

# PCLG News

## Promoting mutual learning on conservation-poverty linkages

July/ August 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 twelfth 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, which covers the months of July and August, you can find:

- Secretariat News
- News from Members
- New Members
- New Initiatives
- 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](mailto:pclg@iied.org) by the end of August.***

### Secretariat News

**Launch of the PCLG networking site:** The PCLG Secretariat is pleased to announce the launch of the online social network of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group. The aim of this website is to provide an online forum for people working on the linkages between biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction. We warmly invite all our readers to join the PCLG online social network, and to become active members of the group. Please, use this website to: post blogs, start discussions, share news on poverty-conservation linkages, announce the publication of new documents, and advertise new resources, upcoming meetings or training events. **To access the PCLG networking site go to:** <http://pclginfo.ning.com>

**The PCLG at the World Conservation Congress:** The Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) will have a stand at the forthcoming World Conservation Congress, which will take place in Barcelona, Spain, from 5 to 14 October 2008. **All members of the PCLG are invited to use this space to display material (including short films) from their organisation or initiative.** Please, ensure the material is relevant to the theme of poverty-conservation linkages. If you would to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact us at [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org).

**Request for Information: The PCLG secretariat calls on ALL members to send us updates on relevant projects and activities carried out by their organisations or initiatives on poverty-conservation linkages.** This information will be compiled in a briefing paper that will constitute an update of the 'PCLG Directory of Poverty and Conservation Organisations and Initiatives 2007'

([http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-PCLG\\_Directory.pdf](http://www.povertyandconservation.info/docs/20071201-PCLG_Directory.pdf)). The 2008 directory will be disseminated during the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona in October 2008. This is a great opportunity to inform others on the work you have been doing!

## News from Members

**Impact by Forest Governance Learning Group in Uganda:** The Forest Governance Learning Group has recently published its latest update on its activities in eight African and three Asian countries. Over the past year, the Group has helped create impacts including: the President in Uganda backing down on the give-away of forest reserves; high-level action on illegal logging in Mozambique; and shaping of the Ghana-EC Voluntary Partnership Agreement on legal timber.

<http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=G02284>

**United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC):** UNEP-WCMC have recently completed a literature review on the costs and benefits of forest protected areas on local livelihoods. The main finding of the review was that there are a very limited number of studies which have systematically, and without bias, measured the impact of forest protected areas on local communities; however a few major trends could be detected. The livelihood impacts of forest protected areas varies with protected area management strategies and community involvement in governance, although the impact of management and governance was rarely assessed, and requires further research. For further information on this report, and current WCMC projects on livelihoods and protected areas please e-mail [lauren.coad@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:lauren.coad@unep-wcmc.org)

**Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement and Diversification (SLED):**

SLED, a systematic approach to bringing livelihoods and conservation together in marine protected areas, has been developed by IMM staff, working with partners in the Gulf of Mannar in India, Lakshadweep Islands, Baa Atoll in the Maldives, Bar Reef in Sri Lanka and Weh Island in Aceh, Indonesia. SLED not only helps communities to identify and take up livelihood changes that reduce pressure on their resources, it also helps the communities to appreciate the value and need for conservation. At a recent workshop run by ICRAN and IUCN in the Maldives, the teams presented evidence about how successful the use of SLED has been to an audience of marine protected area managers and environmental policy makers. A number of participants to the workshop voiced their intentions to collaborate with the project staff to adopt SLED in their communities.

<http://www.imm.uk.com/PS/Main.aspx?projectid=22cbb689-4e26-41f2-9077-48e89ef4de3>

**Excellent Development:** Excellent Development, a new member of the PCLG, won both Environment Charity of the year and Overall Charity of the Year at the recent UK Charity Awards. Excellent Development focuses on 'development through conservation' in semi-arid rural Africa, improving water supply, food production, health and incomes through community-constructed sand dams, terraces and tree planting.

[www.excellentdevelopment.com](http://www.excellentdevelopment.com)

**Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction – Taking an Economic Perspective:** This workshop, which will take place on the Isle of Vilm, Germany, on 22-23 September 2008, is the third in a series of events organised by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation on linking nature conservation and poverty reduction. Numerous recent initiatives have highlighted the key role economics can play in raising awareness over conservation issues, and in linking biodiversity with sustainable development and poverty reduction (e.g. Sukhdev Study). By bringing together expertise from a number of initiatives, this workshop aims to promote exchange of information, stimulate learning, identify knowledge gaps and needs for action. For further information and registration please contact: Dr. Susanne Lehmann,

Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Bonn, Germany ([susanne.lehmann@bfn.de](mailto:susanne.lehmann@bfn.de)). Limited funding for travel and living expenses is available.

### New Members

**Community Development Organization (CDO):** CDO is a rights based civil society organization engaged in issues of social/environmental justice and ecological democracy in relation to protected areas in Nepal. The organization works closely with natural resources dependant indigenous people and poor communities residing in and around the protected areas. Rights to traditional livelihoods, food security, governance of protected areas and biodiversity conservation are key thematic areas of the organization.

