congress in 2009. The Board is seeking replacements, and suggestions for the new president should be sent to Professor Eun-Shik Kim (kimeuns@kookmin.ac.kr) and for a new Secretary General to Professor John Lee (j.a.lee@sheffield.ac.uk) by the end of June 2008. It was also expected that there would be some turnover in ordinary members of the Board, and that in any event it would be desirable to expand the present membership.

## Global Forum

### *Strategies for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development in China*

As a result of the fast economic growth in China, some fundamental dilemmas are arising. The gross domestic product (GDP) is continuously increasing, but the natural resources on which the economic development relies have been heavily exploited or even overexploited. This leads to perplexing environmental problems, including water shortage and contamination, air pollution, ecosystem degradation, and a tense relationship between humans and nature. The impacts of the aforementioned environmental problems are significant and multifaceted. They include damage to human health, social conflicts, and economic losses.

Although facing environmental challenges, China is struggling to harmonize economic development and environmental protection. The government has initiated many efforts to control the ever-worsening environmental problems. Establishing the complete set of laws, regulations, and management systems for environmental protection and strengthening China's protection of ecosystems and environment have been considered important for further development. By the end of 2006, more than 200 environmental policies, laws, and regulations had been proposed and enacted, including 58 environmental laws, 9 regulations on water pollution, and 8 regulations on air pollution.

At the same time, great efforts have also been made in ecological restoration. The Natural Forest

Any member who is interested in joining the Board should in the first instant write to Professor Eun-Shik Kim.

The Board is always delighted to receive ideas and suggestions from members on how we can improve what is the only truly international ecological society. If you have suggestions or want to get involved write to either John Lee or Eun-Shik Kim at the addresses above.

John A. Lee, President of INTECOL  
Eun-Shik Kim, Secretary General of INTECOL

Conservation Program (NFCP) and the Sloping Land Conversion Program (SLCP) are two examples. Furthermore, ecological agriculture has been widely advocated to improve agro-resource use efficiency and productivity and to alleviate ag-ricultural pollution. Furthermore, greening the production cycles for the fast-growing industry has been a top priority in China.

Although great achievements have been made for environmental remediation and sustainable development, China is still facing huge challenges including the limited reserve of natural resources, the already tense human-nature relationship, the strong momentum for economic development and urbanization, and so on. Thus, capacity building should be enhanced. Since 1992, China has put in practice a quadripartite program for overall coordination of the national efforts in the four aspects of population, resources, the environment and development, and achieved substantial progress both in national economy and social progress. China's strategy to nurture sustainable development is focused at the capacity building of sustainability and its main efforts are put in the following six realms: governmental regulation, living security, human resources, eco-environmental conservation, social development and S&T innovation. The strategy contributes much to the increase in the China's national capability building of sustainability.

Strategically, China is trying to establish an integrative decision-making mechanism for harmonizing the environment and economic development. The country is changing its mode of economic development, promoting a sustainable economy that includes resource recycling, and especially, has brought forward the concept of ecological civilization to tackle environmental problems.

Environmental protection and ecological rehabilitation depend largely on the development of science and technology. In the National Mid-Long-Term Plan on Science and Technology Development (2006-2020), key environmental research fields and priorities have been determined, including research and development of the scientific theory and technology system of circular economy, restoration of degraded ecosystem, comprehensive control of regional environmental pollution, human impacts of toxic and hazardous pollutants and controlling technologies, adaptation to and mitigation of global changes, etc.

China has constructed uniform environmental and ecological monitoring and impact assessment systems. An environmental monitoring network, managed by the China National Environmental Monitoring Center, is made up of 2,389 monitoring stations staffed by more than 46,000 technicians, covering all major parts of China. Environmental planning and assessment are widely used in China at different decision-making levels. The project-based environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been used since 1979 and great achievements have been attained in the past two decades.

For ecological monitoring, research and assessment, China has constructed the National Ecosystem Network of China (CNEN) which consists of 51 experimental stations including 18 croplands, 17 forests, 6 grasslands, 4 deserts and 6 aquatic types. It also has synthesis research center, germplasm resources, soil fertility network, and ChinaFLUX network. Core missions and objectives of CNEN are ecological monitoring (to continuously measure and record changes in ecosystem structure, processes, and function), research (to understand ecosystem dynamics and the underlying mechanisms in response to environmental changes and human activities) and demonstration (to develop and demonstrate ecological techniques and options to enhance and sustain ecosystem services).

