



# PCLG News

Promoting mutual learning on conservation-poverty linkages

April 2008

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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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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the ninth 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.

#### Secretariat News

**Biodiversity for Poverty Reduction at the CBD Cop9:** In place of a symposium this year the Secretariat of the PCLG, together with the CBD Secretariat and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), will host a one day meeting on Saturday May 24th 2008 in Bonn, Germany, during the ninth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The event is intended to help build links between conservation and development communities, to share different perspectives, and to explore the implications of lessons learned to date in linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction - in policy and in practice. The day will be divided into two sessions – the morning focussing on international and national policy initiatives, the afternoon on practical implementation. The agenda for the day is under development and we are interested to receive proposals from potential presenters and participants (a provisional outline for the day can be found at the bottom of this message).

We would like to encourage wide participation in this event – from PCLG members and others. The event will present a great opportunity for networking and for finding out who is doing what on conservation-poverty linkages. If you would like to highlight your work, please send a brief abstract outlining your presentation as soon as possible and by **25th April 2008** at the latest to: [pdg@iied.org](mailto:pdg@iied.org). We have a limited number of travel grants available. Any PCLG members in developing countries who are not otherwise attending CoP9 and might require assistance with travel expenses to attend this event should contact us ([pdg@iied.org](mailto:pdg@iied.org)) by **11th April**. Finally, we encourage everyone to let us know if they are planning to attend this event – even if not presenting – so we can have an indication of how many people to expect on the day.

***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 resource you would like us to advertise, please send it to [pdg@iied.org](mailto:pdg@iied.org) by the end of April.***

#### Featured News

**“The Assessment of African Protected Areas”, a new tool from the European Commission:** Africa is home to some of the most valuable natural ecosystems and species on the planet. The monitoring of Africa's 741 protected areas plays a vital role in biodiversity protection, conservation and the sustainable management

of natural resources. "The Assessment of African Protected Areas", an online information system based on the latest advances in satellite technology, monitors trends in fire, vegetation, and rainfall. It allows park managers to compare current fire activity, vegetation growth or rainfall against seasonal norms. The information system is expected to support policy and decision makers in the allocation of funds for the sustainable management of the natural resources. Ultimately, this new tool will help African nations to achieve the goal of reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.

<http://www.tem.jrc.it/pa>

### News from Members

**WWF European Policy Office, FERN, and Birdlife:** A report was recently produced on the availability of, and access to, environmental information provided by the EC during the consultation process on planning and programming EC development aid. The focus is on the availability of information to civil society in developing countries to facilitate dialogue and participation. The full report is available (also in French and Spanish) at [www.panda.org/eu](http://www.panda.org/eu) or by emailing Sally Nicholson at [snicholson@wwfepo.org](mailto:snicholson@wwfepo.org).

**CBD Secretariat:** The CBD Secretariat has recently released the report from the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, which took place last February in Rome. This report includes the set of recommendations that will be discussed, revised, and ultimately turned into decisions during CBD CoP9.

<http://www.cbd.int/wgpa2>

### Center for International Earth Science Information Network

**(CIESIN):** On 1st April CIESIN released a new small area estimate data sets on its Global Distribution of Poverty website

(<http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/povmap>). Data sets are now

available for the following countries: Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nepal, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, and Romania. The Web site features a rich compilation of subnational, georeferenced poverty measures, unprecedented in scope. Global data sets provide measures of infant mortality and malnutrition; national data sets include income based poverty and inequality measures for over 28 countries. Users are encouraged to download the poverty data sets available on the site, view its collection of over 300 maps, and explore "Where the Poor Are: An Atlas of Poverty", an accessible publication of poverty maps and case histories that shows how poverty mapping data can be used to guide poverty interventions.

### Making REDD Work for the Poor: Invitation to submit case study materials for PEP project on REDD and poverty linkages

**(Deadline for submission: 4th April 2008):** As those that attended the PCLG Symposium last November will know, the Poverty Environment Partnership (PEP) has been exploring the social implications of Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) culminating in a high visibility event held during the CIFOR Forest Day at the UN Climate Change Conference in Bali (December). The importance of PEP's work on this issue was underscored by the decision on REDD agreed in Bali. Parties agreed a series of steps to stimulate action in this area, including in particular an invitation to developed countries to mobilize resources in support of ongoing voluntary REDD efforts, capacity-building, technical assistance and transfer of technology to improve data collection, estimation of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation,

monitoring and reporting and institutional needs, as well as undertaking demonstration activities to address the drivers of deforestation.

Following these results the PEP-REDD working group has continued its work to help ensure that REDD schemes deliver co-benefits for the poor. As a first step, the group is revising the background paper prepared last year, with the aim of providing practical guidance to investors and practitioners on how to make REDD mechanisms work for the poor. In particular they hope to include more concrete examples of pro-poor approaches to natural resource management, focusing on approaches that effectively reduce deforestation and degradation. PEP therefore invites you to send any information you may have on case studies and/or approaches used in your country/region or by your organisation. These do not need to be examples of REDD projects (which are currently very limited) but could include any approaches to reduce deforestation and degradation that might help inform the design of REDD. The working group is happy to receive reports that they can extract information from (with attribution, of course!). But would be most grateful if the information you send contains the following –

