



mycommunity,  
our earth

Geographic Learning for Sustainable Development

PARTNER UPDATE  
August 2004



AAG Representative Sarah Meyer talks with 4-H Youth about submitting MyCOE Projects at the conference exhibit.

## NEW ROUND OF YOUTH PROJECTS SOLICITATION LAUNCHED AT 4-H NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE IN ST. LOUIS, MO

MyCOE kicked off a new round of outreach, announcing March 1, 2005 as the deadline for new project submissions. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, including USDA, ESRI, AAG, and Trimble, youth are eligible to win a number of prizes for their efforts, in addition to receiving recognition in the Project Gallery and at international venues. (See listing below. Requests for flyers can be made to [psolis@aag.org](mailto:psolis@aag.org).) The 4-H National Technology Conference in St. Louis, MO (July 23-25), set the stage for recruiting a large number of students, given the organization's overlapping goal of involving youth in their local communities. With an exhibit display and a special presentation to young 4-Hers in the E-Democracy and GIS tracks, AAG representative Sarah Meyer aided a new group of MyCOE participants in brainstorming project ideas to conduct in their own communities. Tom Tate (USDA) and George Daily (ESRI) also helped make the kickoff a success.



### Coming up! Environment Week at IDB SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2004

MyCOE received a small grant from IDB to create an exhibit linking geography, environment and sustainable development for the event in the IDB Main Lobby, 1300 New York Ave NW. [www.iadb.org](http://www.iadb.org).

### LONG-TERM MyCOE VISION LINKED TO UN DECADE

At the recent Quarterly MyCOE Steering Committee meeting held at the AAG on July 13, representatives from MyCOE partners, including UNEP, National Geographic Society, ESRI, AAG, USDA, 4-H, GLOBE, and other groups focused on developing a long-term strategic plan for the partnership and the program. Group consensus grew around a renewed focus on emerging United Nations activities, retaining the original goals and mission of MyCOE. Both the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD) in 2005-2014, and the on-going framework of the UN CSD and Millennium Development Goals were identified as meaningful in the long-term strategic vision, particularly given the global nature of UN work, as well as its continued attention to the issue of sustainable development. As a tangible event similar to the WSSD in Johannesburg in 2002, the group contemplated the upcoming UN World Environment Day



to be held June 5<sup>th</sup> 2005 in San Francisco, California. The Steering Committee agreed to move forward with development of a broad programmatic approach responding to the UNDESD and UNCSD framework with the help of a volunteer committee comprised of Allen Carroll (NGS), Greg Crosby (USDA), CJ Côté (ESRI), and Doug Richardson (AAG).



**GEOGRAPHIC LEARNING**  
for Sustainable Development  
**2004-2005**

[www.geography.org/sustainable](http://www.geography.org/sustainable)

Submit a Project!  
**You could win!**

**Trimble Pathfinder Pocket**  
GPS Sensor requires PDA or Laptop and mapping software, not included.

**ESRI GIS Software**

**Mini Digital Camera**

**Educational Experience**  
Eligible submissions may win a scholarship, internship, or Virtual Campus tuition from one of our partnering organizations, such as ESRI, AAG, USDA, or others.

Prizes will be awarded by a special committee and selected among eligible submissions. See full program information online for more details. Prizes are not guaranteed and are subject to verification, modification or substitution.





**DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2005**

My Community, Our Earth (MyCOE) is a multi-institutional educational initiative and World Summit on Sustainable Development Partnership involving secondary, college, and university students worldwide in using geographic methods and tools to address local sustainable development. Partners include the AAG (Secretariat), National Geographic Society, ESRI, UNEP, State Department, USAID, USDA, NOAA, IDB, ONR, and USGS. **FOR MORE INFORMATION** point your browser to [www.geography.org/sustainable](http://www.geography.org/sustainable) or email the MyCOE Secretariat at [psolis@aag.org](mailto:psolis@aag.org). **ADDITIONS TO THE MAILING LIST** should be sent with the name and email address to Dr. Patricia Solís at [psolis@aag.org](mailto:psolis@aag.org).