

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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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the forty-fourth 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 by the end of July.

Secretariat News

Biodiversity and Poverty: Ten Frequently Asked Questions – Ten Policy Implications: IIED together with PCLG members AWF, UNEP-WCMC and Birdlife International has recently produced a short paper intended to stimulate discussion about the linkages between biodiversity, conservation and poverty reduction. What do we know, what do we not know, and what do we need to know? These ten questions provide a quick—hence simplistic—insight into a complicated and convoluted issue. We would therefore be very interested in your feedback. Are these the right questions? And the right answers? What else should we be asking—and trying to answer—to better understand (and enhance) the biodiversity-poverty relationship? **Please send your ideas to pclg@iied.org**

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.** We have an upload limit of 2 MB per document, so please DO NOT send us documents larger than 2 MB as we will not be able to upload them on the PCLG website and they will clog up our inbox.

CAN YOU WRITE FOR BIOSOC? January 2011 saw the return of BioSoc — our bulletin highlighting new research and policy developments on the theme of biodiversity and society. This year we would like to give more exposure to research and writing from developing countries and invite you to contribute. **If you would like to draw attention to a recent publication — be it research findings, new policy, or conference**

proceedings — please get in touch. Depending on the level of interest we will publish the bulletin either monthly or bi-monthly. 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/biosoc.php>

Featured News

World Environment Day Celebrations Focus on Forests: Millions of people celebrated World Environment Day (WED) on 5 June 2011 around the theme, "Forests: Nature at Your Service," which highlights the ecosystem services provided by the world's forests. People across the world took part in WED activities, from litter clean-ups around Mount Everest to mini-marathons in India, the host country for 2011. In a message to mark the Day, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated, "no single day can transform development onto a sustainable path." However, looking towards the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20), he underlined that this year's edition of WED can communicate to those with influence in government and the private sector that it is time to fulfill the promises of the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. [More information](#)

GEF Establishes Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund: Following the decisions of the 40th meeting of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council, the GEF will operate a new fund to help developing countries to ratify and implement the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The fund is designed to support countries to build enabling activities to ratify the Protocol, as well as to finance projects at national and regional levels to promote technology transfer, private sector engagement, and the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources. The fund will also help CBD parties build capacity to ensure appropriate access and use of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources. [More information](#)

UNESCO Hosts Expert Meeting on IPBES: In June 2011 participants in a meeting on the future of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) exchanged views on the IPBES process and provided the basis for a workshop on the knowledge generation component of the Platform. The meeting was hosted by UNESCO, which also provided technical support. It convened representatives of scientific organizations, programmes and networks active in the field of biodiversity science, who exchanged views on the IPBES process. [More information](#)

CBD Announces Date and Venue of COP 11: The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has announced that the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) to the CBD will be held from 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. [More information](#)

News from PCLG Friends

The **Poverty and Environment Network (PEN)** is a collaborative research effort started by CIFOR in 2004 that aims to provide solid knowledge to policy makers, researchers, as well as conservation and development agencies to help them achieve better forest management and more pro poor outcomes. On 15th June 2011 CIFOR presented some of the preliminary results of PEN at a policy conference at the Royal Society in London. Their findings included:

- On average, more than one fifth of total household income comes from forests – although there is a big variation across sites;
- Forests are almost as important for rich households as they are for poor households – although poor households tend to rely more on forests for subsistence uses, while rich households rely more on

cash forest products;

- Deforestation is positively correlated with income (non-poor households deforest more than the poor households), both within sites, and across sites;
- On average men bring as many forests products to the households as women do – although there is a strong gender difference across activities;
- Forests do not play a primary role as a safety net, their main role being instead as a regular source of income;
- State-owned forests are the most important source of forest income for all households in the survey, playing a more important role than private or community-owned forests.

