

Agenda/Coming Events

15th GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FORUM.

Nairobi, Kenya. 12-14 May 2000



Convenors: IUCN, WRI, ACTS, BIONET, IPBN, WWF, UNEP, The Indonesian Biodiversity Forum, The Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew), IPGRI, SCBD, GEF, SPDA, ITDG, ELCI, RIOD, AMAN, ANDES, SDC, ADN, Kalpavriksh (India), Sobrevivencia (Paraguay)

The 15th session of the Global Biodiversity Forum (GBF15-Nairobi/COP5) will be convened in Nairobi, Kenya, on 12-14 May 2000, immediately prior to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP5) (Nairobi, Kenya, 15-26 May 2000). GBF15-Nairobi/COP5 will focus on the theme: "**Sharing the Benefits from Biodiversity**" and will have workshops addressing the following three topics: Biodiversity for Poverty Alleviation; Instruments for Access and Benefit-Sharing from Genetic Resources; and Agricultural Biodiversity and Sustainable Livelihoods: the Case of Dryland Ecosystems. The GBF provides an independent, open and strategic mechanism to foster analysis, dialogue and debate among all interested parties to address significant ecological, economic, institutional and social issues related to the options for action to conserve biodiversity and use biological resources sustainably and equitably. It contributes to the further development and implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other biodiversity-related instruments at the international, regional and national levels. It complements intergovernmental processes by: 1) providing a broad spectrum of perspectives, proposals and experiences from all stakeholders; 2) building diverse partnerships among stakeholders (including governments, indigenous groups, local com-

munities, NGOs and the private sector); and 3) identifying key issues and areas that require further development and attention. The Forum concept was initially proposed by the Global Biodiversity Strategy (WRI, IUCN, UNEP, 1992).

Interested individuals from all sectors of society are invited to submit 1-2 page abstracts of papers by 1 April 2000 for possible presentation at one of the workshops. Institutions that are interested in co-organizing a workshop are encouraged to contact the focal point(s) of the workshop concerned directly, or the GBF15 Coordinator. The following workshops are currently planned:

1. Biodiversity for Poverty Alleviation (Organizers: IUCN, Kehati, Kalpavriksh, Sobrevivencia, CARE, UNDP, GEF, World Bank, and others to be sought).

mailto:jam@hq.iucn.org

2. Instruments for Access and Benefit-Sharing from Genetic Resources (Organizers: WRI, IPGRI, The Royal Botanic Gardens - Kew, IPBN, SPDA, AMAN, ANDES, WWF).

cvbarb-er@ibm.net, ipbn@web.net.

3. Agricultural Biodiversity and Sustainable Livelihoods: the Case of Dryland Ecosystems (Organizers: ITDG, ELCI, RIOD, UNDP). mailto:donnr@itdg.org.uk

Registration and information: Laurence Christen (e-mail: lac@hq.iucn.org /fax: +41 22 999-0025).

The deadline for receiving the participation form is 20 April 2000.

For further Information: Caroline Martinet, GBF-Coordinator, IUCN-The World Conservation Union, ccm@hq.iucn.org

<http://iucn.org/themes/gbf/index.html>

From: the Ramsar Forum, May 2000

ECONOTICIAS. Revista de la Fundación ASIAÍN

La Fundació de la Comunitat Valenciana ASIAÍN, cuyos fines son la difusión de la cultura del respeto al medio ambiente para alcanzar el desarrollo sostenible entre los industriales y la orientación ciudadana sobre temas medioambientales, edita la revista trimestral ECONOTICIAS, que se distribuye gratuitamente entre las industrias valencianas, especialmente las PYMES. Colaboran con la Fundación:

Estudio de abogados ASIAÍN ASESORES, Ingeniería PROFILTA, S.L.,



Institutos tecnológicos AIMME, AINIA y AIDIMA, FEMEVAL, Estudio de D. Gerardo Urios y ATMM Natura, S.L.

El objetivo fundamental de la revista, de contenido jurídico-técnico, es formar e informar a los responsables de los departamentos de calidad y medio ambiente de las industrias, dando una información actualizada sobre legislación europea, estatal, comunitaria y local, así como sobre las últimas tecnologías disponibles para la mejora de los sistemas productivos. El contenido de la revista está enfocado para servir de: 1) Concienciación de alcanzar la Eco-eficiencia como una necesidad imperativa del desarrollo industrial; 2) Herramienta de trabajo para orientar y actualizar conocimientos del responsable de medio ambiente de las industrias (fundamentalmente PYMES por ser éstas las más desfavorecidas con la vertiginosa promulgación de normativa ambiental).

Leopoldo Vidal-Asiaín Bonacho.

