Dear INTECOL Members,

One of the most important roles INTECOL plays internationally is supporting collaboration amongst ecologists and ecological societies across the world. Ecologists can share their knowledge and work together to find creative solutions to world’s ecological issues. There are some exciting opportunities coming up over the next year and in 2016 for you to get involved.

The 5th International EcoSummit will be held in Le Corum, Montpellier, France from 29 August to 1 September 2016. The theme of the Congress is Ecological Sustainability: Engineering Change. This conference series was founded in 1996 in Copenhagen, as a forum to meet the demands of scientists working in several new ecological disciplines who required a better understanding of the concepts and methods for a holistic use of ecology in environmental management.

The EcoSummit is inviting submissions of session proposals and side events where creative solutions to today’s problems can be sought. Proposals are to be submitted by 31 July 2015. It would be wonderful to have INTECOL members involved in organizing these events. Please see how you can contribute at http://www.ecosummit2016.org.

The 10th INTECOL International Wetlands Conference will be held 19-24 September 2016 in Changshu, China. It is the largest, most influential international conference in the field of wetland science and applications. It is held every four years with the support of the INTECOL Wetlands Working Group (WWG).

This conference will provide a platform to review advances in research on wetland biodiversity and ecosystem management as well as the functional roles of wetlands in wastewater treatment, ecosystem services and wise use. The conference organisers are asking for ideas for symposiums and workshop topics. This includes workshops on any aspects of wetland engineering, cultural values and technique applications. Please see how you can contribute at http://hydrobio.jnu.edu.cn/newsview.asp?sid=221.
In addition,

- The European Ecological Federation (EEF, www.europeanecology.org) is organizing the 13th EEF Congress, that will take place in Rome, Italy, from 21 to 25 September in 2015.
- The Ecological Society of America is celebrating its Centennial in 9-14 August 2015. The conference organisers are calling for abstracts for late-breaking posters. Submissions are being requested by 7 May 2015 that report interdisciplinary work, address communication with broad audiences, or explore ways of teaching ecology at any level.

Thank you for your ongoing support for INTECOL. I would welcome your ongoing ideas and feedback on how INTECOL can work best for you.

I wish you all a wonderful spring or autumn, depending on which part of the world you live in.

Ka kite ano

Shona Myers
President of INTECOL
E-mail: shona.myers@vodafone.co.nz

Kauri Hard beech forest in New Zealand(left) and Kidney fern(right)
Global Forum

Bouncing Back from Disaster in Urato Islands, Miyagi Pref., Japan

Y. Amano\textsuperscript{1}, K. Seriu\textsuperscript{1}, and M. Kawata\textsuperscript{2}

\textsuperscript{1} United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
\textsuperscript{2} Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University

Introduction

Matsushima Bay, located on the Pacific coast of Miyagi Prefecture in Japan, has 260 islands of various sizes and features a ria coastline that creates a unique landscape, making it a popular tourist attraction. With its scenic beauty, Matsushima Bay is recognized as one of the three best scenic sites of Japan and is protected under the Act on Protection of Cultural Properties. Most islands are uninhabited except four (Katsura Island, Nono Island, Sabusawa Island, and Ho Island). Together with nearby uninhabited islands, these four islands are collectively known as the Urato Islands.

With abundant natural resources provided by the ecosystem of the sea and islands, people’s livelihoods here have been supported and developed both economically and culturally. Their long history of engagement in both agriculture and fisheries has formed sustainable use of landscapes (\textit{satoyama}) and seascapes (\textit{satoumi}). Sendai Cabbage, a local vegetable that is easily intercrossed with other species, has been successfully cultivated on the Urato Islands. Also, the Urato Islands are famous for oyster cultivation thanks to their rich resources, and seed oysters are exported to other cultivation sites both within Japan and abroad, including the USA and France.

Issues & Facing Challenges

However, depopulation and the aging society in the Urato Islands have been challenge issues for a long time and have come to the fore in recent years. Particularly, the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011 accelerated the speed of depopulation from the Urato Islands. Though direct damages from the earthquake were not severe in comparison to other places, the wake of the earthquake and tsunami became a strong driving force for many residents to evacuate or move away from their home islands. While their major fisheries of oyster and \textit{nori} seaweed cultivation were quickly restored as these industries are crucial for the islands, depopulation still continues and threatens the maintenance of the communities.

Collaboration of organizations under the Satoyama Initiative

After the Great East Japan Earthquake, a variety of groups, including 116 countries and 28 international organizations, have come to support disaster-affected regions for relief and recovery. The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) has also teamed up with its diverse members, such as national universities and private industries, to ease the issues and
contribute to the recovery of communities in Urato Islands, based on the concept of the Satoyama Initiative.

