

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 2009 - ISSUE No. 025

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the twenty-fifth 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: - Secretariat News - Featured News - News from PCLG 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 by the end of December.

Secretariat News

PCLG International Symposium: The PCLG Secretariat is organizing an international symposium titled “**Linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: what, why and how?**”. **The symposium will take place on 28th and 29th April 2010 and will be hosted by the Zoological Society of London.** Recognising that the CBD 2010 target includes ‘contributing to poverty reduction’ as a key rationale for halting biodiversity loss, the aim of the symposium will be to review what we actually know about the degree to which biodiversity conservation contributes to poverty reduction. For more information and to register please go to: <http://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/whats-on/symposium-linking-biodiversity-conservation-poverty-reduction,360.EV.html>

“The Earthscan Reader in Poverty and Biodiversity Conservation”, edited By Dilys Roe and Joanna Elliott: “The Earthscan Reader in Poverty and Biodiversity Conservation” is an edited compilation of the most important previously-published material, which provides a guide to and commentary on the key literature on current debates on poverty-conservation linkages. The book will help readers, including both students and professionals, to locate current debates within their wider contexts. **The Reader will be published in January 2010 and can be pre-ordered at:** <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=101812>

Call for information on linking great ape conservation and livelihoods: IIED has recently been awarded a grant from the Arcus Foundation. The overall purpose of the funds is to support the ongoing running of the PCLG network and to introduce a workstream on great ape conservation-livelihood linkages. As a first step in this new stream of work we plan to collect as much information as possible on practical, on the ground experiences that have taken place to date with the aim of linking great ape conservation and livelihoods. We are particularly interested in documenting the strategies employed in making these linkages, and in the case studies that have succeeded in measuring and monitoring both poverty and conservation impacts of great ape conservation projects. **If you have been involved in projects linking great ape conservation and livelihoods, or know of such experiences, we would very much like to hear from you (pclg@iied.org).** All the information that we will be able to collect on this subject will be reviewed, analysed and made available on our website and possibly in a short report. We are really grateful for the support that has been provided by Arcus Foundation to the PCLG and look forward to developing this new area of activity on great ape conservation in collaboration with all PCLG members!

Featured News

2010 International Year of Biodiversity Website: The website of the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) was officially launched at a ceremony held on 10 November 2009 in Montreal, Canada, in front of more than 500 participants representing the 193 Parties to the Convention and partner organizations. The primary objectives of this important year are to effectively communicate to different target audiences the value of biodiversity and to motivate them to conserve, protect and promote sustainable use practices. With this in mind, the IYB website (<http://www.cbd.int/2010>) offers an opportunity for people to learn about biodiversity and to find out more about the IYB, including the important role biodiversity plays in our lives and what is happening to it, what people are doing around the world to combat biodiversity loss, and how people are celebrating the IYB. The website is available also in French and in Spanish.

News from PCLG Members

CBD Alliance: The Convention on Biological Diversity Alliance, known as the CBD Alliance, is a loose network of activists and representatives from nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), community based organizations (CBOs), social movements and Indigenous Peoples' organizations (IPOs) advocating for improved and informed participation in Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) processes. **For more information on the CBD Alliance and their work, go to the Alliance's website (www.cbdalliance.org),** which is constantly kept up to date with the latest activities from the network.

BirdLife: In December 2009 BirdLife will publish "**Partners with Nature**", a new report that includes **14 examples of BirdLife Partners' work with vulnerable communities**. The case studies demonstrate that including the role of ecosystems in different approaches to adaptation can provide many benefits. They are accessible to rural and poor communities, and are often more cost-effective and enduring, because they provide local benefits, and can be locally managed and maintained. They balance immediate needs with preparation for long-term impacts, providing alternative livelihood options in the face of climate change uncertainty. They combine indigenous and local knowledge with external expertise, contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and to climate change mitigation by maintaining carbon storage. BirdLife is calling for the importance of healthy ecosystems to be effectively written into national, regional and international climate change and development policy. The publication will be available from early December at: www.birdlife.org/climatechange

ESPA programme now inviting applications: The Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) programme is a partnership that brings together the Department for International Development (DFID), the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to deliver a planned 7 year interdisciplinary research programme. ESPA seeks to generate the evidence on ecosystem services, their full value and links to sustainable poverty reduction so as to equip end users and decision makers with the knowledge on how to manage ecosystems better. It is anticipated that ESPA will be delivered through three funding rounds, the first of which will be launched in early December 2009. The first call will split into two funding streams: Funding Stream 1 is a one-off opportunity for shorter-term, innovative, conceptual development type projects submitted as a Programme Framework grant; Funding Stream 2 has two submission opportunities, one to win catalyst funding through a Partnership and Project Development grant in preparation for the second submission opportunity for a larger Research Consortium grant. For further information including specific objectives of the calls and how to apply, go to: <http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/programmes/espa/events/newfunds.asp> and/or <http://www.research4development.info/news.asp?articleID=50537>

