

**“BIODIVERSITY Conservation IN THE  
BIOSPHERE OF THE SIERRA GORDA RESERVE  
PROYECT” QUARTERLY BULLETIN  
SUMMER 2003**



-Trainers and experts of institutions like CONAFOR, CONACULTA in addition to the staff of the GESGIAP and the Direction of the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve, trained the program of Environmental Education staff in diverse topics as a substantial part of its preparation for the starting of the program offered. During this, there were offered subjects like Biodiversity and Birds of the Reserve, handling of didactic material, handling of remainders, a workshop of ludoplastia, river basins, theater, elaboration of masks, as well as the programmed subjects that are offered monthly. Counting on this antecedent the operation of the program began, that will cover 122 schools with 88 communities monthly, initiating with the subject of Birds of the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve, during the season of arrival of the neotropical migratory birds that look for refuge in the forests and tropical forests of the reserve to spend the winter.

- Every ten years the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) organizes the World Parks Congress, celebrated in Durban, South Africa. This event counted on an attendance of approximately 2500 delegates of countries and protected natural areas worldwide. On the part of the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve it attended the Mtra. Martha Ruiz Corzo, as well as Laura Perez Arce and Roberto Pedraza representing the GESGIAP. They presented a poster based on the project “Conservation of the Biodiversity of the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve”. This was a unique opportunity of experience interchange and also to make new contacts, where the RBSG will be the main beneficiary.

- For the first time in the history of the conservation of the natural resources in Mexico, the National Forest Commission of the SEMARNAT, began a pioneering program of payment of environmental services by concept of water production, this will benefit the forest owners in exchange for the conservation from these resources. This represents an unique opportunity for the RBSG, the GESGIAP carried out an important field work, arranging, evaluating the state of the vegetation and ge-positioning the land, having integrated a proposal of 20.000 has, in resolution state, if it's approved it may allow the conservation of high-priority areas of hydrologic charge, preserving in addition its biological values.

- As part of the process of implementation of the project “Conservation of the Biodiversity in the Sierra Gorda Biosphere

Reserve", Bosque Sustainable A.C. NGO affiliated to the GESG and that it will be responsible of executing reforestation and establishment of commercial plantations actions. It succeeded a process of evaluation of the Mexican Civil Council for Forestry Sustainable A.C., and MICAS, A.C. After this process of evaluation and certification, it became an application organism for the PNUD, turning into a substantial actor in this project.

- Two GESGIAP eco-clubs with young students of secondary and baccalaureate in Jalpan de Serra and San Pedro Escanela became part of the International Network of Eco-Clubs, settled in Argentina. They were formed thank to the leadership of the GESGIAP staff and it counts with 50 and 35 members respectively. The students have been very enthusiastic and their work has been supported by the directors and professors of the schools. This work has already been translated in concrete actions of cleaning and reforestation like the harvesting of 100 bags of remainders and the plantation of 5000 trees in the environs of San Pedro Escanela, the beginning of permanent campaigns of handling of recyclable materials, murals, etc. We hoped to continue with the environmental formation of young leaders in the region.

- Last September a group of approximately 25 citizens of Zapopan, Jal. visited the RBSG. They were interested in obtaining the protection to obtain the degree of protected natural area for a high-priority zone for the conservation in their state. During their visit they saw the programs of conservation implemented in our reserve and the actions undertaken with the communities, they were motivated to obtain a decree of protection and they were very pleased with our work.

- Once again SHELL supported, through the GESG, the Forest **Ejidatarios** of the Benito Juarez Union of **Ejididos** equipping their facilities and forming a small work capital. This support is an important part of the regularization and automation process undertaken along with the producers, as a battle strategy against the clandestine wood advantage.