
Secretariat News

Are you going to the World Conservation Congress? IIED is organizing a workshop in collaboration with IUCN, UNEP WCMC and the African Wildlife Foundation focusing on lessons learned in linking conservation and poverty alleviation. The first half of the workshop will involve presentations from some of the big research and policy initiatives conducted over the past decade. The second half of the workshop will highlight the experiences of organisations linking conservation and poverty on the ground. If any PCLG members would be interested to present their work in this session please let us know via pclg@iied.org.

It has now been a month since we launched a new version of the PCLG website

(<http://povertyandconservation.info>). We still welcome your feedback on how we could further improve it. Please send your comments to pclg@iied.org.

Other news:

Probably of interest to UK members only, this year we would like to enter a PCLG team into the Great Gorilla Run. This takes place on Saturday the 22nd of September 2012 and is a 7km route around London and is organized by The Gorilla Organisation – an active member of PCLG. To become a gorilla runner you have to pay a registration fee of £80 (in return for which you get your very own gorilla costume!) and pledge to raise £400 or more in sponsorship – see <http://www.greatgorillarun.org/> for more details. Please let us know if you would like to join the team!

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? 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/pages/pclg-newsletters>

Members News

“Beauty and the Beef: Achieving Compatibility Between Wildlife Conservation and Livestock Production” is a new video by the **World Conservation Society (WCS)** examining a dilemma faced by many African farmers, particularly those living in transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs). International trade practices preclude them from farming cattle for meat export in the same area as wildlife because of disease concerns. If they want to export their beef to wealthy nations, they will have to get rid of wildlife species like buffalo or put up environmentally damaging veterinary fences. What should they choose: protecting the wildlife and pursuing opportunities related to ecotourism and trophy hunting, or turning their back on conservation and selling their cattle into the lucrative beef export market? The truth is that there is a win-win solution. All that is needed to enable this potentially bright future for millions of African cattle farmers is a small change in attitude on the part of wealthy trading nations. The video (22 minutes) is viewable via WCS’s AHEAD website www.wcs-ahead.org, and a limited number of DVDs are available upon request. Contact: Shirley Atkinson satkinson@wcs.org

Forests Peoples Programme is pleased to inform you of a new publication titled “Forest Peoples: Numbers across the world” (http://www.forestpeoples.org/sites/fpp/files/publication/2012/05/forest-peoples-numbers-across-world-final_0.pdf). This new report provides estimated figures for indigenous and forest peoples’ populations in countries and regions across the globe. It seeks to raise awareness of the existence of peoples who primarily depend on forests for their livelihoods, and to enhance their visibility as key actors and rights-holders in the management and use of forests and forest resources.

Village Enterprise is excited to announce the opening of their new office, located in Hoima, Uganda. The Hoima Office is the base of continued operations of their Budongo Conservation Venture, and

expansion of Village Enterprise's core operations into Western Uganda. Working in partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute-Uganda, Budongo Conservation Field Station, and other conservationists over the last four years, Village Enterprise has incorporated conservation trainings and practices into their microenterprise development program designed to raise income levels and promote conservation-friendly businesses. For more information go to: <http://villageenterprise.org/>

Working closely with partners in Brazil and elsewhere, **IIED** will host an information-sharing event on 16-17 June in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in conjunction with Earth Summit 2012. **Fair Ideas** (<http://iied.org/governance/key-issues/strategic-planning/fair-ideas-solutions-for-sustainable-planet>) will open up a space for researchers and practitioners working for a greener, fairer world to add important knowledge, experience and momentum to the official summit. Fair Ideas will address four broad themes:

1. **Shaping Sustainable Development Goals** will point to practical ways in which the goals could work for specific countries and sectors.
2. **Urbanisation that improves lives** will identify examples of good practice and share ideas for promoting wider change.
3. **Business models for sustainability** will highlight examples that break the mould from a range of sectors, which can be replicated and learnt from.
4. **Transforming economic systems for people and planet** will showcase experiences in transforming systems to both reduce ecological footprints and more equitably distribute benefits.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has invited parties, international organizations, indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders to submit views on the need for, and possible development of, additional mechanisms to enable CBD parties to meet their commitments under the Convention and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Submissions are invited before 1 June 2012, to be compiled by the Secretariat for consideration by the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its 11th meeting, to be held in October 2012, in Hyderabad, India. (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2012/ntf-2012-046-sp-en.pdf>)

WWF are pleased to announce the publication of a manual titled "Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Planning for Mangrove Systems" (<http://www.worldwildlife.org/climate/Publications/WWFBinaryitem27746.pdf>). Drawing on pilot activities in Cameroon, Tanzania, and Fiji under the GEF-funded "Coastal Resilience to Climate Change" project, WWF has developed a methodology that can be used worldwide for assessing the vulnerability of mangrove ecosystems to the impacts of climate change (particularly sea level rise) and for developing adaptation strategies. The manual brings together a wealth of on-the-ground experience and scientific knowledge to help conservation practitioners, protected area managers and other stakeholders who are responsible for protecting and managing the world's mangrove forests in a changing climate.

