



DIVERSITAS at a GLANCE

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This electronic newsletter is meant as a way to inform the community on all aspects of DIVERSITAS. It is published every 3 months. **Deadline** for reception of material for the next issue is **4TH May 2009**.

Please note: change the ‘_AT_’ by ‘@’ in the email addresses

A DIVERSITAS GENERAL

Second DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference (OSC2) 13-16 October 2009 – S-Africa

The DIVERSITAS OSC2 “Biodiversity and Society: Understanding connections, Adapting to change”, will take place 13-16 October 2009, in Cape Town, South Africa. (www.diversitas-osc.org)

Major deadlines:

The Call for Abstracts (oral, contributed papers or posters) is now open. To access abstract submission form and guidelines (only electronic submission is accepted): [web site](#)

Deadline for abstracts: Tuesday 31 March 2009.

Registration will open on April 2009 – Early rate until 31st July 2009

Contact: [Manuelle Rovillé](#)

IPBES

10-12 November 2008 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES)

DIVERSITAS has played a leading role in bringing the international biodiversity scientific community in this initiative, since it was first proposed in January 2005. Following up on the final recommendation of the IMoSEB consultation (Montpellier, Nov 2007), the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and its follow-up process, and decision IX/15 of CBD-COP, the Executive Director of UNEP convened this meeting to discuss all aspects of the proposed IPBES. DIVERSITAS was represented by Prof. HA Mooney, Prof C Perrings, and Dr A Larigauderie.

16-20 February 2009, Nairobi, Kenya

25th UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-25/GMEF)

Conclusions of the Kuala Lumpur meeting mentioned above were presented at the GC-25/GMEF meeting, which accepted IPBES. See paper UNEP/GC.25/15 for a report [here](#). Next steps include a second intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting for IPBES.

Contribution to 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity

DIVERSITAS is currently collaborating with the CBD secretariat on 2 topics: 1) Biodiversity targets after 2010 (Lead: Georgina Mace, Imperial College, London, UK); and 2) Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 (GBO-3), a synthesis and critical analysis of existing global and regional biodiversity scenarios (Lead: P Leadley, Université Paris-Sud Orsay, France).

Conference “Climate change: global risks, challenges and decisions”

10-12 March 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark

Two biodiversity related sessions will be held at this congress: “**Impact of climate change on the delivery of ecosystem services**”, co-Chairs: Hal Mooney (Chair SC-DIVERSITAS), and Anne Larigauderie (ED DIVERSITAS); and “**Biodiversity: Enhancement of resilience or Facilitating transformation**”, co-chaired by Mark Stafford-Smith, and Paul Leadley (co-Chair bioDISCOVERY). [More](#)

Workshop “Biodiversity and human well-being in Latin America and the Caribbean: identifying priorities for research, management and policy”

28-30 April 2009, Rio, Brazil

Convened by ICSU, DIVERSITAS, DiverSus and the IAI. Participants will discuss links between biodiversity and human well-being in Latin America and the Caribbean, from academia, government, civil society and the private sector points of view, with a view to make recommendations on priorities for ecosystem services management in the region.

[More](#)

Contact: [Alice Abreu](#), Director, [ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

B DIVERSITAS CORE PROJECTS AND NETWORKS



bioGENESIS

11-12 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

SC-bioGENESIS

16-21 August 2009, Brisbane, Australia

IntEcol 2009 Ecology in a changing climate: two hemispheres one globe

Symposium “The past as the key to the future: paleo perspectives on climate change”, organised by A Carnaval, S Cameron, R Bowie, and C Moritz (SC-bioGENESIS).

[More](#)

23-26 August 2009, Galapagos Islands

Second World Summit on Evolution (WSE)

Lucia Lohman, SC-bioGENESIS, will give a plenary talk. [More](#)

July 2009, Guernavaca, Mexico

Student training courses summer school on phylogenetic and evolution

Contact: [S Magallon](#), SC-bioGENESIS

April 2009

The bioGENESIS science plan is out! It can be ordered [here](#).

Donoghue MJ, Yahara T, Conti E, Cracraft J, Crandall KA, Faith DP, Häuser C, Hendry AP, Kogure K, Lohmann LG, Magallón SA, Moritz C, Tillier S, Zardoya R, PRIEUR-RICHARD A-H, Larigauderie A, Walther BA. 2009. **bioGENESIS: Providing an Evolutionary Framework for Biodiversity Science.**

4-5 November 2008, Brussels, Belgium

EDIT/SYNTHESYS workshop “Broadening the user base of natural history collections”

EDIT and SYNTHESYS held a joint workshop (SC biogenesis represented by S Tillier) on how and what natural history collections can do to broaden the user base of their collection services. The workshop brought together 37 participants, collection managers, conventional users, non-conventional users and other stakeholders.

