



The International Year of Planet Earth

Earth Sciences for Society
(Triennium 2007-2009)

Memorandum of Understanding

Preamble

The International Year of Planet Earth, as proclaimed by the United Nations during its 60th General Assembly, is a 3-years event (2007-2009) aimed at promoting the contribution to sustainable development of society by using knowledge and information provided by the geosciences. The International Year of Planet Earth is a joint initiative by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and UNESCO, supported by 12 Founding Partners and 26 Associate Partners, sponsors and donors.

Implementation will take place through a Science and an Outreach Programme and will be both at an international and at national levels. The Corporation of the International Year of Planet Earth will be responsible for international implementation and National Committees on national levels. More detailed information regarding the general organization of the International Year of Planet Earth is available in the Business Plan and in the Status Report (www.yearofplanetearth.org). This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) describes the relations between the Hungarian National Committee of the Year of Planet Earth (NC IYPE HU) and the Corporation.

The Parties

1. The Corporation of the International Year of Planet Earth
2. The National Committee of the Year of Planet Earth for HUNGARY (NC IYPE HU)

Agree to cooperate in terms of this Memorandum of Understanding in the organization and the implementation of the International Year of Planet Earth. They also agree to organize and conduct the business as follows.

The composition of the National Committees

The NC IYPE HU of the International Year of Planet Earth should preferably comprise:

- representatives of the initiating bodies (IUGS and UNESCO),
- Representatives of relevant governmental bodies (including the geological survey organisation(s))

- representatives of major non-governmental national geoscientific organisations (such as the geological and geophysical societies, universities, et cetera)
- representatives of Founding Partner, Associate Partners and IGCP
- Representatives of relevant industries.

The organisational structure of the NCs should be as light and flexible as possible and will comprise a:

- Chairman,
- Secretary,
- Treasurer
- Contact Person with the Corporation.

A list of the above representatives is attached as Annex 1.

National Committees-Corporation relationships

The NCs are independent bodies. However, it is important to maintain mutual relationships to the benefit of both Parties.

The NCs will benefit from:

1. The preparatory work done on an international level including the political awareness raised among the 191 member countries of the United Nations through UN proclamation by the UN General Assembly on 22nd December 2005;
2. The use of the Year's logo;
3. The science, outreach brochures and other documents of the International Year of Planet Earth;
4. The granting mechanism for international science and outreach projects;
5. The attention given to the Committee in the international website and listing of national event on the international calendar of events of the Corporation;
6. The opportunities and synergy with projects in cooperation with the other science years (IPY, IHY and eGY);
7. The other services and assistance provided by the Secretariat of the Corporation upon request.

The Corporation will benefit from:

1. The impact of the NC IYPE HUNGARY activities contributing to the success of the global awareness on the use of the geosciences for society;
2. The various national activities serving as models for international activities and for other NCs;
3. The various inputs from NC IYPE HU, particularly regarding the performance indicators, in the reports by the Corporation to the United Nations.

Responsibilities of the Parties

The activities of the International Year of Planet Earth will be implemented on international levels by the Corporation and on national levels by the NC IYPE HU. In this respect,

The NC IYPE HU

1. Has selected all three years of the triennium 2007, 2008, 2009 as the National Year of Planet Earth and to become effective at the beginning of the triennium.
2. Will develop their national science activities so as to contribute to answer some of the key questions posed in the science brochures to assist national and international decision makers. The 10 themes of the Sciences Programme constitutes a framework to identify in each country some major questions of national and international interest;
3. Will develop outreach activities so as to generate interest and greater awareness among the general public, decision makers and politicians about the effective application, for the betterment of human society, of the widely available wealth of information in the hands of the Earth science community;
4. Will select and propose science and outreach projects of a supranational level to be submitted for (co-)sponsoring by the Corporation;
5. Will develop a website (http://www.ggki.hu/planet_earth/index.htm) hot-linked to www.yearofplanetearth.org and vice versa.
6. Is responsible for the contents of the national calendar of the International Year of Planet Earth activities;
7. Is invited to translate key documents presented on the Corporation's website in Hungarian and make these available on its national and the international website;
8. Will raise financial support within Hungary to implement their activities on a national scale;
9. Will contribute to the administration costs of the Corporation by providing 3% of their cash income from national resources to the Corporation in return for the freely received publicity and facilitation services by the Corporation;

The Corporation

1. Is responsible for the international science and outreach programme of the International Year of Planet Earth activities;
2. Will support science and outreach projects with international dimensions submitted for (seed money) co-funding to the Corporation by the NC IYPE HU;
3. Will assist, if requested, the NC IYPE HU in its efforts to develop their science and outreach activities, through the Science Programme and Outreach Programme Committees;
4. Will provide the Year's logo to the NC IYPE HU;
5. Will keep a listing all national events on a worldwide calendar of events;

6. Will develop a discussion and communication site for all National Committees on the website (portal) of the Corporation;
7. Will maintain service facilities to the NC IYPE HU through the Corporation's Secretariat;
8. Will raise financial support from international resources to implement international science and outreach activities, accessible to NCs as well.

Dr. Károly Brezsnnyánszky
Chairman of NC IYPE HU

Prof. Eduardo F. J. De MUELDER
chair, Board of Officers, IYPE

Budapest, April 23, 2007