

Announcement

## ***Workshop on Taxonomy of Zooplankton: Rotifera***

**5-13 February 2010, Hue University, Vietnam**



The Centre for Coastal Management and Development Studies (CMD) of Hue University of Sciences, together with the Belgian Focal Point to the Global Taxonomy Initiative, financed by the Belgian Development Cooperation are organizing a workshop that aims at improving capacity in the taxonomic study of zooplankton, in particular Rotifera. The workshop, which will be held 5-13 February 2010 at Hue University, will focus on basic techniques and approaches required to perform taxonomic studies on rotifers while applying a practical, hands-on approach to the subject. It is aimed at early-career (MSc, PhD students and early postdoctoral) scientists who intend to conduct fundamental or applied, taxonomy-oriented biodiversity research involving Rotifera. Teaching will be done by Dr H. Segers of the Belgian Royal Institute of Natural Sciences, one of the world's leading experts on the subject.

### **Workshop programme**

A preliminary agenda of the workshop is as below; this agenda will be adapted to the specific needs of the trainees, as expressed in their application.

- *Saturday, 6: Opening session*  
Introduction to Rotifera: morphology, ecology, diversity, and reproduction;  
Microscopy and lab techniques
- *Sunday, 7: Field work*  
Zooplankton sampling: quantitative and qualitative sampling
- *Monday, 8: Laboratory training*  
AM: study of life rotifers, introduction to taxonomy and systematics;  
PM: identification: use of identification keys, preparation of rotifer trophi and permanent slides
- *Tuesday, 9: Laboratory training*  
AM: Identification of selected rotifer taxa (Brachionidae, Lecanidae)  
PM: practical work
- *Wednesday, 10: Laboratory training*  
AM: Scientific drawing of rotifers; Zoological nomenclature  
PM: practical work
- *Thursday, 11: Laboratory training*  
AM: Identification of selected rotifer taxa (Trichocercidae, Synchaetidae)  
PM: The future of taxonomic Research on Zooplankton, esp. Rotifera
- *Friday, 12: Conclusion of the workshop*  
AM: Ins and outs of writing a scientific paper; State of the art and future of rotifer taxonomic research  
PM: wrap-up and feedback

The workshop will be held entirely in English and no translation is foreseen; a working knowledge of English is therefore required.

## **Application and eligibility**

To optimise the efficiency of the training, the workshop will be open to a **maximum of 15 participants**, both Vietnamese nationals and nationals of other Asian countries.

A small number of grants, covering travel and living expenses is offered by the Belgian Development Cooperation through the Belgian Focal Point to the Global Taxonomy Initiative. Eligible candidates (nationals of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos) for these grants should include a realistic estimation of the travel costs in their application. Other participants are expected to cover their own travel, accommodation and living expenses (estimated at ~ 50US\$ per day).

Tuition is free and sponsored by the Belgian Development Cooperation, through the Belgian Focal Point to the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

Applications for the workshop should contain (1) a CV of the candidate, and (2) a short motivation, including specific capacity building needs, if any, and an indication of how the training will contribute to the applicant's activities. Applications should be sent **by e-mail, and before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010** to the Centre for Coastal Management and Development Studies ([cmdhus@gmail.com](mailto:cmdhus@gmail.com)) **and** to Dr H. Segers (at [hendrik.segers@naturalsciences.be](mailto:hendrik.segers@naturalsciences.be)).