On the basis of "The 11th Five-Years Plan," a series of environmental projects have been implemented by Ministry of Science and Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Natural Science Foundation of China, Environmental Protection Agency, etc., in the following areas including ecosystem monitoring and restoration, monitoring structure and function of ecosystems, carbon cycling in terrestrial ecosystem, ecosystem assessment, climate change and climate system model, biodiversity conservation, water quality, POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants), soil pollution control, cleaner production, lake eutrophication control, non-point pollution, air pollution and acid rain control, and so on.

(*Bojie Fu and Xuliang Zhuang, Bureau of Science and Technology for Resources and Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences (Corresponding author: Bojie Fu, bjfu@cashq.ac.cn; an INTECOL Board Member)*)

## ***The Gyeongbu Canal Project: A governmental plan for digging a new waterway through the entire Korean peninsula has brought hot oppositions from ecologists nationally***

### ***The ambitious plan***

The proposed canal project would connect the four largest rivers in South Korea by constructing three large-scale canals. The largest canal, the Gyeongbu Canal Project, would cut the length of South Korea, connecting Seoul in the northwest to Busan at the southeast tip of the peninsula. The newly elected President Lee Myung-bak hopes to boost the national economy by supporting

the construction industry and transporting commodities through the canal.

The Gyeongbu Canal would be one of the largest infrastructure projects in Korea's history, and would create a **540 km-long scar on the Korean landscape** as it connects Han River and Nakdong River systems. This project would require the excavation and constant

dredging of these rivers to maintain a depth of 6.1 meters, and would widen the rivers to as much as 300 meters in order to accommodate the planned 5,000 ton cargo ships.

### *Dangerous consequences*

The Great Korea Canal Project is further complicated by the fact that a huge mountain range running down the peninsula separates the two river systems. The project plans call for the construction of **26 km-long underground tunnel and a 17 km-long artificial, concrete waterway**. Despite the fact that final plans have not been drafted nor has an Environmental Impact Assessment been conducted (as required by law) President Lee pledges to complete the Canal during his 5-year term.

If completed, the canal itself and pollution from the heavy cargo ships would seriously **threaten the drinking water of 24 million people**. Seoul-Pusan canal is planned to be built on the Han River and Nakdong River which supply drinking water for 2/3 of national population. This project will artificially transform 553 km of the Han River and Nakdong River. It requires 19 lock gates and 16 weirs for the boats to sail and this means the rivers are cut off every 29 km. To build a canal which is 100-300 m in width and 6-9 m in depth, it is necessary to dig the river ground and line it with watertight material like concrete.

As a result, Han River and Nakdong River are under immense threat. They are the central flow of the nation. If a boat crash happens within the canal system, there will be unprecedented drinking water disaster. President Lee says his canal plans are taken after that of Germany that experiences hundreds of boat accidents in their canal system every year. In November 2001, Netherlands' tanker boat "Stoltz Rotterdam" caused leakage of about 800 tons of concentrated nitrates in River Rhine, Germany. In February 2007, a barge crashed to lock wall and leaked about 30,000 liters of oil in the Ohio River, United States. Pal-dang lake is a source of drinking water for 2.3 million people in Korea.

If a barge carrying toxic materials happens to sink near the lake, it will result in a catastrophe that is beyond our imagination. Korean government had invested 28 trillion won to improve water quality in 4 great rivers for the last 13 years. Additional 32 trillion won will be spent until 2015.

### *Weak resolutions*

The canal team argues that the water quality will be



improved by removing the pollutants from the river bottom. Polluted sections are very limited in Han River and Nakdong River. Digging the entire lengths of the two river systems, 540 km in total, for canal construction will destroy the self-purifying capability of the river ecosystem. Those who agree with canal construction say that the "weirs" do not cut the water flow. According to their plan, however, there will be weirs on every 29 km of Han River and Nakdong River. Their height will be 15 m at most (the Chamsil weir is 3m high) and they will nearly block the water flow and slow it down. Water retention days will be 5.6 times longer and water pollution is inevitable. The Youngsan River development project in the 1970s is a good example of disastrous failure. The water quality of downstream of the Youngsan River is as bad as level 4 to 5 at present.

