

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). 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.

January 2010 - ISSUE No. 026

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the twenty-sixth 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 - 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 by the end of January.

Secretariat News

PCLG International Symposium: The PCLG Secretariat is organizing an international symposium titled **“Linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: what, why and how?”**. **The symposium will take place on 28th and 29th 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. For more information and to register please go to: <http://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/whats-on/symposium-linking-biodiversity-conservation-poverty-reduction,360,EV.html>

“The Earthscan Reader in Poverty and Biodiversity Conservation”, edited By Dilys Roe and Joanna Elliott: “The Earthscan Reader in Poverty and Biodiversity Conservation” is an edited compilation of the most important previously-published material, which provides a guide to and commentary on the key literature on current debates on poverty-conservation linkages. The book will help readers, including both its students and professionals, to locate current debates within their wider contexts. **The Reader will be published in January 2010 and can be pre-ordered at:** <http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=101812>

Featured News

World’s largest “avoided deforestation” project helps save endangered great ape in Congo: On December 16, 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark, the Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI) was recognized for its efforts to save a huge rainforest area in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) that harbors the endangered bonobo - a great ape most closely related to humans. In that occasion, BCI was awarded a grant to support its Sankuru “Fair Trade” Community Carbon Initiative. Larger than Belgium and about 3/4 the size of Denmark, the Sankuru Reserve stores up to 660 million tons of carbon, which, if released by deforestation, would emit up to two billion tons of carbon dioxide, comparable to emissions from 38,000,000 cars per year for 10 years. According to Michael Hurley, BCI’s executive director, “One cannot solve the climate crisis without halting deforestation; one cannot halt deforestation

without tackling the problem in the DR Congo, which contains 70% of the remaining rainforest in Africa, and one cannot address deforestation in the DR Congo without engaging the local people as partners and leaders. We believe we have found a way to do this cost effectively and sustainably.”

News from PCLG Members

Request for poverty-conservation documents: IIED, The Nature Conservancy, and Cambridge University are conducting a Knowledge Review of “biodiversity as a mechanism for poverty reduction”. The authors of this Knowledge Review would be very grateful if you could take a moment to read through the list of the most important poverty-conservation documents identified so far (a full list is available at: http://povertyandconservation.info/docs/20100105-Conservation-poverty_sources.xls), and let them know of any other document that you think should be included. **Please, send information on further documents to include in the Knowledge Review to Craig Leisher** (cleisher@tnc.org). Copies of the completed review will be available in late April 2010.

Fauna & Flora International (FFI): In a recently published paper called: “**Relationships in crisis: Lessons from cross-sectoral collaboration to conserve biodiversity and rebuild livelihoods following natural disaster and human conflict**”, FFI provides insights from experiences of working collaboratively within and outside of the conservation sector in disaster and conflict affected contexts. With support from USAID, FFI focused in particular on five sites where natural disaster or human conflict has threatened biodiversity and where FFI - working alongside a broad range of organisations including those from the development and humanitarian sectors, government agencies and private sector - has tried to integrate livelihoods initiatives into its conservation programmes. The learning presented is from the viewpoint of a conservation organisation but the lessons and recommendations arising from it are aimed at those working in all sectors. Both this paper and case studies, profiling experience and lessons at each of the five sites, are available on <http://www.fauna-flora.org/lifeonthedge.php>. In early 2010 the paper will also be available in French and Spanish.

IUCN: More than 80 experts from more than 40 countries around the world gathered in September 2009 at an international workshop organized by IUCN in the Republic of Korea to review the implementation of the CBD Programme of work on Protected Areas (PoWPA). The workshop focused on ways to address the new challenges to protected areas, including climate change. A report of this workshop can now be downloaded from the IUCN WCPA website: http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa_events/wcpa_pastevents/wcpa_futures/wcpafutures_background/?4308/The-Future-of-PoWPA-Workshop-Report

World Resources Institute (WRI): A new World Resources Institute report, “**Banking on Nature's Assets: How Multilateral Development Banks Can Strengthen Development by Using Ecosystem Services**”, targets multilateral development banks (MDBs) and makes the case that they can and should play a pivotal role in reducing ecosystem degradation. Specifically, the report: identifies entry points for mainstreaming ecosystem services in MDBs' core operations; describes a portfolio of tools that can be used to help integrate ecosystem services into development plans and decisions; presents a range of policy options that MDBs can help country partners implement to sustain critical ecosystem services; and provides five interrelated recommendations to scale up MDB and partner-country application of ecosystem services. The report can be downloaded at: <http://www.wri.org/publication/banking-on-natures-assets>. For a hard copy, please contact JanetR@wri.org.

