

# 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.

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### Secretariat News

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**Conservation and Land Grabbing: Part of the Problem or Part of the Solution?** The 2013 PCLG Symposium - jointly organised by **IIED, the International Land Coalition (ILC), the Zoological Society of London (ZSL)** and **Maliasili Initiatives** - will take place on **Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th of March 2013** at London Zoo. The overall objective of the symposium is to examine the varied interactions between conservation and land rights/land grabbing in a variety of global contexts; to encourage more strategic engagement by the conservation movement in land rights and tenure concerns, highlighting different models that can be used to secure or strengthen local land rights, and the potential role of conservation in combating land grabbing thus benefitting both conservation and development. Key themes will include:

1. **Key trends in land grabbing in general, and specifically 'green grabbing' and land acquisitions for conservation since 2000** - including variations between countries and regions. What forms do they take? What are the key drivers? Is this a new phenomenon or a continuation of a historical process? Is it escalating? Who owns the land and who is acquiring it and for what purpose?
2. **Conservation as a source and victim of land grabs** – Conservation may be one of the drivers of land grabs - to increase protected area coverage, to exploit valuable tourism or hunting opportunities etc. At the same time, in some locations, land previously set aside for conservation is being converted to other uses – agriculture, biofuels, etc.
3. **Conservation strategies for securing community land rights** - what models exist for securing or strengthening local land rights that could work for both conservation and local livelihoods? What are the opportunities for a) scaling these up and b) integrating them within wider efforts to address land acquisition, landscape transformations, and community land rights.

4. **Towards greater safeguards and synergies** - are there underexploited opportunities for conservation interests e.g. under the CBD, and efforts to address land grabbing e.g. through the FAO Voluntary Guidelines, to better link up through shared concerns and common interventions?

More information is available on the [PCLG website](#) or by contacting Dilys Roe ([dilys.roe@iied.org](mailto:dilys.roe@iied.org)). Places are limited so to register your interest to attend please contact Alessandra Giuliani ([alessandra.giuliani@iied.org](mailto:alessandra.giuliani@iied.org)) as soon as possible.

The papers presented at the **PCLG symposium on biodiversity and poverty in 2010** have now been published by Wiley-Blackwell in the **Conservation Science and Practice** series. Edited by Dilys Roe, Joanna Elliott, Chris Sandbrook and Matt Walpole, the book addresses a number of key themes:

- The relationship between biodiversity and poverty in different ecological settings
- Poverty impacts of different conservation interventions
- Distributional and institutional issues
- Global challenges.

More information can be found here: [http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470674784\\_descCd-buy.html](http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470674784_descCd-buy.html). We can make a limited number of copies available free to PCLG members in developing countries - please contact [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org) if you would like to be considered.

**CALL FOR DOCUMENTS** We are currently trying to expand the PCLG online library. **If you know of any key document relevant to the issue of poverty-conservation linkages that is not easily available online, please send it to us at [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org) and we will upload it on the PCLG website.**

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## Members News

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**IIED** and **UNEP-WCMC** have now posted the report from the first workshop of the **NBSAPs 2.0: Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Development project** on the [PCLG website](#). The workshop brought together participants from the four project countries – Botswana, Namibia, the Seychelles and Uganda, with independent members of the African Leadership Group (ALG) from Namibia, Liberia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The participants worked on developing business cases for biodiversity, power mapping, monitoring and communications. They also produced the “Maun Statement” on biodiversity and development mainstreaming along with some basic guidance – which will be further elaborated as the project progresses. The Maun Statement will be made available on the PCLG website (<http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/pclg-nbsaps>). Next steps in this project will be to produce a “**State of Knowledge**” review of biodiversity mainstreaming and to develop a tool for building a biodiversity business case.

**IIED** and **UNEP-WCMC** are also collaborating on a project to review the evidence on biodiversity and poverty linkages. Funded by the [ESPA Evidence and Impact Research Grants scheme](#) together with [UKAid from the UK Government](#), one component of this project has been to explore what constitutes “good” evidence in the context of biodiversity and ecosystem services. A discussion paper has now been published in the PCLG series and is available [here](#). We are also conducting a systematic mapping exercise

to better understand the current evidence base. Our draft protocol has just been submitted to the [Centre for Environmental Evidence](#) and is available for comment on the [PCLG website](#) .