### *Loss of biodiversity*

Linking two major river ecosystems that have been separated by mountain ranges would cause irreparable loss of biodiversity. These rivers and neighboring wetlands provide vitally important habitats for a number of endemic species. Indeed, the Ministry of Environment reports that **these rivers support 58 wildlife species** specifically protected by Korea's own environmental legislation. Globally threatened and endangered species that inhabit the estuaries of both



rivers and Upo Wetland, a Ramsar Site, will be in grave danger.

The Ecological Society of Korea (ESK) has recently announced its concern about this project. The Society has also censured the canal team for intentionally distorting the consequences of canal project. Lastly, it has proposed constructive suggestions to restore and



conserve the nation's precious wetland ecosystems. A great majority of citizens now join the ESK in the hope that President Lee and his cabinet members drop their environmentally destructive plan immediately.

*(Jae C. Choe, jaechoe@ewha.ac.kr, President of the Ecological Society of Korea)*

## ***Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution***

Approximately 200 Canadian ecologists and evolutionary biologists converged on Montréal in April 2006 to form the Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution (CSEE) / La Société Canadienne d'Écologie et d'Évolution (SCEE), [www.ecoevo.ca](http://www.ecoevo.ca). This bilingual society has since grown to 600 members representing all regions of Canada. Two-thirds of all members attended the first regular meeting at the University of Toronto in May 2007. More are expected at the 11-14 May 2008 meeting in Vancouver jointly hosted by the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and the University of Victoria. Future meetings will be in Halifax (2009, with the Genetics Society of Canada) and Québec City (2010).

The Society's purposes are:

1. to promote the study of ecology and evolution in Canada;
2. to raise public awareness of the importance of

ecology and evolution to Canadian society;

3. to facilitate communication between members of the Society and decision-makers in the public, private and non-governmental sectors;
4. to act as a liaison with Federal and Provincial funding agencies to support and promote ecological and evolutionary research in Canada.

Membership is open to any person who supports the purposes of the Society.

The Society maintains a list of experts to provide knowledge and advice on ecology and evolution. Local representatives in Canadian universities also advance the interests and purposes of the Society.

*(Douglas Morris, President, CSEE/SCEE, Department of Biology, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 5E1, Canada)*

# I. 8th INTECOL International Wetlands Conference, Brazil (20-25 July 2008)

Wetlands are threatened ecosystems, as clearly demonstrated by the tremendous deterioration and loss of small and medium-sized wetlands worldwide. The largest wetlands may appear to be better protected than smaller wetlands because of their extension and potential to buffer the many activities threatening them. The largest wetlands suffer additional threats, however, because the human population living inside them and in the vast catchments is large and their activities are diversified. Effective and efficient protection, therefore, requires complex and long-term management of the wetland and the entire catchment. The elaboration of such management often requires agreements between states or countries. These agreements should include, not only the wide range of activities that may affect the wetlands directly and indirectly, such as the use of water and soils, the development of industries and infrastructure, waste treatment and disposal, but also the harmonization of environmental legislation for the effective protection of biota. The 8th INTECOL Congress in Cuiabá is a proper forum to call for, among other aspects, special attention to these problems, because five counties are affected by major modifications within the Pantanal and its catchment, and downstream.



The 8th International Wetlands Conference will be held in the city of Cuiabá, Brazil, from July 20 to 25, 2008. Cuiabá - the geodesic center of South America - is located at the border of the Pantanal, a wetland shared by Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay. One of earth's largest floodplains, Pantanal is an annually flooded savanna ecosystem. INTECOL'S International Wetlands Conferences occur every four years and constitute a forum for the numerous technical sessions, allied meetings, and workshops about wetland research, education, conservation, politics, protection, management, and sustainability.