In the initial stages of activities, shifting the mood of communities toward more forward-looking recovery and restoration was the fundamental step in achieving success. However, although there were many different groups coming to each of the Urato Islands to lend their support, there was very little or no cooperation between different groups, and their activities were carried out separately.

Moreover, it was found that, although strong bonds could be seen within communities, inter-island bonds were tenuous. Therefore, the first action was to organize community dialogues, inviting residents from all of the islands, representatives of administrative bodies including the Shiogama City Office, and related support groups such as NPOs, to consider the future of the Urato Islands.

From community voices to action

Two community dialogues were held, in 2012 and 2013. Participants in the dialogues discussed what could be done to improve their livelihoods. The following are merely some examples of outcomes from these dialogues.

Among opinions expressed by Urato residents, depopulation was the common and pressing threat to all four islands. In order to tackle this, residents in Urato Islands identified root causes of depopulation. First, the Act on Protection of Cultural Properties, which has protected the beauty of Matsushima Bay, has become a major barrier for the residents as the Act prohibits outsiders from building new houses, meaning that the islands cannot increase the number of residents. Communities in the Urato Islands decided to advocate for the need to reform the Act. Also, a refurbished school will be used for outsiders to stay and be trained to be fisherman and farmers, and the community has improved the transportation system between the mainland and the islands by purchasing their own mini boat endowed by a supporting organization, in order to transport people from the mainland.

In addition, residents also discussed the possibility of new industry, ecotourism. Women in the Urato Islands have been particularly interested in branding food processed using locally-produced ingredients, so they often gathered and consulted with a professional chef. As a result, a small food-processing factory is being constructed in Katsura Island to scale up production.

During the dialogues, many residents emphasized the need to promote the Urato Islands, particularly highlighting the beauty of the islands and Urato-related topics. In this regard, with the cooperation of IPSI members, a documentary video for the islands was made and introduced at a number of domestic and international events.

While the above outcomes are meaningful for the islands, it was found that most of the supportive activities were tending to contribute to fisheries rather than agriculture. This resulted in an increase in the area of abandoned agricultural land, making certain people, particularly those not directly involved in fisheries, feel increasingly isolated. The issue of abandoned agricultural land was brought up during a community dialogue. Some organizations have attempted to help, but these efforts did not last long. Therefore, a new project was initiated under the Satoyama Initiative to revitalize abandoned agricultural lands by involving community residents, particularly those who are still living in temporary housing after the earthquake. The project is still in its planning phase, as it was started in January 2015. By exchanging ideas and opinions from many stakeholders, this project aims to design inclusive activities for everyone and to continue sustainably.
Introducing Korea Environment Institute and its Global Strategy Center

Korea Environment Institute (KEI) is Korea’s leading think tank on environmental policies and environmental impact assessment. KEI was established by the Korean government in 1993 as a unique public research institute devoted to the field of the environmental policies. With more than 260 personnel with 88 Ph.D. level research staff, KEI has been at the core of development of environment agenda in Korea for the past 22 years. As part of the Korea Council of Economic and Social Research Institutes under the Prime Minister’s Office, KEI hold a vision to become a first-class environmental research institute forging sustainable future. Through cutting-edge research and rigorous analysis, KEI is dedicated to providing a future oriented environment policy research that can benefit the humanity. KEI’s policy research programs focus on environmental economics, climate change/air quality, environmental assessment, water environment, natural resource conservation and land planning, resource circulation, and environmental health.

Building on its 22-year experience on environment policy research, KEI has taken its work into a new level through international joint research and partnership. With a growing recognition of the needs for enhanced collaboration and coordination beyond national level, KEI launched its Global Strategy Center (GSC) in June 2010 to extend its body of work towards regional and global level. GSC works as the main implementing arm of KEI’s global partnership and outreach activities, especially on technical cooperation and capacity building in developing countries. GSC aims to become the Sustainable Development Cooperation Hub to serve as a global gateway for KEI and to provide a platform for joint research and knowledge sharing.

Vision and Strategy of GSC

The Global Strategy Center (GSC) of Korea Environment Institute was established to enhance international cooperation on environment policy research. GSC is active foremost in the promotion of global research cooperation to contribute to providing viable, forward-looking solutions for sustainable development. Through involvement in international/regional policy initiatives and network activities, GSC contributes to policy formulation through information dissemination and policy recommendations based on research outcomes of environmental issues and disciplines.

