

## *Obituary*

**Dr. Konrad Vielhauer**, GWSP IPO Science Officer since 2009

**\*24 April 1957 †8 December 2011**



Konrad Vielhauer was born and raised in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia, where he graduated from high school in 1976. After returning to Germany he studied agronomy at the University of Göttingen, Germany, which he successfully finished in 1985. In 1992 he obtained his doctorate degree from the University of Göttingen, Germany, too.

Being a tropical agronomist by training he subsequently was involved in soil physical questions of fallow management systems in southern Nigeria, where he worked for the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

Afterwards he moved with his family to the Eastern Amazon region in Brazil. Within a collaboration of the two German universities of Göttingen and Bonn with the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa) he continued and intensified his work on fallow management systems under high rainfall conditions.

Prior to his work at GWSP IPO he worked as a research center manager and as scientific coordinator of the GLOWA-Volta project for the Center of Development Research (ZEF) of the University of Bonn in Burkina Faso since 1999. This was in collaboration with the Burkinabe Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Research (INERA) and later with the newly founded Volta Basin Authority (VBA).

From March 2009 onwards Konrad Vielhauer coordinated GWSP's activities in support of the executive director. His substantial experience in coordinating scientific projects and in organizing international conferences as well as his pleasant personality was very much appreciated by his colleagues and the whole GWSP community. He was always happy to share his knowledge and experience with colleagues and students.

Konrad Vielhauer passed away at December 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 in Bonn, Germany. He suffered from cancer, which finally caused his untimely death.

He is survived by his wife Stefanie and his 5 children.

Konrad will be remembered with fondness for his warm personality and devotion to science and his family. He was a true gentleman and will be greatly missed.