**Cuiabá - MT Pantanal Brazil**  
20 - 25 July 2008

Meeting web page:  
<http://www.cppantanal.org.br/intecol>

E-mail:  
[8thintecol@cppantanal.org.br](mailto:8thintecol@cppantanal.org.br)

INTECOL web page:  
<http://www.intecol.net>

Organizations



Sponsors and Support






**Conference Location**

Cuiabá, the state capital, and Várzea Grande constitute the largest urban center of Mato Grosso. The singular culture and the hospitality of its people are an added attraction for those who visit for business and tourism. A modern infrastructure makes it possible to host national and international events because of an efficient hotel network and the comfortable and safe convention centers. Cuiabá is one of the gateways to the 160 thousand square kilometers of the Pantanal. The Pantanal is one of the largest floodplains in the world and is the third largest environmental Biosphere Reserve. Its ecological importance is immense -- it shelters one of the world's richest wetland ecosystems of different types of seasonal forest and savannas that undergo periodic flooding. The abundance of animals makes the Pantanal one of the most propitious locations to observe fauna (especially birds) and flora and to fish (permitted from March to October). There are numerous opportunities to take trips on horseback, in motorized boats or canoes, and on hiking trails to fish and to observe wildlife. Photographic safaris can be arranged for those who wish to get to know the exuberance of the Pantanal fauna. Former cattle farms have varied programs and excursions to receive visitors who appreciate Ecotourism.



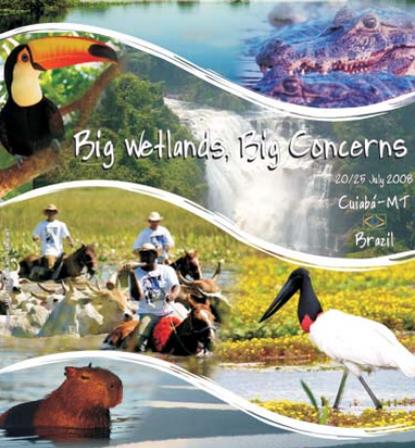
**Cuiabá - MT Pantanal Brazil**  
20 - 25 July 2008

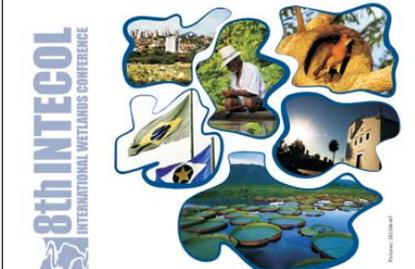


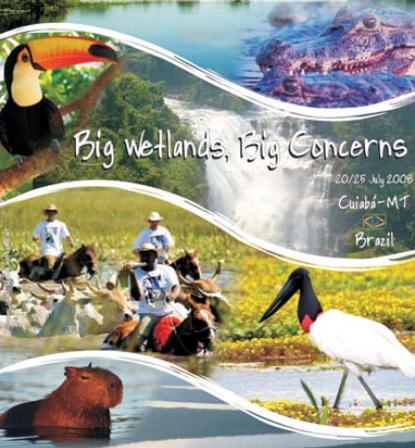
How to get there:  
by air: regular flights  
by land: via the BR-364 Highway  
Distance from Cuiabá to:  
São Paulo: 1.616 km  
Brasília: 1.133 km  
Belo Horizonte: 1.594 km  
Rio de Janeiro: 2.017 km



**Big wetlands, Big Concerns**  
20/25 July 2008  
Cuiabá - MT  
Brazil







**Deadlines for submission**

- Workshops : 1 June 2008

**Information:**

Centro de Pesquisa do Pantanal  
Av. Fernando Correa da Costa,  
Campus da UFMT - Bloco CCBSIII  
Sala 210/213 - 1º Andar  
CEP: 78060-900

Cuiabá - Mato Grosso - Brasil  
Tel: +55 65 3615 8285  
[www.cppantanal.org.br](http://www.cppantanal.org.br)  
[8thintecol@cppantanal.org.br](mailto:8thintecol@cppantanal.org.br)

## II. INTECOL 10 Congress: Call for Symposia Now Open!

The organising committee is delighted to invite you to attend the 10th International Congress of Ecology meeting in Brisbane in 2009. INTECOL holds international meetings every four years.

The tenth INTECOL meeting in Brisbane in 2009 is themed Ecology in a Changing Climate, Two Hemispheres, One Globe. Ecologists from around the world will explore how global climate change has impacted, and will further impact, ecosystems and their vital services to human communities. They will explore unique features of ecosystems in the southern and northern hemispheres but look for common elements in a search for solutions to this looming problem.

