

From U.S. MAB Chair David Hales

The recent focus on U.S. MAB by the congress and various citizen action groups offers us an opportunity to explain the U.S. MAB concepts and programs to a wider audience. The staffs of our supporting agencies, especially the legislative shops of Interior and State, members of the U.S. MAB National Committee and I have spent many hours briefing Members of Congress and their staffs. We have received a wide variety of questions and concerns about MAB.

It may not be a surprise that some of these questions are unusual, even bizarre to those of us who have close experience with MAB programs. In fact, it should trouble us greatly. However, I assure you that these questions are asked sincerely, and that they deserve and will receive thoughtful responses.

The biosphere reserve managers have not only responded locally to requests for information, but have been essential to the U.S. MAB Secretariat in its efforts to explain the structure and goals of our 47 unique U.S. Biosphere Reserves. Several NGOs have taken on our cause and have spent considerable resources in our behalf. I would like to thank all of them for a tremendous effort. I assure you that I welcome the scrutiny. We have an honorable tradition of leadership in bringing science, conservation, cultural traditions, and economic development together. Our capacity to make a positive contribution has never been greater. Our task is to build support and understanding among all our constituencies.

The passage of H.R. 901 by the House of Representatives is a clear signal that we did not convince enough Congressmen that integrated resource management is a positive element of the American landscape. We need to make a better impression on the Senate.

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EuroMAB VI Formally Endorses BRIM, Metadata Reporting Standards

The 6th Conference of MAB National Committees from Europe and North America met September 16 to 20, 1997 in Minsk, Belarus. Over 80 participants from 25 countries attended. The Conference included a scientific symposium on the theme "Use and Conservation of Biological Resources." A poster session was held which gave examples of MAB research activities in several countries and biosphere reserves of the EuroMAB region. Academician Vladimir Soldatov was elected chair of the EuroMAB Bureau for 1997-1999, Professor N. Stenseth of Norway was elected vice chair and Mr. J. Nauber was appointed as Rapporteur.

The Biosphere Reserve Integrated Monitoring (BRIM) was formally endorsed by the Conference. It called upon member states to encourage all biosphere reserves within their countries to participate fully with the development of the MABFauna and MABFlora data bases. Greater participation will increase the utility of the MAB OnLine Query System to the scientific community, policymakers and the general public.

The Conference also encouraged its members to work towards promoting the adoption of the metadata standards into their country's efforts concerning the development of the Biological Diversity Conservation

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...And SAMAB Marches on...

It is refreshing to have the opportunity to observe the value and confirmation of MAB principles in action. The Southern Appalachian MAB Cooperative holds an annual meeting for all the stakeholders to share experiences and develop contacts to enhance environmental and resource conservation in the region. This year's conference theme was "Working with Communities."

More than 150 academics, scientists, conservationists and the general public attended the conference in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, November 4-7. Over 50 papers were presented dealing with such issues as riparian restoration and partnerships, protecting the natural and cultural heritage of the region, community-based environmental protection, regional seed banks and the reintroduction of extirpated species.

As the biosphere reserve element of MAB has

moved from its earlier narrow focus on preservation of genetic resources within strictly protected areas to more broad-based themes of community participation in sustainable development and conservation (as encouraged by the "Seville Strategy") SAMAB has been out in front on this issue. A flexible administrative cooperative agreement involving the federal agencies, state governments and others have certainly helped to facilitate this broad-based and democratic approach.

The leadership council of SAMAB, currently chaired by Karen Wade, Superintendent of the Great Smokey Mountains National Park, is continuing its key role in forging and facilitating the emergence of these new themes. Increasing numbers of people and organizations are becoming involved in the conservation and sustainable development activities of the region.

Does SAMAB and its activities offer us a glimpse of the future of biosphere reserves? I recommend you "check it out" for yourself (on the web at <http://www.lib.utk.edu/samab> or write them at 1314 Cherokee Orchard Road, Gatlinburg, TN 37738). It sure works for me!

Roger E. Soles

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Information System (BCIS) of the World Conservation Union/IUCN, the Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the data systems being developed to support the Diversitas programme of UNESCO/International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS).

The EuroMAB VI Conference called upon the BRIM working group to recommend appropriate scientific monitoring activities for the EuroMAB Biosphere Reserves. The conference participants stated their desire to consider common monitoring activities in order to develop an international and collaborative database.

