

The **bionet*** bulletin is published by **BioNET-INTERNATIONAL's** Secretariat. It is available in English, Spanish and French and online @ 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's Andean country network commits to making biodiversity data freely available

The Governing Board of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility has welcomed [BioNET-ANDINONET](#) as a new Associate Participant and looks forward to cooperating in jointly implementing GBIF's goals and work plan in the future.

Dr Braima James elected Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society

Dr Braima James of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture has been elected Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society, UK. The Fellows are those who have made a substantial contribution to entomology, through publications or other evidence of achievement. Darwin and Wallace are amongst the many eminent scientists who have been Fellows of the Society. Dr James is Regional Coordinator of [BioNET-WAFRINET](#), the West African Partnership for Taxonomy. [More...](#)

New head of taxonomy and invasives programmes, Convention on Biological Diversity

Dr Junko Shimura joined the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1 November as Programme Officer, Taxonomy and Invasive Alien Species. Dr Shimura joins the CBD Secretariat from Japan's National Institute for Environmental Studies where she had leading roles in national, regional and international initiatives promoting digitisation of biodiversity information and capacity building in taxonomy, including serving as National Coordinator for BioNET-Japan. More on related CBD programmes: [Global Taxonomy Initiative](#) | [Invasive Alien Species](#).

BioNET: Ecosystems and people – biodiversity for development – the road to 2010 and beyond

BioNET participated in the fifth Norway-UN [Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity](#), 29 October–2 November 2007. Participants discussed why biodiversity is an important component of sustainable development and poverty alleviation. The Conference adopted a Call for Interaction to be sent to the upcoming climate change negotiations in Bali and a set of conclusions and recommendations for consideration by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. [Read IISD Report](#).

BioNET at European DNA barcoding meeting

From 3 - 5 October, BioNET participated in a meeting on DNA barcoding in Europe organized by the European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy ([EDIT](#)) at the Museum Naturalis in Leiden, the Netherlands. The general goals of the conference were a) to coordinate DNA barcoding activities in Europe and initiate working groups, and b) to explore funding options, particularly in view of the 7th framework programme of the EU.

See the [agenda of the EDIT DNA barcoding meeting](#) and the [BioNET DNA barcoding handout](#).

Obstacles to biocontrol for invasive species management: issue raised at ABS meeting

The fifth meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) took place from 8 - 12 October 2007. The goal of the Working Group is to elaborate and negotiate an international regime on access and benefit-sharing. One of the issues examined at the meeting was the access to biocontrol agents to combat invasive species. See the [Note by the Executive Secretary](#) and the [Statement of ICIPE on Classical Biological Control and ABS](#). More information: [CBD website](#); full coverage of the meeting: [Earth Negotiations Bulletin](#).

24 new species found in Papua New Guinea highlands

Scientists call for the protection of the biodiversity of the remote Kaijende Highlands of Papua New Guinea after the discovery of 24 new species of plants and frogs. Read [article](#). *Source*: PGR News from the Pacific.

Colombian Biodiversity Online

[Colombian Biodiversity Online](#) is the short name of the Electronic Catalogue of Organisms Present in Colombia, created to make available through the internet synthesized information in Spanish on the species that inhabit the country.

Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG): vision for 2008

TDWG is an international not-for-profit group that develops standards and protocols for sharing biodiversity data. Donald Hobern, TDWG's incoming Chairman, describes his vision for 2008 [here](#).

Future Conservation Award: Egypt

Egyptian monitoring and assessment project on the drought tolerant tree *Dracaena ombet* wins award. [More...](#) **Email:** ughazali_gepa@hotmail.com

Kenyan maize variety resistant to boring pest

A new variety of maize has been developed through a collaboration between the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center. It is resistant to the larger grain borer, a beetle native to Central America that eats and destroys stored maize throughout Africa. [More...](#) *Source:* [SciDev.net](#)

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

5-6 April 2008

Biodiversity Informatics and Climate Change Impacts on Life, University of Aarhus, Denmark. Conference [Website](#).

12-16 May 2008

Biodiversity Research: Safeguarding the future, Germany. A scientific meeting to be held immediately prior to the 9th Conference of the Parties to the CBD. **Contact:** Jobst Pfaender **Email:** precop9@uni-bonn.de | [Website](#).

22 May 2008

International Day for Biological Diversity

“Biodiversity and Agriculture”: the theme of International Day for Biological Diversity,

Contact: CBD Secretariat: secretariat@cbd.int | [Website](#).

21-24 October 2008

VII Argentine Entomological Congress, Córdoba, Argentina. **Contact:** info_cae2008@yahoo.com.ar | [Website](#).

26 December 2007-1 January 2008

Insect Biodiversity - 7 day residential Workshop, Kerala, India. **Contact:** Santhosh Shreevihar, **Email:** nairssanthosh@gmail.com

Publications**Planet Bob video**

An entertaining take on the importance of taxonomy to us all. [Watch...](#)

Importance of Agriculture for Development

New World Bank Report discusses the Importance of Agriculture for Development. Click [here](#) to read Report.

Call for Papers: Special Issue - The Value of Biodiversity to Food and Agriculture

The special issue of *Biodiversity* will coincide with the review of the CBD Programme of work on Agricultural Biodiversity, as well as with the celebrations of the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May on the theme of Agriculture and Biodiversity. [Details](#).

Deadline for abstracts: 16 November 2007. **Contact:** Stephen Aitken, **Email:** aitken@tc-biodiversity.org

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Business and biodiversity newsletter: biodiversity in the financial services sector

[Read...](#) [Back issues](#)

New publications from CABI

- * Biotechnology and Plant Disease Management
- * Irrigation Water Pricing Policy: The Gap Between Theory and Practice.
- * Biodiversity Loss & Conservation in Fragmented Forest Landscapes

Email: orders@cabi.org

Grants**African Fellows Programme: 7th call for Pre-Proposals**

Closing date: 11 February 2008. **Contact email:** rothamsted.international@bbsrc.ac.uk
[Full details](#).

BioNET LOOP contacts

Established LOOPS

ANDINONET

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

Regional Coordinator:

Prof José

Clavijo:

clamiche@telcel.net.ve

ASEANET - [profile](#)

<http://www.aseanet.org>

Secretariat:

Dr Soetikno Sastroutomo:

s.soetikno@cabi.org

CARINET

<http://carinet.ecoport.org>

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Ron Barrow: carinet@trinidad.net

EASIANET

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

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Kevin D. Hyde: kdhyde@hkucc.hku.hk

EAFRINET - [profile](#)

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Wanja

Kinuthia:

eafrinet@africaonline.co.ke

PACINET - [profile](#)

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Gilianne Brodie brodie_g@usp.ac.fj

NAFRINET - [profile](#)

Regional Coordinator:

Contact BioNET

WAFRINET [profile](#)

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

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Braima James: b.james@cgiar.org

SAFRINET

<http://safrinet.ecoport.org>

Regional Coordinator:

Dr Connal

Eardley:

EardleyC@arc.agric.za

SACNET – South Asia

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

Dr Channa Bambaradeniya

cnb@iucnsl.org

LOOPS under development

LATINET – South America

Southern Cone - [profile](#)

Contact Dr Mercedes Lizarralde de Grosso

ticky@csnat.unt.edu.ar

NEURASIANET

Interim Regional Coordinator:

Dr Alexander Ryss: nema@zin.ru

MesoAmeriNET - [profile](#)

Interim Regional Coordinating Institute:

INBio, Costa Rica

Contact Alvaro

Herrera:

alherrer@inbio.ac.cr