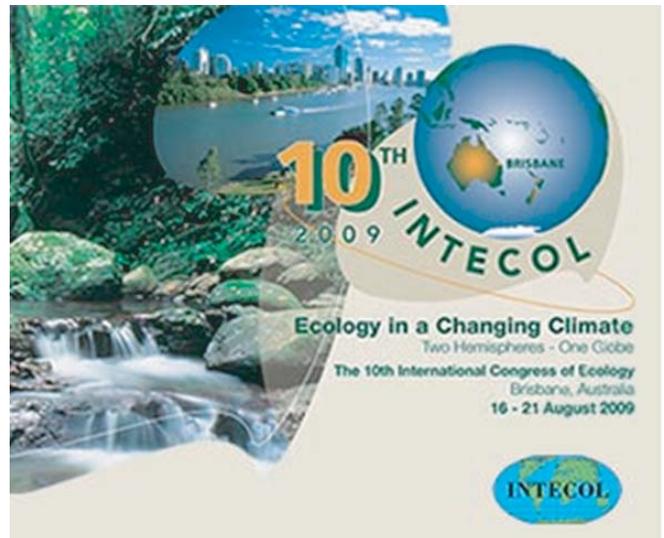
Symposia will represent all scales of ecology from individual organisms to landscapes, and report on a diversity of ecosystems from marine to freshwater aquatic systems and terrestrial ecosystems from arid to rainforest and from polar to tropical. For more information on the program please visit the website [www.intecol10.org](http://www.intecol10.org)

Submit your Symposia on the website right away! Act now to ensure your Symposia idea is submitted for consideration.

Call for Symposia: February - August 2008  
 Call for Abstracts: September 2008 - March 2009  
 Registration Opens: September 2008  
 Early Bird Registration closes: June 2009

### TourHost:

<http://www.tourhosts.com.au/eblast/v2/public/elist100.asp?456ELwq=280&AWQgdt6=489564AGBDcw52qwr>



INTECOL 2009 is committed to incorporating environmentally sustainable initiatives in its management and execution with a view to minimising the ecological footprint of the event.

Visit the INTECOL 10 website and submit your expression of interest to attend so you don't miss out on receiving regular updates about the INTECOL 10 Congress.

**Mark the dates in your diary:**  
**16 - 21 August 2009**  
**[www.intecol10.org](http://www.intecol10.org)**



Northern end of the western escarpment of the Bungle Bungle Range, in Purnululu National Park, Western Australia (Copyright Tourism Western Australia).

### ***III. The 7th International Symposium on Flatfish Ecology (Sesimbra, Portugal, 2-7 November 2008)***

#### ***Event Description***

The 7th International Symposium on Flatfish Ecology will explore the topic of environmental change effects on flatfish productivity. The thematic sessions programmed are:

- Impacts of climate change on flatfish population
- Impacts of habitat modifications on flatfishes
- Fisheries and aquaculture related impacts on flatfish stocks
- Biodiversity and ecosystem functioning
- Ecosystem management

**E-mail:** [ff2008@fc.ul.pt](mailto:ff2008@fc.ul.pt)

**Website:** <http://www.flatfish2008.fc.ul.pt>

#### ***Important Dates***

1 December 2007	First call for submission of abstracts
31 May 2008	Deadline for submission of abstracts
3 March ~ 15 July 2008	Early registration
2 ~ 7 November 2008	International Flatfish Symposium, Sesimbra, Portugal
2 and 8 November 2008	Workshops

### ***IV. BES Annual Meeting 2008, Imperial College (London, UK, 3 - 5 September 2008)***

The BES is pleased to announce that the 2008 Annual Meeting will be held at Imperial College London, UK. We will be adding more information

including registration and abstract opening dates, so please visit the following link regularly:

**Website:** <http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/meetings/current/2008annualmeeting/>

### ***V. The European Ecological Federation (EURECO-GFOE 2008)***

The EEF's 2008 Symposium on "Biodiversity in an Ecosystem Context" will take place in Leipzig,

Germany, from 15-19 September 2008. Find out how to register for the conference at

**Website:** <http://www.eureco-gfoe2008.ufz.de/index.php?en=15079>

New website: The new website of the European Ecological Federation is already launched. Access the site for information on ecological meetings across

Europe, postdoctoral and other job opportunities and information on available European research funding.

**Website:** <http://www.europeanecology.org/>

### ***VI. Integrative Acarology Congress (Montpellier, France, July 2008)***

European Association of Acarologists (EURAAC) organizes in Montpellier, July 2008 the congress "Integrative Acarology" devoted to all aspects of modern knowledge in mite and tick biology, ecology,

genetics, etc., on fundamental or applied research. Scientists are waited from Europe and other continents to share their knowledge.

