

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.

August 2011 - ISSUE No. 045

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the forty-fifth 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 August.

Secretariat News

News from UPCLG: Uganda PCLG (UPCLG) has recently taken on an intern to make an inventory of organisations involved in conservation and development work in the Albertine Rift. The aim is to eventually put this information on a map so that we can

see “who is doing what, where”. UPCLG will also soon undertake a short survey of human-wildlife conflict interventions in western Uganda (excluding the south west). Following the survey a meeting will be held to discuss human-wildlife conflict issues. **For more information on these activities contact Panta Kasoma, UPCLG coordinator** (panta@janegoodallug.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

UNESCO conference calls for better protection of biological diversity when mitigating climate change: On June 28 an international conference in Dresden concluded with an appeal to politicians to better use the comprehensive experience of biosphere reserves when planning and implementing measures of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The participants called for a closer link between measures addressing climate change, poverty alleviation and biological diversity, respectively. Some 280 high-level experts from 80 countries discussed biosphere reserves and climate change during a two-day conference organized by UNESCO, the German Ministry for the Environment, the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the German Commission for UNESCO. The list of demands contained in the "[Dresden](#)

Declaration" includes items such as strengthening the role of land use in carbon sequestration and developing new models of financing. [More information](#)

News from PCLG Friends

Five new projects have been awarded grants by the **CCI Collaborative Fund for Conservation** following a third round of grant applications. Several of the successful applications focus on interdisciplinary research and analysis addressing specific policy questions relating to the Biodiversity and Climate Change Conventions, both of which will be subject to particular scrutiny in 2012 – 20 years after they were launched at the Rio Earth Summit. In this round, some £264,000 has been awarded to projects involving four University Departments and eight conservation organisation partners across CCI. [More information](#)

Application for the 2011 SEED Awards Now Open: Social and environmental entrepreneurs who can demonstrate innovation, leadership and sustainability have the chance to win expert assistance and support for their sustainable development initiatives in the 2011 [SEED Awards](#). The [SEED Initiative](#) is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries. This year, one special SEED Gender Equality Award will also be made available to initiatives that are women-led or owned, and prioritise gender equality or women's empowerment as a core objective. **Click [here](#) to apply. The deadline for applications is 22nd August 2011.**

Report of the international expert meeting on IPBES and capacity building held in Trondheim: The meeting, held in Trondheim, Norway, from 25 - 27 May 2011, was jointly convened by the Governments of Brazil and Norway. The aim of this meeting was to convene a group of government representatives and other experts in order to consider how a future IPBES might most effectively address capacity building. The meeting took the form of a series of keynote presentations followed by breakout group and plenary discussions, and a multi-stakeholder panel discussion provided useful additional perspectives. The discussions at the expert meeting were supported by a scoping paper, prepared by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre at the request of the Norwegian Government. Copies of all relevant documents, including the scoping paper, keynote presentations and PDF versions of the final report, can be found [here](#)

UNDP's Work on Biodiversity Management: This recently published brochure

outlines UNDP's work on biodiversity management through two Signature Programmes: 1) Unleashing the economic potential of Protected Area systems and 2) Mainstreaming biodiversity management objectives into economic sector activities. It further highlights examples of UNDP's contributions towards the organization's broader work on environment and sustainable development.

Voluntary REDD+ Database launched: The new interactive interface for the [Voluntary REDD+ Database](#) has been launched. The website offers access to maps, graphs and summary statistics on REDD+ financing that has been reported to the REDD+ Partnership, as well as detailed information on individual agreements between countries and/or institutions. The Database is one of the key ongoing activities of the REDD+ Partnership, and is frequently updated. [More information](#)

A selection of relevant articles:

Greener ways to end poverty: Poverty and environmental degradation go hand-in-hand throughout the world; each can cause the other. With the global population likely to reach nine billion by 2050 there is an urgent need to address both in tandem when devising new economic development models. [Full article](#)

What does REDD+ really cost?: What does REDD+ cost? At least since the influential Stern Review was published in 2006, many have argued that REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) is one of the cheapest options to mitigate climate change. Others see the REDD+ mechanism as a costly effort with unpredictable results for the climate and forest peoples of the world. Who is right? [Full article](#)

Alien plants 'can help alleviate poverty': Alien plant species can significantly reduce biodiversity but they can also boost an ecosystem's biomass production, on average by more than half, according to a global analysis of scientific literature. [Full article](#)

New Organisations in our database

Regional Plant Resource Centre: The Regional Plant Resource Centre (RPRC) was established in 1985 with the mandate of collecting, conserving and propagating plant species, specialized and unique plant communities. The Centre implements various research trials relating to rare, endangered and threatened plants group including Orchids, Cacti, Medicinal Plant among other species through in situ and ex situ conservation trials. The Centre has established its research sites, conservancy areas in

various National Parks, Sanctuary and Biosphere Reserve of Orissa.

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas Tourism Specialist Group (TAPA SG): The priorities of the TAPA-SG are to contribute to the work of the IUCN and World Commission on Protected Areas to (1) conserve biodiversity, (2) generate knowledge, (3) build awareness and (4) improve governance and equity. Among its objectives are: providing strategic advice to governments and others on the optimum approaches to sustainable tourism in protected and natural areas; strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of protected area managers and policy makers and others in relation to sustainable tourism, through learning, exchange and the development of information and guidance in a managed professional network; and enhancing the level of tourism contribution to the goals of protected areas and protected area systems.

