

# PCLG News Promoting mutual learning on conservation-poverty linkages

**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.

## **May 2009 - ISSUE No. 018**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the eighteenth 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 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](mailto:pclg@iied.org) by the end of May.***

## **Secretariat News**

**PCLG International Symposium:** The PCLG Secretariat is organizing an international **symposium** that will take place in **April 2010** and will be hosted by the **Zoological Society of London**. Recognising that the CBD 2010 target includes 'contributing to poverty reduction' as a key rationale for halting biodiversity loss, the aim of the symposium will be to review what we actually know about the degree to which biodiversity conservation contributes to poverty reduction. The PCLG Secretariat will shortly be

commissioning a series of "state of knowledge" reviews to inform this symposium. Anyone who would like to receive the Terms of Reference for these studies is welcome to contact us ([pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org)).

### **Featured News**

**G8 meeting:** Environment ministers from major rich and developing nations sealed a deal in April 2009 to try to slow the rate of species loss around the world but failed to make a breakthrough in climate change negotiations. Almost every country in the world in 2002 agreed to a "significant reduction" in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010, but scientists say extinctions are gathering pace. Members of the Group of Eight (G8) industrial countries and major developing economies, meeting on the island of Sicily, signed a charter to extend the deal on biodiversity loss. Delegates said the Syracuse Charter ([http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/carta\\_di\\_siracusa\\_on\\_biodiversity.pdf](http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/carta_di_siracusa_on_biodiversity.pdf)) stated the link between climate change and species extinction and emphasised the economic value of biodiversity, particularly in developing countries.

**\$18 Million Approved Under UN-REDD Programme:** The UN-REDD Programme, a collaboration between FAO, UNDP and UNEP, was launched to ensure that Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) becomes an important component of a future agreement on climate change to be agreed under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Programme has approved \$18 million in support of five pilot countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The funding will support action plans to assist the countries concerned prepare for the inclusion of REDD in a new climate deal. During the Programme's recent high level Policy Board meeting in Panama, senior government representatives of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania, and Viet Nam, presented their plans for preparing national strategies for a future REDD regime. Activities will include identifying baselines from which to measure emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, monitoring programmes, consultative processes for engaging indigenous peoples and civil society, links to other benefits such as biodiversity and strengthening the capacity of national institutions to address these issues.

### **News from PCLG Members**

**IUCN:** The final reports from the Members' Assembly of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2008 in Barcelona are now available on the IUCN website. You can find the Proceedings of the Members' Assembly under [and](#) the final version of the Resolutions and

Recommendations under [www.iucn.org/congress\\_08/assembly/policy/](http://www.iucn.org/congress_08/assembly/policy/). One printed copy of the Proceedings and Resolutions and Recommendations will be sent to all member organizations in due course, as they constitute the official legacy of the World Congress. IUCN is also producing a synthesis publication on the outcomes of the Forum that summarizes the current state of conservation and the big opportunities ahead. This will be available later this year.

**Biodiversity for Development:** One of the key initiatives of the CBD Secretariat Biodiversity for Development Unit in 2009 is the publication of a series of toolkits, which compile good practices supportive of poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation in a range of different sectors. These include tourism, forestry, drinking water, fisheries and pastoralism. The objective of each toolkit is to present a set of policy, strategic planning, and legislative tools that can inform Parties to the CBD on how to mainstream biodiversity into a given sector more efficiently. By the same token, they address poverty alleviation and development needs in local communities affected by the activities of the sector. Each toolkit is composed of a small booklet and of a CD Rom. For more information please contact Christopher Hogan ([christopher.hogan@cbd.int](mailto:christopher.hogan@cbd.int)).

**Second meeting of the Second AHTEG on Biodiversity and Climate Change:** The Second meeting of the Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Biodiversity and Climate Change was held in Helsinki, Finland from Saturday, 18 to Wednesday, 22 April, 2009. The purpose of the AHTEG is to provide biodiversity-relevant information to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) through the provision of scientific and technical advice and assessment on the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into climate change mitigation and adaptation activities. This second meeting was convened to address the links between biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and climate-change adaptation, risks and vulnerabilities. More information about this meeting can be found at:  
<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=AHTEG-BDCC-02-02>

**The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) - Call for Evidence:** The most recent Call for Evidence related to 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity' (TEEB), a global study to be presented at CBD COP10, can be seen at:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/economics/pdf/d2.pdf>. TEEB draws attention to the local and global benefits of biodiversity and to the social and economic costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. It is a cooperative effort of researchers from North and South, led by Pavan Sukhdev (UNEP) and funded by the EU and several governments. Your response will inform the 'TEEB D2 Report for Local and Regional Policy Levels' which is intended to offer orientation for sub-national policy makers

and stakeholders. You can find further information about the TEEB Initiative and its other Calls for Evidence at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/economics>. You should submit your contributions by June 30th 2009 to [env-teeb-call-D2@ec.europa.eu](mailto:env-teeb-call-D2@ec.europa.eu).