The Conference endorsed a proposal for an international conference on "Ethno-Ecological Interactions at Biosphere Reserves" to be held in the spring of 1999 in the Bile' Karpathy Biosphere Reserve and organized by the Czech and Slovak MAB National Committees.

A full EuroMAB VI Conference Report is available from: EuroMAB Secretariat, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, 66 Fr. Skarina Ave., Minsk 220072, Belarus. E-mail: mab@mserv.bas-net.by



U.S. MAB BULLETIN

The U.S. MAB Bulletin is published by the U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/ETC/MAB, SA-44C, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-4401.

"The mission of the United States Man and the Biosphere Program (U.S. MAB) is to explore, demonstrate, promote, and encourage harmonious relationships between people and their environments building on the MAB network of Biosphere Reserves and interdisciplinary research. The long-term goal of the U.S. MAB Program is to contribute to achieving a sustainable society early in the 21st Century. The MAB mission and long-term goal will be implemented, in the United States and internationally, through public-private partnerships and linkages that sponsor and promote cooperative, interdisciplinary research, experimentation, education and information exchange on options by which societies can achieve sustainability." Adopted by the U.S. National Committee for the Man and the Biosphere Program, July 26, 1995.

U.S. MAB is supported by the Agency for International Development; the Department of Agriculture-Forest Service; the Air Force; the Department of Commerce-National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; the Department of Energy; the Department of the Interior-Bureau of Land Management, -National Biological Service, -National Park Service; the Department of State; the Environmental Protection Agency; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the National Institutes of Health; the National Science Foundation; the Peace Corps; and the Smithsonian Institution.

The program is organized into six directorates: Biosphere Reserve, High Latitude Ecosystems, Human-Dominated Systems, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems, Temperate Ecosystems and Tropical Ecosystems.



MABNet Coordinator for Europe and Africa

Karl A. K. Stromayer, Ph.D. is on assignment with U.S. MAB to develop the MABNet programs in Africa and continue the BRIM program with the EuroMAB members.

Dr. Stromayer comes to us through the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellowship Program. He has had several years of ecological monitoring experience with temperate and tropical forest species.

Dr. Stromayer served for four years with the U.S. Peace Corps in Cameroon working on agricultural and wildlife projects, and more recently as consultant to Fairfax County (Virginia) Park Authority at Huntley Meadows Regional Park. He holds a B.S. in biology from George Washington University and a Ph.D. in wildlife ecology and management from the University of Georgia. Dr. Stromayer is fluent in French and English.

New Coordinator for MABNetAmericas

Ms. Elizabeth Martin has accepted the position of MABNetAmericas coordinator for U.S. MAB. Her duties will consist of continuing to build the information sharing network for the biosphere reserves and other natural areas of the Western Hemisphere.

Ms. Martin has spent the last two and a half years at the National Science Foundation. Her duties there included science assistance with program management, data analysis, generation of reports, and communication with the scientific community. Previously, Ms. Martin worked for the South Florida Water Management District assisting with research on plant communities of the Florida Everglades, and for the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program.

Ms. Martin was born in Lima, Peru and grew up in Puerto Rico. She graduated from the University of Puerto Rico with a B.S. in biology and Florida State University with a M.S. in biology specializing in marine studies. Ms. Martin is fluent in English and Spanish.

East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network Transborder Cooperation, Ecotourism and BRIM

The East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network (EABRN) held its 5th regional meeting in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia August 22-28. Delegates attended from China, Mongolia, Korea and Japan. The meeting focused on developing recommendations for greater transborder biosphere reserve activities, site-to-site cooperative programs within the region, and ecotourism. There were plenary sessions as well as individual country-team workshops concerning the development and application of the Biosphere Reserves Integrated Monitoring (BRIM) Programs of MABFauna and MABFlora. The delegates noted the necessity of developing standardized species lists for tropical vascular plants so as to extend the utility of the flora programs.

Copies of MABFauna and MABFlora were distributed to the delegates so that they could begin to test the applicability of these programs to their respective biosphere reserves. U.S. MAB, in its role as the Secretariat for the BRIM program, made available copies of the "Quick Start" manuals for the programs in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, English and Mongolian. Many delegates stated their desire to become full participants in the BRIM program and promised to develop collaborative relationships with U.S. MAB and the BRIM Secretariat.

