

# 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.

## July 2010 - ISSUE No. 032

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the thirty-second 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 July.***

## Secretariat News

**PCLG International Symposium:** The symposium "Linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: what, why and how?", organized by the PCLG Secretariat, took place on 28th and 29th April 2010 at the Zoological Society of London. More than 200 people, from a range of conservation and development organisations and academic institutions, attended the symposium to review what we actually know about the degree to which biodiversity conservation contributes to poverty reduction. Information related to the symposium (including the presentations given during the symposium) has been posted on the home page of the PCLG website: <http://povertyandconservation.info/en>. The organisers are currently finalising the production of a summary report of the symposium which will also be made available on the PCLG website.

## Featured News

**Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services gets the green light:** After a week of intense negotiations at a meeting that took place at the beginning of June in Busan, Republic of Korea, governments have agreed to establish a new mechanism, which will strengthen the dialogue between the scientific community and policymakers on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The so-called 'IPBES' - the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services - will be a leading body in making scientifically sound and relevant information available to support more informed decisions on how biodiversity and ecosystem services are conserved and used around the world. IPBES will respond to the knowledge needs of governments, as well as those expressed through the multilateral environmental agreements, including the Convention on Biological Diversity. Non-government stakeholders will also be encouraged to contribute, by providing knowledge, and by

suggesting needs and issues to be addressed.

### News from PCLG Members

**IIED:** A new policy briefing has recently been published by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) on “**Conservation and Human Rights: the Need for International Standards**”. In recent years, awareness has grown of the relationship of international conservation practice to indigenous peoples and local communities, and especially the links between conservation and human rights. International NGOs can play a central role in supporting and promoting conservation actions that respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and help sustain their livelihoods. Many conservation organisations have long worked towards this. It is vital that they hold to consistent principles and implement measures that ensure their application, so their action on conservation remains accountable, transparent and sustainable. This paper is an output of the **Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (CIHR)**. Several members of PCLG are involved in this initiative, including Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, The Nature Conservancy and World Wildlife Fund, along with IUCN, Birdlife International, Flora and Fauna International and Wetlands International. For more information on CIHR please go to:  
<http://cms.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/social%5Fpolicy/scpl%5Fcihr/>

**USAID:** A publication funded by USAID and titled: “**Monitoring Rangeland Health: A Guide for Pastoralist Communities and Other Land Managers in Eastern Africa**” has recently been published. This guide presents simple methods for monitoring changes in land health in rangeland and dryland areas. It is intended to empower land managers, including pastoralist communities, to make sound land management decisions. Monitoring is a critical component of good land management, and improved land management is urgently needed to alleviate poverty and promote biodiversity conservation in drylands around the world. The guide can be downloaded from:  
[http://www.mpala.org/Monitoring\\_Guide.php](http://www.mpala.org/Monitoring_Guide.php) or [http://usda-ars.nmsu.edu/monit\\_assess/monitoring.php](http://usda-ars.nmsu.edu/monit_assess/monitoring.php)

**CREE** has recently received support from the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund. The Fund was established on Earth Day as a global awards program for the study and protection of the world’s wildlife and ecosystems. With this money CREE will continue work with local people to implement snail farming as an alternative protein and income source for communities to curb bush-meat consumption in areas adjacent to Mount Cameroon National Park, Cameroon. This project ensures Disney’s support will reach local partners and engage them through education, outreach, and micro-enterprise training. Our focus on economic realities facing communities in Cameroon ensures a more equitable and sustainable future for those seeking to make a living from natural resources adjacent to the National Park. After much success on a pilot project last year, CREE’s focus will now center around helping women’s cooperative groups snail farm in their communities. This project will alleviate poverty, supplement nutrition, and reduce pressure on park wildlife.

#### **An update on Sustainable Tourism:**

- An **international conference on Sustainable Tourism** will take place on 15-19 November 2010 in Mbombela, South Africa. Issues of conservation and poverty will be integral to this event. For more information go to: [www.mbombela.gov.za/International%20Conference1.html](http://www.mbombela.gov.za/International%20Conference1.html)
- A **World Responsible Tourism day event** is being organised by IUCN at the World Travel Market, on 'Tourism and Biodiversity' - Thursday 11 November, 11.00 – 12.00, NG Room 8. For more information go to: <http://www.wtmwrtd.com/page.cfm/Link=124/t=m/goSection=4>
- The IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group (TAPAS-G) is interested to hear from people and institutions who would like to collaborate on activities on tourism, protected areas, biodiversity and poverty reduction, in the run up to the next World Parks Congress in 2014. Contact Dr Anna Spenceley, on [annaspenceley@gmail.com](mailto:annaspenceley@gmail.com)

**World Bank:** Environment Matters, the annual review on the environment by the World Bank Group, highlights the environmental research, accomplishments, and challenges of the Bank’s Regions in the past year. To mark the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010, “**Environment Matters 2009: Banking on Biodiversity**” focuses on the importance of biodiversity conservation in sustaining livelihoods and reducing poverty. It includes viewpoints on the importance of indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation, protected areas, marine biodiversity, and invasive species and poverty.

