

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.

November 2010 - ISSUE No. 036

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the thirty-sixth 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 Members
- New Members
- 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 November.

Secretariat News

WE NEED YOUR HELP: We are starting to plan next year's PCLG meeting. This event will be open to PCLG members only, numbers will be kept low (30-50 participants), 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. During the 2007 PCLG meeting we discussed the linkages between climate change, conservation and poverty, focusing on REDD in particular. Maybe next year's meeting could centre on adaptation strategies? If there are no burning issues that the majority of PCLG members agree to address, we could have a general network meeting at which different topics dealing with poverty and conservation could be discussed. Please, send your comments, suggestions and ideas to pclg@iied.org

FREE RESOURCES: We have copies of the latest edition of the journal *Biodiversity*, which has a special focus on biodiversity and poverty alleviation and includes a feature on the PCLG 2010 symposium. Anyone who would like a copy should email their postal address (pclg@iied.org).

A number of new PCLG reports might help you answer some burning questions:

- **How effective is conservation enterprise in addressing poverty reduction?** Click [here](#) for an analysis by AWF's Joanna Elliott and Daudi Sumba.
- **How dependent are the poor on biodiversity?** Click [here](#) to see the conclusions of Cambridge University researchers Bhaskar Vira and Andreas Kontoleon.
- **Can conserving biodiversity help reduce poverty?** Craig Leisher and colleagues from The Nature Conservancy review the evidence [here](#).
- **Who's working on conservation-poverty linkages and what are they doing?** The latest version of the PCLG Directory of Poverty and Conservation Organisations and Initiatives is available [here](#).

PCLG ACTIVITIES/EVENTS: A PCLG workshop on linking ape conservation and poverty reduction took place in Masindi, Uganda from 15th to 19th November. More than 30 participants attended from conservation organisations in a variety of ape range states in Africa. All were keen to share their experience in addressing poverty reduction and to learn from others. This event also included field visits in the Masindi area. Watch this space for news on the outcomes of this event!

Guest Editorial – What happened in Nagoya? by Muhtari Aminu-Kano, BirdlifeInternational

In Nagoya, Japan, at 2.00am on Saturday 30th October 2010, the Japanese Minister of Environment banged the gavel to signal the official closing of the CBD's 10th Conference of the Parties. Delegates burst into a prolonged standing ovation and there were quite a few hugs and kisses and some even shed tears of happiness. Why this outpouring of emotion by this collection of international negotiators who will otherwise pride themselves in not betraying their inner feelings? The answer lies in the realisation that the hard won compromises they achieved in Nagoya represent a major landmark for the Convention. Coming into Nagoya, developed countries have prioritised the strategic plan as their number one issue at the meeting. On the other hand, combating bio-piracy through the development of a meaningful ABS regime and mobilising financial resources were the top priorities for developing countries.

At the opening of the meeting on 18 October 2010, the prospects for success were not certain. Few observers believed that, in two weeks, developing countries would get a legally binding protocol on access and benefit sharing which they could live with, in return for their endorsement of strategic plan targets that are ambitious - though less so than what developed countries would have liked them to be; as well as a concrete mechanism to increase financial resources. In past CBD meetings each of these hot-button issues has proved difficult on its own so to package all three in a bundle and start negotiations on the basis that "nothing is agreed until all is agreed" was, many people believed, a risky strategy. In the end, this proved to be successful in unblocking aspects of the CBD that have long been in contention and thus paving the way for enhanced implementation.

The Nagoya outcomes strongly recognise the links between biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction. To begin with, the adopted mission of the new 2011-2020 strategic plan (to be known as the Aichi Target) places emphasis on this as it reads:

Take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication;

Secondly, the COP established a process to support capacity building towards the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development in developing countries.

Thirdly, the relevant elements in the programme of work on protected areas which deal with participation, governance and equity (Element 2) were singled out as the areas in which implementation was lagging and identified for attention in subsequent regional workshops.

Finally, after hard negotiations, traditional knowledge (TK) was included in the scope of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing. The COP also adopted "the Tkaríhwaié:ri (pronounced {Tga-ree-wa-yie-ree}, a Mohawk term meaning "the proper way") Code of Ethical Conduct on Respect for the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage of Indigenous and Local Communities Relevant for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity".

Nagoya saw a record participation of 131 delegates from 61 Indigenous Peoples' Organisations who worked hard to ensure that the COP strengthens the CBD's people focus. However, in the final analysis, the Nagoya outcomes with all their imperfections are a good starting point. Their real test will depend on whether Governments muster the political will to implement the decisions.