For more information on PEN, visit its [website](#)

For the period 2008-2011 **WWF-UK** has enjoyed a Partnership Programme Agreement (PPA) with DFID worth £13.29m. The purpose of the work undertaken with these funds has been to strengthen and build good environmental governance in order to ensure positive environmental impacts and the well-being of people, especially poor and marginalised groups. In response to an independent external evaluation of this body of work, WWF-UK's senior managers developed a number of commitments based on recommendations in the evaluation:

- Programmes supported by WWF-UK, with a lifetime value of over £500,000, will be designed on the basis of thorough situational analysis (biological, social, economic and political) and have developed a clear theory of change and results chain, and robust monitoring and evaluation plan with quantified targets.
- All programmes in the future PPA portfolio will be able to demonstrate (i) the extent of impact on poor people and the environment based on qualitative and quantitative evidence, (ii) value for money, and (iii) lessons learned about what does and doesn't work.
- All of WWF-UK's work will be implemented in line with WWF's internal policies, including those on indigenous peoples, poverty and conservation, and gender.
- All programmes will be implementing plans that include monitoring, evaluation, learning and communication as a core part of WWF-UK's day-to-day programme management.

Amongst other things, this PPA lent specific support to the generation of a WWF Policy on Poverty and Conservation, which identifies and clarifies a number of poverty-environment linkages important to the WWF network, and a WWF Climate Adaptation Coordination Strategy 2010-2013, which sees the need to integrate community and ecosystem approaches to adaptation, stressing the value of ecosystems services to people, especially the poor. [More information](#)

The Gorilla Organization helped send a group of women from four villages in the eastern DRC to India to take part in a unique initiative to promote sustainable development and support gorilla conservation efforts in the Virungas National Park. The women have now returned home after learning the skills they need to become solar power engineers and sustainable energy ambassadors. [More information](#)

The waters around the Babuyan Islands and Bohol sea are one of the key marine biodiversity areas in the Philippines. Recognizing the critical need to protect marine life and foster local stewardship of it, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines has joined hands with **CREE** to promote community conservation of the area's marine biodiversity. Among other activities, CREE will work directly with fisherfolk, coastal communities, local government officials, students, and also youth camps to educate them on responsible human-cetacean interaction through workshops teaching guidelines on necessary behavior in marine environments. [More information](#)

An update from **Blue Ventures'** most recent accomplishments:

- Blue Ventures has recently won the prestigious Buckminster Fuller Challenge award for its work to protect marine resources and improve the livelihoods of poor coastal communities in Madagascar. [Read more](#)
- Blue Ventures has carried out a study together with researchers from the University of British Columbia's Sea Around Us Project. Findings from this study highlight that fish catches in Madagascar over

the last half-century are double official reports, and much of that fish is being caught by unregulated traditional fishers or accessed cheaply by foreign fishing vessels. [Read more](#)

- A marine turtle festival started in the Velondriake Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) in May to raise awareness of marine turtle biology and conservation. The festival forms part of Blue Ventures' social marketing strategy. [Read more](#)

Village Enterprise has launched a new website and logo: www.villageenterprise.org. "This new look helps current and potential donors get a very vivid, clear sense of what we do and how we do it," notes CEO Dianne Calvi. "The website spells out our theory of change, introduces some of our incredible entrepreneurs, shares impact data, and is visually compelling." This past year the organization introduced new elements, such as business group savings programs, enhanced poverty targeting, measurement, and evaluation, extension of pro-poor technology, and expansion of its innovative integration of conservation and sustainable livelihoods. For more information, visit www.villageenterprise.org or e-mail info@villageenterprise.org

How can forest carbon projects be implemented in a way that they help mitigate climate change, foster the protection of biodiversity, and ensure that the interests of the local population are secured? The study "[Investing in Forest Carbon Projects – Guidelines for companies and private investors](#)", published by **OroVerde and the Global Nature Fund**, tries to shed light on these questions. A growing number of companies invest in forest carbon projects – the guidelines therefore address an issue that is drawing more and more attention.

