

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

The PCLG Secretariat would like to thank all those who participated in our joint workshop with **IUCN's Forest Conservation Programme** and the **African Wildlife Foundation** on lessons learned in linking conservation and poverty alleviation, landscapes and livelihoods at the **World Conservation Congress** earlier this month. The workshop - chaired by Ashok Khosla, outgoing President of IUCN, mixed formal presentations from international initiatives such as **CIFOR's Poverty Environment Network** and the **UNDP Equator Initiative** with a "speed dating" session. This featuring a diversity of presentations including PCLG members such as Blue Ventures in Madagascar and AWF in Tanzania and Kenya; Equator Prize winners such as KAMICYDI in the Philippines; and IUCN Landscapes and Livelihoods Strategy country partners from India, China, Uganda and Laos. A summary of the workshop together with the presentations can be found on the [PCLG website](#).

186 Motions were passed at the Congress, the details of which can be found here: <http://portals.iucn.org/2012motions/>. Those of particular relevance to PCLG members include:

046 Healthy parks healthy people: This recognizes that there is much evidence to demonstrate the integral link of nature with human health and well-being. It therefore encourages the development of initiatives that deliver both human health and biodiversity outcomes, and partnerships with the the health and medical care community to raise recognition of parks as a vital source of health and well-being.

052 Broadening awareness on benefits and relevance of protected areas: This motions calls on member countries of IUCN to promote protected areas as natural solutions to a range of ecological and livelihood challenges.

074 Conserving island biodiversity and supporting human livelihoods: This motion focuses on island biodiversity and its important role in supporting human livelihoods support by hosting Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) within IUCN to ensure its continued success

122 Promoting and supporting community resource management and conservation as a foundation for sustainable development: This motion recognizes that both consumptive and non-consumptive use of biodiversity, where sustainable and linked to community resource management programmes, can be an effective instrument to conserve terrestrial biological diversity. It calls for the facilitation and enhancement of a broad exchange of information on current community resource management programmes and systems, their levels of success, or reasons for failure to take place amongst practitioners, relevant interest groups and international conservation and development organizations, and that emphasis should be placed on capacity building to contribute to the further development of community resource management programmes.

135 Food security, ecosystem restoration and climate change: This motion recognize that the deforestation and degradation of land in the entire equatorial belt notably in Central America, reduces food security and access to clean water for human consumption, affects the lands belonging to indigenous peoples and the biodiversity, and increases the vulnerability to climate change. It urges action to establish initiatives for food security and the recognition of traditional practices for managing natural resources and the protection of the lands inhabited by indigenous peoples.

136 Conserving cultures and nature for food security: The motion notes the fact that more than 13% of the world's population is malnourished and that that the global energy crisis is causing millions of hectares of fertile land and forest to be shifted to mono-cropping for the production of agrofuels, leading to a loss of biodiversity and of indigenous peoples' livelihoods and traditional cultures in the southern hemisphere. It calls for the allocation of resources to promote comprehensive intervention measures aimed at reducing the vulnerability of livelihoods to the effects of land-use change and climate change; and applied research focused on recovering and enhancing traditional knowledge of biodiversity management for food security.

137 Safeguarding the contribution of wild living resources and ecosystems to food security: This motion highlights the concern about the significant challenge to feed a global population of 9 billion by 2050, particularly as more than a billion people, 70% of whom live in rural areas, still live below the poverty line and strive daily to find the minimum amounts of food to sustain their lives. It calls for recognition of the role of sustainable management and conservation of wild living resources and ecosystems, in achieving food security.

145 A critical review of biodiversity benefits of alternative livelihood projects: This motion urges IUCN Members to rigorously measure the impacts of alternative livelihood projects on species, ecosystems and people, and disseminate the results. It also calls on IUCN to develop best practice guidelines for alternative livelihood projects to ensure sustainable benefits to species, ecosystems and people.

156 Biodiversity conservation for development in the South through South-South cooperation: This motion acknowledges that biodiversity is critical for economic and social development as well as poverty reduction and calls for enhanced cooperation between developing nations to share experience, information and technologies on effective conservation.

The **inception workshop report** of the **PCLG project Research to Policy** - funded by the UK Darwin Initiative - has now been finalised and is available on the PCLG website at: <http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/pclg-uganda-project-launched-inception-workshop-12-14-july-2012>

A new member of PCLG: - **Apiculture and Nature Conservation (ANCO)** is a Cameroonian NGO founded in 1992 which promotes pro-poor conservation. ANCO's intervention in conservation is limited to community forestry and watershed protection. In both cases, ANCO deals with poor, rural communities and implements alternative livelihoods projects such as apiculture, cane rat rearing, mushroom growing, agroforestry, erosion control cultivation, night paddock manuring etc. For more information: www.anco-cameroon.org

MONTHLY JOURNALS DIGEST: If you have not already received your copy of this new PCLG information product you very soon will do. We hope you find this useful and would much appreciate your [feedback](#).

