

WASWC HOT NEWS 2008 (10-extra) OCTOBER 25, 2008

Compiled and sent out monthly by Samran Sombatpanit, Editor

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This document is NOT properly edited, to enable a quick release, to meet many deadlines.

Previous information is available on the website <http://waswc.soil.gd.cn>, subpage WASWC HOT NEWS

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A FORUM: What name do you like: WOSEC, WOLAC, WOCON, LANDCON or else?

During the last few months we have had a discussion on how to organize a technical meeting successfully and, more importantly, nicely – that everyone works with one another pleasantly. A set of guidelines has been drafted and the Council is having its last round of discussion right now. We will soon announce the final version of Guidelines and anyone is free to use it.

However, there is one point that seems not to settle yet. That is the name of the series of meetings that WASWC will do either alone or with other societies/associations. This has stemmed from the fact that **we cannot depend on any other organizations that organize meetings in a broad soil and water conservation subject in a global coverage, in such a way that the events can be conducted productively, economically, and participatively.** Members who have read HOT NEWS for May and June this year may understand the situation well.

Now we want to organize meetings by our own or with other collaborators, but we need to find a practical name for the series of meetings, so that it can be cited continuously with good and correct meaning, and with ease. So far we got an initial name of “World Soil Erosion and Conservation meeting” or “**WOSEC meeting**” and it might be used provisionally until a more suitable name is found and agreed upon. The name can also be put as “World Soil and Water Conservation meeting”, with abbreviated forms like **WOSOCON, WOSCON** or **WOCON** to be even shorter. We thus have to sacrifice the middle ‘W’ that represents water since its inclusion will make pronunciation difficult.

A name of “WORLD LAND Conservation”, or **WOLAC** in short, was proposed, which seems good, as the word Land already covers soil, water, forest, mineral resources, etc. The abbreviated form can also be **WOLACO/WOLACON/WOLCON** as one may wish

Anyhow, if we think it is not needed to use the abbreviated form strictly, we may follow what some other organizations have done. For the Commission on Land Degradation and Desertification, they are using just **COMLAND**. If we will use “World Land Conservation meeting” in the previous paragraph, we may use **WOLCON, WOCON** or even **LANDCON** as the series name, by forgetting the word World altogether.

In the present context the word meeting will cover all events including **congress, conference, workshop, symposium, seminar** and **consultation**.

*We need opinion from ALL our members to acquire a good and workable series name and its proper abbreviated form. **Pls let us know what you think as soon as possible.** Many thanks in advance.*

– You are welcome to join us to make history –

WASWC Guidelines for Successful Meetings

(Near final version)

