



REDD & Biodiversity e-Newsletter



Volume 2 - December 2008

The aim of this e-Newsletter is to inform CBD National Focal Points and CBD partners about biodiversity aspects in relation to 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation' (REDD). To subscribe, please visit <http://www.cbd.int/forest/redd/newsletters/>.

NEWS

CBD provides tool to identify win-win areas for REDD and biodiversity

The 191 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) are carrying out national gap analyses to identify the 'missing links' in their protected area system, as part of their commitments under the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas. Through these participatory processes, countries have identified forest areas of high biodiversity and ecosystem service value. The national gap analyses are important tools for maximizing synergy between the UNFCCC and the CBD. They provide information, including in GIS format, on important forest areas in many REDD pilot countries; and they were developed based on national and international biodiversity expertise involving relevant stakeholders. More: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/programmes/cro-cut/pa/pa-redd-2008-12-01-en.pdf>

CBD Expert Group develops recommendation on REDD biodiversity benefits

An Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) comprised of 30 experts from various government and non-government institutions has compiled key facts on the links between climate change mitigation and biodiversity, including REDD. The meeting was held from 17-12 November in London, and chaired by Robert Watson, former Chair of the IPCC. More: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cc/ahteg-bdcc-01/other/ahteg-bdcc-01-findings-en.pdf>

Global Indigenous Peoples Consultation Adopts Strategy on REDD

The global consultation, held from 12-14 November 2008, in Baguio City, the Philippines, was attended by 25 indigenous leaders, and resulted in the adoption of a Global Indigenous Peoples Strategy on REDD. The event was organized by Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education), the UN University (UNU), the UN REDD Programme and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat. The strategy is linked to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and includes recommendations for governmental and other actors involved in the development and implementation of REDD activities. More: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cc/ahteg-bdcc-01/other/ahteg-bdcc-01-redd-iloc-01-02-en.pdf>

Governors from US, Brazil, Indonesia join forces to protect forests and fight climate change

Nine governors from the United States, Brazil and Indonesia signed historic agreements to work together to protect the diversity of their region's forests and measurably reduce global carbon dioxide emissions. The move came during a climate summit in Los Angeles where President-elect Barack Obama pledged the United States would become a leader in the fight against climate change. More:

<http://www.nature.org/wherework/northamerica/states/california/press/climatechange.html>

"Making REDD Work for the Poor" report released

In this new report, the Poverty Environment Partnership (PEP) is drawing on lessons learned from a wide range of relevant experiences in conservation and human development. The report outlines how the design of REDD could influence its poverty implications and provides some key requirements for ensuring that REDD works for the poor. Hard copies will be widely distributed during the UNFCCC COP 14 in Poznan, Poland, at the booths of the relevant PEP member organizations (ADB, IUCN, ODI, TNC, UNDP, among others). More: <http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/economics/index.cfm?uNewsID=2052>

Guide to reducing emissions through forest conservation released

The "Little REDD Book" provides an overview of the various proposals for REDD, for this week's climate meeting in Poznan, Poland. The book which has been compiled by the Global Canopy Programme, an alliance of 37 scientific institutions in 19 countries, in collaboration with the Prince's Rainforest Project and other key forest stakeholders, presents thirty-three REDD proposals in simple, non-technical language. More: <http://www.littleREDDbook.org> or contact Charlie Parker: c.parker@globalcanopy.org.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and Conservation International are spearheading a joint effort by several international organizations and NGOs to analyze the potential impacts of various REDD design features and proposals on biodiversity. This analysis will be developed with a view to provide information to climate negotiators and other stakeholders, prior to the next SBSTA of the UNFCCC. Interested experts who would like to provide comments on the first draft (in March 2009) are invited to contact the authors: Celia Harvey c.harvey@conservation.org and Barney Dickson Barney.Dickson@unep-wcmc.org

EVENTS

Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) launches strategic response to climate agenda

The strategic framework developed by the 14 organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) puts forward a case for a tactical role of sustainable forest management in achieving long-term climate change mitigation and as a robust framework for effective adaptation. The document will be launched at the CPF side event during COP 14 of UNFCCC in Poznan on Friday 5 December, 13:00 – 15:00 in the White-tailed eagle room. More: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/cpf-climatechange>

CBD Secretariat presence at UNFCCC COP 14

The CBD Secretariat is organizing several activities at the UNFCCC COP 14 in Poznan, Poland, amongst others:

- Side event on Climate Change and Biodiversity – Result of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on 9 December, at lunch time (venue will be announced over conference information system).

- Side event on "The Business Case for REDD Biodiversity Benefits" during "Forest Day", on 6 December. More:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/programmes/areas/forest/for-sideevent-2008-12-06-en.pdf>

The Secretariat is also operating a joint information booth with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Secretariat in Poznan.

Your contributions to this Newsletter on issues related to biodiversity aspects of REDD are welcome. Please send your submission to red@cbd.int, Subject "REDD Newsletter". Articles should contain no more than 60 words, and must contain a hyperlink for more information. For authors guidelines please see <http://www.cbd.int/forest/redd/newsletters/>.

This Newsletter is published pursuant to CBD decision IX/5. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the Secretariat of the CBD.