**WWF** has recently released "PADDTracker.org" - a new crowd-sourced mapping tool. Though conservation policy assumes that national parks and protected areas (PAs) are permanent fixtures on the landscape, scattered evidence points to widespread protected area downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement (PADD). PADDTracker.org, currently released in beta version, is intended to monitor these processes globally and to foster more informed policymaking. For more information please visit the website: [www.PADDTracker.org](http://www.PADDTracker.org)

**The Center for International Forestry Research** is pleased to announce the publication of Occasional Paper 80 titled "[Women, men and forest research: A review of approaches, resources and methods for addressing gender](#)" and Occasional Paper 82 titled "[The gender box: A framework for analysing gender roles in forest management](#)". These two papers look at the approaches to addressing gender in forest management.

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## Conservation and Poverty News Stories

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**World Bank spending on forests fails to curb poverty, auditors claim - By John Vidal.** The World Bank's \$4.1bn (£2.6bn) investments in forestry over the past 10 years have done little to reduce poverty, improve conservation, tackle climate change or benefit local communities in developing countries, a study by its own inspectors has found. The 202-page report was compiled by the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG), which consists of senior bank staff and outside consultants. The document says the bank's financial support helped to protect 24m hectares (59m acres) of forest around the world and to classify 45m ha of forest as being on indigenous people's land. But it says the bank mostly failed to address critical social and environmental issues. [Full article](#)

**Forests in Kenya worth much more intact says government report – By Liz Kimbrough.** Kenya's forests provide greater services and wealth to the nation when they are left standing. A landmark report by The Kenyan Government and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) addresses the importance of forests to the well-being of the nation, putting Kenya among a pioneering group of countries that aim to centre development plans around nature-based assets. [Full article](#)

**Three developing nations move to ban hunting to protect vanishing wildlife – By Jeremy Hance.** Three developing countries have recently toughened hunting regulations believing the changes will better protect vanishing species. Botswana has announced it will ban trophy hunting on public lands beginning in 2014, while Zambia has recently banned any hunting of leopards or lions, both of which are disappearing across Africa. However, the most stringent ban comes from another continent: Costa Rica—often considered one of the "greenest" countries on Earth—has recently passed a law that bans all sport hunting and trapping both inside and outside protected areas. Read more [here](#)

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## Blogs

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**Eco-villages instead of eviction: a new approach to the 'people in parks' problem in Indonesia?, By Rachel Rivera** - It's a unique solution to a problem that is plaguing national parks all over Indonesia: instead of trying to evict local communities, who have long lived within the boundaries of these protected areas, carve out an "eco-village," where they can still make use of nuts, berries, medicinal plants and other non-timber products collected from the tropical forests. [Read the full blog](#)

**Globalisation, logging concessions, conservation organisations and local people, By Robert Nasi** - A commonly held view in the developed part of the world is that conservation organisations are doing "good" when offering small-scale development activities to improve local livelihoods of people in remote forested areas, such as those in southeast Cameroon. Similarly, logging concessions are often seen as creating conflicts about resource use or environmental degradation while claiming to enhance local development, with little to show in reality. Many remote areas, such as in parts of Central Africa, are also considered somewhat immune to the havoc of our developed world's financial cycles and crises, yet suffer from the plundering of their natural resources without receiving much in the way of local benefits. [Read the full blog](#)

**Measuring sustainable development must be made simple and affordable, By Peter Holmgren** - The Rio+20 congregation came up with the idea to agree on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that would set the stage for action under the post-2015 development agenda and supposedly define "The future we want" as stipulated in the Rio+20 outcome document. While indicator reports have made us more aware and better informed about development issues, it remains difficult to deduce what we mean by 'progress', and more importantly how we measure such progress. [Read the full blog](#)

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## New publications in the PCLG bibliographic database

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### **The valuation of biodiversity conservation by the South African Khomani San "bushmen" community**

*By Dikgang, J. and Muchapondwa, E.; December 2012*

The restitution of parkland to the Khomani San "bushmen" and Mier "agricultural" communities in May 2002 marked a significant shift in conservation in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and environs in South Africa. Biodiversity conservation will benefit from this land restitution only if the Khomani San, who interact with nature more than do other groups, are good environmental stewards. To assess their attitude toward biodiversity conservation, this study used the contingent valuation method to investigate the economic values the communities assign to biodiversity conservation under three land tenure arrangements in the Kgalagadi area. For each community and land tenure arrangement, there are winners and losers, but the winners benefit by more than the cost that losers suffer. The net worth for biodiversity conservation under the various land tenure regimes ranged from R928 to R3456 to R4160 for municipal land, parkland, and communal land respectively for the Khomani San, compared to R25 600 to R57 600 to R64 000 for municipal land, parkland, and communal land respectively for the Mier.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S092180091200359X>