[More](#)

bioDISCOVERY

11-12 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

SC-bioDISCOVERY

April 2009

The bioDISCOVERY science plan is out! It can be ordered [here](#).

Ash N, Jürgens N, Leadley P, Alkemade R, Araújo MB, Asner GP, Bachelet D, Costello MJ, Finlayson M, Lavorel S, Mace G, Mooney HA, Parr T, Scholes R, Soberon J, Turner W, Prieur-Richard A-H, Larigauderie A, and Walther BA. 2009. **bioDISCOVERY: Assessing, monitoring and predicting biodiversity.**

GEO Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON)

17-18 November 2009, Washington DC, USA

GEO Plenary session, GEO-VI

GEO BON will report on implementation and early products.

22-23 June 2009, Geneva, Switzerland

First SC-GEO BON

22-23 January 2009, Washington DC, USA

Interim Steering Committee GEO BON

Production of Terms of reference for Steering Committee-GEO BON

Agreement to formalize GEO BON Community of Practice (CoP)

GEO Members invited to join GEO BON CoP

Establishment of Working Groups to develop activities (implementation) matching the Concept Document.

ecoSERVICES

11-12 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

SC-ecoSERVICES

11-18 June 2009, Mexico City, and Oaxaca, Mexico

Opportunities for USA and Mexico based doc and post-doc scientists

BESTNet/ DIVERSITAS Workshop: Applications are invited from USA and Mexico-based doctoral and post-doctoral researchers in ecology, conservation biology, and the social sciences to participate in a unique training workshop in Mexico. This workshop provides 'on-the-ground' experience of community-based natural resource management as part of the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Training (BESTNet) program. [Call for applications before 30 March 2009](#). Successful applicants will have all their expenses covered to attend the workshop.

bioSUSTAINABILITY

25-27 May 2009, Nairobi, Kenya

Building Adaptive Governance and Management of Ecosystem Services under scenarios of change

Organized by T Elmqvist and S Polasky (co chairs bioSUSTAINABILITY)

28 May 2009, Nairobi, Kenya

SC-bioSUSTAINABILITY

New bioSUSTAINABILITY [web site](#)

agroBIODIVERSITY

11-12 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

SC-agroBIODIVERSITY

New project: European Learning Network on Functional agrobiodiversity

In January 2009 the European Centre for Nature Conservancy (ECNC), with agroBIODIVERSITY started to create the 'European Learning Network on Functional Agrobiodiversity'. The Network will provide a platform and facility for exchange of knowledge and practical experiences between EU Member States, farmers, policymakers, scientists, businesses and NGOs, to enable fast and effective implementation of best practices to help optimize agrobiodiversity benefits and promote sustainable agriculture. A Europe-wide register of agrobiodiversity projects, contacts database and collection of practical examples will be established, together with an up-to-date website. The project is funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM).

Contact: [Mirjam Pulleman](#)

9 March 2009, Wageningen University & Research Centre, NL

"Darwin's Legacy: Biodiversity as Natural capital"

This symposium is organised to celebrate the 150 years anniversary of the publication of Darwin's most famous book "On the Origin of Species by Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life", and especially the first chapter entitled "Variation under Domestication".

[More](#)

freshwaterBIODIVERSITY

11-12 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

SC-freshwaterBIODIVERSITY

16-21 August 2009, Stockholm, Sweden

World Water Week

freshwaterBIODIVERSITY Symposium: "Freshwater Biodiversity: A Hidden Resource for People". [More](#)

Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment (GMBA)

11-12 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

SC-GMBA

New GMBA publications:

Körner C, Spehn EM. 2009. **Data mining for global trends in mountain biodiversity.** CRC/Taylor and Francis.

Spehn EM, Liberman M, Körner C. 2009. **Cambios en el uso de la tierra y biodiversidad en montañas.** DIVERSITAS – GMBA - LIDEMA –Instituto de Ecología UMSA, La Paz.

Körner C. 2009. **Conservation of Mountain biodiversity in a climate change context.** ICIMOD conference report. ICIMOD, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)

DIVERSITAS and GISP are pleased to announce a new phase in their partnership! [More](#)

2-6 November 2009, Fuzhou, China

International Congress on Biological Invasions (ICBI 2009)

GISP is one of the organisers of this conference. [More](#)

22 May 2009

International Biodiversity Day

GISP will lead a series of events on that day, dedicated this year to invasive species.

C NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES AND REGIONAL NETWORKS

China

18-20 February 2009, Beijing, China

Chinese Forest Biodiversity Monitoring Network (Cforbio)

Organized by Chinese National Committee for DIVERSITAS. Main theme: maintenance mechanism of diversity in Chinese forests.

