

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

PCLG Website

The **Poverty and Conservation Learning Group's (PCLG) [website](#)** has recently been re-launched and re-organised, with the aim of increasing its interactivity, making it more cohesive and more pleasing to the eye. Moreover, further work is planned for the website's continued improvement, to include extensive content and gallery updates. Any feedback regarding the site's current look or any suggestions for its potential advancement would be most welcome.

Biodiversity Mainstreaming Project

It has been more than a year since the **NBSAPs 2.0: [Mainstreaming biodiversity and development](#)** project started, so now is a good time to share news of upcoming events and recent project developments. A project workshop is to be held in **Entebbe, Uganda, 8-12 July 2013**, bringing together participants from the **NBSAPs 2.0** project countries - Botswana, Namibia, the Seychelles and Uganda. It will focus on reviewing the participant countries' progress to date in mainstreaming biodiversity and development, based on evidence drawn from the revised NBSAPs and by attention to biodiversity within national development plans. The workshop is organised jointly with the UNDP Biodiversity Financing project and will incorporate two additional days on resource mobilisation planning. As well as the NBSAPs 2.0 project teams, participants will include independent members of the African Leadership Group, international advisory group (IAG) members, additional participants from UNDP's BioFin project countries – South Africa and Zimbabwe - and the project teams from IIED, UNEP-WCMC and UNDP. The agenda for the workshop will be made available on the PCLG website shortly.

One recent output of the project is a [discussion paper](#) which reviews the current state of knowledge on biodiversity and development mainstreaming globally. It aims to synthesise experience to date, ensuring that a strong business case can be made for integrating biodiversity into policy, planning and budgetary processes. The report is intended to stimulate feedback and we would very much appreciate any examples of more practical experience of mainstreaming biodiversity and development on the ground, and analysis of what works (and what doesn't). A revised version of the review will be published in 2014. Updates on all of this month's latest developments, plus several new resources, are available [online](#). Please send all comments to: dilys.roe@iied.org.

Great Apes

A new PCLG discussion paper on [best practices in linking conservation and poverty alleviation in the case of great apes](#) is now available on the PCLG website. This paper is intended to provide guidance for conservation practitioners on how to address poverty alleviation in the contexts in which they work. The PCLG have also established a LinkedIn page devoted to the topic, allowing for informal and open debate. Please do [join the group](#) in order to contribute to the discussion.

“Conservation through Poverty Alleviation” (Uganda PCLG) Project

The research phase of the CTPA project continues, with the field team currently carrying out interviews with different resource users around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. Data is being uploaded into the database for analysis in July and August. Two MSc. students from Imperial College London have been working with ITFC over the last couple of months, helping with the data collection and analysis. The Project Partners are in the process of developing an Integrated Conservation Development (ICD) Resource Book, which intends to translate the research findings into guidance about how ICD Projects can be better targeted to the needs of poorer people living in the surrounding area. A draft outline has been developed and feedback is being sought from Uganda Wildlife Authority and members of the Uganda PCLG. Provisional dates have been set for the “Research to Policy” Workshop for the 11th and 12th of September in Kampala, which will present the findings to national and local policy makers and ICD practitioners. [Read more.](#)

Conservation and Land Grabbing: Part of the Problem or Part of the Solution?

All of the presentations and relevant documents relating to the **2013 PCLG Symposium**, held at London Zoo and jointly organised by IIED, the International Land Coalition (ILC), the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and Maliasili Initiatives in March, are now available online. This includes a background note, the symposium’s agenda, a detailed report, [and much more.](#)

CALL FOR DOCUMENTS We are 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 and we will upload it on the PCLG website.**

Members News

Fauna and Flora International’s Conservation, Livelihoods and Governance team has collated and adapted a number of ‘tools’ to help conservationists facilitate participatory processes with local stakeholders. The tools can be used to discuss and analyse a variety of issues and perspectives related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including climate change adaptation and ecosystem services valuation. At present there are 18 tools available, along with a short summary of all the tools, plus some guidance on how to facilitate participatory approaches. The tools and guidance are available [here](#).

