



**GLOBAL**

**Mangrove database and**

**Information System**



# **GLOMIS News**

**GLOMIS Newsletter No. 2. Issue December 2000**

## **GLOMIS Moves Forwards**

The 29th Session of the ITTC, Council of the International Tropical Timber Organization, was held at Yokohama, from 30 October to 4 November 2000. At the Plenary Session Chaired by Prof. Pisal Wasuwanich of Thailand, ISME was requested to report on Phase I of GLOMIS Project. Dr. S. Baba, Executive Secretary of ISME, explained the reasons why it had become necessary to request the Council to grant an extension of four months for completion of the programme of Phase I, with no additional funds. Phase I is now extended up to the end of March 2001. Dr. Vannucci was requested to explain why a small increase in funds for the implementation of Phase II of GLOMIS was requested by ISME, following a recommendation of the Board of GLOMIS. Funds of US\$209,868 have been approved to strengthen Phase II of the Project and ensure better quality control of the information to be put on line.

The Executive Director of ITTO, Dr. Manoel Sobral Filho, and many Council members, in addition to members of the staff of ITTO, expressed keen interest in GLOMIS which is planned to be the world-wide information system for mangroves. Mangroves are formations to be found mainly in developing countries, which are usually starved of information. The GLOMIS Database will therefore be of particular interest to such countries where libraries are few and often ill equipped.

Preparations are being made for the soft-launching of GLOMIS which will take place before the end of the year. The official launching of GLOMIS will take place in the month of March 2001. The intervening period between the soft launching and the official inauguration of GLOMIS will be an experimental period to finalize the GLOMIS Home Page, test the system for the operational efficiency and accessibility. During this period also formal links will be established with at least two other Databases with information on mangroves, which are as yet being constructed and will open soon. These are the FAO Database and the Database of the Laboratoire d'Ecologie Terrestre at Toulouse. Both will have mangrove components.

The Face page of GLOMIS will be formally opened at the inaugural ceremony that will take place in Okinawa, March 2001.

## **Welcome back, Dr. Vannucci!**

For an inevitable reason, the Project Coordinator of GLOMIS, Dr. Luiz Drude de Lacerda, was unable to continue to be fully active in his position of the Coordinator. At the request of the Project Steering Committee, and with full recognition of the ITTO, Dr. Marta Vannucci took over the position of the Project Coordinator for the remaining period of the Phase-I of the Project. She was the first Project Coordinator of GLOMIS when the Project started in 1997. Dr. Vannucci is a world-leading scientist, specialized in Biological Oceanography. She is a former Chief Technical Adviser of the UNESCO/UNDP mangrove projects. We take this opportunity to thank Dr. Lacerda for his work as Project Coordinator. He remains in the Project as the Leader of the Brazil Regional Centre.

## **The Board of GLOMIS**

The Board of GLOMIS is an advisory body, chaired by the President of ISME. It holds responsibility for the scientific and professional aspects of GLOMIS, for the improvements and updating of the Database and other related activities of an Information System, specially for promoting conservation, sustainable utilization and rational management of mangrove ecosystems. The Board of GLOMIS is composed of the President, the Executive Secretary of ISME, the Project Coordinator, and the following members who were appointed at the beginning of the Project:

Dr. Kazuhiko Ogino

Professor, School of Environmental Sciences,  
University of Shiga Prefecture, Hikone, Japan

Prof. F. Blasco

Directeur du Laboratoire d'Ecologie Terrestre,  
Toulouse, France

Dr. E. S. Diop

Senior Environmental Affairs Officer, Div. of EIA &  
EW, UNEP, Nairobi, Kenya

## **Forthcoming Meetings of Interest**

- UNU-UNESCO International Course, Biodiversity in Mangrove Ecosystems  
Contact: Dr. AN. Subramanian, Annamalai Univ.  
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12-26 March 2001, Tamil Nadu, India

(Forthcoming Meetings continue on the next page)

- 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Associated Session of the Committees.  
e-mail: [itto@itto.or.jp](mailto:itto@itto.or.jp)  
28 May – 2 June 2001, Yaounde, Cameroon
- International Symposium on Mangroves  
Research Centre for Advanced Science and Technology (RCAST)  
Web: <http://www.bio.rcast.u-tokyo.ac.jp/symposium>  
10-12 July 2001, Tokyo, Japan
- IX Congreso latinoamericano sobre ciencias del Mar. Colacmar – y XII seminario Nacional de ciencia, política y tecnología del Mar,  
e-mail: [colacmar@bacata.usc.unal.edu.co](mailto:colacmar@bacata.usc.unal.edu.co);  
[colacmar@yahoo.com](mailto:colacmar@yahoo.com)  
September 16-20, 2001, San Andres Isla, Colombia

## Update from the Ghana Regional Centre

The data entries for the Africa region mangrove database have continued to be put on record. The regional coordinator has taken on two assistants to help with the task of data entry. The extra help is also an advantage in the crosschecking of data, which has been entered. The assistants are, Ms. Selina, K. Yawson and Ms Yela Awunyo-Akaba who both hold B.Sc degrees in Zoology, from the University of Ghana.

Attention in this last quarter has been focussed on checking the entries for the reference database for relevance and availability (in cases of grey literature). This has led to a reduction in the number of references in the database to 308. Due to input from the ISME membership database, the number of Mangrove scientists in Africa recorded in GLOMIS has grown to 79 while we have on file about 60 institutes which carryout some work on mangroves.

In this quarter, visits are planned to Senegal and to Kenya by the staff of the regional centre in the effort to collect information for GLOMIS. It is expected that the direct and personal approach will result in more networking with our fellow scientists.

"[GLObal Mangrove Database and Information System \(GLOMIS\)](http://www.glomis.com)" is an International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)/International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems (ISME) Project, PD 14/97 Rev.1(F). [GLOMIS](http://www.glomis.com) is based at ISME's Secretariat in Okinawa, Japan and is supported by four regional centres located in Brazil, Fiji, Ghana and India:

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### **India Regional Centre (for South and South East Asia)**

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**GLOMIS site will be opened shortly:**

**<http://www.glomis.com>**

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Global Mangrove Database and Information System  
(GLOMIS)**

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