

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.

February 2010 - ISSUE No. 027

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the twenty-seventh 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 February.

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. [More information and register](#)

Call for posters: We are keen to profile the work of PCLG members at this symposium and would be pleased to receive proposals for poster presentations. The posters will be on display throughout the two days. The organisers invite interested parties to submit abstracts for posters with research relating to the symposium topic. Abstracts of no more than 250 words can be emailed to Dilys Roe (dilys.roe@iied.org) by **8th March 2010** for consideration by the coordinators. Accepted poster presenters will be notified by 12th March 2010.

Funding available for travel/accommodation: Please note that we have limited resources available to support PCLG members from developing countries to attend the Symposium. If interested, please contact us via pclg@iied.org with an estimate of your travel costs and we will let you know by the end of February if we are able to provide financial support.

"The Earthscan Reader in Poverty and Biodiversity Conservation", edited By Dilys Roe and Joanna Elliott 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, to be published in February, will help readers, including both students and professionals, to locate current debates within their wider contexts. Complimentary copies of The Reader will be sent to all PCLG members who responded to our earlier request for confirmation of contact details.

Featured News

The United Nations declared 2010 to be the **International Year of Biodiversity (IYB)**. Throughout the year countless initiatives will be organized to disseminate information, promote the protection of biodiversity and encourage organizations, institutions, companies and individuals to take direct action to reduce the constant loss of biological diversity worldwide. The official global launch was held in Berlin on 11 January, organized by German Chancellor, Angela Merkel. At that event Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General of IUCN, reminded us that *"Well managed natural resources are crucial to sustainable development, supporting peaceful communities, encouraging well-balanced economic growth and helping reduce poverty"*. The launch of the year, under the slogan 'Biodiversity is Life, Biodiversity is Our Life,' is just the first in a series of global events and celebrations that include the observance of the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May under the theme **Biodiversity for Development and Poverty Alleviation**, a special high-level meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations on biodiversity in September, and others.

News from PCLG Members

Call for input to State of Knowledge review on 'The geographical overlap between biodiversity and poverty':

In preparation for the symposium on Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction to be held at ZSL in April 2010, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre is undertaking a State of Knowledge review on the geographical overlap between biodiversity and poverty. We will be reviewing the spectrum of poverty and biodiversity mapping initiatives and analyses in order to better understand the methods and variables used to explore spatial correlation between poverty and biodiversity at different scales. We will be reviewing both published and grey literature as well as communicating directly with research groups and initiatives that are actively engaged in this field. We are interested in gathering any relevant information on projects, publications and reports as well as ongoing research, and we would be grateful to hear from anyone with any information or materials that you may consider important for this review. For more information or to contribute to this review please contact monica.hernandezmorcillo@unep-wcmc.org

Call for Proposals from Fondation Ensemble: In 2010 Fondation Ensemble is launching a Call for Proposals on Sustainable Development and Job Creation. By launching this call for proposals across all its areas of activity, the Foundation aspires to be involved in supporting initiatives that are able to respond to human and environmental needs expressed locally and in an entrepreneurial logic. Contributing to fighting poverty, improving livelihoods and preserving the environment does not conflict with establishing economic alternatives that benefit the most vulnerable. The Foundation will be responsive to initiatives that take into account market mechanisms and economic paths, and will pay particular attention to their replicability and scaling up potential. You can find the text of this call for proposals on [the Fondation Ensemble's website](#)

Equator Prize 2010: The Call for Nominations for the Equator Prize 2010 officially opened on 11 January 2010. The Equator Prize is awarded biennially by the UNDP Equator Initiative for outstanding local, indigenous and community efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Now in its fifth award cycle, the Equator Prize has special significance this year: the International Year of Biodiversity, 2010. The Equator Prize 2010 will be awarded to twenty-five local and indigenous communities from across the tropics. "Special recognition" will be awarded to five

communities; one from each region of prize eligibility (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean), one for indigenous peoples and applied traditional knowledge, and one for ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change. Equator Prize winners receive international recognition for their work, an opportunity to shape international policy and practice in the field, and a monetary award. Nominations for the Equator Prize 2010 must be received by **28 February 2010**. For more information on the Equator Prize 2010 or the Equator Initiative, please contact Joseph Corcoran (joseph.corcoran@undp.org) or go to www.equatorinitiative.org.