Featured News

World Bank Launches New Global Partnership to "Green" National Accounts: During the Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity - CBD COP 10, The World Bank announced a new global partnership that will give developing countries the tools they need to integrate the economic benefits that ecosystems such as forests, wetlands and coral reefs provide, into national accounting systems. The Global Partnership for Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services Valuation and Wealth Accounting builds on the United Nations Environment Programme project "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity" (TEEB) which released its final report in Nagoya. Among other things, TEEB concluded that the "invisibility" of many of nature's services to the economy results in widespread neglect of natural capital, leading to decisions that degrade ecosystem services and biodiversity.

Dutch-Funded Ecosystem Grants Program: To Continue Another Five Years: The Ecosystem Alliance - a partnership

between IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands, Both ENDS and Wetlands International - is very pleased to announce that the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided to partially (65%) co-fund its Ecosystem Grants programme 'Empowering People and Nature'. The goal of the Ecosystem Alliance is "to improve the livelihoods of the poor, and create an inclusive economy, through participatory and responsible management of ecosystems." Main themes in the Ecosystems Grants Program are:

- Ecosystems and livelihoods;
- Greening the economy at local, national, and global levels in the North and in the South; and
- Climate and ecosystems.

News from PCLG Members

IIED and Birdlife have recently published a new booklet, "[Banking on biodiversity](#)", authored by Dilys Roe, Pavan Sukhdev, David Thomas and Robert Munroe. This pocket book shows that working with the rural poor in the developing world can reverse the downward spiral of environmental degradation. By banking on biodiversity, we can protect our natural legacy while tackling poverty locally, nationally and globally.

New alliance to boost coverage of biodiversity issues: IIED, Internews and IUCN formally launched their Biodiversity Media Alliance (BMA) during the conference of parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan. The alliance aims to boost the quantity and quality of media coverage of biodiversity issues by building bridges between journalists and the sources they need and by developing training programmes on biodiversity reporting. Nearly 1000 people have already joined the BMA's online network. PCLG members are urged to join so they can interact with media professionals and share their news and views using the blog function. The press conference to launch the BMA can be viewed online here, and you can watch a short TV interview about the initiative here. For more information about the BMA, check out the press release or contact Mike Shanahan (mike.shanahan@iied.org).

The TEEB Synthesis Report Mainstreaming the Economics of Nature: A synthesis of the approach, conclusions and recommendations of TEEB was released on 20 October 2010 at the COP10 in Nagoya. The document is downloadable [here](#) in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic. **UNEP-WCMC is pleased to announce the launch of its new website 'The A-Z of Areas of Biodiversity Importance'**. The A to Z is an online resource to provide clear, concise and relevant information on over 30 important areas for biodiversity conservation ranging from World Heritage Sites to Key Biodiversity Areas. The A-Z of areas of biodiversity importance was developed in partnership with ICMC, IPIECA, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). For more information please visit: www.biodiversityA-Z.org

The SEED Initiative is thrilled to announce its 2010 SEED Award Winners. From bamboo bicycles to fly-fisheries, from businesswomen's collectives to inspired youth, these entrepreneurs are building a more sustainable world, starting in their own communities. Amongst the initiatives who will now receive from SEED a package of tailor-made support are initiatives making great strides in solar energy, biofuel, organic farming, waste disposal, recycled craft and tourism. This year saw exciting enterprises particularly in agriculture. The 2010 focus on Africa shone the spotlight on over 26 African initiatives and with support from SEED they can now scale-up their activities across the continent. For [more information](#).

The Asociacion ANDES and the Association of Communities of the Potato Park announce the Workshop on Designing, Planning and Implementing Biocultural Territories as Agrobiodiversity Conservation Areas, to take place in Cusco and the Potato Park, Cusco, Peru November 12-23, 2010. This workshop is supported by the CBD within the framework of developing a Multi Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development, as adopted at COP 10. This workshop will take place in the Potato Park, an Indigenous Biocultural Territory conservation model established by Association ANDES-IIED and six Quechua communities in Písaq, Cusco, Peru. The Potato Park has become an internationally recognized hands-on example and demonstrative case of a biocultural approach for an effective plant genetic resources conservation and endogenous development model. The replication and scaling up of this experience can play an important role in the promotion of effective conservation-development models based on indigenous territoriality. For more information, please contact: Alejandro Argumedo (alejandro@andes.org.pe) or Tammy Stenner (tammy@andes.org.pe).