The Mongolian government has designated 32 sites as protected areas, covering 15-million hectares. Mongolia Biodiversity Project volunteers from the U.S. Peace Corps and the United Nations Development Program will use the BRIM software programs as important components of the effort to develop species inventories and maps of these areas.

Mr. Qunli Han of UNESCO MAB has facilitated the development of the East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network and the UNESCO MABNet Homepage. Mr. Han encouraged MABFauna/Flora adoption by the Network.

MABNET

MABFauna On-Line Query System, <http://ice.ucdavis.edu/mab>, has 2,000+ users per month with 272 sites listed in 75 countries.

Unique Species Entered			
Birds	4,364	Mammals	1,203
Amphibians	174	Fish	820
Reptiles	262	Vascular Plants	22,549



Actions Regarding U.S. MAB in the 105th Congress

H.R. 901 (Young R-AK) "American Land Sovereignty Protection Act," would terminate all current U.S. Biosphere Reserves unless each is specifically authorized by a law enacted before December 31, 2000. The bill proposes that no federal official will be able to nominate any lands in the U.S. for recognition as a World Heritage site, Biosphere Reserve, or Ramsar Convention (Wetland) site. Any new nomination of any of these sites would be specifically authorized by law. An annual report to Congress on each site would be required.

H.R. 901 was debated on the floor of the House on October 7 and 8. Five amendments were proposed. The only one to pass was that of Rep. Vento (DFL-MN) which would include commercial ventures in the language of the bill to read, Sec. 5 International Agreements in General Sec. 404 (a) "No Federal official may nominate, classify, or designate any lands owned by the United States and located within the United States for a special, including commercial, or restricted use under any international agreement unless such nomination, classification, or designation is specifically authorized by law...."

The final vote on H.R. 901 was 236 in favor, 191 against, 7 not voting.

S.691 (Murkowski R-AK) similar to H.R. 901. Requires the same reporting from the Secretaries of the Interior and State, and adds the Secretary of Agriculture. S.691 addresses National Monuments, World Heritage Sites, and Biosphere Reserves, but does not mention Ramsar Convention sites. It amends the Antiquities Act (16 U.S.C. 431) and the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470).

Sec.403 (a) of Title IV of the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 shall read "No Federal official may nominate any lands in the United States for designation as a Biosphere Reserve under the Man and Biosphere Program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. (b) Any designation of an area in the United States as a Biosphere Reserve under the Man and the Biosphere Program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization shall not have, and shall not be given, any force of effect, unless the Biosphere Reserve is specifically authorized by an Act of Congress." In May the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Parks, Preservation and Recreation. There has been no further action.

H.R. 1801 (Brown D-CA) Co-sponsored by Rep. G.

Miller and 11 others. The bill would authorize U.S. MAB to promote interagency cooperation to develop scientific information, fund scientific research with particular emphasis on interdisciplinary methodologies; promote public and private partnerships that sponsor and promote scientific study, education and information exchanges on options for the prudent management of natural resources and the relationships between the environment and human health, and coordinate the U.S. biosphere reserve network to facilitate the study of biological diversity and encourage the sustainable use of natural resources. The bill explicitly defines the concept of biosphere reserves. It requires that the nominations of sites must be by the landholders or governmentally authorized administering entity after local public comment has been obtained and considered. The States in which the sites are located must also concur in the designation. The bill involves Congress in the biosphere reserve designation process through a required 90-day Congressional review.

To date no hearings are scheduled for this bill.

Coburn Amendments Congressman Tom Coburn (R-OK) proposed amendments to several authorization and appropriation bills of agencies which support U.S. MAB. The amendments always mention MAB and often mention the World Heritage Program. The wording is, "None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended for the Man and Biosphere Program or World Heritage Program administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)," or "... Man and the Biosphere Program or related programs."

The Coburn Amendment carried in the appropriation bill of the Department of Defense, so that no money from Defense may be used to support U.S. MAB or related programs for FY 98.

Certifications Offered in Leadership and in Monitoring and Research

The Smithsonian Environmental Leadership Course will be given March 2-13, 1998. Measuring and Monitoring Biodiversity for Conservation Science and Adaptive Management will be given May 10-June 12, 1998.

