

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.

March 2011 - ISSUE No. 040

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the fortieth 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 March.

Secretariat News

FOCUS ON HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT: CAN YOU HELP? At last year's PCLG workshop in Uganda human-wildlife conflict emerged as one of the critical issues affecting conservation-poverty relationships on the ground. We have joined forces with CARE International to explore this issue, focusing in particular on sustainable financing of problem animal control. **We are interested to commission a number of case studies that document different approaches. Please let us know of any suitable case studies you are aware of and we will generate a list from which to commission some more detailed analysis.** Please let us know the following information: the country; whether the approach is associated with a particular location/protected area or used nationally; whether the approach is associated with particular species or generally applicable; what kind of mechanism is employed (e.g. physical barriers; animal removal/culling; compensation scheme; insurance scheme; who administers the scheme (e.g. conservation NGO, local government, private sector etc). Please send your suggestions 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 click [here](#)

THANK YOU! During the month of February we conducted a survey to understand how to improve the PCLG website. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to answer our survey. Your opinions will inform the redevelopment of the PCLG website. The new PCLG website will be launched in autumn 2011.

Featured News

United Nations Declare UN-Decade for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020: Following a recommendation of the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) at their conference in October 2010, the UN General Assembly declared 2011 – 2020 the UN-Decade of Biodiversity. By doing so, the United Nations emphasized the ecological, economic, cultural, social and aesthetic dimension of biodiversity and its overall significance for sustainable development. The Decade builds on the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity and is intended to support the implementation of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity that was adopted by the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10) in October in Nagoya. The full text of the notification can be viewed [here](#)

In February 2011 Barry Gardiner (UK MP) launched [iPoak.org](#) – a forum to instigate environmental debate and to influence policy. Each week, iPoak posts every question on energy, climate change or the environment that has been asked in the UK parliament along with the ministers' written answers. iPoak.org wishes to engage beyond its origins in the United Kingdom and will particularly welcome contributions from policy makers and policy influencers from around the globe. Contributions can be in many formats; video posts, photographs or sound recordings of the natural world will be just as welcome as written articles or downloads of new legislation. [Read more](#)

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has issued a notification to underscore funding-related information regarding the revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). The notification recalls that Parties should review their NBSAP in line with the Strategic Plan, and highlights that the Government of Japan has established a Japan Biodiversity Fund aimed at assisting such revision through regional and sub-regional workshops. These activities will complement activities financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) at the national level. Up to US\$500,000 per GEF-eligible country is available under the GEF-5 Biodiversity Focal Area Set Aside to support the process of revising and updating NBSAPs. [Read more](#)

A decision on IPBES (Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) was adopted in February by the 26th session of the UNEP Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) in Nairobi. The decision endorses the "Busan Outcome" and requests UNEP to convene a plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for IPBES in 2011. The plenary meeting will focus on deciding operational arrangements for IPBES, such as the rules and procedures, and the governance structure, and will pave the way for making progress on the IPBES programme of work at subsequent sessions on the plenary. UNEP will work in close cooperation with UNESCO, FAO and UNDP and in consultation with other relevant stakeholders to ensure that IPBES is established in the best possible way to meet the needs of policy makers for the best available information on biodiversity and ecosystem services. [Read more](#)

News from PCLG Friends

The Sixteenth Poverty Environment Partnership Meeting (PEP 16) was held on 16 - 18 February 2011 in Vienna, Austria. The overarching theme was "Supporting nationally owned Green Economies to achieve the MDGs and respond to climate change." While the first day focused on economy and policy aspects of a Green Economy, including approaches and tools to factor in the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity into development, the second day was dedicated to sharing knowledge and experiences concerning governance and institutional aspects. The last day of the three-day meeting offered an opportunity for exchange on policy and implementation processes at development agency level and ended with setting out future PEP work. [Read more](#)

The 9th RRI Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change, co-organized with Forest Peoples Programme, Tebtebba and Forest Trends, took place in London, UK on 8 February 2011. The Dialogue drew together a number of key actors involved in REDD, including representatives from Indigenous Peoples organizations, governments of UK Mexico and Norway, the banking sector, NGOs and researchers. The consensus emerging from the discussion was that REDD should not proceed before clear safeguards are put in place. Gregory Barker, British minister of State, Department for Energy and Climate Change outlined that before REDD projects take place, it is crucial to assess drivers of deforestation, secure clarity of land tenure and ensure equitable benefit-sharing for Indigenous Peoples. To that end, he assured that the UK government will apply safeguards in bilateral REDD agreements with Indigenous Peoples and local communities. [Read more](#)