With the objective to become a Sustainable Development Cooperation Hub, GSC carries out relevant research which forms the basis for GSC’s global partnership and international research network. GSC’s research focuses on three major themes: environment & resource sustainability, policies & governance, and environment cooperation. GSC recognizes and fully endorses the interdisciplinary nature of the research for sustainable development. Focused on creating effective strategies to support
sustainable development, GSC's research outcomes are aimed to influence policy formulation at various levels. GSC also contributes to supporting developing countries by providing tailor-based solutions for environmental sustainability. With a strategic aim to intensify GSC's research cooperation in East Asia, majority of our work involves scoping for potential cooperation and joint research projects with our partner institutions in East Asia.

Research Projects Related to Ecology and Biodiversity

Over the past four years, GSC has been active on producing research publications with more than 50 publications which focuses on providing empirical, theoretical analysis and mid-and-long-term policy alternatives for sustainable development and global environmental cooperation. Joint research projects are research conducted with our international partners with the aim to develop strategies for sustainable environment. Policy studies and working papers provide preliminary research and analysis in response to some of the up-to-date issues relevant to sustainable development.

The PDF versions of the publications are available online from the KEI website (www.kei.re.kr) and GSC website (gsc.kei.re.kr). Attached is a table of some of the recent research publications from GSC related to ecology and biodiversity.

GSC is in search of potential cooperation with research institutes in the topics of developing of sustainable development strategies and environmental policies. GSC consists of 21 research staff with 9 Ph.D. research fellows in diverse academic fields and backgrounds. For any inquiries for potential cooperation please contact Global Strategy Center (Mr. Jun Hyun Park, International Coordinator, parkjh@kei.re.kr).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Environmental Changes over East Asia and the Response (I): Atmospheric Change and Biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Sustainable Strategy of Traditional Knowledge on Biological Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Sustainable Development of Eco-friendly Traditional Lifestyle in Rural Ethnic Minority Areas in Yunnan II</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Eco-friendly management for national park's resources and ecosystem conservation in Indonesia III</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Developing a Model for Access and Benefit Sharing of Biological Resources at Local Level I</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Research on the Criteria for Judging Usefulness of Biological Resources</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Eco-friendly Management for National Park’s Resource and Ecosystem Conservation in Indonesia II</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Sustainable Development of Eco-friendly Traditional Lifestyle in Rural Ethnic Minority Areas in Yunnan I</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Eco-friendly Management for National Park’s Resource and Ecosystem Conservation in Indonesia I</td>
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**Meetings and Congress**

*BES Symposium*

**The Ecology and Evolution of Emerging Plant Pests and Pathogens:**

*Challenges to Global Food Security and Ecosystem Reliance*

Penryn Campus, University of Exeter, Cornwall, UK

13 - 14 July 2015

This symposium will bring together experts in genetics, cell biology, ecology, evolution, plant pathology, modelling, microbiology, climate change, remote sensing, agriculture and forestry to synthesize recent research into emerging plant pests and pathogens (EPPPs) and share findings across disciplines. The aim is to describe the threat that EPPPs pose, the mechanisms by which they evolve and spread, the ecological and environmental factors that influence emergence, and the management strategies that can be used for control.

There will also be a Public Policy Debate, sponsored by SGM, on Monday 13th July, in Falmouth at the Maritime Museum. Tickets and travel to the venue are free to all those attending the Symposium.

Registration is open now:

http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/events/current_future_meetings/2015-annual-symposia/

- Early bird closes 31 May!

Contacts: Amelia Simpson, Events Manager
British Ecological Society
Charles Darwin House
12 Roger Street
London WC1N 2JU
Tel: 0207 685 2500
Fax: 0207 685 2501
The 10th INTECOL International Wetlands Conference
Hotspots of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services under Global Changes

September 19-24, 2016, Changshu, China

The 10th INTECOL International Wetlands Conference will be held in Changshu, China, September 19-24, 2016. This conference is the largest, most influential international conference in the field of wetland science and its applications. It is held every four years with the support of the INTECOL Wetlands Working Group (WWG).

The conference will provide a platform to review advances in research on wetland biodiversity and ecosystem management as well as the functional roles of wetlands in ecosystem services and wise use. The conference program will include various symposiums, workshops and open sessions related to the conference theme, plus a one day mid-conference excursion.

The conference is currently calling for symposium and workshop proposals. Each symposium should have two conveners and six speakers (15 min presentations plus 5 min discussions). It is anticipated that registration and accommodations will be provided for the two conveners of a number of high-quality symposiums that will be selected by the International Scientific Committee. Workshop proposals on wetland engineering, cultural values and technique applications are welcomed as well.

