

# 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.

## January 2011 - ISSUE No. 038

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the thirty-eighth 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 Friends
- New Organisations in our database
- 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 January.*

## Secretariat News

**WE NEED YOUR HELP – FINAL CALL:** We are starting to plan this year's PCLG meeting. This event will take place in late 2011, will be open to PCLG members only, and financial support will be available for developing countries participants. **We would very much like to hear what you think should be the theme of the 2011 PCLG meeting.** There was a lot of interest at the Masindi workshop in having this event focus on human-wildlife conflict. Other suggestions have included exploring the implications of the Nagoya outcomes and developing our understanding of ecosystem-based adaptation. **Please, send your comments, suggestions and ideas to [pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org)**

**PCLG ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:** The report from the PCLG workshop on linking ape conservation and poverty reduction which took place in Masindi, Uganda from 15th to 19th November is available [here](#). All the powerpoints and some of the poster presentations are also available to view on the home page of the [PCLG website](#). The workshop participants are keen to continue networking both as a "Great Apes Chapter" of the PCLG and through the establishment of national-level PCLGs. **If you are working on ape (or ape habitat) conservation and are interested in joining the listserv for the Great Apes Chapter please let us know.** We will keep you posted on progress with the national group as they develop.

**PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITY:** IIED publishes policy-relevant research in its [Gatekeepers series](#) three times a year. The papers are usually mailed out in sets of two or three and we are planning the next edition to focus on conservation and poverty. We have two papers lined up already and would welcome a suggestion from a Southern author for the third paper. Papers should be no more than 5000 words and should make clear, simple and concise points. IIED can offer editorial support and advice for potential authors. **Please let us know ([pclg@iied.org](mailto:pclg@iied.org)) if you have something you think might be suitable that needs an outlet!**

## Featured News

**UNGA gives the green light to IPBES:** During a plenary meeting held in New-York on 20 December 2010 the United Nations 65th General Assembly (UNGA) approved the creation of an Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Governments gave a green light to its establishment in June 2010 at a meeting in Busan, Republic of Korea, coordinated by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), but this required a resolution to be passed at the UNGA. The independent platform will in many ways mirror the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which has assisted in catalyzing worldwide understanding and governmental action on global warming. The new body will bridge the gulf between the wealth of scientific knowledge on the accelerating declines and degradation of the natural world, with knowledge on effective solutions and decisive government action required to reverse these damaging trends. Its various roles will include carrying out high-quality peer reviews of the wealth of science on biodiversity and ecosystem services emerging from research institutes across the globe in order to provide gold standard reports to governments. These reports will not only cover the state, status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystems, but will also outline transformational policy options and responses to bring about real change in their fortunes.

**2011 is the International Year of Forests:** The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests to raise awareness on sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

## News from PCLG Friends

**CBD CoP 10:** The final report of the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the final version of the Decisions from CBD CoP 10, are now available for download [here](#).

**CPALI:** The following are some of CPALI's achievements during 2010:

- Completed planting of over 10,000 trees on 40 hectares of family farms and border forests of Makira.
- Made a financial commitment to set-up 60 farmers with 40 more lined up to work with CPALI pending funding.
- Established copyright protection for two styles of non-spun textile.
- Trained 5 women to make the textile to CPALI's specifications.

In the coming year CPALI's goals are just as ambitious: expand its program to 500 silk-producing farmers and develop a marketable stream of wild silk textiles; initiate ecological and economic monitoring and negotiate contracts with some of the businesses with whom CPALI is in contact. If all this succeeds, CPALI's program will be sustainable by 2013.

**Fundación de Cultura Islamica** is pleased to announce the new website at [www.medomed.org](http://www.medomed.org), which forms part of the **MED-O-MED Programme for Cultural Landscapes in the Mediterranean and the Middle East**, set up by the Islamic Culture Foundation in Madrid. Med-O-Med is an international cooperation programme for conservation of the environment and landscapes and for sustainable development. Space will be given to appropriate research papers. Moreover, the members of the Med-O-Med Programme will be able to publish their articles or books on-line, as well as any news on their activities or on the centres they represent. They will also be able to create their own blogs. For more information, or to join the Programme, go to [www.medomed.org](http://www.medomed.org)

**Proceedings of the 12th Annual BIOECON Conference "From the Wealth of Nations to the Wealth of Nature: Rethinking Economic Growth":** The 12th Annual BIOECON Conference, held in Venice on 27-28 September 2010, was devoted to 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. In addition, a significant portion of the research presented in the conference has focused on analysing the impacts and dependencies of different businesses on biodiversity and ecosystems, and the potential contributions of corporations to a more resource-efficient economy.

