

Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas Grantee Wins Brazilian Environmental Award

NEW YORK (August 1, 2008) - The Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) Foundation for the Americas has been supporting efforts by the O Boticario Foundation for Nature Protection since 2006 to conserve some of the last remaining areas of Atlantic Forest in Brazil. The \$400,000 grant over five years to O Boticario Foundation's Oasis Project is using payments for ecosystem services to preserve a watershed responsible for supplying water to nearly four million inhabitants of the city of São Paulo.

Just announced early this August in Rio de Janeiro, Oasis has been selected for the Brazilian Environmental Award in the category of water management. The Award is an initiative by the American Chamber of Commerce to recognize the merits and practices of environmental conservation projects in Brazil. This was the second time that O Boticario Foundation received this prestigious award, the last being in 2005 for a forest conservation project.

The Oasis project, modeled partly on measures used to protect the watershed that serves New York City, offers payments to landowners for conservation easements aimed at preserving natural areas on their land. The goal for the first phase of the Oasis Project is to protect 2,500 hectares of private land under agreements to be signed between 2007 and 2011. Mitsubishi International Corporation's president and CEO, Mr. Ryoichi Ueda, who also serves as the Chairman of the MC Foundation for the Americas, has said of the project, "The MC Foundation for the Americas is proud to contribute both to the conservation of a threatened region of high biodiversity while also helping to ensure the sustainable supply of water for the people of Sao Paulo."

The MC Foundation for the Americas, based in New York City, was established as the Mitsubishi International Corporation Foundation in 1991 with funding from Mitsubishi Corporation of Japan, and its U.S.-based subsidiary, Mitsubishi International Corporation. With a current endowment of approximately \$6 million, the Foundation has dedicated nearly \$4 million to environmental causes throughout the Americas. Contributions for Europe and Africa are made by the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa, which has given more than \$2 million to environmental conservation, education and research since 1993.

For more information about the Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas, please visit www.mcfamericas.org; and for more information about the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa, please visit www.mcfea.org.