1. The purpose of a meeting should be first and foremost to promote the exchange of knowledge, innovations and experiences and to effectively record these and the result from deliberations for future use. The social benefit gained from such a meeting will be useful in terms of encouraging future cooperation, since the organizers may still keep contact with the participants and pursue some development in the fields related with the theme of the meeting that has been held. Meeting events are NEVER for the purpose of making financial gains for the hosts.
2. * The organizers should refrain from using the service from any 'meeting organizing firms,' which will be useful as their staff will gain more experience about organizing a meeting as well as to economize the cost, to enable as many participants as possible to attend. Instead, the organizers are encouraged to engage local academics-professionals and students to help in organizing the meetings and related field tours in order that they will learn about subjects being dealt with and to cause acquaintances between local persons and visiting professionals. Exception for this point may be given to certain high level meetings that crucially require professionalism in meeting management.
3. ** The organizers should economize the arrangement so that a reasonable registration fee could be levied to the participants. Search for donors/sponsors to help pay for certain expenses is encouraged. A mid-meeting field tour and a cultural evening should be included as a standard without any additional payment. Pre- and post-meeting tours should also be designed to be affordable as well as informative, thus to encourage a good number of participants to join.
4. * The organizers should concentrate on arranging field tours that deal directly with the subjects, because participants coming from many countries/regions can learn important practical things from first hand observation. Knowledgeable staff should be assigned to accompany the tour groups, especially with the mid-meeting tour where most delegates and their spouses join. There are many advantages from organizing a tour in the early part of the meeting, as participants can integrate and identify common interests which can be developed further over the duration of the meeting.
5. The meeting program should include opportunity for the participants to learn about nature and culture of the city/country where the meeting is held and leave enough time for them to undertake personal matters. The emphasis should be placed on keeping participants at the venue and not be absent to visit tourist sites or go shopping, which are NOT the purposes of such an expensive foreign travel normally NOT paid for by delegates themselves.
6. The meeting program should be arranged in a cost-effective way so that participants will be given an array of choices of activities to attend to and learn of new developments, techniques, express personal and organizational views, strengthen old and establish new linkages, and acquire and share relevant materials.
7. ** Planning of the topics to present and discuss should be in line with the present need of society and nature (e.g. poverty alleviation, climate change, energy-related issues) and the expected outcomes should be useful for future applications.
8. * Keynote speakers should be selected from a wide spectrum of professionals and countries, with consideration being given to a number of younger persons to get exposed and establish their professional relationships effectively and timely. Additionally, a number of scholarships should be provided for young professionals and those from less developed countries who have good quality papers to present.
9. ** For any meeting a small working group should be assigned to prepare a draft of the 'meeting summary' and, wherever possible/applicable, 'conclusions and recommendations'. The draft should be presented at the closure of the meeting and a well-edited script should be made available to all within 1 month. This script, of one or more pages, should summarize the main outcome of the meeting. It should be in a format that makes it useful for future reference, a record of outcomes, etc, and be published in relevant publications, newsletters etc, including the WASWC Newsletter.
10. The proceedings (CD or hardcopy) should be produced to distribute either at the meeting or supplied soon after. A summary, as referred in (9), should be made available either in the proceedings or in a separate cover. The proceedings and related documents could be posted on a website to be available for the general public. To increase the impact of the meeting, the organizers are encouraged, where possible and appropriate, to edit the papers presented at the meeting and publish as a book or a special number of a scientific journal.

First Announcement and Call for Papers

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE „WORLD SOIL EROSION AND CONSERVATION“ - WOSEC 1 -

Initiated by:

- **World Association of Soil and Water Conservation – WASWC**



- **Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade University, Serbia**



GLOBAL CHANGE – CHALLENGES FOR SOIL MANAGEMENT

**- FROM DEGRADATION - THROUGH SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION - TO SUSTAINABLE SOIL
MANAGEMENT -**

**May 27-30, 2009
Tara Mountain/Serbia**

PLEASE NOTE: The organizers of this conference will use the

WASWC guidelines for successful meetings.

You are invited to participate in this event, to be run by Prof
Miodrag Zlatic, WASWC President, and his team.

You will not be disappointed.

Organised jointly with:

- World Association for Sedimentation and Erosion Research (WASER)



- European Society for Soil Conservation (ESSC)



Convened in line with the objectives of:

- International Sediment Initiative (ISI – UNESCO)



Sponsored by:



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Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia, Directorate of Waters

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BACKGROUND

Soil, like air and water, is essential to support life on earth. Over 90% of all human food and livestock feed are produced from the land and from soils which vary in quality and extent. Of the earth's 13,000 million hectares of ice free-land surface, only 3% is covered with highly productive soils, just 6% with moderate productive, and 13% with slightly productive soils. The remaining 78% of the land has limitations that inhibit the sustainable cultivation of its soils and sometimes even for grazing. However, it is in such marginal lands that most land and soil degradation occurs (Hurni et al., 1996). It is from this context that we launch this First International Conference of the World Soil Erosion and Conservation (WOSEC 1) with the hope to discover new and better ways of counteracting the effects of land degradation and building more secure and self-sustainable patterns of agricultural land husbandry.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

Topic 1: Global Change and Soil Degradation

- *Global environmental changes*
- *Impact on society and economy*

Topic 2: Water Management

- *Floods and their control*
- *Watershed management*



Topic 3: Soil Erosion, Sediment Transport and Sedimentation Processes

- *Water and wind erosion*
- *Landslides, debris flows and rockfalls*
- *Sediment transport and sedimentation processes*
- *Impact of soil erosion and sediment transport on water quality*
- *Modelling of erosion and sedimentation processes*