IISD RS is pleased to announce that the newest issue of MEA Bulletin is now available. The **107th issue of MEA Bulletin** includes reports on: the first Intersessional Meeting for the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, or Rio+20) and preparations for UNCSD; preparations for the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization; and efforts by the Convention on Migratory Species for the adoption of an action plan to ensure the conservation of migratory grassland birds and their habitats in South America. The guest article, titled "Ethics, Justice and the Convention on Biological Diversity," was authored by Balakrishna Pisupati and Doris Schroeder. To read past issues and to sign up to receive the PDF version, visit: <http://www.iisd.ca/email/mea-l.htm>

## New Organisations in our database

**Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS):** ARCOS is a non-governmental organisation established in 1995 whose

mission is to enhance conservation of critical ecosystems and promote sustainable development in the Albertine Rift through collaborative actions between various partners in the region.

**Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS):** FZS was established in 1858 and is an internationally operating conservation organisation based in Frankfurt/Main. The Society's main focus lies in eastern Africa, although its work has expanded in recent years to include Eastern Europe, South America and Asia. FZS' work is committed to conserving biological diversity.

**International Conservation and Education Fund (INCEF):** INCEF is a nonprofit organisation dedicated to the concept that a commitment to strategic communication is a prerequisite to positive changes in attitudes and behavior regarding the nexus of wildlife conservation, public health and economic development in underdeveloped and/or overly exploited areas of the planet. INCEF's approach focuses on the use of locally produced and disseminated video as an educational tool to foster improvement of the health and well-being of human and wildlife populations.

## Forthcoming Events

**16th Poverty Environment Partnership Meeting:** The sixteenth Poverty Environment Partnership (PEP 16) meeting will be held from **16th to 18th February 2011 in Vienna**, and feature the theme "Supporting nationally owned Green Economies to achieve the MDGs and respond to climate change".

**Nature™ Inc? Questioning the Market Panacea in Environmental Policy and Conservation:** In order to respond to the many environmental problems the world is facing, new and innovative methods are necessary and markets are posited as the ideal vehicle to supply these. This conference, which will take place on **30th June – 2nd July, 2011, in The Hague, The Netherlands**, seeks to critically engage with the market panacea in environmental policy and conservation in the context of histories and recent developments in neoliberal capitalism.

**4th World Conference on Ecological Restoration:** The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) and its partners from Latin America invite you to **Merida, Mexico, on August 21-25, 2011** for SER's 4th World Conference on Ecological Restoration. The theme of SER 2011 is "Re-establishing the Link between Nature and Culture". SER 2011 will be an important forum for addressing the global challenges of biodiversity and habitat loss, climate change, and sustainable development. It will provide a global venue for professionals, researchers, students and the public to come together, learn and share their knowledge and experiences, and identify practical solutions for restoring nature and sustaining critical ecosystem goods and services.

**ACES 2011: Conservation Conflicts: Strategies for coping with a changing world:** This conference will take place from **22nd to 24th August 2011, at the Arts Centre in Aberdeen, Scotland, UK**. As human pressures on the planet increase, biodiversity is under growing pressure across the world. Changing patterns in land use, over-exploitation, pollution, climate change and the threat posed by invasive species, all challenge the way we currently manage and conserve biological diversity. Consequently, there are increasing numbers of conflicts between those interested in conserving species and those with alternative goals, interests or values. These conflicts occur over a range of scales from the local management of single species to international conflicts over the management of resources; they are multi-dimensional, involving ecological, social and economic interests and operate within political and legal frameworks. This conference brings together academics from a range of disciplines, policy makers and practitioners to address how, when and why conflicts arise, and to identify mitigation strategies.

**World Conservation Congress:** The 2012 World Conservation Congress will be held from **6th to 15th September 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea**. Leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, business, UN agencies and social organizations will discuss, debate and decide solutions for the world's most pressing environment and development issues. The 2012 Congress aims to put nature and conservation at the top of the global agenda.