As part of its “REDD financing” project, **Forest Peoples Programme (FPP)** and its local partners in the Democratic Republic of Congo have published the first volume of a new book series titled **African Forests – Fountain of Knowledge**. The principle theme of the first volume is: **Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)**. FPIC is the right of local and indigenous communities to give or withhold their consent to proposed development projects that may affect their lands, resources or lifestyle. If extractive industries, agribusiness and conservation projects do not respect a community’s right to FPIC, community food security is often weakened, and poverty is made worse. The volume is available to download (in French only) from the [FPP website](#). For further information please contact Patrick Kipalu (pkipalu@forestpeoples.org).

A new **Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD)** (www.field.org.uk) article, compiled by Sarah Wilson, considers the importance of biodiversity to **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** in providing resilience and adaptability in the face of natural disasters. The article highlights the example of cyclone "Evan", which struck the Pacific Island nation of Samoa, and considers the work programme on island biodiversity under the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**. [Read the article.](#)

IIED is in the process of developing a new strategic plan and is currently starting discussions on what its 'world view' should be. As part of this process, the institute has produced a paper on global trends to provoke debate, structured around six topics considered to become critical in the 15-20 years to come. You can download the paper, **Future world? Addressing the contradictions of planet, people, power and profits**, and [comment via this blog](#). A number of questions have been compiled to guide input into the strategy process, so if you have a chance, please respond to these or provide feedback on any other issues which you consider to be most significant.

On June 5th, 2013, in order to mark World Environment Day, the **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** released a report, titled **Putting Green Growth at the Heart of Development**. The report examines the interface between environment, poverty reduction and development. 74 policies are reviewed and measures from 37 countries and 5 regional initiatives. The report seeks to provide a guide for national and international policies and practices to address green growth. [Read more.](#)

The **UN Environment Programme (UNEP)** has released a report, titled '**Green Economy and Trade: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities**', which argues that an increase in trade in environmental goods and services can stimulate the transition to a green economy, while such a transition can create further opportunities for increased trade in these products and services. [Read the report.](#)

The draft of the **USAID Biodiversity Policy** is now available for agency-wide review and public comment. [This policy](#) is the agency's first for biodiversity and seeks to advance biodiversity conservation as an essential component of human development. The policy aims to clarify USAID's strategic approach for conserving biodiversity that contributes to national and local-level development goals. Comments are welcome until **Friday, June 28, 2013**. Any questions may be directed to Holly Ferrette at: Biodiversity@usaid.gov.

A new [report](#) compiled by the **Wildlife Conservation Society** and the **World Wildlife Fund** has recently been completed. Based on how different sectors in Caprivi, Namibia, would likely fare under a range of animal health policy and related land-use regimes, the report arrives at the conclusion that a commodity-based trade (CBT) approach would be highly likely to yield an economically efficient outcome. Standard cost-benefit analysis was applied to several future policy options with emphasis being placed on the livestock / wildlife interface and Caprivi's role as central to the Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA). The results suggest that initiatives aimed at the introduction of CBT as part of a value chain approach to sanitary risk management in the region would offer significant economic potential.

Conservation and Poverty News Stories

Trondheim Conference

This year's **Trondheim Conference** took place from 27-31 May, and focused its gaze on **Biodiversity Mainstreaming**, under the title **Ecology and Economy for a Sustainable Society**. It was hosted by the Norwegian Government in cooperation with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the Convention on

Biological Diversity (CBD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank. The conference focused on the first goal of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which addresses the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society. Participants considered the ways in which biodiversity contributes to a sustainable society, and the ways in which a careful alignment and mix of policies, incentives and business strategies can help deliver development pathways that lead to a more sustainable society. A [summary](#) of the conference and links to the [presentations](#) delivered at the event have been made available online.

Environmental Sustainability Post 2015

With less than 1,000 days left to meet the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets, the process to establish new development goals beyond 2015 is well underway and the United Nations system invites you to be part of this historical process. On behalf of UNDP, UNEP, the Government of France and the Government of Costa Rica, the **Environmental Sustainability Post 2015** team are pleased to announce the launch of the final two discussions in the post-2015 consultation on Environmental Sustainability. [Make your ideas heard](#) while engaging with peers and fellow concerned citizens from around the world.