For further information please contact SI/MAB Biodiversity Program, Smithsonian Institution, S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive, SW, Suite 3123 MRC 705, Washington, DC 20560. Tel. (202) 357-4793, Fax. (202) 786-2557, E-Mail: cjr@ic.si.edu. <http://www.si.edu/organiza/museums/ripley/simab/start.htm>



United States Man and the Biosphere Program: Request for Proposals for the Tropical Ecosystems Directorate

The Tropical Ecosystems Directorate (TED) of the U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program (U.S. MAB) announces a call for proposals to support applied research on the management, harvesting, utilization and marketing of tropical forest resources, both timber and nontimber, in the tri-national Mayan forest of Mexico, Belize and Guatemala.

A small number of grants of \$1000 to \$3500 US each, will be awarded in 1998. It is expected that each grant will be sufficient to support a student for a period of up to a year, including both research expenses and room and board. Persons interested in applying for these grants are encouraged to first obtain a copy of the TED core project description from the U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/ETC/MAB, Room 107 SA-44C, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20522-4401. Tel. (202) 776-8318, Fax. (202) 776-8367.

Funding Objectives

U.S. MAB/TED funding should assist research teams to add a national researcher to their effort as well as to: better integrate conservation and sustainable development; add a particular discipline to an ongoing research project; or explore the application of ongoing site-specific research to an additional site in the Maya Tri-National region. U.S. MAB/TED funding will not be provided for planning purposes.

Focal Issues

The TED recognizes that strategies to sustainably conserve the Mayan forest must address the needs of the rural communities that live in the forest and use its wild resources. Lack of an adequate knowledge base on the ecology and management of these resource species, nondestructive harvesting methods, and appropriate marketing and commercialization of these products has negative impacts on the forest, on the resource base, and on local economies. For this reason TED continues to invest in the development of new knowledge in these fields through small grants. In order to ensure that this new knowledge will be integrated into ongoing resource management and utilization activities, and to enhance local capacity to continue to produce new information as it is needed, our applied research program focuses on the integration of students or recent graduates (at the Bachelor or Master level), from the three countries into relevant projects led by respected researchers in these fields and linked with NGO's, and preferably local communities, in the region.

Content Requirements and Deadlines for Proposals

Persons interested should submit a one to two page proposal by February 27, 1998. Each proposal should include: a title page, a one-page synopsis of the existing research project, up to five pages detailing the proposed use of U.S. MAB/TED funds that would be complementary to the TED core program, and a one-page budget with justification.

The U.S. MAB/TED will make final decisions by April 6, 1998.

No funds are available for institutional overhead. Only direct costs can be supported.

Funds will be committed to the managing institutions identified in the proposals during May 1998.

Evaluation and Review Process

Due to limited available funding, U.S. MAB/TED will give the greatest preference to those proposals that directly complement the objectives of the directorate's core program. Proposals will be evaluated for the intrinsic merit of the research or activity, its policy relevance, applicability to promoting sustainable use of tropical forest resources in the Maya Tri-National Region, and the quality and demonstrated productivity of the principals.

Principals will receive from the U.S. MAB Secretariat copies of all U.S. MAB/TED review evaluations of their proposal and a written notification of the directorate's decision on their project.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals may be submitted in Spanish or English to U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/ETC/MAB, Room 107, SA-44C, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-4401.

Individuals choosing to submit their proposals by Express Mail, Federal Express, UPS, etc. must use the following address: U.S. MAB Secretariat, Room 107, 2430 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20520.

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The actions of Representatives George Brown, George Miller and Thomas Coburn have stimulated our efforts to achieve authorizing legislation for the U.S. MAB Program. Such legislation would put on record our goals, objectives, and framework of operation.



Cascade Head Experimental Forest and Scenic Research Area Biosphere Reserve

The Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve located near Corvallis, Oregon uses several land-management strategies. The Neskowin Crest Research Natural Area and the Cascade Head Nature Conservancy Preserve are protected to allow natural processes to take their course without undue intervention from humans. In some cases restoration activities are being implemented.

The experimental forest provides long-term research opportunities, as well as, data from numerous permanent sample plots, some established as far back as the 1930s. The experimental forest is currently managed primarily for research that is non-destructive. Because the area is in spotted owl and marbled murrelet (both endangered species) habitat, there are restrictions on what kinds of work can be done.

Other parts of the Biosphere Reserve are used for education, especially summer programs for children, and for field trips for resource managers and scientists.