Poverty Environment Network (PEN): All PEN Partner publications that use PEN data have now been uploaded on the CIFOR-PEN website. This includes peer-reviewed journal articles, books and book chapters, working papers and reports. You can browse the growing list, and find more information about each document, at: <http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/pen/ref/pubs/index.htm>

SEED: In December 2009 the SEED initiative launched a new online database about its winners. Since 2005 SEED has had the privilege of working with exceptional and promising projects that won a SEED award. As part of SEED's ongoing support to the alumni and present SEED winners, SEED has developed a dynamic and interactive online platform where the winners can profile their initiative in more detail. If you would like to find out more about the SEED winners, their detailed project description, their latest updates, their future growth plans, the projects' most urgent needs or simply to contact one of the winners, go to: <http://www.seedinit.org/winners-database>

Conservation through Poverty Alleviation International (CPALI): CPALI has a new webpage that better reflects its work and future goals. You can visit CPALI's new webpage at: http://web.me.com/ccraig221/CPALI/CPALI_Home.html

Bees for Development: If you are interested in beekeeping as a means to reduce poverty in developing countries, join Bees for Development's one day training programme 'Strengthening livelihoods by means of beekeeping - An introduction', which will take place on **Friday 12 March 2010 in Monmouth (UK)**. For more information: <http://www.beesfordevelopment.org/strengtheninglivelihoods>

Forthcoming Events

Sixth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity: The sixth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity, entitled "Getting the biodiversity targets right - working for sustainable development" will be held on **1st-5th February 2010 in Trondheim, Norway**. The conference will be hosted by the Norwegian Government in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The conference will consider status and lessons learned from the 2010 target and will provide CBD with a sound basis for developing post 2010 biodiversity targets.

15th Poverty Environment Partnership Meeting: The Fifteenth Poverty Environment Partnership (PEP 15) Meeting will be held on March **1st-5th 2010 in Malawi**, and feature the theme "Climate and Environment Mainstreaming and the Green Economy to achieve the Millennium Development Goals."

PCLG International Symposium: The PCLG Secretariat is organizing an international symposium titled "Linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: what, why and how?". The symposium will take place on **28th and 29th 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.

24th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB): The 2010 meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) will be held in **Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on July 3rd-7th, 2010**. The theme of the meeting is "Conservation for a Changing Planet." Because of the focus on environmental change, the meeting will highlight the importance of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to conservation.

Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity - CBD COP 10: The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10) will be held in **Nagoya, Japan on 8th-29th of October 2010**. This meeting is expected to assess achievement of the 2010 target to reduce significantly the rate of biodiversity loss, adopt an international regime on access and benefit-sharing and celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity 2010.

New Publications in our database

Displacement and Relocation of Protected Areas: A Synthesis and Analysis of Case Studies, by Lasgorceix, A., Kothari, A., December 2009, *Economic & Political Weekly (EPW)*, Vol 44 No 49, pp. 37-47: Relocation of human populations from protected areas results in a host of socio-economic impacts. In India, in many cases the displacement is traumatic from both economic and cultural points of view. This paper provides brief case studies of displacement (past, ongoing, or proposed) from protected areas, number of villages/families displaced, the place where these villages/families were relocated to, governance of the relocation process, and the kind or nature of relocation (voluntary, induced or forced). It finds that not even a single study shows the ecological costs and benefits of relocation, comparing what happens at the old site to what happens at the rehabilitation site. This is a shocking gap, given that relocation is always justified from the point of view of reducing pressures and securing wildlife habitats.

Reforming Wildlife Governance in East and Southern Africa: The Role of Corruption, by Nelson, F., July 2009, U4 Brief, No 12, CMI (Chr. Michelsen Institute), Norway, 4 pp.: Corruption plays a role in structuring wildlife governance systems in many African states. Donor efforts to support wildlife reforms in East and Southern Africa have often struggled to achieve impact due to continuing weaknesses in local rights to access and control wildlife's economic value. Comparing wildlife governance in Namibia and Tanzania, this U4 Brief argues donors need to develop a clearer understanding of the political-economic dimensions of wildlife governance reforms and the role corruption plays in shaping policy-makers' incentives.

Conservation and Ecotourism in Brazil and Mexico: The Development Impact, by Fleischer, D.I.,

September 2009, International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC - IG), 1 pp.: In this paper the author argues that conservation and ecotourism projects positively contribute to poverty reduction.

Resources

Kathryn Fuller Fellowships: WWF-US is pleased to announce the availability of Kathryn Fuller Fellowships for 2010. As part of its commitment to advancing conservation through science, WWF established Kathryn Fuller Fellowships to support PhD students and postdoctoral researchers working on issues of exceptional importance and relevance to conservation in WWF-US priority places. This year, the Kathryn Fuller Science for Nature Fund will support doctoral and postdoctoral research in the following three areas: ecosystem services; measuring and monitoring carbon stocks in forests; climate change impacts on and adaptation of freshwater resources. **Deadline for applications is January 31, 2010.** For more information on complete eligibility requirements, selection criteria, and how to apply, please visit the Fuller Fellowship webpage <http://www.worldwildlife.org/science/fellowships/fuller/item1296.html> or email fullerfund@wwfus.org.

BioSoc is the monthly bulletin of the PCLG, highlighting key new research on biodiversity and society, poverty and conservation. BioSoc is currently offline, but we anticipate the normal monthly service will resume very soon. To receive BioSoc, 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, 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

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

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