

# no. 87 december 2007 bulletin

The bionet\* bulletin is published by **BioNET-INTERNATIONAL's** Secretariat. It is available in English, Spanish and French and online @ [www.bionet-intl.org](http://www.bionet-intl.org).

BioNET is a not-for-profit initiative that promotes taxonomy via capacity building, advocacy and its affiliated local partnerships (LOOPS) so that all countries can know and identify their biodiversity and thereby address sustainable development and conservation priorities. BioNET is donor funded; this publication and other international work is currently supported by a grant from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

## New Developments

### **BioNET-PACINET awards prize to University of the South Pacific student**

BioNET-PACINET recently awarded Mere Yabaki-Goundar its 2007 prize for the best presentation containing a taxonomic component at the University of the South Pacific's Annual Postgraduate Student Research Day for the Faculty of Science and Technology's Conservation and Biodiversity Research Group. For full article and photograph click [here](#).

### **IPCC: Climate change probably makes species extinctions more likely**

The 4th IPCC synthesis report, published 17 November, highlights the increased risk of species extinctions from global warming: "There is medium confidence that approximately 20-30% of species assessed so far are likely to be at increased risk of extinction if increases in global average warming exceed 1.5-2.5oC (relative to 1980-1999). [More...](#)

### **Free toolkit on African insects**

To find everything on African insects you want to know, click [here](#) to access the new toolkit from the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology.

Tel: +254 (0)20 863 2000, Fax: +254 (0)20 863 2001, Email: [fhaas@icipe.org](mailto:fhaas@icipe.org)

### **IUCN and CABI to collaborate on invasive species information**

The IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) and CABI are to set to collaborate in a bid to expand the amount of knowledge available on invasive species. ISSG, who manage the Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) will partner with CABI in advance of its Invasive Species Compendium (ISC) launch in 2008. [More...](#)

### **\$5.2 million grant from Moore Foundation funds ambitious project to barcode "an entire ecosystem"**

In the middle of the South Pacific, about 12 miles west of Tahiti, is a tropical island that soon will emerge as a model ecosystem, thanks to the efforts of a U.S.-French research team led by University of California, Berkeley, biologists. *Source:* [UC Berkeley News](#)

### **New grant scheme to boost role of African women scientists in agriculture**

A US\$13 million pan-African initiative to increase the role of women scientists in agriculture was launched on 5 December in Kenya. The scheme is funded by a four-year grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and organised by the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). [More....](#) *Source:* [SciDev.net](http://SciDev.net)

### **Invertebrate conservationist wins 2007 Ulysses S Seal Award**

While it is an awesome responsibility to prevent the extinction of those species which are big and charismatic, it is, additionally, an increasingly challenging task to conserve those critters that most people don't get excited about – at least not in a positive way – and that

all look alike to the uninformed person. Dedicated champion of these small animals, Paul Pearce-Kelly of the Zoological Society of London, has been honoured with the Ulysses S Seal Award. *Source:* [IUCN Species Survival Commission](#).

#### **Local capacity building puts Malawi's peanut farmers on path back to prosperity**

Local efforts to put an end to aflatoxin outbreaks are helping groundnut farmers back to prosperity. Detection of trace amounts of aflatoxins has recently become much easier for developing countries, thanks to the development of inexpensive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) kits. Read full [story](#). *Source:* [SciDev.net](#)

#### **Latin American botanists to get plant database**

An initiative to put thousands of botanical specimens from Latin America into a single online database is underway. [More...](#) *Source:* [SciDev.net](#)

#### **Lisbon meeting "marks major shift in convergence between business and biodiversity"**

More than 400 leaders from business, governments, the European Union and non governmental organizations have signaled a major shift in thinking on the role of business in biodiversity conservation. [More...](#) *Source:* IUCN.

#### **Do you know what it costs to lose biodiversity?**

The G8 5 ministers, meeting earlier this year in Postdam, asked for an assessment of the economic arguments to conserve biodiversity. The European Commission invites evidence on the economics of biodiversity loss. The [consultation](#) will close just after Christmas.

#### **Call for an international biodiversity science-policy interface**

In their final Statement following a world-wide consultation, the International Steering Committee of IMoSEB invites donors and governments to provide support for the further and urgent consideration of the establishment of a science-policy interface on biodiversity. [More...](#)

#### **Events | Only newly posted events are listed here. For a full listing, click [here](#).**

##### **25-26 February 2008**

International Symposium: Climate Change and Biodiversity in the Americas, Panama.

[Details.](#)

##### **25-29 August 2008**

XV International Colloquium on Soil Zoology: Biodiversity, Conservation and Sustainable Management of Soil, Curitiba, Brazil. [Details.](#)

##### **23-26 September 2008**

5th European Conference on Biological Invasions (NEOBIOOTA), Prague, Czech Republic

**Deadline:** 30 April 2008. [Details.](#)

##### **8-13 February 2009**

3rd International Symposium on Biological Control of Arthropods, Christchurch, New Zealand. [Details.](#)

##### **24-26 March 2009**

The 6th International Integrated Pest Management Symposium: "Transcending Boundaries", Oregon Convention Center, Portland, USA. [Details.](#)