### New Members

**Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia:** The society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL) is a local non-governmental and not for profit conservation organization, which was established in 1986 as a successor of the Wildlife Society of Liberia (WSL). SCNL seeks to educate,

encourage and assist civil society understand the need to conserve nature and build consensus on the effective management of biodiversity, to ensure that the use of natural resources is sustainable and that biodiversity is effectively managed and wisely used.

**IUCN/South American Camelid Specialist Group (GECS):** The IUCN/South American Camelid Specialist Group (GECS) is one of more than 100 volunteer expert groups in the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of IUCN, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. GECS joint activities include: technical advice and support to governments and international conventions; technical assistance for the preparation of national action and management plans; species status updates for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species; research collaboration; improving linkages between research results and management applications; elaboration of guidelines for best practices; and dissemination of knowledge.

### **Forthcoming Events**

**STEPS Conference 2010: Pathways to Sustainability:** The conference, "Pathways to Sustainability: Agendas for a new politics of environment, development and social justice", which will take place on **23rd-24th September 2010 at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University, Brighton (UK)**, will explore how to conceptualise and build 'pathways' that link environmental integrity and social justice, while alleviating poverty and inequity. The five themes of the conference are: contesting sustainabilities; framing narratives; dynamics and sustainability; uncertainty, ambiguity and surprise; pathway-building and governance.

**12th Annual BIOECON Conference:** Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, in association with Conservation International and the United Nations Environment Programme, announces the Twelfth International BIOECON Conference "From the Wealth of Nations to the Wealth of Nature: Rethinking Economic Growth". The Conference will be held at the **Centro Culturale Don Orione Artigianelli, Venice, Italy, on September 27th-28th, 2010**. The central theme will focus on the identification of 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 measures. Special attention will be given to the role of public bodies/NGOs in the creation of innovative mechanisms for the delivery of ecosystem benefits and in promoting the participation of a wider range of economic agents in biodiversity 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**

**REDD+ in Dryland Forests: Issues and prospects for pro-poor REDD in the miombo woodlands of southern Africa, by Bond, I., Chambwera, M., Jones, B., Nhantumbo, I., Chundama, M., May 2010, Natural Resource Issues 21, IIED, London, 68 pp.:** The Program on Forests (PROFOR) supported a research project in the miombo ecoregion to address some of the issues that a REDD program in the region would be confronted with. Three country case studies covering Zambia, Mozambique and Namibia were used to draw lessons from CBNRM that could inform pro-poor REDD as well as providing the likely opportunity costs of REDD+. The study draws on well-documented experiences of CBNRM and wide consultations undertaken by country experts during the study.

**Seeing REDD in the Amazon: A win for people, trees and climate, by Viana, V.M., March 2009, Opinion paper, IIED, London, 2 pp.:** In Amazonas, Brazil's biggest state, people are using an approach called REDD to conserve their forests in return for credit. This project's success has huge implications for reducing deforestation, cutting emissions and eradicating poverty, and its time has definitely come.

**Sustainable Development in Practice: Lessons Learned from Amazonas, by Viana, V.M., June 2010, Environmental Governance 3, IIED, London, 60 pp.:** During the last ten years, Professor Virgilio Viana has pioneered several options for more forest-friendly forms of development in the Amazonas, which are characterized by being scientifically sound, simple to understand, and attractive to many stakeholders. For example, the Bolsa Floresta scheme – where forest households are rewarded

with monthly payments into credit card accounts for practising 'farming without fire' – is conserving carbon, biodiversity and more. This book is the result of a short sabbatical at IIED to reflect on this experience, telling the story of Bolsa Floresta, many other schemes, and of improving the mandates of environmental institutions so that they become sustainable development agents.

## Resources

**Submission dates in July-August for grants on the poverty-conservation interface include:** BioInnovate Africa (09 July); ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (15 July); Snow Leopard Network (26 July); Saiga Conservation Alliance (31 July); Inter-American Council for East Africa (13 August); Fondation Nature & Decouvertes (14 August); Biodiversity Foundation (31 August); and Christensen Fund (31 August). For more information, consult "Application Deadlines" in Terra Viva Grants: <http://www.terravivagrants.org>

**Charlotte Conservation Fellowship Program:** AWF is offering scholarships for full MSc or partial Ph.D. programs with field research components that produce knowledge or insight into specific conservation challenges in the African Heartlands or Conservation in general. This year, applicants must be citizens from Democratic Republic of Congo, Southern Sudan, South Africa, Zambia, Niger, Benin and Burkina Faso. Women who meet the eligibility requirements are particularly encouraged to apply. Expenses that AWF expects to cover under the scholarship will vary depending on the individual program selected by the scholarship recipient, but each scholarship is valued at a maximum cost of US\$25,000.

