

# SYMPOSIUM ON BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS

## Biodiversity Hotspots – Evolution and Conservation

One of the key objectives of nature conservation is the protection of biodiversity hotspots – centres of high numbers of ecosystems, species and/or genes. The current diversity patterns are strongly influenced by historic effects such as climatic fluctuations. Areas with exceptional biodiversity have mostly been less affected by these fluctuations due to relative climatic constancy or geomorphological diversity. Such hotspots of biodiversity often evolved through long-term isolation in ecologically diverse regions producing distinct genetic groups or even new taxa, which often represent local endemics.

This meeting focuses on the development and status of areas with exceptionally high diversity with most of them not being adequately protected. This situation is aggravating due to increasing human land use and climate change. We provide a platform for scientists and stakeholders to discuss the development of biodiversity hotspots and strategies to protect these areas.

Conference capacity is limited to 110 persons

Deadline for early registration: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008

[www.symposium.lu/hotspots](http://www.symposium.lu/hotspots)

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