The proposals should include the following:
- The title of the symposium/workshop;
- The names of the conveners, with short 100-200 word CVs;
- A 300-500 word motivation explaining the theme and objectives of the symposium/workshop;
- The names of the speakers and the titles of their contributions, with an indication of their commitment to attend.

Please submit proposals to info@INTECOL-10iwc.com by June 30, 2015.
URL: http://www.INTECOL-10iwc.com
The INTECOL International Wetlands Conference is the largest, most influential international conference in the field of wetland science and applications. It is held every four years with the support of the INTECOL Wetland Working Group (WWG). We are pleased to announce that the 10th INTECOL International Wetlands Conference will be held in Changshu, China, on September 19-24, 2016.

This conference will provide a platform to review advances in research on wetland biodiversity and ecosystem management as well as the functionalities of wetlands in wastewater treatment, ecosystem services and wise use. The conference program will include various symposiums, workshops and open sessions related to the conference theme, plus a one-day mid-conference excursion.

Call for Symposia and Workshops
To promote collaboration and interdisciplinary dialogue, we invite you to propose symposia with specific topics. Each symposium should have two convenors and six speakers (15 min presentations plus 5 min discussions). We anticipate supporting the registration and accommodations for the two convenors of a number of high-quality symposiums, to be selected by the International Scientific Committee. We also invite you to propose workshops on any aspects of wetland engineering, cultural values and technical applications which will provide an exchange of information with other professionals. The proposals should include the following:

- The title of the symposium/workshop
- The names of the convenors, with short 100-200 word CVs
- A 200-500 word motivation explaining the theme and objectives of the symposium/workshop
- The names of the speakers and the titles of their contributions, with an indication of their commitment to attend

Please submit your proposals to info@INTECOL-10w.com by June 30, 2015.

Sponsorship Opportunities
There are still sponsorship opportunities available. You are welcome to take advantage of this occasion to promote your organization. A booth will be provided for your exhibitions.

Key Invited Plenary Speakers
Christopher Briggs (The Ramsar Secretariat, Switzerland); Robert Costanza (Australian National University, Australia); Betty Darim (Keeper of the Waters, USA); Nancy Dilke (Center for Ecology and Hydrology, Edinburgh, UK); Max Fath (Charles Stuart University, Australia); Richard Nobbs (University of Western Australia, Australia); Guanggen Ma (China Administration of Forestry & Forestry, China); Steve Pulsavy (University of Minnesota, USA); Jos Verhoeven (Utrecht University, The Netherlands); Shagufta Anjum (Nanjing University, China).

Key Dates
Acceptance of symposium and workshop proposals: By Aug. 31, 2015
Acceptance of Abstracts: By May 31, 2016
Early bird registration: From Feb. 28, 2016 to May 31, 2016

Mailing List & Questions
If you are interested in joining the mailing list, please send an email to list@INTECOL-10w.com. For any additional information, please contact info@INTECOL-10w.com.

Organizers
INTECOL, China;
NSC, Taiwan;
WWF, Switzerland;
MSFC, USA;
Major Science and Technology for water pollution control and treatment

Supporters
CCWC, USA;
INTECOL, China;

Hosts
INTECOL, China;
NSC, Taiwan;
WWF, Switzerland;
MSFC, USA;
Major Science and Technology for water pollution control and treatment

Conference Fees
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Early-bird Registration (US$)</th>
<th>Full Registration (US$)</th>
<th>On-site Registration (US$)</th>
<th>Student Registration (US$)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Conference (including abstract book and excursion)</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>265</td>
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<td>2. Abstract submission</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>3. Exhibition booth</td>
<td>1000</td>
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Note: Hotel prices range from $500 to $200 per day.

Contacts
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Professor of Ecology and Botany
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Download of this e-Bulletin is available at INTECOL Web-site (www.intecol.org)
INTECOL, International Association for Ecology

INTECOL is affiliated with the ICSU family of scientific organizations as the section responsible for general ecology within the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). The association will assist and/or support the development of the science of ecology and the application of ecological principles to global problems, especially by assisting international cooperation; the collection, evaluation and distribution of information about ecology; national, regional and international actions which will serve ecological research, training of personal, coordination of general publications of ecological principles and the recognition of the importance of ecology for economy and society; the organization of conferences, meetings, symposia, programs and projects, conduct of speaking-series, publication of manuscripts, and measures which are deemed necessary to reach the goals of the association.

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Bulletin Editor: Sun-Kee Hong (landskhong@gmail.com)

Deadline for sending information for next e-Bulletin
Vol. 9 No. 2, 31 May 2015