## New Publications in our database

**[The Evolution of Benefit Sharing: Linking Biodiversity and Community Livelihoods](#), by Morgera, E., Tsioumani, E., July 2010, *Review of European Community & International Environmental Law*, Vol 19 No 2, Wiley Interscience, pp. 150–173:** This article traces the evolution of the use of the legal concept of benefit sharing in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), with a view to highlighting its contribution to indigenous and local communities' livelihoods. To this end, the article proposes a distinction between inter-State benefit sharing (as identified in the third CBD objective and as usually linked to access to genetic resources) and notably lesser known State-to-community benefit sharing (in relation to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity). The article highlights the different legal connotations of the two dimensions of this legal concept, while supporting an integrated interpretation of the CBD. It points to a wide array of benefit-sharing-related tools under the CBD that can be used to support indigenous and local communities' livelihoods in pursuing the convention's three objectives. The article also identifies other international processes – in the areas of intellectual property, health and climate change – in which these conceptual developments may have a significant influence.

**[Current Challenges for Addressing Poverty Alleviation Via Vicuña Management in Andean countries](#), by**

**Lichtenstein, G., September 2010, Biodiversity, Vol 11 No 1 & 2, pp. 19-24:** Vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*) are South American camelids, the commercial use of which has untapped poverty alleviation potential. Vicuña fibre is produced by extremely low income communities that inhabit the harsh environment of the high Andes in Argentina, Chile, Peru and Bolivia. At the other end of the world, affluent consumers are willing to pay high prices for apparel made of vicuña fibre. Vicuña management projects follow the logic of community-based wildlife management. The rationale for vicuña conservation through sustainable use is that commercial utilization of fibre obtained from live-shorn individuals will generate sufficient economic benefits to outweigh the costs of conservation, and contribute to community development and poverty alleviation. However, while conservation efforts have been extremely successful with vicuñas having recovered from the brink of extinction, the socio-economic achievements have thus far proved modest. Most such benefits are being captured by traders and international textile companies, rather than by local communities. In addition, the high market value of vicuña fibre has attracted a number of groups interested in its production. This threatens the conservation of this wild species, the exclusive rights of Andean communities and could undermine the spirit of the Vicuña Convention. This paper explores multiple-objective projects that address vicuña conservation and poverty alleviation and analyses the challenges that limit a more equitable distribution of benefits among stakeholders.

## Resources

**The following grant opportunities may be of interest in the PCLG:** Australia/Africa Community Grants (31 January); Eurasia Partnership Program in Georgia (20 January); European Commission projects in Belize (16 February and 17 March); the Right Livelihood Awards (01 March); European Commission to combat illegal logging in Gabon, Liberia, and Cameroon (14-22-23 March); and McKnight Foundation's Southeast Asia Program (01 June). Information about these and other grant opportunities is posted at Terra Viva Grants <http://www.terravivagrants.org>

**Fondation Ensemble - Call for proposals 2011:** The Foundation renews its call for proposals Sustainable Development and Job Creation. With this call for proposals the Foundation wishes, in particular, to support innovative initiatives that can respond to human and environmental needs expressed locally and that can promote the emergence of local, job-creating economic structures. In 2011, the Fondation Ensemble intends to concentrate its operations in eight countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Mozambique, Cambodia, India, Laos, Peru. Click [here](#) to download the call for proposals.

The **Schumacher College** is holding a Transformative Development Season of course early in the New Year. These courses will be excellent training opportunities for anyone working in the development sector, and are academically acknowledged by way of Master credits for anyone studying in this field. For more information click [here](#).

The **Master of Science in European Forestry Erasmus Mundus (MSc EF)** is provided by a consortium of seven well-known European universities. The MSc EF is an international double-degree programme, which has been acknowledged by the European Commission as a top quality European MSc under the Erasmus Mundus programme. The focus of the MSc EF is on the international dimensions of forest resource management and utilisation, supported by a sound understanding of ecological conditions and their dynamics in Europe. In addition to receiving a high quality education, you will enjoy the cultural and recreational opportunities of many European cities and nature. For more information click [here](#).

World Wildlife Fund is announcing the **2011 Kathryn Fuller Science for Nature Fellowships** to support doctoral and postdoctoral research on marine protected areas (MPAs) that shows promise to enhance scientific understanding of their ecological and social impacts and that will strengthen science-based conservation and policy in the following WWF-US priority marine regions: Bering Sea, Gulf of California, Mesoamerican Reef, Galapagos, Coastal East Africa and Coral Triangle. **The deadline for application submission is January 31, 2011.** For more information on the Fuller Doctoral Fellowship, please click [here](#). For more information on the Fuller Postdoctoral Fellowship, please click [here](#). For questions or further information, please contact [fullerfund@wwfus.org](mailto:fullerfund@wwfus.org)

**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 [here](#).

**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)

**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.

**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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