UNEP-WCMC: In 2004, parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted the most comprehensive and specific protected area commitments ever agreed to by the international community. These commitments, which comprise the Convention on Biological Diversity Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA), aim to significantly reduce the rate of loss of global biodiversity, thus contributing to the three objectives of the CBD, the CBD's strategic plan and 2010 biodiversity target, and the Millennium Development Goals. More than 80 experts from more than 40 countries gathered in September 2009 at an international workshop in the Republic of Korea to review the implementation of the CBD PoWPA. On this occasion, UNEP-WCMC presented a **report on progress towards the CBD's 2010 and 2012 targets for protected area coverage**. The full report is available at: http://www.unep-wcmc.org/protected_areas/pubs.htm

IIED: IIED has recently published a **new Briefing paper titled: "Biofuels in Africa: growing small-scale opportunities"**, prepared by Sonja Vermeulen, Emmanuel Sulle and Swan Fauveaud. Global demand for climate-friendly transport fuels is driving vast commercial biofuels projects in developing

countries. At the opposite end of the spectrum is small-scale bioenergy production. This offers a way for the poor to meet their energy needs and diversify their livelihoods without compromising food security or environmental integrity. Governments hope that it will be possible to combine the advantages of both large- and small-scale production of biofuels to generate energy security and GDP at the national level, while opening up local opportunities. In Africa, most governments are keen to attract foreign direct investment, and see big business as a strategic means of scaling up rural development. But there is a middle way. By encouraging business models that bridge large and small enterprise, African governments could show that commercial competition can go hand in hand with a range of real local benefits.

CBD WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(J): The sixth meeting of the Ad hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held from 2-6 November 2009 in Montreal, Canada. The Working Group adopted a series of recommendations, to be submitted to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) to the CBD, to be held from 18-29 October 2010, in Nagoya, Japan. Among its main achievements, the Working Group worked towards concluding negotiations on an ethical code of conduct to ensure respect for the cultural and intellectual heritage of indigenous and local communities, and expressed detailed views on the international regime on access and benefit-sharing (ABS). For more information: <http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/wg8j-6>

Forthcoming Events

Sixth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity: The sixth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity, entitled "Getting the biodiversity targets right - working for sustainable development" will be held on **1st-5th February 2010 in Trondheim, Norway**. The conference will be hosted by the Norwegian Government in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The conference will consider status and lessons learned from the 2010 target and will provide CBD with a sound basis for developing post 2010 biodiversity targets.

PCLG International Symposium: The PCLG Secretariat is organizing an international symposium titled "Linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: what, why and how?". The symposium will take place on **28th and 29th April 2010** and will be hosted by the **Zoological Society of London**. Recognising that the CBD 2010 target includes 'contributing to poverty reduction' as a key rationale for halting biodiversity loss, the aim of the symposium will be to review what we actually know about the degree to which biodiversity conservation contributes to poverty reduction.

24th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB): The 2010 meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) will be held in **Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on July 3rd-7th, 2010**. The theme of the meeting is "Conservation for a Changing Planet." Because of the focus on environmental change, the meeting will highlight the importance of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to conservation.

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 on 8th-29th of October 2010**. This meeting is expected to assess achievement of the 2010 target to reduce significantly the rate of biodiversity loss, adopt an international regime on access and benefit-sharing and celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity 2010.

New Publications in our database

Making Sub-saharan African Forests Work for People and Nature: Policy approaches in a changing global environment, by CIFOR, ICRAF, IUFRO, METLA, August 2009, Special Project on World Forests, Society and Environment (WFSE) of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the Finish Forest Rese, 29 pp.: This policy brief seeks to provide options on how countries in sub-Saharan Africa and their forests can respond strategically to global drivers of change, namely, climate change, payments for environmental services and emerging energy markets.

Poverty, Environmental Income and Rural Inequality: A Case Study from Zimbabwe, by Cavendish, W., Campbell, B.M., 2009, 19 pp.: Rural households rely heavily on goods and services freely provided by environmental resources. However, there have been very few adequate quantitative

analyses due to a lack of appropriate household data sets encompassing economic and environmental data. In this paper, the authors use a 213 household data set from rural Zimbabwe to undertake a quantitative analysis of the impact of environmental income on household welfare.

Beyond Proprietorship: Murphree's Laws on Community-based Natural Resource Management in Southern Africa, by Mukamuri, B.B., Manjengwa, J.M., Anstey, S., 2009, Weaver Press and IDRC, 216 pp.: Beyond Proprietorship presents a range of contributions to a May 2007 conference held to honour Dr Marshall Murphree's - a prominent scholar in the fields of common property theory, rural development, and natural resource management - work. The focus of the book is on marginalized people living in poor and remote regions of Zimbabwe, but also includes important discussions about the policy implications of regional tenure regimes, and the place of local resource management in global conservation politics.

Resources

Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation: Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation (RSGs), set up in 1999 by The Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation, are aimed at small conservation programmes and pilot projects. Since 1999 when the very first Rufford Small Grant was awarded, over 1,000 projects have now been awarded around the world. With a focus on supporting grass-roots projects run by individuals in developing countries, the scheme has provided funding to a wide range of projects. Applications can be made at any time of the year; decisions are usually made within three months. RSGs generally support projects of about a year's duration. For a list of the various grants offered, please go to: www.ruffordsmallgrants.org

BioSoc is the monthly bulletin of the PCLG, highlighting key new research on biodiversity and society, poverty and conservation. BioSoc is currently offline, but we anticipate the normal monthly service will resume very soon. To receive BioSoc, 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: 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

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