

# The International Geosphere - Biosphere Programme



# Role and Objective of IGBP

IGBP is an international scientific research programme on global change. Its objective is:



- to describe and understand Earth System dynamics,
- focusing on the interactive biological, chemical and physical processes,
- the changes that are occurring in these dynamics,
- and the role of human activities in these changes.

# What is Global Change?

- Global Change is more than Global Climate Change
- It has natural PLUS human/social dimensions
- A constellation of changes, many global in domain

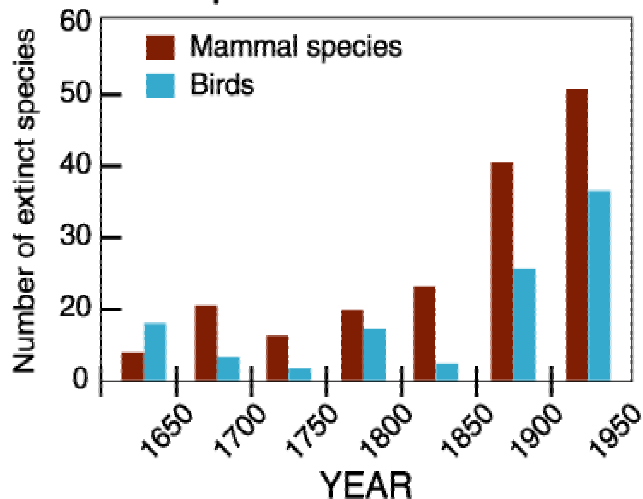
*For example, we see large changes in:*

Human Population

people

Nitrogen Flux to Coastal Zone

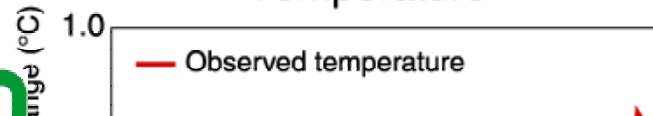
Species Extinctions



Reid & Miller (1989)

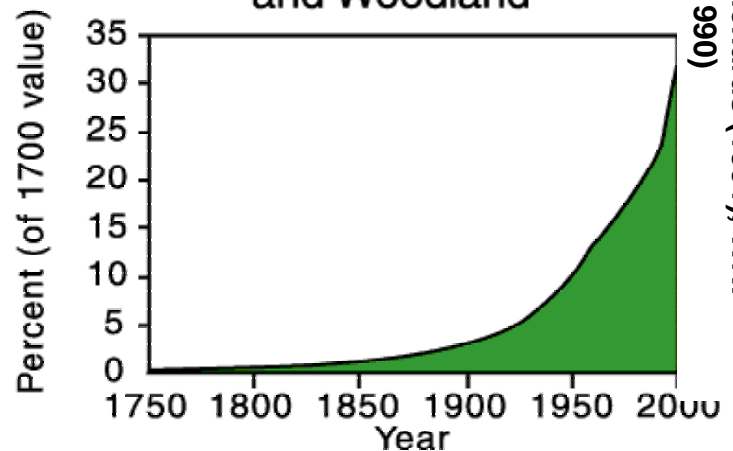
Mackenzie et al (2002)

Temperature



Observed temperature

Loss of Tropical Rain Forest and Woodland



Richards (1991), WRI (1990)

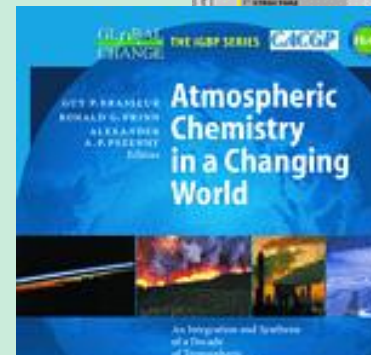
Vitousek (1994)

CO<sub>2</sub> concentration (μL/L)

NOAA

# Products

- Synthesis papers
- Journal special issues
- Books (e.g., IGBP Series)
- Science Plans
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Science Series
- Annual Report
- IGBP & project brochures
- IGBP Directory
- Website
- PowerPoint presentations
- Press releases, events



[www.igbp.net](http://www.igbp.net)

