



PCLG News

Promoting mutual learning on conservation-poverty linkages

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The Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG)

is an initiative facilitated by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). Its goal is to promote learning on conservation-poverty linkages between and within different communities of interest.

PCLG News is the newsletter of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group. It provides monthly news on the work of the PCLG and its members.

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the eighth issue of the PCLG newsletter. We hope you are finding this service useful and we look forward to receive any comment or suggestion on how to further improve this monthly bulletin to better serve your needs.

Secretariat News

Biodiversity for Poverty Reduction at the CBD Cop9: In place of a symposium this year, the PCLG will host a "Biodiversity for Poverty Reduction Day" to be held on Saturday May 24th – the middle weekend of CoP9 of the Convention on Biological Diversity - in Bonn, Germany. The day will have three key elements:

- 1) Policy initiatives linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: this will highlight efforts to mainstream biodiversity in international and national poverty reduction policy and vice versa.
- 2) Research findings: what have we learnt about biodiversity-poverty linkages? This stream will highlight new research findings, drawing in particular on major global research initiatives
- 3) Linking poverty and conservation in practice: This stream will highlight the work of organisations who are exploring poverty-conservation links at the field level.

We would like to encourage wide participation in this event – from PCLG members and others. The event will present a great opportunity for networking and for finding out who is doing what on conservation-poverty linkages. If you would like to highlight your work (we will include a mix of paper and poster presentations) please send a short proposal including an abstract to pclg@iied.org by 18th April 2008. We have a limited number of travel grants available. Any PCLG members in developing countries who are not otherwise attending CoP9 and might require assistance with travel expenses to attend this event should also contact us by 18th April.

Featured News

Working Group on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biodiversity, Rome, February 2008:

Dilys Roe, PCLG coordinator, attended the Ad Hoc Working Group on Protected Areas meeting in Rome from 11-15th February. PCLG provided co-sponsorship, along with Care, The Nature Conservancy and TILCEPA, for a side event exploring the social impacts of protected areas and methodologies to assess these impacts. A follow up workshop is planned drawing on practitioners experience to further develop widely applicable impact assessment tools and methodologies. Also at the meeting, recognising some ongoing tensions between indigenous organisations and conservation NGOs, a dialogue process was initiated – facilitated by TILCEPA – which will continue at CoP9.

One of the recommendations coming out of the formal sessions of the meeting was a recommendation that CoP9 "encourages Parties to ensure that conservation and development activities in the context of Protected Areas contribute to the eradication of poverty, to sustainable development and ensure

that benefits are equitably shared.” We will track the progress of this recommendation at CoP9. One of the less fortunate outcomes was that the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity decided to withdraw from the meeting as a result of feeling they were not able to participate effectively. To follow the events in Rome read the daily ECO briefings at www.cbdalliance.org. To read the statement from the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, and the latest news on this development, visit: <http://indigenoustatement.blogspot.com/2008/02/satement-presented-at-plenary-february.html>

News from Members

Theme on Governance, Equity, and Rights (TGER) of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP): TGER recently launched a new website on conservation and human rights. Through this website people can access and share activity reports, event announcements, working papers, reflection pieces, and other material and related links on conservation and human rights. The site is aimed at conservation practitioners, community representatives, human rights activists, and, more generally, at anyone with an interest in these issues. www.iucn.org/themes/ceesp/Conservation%20&%20HR.htm

New Members

Arcus Foundation: Established in 2000 in the US, the Arcus Foundation is a national, private grant making foundation. The mission of the Arcus Foundation is to achieve social justice that is inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity and race, and to ensure conservation and respect of the great apes. Through its Great Apes Fund, the Arcus Foundation supports organizations seeking to ensure respect and survival of great apes and their natural habitat around the world. www.arcusfoundation.org

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI): TERI is an autonomous, not-for-profit research institute, established in India in 1974. While in the initial period the focus was mainly on documentation and information dissemination activities, research activities in the fields of energy, environment, and sustainable development were initiated towards the end of 1982. The genesis of these activities lay in TERI's firm belief that sustainable use of natural resources, efficient utilisation of energy, large-scale adoption of renewable energy technologies, and reduction of all forms of waste would move the process of development towards the goal of sustainability. www.teriin.org

Excellent Development Limited: Excellent Development is a charity that enables communities in Africa to transform their environment sustainably and improve water supplies, food production, health and incomes. Excellent Development does this through the building of sand dams, the terracing of adjoining land and the planting of indigenous and medicinal trees. Excellent Development is also working to enhance development education in the UK and worldwide through the promotion of sustainable development and the mitigation of climate change.