Conservation and Poverty News Stories

Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Project Launched - A new project, titled the "Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Project", has been launched to address the narrowing variety of foods in people's diets. The project is coordinated by Bioversity International, under the leadership of Brazil, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey. The \$35 million project will conduct research on biodiversity's role in nutrition, and provide information on the nutritional and health benefits of traditional food sources to the four partner countries. The results will be used to enhance the development of policies and regulatory frameworks that promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of traditional foods, which are often more nutritious and better adapted to local environments than imported foods. More information (<http://www.bioversityinternational.org/index.php?id=5597>)

Time to change tack on conservation, by Alex Awiti - The contemporary policy and practice of conservation in Africa through isolated national parks and reserves is a relic of colonial romanticism. With the rapid population growth and the concomitant land use change, the paradox at the heart of contemporary conservation is unraveling. The chickens are coming home to roost. Long-term data for 69 large mammal species from 78 protected areas in Africa revealed a 59 per cent decline in large mammal population between 1970 and 2005. Closer home, large mammal populations in Masai Mara National reserve have declined by over one third between 1977 and 2009. Full article (<http://www.the-star.co.ke/opinions/dr-alex-awiti/75250-time-to-change-tack-on-conservation>).

Bird-watching can help boost ecotourism industry, UNEP - Bird-watching, a popular hobby around the world, can present significant economic opportunities for countries through sustainable tourism, the United Nations environment agency said recently, stressing that States should increase efforts to

support this growing industry. Full article
(<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=41970&Cr=tourism&Cr1=>)

After several years of international negotiations, the **[Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services \(IPBES\)](#)** - whose prime aim is to provide a common platform for science, government, and the private sector to exchange research on the economic value of ecosystem services - was established by more than 90 Governments in Panama City on 21 April 2012. Although many organizations and initiatives contribute to improving the dialogue between policy-makers and the scientific community in this field, IPBES is established as a new platform, recognised by both the scientific and policy communities to address the existing gaps and strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services. More information (<http://www.ipbes.net/news-centre11/229-ipbes-established-today-biodiversity-won.html>)

The latest edition of WWF's Living Planet Report was released in May 2012 - The biennial report, produced in collaboration with the Zoological Society of London and the Global Footprint Network, is the world's leading, science-based analysis on the health of our only planet and the impact of human activity. It projects that by 2030 humanity will require the equivalent of two planets to sustain current levels of population growth and resource depletion. Full report (http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/lpr2012_for_desktop_printing.pdf)

The fourth meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation (WGRI 4) of the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** was convened in Montreal, Canada, from 7-11 May 2012. WGRI 4 adopted eight recommendations that will be submitted to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD, to be held from 8-19 October 2012, in Hyderabad, India. The recommendations address: the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; the Strategy for Resource Mobilization; the Financial Mechanism (GEF); the message to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20); cooperation with other conventions; biodiversity for poverty eradication and development; engagement of business; and South-South cooperation (<http://www.iisd.ca/vol09/enb09573e.html>)

Blogs

Nature brains: the key to protecting grasslands? Darci Palmquist – In February 2012, a paper titled "Measuring the Impacts of Community-based Grasslands Management in Mongolia's Gobi" was published in the online journal PLoS ONE. The Nature Conservancy led study looked at whether a Gobi Desert grasslands conservation project (led jointly by the governments of Mongolia and Germany) had any measurable benefits not just for biodiversity, but human well-being as well. In this blog, Darci Palmquist summarises the fascinating findings from the study. Read the full blog (<http://blog.nature.org/2012/02/nature-brains-the-key-to-protecting-grasslands/>)

Where honey means money and climate means change, by Mike Shanahan - Ha Thi Ngan is a young woman with a buzz about her. She's a beekeeper and her story provides a snapshot of the way poverty, nature and climate can combine to affect lives and set questions with no easy answers. Read the full blog (<http://www.iied.org/where-honey-means-money-climate-means-change>)

New publications in the PCLG bibliography database

Drivers and Socioeconomic Impacts of Tourism Participation in Protected Areas

By Liu, W., Vogt, C.A., Luo, J., He, G., Frank, K.A. and Liu, J.; April 2012

The authors, in a multi-year study in Wolong Nature Reserve, China, followed a representative sample of 220 local households from 1999 to 2007 to investigate the diverse benefits that these households received from recent development of nature-based tourism in the area. The results reveal the effects of local households' livelihood assets on the likelihood to participate directly in tourism. In general, households with greater financial physical human and social capitals and less natural capital were more likely to participate in tourism activities. Authors also found that residents in households participating in tourism tended to perceive more non-financial benefits in addition to more negative environmental impacts of tourism compared with households not participating in tourism. These findings suggest that socioeconomic impact analysis and change monitoring should be included in nature-based tourism management systems for long-term sustainability of protected areas.

