

# PCLG News Promoting mutual learning on conservation-poverty linkages

**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.

## December 2008 ISSUE No. 014

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the fourteenth issue of the PCLG newsletter. We hope you are finding this service useful and we look forward to receive any comments or suggestions on how to further improve this monthly bulletin to better serve your needs. In this issue you can find:

- Featured News
- News from Members
- New Members
- Forthcoming Events
- New Publications in our Database
- Resources

**If you have any news regarding your organisation's work that you would like us to include in the next issue of PCLG News, or any resources you would like us to advertise, please send it to [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org) by the end of December.**

## Featured News

**First-ever Biodiversity Law to include pro-poor conservation strategies** : The latest draft of Viet Nam's first-ever Biodiversity Law was presented in September 2008 at a meeting jointly organised by the National Assembly's Committee of Science, Technology and Environment and the UN Development Programme (UNDP). The revised draft law integrates pro-poor principles, recognizing that biodiversity conservation and development cannot be successful without participation of local communities. As stated by Dang Vu Minh, Chairman of the National Assembly's Committee on Science, Technology and Environment: "The Biodiversity Law is an effective legal instrument to prevent biodiversity declination, to conserve precious plants and animals, and to serve the sustainable social and economic development of the country". For more information: <http://www.undp.org.vn/undpLive/System/Newsroom/News-Details?contentId=2809&languageId=1>

## News from Members

**Forest Governance Learning Group** : The Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) is an initiative of the International Institute for Environment and Development, with country based teams in Cameroon, Malawi, Mozambique, Ghana, India, Indonesia, South Africa, Uganda, Vietnam. Each team brings together researchers, policymakers, non-governmental organisations, and representatives from communities and businesses to identify how to manage forests for social and economic benefit in a sustainable way. Members of the national FGLG teams have gathered in Zomba, Malawi, on 2-5 December 2008 to assess achievements, share effective tactics and plan for a new five-year programme. <http://www.iied.org/natural-resources/media/malawi-meeting-shows-how-make-forestry-fair-and-sustainable>

### **Motion 126 “ Mobile indigenous peoples and biodiversity conservation ”:**

Motion 126, a final endorsement of the Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation , was among the motions passed at the recent World Conservation Congress (WCC). The following text is an extract from Motion 126:

#### ***The World Conservation Congress at its 4 Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:***

1. *ENDORSES the five principles of the Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation...*
2. *CALLS ON IUCN’s Commissions to:*
  - a. *Adhere to the five principles of the Dana Declaration; and*
  - b. *Seek a positive and constructive alliance with mobile indigenous peoples’ organizations such as the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP) through concrete field-based conservation initiatives;...*

[http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/additional\\_documentation\\_compiled\\_final.pdf](http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/additional_documentation_compiled_final.pdf)

### **Addressing livelihood needs around Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in Nepal:**

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR) lies in the lowlands of eastern Nepal. Pressures on people’s livelihoods mean that existing patterns of resource use bring people into conflict with the reserve, as people perceive that the conservation of the site results in reduced benefits for them. In response to this situation, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) set up a project that aims to address the issues of unsustainable exploitation at KTWR by increasing the benefits resulting from the conservation and use of the biodiversity of the reserve and its buffer zone for local people. The project is funded by the UK Government’s Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species. For more information please contact Seb Buckton ( [Seb.Buckton@wwt.org.uk](mailto:Seb.Buckton@wwt.org.uk)).

### **Project of Wetlands International successfully combines poverty reduction and wetland management:**

The Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project (WPRP), an initiative of Wetlands International (WI), works with the conservation and development sectors to integrate socio-economic development and poverty-reduction issues into their planning and actions. The stories of the projects carried out within WPRP have been recently collected and will be part of a publication to be distributed in March 2009. ‘Planting trees to eat fish in Mali’ is an example of the success stories that will be found in this publication: a local women’s group was provided with micro-credits, but instead of paying interest the women had to plant Acacia trees. If after a

year 75% of the trees are still intact, the micro-credit becomes a grant. The return rate of the micro-credit in the project with women was 100%; many women's groups now use the money as a revolving fund in the village. For more information, please contact: Sander Carpay ([sander.carpaij@wetlands.org](mailto:sander.carpaij@wetlands.org)).