Centre for Non-Timber Resources: The Centre for Non-Timber Resources (CNTR) is a research centre dedicated to strategic and applied research on forest resources and rural economy. The focus to date has been primarily on non-timber resources. CNTR works in partnership with a broad network of public, First Nations, private and non-governmental organisations to research, support and facilitate the development of non-timber resources within sustainable forest management systems for the benefit of rural and remote communities.

Forthcoming Events

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.

Biodiversity Institute Symposium - Biodiversity conservation beyond protected areas: The Department of Zoology at **Oxford University** is hosting the symposium 'Biodiversity conservation beyond protected areas' on **21-22 September 2011**. The overall aim of the symposium is to explore pragmatic solutions to specific challenges faced in biodiversity conservation beyond protected areas. The symposium will bring together over 23 speakers - presenting the latest science and evidence for conserving biodiversity outside of protected areas. Addressing the Biodiversity Institute's research theme on Biodiversity beyond protected areas the symposium aims to enhance our understanding of the increasing pressures on biodiversity and the conservation practices which are needed to enable the persistence of biodiversity in multiple use landscapes, where boundaries are often undefined, and human activities conflict with biodiversity.

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? Registration to

the conference is now open.

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

Biodiversity and Poverty: Ten Frequently Asked Questions – Ten Policy Implications, by **Roe, D., Thomas, D., Smith, J., Walpole, M., Elliott, J., July 2011, Gatekeeper 150, IIED, London, 28 pp.**: This paper is 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. The authors 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

Conservation Enterprise: What Works, Where and for Whom?, by **Elliott, J. , Sumba, D., July 2011, Gatekeeper 151, IIED, London, 24 pp.**: This study draws on the experience of the AWF and other organisations to assess what effect conservation enterprises can have on the livelihoods of local communities and how effective such initiatives are at poverty reduction. It finds that most of these enterprises cannot by themselves take people out of poverty, but can provide less tangible benefits, such as increased investment in health and education, strengthened community organisations and greater resilience in difficult times.

Poverty, Biodiversity and Local Organisations: Lessons from BirdLife

International, by David Thomas, July 2011, Gatekeeper 152, IIED, London, 24 pp.:

Global targets to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss significantly by 2010 have not been met, and the rate of biodiversity loss does not appear to be slowing. At the same time, targets to reduce human poverty worldwide are also off track. This dual challenge has led to a search for effective mechanisms and entry points through which conservation and development objectives can be addressed together. This paper discusses why working with local organisations can be an important entry point for conservation and poverty reduction, describes the global experience of BirdLife International in this context, and concludes with a discussion, based on BirdLife's experience, of some of the issues and constraints which need to be taken into account when addressing conservation and poverty reduction through working with local organisations.

Resources

The following grant opportunities may interest the PCLG community: [Kyoto Water Prize](#) (15 Aug); [Pacific Asia Travel Association](#) (15 Aug); [SEED Initiative](#) (22 Aug); [New England Biolabs Foundation](#) (29 Aug); [IFAD Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility](#) (31 Aug); [UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#) (01 Sept); [French GEF](#) (05 Sept); [Ford Motor Company in the Middle East](#) (10 Sept); [Ford Motor Company Asia-Pacific Region](#) (13 Sept); and [Whitley Fund for Nature](#) (31 Oct). Many grant makers accept applications all year, and they can be researched in the [Terra Viva Grants Directory](#).

Call for applications for the Whitley Awards 2012: The Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) is a UK registered charity offering "Whitley Awards" to outstanding nature conservation leaders around the world. Whitley Awards are both an international profile prize and a form of project grant (currently £30,000 over one year). The application process for the Whitley Awards 2011 is now open – the deadline for applications is Monday October 31st 2011. For full eligibility criteria, click [here](#). Please visit www.whitleyaward.org to download an application form and find guidance on how to apply. To contact WFN, please email info@whitleyaward.org

United Nations – the Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme: A fully funded research Fellowship for developing State ocean professionals is now available. The main objective of the Fellowship is to provide advanced education and training in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and related disciplines, to government officials and other mid-level professionals from developing States.

Successful candidates will undertake their research/studies in two back-to-back phases: the first, lasting six months, with a participating academic host institution; and the second, lasting three months, with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), UN Office of Legal Affairs, or an appropriate participating host institution. **The Fellowship application deadline is 15 September 2011.**

Successful candidates will be expected to begin their placements early in 2012.

Additional information, including the application package, detailed application instructions, and a list of participating host institutions, is available on the Fellowship website: www.un.org/depts/los/nippon

Ten PhD scholarships available: Forest and Nature for Society (FONASO) is a three-year world-class global Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate programme. The main objective of the Programme is to educate the leaders of the future generation of researchers, teachers and top management staff working with sustainable forest and nature management, in both tropical and temperate regions, to ensure wider societal benefits. Detailed information on the FONASO Joint Doctorate Programme is available on www.fonaso.eu, including application form and guidelines. **Applications must be received no later than 1 November 2011.**

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.

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

To subscribe or unsubscribe

Contact us

IIED, 3 Endsleigh Street, London, WC1H 0DD, UK

Tel +44 (0) 207 388 2117

Fax +44 (0) 207 388 2826

Join the PCLG

Email: pclg@iied.org