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has announced two projects aimed at conserving forests and promoting sustainable development in remote rural communities in Latin America and Asia as the 2011 recipients of the Sasakawa Prize. The 2011 theme of the Prize was "Forests for People and for Green Growth," in support of the 2011 International Year of Forests, and highlighting the central role of forests in the pursuit of a global Green Economy. The US\$200,000 cash prize is awarded annually to a grassroots organization judged to have made the

most outstanding contribution to the protection and management of the environment and to social development. [Read more](#)

CPALI works to aid "conservation refugees" displaced from the Makira Protected Area (MPA). We teach farmers how to intercrop native trees on family farms and in abandoned pastures that support native species of silkworms. The trees build up the border forest around the MPA while allowing farmers to replace lost income through wild silk production. In the past year CPALI has been working to establish markets to source its "eco-friendly", sustainably produced, non-spun textile (www.source4style.com; www.materialconnexion.com) to architectural, home design and [fashion industries](#). [Read more](#)

Blue Ventures has just entered the 'visualizing the value of nature challenge', an online competition being run by UNEP and the TEEB network. Blue Ventures' entry, entitled "celebrating natural capital in the Mozambique Channel" focuses on highlighting the ecosystem services used by the Vezo people of southwest Madagascar. You can see the full interactive visualisation at this [link](#). If you'd like to show your support for Blue Ventures' entry please click 'like' on the Visualizing.org website.

What started out as an attempt by a small trust (Elephant Energy) to assist common property community based organisations or conservancies in the Caprivi Region of Namibia to deliver a useful product to individual members (e.g. cutting edge micro-solar torches), has grown into something much bigger. In the article "**Rural women alleviate poverty in Namibian and Zambian conservation areas with the help of renewable energy technologies**" rural women report how the use of renewable energy technologies have helped them improve their quality of life.

Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL) had a turning over ceremony of fifteen eco-stoves to women of three communities who are mainly fishmongers. The stoves are meant to help reduce health hazard and the pressure on forest trees and mangroves within the Lake PISO nature reserve in Grand Cape Mount County. The Society also established three Nature Clubs in 3 selected communities as a way of building a foundation for future conservationists. The pupils are between the ages of 7-18 years and also work with the Community Science club established in collecting important data along the beach of the Atlantic. [Read more](#)

Sustainable livelihoods are a high priority for Pacific Island communities and governments alike. Recognizing that the performance of sustainable livelihoods approaches in the Pacific needs to be substantially improved, **Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI) and partners in 9 Pacific Island countries are keen to share work on community livelihoods carried out over more than a decade and specifically research over the last 5 years**. The work consists of an initial [review of experiences](#), a [community/local facilitator directed tool for assessing viability of livelihood options](#) and a [report](#) containing useful publications, brief review of some approaches and a policy brief. The whole has also been uploaded as a [website](#) that in addition includes a list of useful references and links and a database of projects and experiences.

Wetlands International - Supporting livelihood activities, restoration and conservation activities via a 'bio-rights' small grant: Through the Bio-rights programme, two villages in Thailand have been granted support to their livelihoods, including repair of fishing gear and purchase of new gear and equipment. [Read more](#)

New Organisations in our database

Pole Pole Foundation (POPOF): The Pole Pole Foundation (POPOF) is a Non-Governmental Organization created in 1992 by workers in and around the Kahuzi Biega National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Pole Pole is Swahili, meaning slow and steady. The objective of POPOF is the long-term protection and conservation of the wildlife in Kahuzi Biega National Park, particularly the eastern lowland gorilla, through reduction of human pressure on its natural resources and wildlife by involving and supporting communities in the vicinity of the park. This area of the Congo is the last remaining habitat of the eastern lowland gorilla and other wildlife species.

Ghana Wildlife Division: The Wildlife Division (WD) is one of the three divisions of the reconstituted Ghana Forestry Commission. It is responsible for all wildlife in the country and administers 16 Wildlife-Protected Areas (PAs), 5 coastal Ramsar Sites and the Accra and Kumasi Zoos. It also assists with the running of 2 community-owned Wildlife Sanctuaries. The WD's goal is to ensure conservation, sustainable management and development of Ghana's wildlife resources for socio-economic benefit to all segments of society.

