

International Geosphere - Biosphere Programme

99303

The paper informs on the International Geosphere - Biosphere Programme and on the role of geology therein.

The ICSU Generally Assembly in Berne decided to establish this programme in September, 1986, as an international venture focussed on the interdisciplinary study of global changes. The programme involves several core projects, among them is the programme on Past Global Changes aimed at the study of the earth's history during the past 2 000 years and on the glacial and interglacial cycles in the late Quaternary. Based on a preliminary agreement between ICSU, IUGS, IGBP and Unesco, an effort under the heading "Earth Processes and Global Changes" with sub - elements related to the ocean record of past global changes, the terrestrial record of past global changes, anthropogenically induced global changes and the interaction of bio - diversity reduction and global environment was proposed. A joint IUGS / Unesco working group is now preparing the Feasibility Study for this programme.

V. Sibrava

Director, Earth Sciences

Division, UNESCO