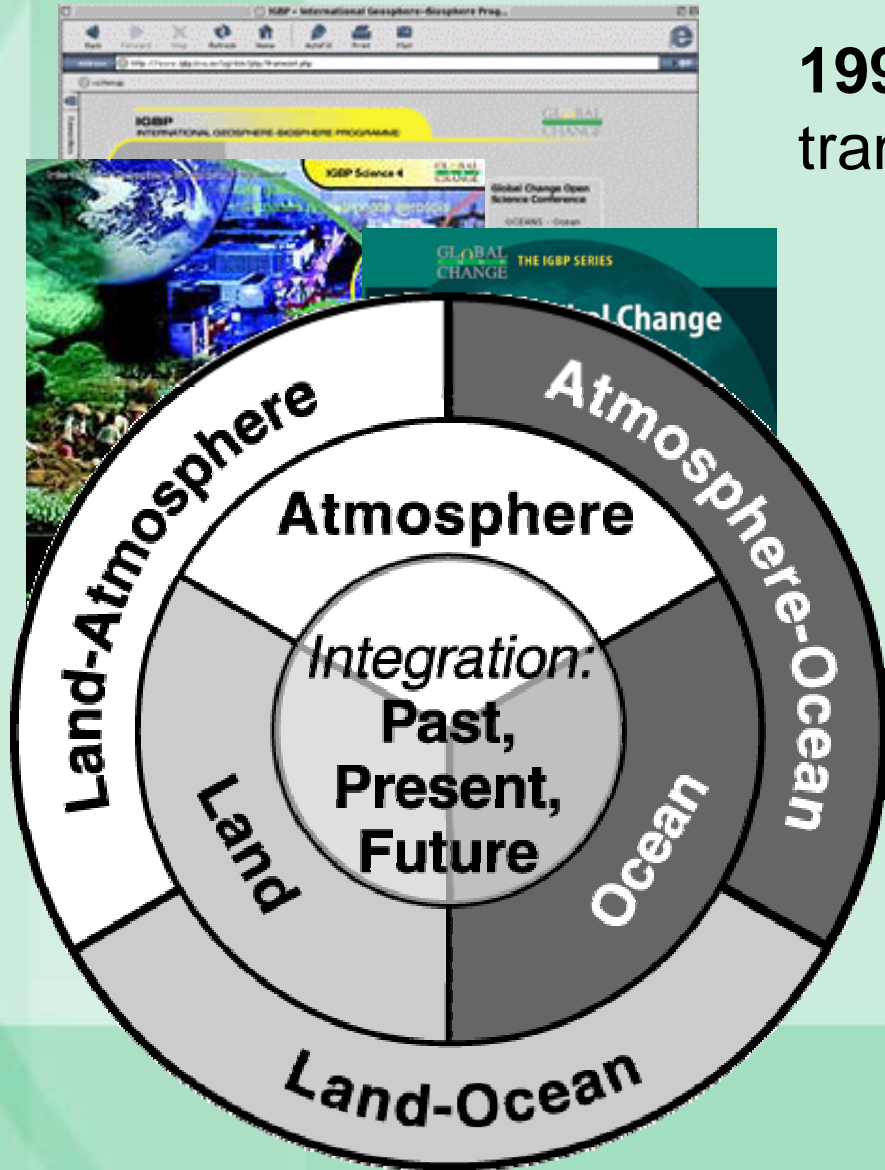
GLOBAL  
I G B P  
CHANGE

# The New IGBP

**1999-2003:** synthesis project, transition, and restructure

**2004:** new questions and structure, with a focus on:

- biogeochemical sciences with relevance to issues of societal concern
- interdisciplinarity and integration
- Earth System context



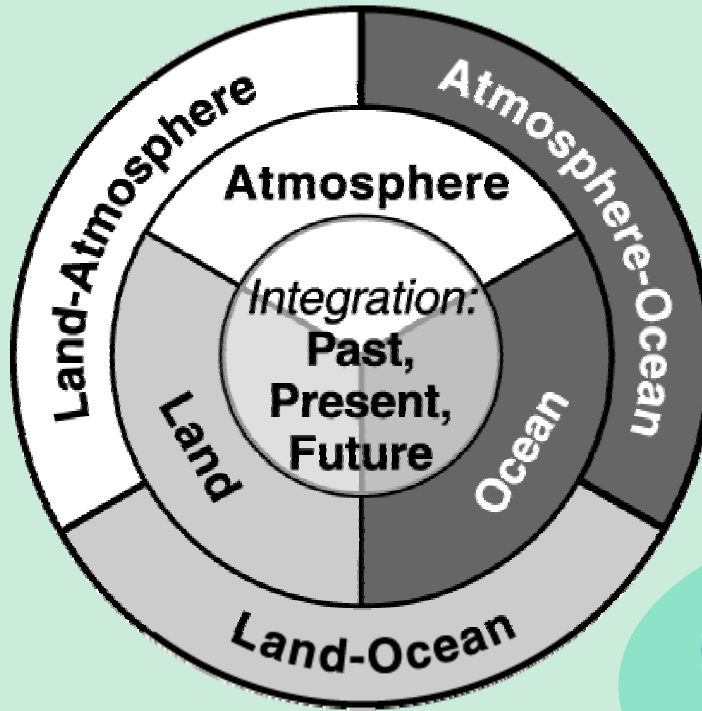


CACGP

iLEAPS



CACGP



PAGES  
PAST GLOBAL CHANGES

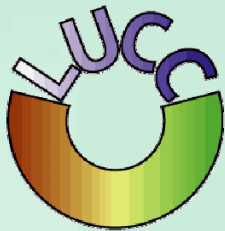
International Council for Science  
Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research

I G B P



AIMES

G A I M



International Council for Science  
Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research



GLOBAL  
I G B P  
CHANGE

# News from the 20th IGBP Scientific Committee Meeting

- New science plans approved for
  - Global Land Project (**GLP**), Integrated Marine Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research (**IMBER**), International Global Atmospheric Chemistry (**IGAC**), Integrated Land Ecosystem-Atmosphere Processes Study (**iLEAPS**), Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (**LOICZ**)
- New Fast-Track Initiative on
  - Learning about future ocean acidification from past changes
- Analysis, Integration and Modeling of the Earth System (**AIMES**) project well on its way

# IGBP-CEOP/IGWCO

## Data & Other Potential Collaborations

- IGBP requires integrated hydromet information on *global* land surface, atmosphere, coastal zone, open oceans, cryosphere:
  - Variables controlling land/aquatic productivity, habitat/fisheries, lateral fluxes of water & constituents, land-atmosphere-ocean exchanges of water, energy, trace gases
- Purpose: cal/val of models and synthesis
- Value to CEOP/IGWCO:
  - Help achieve an integrated picture of a cycle (i.e. H<sub>2</sub>O) central to functioning of Earth System; establish benchmarks to assess ongoing changes to the hydrosphere