

## Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) and its scientists received awards at the 4<sup>th</sup> IGBP Congress in Cape Town.

Cape Town, Wednesday 7 May 2008



Guy Midgley, Tasneem Essop, Ellen-Barbe Goldberg (LOICZ)

Scientific expert and general public posters have been a central part of the 4th IGBP Congress "Sustainable Livelihoods in a Changing Earth system" 5-9 May in Cape Town, South Africa.

Public posters that reflected the best public communication of their themes and expert posters presenting IGBP related scientific research results to specialist scientists received awards at the Congress.

LOICZ won and received the award from Tasneem Essop [Minister Environmental affairs and Tourism] and Guy Midgley [Chief Specialist, Global Change and Biodiversity program, with the South African National Biodiversity Institute and Local Organizing Committee] at the official IGBP dinner on Wednesday 7 May 2008.

### Award for the best Public Posters:



Rank first: Juergen Weichselgartner: Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone; International Project Office at GKSS Research Centre Geesthacht

Rank second: William Dennison: Scientifically based Environmental Report Cards as a Tool for Environmental Management (LOICZ Scientific Steering Committee Member)

### Best Expert Poster:

Rank first: Nancy Rabalais: Hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico (LOICZ Scientific Steering Committee Member)

### More details:

### Public Posters

## **Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) and its scientists received awards at the 4<sup>th</sup> IGBP Congress in Cape Town.**

### **Target Audience:**

One of the key objectives of this IGBP event is to communicate IGBP science to a broader audience than that of specialist scientists, and the aim of the public posters is to facilitate this process in Cape Town. These posters are therefore aimed at members of the public with a school-leaving level of knowledge (a level that we have found useful to guide our attempts to communicate climate change science broadly to the public in South Africa).

### **Themes:**

1. Core national committee or regional objectives in IGBP-related science, with an emphasis on the role of the contributions of scientists to national environmental challenges.
2. Core IPO objectives and the role of each project office in guiding policy, with an emphasis on latest findings, breakthroughs, and the challenge and reward of a career in science.
3. Individual specialist's perspectives on the role of their scientific activities in guiding societal responses to environmental challenges.

### **Publication of posters:**

As an experiment in outreach and education, we aim to publish a selection of the public posters in a booklet, using the extended 650 word abstract supplied and appropriate figures/charts/images supplied by the authors. This booklet will allow the posters to have a life beyond the conference and be disseminated much more widely.

### **Expert Posters**

#### **Target Audience:**

They are posters presenting IGBP related scientific research results to specialist scientists.

#### **Themes:**

1. Models of the land-surface under modern and palaeo-conditions;
2. Aerosol-cloud-precipitation-climate interactions;
3. Land System Change: Competing for food, energy and environmental services / Biofuels / Links between environmental stress and food security in Africa;
4. Mega-cities / Urbanization in a Changing Climate;
5. Interconnections between air pollution, climate change, energy and human impacts – science, technology and policy;
6. Social-Ecological Systems Analysis in a Changing Earth System;
7. Oceans: Vulnerability of coastal livelihoods and response strategies to changing earth system; Ocean biogeochemistry; Climate Change;
8. Nitrogen in the Earth System: from fundamental research to application;
9. Water cycle, water resources, floods and drought;
10. Carbon: Regional to Global perspectives: sources, sinks, dynamics;
11. Monsoon Systems: Interactions with and Implications for the Earth System;
12. Regional knowledge systems for sustainable development.