

# Ecosystem Research

## ABOUT ECOSYSTEM RESEARCH

Ecosystem Research deals with the holistic understanding of properties, inherent actors and external driving forces of ecosystems. Stimulated by major environmental problems, detailed surveys of abiotic forces, organisms, energy and matter fluxes were conducted in managed systems. The 1970s' and 1980's IBP (International Biological Programme) publications impressively document an area of basic ecosystem understanding.

The necessity of long-term observation and modelling for this purpose has been demonstrated and emphasized repeatedly. Recent activities have increasingly opened up towards biological diversity and societal issues as both components and major driving forces of ecosystems.

The GfÖ Specialist Group Ecosystem Research was founded in 1999. Our aim is to bring together ecologists and societal stakeholders in order to sustain ecosystem services as the basic preconditions of human life.

## MEMBERS

- √ About 70 members
- √ Members from France, Germany, Switzerland and The Netherlands
- √ Agricultural Ecologists, Community Ecologists, Ecosystem Ecologists, Ecotoxicologists, Geographers, Microbial Ecologists, Modellers, Soil Ecologists, Soil Scientists, Theoretical Ecologists, and others

## Gesellschaft für Ökologie

Ecological Society of Germany, Austria and Switzerland



Participants of our workshop 'The Ecosystem Approach of the CBD - Between Scientific Concepts and Practical Demands' held at Landeskulturzentrum Salzau near Kiel in May 2006

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

- √ Symposium as part of the GfÖ Annual Conference 2006  
**Long-Term Studies in Ecosystems**
- √ Workshop 2006  
**The Ecosystem Approach of the CBD -  
Between Scientific Concepts and Practical Demands**
- √ Joint Meeting with SG „Soil Ecology“ 2005  
**Above ground and below ground:  
Decomposer and primary producer interactions**
- √ Workshop 2005  
**Establishment of a Long-Term Ecological Research  
Network (with several other actors)**

## FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- √ Further Symposia as part of GfÖ Annual Conferences
- √ Further Workshops (In consideration for 2007: Global Change)
- √ Intensification and Extension of our international network

<http://www.gfoe.org>