The WorldFish Center and Conservation International have recently published "Blue Frontiers: Managing the environmental costs of aquaculture". This new analysis investigates the environmental impact of the world's major aquaculture production systems and species, and offers a first-ever global assessment of trends and impacts of cultivated seafood, along with recommendations for policy makers. [More information](#)

The newest issue of **BALANCED Newsletter: Population, Health, Environment and Livelihoods** is now available for download. This issue includes four articles that focus on the topic of Population, Health and Environment (PHE) and livelihoods. The articles describe how livelihoods have been integrated into environmental conservation in:

- World Conservation Society's COMACO project in Zambia;
- Lem Ethiopia's livelihoods-based integrated approach to food security;
- Blue Ventures' locally managed marine area in Velondriake, Madagascar;
- The PHE Ethiopia network members, working at the national scale in Ethiopia.

New Organisations in our database

New Nature Foundation (NNF): The New Nature Foundation strives to conserve wild animals and wild places through education, empowerment, and an emphasis on creative solutions that promote people living in harmony with nature. Its current work focuses on protecting Kibale National Park in Western Uganda.

Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA): The Uganda Wildlife Authority was established in August 1996 by the Uganda Wildlife Statute, which merged the Uganda National Parks and the Game Department. UWA is in charge of 10 National Parks, 12 Wildlife Reserves, 14 Wildlife Sanctuaries and provides guidance for 5 Community Wildlife Areas. UWA's mission is to conserve and sustainably manage the wildlife and Protected Areas of Uganda in partnership with neighbouring communities and stakeholders for the benefit of the people of Uganda and the global community.

Elephant Conservation Network (ECN): Elephant Conservation Network is a small non-government organisation located in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, that works in partnership with local people and other NGOs, as well as local and national government agencies. ECN's ultimate aim is to ensure a future for wild elephants and their ecosystem in Thailand. ECN's immediate aim is to find a sustainable solution to human-

elephant conflict through protection and mitigation measures.

Forthcoming Events

Indigenous Peoples, Marginalized Populations and Climate Change: United Nations University (UNU), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are co-organising two workshops on "Indigenous Peoples, Marginalized Populations and Climate Change", which will take place on **19-21 July 2011, in Mexico City, Mexico**. The workshops will bring together representatives of indigenous peoples and marginalized populations, natural and social scientists, and other experts in relevant domains. The aim of the workshops is to identify, compile and analyse relevant indigenous and local observations, knowledge and practices related to understanding climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation.

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.

13th Annual BIOECON Conference: "Resource Economics, Biodiversity Conservation and Development": The Scientific Partners of BIOECON are pleased to announce the Thirteenth Annual International BIOECON conference on "Resource Economics, Biodiversity Conservation and Development". The conference will be held at the Villa Barton of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, **Geneva, Switzerland on 11-13 September 2011**. The conference takes a broad interest in the area of resources, development and conservation, including but not limited to: plant genetic resources and food security issues, deforestation and development, fisheries and institutional adaptation, development and conservation, wildlife conservation and park pricing, international trade and regulation, and most other issues dealing with living resources.

25th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB): The 25th annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology will be held from **5-9 December 2011 in Auckland, New Zealand**. The theme of the meeting is "Engaging Society in Conservation". Biodiversity around the world continues to decline at an ever-increasing pace, yet much of society carries on business as usual. How can conservation biologists engage with society to achieve positive outcomes for conservation without compromising our scientific rigour or integrity?

Earth Summit 2012: On **4th - 6th June 2012, the UNCSD will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**. Also referred to as the Rio+20 or the Earth Summit 2012 due to the initial conference held in Rio in 1992, the objectives of the Summit are: to secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development; to assess progress towards internationally agreed goals on sustainable development and to address new and emerging challenges. The Summit will also focus on two specific themes: a green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, and an institutional framework for sustainable development.

World Conservation Congress: The 2012 World Conservation Congress will be held from **6th to 15th September 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea**. The Call for Contributions for the Forum segment of the Congress (7-11 September) is now open. The call will remain open until 15 October 2011 and you will have

until this date to identify partners and develop your proposal. The system is currently available in English. The French and Spanish versions will follow shortly.