The Niger River is a lifeline for the Sahelian countries of Mali and Niger. Depending on the rainwater in Tropical West African Country of Guinea, the river fills the large Inner Niger Delta; a seasonal flooded area for one million people and millions of migratory waterbirds. A combination of upstream dams and expected climate change impacts may mean a disaster for these biodiversity and human values. The report "[Will the Inner Niger Delta shrivel up due to climate change and water use upstream?](#)" was presented in a CBD CoP 10 side event of Wetlands International, the NGO that commissioned the study. The report shows how this large wetland area is already under threat due to water consumption upstream and the implications it has for the livelihoods of all those people dependent on the Niger.

During the 10th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10), held in Nagoya, Japan, Parties welcomed the outcome of the third ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on **IPBES**

(Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services), held in Busan in June 2010, and its conclusion that IPBES should be established. Parties also discussed the relationship between the Convention and IPBES. For more information: <http://ipbes.net/home/69-cbd-cop-10-welcomes-the-establishment-of-ipbes.html>

Save Our Species – the initiative: “[Save Our Species \(SOS\)](#)” is a global coalition initiated by the 3 founding partners IUCN, GEF and World Bank to build the biggest species conservation fund, supporting on-the-ground field conservation projects all over the world. SOS will combine resources and funding experience from the World Bank and GEF (Global Environment Facility), the authoritative science of IUCN and the resources and ingenuity of the private sector to create a mechanism that ensures sufficient funding goes to species conservation projects where and when it will have the most impact. Save Our Species will be managed through a secretariat housed within the IUCN for the allocation of funds. Grants will be allocated according to strategic directions identified in consultation with IUCN’s Species Program and Species Survival Commission. SOS-funded projects will focus on conservation of threatened species and their habitats.

New Members

Gishwati Area Conservation Program (GACP): The Gishwati Area Conservation Program (GACP) is sponsored by Great Ape Trust, a US-based NGO. GACP was founded in 2007 as the result of an agreement between His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, and Great Ape Trust founder Ted Townsend. The agreement called for the establishment of a national conservation park in Rwanda to benefit the people of Rwanda, the global climate, and biodiversity. In 2010, the Rwandan Ministry of Lands and Environment (MINELA) signed an MoU giving GACP responsibility for managing the protected Gishwati Forest for three years, and endorsing its connection to Nyungwe National Park by a forest corridor.

Zoological Society of London (ZSL): The Zoological Society of London (ZSL), a charity founded in 1826, is a world-renowned centre of excellence for conservation science and applied conservation, carrying out field conservation and research in over 50 countries across the globe. ZSL’s mission is to promote and achieve the worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats. This is realised by:

- Conducting world-leading conservation science;
- Implementing effective field conservation projects;
- Providing decision-makers with the best conservation advice;
- Building conservation capacity and inspiring people to connect with the natural world.

The Gorilla Organization: The Gorilla Organization works internationally to save the world's last remaining gorillas in the wild, by funding small grass-roots projects, run by local African partners, that tackle the real threats to the gorillas' long term survival. The Gorilla Organization understands that if gorillas are to have a realistic chance of survival in the context of Africa's significant challenges, conservation and poverty alleviation need to happen side-by-side. And so the Gorilla Organization works with local communities to find alternative resources to those found in the forest, lessening encroachment into the gorilla habitat and lifting local people out of poverty.

Forthcoming Events

CEESP Sharing Power Conference: The conference 'Sharing Power: A New Vision for Development' will take place on 10th - 15th January 2011 in Whakatāne, New Zealand. The Conference focuses on the need for policy and decision makers in Governments and Corporations to accommodate a greater level of inclusion of indigenous peoples and all citizens, in national and international policies on the management and governance of bio-cultural resources, and advocates the rights of mother earth - the planet.

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. Paper proposals are due 15 December 2010. Please send a 250-300 word proposal, with title, contact information, and three keywords as a Word attachment to: nature2011@iss.nl

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

[Look Both Ways: Mainstreaming biodiversity and poverty reduction](#), by Bass, S., Roe, D., Smith, J., October 2010, IIED Briefing Papers, IIED, London, 4 pp.: The world's failure to meet its 2010 target to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss demonstrates that conservation efforts have so far been insufficient. They are too often undermined by seemingly more pressing economic and poverty goals — despite the frequent correlation of high biodiversity with high incidence of poverty. But it shouldn't be a competition. Biodiversity and poverty reduction are intrinsically linked and demand an integrated approach. The Convention on Biological diversity has long emphasised the need for integrating, or 'mainstreaming', biodiversity into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies, most recently in its new Strategic Plan. Lessons learnt from wider experience of environmental mainstreaming can help parties to the Convention achieve this target in practice — they point to a six-step plan for the task. It can be downloaded from [here](#).