## **New Members**

**Centre for Non-Timber Resources (CNTR):** The Centre for Non-Timber Resources (CNTR) is a research centre dedicated to strategic and applied research on forest resources and rural economy. CNTR works in partnership with a broad network of public, developed countries, private and non-governmental organizations to research, support and facilitate the development of non-timber resources within sustainable forest management systems for the benefit of rural and remote communities. <http://www.royalroads.ca/cntr>

**Fondation Ensemble :** Fondation Ensemble is a private donor foundation. Water/sanitation, sustainable development, animal biodiversity and solidarity/environment are the foundation's four main areas of interest, which illustrate the founders' desire to combat poverty issues, whilst working towards long-term protection of the environment. The foundation's mission is clearly defined in its statutes: "All actions undertaken take account of environmental factors and include the protection of the environment and of all living species of animals and plants". <http://www.fondationensemble.org>

## **Forthcoming Events**

**United Nations Climate Change Conference - COP 14** The UNCCC COP 14 is now being held in Poznań, Poland. The meeting comes midway between COP 13 in Bali, which saw the launch of negotiations on strengthened international action on climate change, and COP 15 Copenhagen, at which the negotiations are set to conclude. The Poznań meeting, which is expected to draw around eight thousand participants, will both advance international cooperation on a future climate change regime and ensure progress on key issues. [http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop\\_14/items/4481.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_14/items/4481.php)

**15th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM)** The 15th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management will be hosted by the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU) from July 5 – 8, 2009 in Vienna, Austria. The theme for the ISSRM 2009 is: Meet Old and New Worlds in Research, Planning and Management. The topics for the symposium include, but are not limited to: Sustainable tourism development; Climate change adaptation and mitigation; Management and development of protected areas; Social science and collaborative planning in forestry and agriculture; Environmental Impact Assessment; Forest inventory and sustainable resource management. <http://www.issrm09.info>

## **Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity - CBD COP 10**

The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10) will be held in Nagoya, Japan from the 8 till the 29 of October 2010. <http://www.cop10.jp/aichi-nagoya/english/cop/cop.html>

## New Publications in our Database

### **Disentangling the Links between Conservation and Poverty Reduction in Practice**, by Walpole, M., Wilder, L., 2008, *Oryx*, Vol 42 No 4, *Fauna and Flora International*

Biodiversity conservation is increasingly expected to reduce poverty where the two coincide. Yet conservation and poverty are multifaceted concepts and the linkages between them are complex and variable; whether and how conservation contributes to poverty reduction in practice will depend on the specific nature of those linkages. To unravel this complexity the authors explored the portfolio of Fauna & Flora International, an international conservation organization operating in some of the poorest countries and regions. They examined reports from 88 projects and categorized the rationales, approaches and outcomes of a sample of 34 livelihoods-focused projects.

<http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/alldocs.php?h=D0240#D0240>

**Protected Areas and Indigenous Peoples' Rights: 'Applicable International Legal Obligations'**, by Forest Peoples Programme, **Briefing Note, 5 pp.** This short briefing note aims to provide some guidance on applicable international legal obligations, where can they be found and what do they require, to indigenous peoples participating in CBD or other relevant international processes, as well as those who are concerned about these issues at the local and national levels.

[http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20081110-FPP\\_briefing\\_IPRights\\_and\\_PA-en\\_doc.pdf](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20081110-FPP_briefing_IPRights_and_PA-en_doc.pdf)

## Resources

**Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation** Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation (RSGs) are aimed at small conservation programmes and pilot projects. RSG's are available to individuals and small groups. Applications can be made **at any time of the year**, decisions are usually made within three months. They generally support projects of about a year's duration. Applications from non-first world areas are strongly encouraged. In the first instance, ideas should be submitted via email to [josh@rufford.org](mailto:josh@rufford.org). Further details of both types of grant are available at: <http://www.rufford.org/rsg/>

**Postgraduate Studentships 2009 - Miriam Rothschild Studentships in Conservation Biology** The Arcadia Fund has kindly provided funding for research studentships in Conservation Biology, to be based in the Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, UK. Arcadia Fund expects to sponsor two students from less developed countries to start in autumn 2009, with a third student to start a year later. The closing date is 15th December 2008. For more information: <http://www.zoo.cam.ac.uk/zooone/pgradbk/studentships.html>

**BioSoc** is the monthly bulletin of the PCLG, highlighting key new research on biodiversity and society, poverty and conservation. Please note that BioSoc has been offline for a few months due to technical distribution problems at IIED. We anticipate the normal monthly service will resume in January. To receive BioSoc, [www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biosoc.php](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biosoc.php)

**More information** regarding members, publications, initiatives, and events listed in the newsletter is available on [www.povertyandconservation.info](http://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: [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org)

**Spread the news** if you have a friend or colleague who you think might be interested in receiving PCLG News please feel free to forward them this newsletter or suggest that they subscribe by visiting: [www.povertyandconservation.info/en/newslist.php](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/newslist.php)

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