Centre for Education, Research & Conservation of Primates and Nature (CERCOPAN): Founded in 1995 by Canadian Zena Tooze, CERCOPAN is now one of the leading environmental non-profit, non-government organisations working for conservation in Cross River State, Nigeria, with excellent relationships with government at both state and federal levels, and with a support organisation in the UK. CERCOPAN's primary areas of work are primate rehabilitation, environmental education, community rainforest conservation, and research.

Forthcoming Events

Counting on the Environment: The contribution of forests to rural livelihoods: CIFOR's Poverty and Environment Network project (PEN) will host the conference 'Counting on the Environment: The contribution of forests to rural livelihoods' on **15 June 2011, at the Royal Society, London, UK**. This research policy conference aims to increase awareness about the critical links between poverty and the environment by presenting new research findings and bringing together researchers, policy makers, and practitioners. An intended outcome of the conference is to help putting the environment more firmly onto the poverty agenda, and to strengthen the case for more systematic data collection on the way in which poor people rely on forests.

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.

25th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB): The 25th annual meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology will be held from November **28th - December 2nd 2011 in Christchurch, 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?

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 UN-REDD Programme Strategy 2011-2015, by UN REDD Programme, 2011, UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, 28 pp.: The UN-REDD Programme's first five-year strategy for 2011-2015 provides a road map for increased support to UN-REDD partner countries for activities related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, including conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of carbon stocks (REDD+). The Strategy outlines the Programme's overall vision and mission, namely to support countries' efforts towards REDD and transform their forest sectors so as to contribute to human well-being, and meet climate change mitigation and adaptation aspirations. It also includes the 2011-2015 objective to promote the elaboration and implementation of national REDD+ strategies to achieve REDD+ readiness. The Strategy defines six key work areas for Programme support: measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) and monitoring; national REDD+ governance; stakeholder engagement; multiple benefits of forests and REDD+; management of REDD+ payments; and REDD+ as a catalyst for transformations to a green economy. The Strategy highlights the following objectives: increasing the number of countries that receive support; creating a new financial modality; and scaling up coordination with strategic partners.

Year in Review 2010: The Convention on Biological Diversity, by The Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2011, CBD, Montreal, 60 pp.: The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has released the electronic version of the publication "The Convention on Biological Diversity: Year in Review 2010." The publication includes: an introduction by CBD Executive Secretary Ahmed Djoghlaif on the topic, "2010: an historical year for the biodiversity family and the beginning of a new era for living in harmony with nature into the future;" brief "snapshots" of collective action in 2010, including highlights of official government launches of the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) and celebrations around the world; and overviews of the launch of Global Biodiversity Outlook 3, of the

outcomes of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) to the CBD, and of the adoption of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (COP/MOP 5) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Resources

Members of the PCLG may find interest in the following grant opportunities: Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (11 March); Fondation Ensemble - Small Grants (11 March); Nestle Prize in Creating Shared Value (30 June); USAID - Andean Amazon (09 July); Christensen Fund (31 August & 15 Sept.); and Efico Fund (01 Sept). These and other funding notices are posted in the [Terra Viva Grants Directory](#).

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](#)

The **Fondation d'entreprise Hermès** is furthering its commitment to the support of local skills and biodiversity, with a call for expert research projects and field initiatives titled "[Biodiversity and local knowledge: Promoting innovation in producer/consumer interfaces](#)". As part of its mandate to promote biodiversity and local skills, the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès is focusing on how the knowledge and expertise involved in local agriculture can help preserve and maintain biodiversity.

Funding Opportunities for Small Scale Initiatives – French GEF: 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 can be found [here](#)

MSc Anthropology, Environment and Development, UCL: Applying biological and social anthropological approaches to the study of environment and development, this MSc focuses on implications of changing environment for production systems and human welfare, on sustainable use of natural resources in developing countries, and on environmental and welfare impacts of changing patterns of resource use with development. Integrating natural and social science schools of thought with methodological and practical dimensions of field work for the dissertation, this programme is an ideal training ground for any students hoping to go on to work with government, national or international NGOs or who wish to conduct further PhD research in the fields of environment and / or development. For further details contact Caroline Garaway (c.garaway@ucl.ac.uk) or visit the course's [website](#)

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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