Environment and Rural Development Foundation (ERuDeF): ERuDeF is a Cameroonian non-profit organisation dedicated to wildlife conservation and protection of fragile environments. Founded in 1999, it is a membership organisation and it works in partnership with local communities and other relevant stakeholders, including the government and international organisations. ERuDeF's core programmes include: i) biodiversity research and conservation; ii) forest landscape restoration; iii) social science; iv) women and gender; and v) education. www.erudef.org

Taka Bonerate National Park: Taka Bonerate National Park is a marine nature

conservation area that covers approximately 530.765 hectares in Selayar District, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia.

www.takabonerate.go.id

The Oikos Trust for Environmental Management (TOTEM): The Oikos Trust for Environmental management (TOTEM), a non-profit organization, was first registered in 2005. The trust's primary goal is the integration of local livelihoods with ecological and environmental conservation. TOTEM pursues its goal through the implementation of energy, environment and development alternatives.

Forthcoming Events

World Conservation Congress

The World Conservation Congress will take place in Barcelona, Spain from 5th to 14th October 2008. This year Congress theme is 'A diverse and sustainable world'. Thematic streams include: i) a new climate for change; ii) healthy environments - healthy people; iii) safeguarding the diversity of life.

www.iucn.org/congress/2008

IASC 12th Biennial Global Conference

The International Association for the Study of the Commons 12th Biennial Global Conference will be held on 14th – 18th July 2008 at the University of Gloucestershire, England. The theme of the conference will be: 'Governing shared resources: Connecting local experience to global challenges'.

www.iascp.org/iasc08/2008themes.html

14th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM)

The 14th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) will take place on 10th -14th June 2008, at the University of Vermont, Burlington, USA. The theme of the 2008 ISSRM Symposium is "People and Place: Linking Culture and Nature". ISSRM offers many types of opportunities to participate, including traditional paper (oral) presentations, poster presentations, and a variety of sessions that can be organized by participants. Abstracts for all of these forms of participation are due by February 8, 2008.

<http://www.ISSRM2008.org>

New Publications in our Database

Chairman's Report: The Trondheim/UN Conference on Ecosystems and People – Biodiversity for Development – The Road to 2010 and Beyond, by Schei, P., 2007, Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity 2007

This Chairman's Report provides a useful summary of the main discussions that took place during the fifth Trondheim conference, in November 2007. The meeting focused on the relationship between biodiversity, ecosystem services and people - and in particular on trying to understand the synergies and tradeoffs between conservation and development.

Good Practices from the Natureandpoverty* Programme, by Natureandpoverty* Programme, 2007, 73 pp.

This booklet contains brief descriptions of selected good practices that best illustrate the intervention strategies adopted in the natureandpoverty* programme. It has been compiled to help those working for nature conservation and poverty reduction to share experiences, and to stimulate debate on good practices for poverty alleviation through sustainable ecosystems management.

Placing Humans at the Heart of Conservation, by Ghazoul, J., September 2007, Biotropica, Vol 39 No 5, pp. 565–566

This editorial introduces an issue of Biotropica dedicated to the persistent tension

between different approaches to conservation, particularly between approaches that emphasize the protection of biodiversity against conservation in support of human wellbeing.

Resources

The Ecosystem Grants Programme (EGP) of IUCN NL: The Ecosystem Grants Programme (EGP) of IUCN NL funds projects of local organizations in the South that link ecosystem conservation and poverty issues. Application deadlines for 2008 have recently been announced – for some regions this is March 15th 2008 and for others September 15th. More information about deadlines, size and number of grants, and application procedures, is available at www.nciucn.nl/funds/ecosystem_grants_programme

“Strategy Paper on Protected Areas”, AIPP: The Asia Indigenous People Pact (AIPP) recently disseminated the “Strategy Paper on Protected Areas”, by Jannie Lasimbang. The paper provides an introduction of AIPP and of relevant meetings on Protected Areas. The paper also includes outstanding issues, like the recognition of rights, participation, social cost of conservation, financing PAs, prioritization of the Programme of Work on PA and the emerging threats. www.aippfoundation.org/documents/Strategy%20Paper%20on%20Protected%20Areas.pdf

The 2008 Global Development Marketplace Competition: The 2008 Global Development Marketplace (DM2008) competition has began its search for early-stage, innovative ideas with potential for high impact in promoting Sustainable Agriculture for Development. Proposals are welcome from all innovators: civil society groups, foundations and development agencies in the country of implementation can submit their ideas. The call for proposals closes on March 21, 2008. Proposals must be written in English and submitted through the DM website, www.developmentmarketplace.org

BioSoc is the monthly bulletin of the PCLG, highlighting key new research on biodiversity and society, poverty and conservation. To receive it, www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biosoc.php

More Info

More information regarding members, publications, initiatives, and events listed in the newsletter is available on www.povertyandconservation.info, the website of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group.

Contact PCLG News

If you have any comments or suggestions on how to improve PCLG News, or if you would like to send us your contributions for the next issue of the newsletter, please contact us at: pdg@iied.org

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