

# 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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**To join the PCLG:**

Email: [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org)

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the seventh 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

**Plans for 2008:** We would like to hear your views on the PCLG's plans for 2008. In particular:

- Is there interest in focussing the 2008 meeting on trying to assess what we have learned so far about conservation-poverty linkages and in this taking the form of an event at CoP9 (possibly during the middle weekend, 24-25 May) with follow up at the IUCN Congress?

- If yes, what key questions should we be trying to answer in this assessment? In the Conceptual Framework paper prepared during the establishment phase of the

PCLG ([http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/200511-Conceptual\\_Framework\(Roe-Elliott\).pdf](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/200511-Conceptual_Framework(Roe-Elliott).pdf)) we identified a set of

assumptions about the nature and extent of conservation-poverty linkages. Are these the assumptions we should be addressing, is there a key sub-set or are there other, better, questions?

- Who would be willing to participate in a working group to address one or more of these questions?

- Who would be willing to coordinate a working group and to take responsibility for reporting back on findings at the CBD event? (We would expect to be able to make some funding available for this).

We look forward to receiving your comments at [pdg@iied.org](mailto:pdg@iied.org)

**Request for Information:** The PCLG secretariat aims to expand the number of case studies currently available in its case studies' database. We call on ALL members to send us the description of projects capturing practical, on-the-ground experiences in linking conservation and poverty reduction and documenting the strategies employed in making these linkages. Please, browse the PCLG case studies' database

(<http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/csearch.php>) to check which projects are already available, and what type of information and level of detail we are looking for. A short set of guidelines on how to summarise a project is also available by emailing [pdg@iied.org](mailto:pdg@iied.org). The information collected will be added to the case studies database, and will be compiled in a briefing paper that will be produced in early 2008.

#### Featured News

**United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali:** This highly anticipated Conference, which took place in December 2007 and brought together more than 10,000 participants from over 180 countries, culminated in the adoption of the Bali roadmap. This document charts the course for a new negotiating process to be

concluded by 2009 that will ultimately lead to a post-2012 international agreement on climate change.

Recognising the urgent need to take further action to cut carbon and methane emissions from tropical forests, ground-breaking decisions were taken, like the draft decision on a pay-and-preserve scheme known as reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (REDD). This scheme aims to allow poorer nations from 2013 to sell carbon offsets to rich countries in return for not burning their tropical forests.

### Featured PCLG Member

**Wetlands International:** Wetlands International works globally, regionally and nationally to achieve the conservation and wise use of wetlands, as a contribution to sustainable development. The mission of Wetlands International is to sustain and restore wetlands, their resources and biodiversity for future generations.

Two interesting projects recently implemented by Wetlands International are:

*The Berbak-Sembilang Poverty Alleviation and Wetlands (BSPAW) project*, which focuses on communities in the mainly peatland areas of the buffer zones of Berbak National Park and the contiguous Sembilang National Park in Sumatra, Indonesia.

*The Poverty Reduction Project in the Inner Niger Delta (PRPDIN)*, which seeks to contribute to poverty reduction and biodiversity protection by putting in place a participatory and sustainable management process for local development in the IND.

<http://www.wetlands.org>

### New Member

**Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB):** The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is Europe's largest wildlife conservation organisation with over a million members, and is the UK partner of BirdLife International. The RSPB owns or manages 170 nature reserves in the UK and helps support BirdLife Partners internationally to conserve and manage Important Bird Areas (IBAs) globally. Through research, advocacy and land management, RSPB strives to link national and international policies for sustainability with local concerns, including poverty eradication, in both the South and the North. RSPB is currently supporting BirdLife Partners in three African countries (Uganda, Nigeria and Kenya) to deliver on poverty and conservation related projects funded through the DFID's Civil Society Challenge Fund.

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

### New Initiatives in our database

**Improving the Lives of People in Forests:** In 2007 the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) constituted a special Task Force on 'Improving the Lives of People in Forests'. The Task Force is composed of respected researchers and activists addressing issues of human well being in forests, coming from a variety of disciplines, countries, and ethnic backgrounds. This Task Force recognizes that people living in forests often have serious disadvantages – in terms of wealth, power, health, human rights – vis a vis non-forest dwellers. One of the main activities of this Task Force, which will remain in existence until 2010, is to pull together materials that will help others work more effectively with peoples living in and

around forests, to contribute to improving this inequitable situation.  
[www.cifor.cgiar.org/livesinforessts](http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/livesinforessts)

### Forthcoming Events

#### **World Conservation Congress**

The World Conservation Congress will take place in Barcelona, Spain from 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.iucn.org/congress/2008)

#### **IASC 12th Biennial Global Conference**

The International Association for the Study of the Commons 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Global Conference will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> 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

#### **Poverty and Forests: Multi-Country Analysis of Spatial Association by Sunderlin, W.D., Dewi, S., Puntodewo, A., 2007, CIFOR Occasional Paper No. 47, 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. The paper encompasses two elements: analysis of the spatial coincidence between poverty and forests, and proposed policy options for reducing poverty in forested areas.

#### **Conserving What and for Whom? Why Conservation Should Help Meet Basic Human Needs in the Tropics, by Kaimowitz, D., Sheil, D., 2007, Biotropica, Vol 39 No 5**

'Pro-poor conservation' explicitly seeks to address basic human needs. Such an emphasis has many potential synergies with more conventional conservation goals. Nonetheless, pro-poor conservation requires a distinct attitude to gauging conservation outcomes and a different approach to conservation science.

#### **Addressing Human Needs in Conservation, Livelihoods and Conservation in Partnership 2, by Fauna & Flora International (FFI), 2007, Fauna & Flora International (FFI), Cambridge, UK**

As part of its Biodiversity and Human Needs thematic programme FFI has explored the linkages between livelihoods and conservation across its portfolio, reviewed the impacts its work has had on local people, and identified some key lessons. This document summarises

the findings of the analysis, which drew from annual reports of 88 projects, as well as a more detailed review of 34 projects across 22 countries with a specific livelihoods focus.

**Nature's Investment Bank: How Marine Protected Areas Contribute to Poverty Reduction, by Leisher, C., van Beukering, P., Scherl, L.M., November 2007,**

This study from the Nature Conservancy supports the view that marine protected areas (MPAs) can help alleviate poverty. The findings provide recommendations for how to protect unique marine life while improving the well-being of impoverished communities who depend on fishing for food and livelihoods.

### 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: [pdg@iied.org](mailto:pdg@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)

All issues of PCLG News are available online at:

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

### BioSoc

If you enjoyed this newsletter, you might be interested also in BioSoc, the monthly bulletin of the PCLG, which highlights key new research on biodiversity and society, poverty and conservation. To receive BioSoc visit: [www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biosoc.php](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biosoc.php)