Contact: [K. Ma](#)

11 January 2009, Beijing, China

2007-2008 Chinese National Committee for DIVERSITAS

10-11 January 2009, Beijing, China

2008 Joint Annual Academic Conference of Chinese National Committees of WCRP, IGBP, IHDP and DIVERSITAS

Organized by CNC-IHDP. Main theme: global change and natural disaster-challenges with a focus on global warming, extreme events, risk to society, and sustainable development.

[More](#)

17-19 October 2008, Jinhua, China

Eighth National Symposium on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in China

[More](#)

France

Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité (FRB)

Visit the web site of FRB, the new Foundation for Research on Biodiversity of France, launched in 2008. [More](#)

Director: Dr. Xavier Leroux

The FRB acts as the DIVERSITAS National Committee for France.

26 March 2009, Paris, France

Comité National Français sur les Changements Globaux (CNFCG).

Contact : [Gérard Begni](#)

Germany

12 February 2009 - 13 February 2009, Bern, Switzerland

Second meeting of the European Alliance of Global Change Committees

Click [here](#) for more information

Contact: [Wolfram Mauser](#), [Bettina Höll](#) or [Christoph Ritz](#)

Morocco

26-27 November 2008, Marrakech, Morocco

Climate Change in the Maghreb: Thresholds and Limits to Adaptation

Final report and the "The Marrakech Statement" are now available from the [workshop website](#)

The Netherlands

21-23 January 2009, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Future climate-change response research: Learning from IPCC's Fourth Assessment (upon invitation),

See [ESSP](#)

Philippines

12-13 February 2009; Mindanao State University

6th National Research Council of the Philippines Mindanao Cluster Annual Meeting

Paper on Plant Inventory and Assessment: From Research to Development (by Dr. Amoroso).

24-29 January, 2009, Mt. Malindang, Misamis Occidental, Philippines.

Monitoring of Rainforestation Project

8-12 December 2008, Mt. Malindang, Philippines

Launch of Rainforestation Project in Mt. Malindang

The objectives of this project are to increase carbon sequestration, protect remaining forest and contribute to the reduction of global warming. Attended by Dr. Victor B. Amoroso, Chairman DIVERSITAS National Committee for Philippines.

Slovak Republic

29 September – 2 October 2009, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

15th International Symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological Research "LANDSCAPE - Theory and Practice"

Download [here](#) the first circular of the symposium.

Spain

10-13 February 2009, Costa Brava, Spain

Second National Biodiversity Conference

Organised by the Spanish DIVERSITAS National Committee (150 participants), with presentations on all aspects of biodiversity science, from taxonomy and systematics to ecosystem function and conservation, including applied, social and economic sciences. The next Conference will take place in Granada in February 2011. [More](#)

Switzerland

31 March 2009, Switzerland

10th Swiss Global Change Day.

We kindly invite you to participate in this special anniversary event of the Swiss global change research community.

Deadline for registration is 20 March 2009. [More](#)

USA

02-03 April 2009, New York, USA

Milstein Science Symposium: Exploring the Dynamic Relationship between Health and the Environment. [More](#)

Conference on Health and the Environment at the American Museum of Natural History

Contact: [Symposium organizers](#)

11-12 February 2009, Washington, DC

"Twenty-first Century Ecosystems: Systemic Risk and the Public Good"

The US National Academies symposium "Science and Policy for Managing the Living World Two Centuries after Darwin", organised by the US National Committee for DIVERSITAS was a great success. View the web casts [here](#)

D OTHER RELEVANT MEETINGS AND PRODUCTS



21-22 September 2009, Venice, Italy

11th Annual BIOECON Conference on Economic Instruments to Enhance the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

[More](#)

Contact: [Conference Secretariat](#)

31 August – 4 September 2009, Geneva, Switzerland

3rd World Climate Conference, Climate prediction and information for decision-making

There will be a session on Climate, Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management, on Wed 2 September. [More](#)

27-30 July 2009, Marburg, Germany

Impacts of Global Change on Tropical Ecosystems - cross-cutting the Abiotic, Biotic and Human Spheres

[More](#)

Contact: [Conference Office](#)

15-17 June 2009, Beijing, China

Workshop and Book Project on Vulnerability and Resilience of Land Systems in Asia.

