1. Introducing the new ENSI secretariat **INFO**

The new ENSI secretariat will move officially from Switzerland to the Netherlands at the end of September 2006, however the new administrator Adry Nienhaus van Lint began her tasks at the beginning of September. Adry will be writing to you directly, to introduce herself and her role. In the meantime she can be contacted at A.NienhausvanLint@slo.nl

ENSI Vice President, Christine Affolter will also be playing a major role regarding the overall coordination of ENSI. She can be reached at christine.a.affolter@bluewin.ch

The vademecum attached to in the last internal mailing highlights how other roles and responsibilities have been divided across the Executive Committee, and the contribution of Johannes Tschapka on a 20% basis until May.

2. 2nd European Fair on Education for Sustainable Development: three new books launched, Info

The 2nd European Fair on Education for Sustainable Development (http://erp-sustainability.eu/fair), held in Hamburg, Germany on 13-15 September 2006 congregated around 200 delegates from 27 countries. In the context of the Fair, three new books on the subject matters of sustainable development and education for sustainable development were launched, which introduce Baltic, European and worldwide dimensions on these topics.

Book 1- Sustainable Development in the Baltic and Beyond
Edited by Walter Leal Filho, Arnolds Ubelis, Dina Berzina (2006)
hardback, clothbound, 611 pp.
This book documents and promotes the experiences from the
2nd Conference on Integrative Approaches Towards Sustainability (SHARING), held in
Jurmala, Latvia on May 11th to 24th, 2005. Attended by over 200 delegates from
across the Baltic Sea region and beyond, the event
provided an important contribution towards strengthening the integration
of the region’s RTD community and the sharing of knowledge
and expertise in the Baltic, across Europe (including the Mediterranean and Black Sea
regions and elsewhere.
Book 2- Innovation, Education and Communication for Sustainable Development
Edited by Walter Leal Filho (2006)
0-8204-8716-3 hardback, clothbound, 763 pp.
This book combines approaches, methods and analyses which illustrate the
contribution of innovation, education and communication to the cause of
sustainable development. It is prepared as part of the INTERREG IIIB (North Sea)
Project «SmartLIFE», a partnership between three EU regions
Germany, Sweden and the UK. It is also a further means of support to
the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, since there is a
paucity of academic and at the same time practice-related books which go over and
above the theory of education and of sustainable development
and move on to address the various problems related to it
Book 3- Innovative Approaches to Education for Sustainable Development
Edited by Walter Leal Filho and Mario Salomone (2006)
Peter Lang Scientific Publishers,
This book presents a compilation of some of the key note speeches and
papers delivered at the Third World Environmental Education Congress –
3WEEC (Turin, Italy, 3-6 October 2005). It includes a number of the
contributions in various subjects discussed in the Congress, whose lead
theme was “Educational paths towards Sustainability”.
This book also presents a wide range of initiatives and projects in the
field of environmental education presented and discussed at the event,
with a special emphasis to the scientific, educational and participatory
aspects which characterised the Congress and considers how they are
linked with sustainable development.
Further details on the books and on how to place orders are available
from the publishers on-line at: http://www.peterlang.de

3.EU Finnish Presidency Meeting on Bio Diversity, INFO
The organisers of the Finnish meeting of the European Platform for
Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS)
(http://www.epbrs.org/epbrs_next%20meeting.html) invite you to
participate in the electronic conference "Actions for the 2010
biodiversity target in Europe- how does research contribute to halting the biodiversity loss?” which will run from the 25th September to the 13th October 2006. The results of the Electronic Conference will be presented at the EPBRS delegates meeting in Helsinki, Finland on the 17th-19th November 2006.

The E-conference preceding the Finnish EPBRS meeting will focus on the three following issues:

Session I: How to reach the 2010-and beyond- target: research influencing policy. This session will be chaired by Dr Terry Parr (CEH) and will be divided into three topics:
- Effects of research on biodiversity policy including examples of best practice,
- Communication gaps for the use of biodiversity research to halt the loss of biodiversity and
- Three most important research topics for halting biodiversity decline and their justification.

Session II: Biodiversity in education: Youth and biodiversity, chaired by Professor Mauri Ahlberg (University of Helsinki) has two topics:
- Innovations to promote biodiversity by co-operation of teachers and scientists and
- Schools as activators of the monitoring of environmental change.

Session III: Urban ecology and biodiversity, chaired by Professor Stephan Pauleit (Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning, Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Denmark), will focus on the status, trends and research needs in urban biodiversity in Europe.

You are kindly invited to subscribe to the electronic conference by filling the subscription form available at: http://www.nbu.ac.uk/biota/e-conference.htm. In case of any difficulty subscribing, please e-mail Juliette Young j.young@ceh.ac.uk. Note that there is no need to subscribe if you subscribed to the last BioPlatform e-conference - you will automatically have access to this e-conference. We would appreciate your kind help in forwarding this announcement to anyone who might be interested.

4. Good Practices and ESD – message from UNECE,ACTION

Further to our message below, we would like to kindly ask you whether the Environment and School Initiatives plans to submit its "good practice I ESD" for a joint UNECE-UNESCO publication.

As you may know, this activity has been valued by the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD as an important tool for exchange of experiences among governments and stakeholders. Furthermore, the publication will be presented at the high level segment on ESD that is expected to take place at the Sixth "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference (Belgrade, October 2007).

With the view of the rich experience that the Environment and Scool Initiatives has in ESD and that it provided continues support to the implementation of the UN Decade of ESD, we believe, that your contribution will be a very beneficial for governments and stakeholders. Moreover, this would also give opportunity to your organisation communicate its
achievements to other parties. Since we are about to finalise compilation of the "good practices", it will be very helpful to receive your reply by 1 October 2006.

5. Message from ENSI QC-ESD working Group ACTION

Please find attached a very short questionnaire and a follow up letter. The questionnaire deals with the Quality Criteria for ESD Schools booklet and how you have made use of it / plan to use in your country. The follow up letter explains in more details how Michela, Søren and I anticipate to involve you in the further work. In this way we help each other to share the experiences about the development of ESD schools and follow the dissemination of the Quality Criteria for ESD Schools.

Please fill out the questionnaire and send it back to michela.mayer@invalsi.it before the end of September 2006.

Best wishes

Finn Mogensen