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 and we will upload it on the PCLG website.

CAN YOU WRITE FOR BIOSOC? We are still interested to identify new authors for BioSoc — our bulletin highlighting new research and policy developments on biodiversity and conservation. In particular we would like to hear from researchers and practitioners in developing countries who may like to draw attention to a recent publication — be it research findings, new policy, or conference proceedings. BioSoc reviews should be a maximum of 500–600 words, written in clear and simple language, and should highlight new developments or critical issues. All publications reviewed must be freely accessible to the reader. The review must include the full citation and relevant download details. Please send your ideas to pclg@iied.org. If you would like to receive BioSoc go to: <http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/pclg-newsletters>

Members News

PROFOR highlights success in revenue sharing from protected forest - The **World Bank's Program on Forests (PROFOR)** has highlighted the case of revenue sharing from a protected area in Tanzania, as the third in an ongoing series of stories on benefit-sharing from forest conservation, titled "What it Takes." Implemented by CARE International, the project in Zanzibar paid local communities to refrain from killing monkeys and collecting wood illegally. Proceeds from park entrance fees were shared with local farmers and community development funds, with over TZS4.6 million (almost US\$3,000) given to the villages in the first year of payments. Over the course of the project, communities used the funds to build schools and mosques and invest in water and electrical infrastructure. The project was implemented in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania, Department of Commercial Crops, Fruits and Forestry (DCCFF), officials from the Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park and a local NGO. Full article: <http://www.profor.info/notes/what-it-takes-part-iii-sharing-revenues-conservation>

IIED researchers Dilys Roe, Essam Yassin Mohammed, Ina Porras and Alessandra Giuliani have recently published an article exploring the conservation-poverty debate in the journal Conservation Letters. The paper, "**Linking biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: de-polarising the conservation-poverty debate**" presents the results of a survey of over 1000 conservation and development professionals which reveals a surprising consensus of opinion that there is a positive link between biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation. Where there is some division, is over the direction of that link – conservation as a means to poverty alleviation, or poverty alleviation as a means to conservation – but again conservation and development organisations appear equally divided in their views. For more information on the article please contact Dilys Roe (dilys.roe@iied.org)

Following the release of the publication of **Participatory Learning and Action 65 on Biodiversity and culture: exploring community protocols, rights and consent**, **IIED** has released a Spanish version of the publication. An online Spanish translation is available at [**Biodiversidad y cultura: exploración de protocolos comunitarios, derechos y consentimiento**](#). This will be formally launched, along with the English version, at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) to the CBD in India next month.

IIED and **UNEP-WCMC** are jointly implementing a Darwin Initiative-funded project **NBSAPs 2.0: Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Development**. A project newsletter will be launched shortly but for now you can follow its progress via the website: <http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/pclq-nbsaps>. A side event featuring the four African countries – Uganda, Botswana, Namibia and Seychelles – participating in the project will be held at **CBD CoP 11 on Tuesday 9th October**, and a project workshop will be held in **mid November in Botswana, hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism**. Further updates to follow.

UNEP-WCMC is working with **Tentera Consultancy** in Montreal and supported by **IIED** and other PCLG members including the **Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF)** in India to assess biodiversity-poverty indicators. The research has been commissioned by the CBD Secretariat and is intended to propose a strategy for the development and use of new indicators to underpin the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020). The findings of the review will be presented next month at CoP 11 in Hyderabad. Come along to our evening event on **Friday 12th October at the Rio Pavillions** to find out more!

Conservation and Poverty News Stories

Can conservation lift people out of poverty? 'Absolutely - The answer to the question posed during the World Leaders Dialogue at the just ended World Conservation Congress held from the 6-15 September in Jeju, Republic of Korea: can conservation lift people out of poverty was a resounding yes as long as certain conditions are met. People everywhere depend directly or indirectly on nature for their well-being. But the benefits we get from Nature are not equally shared. Richer countries often reap the benefits while poorer nations bear the cost of biodiversity loss and see little advantage. Some recurring themes emerged from the discussion on how to strike a better balance: Focus on the people who depend on nature; involve them in decisions; seek their advice, and generate the political will at higher levels. [Full article](#)

