

PROGRAM PLANNING

The elements of program planning are:

1. Statement of specific questions within a hypothetical context.
2. Selection of appropriate technical methodology.
3. Selection of appropriate human populations.
4. Site selection.
5. Construction of experimental design.
6. Development of logistics, instrumentation, and training.

Because the Human Adaptability program envisages undertaking complex multidisciplinary investigations, the Human Adaptability Subcommittee will convene several carefully structured planning conferences to elaborate details of problem-oriented research projects, typologically and regionally. At the same time, the Subcommittee encourages interdisciplinary groups to come forward with additional ideas and program projects consistent with the objectives of the IBP.

REGIONAL PLANNING CENTERS

Planning should be undertaken by interdisciplinary groups composed of individuals who will ultimately engage in the research. Potential groups within the U. S. should be identified and funded. Such groups presumably would be centered at academic institutions having a nucleus of competent biologists and appropriate facilities. The biologists of these centers should bring into the advanced planning the facilities of those institutions located in the vicinity of the centers. The biologists involved in this phase of development of IBP should be selected according to their willingness and competence to contribute and not according to their relation to a particular section of IBP, for the aim would be to develop a program of research consistent with the objectives of the IBP.

CONFERENCES

At a regional center a group will be established which will take the initiative in organizing conferences and in seeing that detailed planning is accomplished. The participants in these regional conferences should be persons who are likely to participate actively in the research under discussion.