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## **Forthcoming Events**

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Australia with partner countries will host the inaugural **International Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Land and Sea Managers Network conference in the Darwin Convention Centre, Northern Territory from 27 to 31 May, 2013**. The conference will call on all delegates to help build a strong foundation for an innovative and well-grounded international network. The draft conference themes have now also been published on the conference website. Please also remember to register your interest for the conference to receive news, information and updates at:

<http://www.worldindigenousnetwork.net/#register> . Any enquiries to [indigenousnetwork@environment.gov.au](mailto:indigenousnetwork@environment.gov.au)

The **19th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM), themed "A Time for Integration"** will be held in **Estes Park, Colorado, USA from June 4-8, 2013**. ISSRM is the premier scientific meeting for academic and government researchers, students, agency scientists, land managers, NGO representatives, and others who are broadly interested in the human dimensions of natural resource management issues. In addition to a diverse array of paper, panel, and poster sessions, the programme includes the 6th Annual Student Forum on June 4th and fantastic keynote and featured speakers though out the week. Please submit abstracts to present an individual paper, poster, or to lead an organized session. For more information please visit: <http://www.issrm2013.iasnr.org/>

The **Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB)** is organising a regional workshop in **Libreville Gabon, March 25-27, 2013**, on the theme "**Scenarios of African Biodiversity: Anticipation of the future of biodiversity and ecosystemic services and global change mitigation and adaptation in Africa.**" The workshop aims to support the development of research projects on biodiversity scenarios in sub-Saharan Africa involving partnerships between African and international researchers as well as between researchers and African stakeholders involved in the management or use of biodiversity resources. These projects should aim to develop operational and decision-making tools that are adapted to the needs of African stakeholders. The participation in this workshop is by invitation only. If you are interested in attending, you need to pre-register [here](#). More information on the workshop can be found [here](#)

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## **Funding and Awards Opportunities**

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**MacArthur Foundation - African Great Lakes 2013**. The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation make grants for conservation and development in selected regional ecosystems of the developing world. In year 2013, the Foundation invites letters of inquiry (LOIs) for grants supporting conservation of Large Lakes in the Rift Valley, East-Central Africa. The deadline for LOIs is **05 April 2013**. Note: Applications in 2013 for MacArthur's other regional conservation grants is by invitation only. [For more information](#)

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## Other Opportunities

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**IIED's Free Publications Scheme** - IIED strives to bring greater access to its print publications for readers in developing countries. IIED offers its publications as they are published to libraries and resource centres in non-OECD countries free of charge. It's easy to apply, just choose up to two topics from the list: Agriculture, Biodiversity & Conservation, Climate Change, Drylands, Energy, Environmental Management & Planning, Environmental Economics, Food, Forestry, Global Governance, Investment, Land, Law, Local Organisations, Markets, Natural Resource Management, Participation, Pastoralism, Responsible Business, Trade, Urban Development, Urban Poverty, Water-Ecosystem, Water-Urban, Publications in French, Publications in Spanish. **To join the scheme, contact IIED at [newbooks@iied.org](mailto:newbooks@iied.org) with "FPS subscribe PCLG newsletter" as the subject line, or write to: IIED, Free Publications Scheme, 80-86 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8NH**

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## More Info

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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.

BioSoc is the monthly bulletin of the PCLG, highlighting key new research on biodiversity and society, poverty and conservation. To receive BioSoc add your details to the "Subscribe" box at <http://povertyandconservation.info/>

**PCLG Journal Digest** is an information service produced on a monthly basis intended to keep readers up to date with new journal articles on issues relating to biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation as they are published. To receive the PCLG Journal Digest, add your details to the "Subscribe" box at <http://povertyandconservation.info/>

### 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:

<http://povertyandconservation.info/>

To subscribe or unsubscribe: <http://povertyandconservation.info/>

**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 Friday the 15th of February 2013.**

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**Contact us**

IIED, 80-86 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8NH  
Tel: +44 (0)20 3463 7399 | Fax: +44 (0)20 3514 9055

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Email: [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org)

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