

## **Researchers watched The Soccer World Cup Final - and shared experiences on Environmental Modelling!**

*Experiences from the 2006 Summit on Environmental Modelling and Software*  
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With around 250 researchers gathered from more than 25 countries, the 2006 *Summit on Environmental Modelling and Software* (<http://www.iemss.org/iemss2006/>) included a host of presentations with relevance to NitroEurope. Personally, I found the special sessions on “Scaling Issues in Land and Resources Management” very stimulating. Together with other iEMSs participants we are now working on a position paper within this area. Awareness of the special problems in relation to the scaling of information – for example from plot to landscape scale – is extremely relevant for NitroEurope, and our challenging developments of model systems to handle the dynamics of Nitrogen on all scales.

One important take home message, from the plenary sessions, was given by Will Stephen, Australian National University in Canberra. He showed some of the latest examples on global model results, indicating that not only the amount of greenhouse gasses released to the atmosphere decides the climate effects. Also the rate in which the greenhouse gasses are released was shown to be of importance. If these rates were over a certain threshold, this significantly effected The Gulf Stream, and thereby the climate in all of Europe. Therefore, if we in NitroEurope can find solutions to design the agriculture and the natural resource management of Europe in a manner that delay greenhouse gas emissions, this might prevent such severe climate changes happening!

All in all, the iEMSs conference was a fantastic event, hosted by the University of Vermont. It was a pleasure to experience the magnificent landscapes of New England with the neighbouring great lakes. Finally, one of the conference sessions included watching the soccer world cup final, and hearing the comments from the many nationalities represented. This was really interesting!