Topic 4: Erosion and Torrent Control in Environmental Change

- *Risk management of natural hazards*



- *Erosion control*
- *Torrent control*
- *Wind erosion control*
- *Effects of erosion and torrent control works*
- *Eco-engineering and land restoration*
- *Vegetation, biodiversity and slope stability*
- *Rehabilitation of degraded soils*
- *Technologies, approaches and productivity*

- *Better Land Husbandry, progress and strategies*

Topic 5: Desertification

- *Desertification processes in the world*
- *Desertification control*

Topic 6: Socio-economic, Legal and Institutional Aspects of Soil and Water Conservation

- *Socio-economic aspects of erosion processes*
- *Long-term economic effects of erosion and torrent control*
- *Project management in erosion and torrent control*
- *Legal and institutional framework in ETC*
- *Strategy of soil protection*

Topic 7: Implementing Global/Regional Projects

- *WOCAT*
- *NCCR*
- *RIMADIMA*
- *Others*

Topic 8: Work of Younger Scholars

- *Work of younger scholars in implementing projects and programmes*
- *Ph.D. thesis reports*
- *Master's thesis reports*
- *Work of "Student's Forum of WASWC"*



INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- Rattan Lal, Ohio State University, USA
- Desmond E. Walling, president of WASER, University of Exeter, UK
- Martin J. Haigh, Special Representative of WASWC, Oxford Brookes University, UK
- Hans Hurni, CDE, University of Berne, Switzerland
- Michael Stocking, University of East Anglia, UK
- Jose Rubio, President of ESSC and Councilor of WASWC, Valencia, Spain
- Johannes Huebl, BOKU, Vienna, Austria
- Winfried Blum, BOKU, Vienna, Austria
- Galina Motuzova, Moscow University, Russia
- Miodrag Zlatic, President of WASWC, Belgrade University, Serbia
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- Michael Fullen, Councilor of WASWC, Univ. of Wolverhampton, UK
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- Samran Sombatpanit, Past President and Councilor of WASWC, Thailand
- Ted Napier, Ohio State University, USA
- Josef Krecek, Czech Technical University, Prague, Czech Republic
- Stanimir Kostadinov, Head of Dept. for Ecological Engineering, University of Belgrade, Serbia
- Nada Dragovic, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Serbia
- Stevan Bruk, emeritus prof. of Belgrade University, Serbia
- Godert van Lynden, ISRIC, Wageningen, Netherlands
- Ivan Blinkov, University Kiril and Metodi, Skopje, Macedonia
- Ivan Marinov, Forestry Institute of BAS, Bulgaria
- Sevilay Hacıyakupoglu, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey
- Ferhat Gokbulak, Istanbul University, Turkey
- Ratko Kadovic, Dean, Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade University, Serbia
- Anil Mishra, UNESCO-IHP
- Slobodan Petkovic, Prof. of Dept. of Ecological Engineering, Belgrade University, Serbia



VENUE – Tara Mountain, Serbia

NATIONAL PARK TARA

The Tara National Park, in the territory of Bajina Basta on Mount Tara, Western Serbia, is 180 km from Belgrade. This is an area of great scenic beauty and scientific significance for Nature Conservation. Indeed, the Tara National Park has been nominated by the Serbia and Montenegro Commission for UNESCO as a MOB Biosphere Reserve, possibly, through transboundary cooperation, managed jointly with Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Park is a mountain environment with a variety of mixed mountain and highland ecological systems. Its average altitude is 1,000-1,200 m and its range extends from the highest point at Kozji ridge at 1,591 m down to just 300 m. The Park contains two distinct regions: High Tara (11,562 ha) and Flat Tara (7,613 ha).

The Tara National Park was established in 1981 and is managed as public service under the 1993 Law on National Parks by Public Enterprise "National Park Tara", with a staff number of 270.

FLORA AND VEGETATION OF MOUNT TARA



Mount Tara is extensively forested, its forests rank among the best preserved, the highest quality and the most productive wood land ecosystems in Europe. In total, 1,013 plant species have been discovered on Mount Tara, almost 1/3 of the entire Serbian flora. Key species include *Picea omorika*, a living fossil of the European dendroflora,

In total, Mount Tara supports more than 35 different woodland communities, including deciduous forests, mixed (deciduous-coniferous) forests and coniferous forests as well as 19 meadow communities. Many, especially those with *Picea omorika*, yew, black European ash, barberries, walnut, eastern hornbeam, Balkan maple, Montpellier maple and Sumac have relict or endemorelict species.