**Website:** <http://www.montpellier.inra.fr/CBGP/Montpellier2008/>

## ***VII. 6th European Conference on Ecological Restoration (Ghent, Belgium, 8-12 September 2008) for "Towards a sustainable future for European Ecosystems - Providing restoration guidelines for Natura2000 habitats and species"***

The aim of the 6th European Conference on Ecological Restoration is to present the state of the art in ecological restoration in Europe and to bring together scientists, policy makers, practitioners and stakeholders. Through lectures, workshops, poster sessions and excursions the conference offers a unique opportunity

for the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices in ecological restoration and nature conservation in the Natura 2000 framework.

**Website:** <http://www.ser2008.be>

**E-mail:** SER2008@inbo.be

## ***VIII. International Conference on Nutrient Recovery from Wastewater Streams (Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 10-13 May 2009)***

Closing the loop for nutrients in wastewaters (municipal sewage, animal wastes, food industry, commercial and other liquid waste streams) is a necessary and sustainable development objective to reduce resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Chemistry, engineering and process integration understanding are all developing quickly and new processes are already coming online. A new "paradigm" is emerging, globally. Commercial marketing of recovered nutrients as "green" fertilizers, or recycling of nutrients through biomass production to new outlets such as bio-fuels, is starting to happen.

This conference will bring together the various waste stream industries, regulators, researchers, R&D and process engineers and commercial managers, to develop inter-sectorial understanding and joint projects for phosphorus and nitrogen recovery and reuse from waste waters.

Abstracts are solicited in particular in the following areas:

- Phosphorus and nitrogen recovery from different wastewater sources
- Process design and plant integration
- Marketing and use of recovered nutrient products
- Struvite, K- Struvite and calcium phosphate precipitation
- Ion exchange nutrient recovery processes

- P-recovery from biosolids incineration ashes
- Leading-edge research and innovative technology

In addition, there will be an Open Session, devoted to "new thinking" for this emerging paradigm, in concert with an expert panel discussion. Dr. James L. Barnard (2007 Clarke Prize) will be the Keynote Speaker and will address the audience during the Plenary Session, on the opening day of the conference.

The Conference Programme will also offer visits to phosphorus recovery installations (Ostara/UBC struvite recovery process) recently commissioned in municipal sewage works in Edmonton, Alberta.

This conference is hosted by the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of British Columbia (UBC) and chaired by Dr. D.S. Mavinic, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, UBC. Sponsors include:

- The University of British Columbia (UBC): <http://www.civil.ubc.ca/pcwm/>
- Global Phosphate Forum: [www.phosphate-forum.org](http://www.phosphate-forum.org)
- The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management: (CIWEM) [www.ciwem.org](http://www.ciwem.org)
- Ostara Research Foundation (ORF): [www.ostara.com](http://www.ostara.com)

**Contact:** Venue West Conference Services Ltd., Conference Secretariat - Nutrient Recovery, 2009, #100-873 Beatty Street - Vancouver, B.C. - V6B 2M6 - Canada

**Fax:** 604 681-2503 **E-mail:** [mmori@venuewest.com](mailto:mmori@venuewest.com)

## *IX. International Conference of Hydro Eco '2009*

**HydroEco '2009**

### **International Multidisciplinary Conference on Hydrology and Ecology Ecosystems Interfacing with Groundwater and Surface Water**

Vienna, Austria, 20-23 April 2009

#### ***Objectives and Scope***

Many ecological systems owe their existence to physical/chemical properties of groundwater and surface water, and can be damaged if water flow or water properties are changed by anthropogenic or natural processes. The ecological systems may be (1) the terrestrial ecosystems we see every day, such as the riparian systems along the rivers, and wetlands found in headwaters as well as in low land areas or (2) the subsurface ecological systems that maintain the groundwater that sustains so many people.

To address the resulting issues, this conference brings together engineers and researchers from engineering and ecological disciplines. The disciplines include, but are not limited to, hydrology, ecology, environmental engineering, biology, chemistry, geochemistry, environmental biogeochemistry, and subsurface microbiology. The unifying theme is the interaction between groundwater and/or surface water and ecological systems. A typical example is the hyporheic zone in riparian areas, where the ecological system interacts with water and chemical flows between surface and groundwater.

