

Dear LBA researcher,

Based on discussions held during the Carbon synthesis workshop and the 10th LBA-ECO meeting in Brasilia in early October, 2006, we are organizing an LBA biogeochemical/vegetation Model Intercomparison Project (LBA-MIP) for the Amazon of South America. If you or your group has developed or is using model simulations to investigate vegetation and/or biogeochemical dynamics in the Amazon, we hope you will consider joining this effort to gain comparative understanding of the ecosystem models within LBA.

More details can be found in the proposed LBA-MIP protocol (attached), but we want to call your attention to some time-urgent matters up front:

(1) **PLANNING:** We propose that any potential participants who also happen to be attending to the Fall AGU meeting in San Francisco come to a planning meeting for LBA-MIP implementation. We propose to hold this informal meeting for an hour or so on **Wednesday, Dec 13, 2006**, immediately following the planned LBA Session.

(2) **TIMETABLE:** We aim to have a consistent environmental driver dataset available by **February 1, 2007**, so that the initial inter-comparison runs can be conducted by all participants early in 2007. Our aim is to have initial results available for discussion at an informal workshop to be held around May 2007, and a paper reporting initial results ready for submission by July 2007.

This timetable is accelerated in order to accomplish this initial comparison in a timely fashion within the timeframe of LBA-ECO phase 3.

Please reply with your interest to Luis Gustavo de Goncalves (email above), who will act as coordinator for implementing this project.

Best,

Gustavo de Goncalves (NASA Goddard: [gustavo@hsb.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:gustavo@hsb.gsfc.nasa.gov))

Inez Fung (U.C. Berkeley: [ifung@berkeley.edu](mailto:ifung@berkeley.edu))

Humberto da Rocha (University of São Paulo: [humberto@model.iag.usp.br](mailto:humberto@model.iag.usp.br))

Scott Saleska (University of Arizona: [Saleska@email.arizona.edu](mailto:Saleska@email.arizona.edu))