

Poverty and Conservation Learning Group
Monthly Journal Digest
Issue 9: July 2013

This Journal Digest is a Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) information service intended to keep readers up to date with new journal articles on issues relating to biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation as they are published. This is produced on a monthly basis, covering articles that have been published in the previous month. Please note that the summaries provided are *not* the official abstracts of the articles.

Our current journal watch list includes: African Journal of Ecology; Agricultural Sciences News; Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment; AMBIO; Animal Conservation; Antipode; Biodiversity; Biodiversity and Conservation; Biological Conservation; Conservation and Society; Conservation Biology; Conservation Evidence; Conservation Letters; Development and Change; Diversity and Distributions; Ecological Economics; Ecology; Ecology and Society; Ecosystem Services; Environment and History; Environment and History; Environmental Conservation; Environmental Ethics; Ethics and the Environment; Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment; Global Environmental Change; Human Dimensions of Wildlife; International Journal of Biodiversity Science, Ecosystem Services & Management; International Journal of Environmental Studies; Journal for Nature Conservation; Local Environment; Management of Environmental Quality; Natural Resources Forum; Nature; Oryx; PNAS; Science; Society & Natural Resources; The Journal of Environment & Development; The Journal of Environment Development; Trends in Ecology and Evolution; Wildlife Research; World Development.

We would welcome your feedback on the usefulness of this service and your suggestions on key journals that we should add to our watch list to ensure we provide the most comprehensive service possible. Please contact us at pclg@iied.org

REDD+, Biodiversity and Poverty Alleviation

Fox, J., Castella, J.-C., and Ziegler, A. (2013), **Swidden, rubber and carbon: Can REDD+ work for people and the environment in Montane Mainland Southeast Asia?**, *Global Environmental Change*, Advance Online Publication.

The ecological bounty of Montane Mainland Southeast Asia (MMSEA) is under threat. Swidden (also known as shifting cultivation) has long been the dominant farming system in the region, but now, under the current REDD+ framework, almost immediately qualifies for replacement by other land-use systems. This paper analyses whether the targeting of swidden landscapes based on the perception that they are inefficient with regard to carbon sequestration is justified. The impacts that agricultural policies have had on the livelihoods of swiddeners and other smallholders, as well as on land use, is also discussed. The paper questions whether incentivizing the transition away from swiddening and towards the cultivation of rubber will produce carbon gains, and proposes that a more thorough analysis of governmental policies is required for the design of successful REDD+ policies in MMSEA.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2013.05.011>

Agroforestry, Biodiversity and Poverty Alleviation

Nackoney, J. and Williams, D. (2013), **A comparison of scenarios for rural development planning and conservation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**, *Biological Conservation*, Advance Online Publication.

In northern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), has approached both the DRC government and stakeholders to lead a zoning process in the Maringa-Lopori-Wamba landscape. This process was aimed at creating a comparison of scenarios for rural development planning and conservation. The results are intended to guide stakeholders and decision-makers in determining the land most suitable for inclusion in a Rural Development Zone, designed to accommodate the expansion of agricultural activities whilst simultaneously taking conservation priority areas into account. Results showed that it will be possible to meet future agricultural demands by expanding around historically intensive agricultural areas in the eastern portion of MLW. In this way, conservation priority areas would not be significantly compromised.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2013.04.011>

Ecosystem Services, Conservation and Poverty Alleviation

Suhardiman, D., Wichelns, D., Lestrelin, G. and Hoanh, CT. (2013); **Payments for ecosystem services in Vietnam: Market-based incentives or state control of resources?**; *Ecosystem Services*; Advance Online Publication.

This paper examines the potential discord in Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) program implementation in the forestry sector in Vietnam. The question as to whether PES has the potential to improve forest protection and watershed management in the country is raised, highlighting the importance of institutions and governance in determining program significance. The conclusion is reached that, without a competitive market structure and appropriate regulations, governments are free to use PES programs as a means simply for strengthening state control over natural resources.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoser.2013.06.001>

Willemen, L., Drakou, E., Dunbar, M., Mayaux, P. and Egoh, B. (2013) **Safeguarding ecosystem services and livelihoods: Understanding the impact of conservation strategies on benefit flows to society**, *Ecosystem Services*, Advance Online Publication.