## Publications

### New publications from CABI

- \*Non-chemical Weed Management: Principles, Concepts and Technology
- \*Citrus Genetics, Breeding and Biotechnology
- \*Indigenous Fruit Trees in the Tropics: Domestication, Utilization and Commercialization

Order information: [orders@cabi.org](mailto:orders@cabi.org)

### Boliviana de la Ciencia del Suelo (RBCS) - Request for articles

The Sociedad Boliviana de la Ciencia del Suelo, invites articles with scientific and technical content to be published in the first issue of the RBCS Journal. **Deadline:** 28 February 2008. **Email:** [RevistaSBCS@gmail.com](mailto:RevistaSBCS@gmail.com)

### Sustaining Life: How Human Health Depends on Biodiversity

The first book to fully explore how the loss of biodiversity endangers human health. With over 200 colour illustrations. Available from 29 November 2007. Details: [Oxford University Press](#).

### Two free publications from the Caribbean (in Spanish)

- \* Solenodon: Cuban Journal of Zoological Taxonomy
- \* COCUO: Newsletter of the Invertebrate Zoologists of the Antilles

[Read...](#) Email: [hparaiso@caribe.net](mailto:hparaiso@caribe.net)

### Illustrated catalogue of the Meloidae (Coleoptera) of Nicaragua - in Spanish

See [Entomological Journal \(Revista de Entomología\)](#). Email: [jmmaes@ibw.com.ni](mailto:jmmaes@ibw.com.ni)

## Vacancies

### BioNET-PACINET Regional Coordinator

- \* Duties include programme management, project development and membership development for BioNET-PACINET, the Pacific Island Partnership for Taxonomy.
- \* Responsibilities include maintaining effective communications with the PACINET Coordinating Committee, with widely dispersed affiliated institutions and individuals, with international partners and with the global BioNET partnership. The position is based in Suva, Fiji. [Full details](#). **Deadline:** 31 December 2007. Email: [recruitsuva@spc.int](mailto:recruitsuva@spc.int)

### Biodiversity informatics - Training Officer

The Global Biodiversity Information Facility ([GBIF](#)) Secretariat seeks an experienced Training Officer to lead the development and implementation of training activities across the GBIF network, including the use of modern e-techniques for distance learning.

**Deadline:** 16 January 2008. [More...](#) Email: [TO@gbif.org](mailto:TO@gbif.org)

### Entomologist

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Crop and Environmental Sciences Division are recruiting for an entomologist to be based in Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines.

**Deadline:** 31 December 2007. [Details...](#) Source: [SciDev.net](#)

### 5 vacancies

The European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy (EDIT) have the following vacancies:

- \* Scientific coordinator for cybertaxonomy (EDIT, Work package 5)
- \* Scientific coordinator for biodiversity inventories (EDIT, Work package 7)
- \* Software developer Java/PHP (EDIT, Work package 7)
- \* Software developer Drupal/PHP (EDIT, Work package 6)
- \* Project manager (Lifewatch)

Click [here](#) for details. **Deadline:** 23 December 2007

## BioNET LOOP contacts

Established LOOPS

### ANDINONET

<http://www.andinonet.org.ve>

Regional Coordinator:

Prof José Clavijo:

[clamiche@telcel.net.ve](mailto:clamiche@telcel.net.ve)

### CARINET

<http://carinet.ecoport.org>

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Ron Barrow:

[carinet@trinidad.net](mailto:carinet@trinidad.net)

### EAFRINET - [profile](#)

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Wanja Kinuthia:

[eafrinet@africaonline.co.ke](mailto:eafrinet@africaonline.co.ke)

### NAFRINET - [profile](#)

Regional Coordinator:

Contact BioNET

[bionet@bionet-intl.org](mailto:bionet@bionet-intl.org)

### SAFRINET

<http://safrinet.ecoport.org>

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Connal Eardley:

[EardleyC@arc.agric.za](mailto:EardleyC@arc.agric.za)

### ASEANET - [profile](#)

<http://www.aseanet.org>

Secretariat:

Dr Soetikno Sastroutomo:

[s.soetikno@cabi.org](mailto:s.soetikno@cabi.org)

### EASIANET

<http://www.easianet.nies.go.jp/hk>

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Kevin D. Hyde:

[kdhyde@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:kdhyde@hkucc.hku.hk)

### PACINET - [profile](#)

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Gilianne Brodie

[brodie\\_g@usp.ac.fj](mailto:brodie_g@usp.ac.fj)

### WAFRINET - [profile](#)

<http://www.iita.org/wafrinet/>

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Braima James:

[b.james@cqi.org](mailto:b.james@cqi.org)

### SACNET – South Asia

Interim Regional Coordinating Institute:  
IUCN-Regional Biodiversity Programme,  
Asia.

Dr Channa Bambaradeniya

[cnb@iucnsl.org](mailto:cnb@iucnsl.org)

LOOPS  
under  
development

### LATINET – South America

**Southern Cone - [profile](#)**

Contact Dr Mercedes Lizarralde de  
Grosso

[ticky@csnat.unt.edu.ar](mailto:ticky@csnat.unt.edu.ar)

### MESOAMERINET - [profile](#)

Interim Regional Coordinating Institute:

INBio, Costa Rica

Contact Alvaro Herrera:

[alherrer@inbio.ac.cr](mailto:alherrer@inbio.ac.cr)