Protecting biodiversity key to food security, adaptation – By Johann Earle (Alertnet)

Biodiversity conservation will be key to ensuring food security and effective adaptation in the face of climate change, says Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, secretary general of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). "Much of the response to climate change will have to be based on biodiversity," said de Souza Dias, head of the CBD, launched in 1992 as part of an international effort to promote sustainable development while protecting ecosystems. "Part of the response will come from new technology, but a large part will come from biodiversity, for example, agriculture," he said. [Full article](#)

Environment: Biodiversity and poverty: the Gambian challenge – By Abdou Rahman Sallah. This edition of Environment examines the link between biodiversity and poverty and need for private sector involvement in natural resources management in Gambia. The Gambia is in the grips of a population explosion. World Bank data from 2011 indicates that the country is experiencing an annual population growth rate of 2.7%. High population growth is currently typical of sub-Saharan Africa, where high birth rates and declining mortality rates are partly responsible. This growth in population coupled with increasing urbanisation and the demand for more farm lands and other land uses is exerting great pressure on the environment in developing countries, particularly in terms of energy consumption such as firewood, charcoal, furniture, food, water, shelter and roofing. [Full article](#)

Uganda: Project to strengthen policies that link poverty and conservation - By Lilian Museka (Kampala). This news piece picks up on the workshop report of the new Uganda PCLG project which is exploring the effectiveness of integrated conservation and development initiatives in one of Uganda's key gorilla parks – Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. The project will use the research findings to build the capacity of Ugandan PCLG member organisations to engage better with policy makers and influence conservation policy. Funded by the UK Darwin Initiative, the project is being implemented by the Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation (ITFC), Jane Goodall Institute Uganda (JGI) and Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), and is coordinated by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). [Read the full article](#)

Environment degradation enhancing poverty in northeast of India - Environmental degradation is a major factor in perpetuating poverty, particularly among the rural poor in the bio-rich north-eastern region of the country, experts have pointed out. Experts on matters relating to the environment and ecology point out that environmental degradation has adverse effects on soil fertility, quality and quality of water, forests, wildlife and fisheries and makes air all the more impure. "The dependence of rural poor, particularly the tribal societies, on natural resources is self-evident. Women, being directly involved in collecting items of food from nature, are more vulnerable to the adverse impacts of degradation of natural resources," says a research scholar associated with studying the relationship between the environment and people in general. In fact, of the two biodiversity 'hotspots' in India, the Eastern Himalayas, comprising the northeast is in greater danger than the Western Ghats, experts have long cautioned. [Full article](#)

Blogs

Going once, going twice.....The great green land grab by Terry Sunderland. "Buy land, they're not making it anymore!" Mark Twain's wry observation on the North American land acquisition boom of the late

19th century remains just as pertinent today as it was then. More than a 100 years later, the sheer scale of contemporary global land purchases and its appropriation from local stakeholders is unprecedented since the colonial land acquisitions of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Stimulated by a global spike in food prices toward the end of the first decade of 2000, a number of affluent nation states reliant on food imports began to buy up large areas of land in the developing world for agricultural production to achieve their own food security. Added to this the emergence of the biofuel market, plantation-based forestry and the increasing expansion of commodity crops such as oil palm, vast areas of the global forest estate have been transferred from state control to private ownership, often taking with it valuable forest resources in the process, notably timber. [Read the full blog](#)

The world's shrinking food basket: why it is critical we increase crop diversity by Michelle

Kovacevic. In the 1970's a fungal blight outbreak ravaged cornfields across the United States, destroying 50 percent of the country's maize crops and shaking the stock market as the most economically devastating field crop disease of the 20th century. Recently, the U.S. government slashed its forecast for corn production by 17 percent due to the worst drought the country has experienced in 56 years, raising fears of a new global food crisis and sending many commodity prices to record levels. While the two events may be 40 years apart and have different natural causes, the outcomes are much the same, argued scientists from Bioversity International at the IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Jeju, South Korea from the 6-15 September. [Read the full blog](#)