**WWF:** WWF's Macroeconomics Program Office (MPO) recently completed its Addressing the Environmental and Social Effects Associated With Export-led Agricultural Development project, which was funded by Sida and implemented in collaboration with WWF offices in four countries. The project sought to help more of the benefits from agricultural development to reach small producers; and to ensure that specific environmental and social issues related to the expansion of large-scale export agriculture are addressed through the broader participation of relevant stakeholders in policy, planning, and governance processes. In Malawi and Zambia, WWF supported the involvement of small-scale farmers in agricultural policy processes; promoted livelihoods and sustainability concerns with key regional institutions; and worked directly with farmers to adopt better practices. In Cambodia and Laos, WWF worked closely with local governments and rural communities on integrated land-use planning as a way to address problems arising from a recent surge of large-scale agricultural land concessions. WWF has been asked to replicate this work by other provinces, and its approaches are being mainstreamed into larger activities being launched by donors across the region. For more information, contact Jonathan Cook ([jonathan.cook@wwfus.org](mailto:jonathan.cook@wwfus.org)).

**Wetlands International:** Wetlands International is pleased to announce the new Wetlands & Livelihoods publication: 'Planting trees to eat fish: Field experiences on wetlands and poverty reduction'. This book draws on the experience of four Wetlands International-funded projects in Indonesia, Kenya, Zambia/Malawi and Mali that combined conservation and development goals. These four projects have demonstrated – each in their own way – how improving livelihoods and wetland conservation can go hand in hand. This book tells the story on which problems they faced and how they were addressed, including also a review of seven other similar projects around the world. This publication will be available from Wetlands International in May 2009.

**CREE:** CREE is finishing a feasibility study on the challenges of implementing snail farming in villages near Mount Cameroon National Park in Cameroon, West Africa. The goal of this project is to find alternative sustainable protein sources for villagers to reduce dependency on wild stock. More information on this project can be found at: <http://www.conservationforpeople.org/projects.cfm?projectID=18>. The study may become available upon request in the near future. For more information please contact Mike Skuja ([Mike.Skuja@conservationforpeople.org](mailto:Mike.Skuja@conservationforpeople.org)).

**Bees for Development:** Bees for Development is pleased to announce the release of its

new website, [www.beesfordevelopment.org](http://www.beesfordevelopment.org), the largest bee information website and the only such site focusing specifically on the developing world.

**Featured Equator Prize 2008 winner:** Asia and the Pacific, Community Development Centre (Sri Lanka): The Community Development Centre conserves close to 60 indigenous varieties of roots and yams, using these traditional crops to generate income, community empowerment and overall sustainability for local farmers. Direct beneficiaries include over 300 households, with a high percentage of women. CDC farms serve as training centres, seed banks, and the site of knowledge exchanges for other sustainable, low-technology initiative across Sri Lanka.

### **New Members**

**Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA):** The Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association is a public interest environmental law organisation that works to promote environmental justice in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa. Its main objective is to help poor and disadvantaged natural resources dependent communities to participate effectively in environmental governance by defining, asserting and enforcing their environmental rights.

**Beekeeping Extension Society (BES):** The Beekeeping Extension Society is a non-governmental organization based in Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria. The primary objective of BES is extending beekeeping technology to local beekeepers in order to stop the destruction of forest trees, killing of bees and other smaller animals as a result of beekeeping, while improving the income of local beekeepers ([beekeepers2002@yahoo.com](mailto:beekeepers2002@yahoo.com)).

**Livelihoods Connect:** Livelihoods Connect is one in a family of Knowledge Services based at the Institute of Development Studies. Livelihoods Connect has two main strands of work. The first is a website within which Livelihoods Connect summarises and hosts documents relating to the livelihoods approaches through a variety of themes, including conservation and biodiversity. The second is the Network, this allows professionals and researchers in the field of livelihoods to communicate with one another. At present there are over 200 members, worldwide, split evenly between the global north and south.

### **Forthcoming Events**

**Expert Meeting on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development Cooperation:** The Expert Meeting on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development Cooperation will be held in

**Montreal from Wednesday 13, to Friday 15 May 2009.** The meeting has been convened to discuss how development agencies can better integrate biodiversity in their strategies, programmes and projects at their different levels of intervention.

**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.

**Strengthening Livelihoods by means of Beekeeping - An introduction:** This training opportunity, offered by Bees for Development, will take place on **Friday 19 June 2009.** For more information contact Bees for Development ([www.beesfordevelopment.org](http://www.beesfordevelopment.org)) or email [info@beesfordevelopment.org](mailto:info@beesfordevelopment.org).