Deadline for abstract submission is 27 March 2009. [More](#)

For enquiries, please contact [Workshop organizers](#)

4-5 June 2009, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

1st European Conference on Sustainability Transitions

[More](#)

Contact: [Conference Organizers](#)

1-3 June 2009, London, United Kingdom

e-Biosphere 09: The International Conference on Biodiversity Informatics

The Conference organizers take a broad view of "biodiversity informatics" and as a result, the Conference will be devoted to promoting interoperability of diverse data types, including those of interest to ecologists. [More](#)

Contact: [Conference Organizers](#)

19-22 May 2009, Průhonice, Czech Republic

EPBRS meeting

World Biodiversity and European Taxonomy - Strategies in taxonomy: research in a changing world

[More](#)

18 May 2009, Průhonice, Czech Republic

The objectives of the EPBRS meeting are to identify key research questions that would allow taxonomy to better address policy needs. The themes reflect questions policy makers might address to taxonomists: strategy and methods for taxonomic information, how taxonomy contributes to ecological research and sustainable management of biodiversity, potential users, and building expert capacity. DIVERSITAS- bioGENESIS and EDIT will organize a joint workshop on interaction between taxonomic and other biodiversity research, to feed into the EPBRS meeting.

16-20 March 2009, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

14th Inter-Governmental Meeting

The Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) will have its Scientific Planning Group Meeting and Committee Pre-meeting.

Contact: [APN Secretariat](#)

5-14 October 2008, Barcelona, Spain

IUCN World Conservation Congress

DIVERSITAS (Dr Bruno Walther) held a booth at this Congress.

[Proceedings](#)

[Resolutions and Recommendations](#)

E EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP (ESSP) NEWS

DIVERSITAS is a member of the [ESSP](#), which also includes: [IGBP](#), [IHDP](#) and [WCRP](#).

The ESSP delivers research outputs of value to users seeking information regarding changes that are occurring to the Earth System and the implications of these changes for global sustainability.

Earth System Science Partnership ([ESSP](#))

13-14 March 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark

SC-ESSP

The ESSP Scientific Committee will convene after the Climate Change Congress in Copenhagen. The main objective of the SC-ESSP meeting is to further work on the ESSP Strategic Plan, including the identification of emerging science challenges. The meeting will also prepare for the ICSU planned meeting in September 2009 that will outline options for an overall framework for global environmental research and its policy relevance (next 10 years).

International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme ([IGBP](#))

Latest IGBP Newsletter is now available [here](#)

Employment Opportunities

The IGBP is seeking a science communicator to be based in Stockholm, Sweden. [More](#)

14-18 April 2009, Otaru, Japan

IGBP SC Meeting

The IGBP Scientific Committee will be held, with two related symposia.

International Human Dimensions Programme ([IHDP](#))

Latest IHDP Newsletter is now available [here](#)

26-30 April 2009, Bonn, Germany

7th IHDP Open Meeting [More](#)

Earth System Governance Project

This is a new core project of IHDP, which builds on the results of the former IHDP core project on the Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change (IDGEC). [More](#)

Employment Opportunities

The IHDP is seeking an Executive Director. [More](#)

11-16 October 2009, New Delhi, India

IHDW Trains Young and Mid-Career Researchers

Researchers from around the planet will meet in New Delhi to participate in the International Human Dimensions Workshop (IHDW). Aimed at training the young and mid-career human dimensions researchers, the IHDW is a capacity development activity that takes place every two years.

World Climate Research Programme ([WCRP](#))

Latest WCRP Newsletter is now available [here](#)

World Modelling Summit for Climate Prediction

The report is now available from the World Modelling Summit for Climate Prediction held in Reading, UK, May 2008. The Summit was organized by the WCRP, the World Weather Research Programme (WWRP) and IGBP and brought together a diverse set of experts from the weather, climate and environment community. (WCRP Series Report No. 131). [More](#)

Special Issue: Hydrologic Effect of a Shrinking Cryosphere

This publication edited by Terry Prowse, member of the CliC SSC, contains comprehensive review articles on the response of the world's glaciers and ice sheets, snowpack and permafrost to global warming and their effects on river run-off, water quality and geomorphology. [More](#).

6-9 April 2009, University of Maryland, USA
30th session of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee

Global Carbon Project (GCP)

The GCP has released the [global carbon](#) budget 2007. The GCP also contributed to the World Energy Outlook 2008, in particular the city modelling and analyses chapter and took the lead in the China cities analyses section. An update of carbon sciences can be found on the Global Carbon Project's website, [e-NEWS November](#).

17-18 February 2009, Nagoya, Japan

GCP International Symposium in Japan.

Symposium: "Realising Low Carbon Cities: Bridging Science and Policy" and Workshop: "Towards Low Carbon Cities: Understanding and Analysing Urban Energy and Carbon" Contact [Shobhakar Dhakal](#).

[More](#) and [More](#)

Global Environmental Change and Food Systems (GECAFS)

7 February 2009, New Delhi, India

Environmental Change and Food Security in the Indo-Gangetic Plains

GECAFS convened a high-level Briefing on Environmental Change and Food Security in the Indo-Gangetic Plains. This Briefing is in collaboration with the CGIAR Rice-Wheat consortium and the Research Council's UK office in India and followed the 4th World Congress on Conservation Agriculture.