

suggesting that 'we can do a lot more to head off the prospect of war if we can lend scientific credibility to a growing belief that real security involves a bare minimum military defence, and an absolute maximum environmental defence'.

Finally, the Conference participants considered it an urgent necessity to proclaim, through a public 'Declaration', the establishment of a world *Ecoforum for Peace**.

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* See pp. 366–7 of this issue.—Ed.

Important Prospect

WORKSHOP ON BOTANICAL RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT IN GALÁPAGOS, TO BE HELD AT THE CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH STATION, SANTA CRUZ, GALÁPAGOS, ECUADOR, 12–18 APRIL 1987

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) and the Galápagos National Park Service (GNPS) are in the process of planning an international workshop on Botanical Research and Management in Galápagos, Ecuador. The meeting will be co-sponsored by the Catholic University of Quito, and held at the Charles Darwin Research Station, Santa Cruz, Galápagos, Ecuador, during the Easter Week of 1987.

The Workshop is an attempt to bring together botanists who have been working in Galápagos, in order to discuss the current knowledge of Galápagos flora and vegetation, the need for further research, and plans for suitable management, from the standpoint of Galápagos being a World Heritage site containing a Biosphere Reserve. Several scientists and managers from other areas with similar conservation problems are invited, and will contribute their experiences and advice.

A central aim of the Workshop is to find, with due regard for the need for sustainable development, the proper balance between resource use and conservation in Galápagos. The meeting will have about 50 participants, representing various research institutions, national park authorities, plant protection agencies, and conservation organizations, which share concern for the conservation and management of tropical areas in general, and of island systems in particular. Managers, and scientists and other academics, have been invited from Ecuador, Colombia, USA, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, France, Japan, England, Spain, and New Zealand.

The meeting will be divided into three parts: a general presentation of papers related to the problems encountered in Galápagos in the areas of research, conservation, and management; workshops in specialist groups; and finally a concluding session. In addition, all participants will have the opportunity to experience a Galápagos field excursion led by GNPS and CDF staff.

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Important Prospect

THE IIED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE, TO BE HELD AT REGENT'S COLLEGE, REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, ENGLAND, UK, DURING 28–30 APRIL 1987

In recent years there has occurred a major revision in development thinking that is presenting a fundamental challenge to the conventional consensus on economic development. In addition to emphasizing improvements regarding the basic needs of the poor, cultural sensitivity, and 'grassroots' participation in the development process, this new approach stresses that 'real' improvement cannot occur in Third World countries—let alone anywhere else—unless the strategies which are being formulated and implemented are ecologically sustainable. 'Sustainable development' has therefore become the new rallying-call of many organizations which are involved in the development process. Yet very little is known about the kinds of projects that are environmentally sound—why certain development projects that are intended to be ecologically sustainable succeed while others fail; or of the planning techniques which are needed to help ensure that project aid takes full account of environmental factors.

In an effort to address these questions, the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) is holding a Sustainable Development Conference to review and discuss case-studies of successful sustainable development projects that have been located in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The Conference will coincide with the publication of the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development and is also related to a 12-programmes TV series for BBC2 in the United Kingdom, which will be syndicated to other countries.

Thirty case-studies have been selected from examples involving both official and voluntary development agencies. The Conference is aimed primarily at development agencies in the North—both 'official' and nongovernmental—to further their understanding of the development process and to influence their policies and approaches to development assistance. Some representatives from Third World NGOs will also be invited to share their specialist knowledge and 'grassroots' experience of aid projects. The total attendance should be about 150.

The Conference will be divided into plenary sessions and discussion groups—primarily the latter. The 30 case-studies will be broken down into six categories corresponding to each discussion group of about 25 people. The case-study categories are:

1. Sustainable Rural Livelihoods
2. Soil and Water Conservation Projects
3. Industrial Projects
4. Planning Techniques for Sustainable Development
5. Human and Institutional Development
6. Human Settlements.

In addition to papers describing and analysing the 30 projects, there will be a number of overview papers, including one for each category of case-studies. The Conference papers will be published as a book; and a shorter book based on the papers will be produced in order to disseminate the information to as wide an audience as possible.

For further information about the Conference programme, fees, accommodation, etc., please contact either Mr Czech Conroy, Senior Research Associate, at IIED (telephone 01-388-2117), or the undersigned.

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