



## **Announcement of Capacity Building Programme Nippon Foundation – POGO Visiting Professorship Programme**

POGO is very pleased to announce the Nippon Foundation-POGO Visiting Professorship Programme for 2006-2007. The overall theme of the visiting programme is “**Towards Operational Oceanography**”. This initiative is a significant milestone in POGO’s capacity building programme for ocean observations and is supported by the Nippon Foundation (Japan). This foundation supports various philanthropic activities in over 100 countries in areas such as education, health, and social welfare (see <http://www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/eng/>).

The programme was launched in February 2004. It provides for an experienced oceanographer to visit a developing country to provide training and mentoring to scientists from a host institute and (where possible) from neighbouring establishments. The visiting scientist will be the Nippon Foundation – POGO Visiting Professor. The programme allows the professor to visit the host institution for a period of between three and six months. The total period may be variable and may be broken up into shorter visits depending upon the particular needs and goals of the individual professorship. The Nippon Foundation – POGO Visiting Professorship Programme is a contribution to the POGO-IOC-SCOR Type-II WSSD Initiative on intelligent use and management of oceans and also to the developing GEO (Group on Earth Observations) process.

POGO hereby invites proposals from institutions interested in taking up this opportunity. The institutions should identify suitable scientists willing to become a Visiting Professor. In the event that the institute has difficulty with making the right contacts, POGO will try to assist with pairing institutes with potential professors. Two Professorships will be awarded annually, on a competitive basis.

The primary goal of the programme is to contribute to long-term, sustained capacity building in enabling and interpreting ocean observations in developing countries. Applications can be in any area of ocean observations and related topics. Selection criteria will include:

- quality and relevance of the proposal to the goals of the programme
- experience of the candidate professor
- needs of the host institution
- numbers and quality of the students, and
- intention of host institute to build on received training in the immediate and long-term.

Applications for Visiting Professorship are now solicited. The deadline for submission of applications is July 15 2006. Each Visiting Professorship must be completed by the end of September 2007. The programme will cover all expenses to a maximum of \$123,000 US dollars per visiting professorship. Expenses may include travel and living expenses, purchase of textbooks and software, small research programmes with student participation, and, exceptionally, purchase of specialised equipment.

Further details are available on the POGO website, at <http://www.ocean-partners.org/Nippon-POGO2006.htm>