



▲ In the beautiful lobby of the InterAmerican Development Bank visitors took a look at many applications for geography and GIS as related to international sustainable development goals.

Next Quarterly
Steering Committee Meeting:

**November 9, 2004,
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

at AAG, 1710 16th St NW in
Washington, DC

STEERING COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS LONG-TERM MyCOE VISION LINKED TO UN DECADE

At the upcoming Quarterly MyCOE Steering Committee meeting, discussion will continue of developing a long-term strategic plan for the partnership and the program. In July, group consensus grew around a renewed focus on emerging United Nations activities, including 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.

Coming up: MyCOE is on the agenda for the Second Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership to be held in Cusco, Peru, October 28-29, 2004 (www.condesean.org/cusco2004)

GIS Day and Geography Awareness Week activities will include an informational booth inside the USDA South Cafeteria, November 18, 2004.

Outreach Targets Youth Groups and Policymakers

A busy travel schedule for the MyCOE partnership showcased projects and displays on geographic learning and tools. The efforts targeted both youth groups and policymakers at the following recent events:

At the **ESRI User's Conference in San Diego, August 9-13**, a MyCOE display was part of a special featured set of exhibits focused on youth and community mapping. Special sessions offered the opportunity for discussions with numerous K-12 teachers, students and NGOs interested in community mapping, including participants from the 4-H program and the Orton Family Foundation.

A small grant from the Environment Division of the InterAmerican Development Bank helped make a custom MyCOE display possible inside the **Washington DC headquarters during IDB Environment Week, September 7-10**. Featuring projects in Latin America from MyCOE, The Nature Conservancy, CIAT, MACGA, Cultural Land Use Analysis project and others, the exhibit showcased geography and GIS related to international sustainable development goals, such as modernization of the state, social development, regional integration, and competitiveness. A special resource center assembled by ESRI and AAG educated exhibit visitors about GIS, displayed visualizations, and offered additional documents. A large globe (AAG) and a digital terrain model (Smithsonian GIS) were the centerpieces for the evening exhibit opening reception. A special lunch workshop on Applying GIS to Project Decision Making was led by a panel that included Danilo Piagessi (IDB), CJ Côté, (ESRI) and Patricia Solis (AAG).

The **Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital sponsored a Eco-Expo IV on October 2 in Greenbelt National Park in Maryland**. A MyCOE exhibit attracted the attention of the region's current and potential Girl Scouts, their families, and youth leaders

toward learning more about geographic concepts and tools. Our thanks to Pamela Bingham for her time and effort.

Girl Scouts point out MyCOE projects in Greenbelt National Park. (Photo Courtesy of Pamela Bingham).