This paper explores how biodiversity conservation influences the flow of ecosystem services to various members of society. Particular focus is paid to the poorer members of society whose livelihoods are often more dependent on ecosystem services. Five ecosystem services are mapped in the DRC and their direct beneficiaries are identified. The evidence collated was then used to feed a discussion on the impact of different conservation strategies on society at the 4th Ecosystem Service Partnership Conference in the Netherlands. The discussion highlighted the need for an assessment of ecosystem service trade-offs, as well as the main challenges for conservation measures to contribute to both livelihood improvement and conservation gains. The paper argues that ecosystem services maps can play a crucial role in understanding and managing the trade-offs in ecosystem service flows resulting from conservation strategies.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoser.2013.02.004>

Kari, S., Korhonen-Kurki, K. (2013), **Framing local outcomes of biodiversity conservation through ecosystem services: A case study from Ranomafana, Madagascar**, *Ecosystem Services*, Volume 3, Advance Online Publication.

The local outcomes of conservation in the Ranomafana National Park area in Madagascar are analysed in this report, which has its basis in the understanding that conservation can have both positive and negative effects on human well-being. It is suggested that conservation will often prove to be beneficial for the local populace in the long run, but its immediate local costs are high. This reveals the importance of incorporating local perceptions of ecosystem services into any proposed conservation plans. It is also proposed that there is also a persistent need for further negotiations regarding the trade-offs between ecosystem services, conservation and development in the Ranomafana area.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoser.2012.12.003>

Baird, T. and Leslie, P. (2013), **Conservation as disturban Upeaval and livelihood diversification near Tarangire National Park, northern Tanzania**, *Global Environmental Change*, Advance Online Publication.

In recent research findings, it has been revealed that poverty alleviation is taking place around parks and protected areas. These revelatory studies have the ability to move the dynamics of conservation forward. And yet they do not offer a great deal of insight into the character of livelihood diversification within communities. This report aims to compare these factors in communities both near to and far away from Tarangire National Park in northern Tanzania. The results suggest a correlation between proximity to the park and livelihood diversification, which indicates that households situated near the park are adapting to opportunities and constraints and are looking to reduce income variance in response to the disturbances associated with the park.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2013.05.002>

Fisher, J., Patenaude, G., Meir, P., Nightingale, A., Rounsevell, M., Williams, M., Woodhouse, I. (2013); **Strengthening conceptual foundations: Analysing frameworks for ecosystem services and poverty alleviation research**; *Global Environmental Change*; Advance Online Publication.

This paper considers the conceptual frameworks best suited to supporting the research currently developing around the linkages between ecosystem services and poverty alleviation. The review of frameworks examines the existing research on poverty and conservation linkages and a total of nine conceptual frameworks were identified as relevant. These were then reviewed and compared in order to assess their respective abilities to shed light on the poverty-conservation linkages. The relative merits of Social-Ecological Systems frameworks versus checklists are reflected upon, and in conclusion it is suggested that research would be ameliorated by the emergence of a new framework which has incorporated the best aspects of the existing frameworks reviewed in this paper.

Elsevier: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2013.04.002>

Jorge, A., Vanak, A., Thaker, M., Begg, C., Slotow, R. (2013); **Costs and Benefits of the Presence of Leopards to the Sport-Hunting Industry and Local Communities in Niassa National Reserve, Mozambique**; *Conservation Biology*; Advance Online Publication.

This paper assessed the relative economic gains from sport hunting and poaching of leopards and local attitudes to them in Niassa National Reserve, Mozambique. The findings reveal that, although sport hunting generates larger gross revenues than poaching, illegal hunting provides higher economic benefits for the individuals who engage in that activity. Moreover, it was discovered that sport-hunting revenues do not compensate the local people for the economic losses they incur through loss of livestock. On the basis of these results, the report proposes that poaching could be reduced by increasing the costs of apprehension and that the economic benefits from leopard sport hunting could be used to improve community livelihoods and provide them with the incentives required to prevent them from poaching.

Maekawa, M., Lanjouw, A., Rutagarama, E., Sharp, D. (2013); **Mountain gorilla tourism generating wealth and peace in post-conflict Rwanda**; *Natural Resources Forum*, Volume 37, Issue 2, pages 127–137, May 2013.

The population of mountain gorillas that inhabit the Afromontane forests has dwindled to only 880. Mountain gorillas are a flagship species in this region, attracting tourism revenues as well as public support. In this paper, the prominent issues in mountain gorilla conservation and nature-based tourism in Rwanda are explored in the context of post-conflict national recovery. The key issues surrounding the restoration and development of

institutions' capacities, of improving trans-boundary dialogue, and of developing the management of natural resources, are also discussed and analysed.