

hydroelectric power in developing countries;

- adaptability of vulnerable human populations to heat stress and vector-borne and viral diseases;
- global monitoring of sea-level changes, particularly for island countries;
- identification of populations and agricultural and industrial production at risk in coastal areas and islands;
- better understanding of the nature and dynamics of ice masses and their sensitivity to climate change;
- integration of climate change impact information into the general planning process, particularly in developing countries; and
- development of methodology to assess sensitivity of environments and socioeconomic systems to climate change.
- Some of these topics are already being covered by existing and proposed programs and these will need continuing support. In particular, there are three core projects of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program, namely:

Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone

Biosphere Aspects of the Hydrological Cycle

Global Change Impact on Agriculture and Society

that will provide valuable data in the coming years.