[Poverty, Governance and Conservation in the Gran Chaco of South America](#), by Alcorn, J.B., Zarzycki, A., de la Cruz, L.M., September 2010, *Biodiversity*, Vol 11 No 1&2: By improving informed governance, it is possible to stabilise biodiversity levels and provide a basis for poor local people to collaborate, and to improve their situation in the face of threats from development. In this study the authors analyse the ongoing processes being applied in two Gran Chaco cases - from the Upper Parapeti Basin in Bolivia, and the Lower Pilcomayo in northern Argentina. In the two cases presented, NGO-facilitated processes enriched local people's ability to take their own actions and to assess and frame their problems and goals for dialogue with their governments. The methods used differ from the standard conservation and development projects, and their success offers lessons in building social network systems and civic science that improve conservation and reduce poverty.

[Causes and Consequences of Displacement Decision-making in Banhine National Park, Mozambique](#), by Dear, C., McCool, S., 2010, *Conservation & Society*, Vol 8 No2, pp. 103-111: Around the world, decision-making is looming regarding the displacement of people resident in and reliant on the natural capital in protected areas. While policies such as the World Bank's safeguard policy on involuntary resettlement guides decisions about the potential displacement of people in protected areas, there are often political and other obstacles to implementation. This paper concludes that protected area displacement debates that do not account for broader and more powerful political forces may be of little significance to real decisions regarding displacement.

[Biodiversity Conservation and Local Communities](#), by BirdLife International, 2010, BirdLife International, Quito, Ecuador, 10 pp.: The BirdLife Partnership has published a report that examines the success of BirdLife's Local Conservation Group (LCG) approach in conserving biodiversity and supporting sustainable livelihoods at Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in the Americas. Local communities and biodiversity conservation presents fifteen case studies involving Local Conservation Groups across Latin America and the Caribbean, all of which will participate in the 2010 Biodiversity Conservation and Development prize in Latin America, supported by Fundación Biodiversidad.

Resources

Recently posted opportunities for grants and prizes which may be of interest to PCLG members include:

Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (10 Dec); UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Awards (15 Dec); American Society of Primatologists (31 Jan); Fondation Ensemble (11 Feb); Fondation Nature & Découvertes (15 Feb); International Primatological Society (01 Mar); Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation (31 Mar); Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas (first quarter). These and other deadlines are posted at [Terra Viva Grants](#).

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.

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 visit [here](#). For more information on the Fuller Postdoctoral Fellowship, please visit [here](#). For questions or further information, please contact fullerfund@wwfus.org

The **Ecosystems Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA)** programme is a partnership between DFID, the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and the Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC). ESPA's goal is to ensure that, in developing countries, ecosystems are being sustainably managed in a way that contributes to poverty reduction and inclusive/sustainable growth. ESPA will invest in cutting-edge research that delivers improved understanding of how ecosystem function, the services they provide, the full value of these services, and their potential role in achieving

sustainable poverty reduction. Crucially, ESPA funded research must provide evidence and tools to enable decision makers and end users to manage ecosystems sustainably and in a way that contributes to poverty reduction. The latest call for proposals to the ESPA research programme has been published at:

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/programmes/espa/events/ao6.asp> This announcement of opportunity invites proposals for research consortium projects that will address this agenda. Awards may be between three to five years in duration, with a total value of the project between £500k and £4m, with exceptional projects able to bid for up to £5m. All projects are required to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) through the web-based form by the closing date of 8 December 2010. The deadline for full proposals is 16:00 on 19 January 2011. If you are interested in more information, contact Izabella Koziell (i-koziell@dfid.gov.uk).

The **WCS Research Fellowship Program (RFP)** is a small grants program administered by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Institute. In 2010, the RFP was re-designed and re-launched with a new focus of supporting work directly related to WCS priority land/seascapes, species, and/or the global challenges of wildlife health, climate change, human livelihoods, and natural resource extraction. The Program seeks to support the fieldwork of graduate-level students who will work with WCS staff in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and in special cases, North America. Collectively, the professionals receiving RFP grants will apply field-tested conservation science to the challenges facing the natural world. Individuals interested in submitting an RFP application should visit <http://programs.wcs.org/grants> for eligibility information. The application deadline is January 5, 2011. The maximum award is \$20,000. For more information, please email fellowship@wcs.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.

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.

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, 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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