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0035420>

Measuring the Impacts of Community-based Grasslands Management in Mongolia's Gobi

By Leisher, C., Hess, S., Boucher, T.M., van Beukering, P. and Sanjayan, M.; February 2012

The study assessed a donor-funded grassland management project designed to create both conservation and livelihood benefits in the rangelands of Mongolia's Gobi desert. The authors used remote sensing Normalized Differential Vegetation Index data from 1982 to 2009 to compare project grazing sites to matched control sites before and after the project's implementation. Overall, the project generated measurable benefits to both nature and people. The key factors underlying project achievements that may be replicable by other conservation projects include the community-driven approach of the project, knowledge exchanges within and between communities inside and outside the country, a project-supported local community organizer in each district, and strong community leadership. <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0030991>

Striking a Balance: Socioeconomic Development and Conservation in Grassland through Community-Based Zoning

By Leisher, C., Brouwer, R., Boucher, T.M., Vogelij, R., Bainbridge, W. R. and Sanjayan, M.; December 2011

In this paper, the authors assessed a 10-year Umgano grassland conservation and poverty reduction project in KwaZulu-Natal Province in South Africa. The project uses community-based spatial planning to balance the conversion of its lower-conservation value grasslands to a timber plantation, while conserving higher-value grasslands for heritage purposes and managed livestock grazing. Zoned management of the Umgano area had resulted in between 9% and 17% greater average peak production in the grassland areas compared to control sites. There was also a 21% gain in incomes for the roughly one hundred people employed by the forestry efforts, when compared to others in their village. Community based spatial zoning is an overlooked tool for balancing conservation and development but may require, as the authors found in Umgano, certain critical factors including strong local leadership, an accountable financial management mechanism to distribute income, outside technical expertise for the zoning design, and community support.

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0028807>

Forthcoming Events

Earth Summit 2012 - On **20 - 22 June 2012**, the UNCSO 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.

<http://www.earthsummit2012.org>

World Conservation Congress - The 2012 World Conservation Congress will be held from **6th to 15th September 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea**. Up to 8,000 leaders from governments, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, businesses, UN agencies and social organizations will discuss, debate and decide on solutions for the world's most pressing environmental and development issues. The Congress starts with the five-day Forum

(http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/forum_exhibition/forum/), a conservation debate hub that is open to all, featuring knowledge cafés, workshops, training courses, poster sessions and five high-profile World Leaders' Dialogues. The Forum then leads into the three-day Members' Assembly (http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/members_assembly), IUCN's highest decision-making body and a unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs. You can register now (http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/get_involved/congress_registration/) for the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

<http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/index.cfm>

The Scientific Partners of BIOECON are pleased to announce the **14th Annual International BIOECON conference on "Resource Economics, Biodiversity Conservation and Development"**. The conference will be held in the historical premises of **Kings College Cambridge, England on 18-20 September 2012**. The conference will be of interest to both researchers and policy makers working on biodiversity policy, especially natural resources in developing countries. 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, and international trade and regulation. The conference will have sessions on economic development and biodiversity conservation, and on institutions and institutional change pertaining to the management of living resources.

http://www.bioecon-network.org/pages/14th_2012.html

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

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

<http://www.conservation.org/sites/verdeventures/Pages/partnerlanding.aspx>).

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.

www.ruffordsmallgrants.org

Other Opportunities

MSc in Environmental Governance, UN University - The United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) is now accepting online applications to its Master of Science in Environmental Governance with Specialization in Biodiversity programme for the 2012 academic year. The programme draws on UNU-IAS's long-standing reputation for excellence in policy-oriented research for sustainable development. Graduates of the programme will receive a Master of Science degree from the United Nations University and the skills necessary to forge new frontiers as researchers and practitioners with an interdisciplinary and systemic understanding of biodiversity, ecosystems and sustainable development. For more information on course offerings, fees, duration and application procedure, please visit www.ias.unu.edu/masters. The deadline for applications is 30 May 2012. Classes are scheduled to commence in September 2012.

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

Spread the news

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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 mid June.