New Publications in our database

[Taking Steps toward Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management - An Introductory Guide](#), by **UNEP, 2011, UNEP, Kenya, 68 pp.**: This report highlights how planners and policy makers in local, national and regional governments can adopt an ecosystem-based management (EBM) approach to help ensure sustainable development for marine and coastal environments and the livelihoods that depend on them.

Resources

Job Opening: IIED is currently advertising for a full-time Principal Researcher to develop a programme of research, and to drive internal collaboration and external partnership building, in optimising IIED's international influence for sustainable food and agriculture. The post is being advertised on the IIED website at this [link](#). **The closing date for applications is Wednesday 27 July 2011.**

Land and Livelihoods Intern: The United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (unep-wcmc.org) is a collaboration between UNEP, the world's foremost intergovernmental environmental organization, and WCMC, a Cambridge UK-based charity. The Centre is seeking a motivated undergraduate student available over the summer and eager to gain work experience relevant to international environment and development. He or she would provide organisational and communications support through July and August in preparation for UNEP-WCMC's contribution to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Conference of the Parties, which will take place in October. He or she would gain exposure to UNEP-WCMC's worldwide technical work on Land and Livelihoods and build transferable skills. Candidates who can work in French, Spanish or another UN language and willing to commit at least 3 days a week preferred. Interested applicants should send a CV and letter of motivation to Jessica.Smith@unep-wcmc.org at the soonest opportunity.

GEF Publishes Guide for Civil Society Organizations: The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has released a new version of its "[A to Z of the GEF for Civil Society Organizations](#)," a guide that describes the GEF's structure, partnership and strategic objectives and provides guidance on how civil society organizations (CSOs) can access GEF funding. This guide is intended to help CSOs and other partners understand how to work with the reformed GEF as it details the procedures and opportunities that CSOs can invest in at the project level, and how to engage and participate in the decision-making process at national and global levels. It also describes GEF's structure and focal area strategies, as well as the GEF's Small Grants Programme.

Free Conservation Biology textbook available: Oxford University Press has made a Conservation Biology textbook freely available: Sodhi, N. S. and P. R. Ehrlich (Eds.) Conservation Biology for All. Oxford University Press (2010). Download the 350 pp book (6.4 MB) for free at: http://s3.amazonaws.com/mongabay/conservation-biology-for-all/Conservation_Biology_for_All.pdf

“What do you think should be the two or three highest priority political outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), scheduled for Rio de Janeiro in June 2012?”: The Natural Resources Forum, a quarterly journal issued by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and published by Wiley-Blackwell, is inviting your views on the above question for the Viewpoints section of the November 2011 issue. The section offers a platform for academics, practitioners and experts to share their perspectives and to feature these perspectives alongside other responses in the journal. Each entry should be 250 words or less addressing the question. When submitting a contribution, please do so in MS Word format and provide your name, title, affiliation and contact details. **The deadline for submission to the Viewpoints issue is: 15 July 2011.** Contributions should be sent to: nrforum@un.org

Stakeholders invited to submit contributions and inputs for Rio+20: The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) has invited all Member States, relevant UN system organizations and relevant stakeholders to provide inputs and contributions in writing by 1 November 2011 for inclusion in a draft Conference outcome document. The Conference Bureau has requested contributions from stakeholders, reminding that inputs must cover the objective and the two themes of the conference as specified in [General Assembly Resolution A/64/236](#). Kindly submit your

contributions to the Secretariat by e-mail at uncsd2012@un.org, or by fax at +1 212 963 1267 **before the 1 November 2011 deadline.**

The **Verde Ventures Fund (VVF)** at Conservation International is inviting applications from Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SME's) in the following four key sectors for consideration for investment: Coffee and Cocoa; Fisheries; Clean Energy; and Africa. VVF utilizes a "blended capital" approach of technical assistance and loans and has successfully invested over \$15 million in a range of SME's in Central and South America, Africa, and Madagascar and serves markets as diverse as coffee, tourism, fisheries, and clean energy. [Read more](#)

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

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.

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

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

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