Fundación ASIAÍN

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21 REUNIÓN ANUAL DE LA SOCIETY OF WETLANDS SCIENTISTS

SIMPOSIO: Ciencia y comunidades locales. Fortaleciendo alianzas para el manejo eficaz de los humedales. Québec, 6-12 de agosto de 2000

Ya se han realizado esfuerzos considera-

bles en varios países para involucrar a las comunidades locales en sistemas participativos de manejo de humedales. También se reconoce la necesidad de llevar estas iniciativas un paso más adelante e involucrar



a los científicos en los esfuerzos que realizan los manejadores y las comunidades locales. La ciencia debería ser siempre la base del manejo de los humedales, pero con frecuencia mucha de la información valiosa generada por investigadores no llega a las comunidades locales, y a su vez, las comunidades locales no tienen la oportunidad de hacer conocer sus necesidades a la comunidad científica. En este último caso, la considerable inversión de tiempo hecha en estudios científicos poco relacionados con las necesidades de los manejadores de los humedales y las necesidades de las comunidades locales, agrava la situación. Para el Simposio se invitaron presentaciones principales, que incluyen cinco ejemplos de las Américas y una de Australia, realizadas conjuntamente por científicos o manejadores de humedales y las comunidades. Todas las presentaciones hacen énfasis en experiencias donde los investigadores y las comunidades locales trabajan en coordinación para el manejo eficaz de los humedales. A continuación de las presentaciones se llevará a cabo una mesa redonda de discusión, con facilitadores, con el objetivo de estrechar los lazos entre científicos y comunidades locales y estimular nuevas ideas y posibilidades de colaboración.

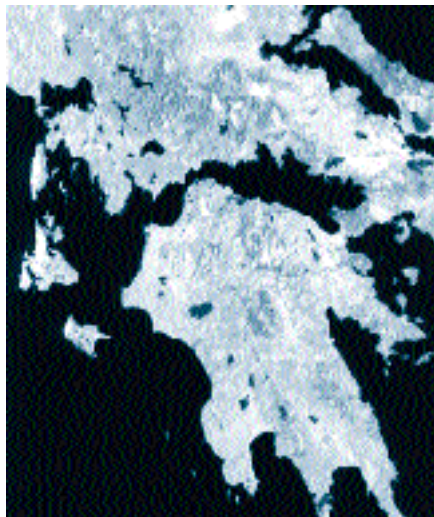
Los "Lineamientos para establecer y fortalecer la participación de las comunidades locales y de los pueblos indígenas en el manejo de los humedales" adoptados por Resolución VII.8 en la COP7 de la Convención de Ramsar, en Costa Rica (1999) serán considerados la base para este Simposio y serán el punto de partida para las discusiones. No obstante, el objetivo del Simposio no es hacer una revisión de información existente y llegar a conclusiones ya conocidas, sino el de mirar hacia adelante,

más allá de los Lineamientos de Ramsar. Estos constituyen un excelente comienzo pero su verdadero valor se encuentra en su implementación en el terreno. Ahora es necesario establecer el contacto entre el conocimiento científico y el tradicional, y el derecho legítimo de todos los interesados en participar en el manejo de los humedales a través de un proceso de consenso claro, confianza mutua y respeto incuestionable. Este Simposio pretende demostrar que ésto no sólo es posible sino que ya está ocurriendo en varios países de las Américas y en Australia, y que considerar la posibilidad de conservar los humedales de otra forma en la actualidad, es fórmula para el fracaso.

Autores e información: Nadra Nathi-Gyan (Trinidad y Tobago) y Larry Mason (USA).

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De: *the Ramsar Forum*, marzo de 2000



WORKSHOP ON GREEK WETLANDS, March 2000

The Greek Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, in collaboration with EKBY (The Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre), organised on 7-8 March 2000 in Thessaloniki a workshop dedicated to the dissemination of the MedWet methods and tools in Greece. About 50 representatives from the 13 Greek regional authorities were invited, as well as representatives of the central ministries. They included officials and staff involved not only with environment, but also with physical and development planning and management of water resources. The meeting was chaired by Mrs. E. Bassoukea, Director of Environment, and by Professor G. Zalidis, member of the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel.

Some of the most interesting presentations from EKBY staff included themes such as:

- Designing monitoring projects for wetlands.
- Inventory database and monitoring of wetlands.
- Management of soil and water resources on the hydrological basin scale.
- Restoration and creation of wetlands.
- Use of satellite imagery for hydrological purposes.
- System for decision-making support based on GIS data.

There was quite an emphasis (and discussion) on water resources management in relation to wetlands. A very interesting demonstration concerned the use of scientific tools for monitoring ground water level changes in the Anthemous River hydrological basin, and the importance of the results in managing water resources in the area sustainably.

The MedWet Coordinator, Mr T. Papayannis, presented the MedWet Initiative, its history, structure, current activities and perspectives.

The participants referred to a number of wetland projects, for which the regions are responsible, such as the new Kalamas Delta LIFE project in northwest Greece. They expressed, however, their worries about the low level of expert staffing and equipment at the regional level. The meeting then focused on the possibility of establishing a collaborative network among the regions and the central services, and the provision of information and technical support to the regions.

Thymio Papayannis, MedWet Coordinator



EUROPEAN POSTGRADUATE COURSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (EPCEM). The Netherlands, September 2000

The European Postgraduate Course in

Environmental Management (EPCEM) provides an advanced international training in environmental policy and management. In addition to specialist university education (at MA/MSc level), this can be an excellent preparation for the environmental professional practice.

