

Conferences and Events

Kenya's International Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change. Nairobi, Kenya, 15-17 September 2010.

The Kenya Wildlife Service, African Conservation Centre, National Museums of Kenya, Department of Remote Sensing and Resource Surveys, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development and Kenya Forest Service will host a conference as Kenya's contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity. The conference will bring together conservation scientists, planners, managers and policy makers to coordinate species inventories and map Kenya's biodiversity. The working sessions will consider how to collate, integrate, analyze and share information using the best available mapping, data storage and analytical tools. Participants will discuss a national framework for conserving Kenya's biodiversity, taking into account land use, livelihoods and climate change. For more information, please contact: biodiversityconf@kws.go.ke or visit at http://www.jrsbdf.org/v2/Docs/Nairobi%20Kenya%20Sept%20BDI%20Conference%20Announcement%205_5_2010.pdf

International Congress "Tools for Identifying Biodiversity: Progress and Problems", Paris, France, 20-22 September 2010.

The Congress will take place at the National Muséum of Natural History (MNHN), Paris in the "Grand Amphithéâtre", 57, rue Cuvier, 75005. The correct identification of organisms is fundamental not only for the assessment and the conservation of biodiversity, but also in agriculture, forestry, the food and pharmaceutical industries, forensic biology, and in the broad field of formal and informal education at all levels. In the last decades, important advances have taken place in the way identification is carried out, from molecular and biochemical methods of rapid identification to the development of interactive identification systems based on morpho-anatomical data. This congress provides an overview of recent advances in this field. It stimulates integration of existing methods and systems, fosters communication amongst different research groups, and lays the foundations for integrated projects in the next decade. The congress is organised jointly

by three large European projects dedicated to biodiversity and/or biological identification: KeyToNature, EDIT (European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy), and STERNA (Semantic Web-based Thematic European Reference Network Application). For more information, please visit at <http://www.bioidentify.eu/>

The Global Conference on Entomology, 5-9 March 2011, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The main objective of the conference is to show case advances in entomological research and development in the insect world. The skills and knowledge of entomologists are needed worldwide helping farmers to produce crops and livestock more efficiently through sound pest management strategies, fighting to save endangered species and fragile ecosystems, and preventing insects from spreading agents that cause serious diseases. The scheduled conference organized by the Century Foundation, Bangalore in association with other organizations will provide a scientific platform to exchange the information on the recent advances in entomological research and to bring together the international scientific community involved in the study of insects. For more information, please contact: info@entomology2011.com or visit at <http://entomology2011.com/>

Smithsonian National Zoological Park's Graduate and Professional Course.

National Zoo staff and research associates have offered training courses, in the United States and at more than 20 international locations on a variety of topics for over three decades. During this time, more than 5,000 individuals from more than 85 countries have taken part in such efforts. The National Zoo provides a variety of training and capacity building programs for undergraduate, graduate and professional audiences, while specifically targeting individuals and institutions from developing countries and underserved communities.

Training and capacity building objectives include:

- Offer training opportunities including symposia, workshops, courses, semesters, and certificate and degree programs to enhance individual knowledge, skills, and tools.
- Provide long-term capacity build-

ing assistance to promising individuals and collaborating foreign institutions.

- Train in-country trainers to provide ongoing capacity building in their home institutions and countries.
- Partner with other organizations and agencies to enhance existing initiatives and fill gaps.
- Establish collaborative centers for conservation studies specifically designed to address the research, training, and environmental education needs of the area, country or region.

Undergraduate Opportunities. The Zoo offers multiple opportunities for undergraduates to connect with Smithsonian research and resources. The Zoo's Conservation and Research Center hosts an extraordinary residential semester program for junior- and senior-level undergraduate students to learn about conservation first-hand. Participants can earn 16 credit hours through the Smithsonian-Mason Global Conservation Studies Program. In addition, various short courses are planned for the summer and holiday sessions.

Graduate and Professional Courses and Certificates. Individual courses and certificate programs are available to graduate students and

professionals in the United States and abroad. A new conservation curriculum, offering graduate credit, continuing education units and professional certificates, is being introduced through the Smithsonian-Mason Global Conservation Studies Program. In addition, the National Zoo's various Centers of Excellence conduct a number of other courses throughout the year. Tailor-made programs are also available.

Teacher/Educator Training. Basic and advanced training opportunities allow teachers to study with Zoo scientists, discover new ways to help students learn, improve the quality of field trips, and build their capacity to understand and teach complex subjects in the fields of conservation, wildlife management, ecology, and biotechnology in the classroom and in nature.

Internship and Fellowship Opportunities. Various internships and fellowships are available for individuals seeking a more in-depth, hands-on learning experience. Opportunities exist through the various zoo departments and typically last a minimum of three months. For more information, please contact: biolief@grieta.org.ar or visit at <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/SCBI/MAB/GMU/default.cfm>