<http://www.cdo.org.np>

**Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT):** The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust is a UK conservation organisation, whose purpose is to save wetlands and their wildlife and raise awareness of the issues that affect their survival. WWT aims to enhance people's lives through learning about and being close to nature, and inspiring them to help WWT's conservation work worldwide. WWT works in Nepal, Guyana and Laos.

<http://www.wwt.org.uk>

**Center for Rural Empowerment and the Environment (CREE):** CREE is a Non-Governmental Organization that seeks practical solutions to bridging the gap between sustainable development and environmental conservation. CREE achieves this through programs that focus solely on poverty alleviation and resolving human-wildlife conflict. CREE works in Kenya, Cameroon, Tanzania, Guyana and the Philippines

<http://www.conservationforpeople.org>

**International Centre for Responsible Tourism - South Africa (ICRT-SA):** The mission of the ICRT-SA is to contribute to economic development, social justice and environmental integrity through the development and promotion of Responsible Tourism by, among other things, influencing public institutions, communicating the principles of responsible tourism, and undertaking research to develop knowledge to support the implementation of responsible tourism.

<http://www.anna.spenceley.co.uk>

### New Initiatives

**Biodiversity for Development:** The Biodiversity for Development initiative was recently launched by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD). The objective of this network is to gather and disseminate case-studies, good practices and lessons learned on the integration of biodiversity and development. Among the expected outcomes of this initiative are:

- The organization of side events at various conferences with the support of network members
- The compilation of already existing material related to the integration of biodiversity into development policies and programmes, with the goal of developing a bank of material on the subject, which will be made available online
- The publication of a newsletter for network members, produced periodically rather than on a regular basis. Each newsletter will focus on a specific theme, either a particular development sector, or according to requests from network members.

<http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/init/10047.php>

## Forthcoming Events

### **Second DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference. Biodiversity and Society: Understanding Connections, Adapting to Change**

Following up on the success of the First DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference, and in order to provide in-depth overviews of a broad range of topics in biodiversity research and initiate biodiversity research projects around the world, DIVERSITAS is pleased to announce its Second Open Science Conference "Biodiversity and society: Understanding connections, adapting to change", which will **take place from the 13th to 16th October 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa**. In keeping with the Conference title, scientists worldwide are invited to submit proposals for symposia on the following topics: strengthening biodiversity science; supporting the science; integrated approaches to topical issues; focus on African issues is welcome. The deadline for submission is 15 September 2008. <http://www.diversitas-osc.org>

### **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)

## New Publications in our Database

### **Keeping Campfire Going: Political Uncertainty and Natural Resource Management in Zimbabwe, by Mapedza, E, July 2007, Gatekeeper Series No 133, IIED, London**

The increasingly dictatorial nature of Zimbabwe's current government has had a negative impact on formerly vibrant community based natural resource management initiatives. This report uses two case studies of community based management (CAMPFIRE and forest co-management) to examine the impact of the political situation on resource management institutions and the resources on which they depend.

<http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=145541IED>

### **Protected Areas and Human Livelihoods, by Redford, K., Fearn, E., December 2007, Working Paper, No 32, Wildlife Conservation Society, New York, 198 pp.**

This Working Paper reports on the results of a meeting recently held by WCS on "Protected areas and human livelihoods". The meeting examined the ways, positive and negative, that protected areas influence the human communities that once relied or still rely on natural resources within protected areas.

<http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biblio/B1614.php>

### **Forest Partnerships. Enhancing Local Livelihoods and Protecting the Environment in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, by Osbeck, M, Wojciechowska-Shibuya, M, 2007, IUCN, Bangkok, Thailand, 48 pp.**

This publication is an output of the Natureandpoverty\* Programme, a joint effort between the IUCN Netherlands Committee, WWF-Netherlands and Friends of the Earth Netherlands. The Natureandpoverty\* Programme in Asia has shown the importance of addressing legal ownership, access to ecosystems and exclusion from decision-making processes that affect how forest ecosystems are managed. The contents of this publication reveal how building workable partnerships among the considerable diversity of

stakeholders is fundamental in contributing to sustainable development. A limited number of hard copies are available for distribution. If interested, e-mail: [peter.vansluijs@iucn.nl](mailto:peter.vansluijs@iucn.nl)  
<http://www.povertyandconservation.info/en/biblio/B1615.php>

## Resources

### **Social Science Working Group of the Society for Conservation**

**Biology (SSWG SCB):** SSWG SCB would like to make you aware of its Online Catalog of Social Science Tools. The Catalog is organized to provide: introductions to the principal disciplines in conservation social science; brief descriptions of methodological approaches; introductions to common social challenges facing conservation practitioners and brief descriptions of different types of conservation interventions; a searchable database of social science tools; and links to web sites containing other relevant resources.

<http://www.conbio.org/workinggroups/sswg/catalog/index.cfm>

### **UN Voluntary Fund on Indigenous Populations: The 2009 applications forms for the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations are now available at:**

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/about/funds/indigenous/docs/forms2009.doc>

The fund provides financial assistance to indigenous delegates wishing to attend the 2nd session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 8th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The deadline for applying is 1st October 2008. If you need more information you can consult

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/about/funds/indigenous/>

**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**

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)