



# PCLG News

## Promoting mutual learning on conservation-poverty linkages

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**PCLG News** is the newsletter of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group. It 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.

**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.

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the fourth issue of our recently restyled 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

**Announcement:** The secretariat of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) is pleased to announce the establishment of the PCLG online forum, which aims to facilitate the rapid exchange of information, requests for assistance and so on, among PCLG members. To access the PCLG online forum <http://www.dgroups.org/groups/oneworld/pclg/index.cfm>. The first message on the PCLG online forum was posted by the PCLG secretariat. This message is a request for information on methodologies/tools that have been used to assess the human impact of protected areas. We invite all PCLG members to post replies to this message, as well as to start using this forum to post their own messages.

**Request for Information:** The PCLG secretariat calls on ALL members to send us updates on relevant projects and activities carried out by their organisations on poverty-conservation linkages. This information will be compiled in a briefing paper that will constitute an update of the 'Survey of Organisations and Initiatives' produced in 2005 ([www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/200512-Organisations\(Giuliani\).pdf](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/200512-Organisations(Giuliani).pdf)), and which will be distributed during the 2007 Symposium. This is a great opportunity to inform other PCLG members on the work you have been doing!

### Featured News

**United Nations adopts Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples:** On 13th September 2007 the General Assembly adopted a landmark declaration outlining the rights of the world's estimated 370 million indigenous people and outlawing discrimination against them. A non-binding text, the Declaration sets out the individual and collective

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rights of indigenous peoples, as well as their rights to culture, identity, language, employment, health, education and other issues.

The Declaration emphasizes the rights of indigenous peoples to maintain and strengthen their own institutions, cultures and traditions and to pursue their development in keeping with their own needs and aspirations. It also prohibits discrimination against indigenous peoples and promotes their full and effective participation in all matters that concern them, and their right to remain distinct and to pursue their own visions of economic and social development.

General Assembly President Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour have all welcomed today's adoption. In a statement released by his spokesperson, Mr. Ban described the Declaration's adoption as "a historic moment when UN Member States and indigenous peoples have reconciled with their painful histories and are resolved to move forward together on the path of human rights, justice and development for all."

[http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/un\\_pfi/en/declaration.html](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/un_pfi/en/declaration.html)

## News from Members

**Fauna and Flora International, African Wildlife Foundation and Birdlife International:** FFI, AWF and Birdlife organised a workshop to explore the challenges and solutions to monitoring and evaluating socio-economic/livelihoods impacts in conservation programs. With financial support from Swedbio, a two day workshop was held on 18-19 July 2007 in Cambridge, UK. Some 40 delegates spanning 20 nationalities participated in the workshop. These included conservation field practitioners from 14 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, as well as those working in organisational headquarters on organisation-wide processes for M&E, reporting and lesson-learning. The first day focused on comparing field level M&E tools and frameworks, whilst the second day focused on organisational process for M&E and reporting, and the challenges of reconciling field level, organisational and donor information requirements in a unified M&E system.

The presentations from the workshop, the findings of the workshop and the various tools and methodologies referenced and discussed will be uploaded to the PCLG website, which will be the main dissemination mechanism for the workshop proceedings as well as any follow up activities.

<http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/learning.php>

## Featured PCLG Member

### **Chibememe Earth Healing Association (CHIEHA), Zimbabwe:**

Chibememe Earth Healing Association (CHIEHA) is a community based organisation working in Sangwe communal land areas outside Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTFP) in Zimbabwe since 1998. Aim of CHIEHA is to promote cultural and natural heritage in the area through fostering the spirit of communal participation, sharing information among stakeholders and creating awareness about sustainable use of natural resources. To achieve its aim, CHIEHA runs three programmes of earth healing and land care, income generation, and environmental awareness. In 2004 CHIEHA was selected as one of the outstanding 26 finalist communities out of 340 nominations globally by the UNDP Equator Initiative Prize Technical Committee for its community-based conservation activities.

### **New Members**

**Department for International Development (DFID), UK:** The Department for International Development (DFID) is the part of the UK Government that manages Britain's aid to poor countries. DFID supports long-term programmes to help tackle the underlying causes of poverty, for example through the promotion of sustainable livelihoods, but also responds to emergencies, both natural and man-made. DFID works in partnership with governments, civil society, the private sector and others. It also works with multilateral institutions, including the World Bank, United Nations agencies, and the European Commission. DFID works directly in over 150 countries worldwide.

[www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk)

**CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development), UK:** CAFOD is the official overseas development and relief agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. CAFOD has been fighting poverty in developing countries since 1962. CAFOD raises funds so that it can promote long-term development, respond to emergencies, raise public awareness of the causes of poverty, speak out on behalf of poor communities, and promote social justice in witness to Christian faith and gospel values. Underpinning CAFOD's work is a deeply held set of values that are central to the organisation's ethos and identity.

[www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

### **Featured Initiative**

**Advancing Conservation in a Social Context (ACSC):** Advancing Conservation in a Social Context is an interdisciplinary research initiative supported by the MacArthur Foundation. The aim of ACSC is to explore and develop a deeper understanding of the factors that have contributed to the very mixed record of success for conservation and development efforts over the past several decades by re-examining

complex ecological and social relationships and drawing on the extensive body of academic and practical experience in order to review past history, question fundamental strategies, and reconsider the underlying assumptions about how the conservation field attempts to reach its goals. The strategy for this five-year process of inquiry, which started in 2005, is to engage a broad range of institutions, including conservation and development NGOs, community-based organizations, academic institutions, government departments, development agencies, and foundations and other donors, in order to learn from their experiences – both the positive and negative lessons – and work with them to develop and improve approaches.

<http://www.tradeoffs.org/static/index.php>

## Forthcoming Events

**Linking Nature Conservation and Poverty Reduction: Supporting a Networking Process:** This international workshop, organised by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, will take place on 10th – 11th November 2007, at the International Academy for Nature Conservation, Ile of Vilm, Germany. PCLG members who are interested in attending this workshop should contact Meike Kretschmar ([meike.kretschmar@bfn.de](mailto:meike.kretschmar@bfn.de)).

## New Publications in our Database

**Climate, Carbon, Conservation and Communities, by Roe, D., Reid, H., Vaughan, K., Brickell, E., Elliott, J., IIED Brief, IIED, London, August 2007**

This briefing paper explores the opportunities from and limitations to carbon-based funds for conservation and development. It highlights mechanisms that may help secure benefits for climate, conservation and communities.

## Resources

**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](http://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](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**

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