Some of the major issues facing the forest management team are; increased public use in the form of recreation, restrictions in the marbled murrelet and spotted owl habitat area, garbage dumping, lack of funds to maintain access roads, and decreased funding for research.

Perhaps the greatest milestone since becoming a biosphere reserve is the restoration of the Salmon River Estuary. Salt marsh ecosystems are being reestablished after completion of dike breaching, making this estuary one of the least disturbed along the Oregon coast.

Research and management have cooperated in several research studies involving management of young Sitka spruce-western hemlock stands. A number of studies looking at commercial and non-commercial thinning at different spacings have been established in the Biosphere Reserve.

Educational opportunities have been provided for junior and senior high school classes jointly sponsored and run by managers and researchers in the area. The Sitka Center for Art and Ecology located in the biosphere reserve has contributed substantially to the surrounding community by providing art and ecology classes, running programs for resident artists from around the United States, and providing a presence that attempts to link art and forest ecology. This linkage helps to foster understanding of the relationship of cultural values and biological diversity.

Guanica Biosphere Reserve

Guanica Commonwealth Forest Biosphere Reserve of Puerto Rico comprises 4,015 hectares of coastal area including several mangrove cays. The reserve is managed as a multiple-use area to achieve harmonious relationships between human activities and the maintenance of the integrity of the natural ecology. For this reason the human communities are participants in the reserve management decisions. Since the Biosphere Reserve recognition the site has been considered a landscape for learning in which monitoring, research, education and training are encouraged to support sustainable development in southwest Puerto Rico.

With biosphere reserve recognition there was an increased interest in the reserve by the general public and tourists which benefited the local tourist industry and associated businesses. There was a 200% increase in visitors to the Guanica municipality attracted by the promotion of the reserve as an area of global importance by the Tourist Company and the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources.

This increased popularity of the area has brought additional developmental pressures. The challenge of conservation in the Guanica region is to educate a growing population to supporting ecosystem uses that will sustain the incredible biological diversity of the reserve and its surrounding areas. The only way for protected areas such as Guanica to survive is to play an essential role in satisfying the social, economic, cultural, and personal expectations of the community.

Use of the biosphere reserve concept encouraged Guanica to develop conservation strategies that will economically benefit the municipality and the region by means of sustainable development projects. At present the biosphere reserve has several projects with stakeholders such as: a partnership with Copamarina Resort in the management of wetlands owned by the resort as an ecotourist resource; advisors to the Puerto Rico Planning Board in developing a land use plan regarding natural areas with nature tourism potential in the Guanica area; and work with the Community of La Laguna on the restoration of Guanica Lagoon.

The interest in research in the reserve has increased dramatically and at present Guanica is recognized as one of the best examples of a subtropical dry forest in the world and characteristic of an ecosystem being subjected to disturbances at an accelerating rate.

In addition to an ongoing environmental education program, staff of Guanica Biosphere Reserve have worked with the District School Board to assist area schools in participation in the Global Program.



Promotion of the Biosphere Reserve Integrated Monitoring Program (BRIM) in Belarus, Denmark, Hungary, and Italy

BRIM seeks to coordinate and standardize the inventory and monitoring of biota at the world's 340 biosphere reserves. Karl Stromayer, Ph.D. BRIM coordinator for U.S. MAB visited Belarus, Denmark, Hungary, and Italy from September 14, - October 10, 1997 to promote the program.

While in attendance at the EuroMAB VI Conference, Dr. Stromayer presented a paper entitled "The BRIM toolbox: BioMon, MABFauna, MABFlora, and Observe," and met informally with delegates from Belarus, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Norway, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom to promote the BRIM Program. The participants of EuroMAB VI passed a resolution to encourage cooperation with the BRIM program and adoption of MABFlora and MABFauna by the biosphere reserves of the EuroMAB countries.

At the annual meeting of the Northern Sciences Network, Dr. Stromayer conducted a seminar on the MABFauna software program and presented an update on the BRIM Program.

On a visit to the biosphere reserves of Hungary and Italy, Dr. Stromayer conducted hands-on workshops and seminars on the BRIM tools for scientists, resource managers, and administrators.

