

+Coordinator and instructor of the Amazon region workshop entitled “Participatory Methodologies to Integrate Local and Technical Knowledge about Indicators of Soil Quality”, 24-28 November 2008, Igarapé Açu, Pará State, Brazil.

+Participation in the User Forum for Sustainability Impact Assessment Tools of the SENSOR EU project entitled “Land Use Policy: Risk, Transparency and Integration”, 21-23 April 2009. University Foundation, Brussels, Belgium.

+Oral Presentation at the Seventh International Human Dimensions Program (IHDP) Open Meeting, 26-30 April 2009, Bonn, Germany.

Title: “Land Quality Monitoring Systems that Integrate Local and Technical Knowledge Facilitate Adaptation to Global Change in Agricultural Landscapes” by Barrios E., Coutinho H. and Kato O.

Abstract: Coupled human-environment systems can greatly benefit from integrative approaches that combine formal and informal knowledge to address current sustainability problems associated with global change. The increasing attention paid to local knowledge in recent years results from the recognition that the knowledge of people who have been closely interacting with their environment for a long time can offer many insights about the sustainable management of natural resources. The generation of a “hybrid” knowledge base, combining local and scientific knowledge, reflects an effort to understand the complexity of the land management decision making to promote and protect multifunctional land uses. Increased concern about soil management as a key determinant of sustainability in agricultural landscapes has led to the identification of early warning indicators to monitor changes in soil quality, and their impact in the provision of ecosystem services, as affected by land use change and agricultural intensification. This is part of a continuing effort to develop land quality monitoring systems that strengthen local environmental/agricultural institutions and communities with tools that support local decision-making in natural resource management and promote sustainable land use in agricultural landscapes. This effort was initiated in Central America, later adapted and further developed in East Africa through South-South collaboration, and it is currently being adapted and further developed in the Pantanal and Amazon regions of Brazil as part of a CIAT/Embrapa collaborative project with financial support from CNPq and Embrapa.

+Fellows Seminar Series Presentation entitled “Fostering Knowledge Sharing in Resource Management and Adaptation to Global Change”, 19 May 2009, CID-Harvard University.

+Paper accepted to the Second DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference ‘Biodiversity and society: understanding connections, adapting to change’, 13-16 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa.

Title: “The role of Biological Indicators of Soil Quality in the participatory Development of Land Quality Monitoring Systems”. Barrios E. and Coutinho H.

Abstract The majority of ecosystem processes have the soil as the critical and dynamic regulatory center and soil organisms contribute to a wide range of ecosystem services that are essential to the sustainable function of natural and managed ecosystems. Our goal is to develop soil quality monitoring systems that inform decision makers at all