EPCEM 2000/2001 starts in September and contains a training in knowledge and skills needed to solve environmental problems. An interdisciplinary research project and internship in one of the European countries are part of the training. Already more than 200 participants from over 30 countries, who since 1992 have received their supplementary Masters Degree in Environmental Management, are presently working at various authorities, consultancies, environmental NGOs, and research institutes. EPCEM is organised by universities in Amsterdam, Leiden and Wageningen (The Netherlands), Paris (France) and Debrecen (Hungary), in co-operation with other universities in Eastern and Western Europe.

To cover the course fee of NLG 25.000 (=11345 Euro) and living expenses, for specified target groups a limited number of grants (offered by a. o. Dutch governmental funds and the Foundation Open Society Institute) is available through EPCEM. Deadline for application is 15 March 2000, but in consultation with the EPCEM secretariat applications may be accepted until 31 March 2000. Candidates with own financial resources or sponsoring may be accepted until 30 April 2000.

Application forms and more information are available on Internet:

<http://www.vu.nl/ivm/>

EPCEM secretariat, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, epcem@ivm.vu.nl,

EPCEM co-ordinator: Ckees van Oijen, C.H.J.Oijen@frw.uva.nl

[Http://www.frw.uva.nl/org/epcem.html](http://www.frw.uva.nl/org/epcem.html)

From: *the Ramsar Forum*, march 2000

ACROSS THE WATERS. WWF's Mediterranean Schools 2000

The Mediterranean Programme of WWF holds every year, since 1995, a programme of training courses, broadly known by now as "the WWF Mediterranean Schools". The courses are designed to provide practical training to individuals from NGOs and No-profit institutions of the Mediterranean region, on relevant topics related to the conservation and sustainable management of the main Mediterranean ecosystems. They also aim to foster the exchange of

ideas, experiences and resources between individuals and organisations from different Mediterranean countries. The Schools are structured in an interactive way which



allows the participants -both students and teachers- to share experiences and knowledge related to the common patrimony of the Mediterranean environment, and subsequently look for effective, practical solutions to the environmental problems in their respective areas. They also emphasise the remarkable cultural diversity of the Mediterranean region, a unique cross-roads between Europe, Asia and Africa. The Schools have an average duration of 1-2 days and are open to 12/15 participants from riverine Mediterranean countries, Plus Portugal, FYR Macedonia, and Jordan.

June: The Sun School. Environmental education methodologies and techniques applied to Mediterranean ecosystems. It is held in the village of El Haouaria (Cap Bon, Tunisia) in collaboration with WWF Tunis Office.

July: The Blue School. Conservation and management of marine and coastal ecosystems. It will be held at the Centre d'Estudis del Mar, in Sitges, North-east Spain.

September: The Wet School. Conservation and management of wetlands and freshwater resources in the Mediterranean, taking place in the Natural Park of Delta de l'Ebre, Spain.

September: Silva. Conservation and management of Mediterranean forests. Ramlieh, Lebanon.

October: The Wild School. Managing protected areas in the Mediterranean region. Itinerant course covering several protected areas managed by WWF in Italy, and the Abruzzo National Park.

<http://www.atw-wwf.com>
ATW2000@atw-wwf.com

LIBROS/BOOKS

ANUARI ORNITOLÒGIC DE LES BALEARS 1998

El Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB) es un grupo de reconocido prestigio en el campo del estudio, la divulgación y la defensa del medio ambiente, en activo desde el año 1973. Esta entidad publica el volumen 13 de su Anuario Ornitológico de las Islas Baleares, correspondiente al año 1998. En esta edición, el Anuario incorpora los siguientes artículos científicos:

KESTENHOLZ, M., PETER, D.: *Patrons en la migració de limícoles en el Salobrar de Campos (Mallorca) durant la tardor de 1996 i primavera de 1997.*

CARBONERAS, C.: *Notes sobre la fenologia i selecció de l'habitat de la baldritja de les Balears Puffinus mauretanicus.*



MARTÍNEZ, O., PALERM, J.C.: *Avifauna de ses Feixes d'Eivissa.*

Entre las Notas Breves, el Anuario aporta datos sobre el *Estatus del milano negro* *Milvus migrans* (F. DE PABLO, J.Mª. PONS), *Recompte hivernal d'aus aquàtiques i limícoles a les Balears, gener 1999* (V. HEREDERO, S. CATCHOT, J.C. PALERM, O. MARTINEZ) y *Nou registre de nidificació del bec d'alena* *Recurvirostra avosetta al salobrar de Campos, Mallorca* (J. RIERA, M. SUAREZ). Por último, la publicación incluye una sección de *Registres ornitològics*, un *Informe sobre les campanyes d'anellament d'ocells a Balears 1998*, unas *Ressenyes bibliogràfiques* y Anexos con *Resum metereològic*, *Estatus de l'avifauna balear* y una *Llista de rareses*.

SEHUMED