New publications in the PCLG bibliographic database

REDD+ and rural livelihoods

By Groom, B. and Palmer, C.; October 2012

Focusing on incentive schemes that induce participation in land-use activities to supply environmental services, this paper examines the potential impacts of REDD+ on livelihoods, in particular with respect to incomes and poverty alleviation. Two case studies, each at a different scale, are presented. First, the N'hambita Community Carbon Project in Mozambique, a REDD+ project, promoted agro-forestry and reforestation activities along with alternative livelihoods. Second, the Sloping Lands Conversion Programme (SLCP) in China is a national-level reforestation scheme to supply watershed services. Impacts on the poor are addressed through the 'lens' of a rural household allocating its labour supply to different income sources. Four aspects of REDD+ policy are discussed: the incentives necessary for ensuring the cost-effective, long-run sustainability of both carbon sinks and incomes; the implications for forest conservation, in particular biodiversity; the need for scaling up carbon sequestration activities in order to minimise carbon leakage; and, the possibilities to maximise the participation of the poor and alleviate poverty. Finally, the paper highlights the importance of using appropriate methodologies for correct evaluation of policy impacts on incomes. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320712001450>

Sustainable Livelihoods from Theory to Conservation Practice: An Extended Annotated Bibliography for Prospective Application of Livelihoods Approaches in Protected Area Community Research

By Bennett, N (2010)

Conservation is primarily about managing ourselves, people, and the societies we create. There is a wealth of global experience in these kinds of challenges. This annotated bibliography is one contribution towards this effort. It brings together, synthesizes and makes recommendations based on the main sources related to Sustainable Livelihoods, which are at the nexus of many of the challenges society faces both now and in the future. http://www.papr.co.ca/web_documents/bennett_papr_2010_-_sustainable_livelihoods_from_theory_to_conservation_practice_4_4_mb.pdf

Forthcoming Events

The 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is organised by the CBD Secretariat and will take place **8 - 19 October 2012, in Hyderabad, India**. The High Level Segment will be held from **17-19 October 2012**. The provisional agenda includes consideration of: the status of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising from their Utilization; implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; issues related to financial resources and the financial mechanism; issues related to cooperation, outreach and the UN Decade on Biodiversity; operations of the Convention; Article 8(j) and related provisions; in-depth review of the programme of work on island biodiversity; ways and means to support ecosystem restoration; marine and coastal biodiversity; biodiversity and climate change; other substantive issues arising from COP 10 decisions, including dryland, forest, inland waters, mountain, and agricultural biodiversity, protected areas, sustainable use of biodiversity, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, biofuels and biodiversity, invasive alien species, the Global Taxonomy Initiative, incentive measures, and biodiversity and development; as well as administrative and budgetary matters.

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=cop-11>

Funding and Awards Opportunities

Conservation Leadership Programme (CLP) - Conservation Awards 2013 - The CLP makes grants to advance the leadership capacity of early-career conservationists in the developing world. Grants combine research with conservation. CLP provides support to small teams of at least three individuals. Future Conservationist Awards are up to US\$15,000. Follow-Up Awards and Leadership Awards are up to US\$25,000 and US\$50,000, respectively. The deadline for applications is **09 November 2012**. [For more information](#)

Fauna and Flora International (FFI) - Flagship Species Fund 2013 - FFI manages the Flagship Species Fund in partnership with the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and corporate sponsors. The focus of the Fund is charismatic but endangered primate, sea turtle, and tree species and their habitats in developing countries. FFI will make grants of £5,000 to £10,000 to locally-

based conservation groups in the developing world. The application deadline is **15 October 2012**. [For more information](#)

UK Government - Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA), Calls for Proposals - ESPA is the joint program of three UK agencies, in coordination with UK universities, to support research on how ecosystems in developing countries can be sustainably managed to contribute to poverty reduction and inclusive and sustainable growth. ESPA announces three calls for proposals: (i) ESPA Open Access Publication Grants 2012; (ii) Putting ESPA Research into Use; and (iii) Understanding How Research is Put into Use. Each call includes objectives, grant amounts, and supporting information. The closing date is **17 October 2012**. [For more information](#)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Gabon Conservation 2013 - The USFWS program "Wildlife Without Borders" includes a regional component for Africa. The 2013 call for applications is restricted to initiatives that strengthen conservation actions in Gabon. Grant size and eligibility vary according to each of eight conservation priorities. Applications are invited from government agencies, NGOs, institutions of higher education, and individuals. The application deadline is **01 November 2012**. For more information: <http://www.fws.gov/international/wildlife-without-borders/africa/index.html> and <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=jbhqQLCSzDv4yyYsBNnGxxBtTJ14K31273CqWqynwzbbjYTT45Gs%21-1391769738?oppId=199653&mode=VIEW>

Other Opportunities

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](#)

Spread the news

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<http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/pclg-newsletters>

To [subscribe or unsubscribe](#)

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 Friday the 12th of October 2012.

Contact us

IIED, 80-86 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8NH

Tel: +44 (0)20 3463 7399 | Fax: +44 (0)20 3514 9055

Join the PCLG

Email: pclg@iied.org