**Abstract submission by 5 September 2008**

**Website:** <http://www.natur.cuni.cz/hydroeco2009/index.php>

#### ***Goals of the Conference***

(1) To provide information that will help that interactions between groundwater, surface water and ecology are better understood, measured, simulated, and managed, and

(2) To improve the technological basis for policy decisions (including WFD implementation) related to the reconstruction of ecologically valuable environments and the use of water resources in these environments.

This conference will be convened by Universitat fur Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU), University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, International Commission on Groundwater (ICGW), of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), and Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic.

The Conference provides a contribution to the implementation of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP).

## *Training Course on Diversity of Marine Plankton*

**Location:** Observatoire Océanologique de Villefranche sur mer, France

**Event Type:** Training Course

**Event Date:** 2008-07-02

**End Date:** 2008-07-18

### *Event Description:*

A training course on marine biodiversity will be held at the Observatoire de Villefranche sur mer this summer. The courses offer experience with a wide diversity of marine plankton (phytoplankton, zooplankton and ichthyoplankton). We will deal with specific and adaptatives strategies of the organisms to the pelagic environment: nutrition, reproduction, in situ displacement, with a focus on the main ecological groups.

This course is based on the description of organisms daily fished in the Bay of Villefranche. The fairly high diversity of forms and number of species of zoo- and phytoplanktonic organisms, and their adaptations to the pelagic life are described and more precisely studied. Understanding the role of this biodiversity is rather important to understand the

functioning of the pelagic ecosystem.

The Observatoire de Villefranche has a privileged proximity (< than a quarter of an hour) to deep depth (no continental platform) which allow studies on open sea plankton as well as coastal plankton. Daily field excursions on research vessels are scheduled to manipulate sampling nets and others oceanographic parameters. Being a part of the University of Paris VI, it is equipped with teaching and hostelling infrastructures (classrooms, research vessel).

Courses are given in French but teaching material is often provided in English. These courses are open to all master students. This training course will be part of the EMBC Master from 2009.

Download brochure at <http://www.obs-vlfr.fr/Enseignement/master/UE/BPM/index.php>

**E-mail:** [laure.mousseau@obs-vlfr.fr](mailto:laure.mousseau@obs-vlfr.fr)

**Website:** <http://www.obs-vlfr.fr/Enseignement/master/UE/BPM/>

## *Call for Candidacies*



Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament de la Presidència  
**Secretaria General Adjunta**

## **The IV Ramon Margalef Prize in Ecology 2008**

The IV Ramon Margalef Prize in Ecology 2008 created by the Generalitat de Catalunya (Autonomous Government of Catalonia in the framework of the Spanish State), is endowed with 100.000 euros and its aim is to recognise an exceptional scientific career or a discovery in the field of the ecological sciences that has contributed to significant progress in scientific knowledge and thought, or to the development of theoretical approaches for the sound management of

natural resources, or land use or the sea. The Prize can be given to individuals (it is not awarded posthumously) or to legal entities or groups from anywhere in the world.

Candidatures can be presented, before 30th June 2008, by competent qualified representatives of universities, other higher education schools, research centres, academies of science or their scientific

subsidiaries, or by persons who have been awarded the Prize in previous years or by persons who have been members of the Jury.

You can find all the information on the Prize and this year's call in the web page [www.gencat.cat/premiramonmargalef](http://www.gencat.cat/premiramonmargalef).

**Contact:** Teresa Sala, Secretary of the Premi Ramon Margalef d'Ecologia

**E-mail:** [prm@gencat.cat](mailto:prm@gencat.cat)

## INTECOL, International Association for Ecology

INTECOL is affiliated with the ICSU family of scientific organizations as the section responsible for general ecology within the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). The association will assist and/or support the development of the science of ecology and the application of ecological principles to global problems, especially by assisting international cooperation; the collection, evaluation and distribution of information about ecology; national, regional and international actions which will serve ecological research, training of personal, coordination of general publications of ecological principles and the recognition of the importance of ecology for economy and society; the organization of conferences, meetings, symposia, programs and projects, conduct of speaking-series, publication of manuscripts, and measures which are deemed necessary to reach the goals of the association.

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### **Deadline for sending information of next e-Bulletin**

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Landscape of Suncheon Bay, Korea (Photo by Sun-Kee Hong)