FAUNA OF TARA

Mount Tara also supports great faunal biodiversity. Its records include: 115 species of butterflies; 27 species of fish; 12 species of amphibians; 12 species of reptiles; about 170 species of birds and 51 species of mammals, including the rare *Pyrgomorphella serbica* an endemorelict from the Pliocene.

Conference languages:

English will be the working language.



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Important deadlines

- **Abstract and registration submission: 15th December 2008**
- **Abstract acceptance: 15th January 2009**
- **Full paper submission: 20th February 2009**



FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE
„WORLD SOIL EROSION AND CONSERVATION“ – WOSEC 1

GLOBAL CHANGE – CHALLENGES FOR SOIL MANAGEMENT

Initiated by: World Association of Soil and Water Conservation & Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade University/Serbia

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Organisation.....

Address.....

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I am interested in:

- Attending the Conference (Please send me next circular)
- Presenting a paper entitled:.....
.....
- Presenting a poster entitled:

Contacts to Conference Organizers:

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² Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade University, Kneza Visaslava 1, 11030 Belgrade, Serbia; Phone: +381 11 3053 990/948; Fax: +381 11 2545 485

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Issue 5

INSIGHT ON ULTRA-LOW SEDIMENT FLOW PROVIDED BY ARGONAUT-ADV®

LOUISIANA, USA.

Louisiana's coastal wetlands provide vital wildlife habitat and a strong buffer against storms. But they are threatened by subsidence and cut off from the historic floods that built the Mississippi River Delta. Using SonTek Argonaut-ADV®, a Louisiana State University team captured continuous streams of data on shallow, slow-moving currents (down to 1 mm/s) that are notoriously difficult to measure. Their findings are teaching stakeholders how releases of sediment-rich pulses of water through a diversion structure near New Orleans may be managed to help rebuild marshes while minimizing impacts on local fisheries.

> www.sontek.com/news/UltraLowFlow.pdf



ACOUSTIC DOPPLER TECHNOLOGY ENABLES FAST ASSESSMENT OF POST-QUAKE HYDRAULIC CONDITIONS



SICHUAN PROVINCE, China.

A 7.9 magnitude earthquake in China left millions homeless and susceptible to thirst and water-borne disease as it ravaged the country's hydrology monitoring stations. SonTek/YSI immediately responded with assistance and hydroacoustic equipment — allowing hydrologists to gauge the speed and strength of water flow, as well as monitor drinking water distribution. The advanced RiverSurveyor®



provided fast assessment of flood conditions and did in minutes what had taken hours for a field crew with conventional instruments.
> www.sontek.com/news/ChinaQuake.pdf

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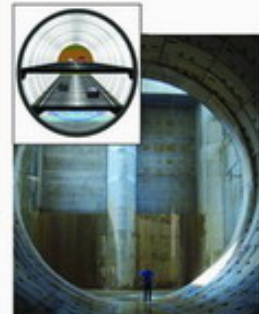
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A SMART WAY TO HANDLE FLOODS

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia.

Devastating floods are common in crowded Kuala Lumpur, necessitating the massive Stormwater Management and Road Tunnel (SMART) project. Because accurate and timely information on discharge and velocity are vital for success, 16 SonTek Argonaut-SL and Argonaut-SW current meters were required. Says Bruce Sproule, Greenspan Technology's International Manager, "SonTek equipment...was the easiest and most accurate to incorporate into this project. The support is good and the equipment reliable."

> www.sontek.com/news/SmartTunnel.pdf



The most common and widespread of the world's natural hazards is the flood. According to UNESCO, these disasters strike about 150 times, impact 500 million lives, and create at least \$60 billion in damages — each year. Providing fast and reliable flow data under unpredictable conditions is serious business at SonTek. And making a difference anywhere in the world means our instruments have to be accurate, reliable, and capable under extreme conditions.

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