

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the fifteenth 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
- New 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 January.

Secretariat News

Reader in Conservation and Poverty: The PCLG Secretariat has recently agreed a contract with Earthscan to publish a Reader in Conservation and Poverty. The reader will be prepared over the next 6 months.

Assessing the Social Impacts of Protected Areas: Work is continuing, in collaboration with WCMC, Care International and The Nature Conservancy, on assessing the social impacts of protected areas. Kate Schreckenber - a consultant from ODI - has recently been contracted to help identify the full range of existing social assessment methodologies that exist and from which we hope to be able to draw useful lessons.

Revision of the Strategic Plan of the CBD Convention after 2010: Along with other members of the Steering Group on Linking Conservation and Poverty (SGLCP), the PCLG Secretariat has contributed to the CBD consultation on the review of the Strategic Plan of the CBD Convention after 2010 with suggested text on conservation poverty links. As stated in the submission made by the SGLCP: *"The SGLCP propose that the revised biodiversity target should include the commitment that 'where conservation activities affect people at the local level, those activities should strive to contribute to poverty reduction and, at the very minimum, should not harm the livelihoods of the poor'. This commitment would represent a significant improvement on the looser formulation found in the 2010 target. It sets out, in a clear and general way, the responsibilities of conservation in relation to poverty reduction."*

For more information on these items, please contact: pclg@iied.org

Featured News

Poznań Climate Change Conference, COP 14: The latest United Nations Climate Change Conference ended in Poznań, Poland, on Saturday 13 December with a commitment from governments to carry out the necessary negotiations in order to shape an effective international response to climate change, to be agreed in Copenhagen at the end of 2009. Parties also committed to have a first draft of a concrete negotiating text available at a UNFCCC gathering in Bonn in June of 2009. In addition, the finishing touches were put to the Kyoto Protocol's Adaptation Fund, with Parties agreeing that the Fund would be a legal entity granting direct access to developing countries. Progress was also made on a number of important ongoing issues that are particularly important for developing countries, including: adaptation; finance; technology; reducing emissions from deforestation and forest gradation (REDD); and disaster management. The decisions adopted by COP 14 can be downloaded at: http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_14/items/4481.php

News from PCLG Members

New Poverty-Conservation Blog: The Center for Rural Empowerment and the Environment (www.conservationforpeople.org) is a non-profit organisation that achieves environmental conservation solutions through programs that focus on poverty alleviation and resolving human-wildlife conflict. In Guyana, Cameroon, Kenya, Tanzania, and the Philippines, CREE works on projects ranging from eco-tourism to improved agricultural techniques. CREE has created a blog to provide in-depth information on its work and opinions related to the conservation/development debate. This is found at: <http://conservationforpeople.blogspot.com>

A Changing Landscape: A report from an IUCN WCC workshop: We live in a world where the many crises of natural resource conflicts and scarcity make it abundantly clear that conservation of biodiversity will only succeed if it also effectively addresses human well-being priorities. This shift towards a new paradigm was discussed in full during the workshop, **"Making landscapes work for nature and people: Successes and Challenges from the field"**, which took place on October 9, 2008 at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress (WCC) in Barcelona. The workshop addressed the challenges of building a bridge between conservation and development priorities at different scales through case studies from around the world. The full report can be found at: http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20081229-IUCN_WCC_Report.pdf

An update on CCEC's activities: The Centre for Coastal Environmental Conservation (CCEC) is a grass roots environmental NGO dedicated to the protection and sustainable management of coastal ecosystems in Bangladesh through local initiatives and participation. The organization has, among other activities: developed an Environmental Education package; planted trees on 48 Km roadside embankment, involving 575 poor beneficiaries, in cooperation with the social forestry programme of the

Forest Department; promoted public awareness campaigns on the protection of mangroves and the conservation of its associated biodiversity. For more information contact Mowdudur Rahman (ccec_bd@khulna.bangla.net).

New PCLG Members

Fundación Biodiversidad: Fundación Biodiversidad (Biodiversity Foundation) is a non-profit foundation established in 1998. It carries out activities in the field of conservation, study, and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as in international cooperation for development. Through International Cooperation, Fundación Biodiversidad manages to unite efforts and create synergies, as well as to promote collaboration with national and international organizations, institutions, programs, and centers. <http://www.fundacion-biodiversidad.es>

Forthcoming Events

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

Poverty and Forests: multi-country analysis of spatial association and proposed policy solutions, by CIFOR, 2007, CIFOR Infobrief, No 12, CIFOR, Bogor, Indonesia

This paper examines poverty and deforestation in developing countries as linked problems and focuses on policies that can favour poverty alleviation in forested regions.

http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/publications/pdf_files/infobrief/012-Infobrief.pdf

Deserting the Sundarbans: Local Peoples' Perspective on ADB-GEF-Netherlands Funded Sundarbans Biodiversity Conservation Project, by Hossain, J., Roy, K., December 2007, Forest Peoples Programme, 47 pp.

The US\$77.3m Sundarbans Biodiversity Conservation Project was suspended three years early because of its failure to conserve biological diversity and reduce poverty in the Sundarbans. This report provides an analysis of the project's design flaws and consequent disintegration.

http://www.forestpeoples.org/documents/asia_pacific/deserting_sundarbans_dec07_engl.pdf

Biodiversity, Climate Change and Poverty: Exploring the Links, by Reid, H., Swiderska, K., February 2008, IIED Briefing Papers, IIED, 6 pp.

Biodiversity — the variety of all life, from genes and species to ecosystems — is intimately linked to Earth's climate and, inevitably, to climate change. Biodiversity and poverty are also inextricably connected. For instance, changes to natural ecosystems influence both climate change and people's ability to cope with some of its damaging impacts. And in their turn climate change, as well as people's responses to it, affect biodiversity. Unpicking all these strands clearly shows that conserving and managing biodiversity can help natural systems and vulnerable people cope with a shifting global climate. Yet compared to activities such as forest conservation and afforestation — widely noted as a way of sequestering carbon and cutting greenhouse gas emissions — biodiversity conservation is a neglected area. That must change: urgent support is needed for local solutions to biodiversity loss that provide benefits on all counts.

<http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/17034IIED.pdf>

Forest Resources and Rural Livelihoods in the North-central Regions of Namibia, by MacGregor, J., Palmer, C., Barnes, J., 2007, Environment Economics Discussion Paper, IIED, 26 pp.

This paper reports on the results from a household survey of forest resources use in the north-central regions of Namibia (NCR), focusing on the four relatively densely settled rural areas, which also include several small rapidly developing urban nodes. The paper aims to address the concern that both poverty and economic development are increasing and driving over-utilisation of forest resources. We examined current levels of utilisation of forest resources at a household level and applied a dynamic modelling approach in order to develop policy pointers that can maximise poverty alleviation and conservation benefits as Namibia develops.

<http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/15506IIED.pdf>

Resources

SEED Awards 2009: SEED Awards 2009 is open for submissions. Detailed eligibility criteria are available at www.seedinit.org. Winners of the 2009 SEED Awards for entrepreneurship in sustainable development receive a tailored package of support services, worth up to \$40,000, to help their venture to become established and to increase their impact. This includes access to relevant expertise and technical assistance, meeting new partners and building networks, developing business plans and identifying sources of finance. The deadline for applications is 16 March 2009. For information about the SEED Awards: www.seedinit.org; seedawards@seedinit.org.

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

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.

The **Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG)** is an initiative facilitated by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). The goal of the PCLG 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. PCLG News provides monthly news on the work of the PCLG Secretariat and of PCLG members as well as information about new publications, resources and forthcoming events.

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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