Update on U.S. MAB/Russia MAB Data Collaboration

The joint effort of U.S. MAB, Russia MAB, the U.S. Civilian Defense Research Foundation, USGS Biological Resources Division, Open Data Systems of Alexandria, and the University of California, Davis is reaping an impressive reward of species information from the Russian Biosphere Reserves.

Because of the effort, there is now a MABFlora of Russia, and ten Russian Biosphere Reserves and other sites with significant faunal data available to the world from <http://ice.ucdavis.edu/mab>. Two of the sites have also supplied data for vascular plants which should be available soon at the same web site.

The Northern Sciences Network

Representatives from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, and the United States attended the meeting of the International Advisory Group of the Northern Sciences Network (NSN) 9-10 October, 1997 at the Danish Polar Center in Copenhagen.

Up-dates were given on NSN-endorsed research projects: ITEX (International Tundra Experiment); Mountain Birch Ecosystem studies (Nordic countries); and Caribou Management (US MAB, High Latitude Ecosystems Directorate).

The Group will further consider Norway's proposal for a scientific, thematic research program, "Framework Programme for Sustainable Use and Management of Biological Resources in Natural Ecosystems." It was agreed that NSN must adopt a scientific focus of its own, centered on MAB goals (integrating social and natural sciences for resolution of important practical problems), and that the scientific theme must be the central focus of NSN. The Group agreed on a case-study approach (simultaneous case studies in different countries and/or international cooperation between two or more countries). Studies will involve sustainability of harvest systems (or effectiveness of management systems), and biological and social scientists concurrently. The US MAB study of sustainability of caribou-subsistence hunting systems is one example. Other examples could involve northern forestry, reindeer husbandry, or high-seas fishing. It was agreed that a thematic research approach would be completed before the next NSN meeting. A core research focus could provide an example for UNESCO MAB in a global sense.

Presentations were given on "Arctic & Alpine Terrestrial Research Initiatives;" "Scandinavian Transects;" and "The Arctic University" (a cooperating network among already existing universities).

Fred Roots of Canada explained an international research effort developing in the Kluane (Canada) and Wrangell-St.Elias (US) National Parks, involving integrated studies of glacier retreat, vegetation succession, and recent change in response to global climate change.

Karl Stromayer presented an overview of BRIM progress and MAB data bases, illustrating their use and application.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 1998 in Alaska.



Publications

To order publications from the U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/ETC/MAB, SA-44C, Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-4401, please include self-addressed mailing labels.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

from U.S. MAB:

Updated Amphibians Species of the World provided to U.S. MAB by Frank Glaw and Jorn Kohler of the Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig in Bonn, Germany. The list contains updated amphibian taxonomy for over 4300 species as of June 1997. This document can be downloaded from <http://www.mabnet.org>.

from others:

South-South Perspectives: A Newsletter of the South-South Cooperation Programme on Environmentally Sound Socio-Economic Development in the Humid Tropics is published annually through UNESCO in English, French, Spanish, and Chinese. The current issue, Number 4, September 1997 contains the final report, list of participants, and abstract of working documents from the First Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas held at the Taller Sobre Biosphere Reserve in Santa Marta, Colombia, May 1997. Requests for copies should be addressed to: UNESCO, Division of Ecological Sciences, Programme de Cooperation Sud-Sud, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75 700 Paris, FRANCE

1997 Directory of Ecological Sciences Latin America and the Caribbean, published by UNESCO Montevideo. The directory is arranged by country and lists scientific institutions and addresses, with faculty and their areas of expertise. 348pp. 1997. Available from UNESCO Montevideo/ORCYT - ECO, Casilla de correo 859 - 11000 Montevideo, Uruguay

STILL AVAILABLE

from U.S. MAB

ACCESS 1996: A Directory of Permanent Plots Which Monitor Flora, Fauna, Climate, Hydrology, Soil, Geology, and the Effects of Anthropogenic Changes at 132 Biosphere Reserve in 27 Countries is a directory of updated information on biosphere reserves in Europe, Canada, and the United States which reported permanent plot information. This is the second product of the Biosphere Reserves Integrated Monitoring Program (BRIM) developed by EuroMAB. 1996. (392pp.)

Plan Estrategico para el Programa de las Reservas de la Biosfera de los Estados Unidos, Directorio de las Reservas de la Biosfera. 1995 (28pp.)

The United States Man and the Biosphere Program, a revised pamphlet of introduction to the U.S. MAB Program. 1996 (26pp.)

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