**Essential:**

- a. Name of project/programme:
- b. Country/Region:
- c. Scale (geographic and/or financial): Both national programmes and local level projects would be of interest
- d. Timescale: when did it start and how long is it running for?
- e. Name of implementing agency and partners
- f. Background information on why the project/programme was implemented
- g. What approach has been used to reduce rates of deforestation and degradation? E.g. payments for environmental services
- h. How effective has it been in reducing deforestation and degradation
- i. How have poverty impacts been assessed? E.g. social impact assessments before the project/programme; ongoing Monitoring and Enforcement
- j. What have been the positive and negative impacts on the poor in relation to the project/programme?
- k. What have been the main challenges in project/programme implementation?
- l. Any other information you think is relevant

Looking ahead, a session on REDD is planned for the upcoming 14th PEP meeting to be hosted by the Asian Development Bank in the Philippines, 9-11 June 2008. If you would like to help us with this or other REDD-related activities, please contact David Huberman ([David.HUBERMAN@iucn.org](mailto:David.HUBERMAN@iucn.org)).

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **World Conservation Congress**

The World Conservation Congress will take place in Barcelona, Spain from 5th to 14th 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. The PCLG Secretariat will host an event during this congress, aimed at highlighting the outcomes from the CBD CoP9 "Biodiversity for Poverty Reduction Day" and emphasising what has been learned to date on conservation-poverty linkages. [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 12th Biennial Global Conference will be held on 14th – 18th 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 10th -14th 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>

### **The Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9) - CBD CoP9**

The ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9) will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 19th to 30th May 2008. COP 9 will include a high-level ministerial segment organized by the host country in consultation with the Secretariat and the Bureau. COP 9 will also coincide with the International Biodiversity Day, on 22 May 2008. The Secretariat of the PCLG, together with the CBD Secretariat and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), will host a one day meeting on Saturday May 24th 2008 during CoP9.

<http://www.cbd.int/cop9/>

### **Parks: For Life's Sake: The World Parks Congress - "Durban+5" Review Meeting**

The aim of the meeting, which will take place from 8th to 11th April 2008 in Cape Town, South Africa is to 1) review progress in implementing the key outcomes of the Durban World Parks Congress in 2003; 2) identify key future issues and how to address them; 3) provide greater impetus to achieving the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas; and 4) establish the framework and process for the VI World Parks Congress. Dilys Roe will be attending the meeting and will report back in the next newsletter.

### **New Publications in our Database**

**Making Conservation Work: Linking Rural Livelihoods and Protected Area Management in Bangladesh, by Fox, J., Bushley, B.R., Dutt, S., Quazi, S.A. (eds), 2007, East-West Center, Honolulu and Nishorgo Program of the Bangladesh Forest Department, Dhaka, 176 pp.**

The papers included in this book point to several important conclusions about linkages between rural communities and conservation in protected area management in Bangladesh.

**Analysis of the Economic Benefits from Systematic Improvements to Shifting Cultivation and its Evolution towards Stable Continuous Agroforestry in the Upland of Eastern Bangladesh, by Rahman, S.A., Rahman, M.F., Codilan, A.L., Farhana, K.M., 2007, International Forestry Review, Vol 9 No 1,**

pp. 536-547

This paper indicates that agroforestry may not only be good for (agro)biodiversity and sustainability, but has a good economic rate of return.

**People and Reefs in the Pacific – People and Livelihoods, by Govan, H., 2007, ReefBase Pacific DVD (Ver. 1.0), The WorldFish Center, Penang, Malaysia**

This article discusses the future of Pacific Island peoples in the light of the increasing pressure on these life supporting ecosystems.

**Building Partnerships: Working Together for Conservation and Development, by BirdLife International, 2008, BirdLife International, Cambridge, UK, 40 pp.**

This new BirdLife report looks at the many different alliances which have enabled BirdLife Partners around the world to achieve their goals.

### Resources

**Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation: Strengthening research capacity in developing countries:** The Natural

Environment Research Council (NERC) invites proposals for activities to strengthen research capacity to tackle the complex problems associated with the sustainable management of ecosystems for poverty reduction. This scheme is open to UK research institutions normally eligible for NERC, ESRC or DFID funding, and to non-UK researchers, based in recognised higher education institutions, research organisations or organisations with a credible research capacity. This includes researchers at institutions based in developing countries. Closing date for Outline Proposals: 30 May 2008. Closing date for Full Proposals: 31 July 2008.

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/programmes/espa/events/ao3.asp>

**Buffett Award Call for Nominations:** The National Geographic Society's Buffett Award for Leadership in African Conservation is currently soliciting nominations for the 2008 award. This award is intended to support the recipient's ongoing conservation work while recognizing his or her remarkable achievements in conserving nature or culture in Africa. The award includes a \$25,000 grant. Nominations must be emailed no later than April 6, 2008 to Dr. Tim Watkins, [tiwatkin@ngs.org](mailto:tiwatkin@ngs.org).

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/field/grants-programs/conservation-trust.html>

**World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWC):**


WASWC recently produced a CD to serve as a companion to the book 'No-Till Farming Systems' (2008). The CD contains 1,008 documents describing no-till and other related practices, from many national and international organizations. To receive a copy of the CD please contact Samran Sombatpanit at [sombatpanit@yahoo.com](mailto:sombatpanit@yahoo.com). Delivery is available to any post address worldwide. US\$5 will be charged for each copy of the CD.

**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@ied.org](mailto:pdg@ied.org)

**Spread the news**

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