**New Publications in our Database**

**The Role of Non-timber Forest Products in Poverty Reduction in India: Prospects and Problems, Development in Practice, by Rasul, G., Karki, M. and Sah, R., 2008, Vol 18 No 6, Routledge**

This article analyses the role of NTFPs in livelihoods-improvement initiatives and considers recent initiatives intended to enhance their conservation and sustainable management. It recommends policies to optimise the potential of NTFPs, both to support rural livelihoods and to contribute to India's social, economic, and environmental well-being.

**Who Gains From Community Conservation? Intended and Unintended Costs and Benefits of Participative Approaches in Peru and Tanzania, by Haller, T., Galvin, M., Meroka, P., Alca, J. and Alvarez, A., 2008, The Journal of Environment & Development, Vol 17 No 2, Sage Journals**

Who are the beneficiaries from participative approaches in conservation? The authors compare two protected areas Amarakaeri Communal Reserve in Peru and Selous Game Reserve in Tanzania and show how in similar institutional settings local interest groups react very differently to the possibility of participation. By comparing both cases, the

article reveals how intended and unintended costs and benefits can explain different attitudes of local groups to participative conservation.

**Forest Environmental Income in Vietnam: Household Socioeconomic Factors Influencing Forest Use**, by McElwee, P.D., June 2008, *Environmental Conservation*, Vol 35 No 2, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (UK)

This paper examines the economic importance of forests among rural agriculturalists in Vietnam. The findings described in this paper highlight the need for conservation and development projects to pay attention to the specific household factors that influence forest use, rather than relying on assumptions that poverty and forests are always linked.

**The Work of Non-Governmental Organisations in African Wildlife**, by Scholfield, K. and Brockington, D., July 2008, *Conservation*

This report examines the geography of activities by about 280 conservation NGOs working in Sub-Saharan Africa. The authors look at where the organisations work, where they are based, what protected areas they cover, how much money they get and where they spend it. Finally, the authors examine the challenges of increasing conservation funding.

**One Hundred Questions of Importance to the Conservation of Global Biological Diversity**, *Conservation Biology*, by Sutherland, W.J., Adams, W.M., Aronson, R.B., Aveling, R., Blackburn, M., Broad, S., Ceballos, G., Cote, I.M., Cowling, R.M., et al., 2009, Wiley Interscience (published online)

The authors identified 100 scientific questions that, if answered, would have the greatest impact on conservation practice and policy. The authors anticipate that these questions will help identify new directions for researchers and assist funders in directing funds.

## Resources

**11th Annual BIOECON Conference on "Economic Instruments to Enhance the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity"**: The Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, in association with Conservation International, DEFRA, Department of Land Economy of Cambridge University and European Investment Bank, announces the **Eleventh International BIOECON Conference on "Economic Instruments to Enhance the**

**Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity".** The Conference will be held at the Centro Culturale Don Orione Artigianelli, in **Venice, Italy, on September 21st-22nd, 2009.** The Conference is targeted to researchers, environmental professionals, international organizations and policy makers who are interested in working in the management and conservation of biodiversity. The Conference is focused on identifying the most effective and efficient instruments for biodiversity conservation, such as auctions of biodiversity conservation contracts, payment-for-services contracts, taxes, tradable permits, voluntary mechanisms and straightforward command and control. **Papers are specifically invited on the themes of:** 1) Assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation instruments, taking into account spatial and governmental considerations; 2) Development of new, incentive-compatible instruments to conserve biodiversity; 3) Evaluation of the costs of conservation policies versus the costs of 'business-as-usual' within an existing policy framework (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, infrastructure, climate change, etc) that causes ongoing losses of ecosystems and biodiversity; 4) Determination of the factors - including the choice of policy instruments - that increase or decrease a farmer's or public body's motivation to conserve biodiversity on their land; 5) Application to strategies and projects of the ecosystem services approach for assessing and valuing environmental impacts; 6) Benefit transfer methodologies to assess the socio-economic and monetary value of ecosystems services; 7) Applications of economic instruments to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, with particular emphasis on case studies in biodiversity hotspots. Papers documenting practical applications and experiences on the above themes, and multi-disciplinary papers that combine scientific and economic assessments are particularly welcome. Full/draft papers may be submitted for presentation and will be considered by the programme committee. **Electronic copies (in WORD or PDF format) should be sent to Ughetta Molin Fop ([ughetta.molin@feem.it](mailto:ughetta.molin@feem.it)) no later than May 20th, 2009. Acceptance of papers will be notified by email in June 2009.**

**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](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)

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