

## What's New?

Keep up to date with new initiatives and activities in the Ecohealth field. Regular updates are available at the *EcoHealth* website: <http://www.ecohealth.net>.

### COHAB 2 CONFERENCE 2008

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The second Conference on Health and Biodiversity (COHAB) has been scheduled for February 25–28, 2008 in Galway, Ireland. Delegates from 60 countries are expected to attend, including representatives from a number of United Nations agencies. Three workshops are currently scheduled: “Disaster Relief and Emergency Response”—harnessing ecosystem services for prevention, recovery, and redevelopment programs; “Food Resources, Diet, and Nutrition”—meeting food security and poverty challenges with biodiversity; and “Emerging Infectious Diseases”—integrating biodiversity conservation and management into disease prevention and control programs. It is intended that these workshops produce a series of reports to be presented at future meetings on environment, health, climate change, and development. Additional workshops are proposed to take place immediately after the main conference on topics including indigenous peoples’ nutrition and natural food resources, and biodiversity, trade, and health.

More information on the conference and the brochure can be found at: <http://www.cohabnet.org/cohab2008/index.htm>.

### GLOBAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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Yale University in New Haven, CT, will be hosting Unite for Sight’s 5th Annual International Health Conference on April 12–13, 2008. While several of the sessions are focused on vision-related issues in the developing world, several

ecohealth-related sessions are scheduled, including: University Collaboration in Global Infectious Diseases Research; The Environment and Global Health; Infectious Disease, Prevention, and Community Strategies; Neglected Tropical Diseases; Community Health Models; Innovative Strategies to Improve Health in the Developing World; and keynote addresses by Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, Dr. Sonia Sachs, Dr. Susan Blumenthal, and Dr. Jim Yong Kim. Many international public health and medical practitioners, researchers, and community health educators are expected to attend.

For more information, please visit: <http://uniteforsight.org/conference/2008/index.php>.

### GLOBAL ANIMAL HEALTH INITIATIVE CONFERENCE

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The World Bank and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) held a Conference titled “Global Animal Health Initiative: The Way Forward” at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC, October 9–11, 2007. This conference was held in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. Attended by 123 veterinarians, public health practitioners, economists, and development experts, the primary goal was to share information related to the threats of emerging zoonoses and their movement in today’s globalized markets. The Conference confirmed that some of the most pressing needs are to fund gap analyses, to develop lobbying activities to promote investments in developing countries to support compliance with international veterinary standards, and to ensure adequate funding for crises involving epizootics and zoonoses in developing countries to aid in the prevention and management of public health emergencies linked to animal diseases.

For more information, visit: [http://www.oie.int/eng/OIE-WB\\_Conference\\_1007/en\\_Global\\_Animal\\_Health\\_Initiative.htm](http://www.oie.int/eng/OIE-WB_Conference_1007/en_Global_Animal_Health_Initiative.htm).

## XVI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY FOR HUMAN ECOLOGY

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The next conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE) will be held at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA, on September 10–13, 2008. The theme of this year's conference is "Integrative Thinking for Complex Futures: Creating Resilience in Human–Nature Systems." Anticipated session themes include Urban Human Ecology, Conservation Psychology, and Interdisciplinary Environmental Program Design, among others.

More information will be posted as available on the SHE website: <http://www.societyforhumanecology.org/>.

## ECOVET WEBSITE LAUNCH

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An online community forum was recently launched for veterinarians and wildlife professionals interested in conservation medicine. EcoVet aims to encourage online discussion, exploration of training and preparation programs, as well as future opportunities for veterinary specialists in conservation medicine and ecosystem

health. The site ultimately hopes to foster cooperation and discussion between disciplines focused on the One Health Concept.

The site can be found at: <http://www.ecovetinternational.com>.

## ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT—2ND BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ECOLOGY AND HEALTH: 2008

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The International Association of Ecology and Health is pleased to announce that the next biennial conference will be held December 1–5, 2008 and co-convened with the International Development Research Centre (<http://www.idrc.ca>). The conference will be held in Merida, Mexico, hosted by the Instituto Nacional Salud Publica (INSP) (<http://www.insp.mx>). All members of the International Association for Ecology and Health will receive discounted registration at the event and will be kept notified of forthcoming deadlines for abstract submission, registration, Association activities, and student events.

Full details about the conference will be updated regularly at the *EcoHealth* website: <http://www.ecohealth.net/events.php>.

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