Natural Capital Accounting

Over 35 ministers, vice-ministers and senior officials of finance, development and environment met for a high-level ministerial dialogue on **Natural Capital Accounting (NCA)** on 18 April, 2013, in Washington, DC on the eve of the **World Bank-International Monetary Fund (IMF)** spring meetings. They discussed new methods for valuing nature, reaching beyond traditional gross domestic product (GDP) as a measure of economic progress. Outcomes from the dialogue include the agreement that NCA be included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as in the post-2015 development agenda. The dialogue also stressed the key role the private sector has to play and highlighted the launch of a Natural Capital program under the International Finance Corporation (IFC), which is supporting improved measurement, reporting and management of natural capital in business strategies. [Read more.](#)

Sustainable Development Goals

The second session of the **Open Working Group (OWG)** of the **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) took place from 17-19 April 2013 at the UN Headquarters, New York. [The summary of this meeting is now available.](#)

Blogs

Botswana: Biodiversity and dragons come together – by Dilys Roe. In this blog, IIED's Dilys Roe analyses the lessons to be learned from a new 'Dragons' Den'-style biodiversity project, which highlights the importance of diversity and draws out the tensions that arise when trying to put biodiversity at the centre of development policies.

<http://www.iied.org/botswana-biodiversity-dragons-come-together>.

Featured publication

Alyward, B., Dengel, J., Porras, I., **Monitoring payments for watershed services schemes in developing countries**, 36 pages, Mar 2013, IIED, London.

Payments for watershed services (PWS) are schemes that use funds from water users (including governments) as an incentive for landholders to improve their land management practices. They are increasingly seen as a viable policy alternative to watershed management issues, and a means of addressing chronic problems such as declining water flows, deteriorating water quality and flooding. In some places, local governments, donor agencies and NGOs are actively trying to upscale and replicate PWS schemes across the area. While their apparent success and progress in launching new initiatives is encouraging, there is still much to be learned from formative experiences in this field, especially with regard to monitoring and evaluation. In this paper the monitoring and evaluation criteria behind compliance or transactional monitoring are discussed, which ensures that contracts are followed, and effectiveness conditionality, which looks at how schemes manage to achieve their environmental objectives regardless of the degree of compliance. [Read the report.](#)

Forthcoming Events

In **July 2014**, The University of Dodoma, Tanzania, will play host to an international conference entitled, **Green Economy in the South: Negotiating Environmental Governance, Prosperity and Development**. Ecotourism, community-based wildlife management, and corporate social responsibility initiatives – all offering new opportunities for integration into wealth-generating markets – are taking place alongside growing incidents of land grabbing, displacement, alienation of resources, and other activities harmful to the local population. This is the context in which the University of Dodoma invites guests, papers and panel proposals for a three day conference, which builds on a series of sister conferences taking place in Europe and North America. Tanzania is the chosen location because the event organisers wish the focus of this conference to be about the growth of the Green Economy in the South, and therefore this conference must be more accessible to Southern speakers, researchers and activists. [Learn more.](#)

The Scientific Partners of BIOECON are pleased to announce the **Fifteenth Annual International BIOECON conference** on the theme of “**Conservation and Development: Exploring Conflicts and Challenges**”. The conference will be held once again on the premises of **Kings College Cambridge, UK, on 19-20 September 2013**. The conference will be of interest to both researchers and policy makers working on issues broadly in the area of biodiversity and land use policy, especially in regard to the management of natural resources in developing countries. This year’s meeting will focus on the relationship between biodiversity and land use management. **Registration is now open**. Registrations for conference presenters are due by **20th June 2013**. Registration for all other participants closes on the **20th August 2013**. Further registration details and all other conference information will be provided on the BIOECON website (www.bioecon-network.org).

Funding and Awards Opportunities

McKnight Foundation - Communities and Natural Resources in Southeast Asia. [McKnight's grant program for Southeast Asia](#) (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia) includes themes on indigenous and ethnic minority communities in relation to livelihoods and natural resources. Grants are made to qualified local and international NGOs working in the countries of interest. The annual deadline for letters of inquiry is 1 May.

Other Opportunities

A professional course, **Sustainability: Principles and Practice**, is taking place at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, MA, this summer, from **August 5-9, 2013**. The course will focus on international sustainable development policy and practice. Please contact Noelle Selin with any questions at selin@mit.edu. [Sign up for this course](#).

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 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**

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.

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

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<http://povertyandconservation.info/>

To subscribe or unsubscribe:

<http://povertyandconservation.info/lists/?p=unsubscribe&uid=23644e445dbc499d53e65e3c9b8c78ad>

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 July.