The **WCS Research Fellowship Program (RFP)** is a small grants program administered by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Institute. In 2010, the RFP was re-designed and re-launched with a new focus of supporting work directly related to WCS priority land/seascapes, species, and/or the global challenges of wildlife health, climate change, human livelihoods, and natural resource extraction. The Program seeks to support the field work of graduate-level students who will work with WCS staff in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and in special cases, North America. Collectively, the professionals receiving RFP grants will apply field-tested conservation science to the challenges facing the natural world. Individuals interested in submitting an RFP application should visit <http://programs.wcs.org/grants> for eligibility information. **The application deadline is January 5, 2011.** The maximum award is \$20,000. For more information, please email [fellowship@wcs.org](mailto:fellowship@wcs.org)

**SEED Awards 2010 Open:** The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development is an annual awards scheme designed to find the most promising, innovative and locally led start-up social and environmental entrepreneurs in countries with developing and emerging economies. An international jury of experts selects enterprises, which have the potential to make real improvements in poverty eradication and environmental sustainability while contributing to a greener economy. **The deadline for the 2010 applications is 16th August 2010.** For more information and to apply go to: <http://www.seedit.org/en/awards/about-the-seed-awards/how-to-apply-and-application-form.html>

**Global Environmental Leadership Fellows:** The Institute on the Environment at the University of Minnesota has 4 new openings for Global Environmental Leadership Fellows. These Fellows will be part of a novel research and training environment, aimed at preparing the next generation of leaders to address the world's environmental grand challenges. The Institute on the Environment is searching for fellows to conduct cutting-edge research to develop solutions to pressing global issues, such as land use and ecosystem management, global food security, freshwater resources, climate change adaptation, emerging diseases and links between population and development. **Applications are due by August 1, 2010.** For more information, please contact Prof. Jonathan Foley, Director Institute on the Environment ([jfoley@umn.edu](mailto:jfoley@umn.edu)).

**Marie Curie Individual Fellowships at Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei:** Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), an Italian leading research institute devoted to the study of sustainable development and global governance, welcomes Marie Curie Individual Fellowship applications for its research programs in: sustainable development; institutions and markets; and global challenges. FEEM will offer a truly international and multi-disciplinary workplace, and the strong ties with a world-wide network of research will allow a continuous fruitful exchange of experience. More information on the Marie Curie Fellowships, including how to apply, is available at: <http://www.feem.it/getpage.aspx?id=433>. **The deadline for the 2010 call is 17 August.**

**Funding Opportunities for Small Scale Initiatives:** The Small-Scale Initiatives Programme run by the French Global Environment Facility is designed to support civil society organisations in Africa that are actively working on biodiversity protection and climate change action. The programme has been set up to help civil society organisations to: undertake field projects in West and Central Africa, Madagascar

and Mozambique, strengthen their technical, training, management and project monitoring capacities, strengthen a small-scale projects monitoring network in West and Central Africa, strengthen their capacities for influencing environmental policy choices in the countries concerned, share and disseminate their experiences and successes. There is a rolling programme of applications and full details are available

at: <http://www.ffem.fr/jahia/Jahia/cache/offonce/lang/en/accueil/pid/26806;jsessionid=5F616BE7C3B7CC1630DD20C1B57BFF12>

**Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation:** Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation (RSGs) are aimed at small conservation programmes and pilot projects. RSG's are available to individuals and small groups. Applications can be made at any time of the year; decisions are usually made within three months. RSGs generally support projects of about a year's duration. Applications from non-first world areas are strongly encouraged. For a list of the various grants they offer, please see [www.ruffordsmallgrants.org](http://www.ruffordsmallgrants.org)

**Fulbright Scholar Program:** The Core Fulbright Scholar competition for 2011-2012 is now open. Over 800 grants are available for teaching, conducting research, or combining both in more than 125 countries around the globe. **The deadline is August 2.** For information on Fulbright Scholar Awards, consult [www.iie.org/cies](http://www.iie.org/cies) or write to [scholars@iie.org](mailto:scholars@iie.org)

**Endeavour Awards:** The Endeavour Awards is an internationally competitive, merit-based program providing opportunities for citizens of the Asia-Pacific region to undertake study, research and professional development in Australia. Awards are also available for Australians to do the same abroad. **The 2011 round of application is now open and will close on 31 July 2010.**

**International Foundation for Science Research Grants:** Applications for IFS Research Grants are welcome from young scientists in developing countries to do research on the sustainable management, use or conservation of biological or water resources. This includes natural science and social science research on agriculture, soils, animal production, food science, forestry, agroforestry, aquatic resources, water resources, etc. **Applications are accepted all year.**

**Call for papers:** Environmental Conservation is producing a themed issue on "Payment for Ecosystem Services in Conservation: Performance and Prospects". The purpose of this issue is to strengthen the evidence-base through a collection of papers addressing diverse aspects of the performance of payments for ecosystem services in environmental conservation. Papers may take the form of case studies of individual schemes, comparative studies, or thematic or geographical reviews. The editors will prioritize strong empirical studies. Only original and unpublished high-quality research papers are considered and manuscripts must be in English. **The submission deadline is 31st October 2010.** Instructions for Authors can be found at: <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayMoreInfo?jid=ENC&type=ifc>

**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](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)

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