

# Acknowledgments

The conceptual framework for the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) has been shaped by a large number of people since 1998, including the MA Exploratory Steering Committee, the MA Board, and the participants in two design meetings in 2001 (Netherlands and South Africa). We would particularly like to acknowledge the support and guidance from the scientific and technical bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), which have helped to define the focus of the MA.

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of all of the authors of this book, and the support provided by their institutions that enabled their participation. We would like to thank the MA Secretariat and the host organizations of the MA Technical Support Units—the WorldFish Center (Malaysia); the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (United Kingdom); the Institute of Economic Growth (India); National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) (Netherlands); the World Resources Institute, the Meridian Institute, and the Center for Limnology, University of Wisconsin (United States); the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (France); and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) (Mexico)—for the support they provided in the preparation of this report. We thank several individuals who played particularly critical roles: Sara Suriani, Christine Jalleh, and Laurie Neville for their administrative and logistical support to the preparation of the report, Linda Starke for editing the report, Lori Han and Carol Rosen for managing the production process, and Maggie Powell for the preparation of the figures and final text. And, we thank past members of the MA Board whose contributions were instrumental in shaping the MA focus and process, including Gisbert Glaser, He Changchui, Ann Kern, Roberto Lenton, Hubert Markl, Susan Pineda Mercado, Jan Plesnik, Peter Raven, Cristian Samper, and Ola Smith. We also thank the individuals, institutions, and governments that submitted review comments on drafts of this report (listed in Appendix 2).

Financial support for the MA and the MA Sub-global Assessments is being provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Foundation, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, The World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Government of Norway, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Swedish International Biodiversity Programme, The Rockefeller Foundation, the United States National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA), the International Council for Science (ICSU), the Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research, The Christensen Fund, the United Kingdom Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and The

Ford Foundation. Generous in-kind support for the MA has been provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the WorldFish Center, the Government of China, the Government of Germany, the Japan Ministry of Environment, the Asia Pacific Environmental Innovation Strategy Project (APEIS), the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Stockholm University, the Government of India, the Tropical Resources Ecology Program (TREP) of the University of Zimbabwe, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines, the Coast Information Team of British Columbia, Canada, and a large number of institutions that have supported staff time and travel. (A complete list of donors is available at <http://www.millenniumassessment.org>.)

The work to establish and design the MA was supported by grants from The Avina Group, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, GEF, the Government of Norway, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Authority (SIDA), The Summit Foundation, UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Foundation, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Wallace Global Fund, and The World Bank.