Forthcoming Events

CBD Working Group 9 on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), Colombia, 22-26 March 2010: This is the final negotiating session for an International Regime on ABS which is to be adopted by Parties at Nagoya CBD COP 10 in October. Much of the text remains in brackets, with many key issues to be resolved - including on the legal nature of the regime, the rights and benefits for indigenous and local communities and recognition of their customary laws. IIED partner Asociacion ANDES is hosting a side event on Community Protocols for Equitable Benefit-Sharing, with Natural Justice, on Wednesday 24th.

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."
<http://www.povertyenvironment.net/pep15>

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. [More information and register.](#)

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.
www.conbio.org/2010

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

New Publications

Aongola, L., Liayo, I., Ndopu, D., Bass, S., Makumba, J., Nyambe, I., Chileshe, J., Maimbolwa, M., Pope, A., Daka, J., Munyinda, K., Sichilongo, M., Dalal-Clayton, B., Munyinda, N., July 2009, Creating and Protecting Zambia's Wealth: Experience and next steps in environmental mainstreaming: How much does Zambia benefit from its rich forests, wildlife, soils and water – and what more could it do to ensure the protection and wise use of these 'environmental assets'? Where environment and poverty problems are becoming increasingly severe, such questions need to be answered urgently.

To begin this, the Environmental Council of Zambia and the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, facilitated by IIED, decided to bring together a dozen highly experienced Zambian professionals who work in environment and development in government, business, civil society, and academic contexts. The authors offer a positive, lessons-learned approach – identifying what has worked in key sectors and through institutional innovations. They conclude that Zambia could produce higher levels of income and welfare if its environmental assets are planned, allocated, managed and governed better. Their recommendations herald a new era of integrated environment-development planning that is not just ‘pushed’ by environment interests, but is now also ‘demand-pulled’ by development and finance authorities.

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Dalal-Clayton, B., Bass, S. November 2009, The challenges of environmental mainstreaming: Experiences of integrating environment into development institutions and decisions:

The Challenges of Environmental Mainstreaming’ is an initial synthesis of IIED’s work with partners in 13 developing countries. It reviews the rapidly changing context and challenges to environmental mainstreaming, discusses what it takes to achieve effective mainstreaming, and provides a roadmap for selecting operational methods and tools. It explores the current emphasis on getting environmental issues reflected in key government processes – notably development plans, poverty reduction strategies and national budgets. It assesses the outcomes as well as the risks of limiting efforts to these core processes alone.

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Swiderska, K., Pant, R. Vedavathy, S., Mutta, D., Munyi, D., Herrera, H., Argumedo, A., Song, Y. and Li, J., November 2009, Protecting Community Rights over Traditional Knowledge: Key findings and recommendations 2005-2009: Since January 2005, this action-research project has focused on developing alternative tools to protect traditional knowledge (TK) which are rooted in local customary laws rather than based on existing Intellectual Property standards. The project explored customary laws, values and practices relating to TK and biodiversity with indigenous and local communities in Peru, Panama, India, China and Kenya; and developed local tools for protecting TK and biocultural systems. This publication presents the project’s objectives methodology, key findings and recommendations for TK and for the international ABS regime. It also includes 6 country case studies.

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Roe, D., Nelson, F., and Sandbrook, C., October 2009, Community management of natural resources in Africa: Impacts, experiences and future directions: More than twenty years have passed since community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) rose to prominence in different parts of Africa as a strategy for rural development, local empowerment, and conservation. Led by new ideas about the merits of decentralized, collective resource governance regimes, and creative field experiments such as Zimbabwe’s CAMPFIRE, these community-based approaches evolved in a wide range of ecological, political, and social contexts across Africa. This review provides an unprecedented pan-African synthesis of CBNRM, drawing on multiple authors and a wide range of documented experiences from Southern, Eastern, Western and Central Africa. The review discusses the degree to which CBNRM has met poverty alleviation, economic development and nature conservation objectives. In its concluding chapter, the report suggests a way forward for strengthening CBNRM and addressing key challenges in the years ahead.

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Resources

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. 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

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